



Release

Guernsey

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Deutsche Bank extends support of Guernsey table tennis to ten years with renewed sponsorship deal

Deutsche Bank has announced that it has renewed its sponsorship of the Guernsey Table Tennis Association's (GTTA) Development Programme for a further two years, underlining its long-term support for the sport and grass roots development.

The partnership, which will now stretch to ten years, continues to flourish, with almost 100 juniors taking part in the Development Programme last season. Designed to take players from eight years old and train them to become accomplished players, the Programme also aims to create exciting opportunities to play table tennis for as many young players as possible within a safe and controlled environment.

Over the past season, young players taking part in the Programme have achieved success on both the national and international stage, with a number of graduates from the Programme now representing Guernsey at a senior level, and a team from Guernsey competing at the World Championships in Dortmund where they had their highest ever finishes in both the men's and women's competitions. Furthermore, in Guernsey's first season in the Junior British League, an excellent performance by the boys' junior team saw them gain a promotion from the Third to the Second Division.

The GTTA's Umpire Development Programme has also been successful this year, with two of Guernsey's umpires, Ben Foote and Tim Le Page, being selected to officiate at the Paralympics. Ben was also selected as Technical Official at the London Olympics 2012.

Bolstered by Deutsche Bank's renewed sponsorship, the new season will enable the GTTA to further evolve and expand the Development Programme through a combination of taster sessions, which attract 80 children each year, junior leagues and school competitions. With the demand to compete in tournaments growing every year, young players will be encouraged to take part in the Deutsche Bank Development Tournaments this season too.

Andreas Tautscher, Chief Country Officer, Deutsche Bank Channel Islands, said:

“Deutsche Bank has built up an excellent relationship with the Guernsey Table Tennis Association over the past eight years and we are pleased to be able to extend our sponsorship of the Development Programme by a further two years. Backed up by an outstanding team of coaches, we are always impressed by the commitment, focus and enthusiasm of the young players taking part, and are proud to be supporting people who clearly share a 'Passion to Perform'.”

Derek Webb of the Guernsey Table Tennis Association added:

“Having the long-term support of a sponsor is a real benefit, allowing us to plan and build effectively on our programmes each season, so we are truly grateful to Deutsche Bank. Whilst Guernsey can boast an aspiring Olympic table tennis player and a male just outside the British top ten, locally the sport is seeing a whole new intake of young and exciting players who are eager to make their mark locally, nationally, and even internationally. Some of this new and emerging talent means that Guernsey table tennis is entering a new and challenging period, and the Development Programme is a key part of that.”

Ends.

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