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For Immediate Release:  
November 7, 2011

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## News Release

### United States Wins Three Bronze Medals at Pan American Games

**Cary, N.C** – The United States Women’s Table Tennis Team took home a bronze medal this week at the recently-completed Pan American Games in Guadalajara, Mexico. The bronze medal winning team effort was led by Ariel Hsing, Lily Zhang, and Erica Wu. Hsing and Zhang also won individual bronze medals at the event, giving the U.S. three medals at the Pan American Games table tennis competition.

Hsing, Zhang, and Wu will be amongst the athletes competing for a spot to compete in London on the United States Olympic Team when the Olympic Trials come to Bond Park Community Center in Cary, North Carolina February 9-12, 2012. The top four men and the top four women at the U.S. Olympic Trials will qualify to compete in the North America Olympic Qualification Tournament in Cary in April.

Canada’s Mo Zhang took home the gold medal in the women’s singles event. By winning the gold medal at the Pan American Games, Mo Zhang has automatically qualified for the Olympic Games in London. Zhang’s Canadian teammates will visit Cary April 20-22, 2012 to compete against the top U.S. players at the North America Olympic Qualification Tournament. The top two women and the top three men at this event will qualify to compete at the Olympic Games in London.

A special Friends of Table Tennis ticket package, which includes tickets to all sessions of both the U.S. and North American Olympic Trials in Cary, is on sale now. Visit [www.cary2012.com](http://www.cary2012.com) for more information. Tickets can be purchased online or at the Cary Arts Center Box Office.

#### **About the Table Tennis Olympic Trials**

The 2012 U.S. Olympic Trials – Table Tennis is an event of the US Olympic Committee to be held from Thursday, February 8 through Sunday, February 12, 2012 at Bond Park Community Center in Cary, NC. The U.S. Trials will feature the top 40 players in the US vying for a spot on the 2012 US Olympic Team. The U.S. Trials open on Thursday, February 8, where any registered participant (including registered members of the public) can compete for a spot on the U.S. Team.

The North America 2012 Olympic Games Qualifying Tournament is an event of North America Table Tennis taking place from Friday, April 20 through Sunday, April 22, 2012 also at Bond Park Community Center in Cary, NC. The North America Trials feature the top 25 players in the hemisphere competing for the final spots in the London 2012 Olympic Games.

The two trials competitions comprise the first-ever Olympic Trials events in Cary, NC.

#### **About Cary 2012**

Cary 2012 is the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) for both the 2012 US Olympic Trials – Table Tennis and the North America 2012 Olympic Games Qualifying Tournament. Cary 2012 is a collaborative effort among the Triangle Sports Commission, Greater Raleigh Convention & Visitors Bureau, Town of Cary,

and the Cary Table Tennis Association, in cooperation with USA Table Tennis and the United States Olympic Committee. For more information on Cary 2012, go to [www.cary2012.com](http://www.cary2012.com).

#### **About the Triangle Sports Commission**

Incorporated in 2001, the Triangle Sports Commission is a North Carolina charitable non-profit organization and an all-volunteer sports commission serving the Triangle region. The TSC led the Triangle's recruitment effort for the relocation of USA Baseball from Arizona that resulted in USA Baseball's new headquarters at Durham Bulls Athletic Park and their National Training Complex at Thomas Brooks Park in Cary. In 2008, the TSC hosted the Lenovo Olympic Celebration featuring 31 Olympic athletes, where Jim Scherr, CEO of the U.S. Olympic Committee, announced the TSC as the USOC's newest Community Olympic Partner. In 2009, U.S. Masters Swimming selected the Triangle Sports Commission to host its annual High Performance Camp and named the TSC an Official Community Partner. For more information on the Triangle Sports Commission, visit [www.trianglesportscommission.com](http://www.trianglesportscommission.com).

#### **About the Greater Raleigh Convention & Visitors Bureau**

The Greater Raleigh Convention and Visitors Bureau, as the official destination marketing organization of Raleigh and Wake County, accelerates sustainable economic growth and development by increasing visitor, sports and convention business. For more information on the Greater Raleigh Convention & Visitors Bureau sports marketing department, please visit [www.raleighsports.org](http://www.raleighsports.org).

#### **About the Town of Cary**

The Town of Cary is a thriving community in the heart of the Triangle area of North Carolina, between Raleigh and renowned [Research Triangle Park](#). Cary, with a population of around 143,000, has ranked among the [top regions in the country](#) to live or work, to find a home or start a business, to raise a family or retire. The Town is a designated North Carolina Fit Community and was selected by the NCAA to serve as one of the inaugural members in its "NCAA Championship City" pilot program, annually hosting NCAA Division I, II, and III men's and women's championships through the year 2012. This year, Cary became the home of a Continental Basketball League's team, Cary Invasion. For more on recreation in Cary, visit [www.townofcary.org](http://www.townofcary.org).

#### **About USA Table Tennis**

USATT is the national organizing body for table tennis in the United States. Created in 1933 and headquartered in Colorado Springs, its staff serves the 9000+ members and 285+ clubs that are affiliated with USATT. It oversees a wide variety of membership services, the national teams, and other areas such as the rules of the game, and numerous online instructional and historical articles. It is governed and run by the 9 members of the board of directors, numerous committees, and paid staff. USATT is affiliated with the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF), the world governing body for table tennis, as well as the United States Olympic Committee (USOC).