

# IUCAA TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT - 2025-26

This document outlines the tournament rules, group allocation, match format, qualification criteria, and knockout structure, based on the latest **International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)** Laws of Table Tennis, with minor clarifications for smooth conduct.

## 1. Tournament Overview

- **Category:** Singles
- **Total Players:** 14

### Tournament Structure:

- All participants will be divided into two groups: Group A and Group B
- Group Stage: Partial round-robin within each group
- Knockout Stage: Quarterfinals → Semifinals → Final

## 2. Group Stage Format

- Partial round-robin within each group (not a full round-robin)
- Fixed schedule with each player playing **four matches**
- Each match is **Best of 3 sets**
- Each set is played to **11 points**

## 3. Scoring System

- A set is won by the first player to reach 11 points
- A set must be won by a margin of at least 2 points
- Service alternates every 2 points
- At 10–10, service alternates every point

## 4. Group Ranking Criteria

Players within a group will be ranked based on the following criteria, in order:

1. Number of matches won
2. Point difference (points won minus points lost)
3. If still tied, a one-set playoff to 11 points

## 5. Qualification for Quarterfinals

- Top four players from each group qualify for the Quarterfinals
- Total qualifiers: 8 players

## 6. Knockout Stage Structure

### Quarterfinals (Crossover Format)

- QF1: Group A #1 vs Group B #4
- QF2: Group B #2 vs Group A #3
- QF3: Group B #1 vs Group A #4
- QF4: Group A #2 vs Group B #3

### Semifinals

- SF1: Winner QF1 vs Winner QF4
- SF2: Winner QF2 vs Winner QF3

### Final

- Winner SF1 vs Winner SF2

## 7. Match Format – Knockouts

- Quarterfinals and Semifinals: Best of 5 sets
- Final: Best of 7 sets

## 8. Service Rules

- The ball must rest freely on the open palm
- The ball must remain visible at all times
- The ball must be struck after falling from the toss

## 9. Change of Ends

- Players change ends after each set
- In the deciding set (3rd, 5th, or 7th), players change ends when the first player reaches 5 points

## 10. Conduct and Fair Play

- Abusive language or misconduct may result in point penalties or disqualification
- The referee's decision is final and binding

## 11. Notes

- Match schedules will be announced separately
- Players are requested to warm up before match time
- The Table Tennis Coordinator reserves the right to make minor scheduling adjustments

## 12. Coordinators

The match framework has been finalized during the scheduled coordinator meetings. The coordinators for Table Tennis are:

- Mr. Alok Mishra
- Dr. Shivaraj Kandhasamy

Let the games begin. Best wishes to all participants.

2025-26