2013 Annual Report

NCTTA is the governing body of collegiate table tennis in the US, Canada, and Puerto Rico. It is a US government-recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established with the mission of the development and promotion of table tennis as a collegiate sport.

NCTTA is a National Organization Member of USA Table Tennis, the National Governing Body of Table Tennis as designated by the US Olympic Committee and the International Table Tennis Federation.

The 2012-2013 season was the second year in which there were three tiers of competition: National, Regional, and Divisional. The addition of the Regional tier was necessary due to rapid expansion, and NCTTA continues to make adjustments to smooth out the process and the competition schedule.

Executive Board:

President – Willy Leparulo
Vice President – Joseph Wells
Treasurer – Randy Kendle
Athlete Representative – Kevin Li
League Director Representative – Chris Wang
Vice President External Affairs – Kagin Lee
Human Resources Coordinator – Wanda Wong

Major Sponsors:

Butterfly North America

Newgy Industries

Affiliates:

USA Table Tennis

League

The NCTTA league is the organization's main activity. The league consists of intercollegiate varsity team competition among Coed/Men's teams and among Women's teams. Varsity teams consist of at least 4 players; up to 8 players may be on a roster at any given time. Junior varsity teams are also invited to compete in scrimmage competition, and separate singles competitions are also held.

In the 2012-2013 season, regular season competition took place both in the fall and the spring, in six regions subdivided into 26 divisions. Over 1000 athletes participated, forming 151 Varsity Coed and 43 Varsity Women's teams.

Immediately following the regular season, the top teams are invited to regional championships which also serve as qualification tournaments for the national championships.

The NCTTA league is managed solely by volunteers in the form of Division Directors, Regional Directors, and the NCTTA Board.

Championships

The College Table Tennis Championships is NCTTA's premier event and one of the most professionally run events on the continent. Held over three days each spring, the 2013 Championships were held in Rockford, Illinois. 223 athletes from 50 colleges competed for team, singles, and doubles championship titles. This year's champions were:

Women's Team – Texas Wesleyan University
Coed Team – Texas Wesleyan University
Women's Singles – Jiaqi Zheng, Northwest Polytechnic University
Men's Singles – Emil Santos, Texas Wesleyan University
Women's Doubles – Sara Hazinski/Claudia Ikeizumi, Texas Wesleyan University
Men's Doubles – Grant Li/Justin Huang, University of Southern California

The 2014 Championships will be held in Monroeville, Pennsylvania, a suburb of Pittsburgh.

Media

NCTTA publishes a monthly e-mail newsletter that includes all current topics related to college table tennis. The newsletter reaches 3700 e-mail addresses, thereby providing exposure for sponsors and affiliates throughout the year.

The College Table Tennis Championships is streamed live on YouTube complete with three camera angles, live commentary, and replay on YouTube. The 2013 Championships videos had over 46,000 views from April through July 2013. A full size program is also produced for the Championships.

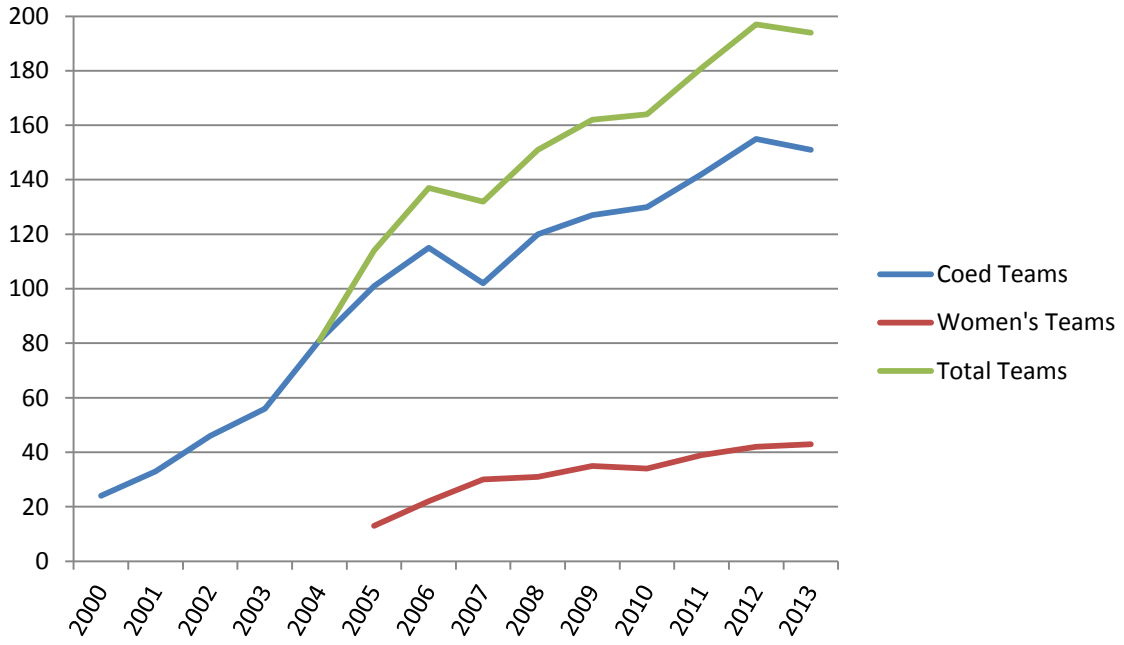
Membership

NCTTA is a membership organization formed by college table tennis clubs in North America. Individual athletes who wish to participate join NCTTA by forming a club at their college, and subsequently registering their college with NCTTA.

Member colleges vary widely in their size, level of activity, and degree of support from their college administration. They include clubs which are organized as:

- Small clubs of few members, self-funded by students, peripherally recognized by their college.
- Medium-sized clubs which receive partial funding by the college.
- Large clubs with both Coed and Women's teams, with most expenses paid by the college.
- Fully funded clubs with established and continuing college support, sometimes offering scholarship programs.

The fundamental measure of the size of NCTTA is the number of participating varsity teams. The following chart illustrates organizational growth since 2000.



Another important metric is the number of colleges which provide full support for the sport. There are currently two member schools which offer full table tennis programs and formal scholarships: Texas Wesleyan University (Fort Worth, TX) and Lindenwood University (St. Charles, MO).

Scholarship Program

In cooperation with Newgy Industries, NCTTA offers scholarships of up to $1000 each to NCTTA athletes based on GPA, financial need, table tennis ability, and a 1000 word essay. This program has been in place since 2009 and three such scholarships were awarded in the 2012-2013 season.

Management and Staff

The NCTTA Executive Board governs and manages the organization. The board consists of 7 directors, each with specific duties.

The six NCTTA regions are managed by Regional Directors, and the NCTTA divisions are managed by Division Directors. The number of divisions varies each year; there were 26 divisions in 2012-2013.

Committees oversee various specific areas. Current committees include: Championships, Rules/Audit, Media Relations, Recruiting, Ratings, Enrollment, Coaches, Women, and Technology.

NCTTA is not in a financial position to hire paid staff. Unpaid staff includes a pro bono lawyer, an intern, and other community members who volunteer for various tasks.

Finances

NCTTA had a net loss of $1,005 in the 2012-2013 year, with income of $66,538 and expenses totaling $67,543. NCTTA holds cash reserves of $38,000.

Current Development

NCTTA takes an active role in developing college table tennis in areas beyond normal competition.

- Women's Development – NCTTA recognizes the importance of women in table tennis and focuses on their development, including subsidies for their participation in the NCTTA league. NCTTA boasts a 1 to 4 ratio of women's teams to men's teams (compared to 1 to 8 for USATT members) and expects the number of women's teams to continue to grow. Women's teams are expected to be particularly strong in the coming years, thanks to the increased number of junior girls involved in USATT and TTCAN competition.
- Coaching Development – The NCTTA Coach's committee exists to develop coaches at college table tennis clubs. The focus is on establishing stability within colleges, to prevent the dramatic loss of leadership that occurs after each graduating class leaves college.

Future Development

Projects that are considered important for future development include:

- Alumni League – The potential for league development in North America is great, and as the number of former NCTTA players continues to grow, so will the demand for organized league play, and an alumni league is a logical step for future development.
- NCAA – The NCAA Emerging Sports program provides an entry into NCAA sports and a new level of recognition for the sport of table tennis. Recognition as an Emerging Sport requires the support of 20 NCAA colleges, and expansion to 40 colleges within ten years. NCTTA currently has only one full program at an NCAA college (Lindenwood University), and therefore NCAA is seen as a future project.
- High School Development – In 2013, a Midwest high school association held their national championships in conjunction with the NCTTA Championships. Developing further connections with junior organizations is desired.