



## Seamaster 2018 World Tour Lion Japan Open

<b>CITY:</b>	Kitakyushu, Japan
<b>SITE:</b>	Kita-Kyushu General Gymnasium, 1-1 Jonai, Kokurakita-Ku, Kitakyushu-shi, Fukuoka
<b>DATE:</b>	06 - 10 June 2018
<b>PLAYERS:</b>	89 men 86 women 175 total
<b>COUNTRIES:</b>	22
<b>TABLES:</b>	8
<b>TABLE BRAND:</b>	Nittaku Wing BF
<b>BALL BRAND:</b>	DHS 40+
<b>FLOOR BRAND:</b>	Gerflor Taraflex Table Tennis 3.7
<b>MEDIA CONTACT:</b>	ITTF Head of Media Matt Pound: <a href="mailto:mpound@ittf.com">mpound@ittf.com</a>

### Introduction

Welcome to the Seamaster 2018 ITTF World Tour – Japan Open.

The Japan Open is a Regular Series event on the ITTF World Tour, which is the latter of the two tiers (Platinum & Regular).

The Japan Open is the third out of six Regular Series, as the players fight for points to qualify for the season ending Seamaster 2018 ITTF World Tour Grand Final later in the year.

There are five titles on offer: men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles, mixed doubles.

This media kit is designed to provide an update on the Seamaster 2018 Japan Open. Enclosed are statistics and notes that will be of assistance during the tournament. Players' biographies as well as statistical, historical and personal data can be found on ITTF.com. Please make player interview requests through a member of the ITTF and OC media staff located in the press room.

### Key Dates/Times

- 06 June 2018, 10:00am @ Kita-Kyushu General Gymnasium – Qualification Day 1
- 07 June 2018, 10:00am @ Kita-Kyushu General Gymnasium – Qualification Day 2
- 08 June 2018, 10:00am @ Kita-Kyushu General Gymnasium – Day 1
- 09 June 2018, 10:00am @ Kita-Kyushu General Gymnasium – Day 2
- 10 June 2018, 10:00am @ Kita-Kyushu General Gymnasium – Day 3

Qualification schedule: <https://bit.ly/2LhqMA2>

Main Draw schedule: <https://bit.ly/2sAVU5P>



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### Playing System

**Men's Singles:** Main draw round of 32

16 seeded players + 16 players coming from the qualifications

71 players competing for 16 qualification, playing in knockout format

**Women's Singles:** Main draw round of 32

16 seeded players + 16 players coming from the qualifications

69 players competing for 16 qualification slots, playing in knockout format

**Men's Doubles:** Main draw round of 16

8 seeded pairs + 8 non seeded pairs

**Women's Doubles:** Main draw round of 16

8 seeded pairs + 8 pairs from the qualification tournament

13 pairs compete for 8 qualification slots, playing in knockout format

**Mixed Doubles:** Main draw round of 16

8 seeded pairs + 8 pairs from the qualification tournament

9 pairs compete for 8 qualification slots, playing in knockout format



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## Seamaster 2018 ITTF World Tour Events and Winners

There has been 5 World Tour so far, 3 Platinum (China, Qatar, German), 2 Regular series (Hong Kong, Hungary).

Type	Location	Men's Singles			Women's Singles		
Platinum	China	MA Long		CHN	WANG Manyu		CHN
Regular	Hong Kong	YOSHIMURA Kazuhiro		JPN	WANG Manyu		CHN
Platinum	Germany	MA Long		CHN	ISHIKAWA Kasumi		JPN
Platinum	Qatar	FAN Zhendong		CHN	LIU Shiwen		CHN
Regular	Hungary	FAN Zhendong		CHN	WANG Manyu		CHN

Type	Location	Men's Doubles				Women's Doubles			
Platinum	China	FAN Zhendong	CHN	LIN Gaoyuan	CHN	DING Ning	CHN	ZHU Yuling	CHN
Regular	Hong Kong	WONG Chun Ting	HKG	HO Kwan Kit	HKG	CHEN Xingtong	CHN	SUN Yingsha	CHN
Platinum	Germany	MA Long	CHN	XU Xin	CHN	HAYATA Hina	JPN	ITO Mima	JPN
Platinum	Qatar	FAN Zhendong	CHN	XU Xin	CHN	CHEN Ke	CHN	WANG Manyu	CHN
Regular	Hungary	FAN Zhendong	CHN	YU Ziyang	CHN	CHEN Xingtong	CHN	SUN Yingsha	CHN



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### Race to Seamaster 2018 ITTF World Tour Grand Finals

The players are all battling it out for points to secure their qualification to the Seamaster 2018 World Tour Grand Finals, 13-16 Dec 2018.

#### How does it work?

##### Men's & Women's Singles

**Places available:** 15 players with the most points from the Seamaster 2018 World Tour events, plus one host country player that meets the below criteria. If the player from the host association is already amongst the 15 invited players or does not meet the participation criteria, the 16th player in order will be invited.

**Criteria:** Have to play in a minimum of 5 events

##### Men's & Women's Doubles

**Places available:** 7 doubles pairing with the most points, plus one host country player that meets the below criteria. If the pair from the host association is already amongst the 7 invited players or does not meet the participation criteria, the 8th pair in order will be invited.

**Criteria:** Have to play in a minimum of 4 events as a pair

## Current Race to World Tour Grand Final Standings (after HKG Open):

### Men's Singles

Rank	Points	Events	Player	Country
1	1050	3	FAN Zhendong	CHN
2	1000	2	MA Long	CHN
3	525	3	XU Xin	CHN
4	413	4	CALDERANO Hugo	BRA
5	400	2	LIN Gaoyuan	CHN
6	366	4	WONG Chun Ting	HKG
7	297	5	FRANZISKA Patrick	GER
8	288	4	LIM Jonghoon	KOR
9	250	2	YOSHIMURA Kazuhiro	JPN
10	231	4	LEE Sangsu	KOR
11	200	3	MIZUTANI Jun	JPN
11	200	3	BOLL Timo	GER
13	175	3	WANG Chunqin	CHN
13	175	3	NIWA Koki	JPN
13	175	3	HARIMOTO TOMOKAZU	JPN

### Women's Singles

Rank	Points	Events	Player	Country
1	1300	4	WANG Manyu	CHN
2	808	4	ISHIKAWA Kasumi	JPN
3	531	2	LIU Shiwen	CHN
4	381	4	SUH Hyowon	KOR
5	366	5	SUN Yingsha	CHN
6	350	2	DING Ning	CHN
7	338	5	CHEN Xingtong	CHN
7	338	4	ITO Mima	JPN
9	316	4	FENG Tianwei	SGP
10	275	3	CHENG I-Ching	TPE
11	250	4	SHIBATA Saki	JPN
12	233	4	SATO Hitomi	JPN
13	231	2	CHEN Meng	CHN
14	191	4	HIRANO Miu	JPN
15	154	5	CHEN Szu-Yu	TPE

The ITTF Race to Seamaster 2018 World Tour Grand Finals standing can be found here:

<http://bit.ly/2G2MVR3>



### Japan Open Seeded Players & 2018 Stats

#### Men's Singles

Players name	Date of Birth	Age	Hand	Grip	Pl. Style	Seed	WR	% WON	2018 WT Stats	
									Played	Won
BOLL Timo GER	08/03/1981	37	L	Shakehand	Attack	1	3	60%	5	3
MA Long CHN	20/10/1988	29	R	Shakehand	Attack	2	6	100%	9	9
WONG Chun Ting HKG	07/09/1991	26	R	Penhold	Attack	3	7	69%	16	11
LEE Sangsu KOR	31/08/1990	27	R	Shakehand	Attack	4	8	63%	16	10
NIWA Koki JPN	10/10/1994	23	L	Shakehand	Attack	5	9	33%	3	1
HARIMOTO Tomokazu JPN	27/06/2003	14	R	Shakehand	Attack	6	10	50%	8	4
GAUZY Simon FRA	25/10/1994	23	R	Shakehand	Attack	7	12	50%	8	4
MATSUDAIRA Kenta JPN	11/04/1991	27	R	Shakehand	Attack	8	14	0%	1	0
CHUANG Chih-Yuan TPE	02/04/1981	36	R	Shakehand	Attack	9	16	43%	14	6
KARLSSON Kristian SWE	06/08/1991	26	L	Shakehand	Attack	10	18	46%	13	6
GROTH Jonathan DEN	02/11/1992	25	L	Shakehand	Attack	11	19	67%	24	16
KARLSSON Mattias SWE	07/09/1991	26	R	Shakehand	Attack	12	20	67%	18	12
UEDA Jin JPN	10/12/1991	26	R	Shakehand	Attack	13	23	64%	11	7
YOSHIMURA Maharu JPN	03/08/1993	24	R	Shakehand	Attack	14	25	71%	14	10
JEONG Sangeun KOR	02/04/1990	28	R	Shakehand	Attack	15	28	57%	7	4
YOSHIDA Masaki JPN	03/09/1994	23	R	Shakehand	Attack	16	31	67%	9	6

List of players (Men): <https://bit.ly/2J6UzyB>

Link to WT stats: <https://bit.ly/2J4jSG>

### Women's Singles

Players name	Date of Birth	Age	Hand	Grip	Pl. Style	Seed	WR	% WON	2018 WT Stats	
									Played	Won
ISHIKAWA Kasumi JPN	23/02/1993	25	L	Shakehand	Attack	1	3	80%	10	8
WANG Manyu CHN	09/02/1999	19	R	Shakehand	Attack	2	4	89%	27	24
ITO Mima JPN	21/10/2000	17	R	Shakehand	Attack	3	5	69%	16	11
HIRANO Miu JPN	14/04/2000	18	R	Shakehand	Attack	4	6	56%	9	5
CHENG I-Ching TPE	15/02/1992	26	R	Shakehand	Attack	5	7	67%	6	4
CHEN Xingtong CHN	27/05/1997	21	R	Shakehand	Attack	6	8	80%	25	20
FENG Tianwei SGP	31/08/1986	31	R	Shakehand	Attack	7	9	67%	11	7
LIU Shiwen CHN	12/04/1991	27	R	Shakehand	Attack	8	10	90%	10	9
DOO Hoi Kem HKG	27/11/1996	21	R	Shakehand	Attack	9	11	53%	17	9
SATO Hitomi JPN	23/12/1997	20	R	Shakehand	Defend	10	12	67%	21	14
SUH Hyowon KOR	10/05/1987	31	R	Shakehand	Defend	11	13	67%	9	6
HAYATA Hina JPN	07/07/2000	17	L	Shakehand	Attack	12	15	64%	11	7
SAMARA Elizabeta ROU	15/04/1989	29	L	Shakehand	Attack	13	18	62%	13	8
LEE Ho Ching HKG	24/11/1992	25	R	Shakehand	Attack	14	19	60%	20	12
KATO Miyu JPN	14/04/1999	18	R	Shakehand	Attack	15	20	25%	4	1
CHEN Szu-Yu TPE	01/08/1993	24	R	Shakehand	Attack	16	22	50%	8	4

List of players (Women): <https://bit.ly/2JfBfvd>

Link to WT stats: <https://bit.ly/2Jj4jSG>



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## Prize Money

### Men's Singles and Women's singles:

<b>Winner:</b>	US\$ 18,500
<b>Runner-up:</b>	US\$ 9,200
<b>Semi finalist:</b>	US\$ 4,500
<b>Quarter finalist:</b>	US\$ 2,200
<b>Round of 16:</b>	US\$ 1,100
<b>Round of 32:</b>	US\$ 700

### Men's, Women's & Mixed Doubles:

<b>Winner:</b>	US\$ 6,500
<b>Runner-up:</b>	US\$ 3,250
<b>Semi finalist:</b>	US\$ 1,625

**Total:** US\$ 170,000

## Past Winners

### Men's Singles

Venue	Year	Winner		Runner Up	
Tokyo	2017	MA Long	CHN	FAN Zhendong	CHN
Tokyo	2016	FAN Zhendong	CHN	XU Xin	CHN
Kobe	2015	XU Xin	CHN	YOSHIMURA Maharu	JPN
Yokohama	2014	YU Ziyang	CHN	MIZUTANI Jun	JPN
Yokohama	2013	SHIONO Masato	JPN	XU Chenhao	CHN
Kobe	2012	MIZUTANI Jun	JPN	OH Sangeun	KOR
Kobe	2011	KISHIKAWA SEIYA	JPN	MIZUTANI Jun	JPN
Kobe	2010	BOLL Timo	GER	MIZUTANI Jun	JPN
Wakayama	2009	OH Sangeun	KOR	BAUM Patrick	GER
Yokohama	2008	MA Lin	CHN	WANG Hao	CHN
Chiba	2007	WANG Hao	CHN	MA Long	CHN
Yokohama	2006	WANG Liqin	CHN	WANG Hao	CHN
Yokohama	2005	BOLL Timo	GER	CHUANG Chih-Yuan	TPE
Kobe	2004	CHEN Qi	CHN	WANG Hao	CHN
Kobe	2003	TIMO Boll	GER	OH Sangeun	KOR
Kobe	2002	KREANGA Kalinikos	GRE	CHUANG Chih-Yuan	TPE
Yokohama	2001	CHIANG Peng-Lung	TPE	JOO Saehyuk	KOR
Kobe	2000	WANG Liqin	CHN	MA Lin	CHN
Kobe	1999	SAMSONOV Vladimir	BLR	MA Lin	CHN
Wakayama	1998	KONG Linghui	CHN	LIU Guoliang	CHN
Chiba	1997	WALDNER Jan-Ove	SWE	WANG Liqin	CHN



### Women's Singles

Venue	Year	Winner	Runner Up
Tokyo	2017	SUN Yingsha (CHN)	CHEN Meng (CHN)
Tokyo	2016	LIU Shiwen (CHN)	DING Ning (CHN)
Kobe	2015	CHEN Meng (CHN)	ZHU Yuling (CHN)
Yokohama	2014	FENG Tianwei (SIN)	ISHIKAWA Kasumi (JPN)
Yokohama	2013	FUKUHARA Ai (JPN)	Moon Hyunjung (KOR)
Kobe	2012	SHEN Yanfei (ESP)	KIM Kyungah (KOR)
Kobe	2011	FENG Tianwei (SIN)	FUKUHARA Ai (JPN)
Kobe	2010	WANG Yuegu (SIN)	ZHU Yuling (CHN)
Wakayama	2009	PARK Mi Young (KOR)	HIRANO Sayaka (JPN)
Yokohama	2008	ZHANG Yining (CHN)	LI Xiaoxia (CHN)
Chiba	2007	WANG Nan (CHN)	GUO Yan (CHN)
Yokohama	2006	WANG Yuegu (SIN)	GUO Yan (CHN)
Yokohama	2005	ZHANG Yining (CHN)	GUO Yan (CHN)
Kobe	2004	ZHANG Yining (CHN)	NIU Jianfeng (CHN)
Kobe	2003	GUO Yue (CHN)	GUO Yan (CHN)
Kobe	2002	KIM Kyungah (KOR)	STEFF Mihaela (ROM)
Yokohama	2001	WANG Nan (CHN)	KIM Kyungah (KOR)
Kobe	2000	WANG Nan (CHN)	LI Ju (CHN)
Kobe	1999	WANG Nan (CHN)	KOYAMA Chire (JPN)
Wakayama	1998	LI Ju (CHN)	WU Na (CHN)
Chiba	1997	WANG Chen (USA)	SUN Jin (HKG)

### Men's Doubles

Venue	Year	Winning Pair
Tokyo	2017	MA Long (CHN) / XU Xin (CHN)
Tokyo	2016	MA Long (CHN) / XU Xin (CHN)
Kobe	2015	MA Long (CHN) / XU Xin (CHN)
Yokohama	2014	MIZUTANI Jun (JPN) / KISHIKAWA Seiya (JPN)
Yokohama	2013	UEDA Jin (JPN) / YOSHIMURA Maharu (JPN)
Kobe	2012	KIM Minseok (KOR) / SEO Hyundeok (KOR)
Kobe	2011	LIN Gaoyuan (CHN) / WU Jiaji (CHN)
Kobe	2010	MATSUDAIRA KENTA (JPN) / NIWA Koki (JPN)
Wakayama	2009	MIZUTANI Jun (JPN) / KISHIKAWA Seiya (JPN)
Yokohama	2008	<i>Not Held (Team Event)</i>
Chiba	2007	WANG Liqin (CHN) / CHEN Qi (CHN)
Yokohama	2006	MA Lin (CHN) / WANG Hao (CHN)
Yokohama	2005	BOLL Timo (GER) / SÜSS Christian (GER)
Kobe	2004	YAN Sen (CHN) / WANG Liqin (CHN)
Kobe	2003	MA Lin (CHN) / CHEN Qi (CHN)
Kobe	2002	KITO Akira (JPN) / TASAKI Toshiro (JPN)
Yokohama	2001	MA Lin (CHN) / WANG Hao (CHN)
Kobe	2000	KONG Linghui (CHN) / LIU Guoliang (CHN)
Kobe	1999	MA Lin (CHN) / QIN Zhijian (CHN)



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Wakayama	1998	MA Lin (CHN)	WANG Tao (CHN)
Chiba	1997	WANG Liqin (CHN)	YAN Sen (CHN)

## Women's Doubles

Venue	Year	Winner	
Tokyo	2017	CHEN Xingtong (CHN)	SUN Yingsha (CHN)
Tokyo	2016	DING Ning (CHN)	LI Xiaoxia (CHN)
Kobe	2015	WU Yang (CHN)	LIU Fei (CHN)
Yokohama	2014	FUKUHARA Ai (JPN)	WAKAMIYA Misako (JPN)
Yokohama	2013	GU Yuting (CHN)	ZHOU Xintong (CHN)
Kobe	2012	WAKAMIYA MISAKO (JPN)	FUJII Hiroko (JPN)
Kobe	2011	WAKAMIYA MISAKO (JPN)	FUJII Hiroko (JPN)
Kobe	2010	ISHIGAKI Yuka (JPN)	YAMANASHI Yuri (JPN)
Wakayama	2009	HIRANO Sayaka (JPN)	HIURA Reiko (JPN)
Yokohama	2008	<i>Not Held (Team Event)</i>	
Chiba	2007	GUO Yue (CHN)	LI Xiaoxia (CHN)
Yokohama	2006	ZHANG Rui (HKG)	TIE Yana (HKG)
Yokohama	2005	BAI Yang (CHN)	CAO Zhen (CHN)
Kobe	2004	GUO Yue (CHN)	NIU Jianfeng (CHN)
Kobe	2003	GUO Yue (CHN)	NIU Jianfeng (CHN)
Kobe	2002	JING Junhong (SIN)	LI Jiawei (SIN)
Yokohama	2001	KIM Bok Rae (KOR)	KIM Kyungah (KOR)
Kobe	2000	SUN Jin (CHN)	YANG Ying 2 (CHN)
Kobe	1999	SUN Jin (CHN)	YANG Ying 2 (CHN)
Wakayama	1998	LI Ju (CHN)	WANG Nan (CHN)
Chiba	1997	LEE Eun Sil (KOR)	RYU Ji Hae (KOR)

## Most Successful Japan Open Players

Ma Long (CHN) will be looking to defend his Men's Singles title, and win it for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time. No men player has ever successfully defended his title. Top seed FENG Tianwei (SGP) will be looking to win the Women's Singles title for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time.

**Men's singles** – Timo Boll (Germany) – three

**Women's singles** – Wang Nan (China) – four

**Men's doubles** – Ma Lin (China) – five. Partners all were Chinese - Chen Qi (2), Qin Zhijian (1), Wang Tao (1), Wang Hao (1)

**Women's doubles** – Guo Yue (China) - three. Partners all were Chinese - Niu Jianfeng (2), Li Xiaoxia (1)

## Japan Open Facts

- Held every year since it began in 1997
- Fukuhara Ai (JPN) is the only Japanese to have won the Women Singles Event (2013).
- No one has successfully defended their title for the Men Singles Event.
- This will be the first time the Japan Open is held in Kitakyushu



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- **Japan Open 2003 in Kobe**
  - Guo Yue (CHN) wrote history becoming the youngest title winner ever in singles at the World Tour at an age of 15 years, 2 months and 4 days.
- **Japan Open 2013 in Yokohama**
  - The Men Singles Event was contested between two qualifiers, where Shiono Masato (JPN) emerged victorious over Xu Chenhao (CHN).

### World Tour 2018 Facts

- Zhang Yining (CHN) is the most successful singles player in World Tour Tournaments with 29 titles. Of those still playing, Vladimir Samsonov (BLR) has 27, Ma Long (CHN) has 26, Timo Boll (GER) has 19 and Ding Ning (CHN) has 16.
- The Mixed Doubles event will make its 2nd ever appearance on a World Tour Event at the Japan Open after debuting in Shenzhen at the 2018 China Open.
- Ma Long has not lost a Men's Singles match in 2018 World Tour Tournament. The last time he lost a World Tour Men's Singles match was in 2016 Korea Open against Xu Xin (CHN).

### ITTF.com

Make sure you follow the Seamaster 2018 ITTF World Tour – China Open on ITTF.com to obtain the following:

- Head to head comparisons between each player: <http://bit.ly/2Dwi4eu>
- TV Schedule: <https://bit.ly/2sun8Mj>
- Main Draw Schedule: <https://bit.ly/2sAVU5P>
- List of players (M): <https://bit.ly/2J6UzyB>
- List of players (W): <https://bit.ly/2JfBfvd>
- Live streaming at <https://tv.ittf.com/>
- Live twitter blog #ITTFWorldTour: <http://bit.ly/2Fgu6fa>
- Photos for editorial use: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ittfworld/albums>
- Upcoming ITTF calendar: <https://www.ittf.com/2018-event-calendar/>
- Everything you need to do with international table tennis!