



INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION

Uncle Pop Women's World Cup
27 - 29 October 2017, Markham, Canada



UNCLE POP 2017 WOMEN'S WORLD CUP PRESENTED BY POLAR NATURALS MEDIA KIT

CITY:	Markham
SITE:	PANAM Centre, 16 Main Street Unionville, Markham, ON L3R 2E4
DATE:	27 - 29 October 2017
PLAYERS:	20
TABLES:	1
TABLE BRAND:	DHS
BALL BRAND:	DHS
FLOOR BRAND:	Enlio (red)
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INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Uncle Pop 2017 Women's World Cup presented by Polar Naturals, which is the second most prestigious table tennis event of the year after the World Table Tennis Championships and is contested by 20 players.

The Uncle Pop 2017 Women's World Cup presented by Polar Naturals will be held in Markham, Canada. It is the first time that Canada is hosting the tournament. The previous occasion was in Philadelphia, USA.

The 20 players taking part at the Uncle Pop 2017 Women's World Cup presented by Polar Naturals qualified through their Continental Cups, apart from wildcard player Elizabeta SAMARA (ROU) and host representative ZHANG Mo (CAN). LIU Shiwen (CHN) replaces the World Champion DING Ning (CHN). Petrissa SOLJA withdrew from the tournament and was replaced by Matilda EKHOLM (SWE).

This preview is designed to provide an update on the Uncle Pop 2017 Women's World Cup presented by Polar Naturals. 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 media staff located in the pressroom.

Key Dates/Times

26 October 2017, 7:30pm @ Westin prince Toronto – Draw for Stage 1
27 October 2017, 11:00am @ PANAM Centre – Day 1, Stage 1
27 October 2017, 8:30pm @ PANAM Centre – Draw for Stage 2
28 October 2017, 10:00am @ PANAM Centre – Day 2, Round of 16
28 October 2017, 7:00pm @ PANAM Centre – Day 2, Quarterfinal
29 October 2017, 2:00pm @ PANAM Centre – Day 3, Semi Final
29 October 2017, 7:00pm @ PANAM Centre – Day 3, match for 3rd place
29 October 2017, 7:45pm @ PANAM Centre – Day 3, Final

Qualification

The 20 players who are contesting the Uncle Pop 2017 Women's World Cup presented by Polar Naturals comprises of:

- 17 players who have qualified through their respective Continental Cups.
 - If no players qualify from the host association through the above avenues, a host association player may nominate a player
 - The final player is chosen by the ITTF as a wildcard.
 - The current individual World Champion*
 - If the World Champion is not available or withdraws, she shall be replaced by the remaining highest ranked and highest finisher from the Continental Cups*
- * DING Ning has withdrew from the tournament and has been replaced by LIU Shiwen

How the 17 places are determined through the Continental Cup:

- The winner of each Continental Cup, plus the second and third highest finishers from Asia and Europe qualify, for a total of 10 players.
- Seven additional players are being selected from the Continental Cups based on their order of finishing and their World Ranking. The highest ranked player amongst players finishing second in Africa, Latin America, North America, Oceania, and fourth in Asia and Europe, are selected. The highest ranked next player from the remaining players in the top most place on the qualifying positions from each Continental Cup, are selected, and so on, until the seven places are filled.

#	WR – Oct 2017	Player	Qualification Method
1	4	LIU Shiwen (CHN 1)	Substitute
2	103	Dina MESHREF (EGY)	African Cup Winner
3	2	ZHU Yuling (CHN 2)	Asian Cup Winner
4	80	Lily ZHANG (USA)	Pan Am Cup Winner
5	249	Paulina VEGA (CHI)	Pan Am Latin American Qualifier
6	117	LAY Jian Fang (AUS)	Oceania Cup Winner
7	20	LI Jie (NED)	Europe Cup Winner
8	5	Kasumi ISHIKAWA (JPN 1)	Asian Cup 3 rd place (2 nd Qualifier)
9	6	Miu HIRANO (JPN 2)	Asian Cup 4 th place (3 rd Qualifier)
10	44	Matilda EKHOLM (SWE)	Substitute
11	52	Sabine WINTER (GER 2)	Europe Cup 3 rd place (3 rd Qualifier)
12	35	LIU Jia (AUT)	Continental Cup Qualifier 1
13	32	Georgina POTA (HUN)	Continental Cup Qualifier 2
14	32	CHEN Szu-Yu (TPE 1)	Continental Cup Qualifier 3
15	27	SUH Hyowon (KOR)	Continental Cup Qualifier 4
16	19	DOO Hoi Kem (HKG 1)	Continental Cup Qualifier 5
17	10	CHENG I-Ching (TPE 2)	Continental Cup Qualifier 6
18	42	LEE Ho Ching (HKG 2)	Continental Cup Qualifier 7
19	59	ZHANG Mo (CAN)	Host
20	26	Elizabeta SAMARA (ROU)	Wild card

Playing System

The Uncle Pop 2017 Women's World Cup presented by Polar Naturals consists of two stages:

Stage One

- In stage one, the players seeded nine to 20 (12 players) are drawn into four equal groups of three players, with all members of a group playing each other.
- Players seeded 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th head each group A, B, C and D respectively.
- Players seeded 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th are drawn randomly into the second position of each preliminary group.
- The remaining players seeded 17th, 18th, 19th and 20th are drawn randomly into the third and last position in each preliminary group
- If there are 2 players from the same Association, they will be drawn into separate groups.
- The top 2 finishers of each preliminary group shall join the top 8 seeded players in the second stage of the competition

Stage Two

- Stage two is knock-out stage of the competition.
- The draws for seeded 1st – 8th will be done according to ITTF Regulations.
- Seed 1 placed in position 1, seed 2 placed in position 16
- Seeds 3 and 4 drawn between position 8 and 9
- Seeds 5-8 drawn randomly into positions 4, 5, 12 and 13.
- Group winners from the preliminary stage will be drawn randomly into positions 3, 6, 11 and 14.
- The second place finishers of each group shall be drawn randomly into positions 2, 7, 10 and 15 of the draw; group winners and second place finishers from the same group will be drawn into opposite halves of the draw; there will be no separation by association.
- Losers of the semi-finals play each other for third place.
- All matches will be played to the best of 7 games.

Prize Money

Winner:	US\$45,000
Runner-up:	US\$25,000
3rd place:	US\$15,000
4th place:	US\$10,000
5th – 8th place:	US\$6,000
9th – 16th place:	US\$3,250
17th – 20th place:	US\$1,250
Total:	US\$150,000

Past Winners and Locations

Year	Host City	Gold	Silver	Bronze
2016	Philadelphia	Hirano Miu (JPN)	Cheng I-Ching (TPE)	Feng Tianwei (SGP)
2015	Sendai	Liu Shiwen (CHN)	Ishikawa Kasumi	Solja Petrissa (GER)
2014	Linz	Ding Ning (CHN)	Li Xiaoxia (CHN)	Ishikawa Kasumi (JPN)
2013	Kobe	Liu Shiwen (CHN)	Wu Yang (CHN)	Feng Tianwei (SGP)
2012	Huangshi	Liu Shiwen (CHN)	Samara Elizabeta (ROU)	Shen Yanfei (ESP)
2011	Singapore	Ding Ning (CHN)	Li Xiaoxia (CHN)	Tie Yana (HKG)
2010	Kuala Lumpur	Guo Yan (CHN)	Jiang Huajun (HKG)	Guo Yue (CHN)
2009	Guangzhou	Liu Shiwen (CHN)	Guo Yue (CHN)	Li Xiaoxia (CHN)
2008	Kuala Lumpur	Li Xiaoxia (CHN)	Tie Yana (HKG)	Feng Tianwei (SGP)
2007	Chengdu	Wang Nan (CHN)	Zhang Yining (CHN)	Guo Yue (CHN)
2006	Urumqi	Guo Yan (CHN)	Zhang Yining (CHN)	Li Jiawei (SGP)
2005	Guangzhou	Zhang Yining (CHN)	Guo Yan (CHN)	Fukuhara Ai (JPN)
2004	Hangzhou	Zhang Yining (CHN)	Wang Nan (CHN)	Tie Yana (HKG)
2003	Paris	Wang Nan (CHN)	Niu Jianfeng (CHN)	Zhang Yining (CHN)
2002	Singapore	Zhang Yining (CHN)	Li Nan (CHN)	Tie Yana (HKG)
2001	Wuhu	Zhang Yining (CHN)	Kim Hyon-Hui (PRK)	Steff Mihaela (ROU)
2000	Phnom Penh	Li Ju (CHN)	Wang Nan (CHN)	Sun Jin (CHN)
1998	Taipei	Wang Nan (CHN)	Li Ju (CHN)	Chen-Tong Fei-Ming (TPE)
1997	Shanghai	Wang Nan (CHN)	Li Ju (CHN)	Li Chunli (NZL)
1996	Hong Kong	Deng Yaping (CHN)	Yang Ying (CHN)	Wang Chen (CHN)

Most Successful Women's World Cup Players

Liu Shiwen (CHN) will have a chance to win her 5th title, which will be a record.

Liu Shiwen (CHN)	4 (2015, 2013, 2012, 2009)
Zhang Yining (CHN)	4 (2005, 2004, 2002, 2001)
Wang Nan (CHN)	4 (2007, 2003, 1998, 1997)

Most Women's World Cup Appearances

Liu Jia (AUT) will be taking part in her 12th Women's World Cup.

Tie Yana (HKG)	12
Liu Jia (AUT)	12
Jiang Huajun (HKG)	9
Li Jiawei (SGP)	9

Players Information

Seeding	Name	WR	Hand	Grip	Play Style	AGE	2017 Stats		
							% Won	Played	Won
1	ZHU Yuling (CHN)	2	Right	Shakehand	Attacking	22	82%	33	27
2	LIU Shiwen (CHN)	4	Right	Shakehand	Attacking	26	81%	27	22
3	Kasumi ISHIKAWA (JPN)	5	Left	Shakehand	Attacking	24	70%	37	26
4	Miu HIRANO (JPN)	6	Right	Shakehand	Attacking	17	66%	41	27
5	CHENG I-Ching (TPE)	10	Right	Shakehand	Attacking	25	65%	40	26
6	DOO Hoi Kem (HKG)	19	Right	Shakehand	Attacking	20	57%	37	21
7	LI Jie (NED)	20	Right	Shakehand	Defensive	33	63%	32	20
8	Elizabeta SAMARA (ROU)	26	Right	Shakehand	Attacking	28	70%	27	19
9	SUH Hyowon (KOR)	27	Right	Shakehand	Defensive	30	50%	24	12
10	Georgina POTA (HUN)	32	Right	Shakehand	Attacking	32	69%	35	24
11	CHEN Szu-Yu (TPE)	32	Right	Shakehand	Attacking	24	64%	47	30
12	LIU Jia (AUT)	35	Left	Shakehand	Attacking	35	50%	16	8
13	LEE Ho Ching (HKG)	42	Right	Shakehand	Attacking	24	35%	20	7
14	Matilda EKHOLM (SWE)	44	Left	Shakehand	Attacking	35	53%	32	17
15	Sabine WINTER (GER)	52	Right	Shakehand	Attacking	25	60%	10	6
16	ZHANG Mo (CAN)	59	Right	Shakehand	Attacking	28	73%	41	30
17	ZHANG Lily (USA)	80	Right	Shakehand	Attacking	21	85%	13	11
18	Dina MESHREF (EGY)	103	Left	Shakehand	Attacking	23	81%	16	13
19	LAY Jian Fang (AUS)	117	Right	Penhold	Attacking	44	75%	8	6
20	Paulina VEGA (CHI)	249	Left	Shakehand	Attacking	33	71%	34	24



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Tournament Facts

- The 2017 Women's World Cup is the 21st edition.
- Defending Champion Miu Hirano was the first & only non-Chinese player to have ever won the title
- The oldest competitor is Lay Jian Fang (AUS), who is 44 years old. The youngest is Miu Hirano (JPN) who is 17, a difference of 27 years!
- Lay Jian Fang (AUS) is the only penholder at the tournament
- 5 players (25%) out of 20 are left-handed players.

ITTF.com

Make sure you follow the Uncle Pop 2017 Women's World Cup presented by Polar Naturals on ITTF.com to obtain the following:

- Up to date schedule
- Live streaming at tv.ITTF.com
- Live updates of the action
- Rights free photos
- Upcoming ITTF calendar
- Past results
- Everything you need to know about international table tennis!