

## **EQUIPMENT APPROVAL PROCESS**

Anyone seeking to have a platform tennis paddle or ball approved by the APTA for use in APTA-sanctioned events and leagues must follow the process outlined below.

- 1) Email an introductory letter to the APTA Executive Director, Ann Sheedy ann.sheedy@platformtennis.org
- 2) Send a photo and specifications of the paddle to the Chair of Rules Committee. Ann will supply contact information. Send a prototype along with the basic manufacturer specifications and details of the submitted equipment to Element Space & Defense. Ann will provide the information.
- 3) If balls are to be tested, send a photo and specifications to the Chair of the Rules Committee and 4 balls to Element along with the manufacturer specifications.
- 4) Testing and reporting of results may take up to 4-6 weeks and we advise that this time frame be built into product launch planning.
- 5) Depending on the test results, the APTA Rules Committee will make a final approval decision.

We do not return paddles or balls submitted for testing. We cannot guarantee nondestructive testing by Element and we need to keep copies of the paddles for possible future reference.

The cost of testing a paddle is \$300. The cost of testing the balls is \$400.

We require your submission to exhibit final graphics (manufacturer's name and model name must be on the face), including the APTA-licensed logo or text.

Manufacturers are required to have paddles tested and approved when any of the following conditions exist:

- 1) A new paddle is being introduced.
- 2) A previously approved paddle has any of the following: a change in components, a change in hole configuration, or a change in the core.
- Previously approved paddles being introduced with only a graphic design change need only be submitted for graphic approval from the Rules Committee. Full testing is not required.