



# National Collegiate Table Tennis Association

2017 Annual Report

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## 2017 ANNUAL REPORT

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NCTTA is the governing body of collegiate table tennis in the US and Canada. It is a US government-recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization established with the mission to develop and promote 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.

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### EXECUTIVE BOARD

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President - Willy Leparulo

Vice President External Affairs - Joseph Wells

Treasurer - Randy Kindle

Athlete Representative -Tae Kim

League Director Representative - Jay Lu

Vice President Internal Affairs - Chris Wang

Human Resources Coordinator - Xian Meng (Sam) Huang

USA Table Tennis Liaison - Kagini Lee/Deepak Somarapu

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MAJOR SPONSORS

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AFFILIATES

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## 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 and alumni teams are also invited to compete in scrimmage competition, and separate singles competitions are also held.

In the 2016-2017 season, regular season competition took place both in the fall and the spring, in six regions subdivided into 29 divisions. Over 1500 athletes participated, forming 163 Varsity Coed and 58 Varsity Women's teams. NCTTA also organizes singles play in Division, Regional and Championship play and saw 485 singles players register for Division singles play alone.

Immediately following the regular season, the strongest teams and singles players were invited to 6 regional championships which also served as qualification events for the National Championships.



CHAMPIONSHIPS

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# EAU CLAIRE 2017

**College Table Tennis Championships**

The College Table Tennis Championships is NCTTA's premier event and the most professionally run table tennis event on the continent. Held over three days each spring, the 2017 Championships were held in Eau Claire, Wisconsin. A myriad of athletes (264 to be exact) from 56 colleges and universities from 33 countries competed for team, singles, and doubles championship titles. It was truly an international event. This year's champions were:

**Women's Team - Texas Wesleyan University**

**Coed Team - Texas Wesleyan University**

**Women's Singles - Lily Zhang, UC Berkeley**

**Men's Singles - Jishan Liang, Texas Wesleyan University**

**Women's Doubles - Wang Chen/Yue Wu, Texas Wesleyan University**

**Men's Doubles - Jishan Liang, Feng Zhe, Texas Wesleyan University**



The 2018 Championships will be held in Round Rock, Texas.

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## MEMBERSHIP

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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, Women's teams, with most expenses paid by the college.
- Fully funded clubs with established and continuing college support, sometimes offering scholarship programs.



Pictured to the left is University of Wisconsin-Madison and on right is Florida State University.

Of particular note, two member schools offer full table tennis programs and formal scholarships: Texas Wesleyan University (Fort Worth, TX) and Lindenwood University (St. Charles, MO).

## MEDIA

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NCTTA publishes a monthly e-mail newsletter that includes all current topics related to college table tennis. The newsletter reaches 3100 e-mail addresses, thereby providing exposure for sponsors and affiliates throughout the year.

The College Table Tennis Championships is streamed live in high definition on YouTube, in TV quality complete with four camera angles, live commentary, and replay on the Official ITTF YouTube Channel. This past year, the NCTTA live streamed all six regional championships and had live commentary on two of the six regional tournaments. All six is the goal for this year.



## PROMOTIONAL EVENTS

This past year the NCTTA Commentator Challenge was created to integrate those passionate and knowledgeable members to be a part of the production of our Championships. It was a success as one winner was selected alongside two runner-ups. All were invited and attended the Championships, where they broadcasted live throughout the event.

Haris Krijestorac of UT Austin won with Ronald Yu and Matt Shen as runner ups.



The NCTTA continues to build its brand of dedicated and talented volunteers.

The 2017 College Table Tennis Bracket Challenge was conducted for the second year and was open to the public, consisting of three contests all sponsored by TMS International and Double Fish: the NCTTA Team Bracket Challenge, NCTTA Men's Singles Bracket Challenge, and the NCTTA Women's Singles Bracket Challenge. The contestants who most accurately predicted the tournament results won cash and prizes worth over \$1500.

<http://nctta.org/champs/2017/bracketchallenge.html>

## SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

NCTTA offers scholarships of up to \$1000 each to future NCTTA athletes (currently in high school) based on GPA, financial need, table tennis ability, and a 1000 word essay. Scholarships to only high schoolers is a recent change to the program in the hopes of promoting high school play and continued college play. This program has been in place since 2009. In 2016-2017, scholarships were awarded to:

- Adylnn Lay- Embry Riddle
- Angela Guan- UC Berkeley
- Anthony Chu- UC San Diego
- Hannah Miller- Whitman College
- Rahul Acharya- Northeastern University (Boston) (pictured below)



## MANAGEMENT AND STAFF

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The NCTTA Executive Board governs and manages the organization. The board consists of 7 volunteer directors, each with specific duties doubling as almost a front office staff.

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 28 divisions in 2016-2017.

Committees oversee various specific areas. Current committees include: Alumni, Ethics/Grievance, Championships, Coaches, Grassroots (high school) Enrollment, Marketing, Ratings, Recruiting, Technology, and Women. <http://www.nctta.org/officers/>

## SPONSORS

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NCTTA finished their third year of a three-year sponsorship agreement with TMS International. TMS subsequently acquired Double Fish, and Gerflor as equipment sponsors.



NCTTA recently signed a new one year extension with TMS International. Double Fish will continue to sponsor the balls for NCTTA events (Division, Regional and Championships)



## CONFERENCES-EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

NCTTA is committed to growing college table tennis and was invited and attended in June 2017 the NIRSA Collegiate Sport Club Institute. This was a conference that brought together professionals in campus recreation from Colleges and University with representatives from National Governing bodies. The goal was to increase awareness of NCTTA with Collegiate campus recreation in the United States and Canada to better collaborate with member schools.



In addition, NCTTA continues to attend conferences to sell its events to cities' convention and visitors bureaus and sport commissions. NCTTA attends two conferences a year: CONNECT Sports marketplace and Teams Conference. The goal is to attract interested cities, facilities and local groups to host the NCTTA Regional and National Championships and to bring the championships to different areas of the country.

## GRASSROOTS AND GROWTH

NCTTA conducts six regional tournaments around the USA and Canada and this year streaming was introduced. In future years we will have commentators in every region.

NCTTA looks to expand and improve its programming every year and this past Regionals showed increased numbers in almost all areas

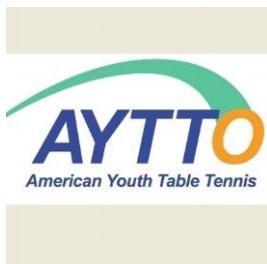
<b>2016 Regionals</b>	<b>2017 Regionals</b>
Men's Singles = 126	Men's Singles = 137
<u>Women's Singles = 68</u>	<u>Women's Singles = 70</u>
Total Singles = 194	Total Singles = 207
Coed Teams = 67	Coed Teams = 68
<u>Women's Teams = 29</u>	<u>Women's Teams = 28</u>
Total Teams = 96	Total Teams = 96

This year, at the conclusion of the 2017 TMS College Table Tennis Championships, NCTTA sold and gave away all equipment to needy College Table Tennis member schools and area USATT clubs that assisted with the event. NCTTA offered Top quality equipment at deep discounts in the form of table tennis tables, barriers, umpire tables and scoreboards. Most member schools lack funding to be able to purchase such valued items.

## PARTNERSHIPS

NCTTA sought out much support from the Table Tennis community and was able to partner with USA Table Tennis, ITTF and AYTTO to further its goals in coaching, high school table tennis and membership retention.

NCTTA with the [American Youth Table Tennis Organization](#) (AYTTO) has garnered support to recruit assistant coaches for their high school league in New York City with the Department of Education. The hope is that players in NCTTA member schools can assist the high school players and league and provide a better stepping stone for future collegiate athletes. NCTTA players benefit as well to serve their community.



NCTTA and [USA Table Tennis](#) continue to partner up for different initiatives to encourage table tennis growth. USA Table Tennis coordinated with NCTTA to provide its member schools and players with special discounts.

NCTTA member clubs and its members can purchase USATT Club and player membership at discounts. The goal is to provide NCTTA member schools and their members with more opportunities to play.



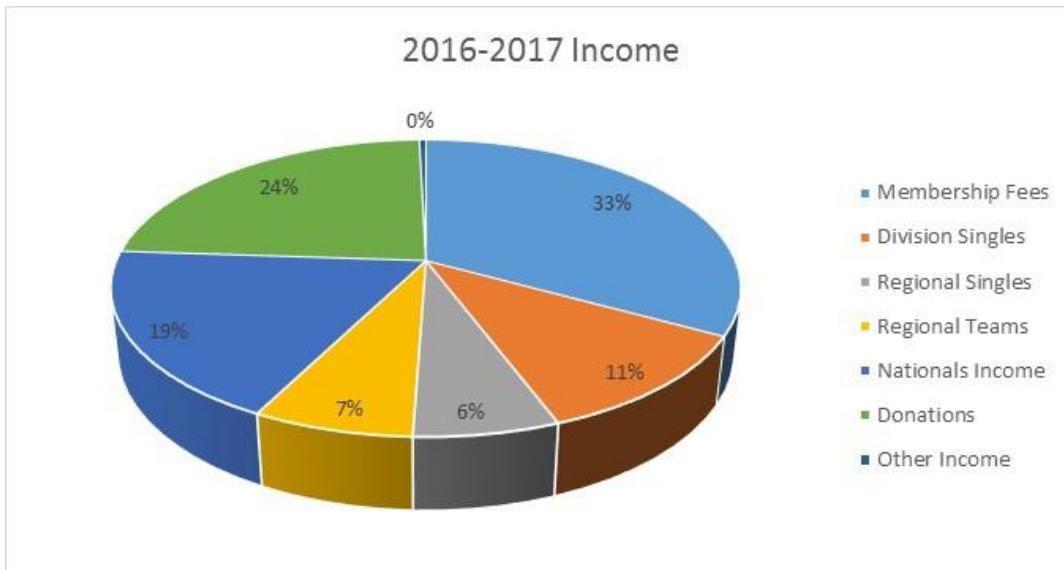
Coaching in College Table Tennis has finally come to the forefront. We are grateful for NCTTA sponsor TMS International for putting the idea as a possibility. Also, thanks to USA Table Tennis (Gordon Kaye, Richard McAfee) and ITTF's (Glen Tepper) for the ability to create a course from already existing curricula in coaching. Joola USA sponsored the balls and University of Iowa hosted.

NCTTA now has a college table tennis coaching certification with 15 coaches certified and plans to conduct more certification classes in the future.

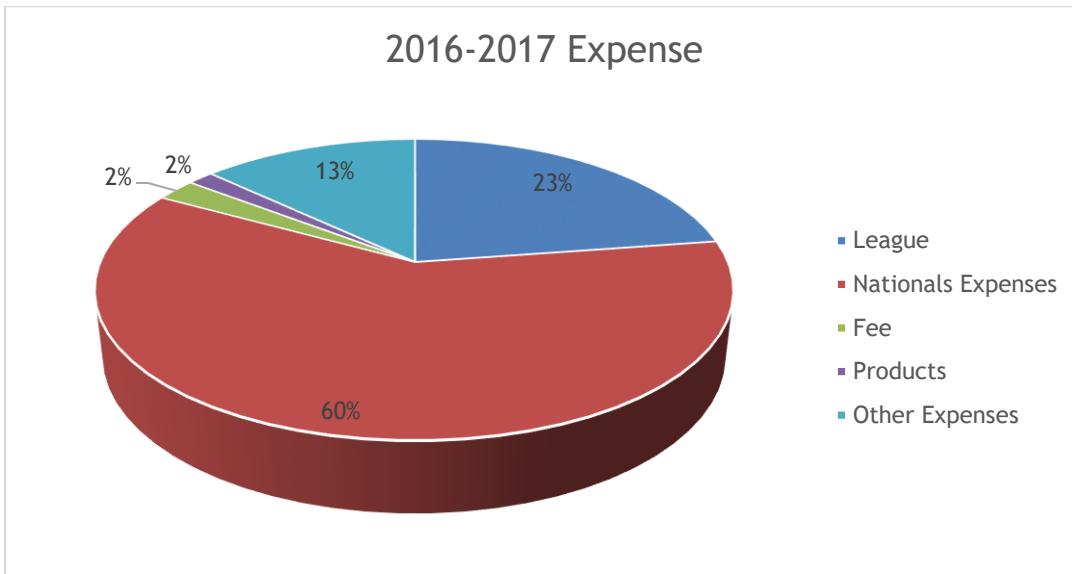
The goal is to impact retention and professionalism in College Table Tennis.

## FINANCIAL STATUS

A look at NCTTA's income shows a large percentage of membership fees from member schools with the remainder coming from its other events.



NCTTA's expenses are largely from the National Championships with related expenses coming from the League, which includes division and regional play.



## NATIONAL TEAM ATHLETES

Several college table tennis athletes are representing their country in national level competition while STILL in college!

USA Table Tennis women's team featuring 2 collegiate athletes: Yue (Jennifer Wu) of Texas Wesleyan and Lily Zhang of California-Berkely. On the men's side, Timothy Wang of Pillar College competed for the USA Table Tennis Men's team.



Canadian Universities that also participate in NCTTA have their share of collegiate national team athletes too: Lester Lee (University of Michigan), Klement Yueng (McMaster University), Michelle Liaw (University of British Columbia) Anqi Luo (University of Toronto) to name a few.

(Klement Yeung of McMaster University)

Table Tennis is an Olympic sport that most have forgone higher education to pursue and excel in their craft. These standouts managed to balance co-ed life to follow the bouncing ball. They should be celebrated for their feats on and off the court!



Lily Zhang claimed gold in the 2017 ITTF Pan American Cup as well as her other accolades in College Table Tennis as the Women's Singles Champion (2015, 2017) and making it to the 3<sup>rd</sup> round of the 2016 Rio Olympic Women's Table Tennis Singles tournament. Zhang also added a US National title to her list of wins this past July without dropping a single game

Zhang is staying dominant in women's table tennis in the United States while attending college full time and is quoted "*This shows to juniors and kids that they don't have to give up their passion, they can do both*". This is a testament to our sport and how it has changed from the previous narrative of juniors quitting the sport to pursue College/University education.

<https://www.californiagoldenblogs.com/2017/7/10/15946244/lily-zhang-uc-berkeley-california-golden-bears-table-tennis-top-spin>

We are very excited for Lily and her fellow standouts for putting in the extra work to represent themselves, their college/university and their country.