



**INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION**  
**GAC GROUP 2014 ITTF World Tour,**  
**Super Series - Kuwait Open**  
**12-16 FEBRUARY 2014 KUWAIT CITY, KUWAIT**

## **GAC GROUP 2014 ITTF World Tour Super Series - Kuwait Open**

**CITY:** Kuwait City, Kuwait  
**SITE:** Salwa Sporting Club  
**DATE:** Qualification 12-13 February 2014, Main draw 14-16 February 2014  
**PLAYERS:** 132 men, 87 women total: 219  
**COUNTRIES:** 33  
**TABLES:** 10  
**TABLE BRAND:** Tibhar  
**BALL BRAND:** Double Happiness  
**FLOOR BRAND:** Gerflor  
**MEDIA CONTACT:** ITTF Promotion Manager Matt Pound: [mpound@ittfmail.com](mailto:mpound@ittfmail.com)

### **Introduction**

Welcome to the GAC GROUP 2014 ITTF World Tour, Super Series - Kuwait Open.

The Kuwait Open is a Super Series event on the ITTF World Tour, which is the top of the 3 tiers (Super, Major & Challenge).

There are 6 gold medals on offer: men's singles, women's singles, men's doubles, women's doubles, men's u/21 singles and women's u/21 singles.

This is the first Super Series event of 2014 and second World Tour event of the year after the Hungarian Open which was a challenge series event.

The players are looking to obtain world tour series standings points to qualify for the 1 million dollar World Tour Grand Final to be held later in the year.

This preview is designed to provide an update on the 2014 Kuwait 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 media staff located in the press room.

### **Key Dates/Times**

12 February 2014, 10:30am @ Salwa Sporting Club – Qualification Day 1  
13 February 2014, 11:00am @ Salwa Sporting Club – Qualification Day 2  
14 February 2014, 10:00am @ Salwa Sporting Club – Main Draw Day 1  
15 February 2014, 11:30am @ Salwa Sporting Club – Main Draw Day 2  
16 February 2014, 10:30am @ Salwa Sporting Club – Main Draw Day 3

### **Playing System**

**Men's Singles:** Main draw round of 64

32 seeded players + 32 players coming from the qualifications  
(Qualification will be consisted of 32 groups, with the winner of each group progressing to the main draw.

**Women's Singles:** Main draw round of 64

32 seeded players + 32 players coming from the qualifications



(Qualification will be consisted of 16 groups, with the winners and runner up from each group progressing to the main draw.)

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

8 seeded doubles + 8 doubles coming from the qualifications

(Qualification for remaining 42 doubles, will be four KO preliminary rounds, from where the last 8 doubles will fill in the main draw)

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

8 seeded doubles + 8 doubles coming from the qualifications

(The Winners, runners-up and 3rd places of the 5 groups and 1 Lucky Loser are directly qualified for the Main Draw.)

**U 21 Men's Singles:** Main draw round of 16

8 seeded players + 8 players coming from the qualifications

(Qualification will be consisted of 14 groups. The winners of each group will go through to the main draw directly and the remaining 2 positions will be filled in by "Lucky Losers" - draw among the runner-ups of each group).

**U21 Women's Singles:** Main draw round of 32

16 seeded players + 16 players coming from the qualifications

(Qualification will be consisted of 8 groups, which the winner of each group progressing to the main draw).

## **GAC GROUP 2014 ITTF World Tour Events and Winners**

There has only been one GAC Group 2014 World Tour so far this year, the Challenge Series- Hungary Open:

**Men's Singles:**

Winner - HABESOHN Daniel AUT, Runner Up - MENGEL Steffen GER

**Women's Singles:**

Winner - LIU Jia AUT, Runner Up - POTA Georgina HUN

**Under 21 Men's Singles:**

Winner - LORENTZ Romain FRA, Runner Up - ANGLÉS Enzo FRA

**Under 21 Women's Singles:**

Winner - POLCANOVA Sofia AUT, Runner Up - MATSUDAIRA Shiho JPN

## **Race to GAC Group World Tour Grand Final**

### **How does it work?**

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

**Places available:** 15 players with the most points from the 2014 World Tour events, plus one host country player that meets the below criteria

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



**INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION**  
**GAC GROUP 2014 ITTF World Tour,**  
**Super Series - Kuwait Open**  
**12-16 FEBRUARY 2014 KUWAIT CITY, KUWAIT**

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

**Places available:** 7 doubles pairing with the most points, plus one host country player that meets the below criteria

**Criteria:** Have to play in a minimum of 4 events (playing together)

### **Men's & Women's under 21 singles**

**Places available:** 8 players with the most points from the 2014 World Tour events, plus one host country player that meets the below criteria

**Criteria:** Have to play in a minimum of 4 events in at least 2 continents

Full criteria can be found here: <http://bit.ly/19cS8MS>.

### **Current World Tour Rankings:**

The current World Tour Standings after one the Hungarian Open can be found here: The full World Tour Rankings: <http://bit.ly/18I98B0>

## Kuwait Open Seeded Players & 2013 Stats

### Men's Singles

Name	Player Information					Performance statistics 2013 (including w.o. matches)					
	Date of Birth	Age	Seeding	WR-Jan	WT	Plyd	Won	Sgls	Plyd	Won	
FAN Zhendong CHN	01/22/1997	17	1	5	85.71%	28	24	83.33%	24	20	
YAN An CHN	01/12/1993	21	2	7	81.25%	32	26	82.14%	28	23	
CHUANG Chih-Yuan TPE	04/02/1981	33	3	9	69.23%	26	18	69.23%	26	18	
MIZUTANI Jun JPN	06/09/1989	25	4	13	75.00%	16	12	75.00%	16	12	
FREITAS Marcos POR	04/08/1988	26	5	15	64.29%	14	9	64.29%	14	9	
MATSUDAIRA Kenta JPN	04/11/1991	23	6	16	68.42%	19	13	68.42%	19	13	
ZHOU Yu CHN	05/19/1992	22	7	17	76.47%	17	13	76.47%	17	13	
NIWA Koki JPN	10/10/94	20	8	18	66.67%	18	12	66.67%	18	12	
JOO Saehyuk KOR	01/20/1980	34	9	19	50.00%	2	1	50.00%	2	1	
GAO Ning SIN	10/11/1982	32	10	20	55.56%	18	10	55.56%	18	10	
TANG Peng HKG	02/04/1981	33	11	21	61.54%	13	8	61.54%	13	8	
BAUM Patrick GER	06/23/1987	27	12	23	50.00%	6	3	50.00%	6	3	
STEGER Bastian GER	03/19/1981	33	13	23	64.29%	14	9	64.29%	14	9	
CHEN Chien-An TPE	06/16/1991	23	14	25	53.85%	13	7	53.85%	13	7	
KIM Minseok KOR	02/25/1992	22	15	29	58.82%	17	10	58.82%	17	10	
KISHIKAWA Seiya JPN	05/21/1987	27	16	30	50.00%	10	5	50.00%	10	5	
GACINA Andrej CRO	05/21/1986	28	17	30	58.82%	17	10	58.82%	17	10	
ZHAN Jian SIN	01/30/1982	32	18	32	41.67%	12	5	41.67%	12	5	
JIANG Tianyi HKG	02/28/1988	26	19	34	37.50%	8	3	37.50%	8	3	
APOLONIA Tiago POR	07/28/1986	28	20	35	50.00%	10	5	50.00%	10	5	

JUNG Youngsik KOR	01/20/1992	22	21	38	60.00%	15	9	60.00%	15	9
GARDOS Robert AUT	01/16/1979	35	22	41	42.86%	7	3	42.86%	7	3
CHO Eonrae KOR	10/01/1986	28	23	43	61.11%	18	11	61.11%	18	11
SMIRNOV Alexey RUS	10/09/1977	37	24	44	60.00%	10	6	60.00%	10	6
SHIONO Masato JPN	04/30/1986	28	25	47	80.77%	26	21	80.77%	26	21
FRANZISKA Patrick GER	06/11/1992	22	26	48	65.79%	38	25	58.82%	17	10
TAN Ruiwu CRO	06/30/1983	31	27	51	66.67%	6	4	66.67%	6	4
MATTENET Adrien FRA	10/15/1987	27	28	52	53.85%	13	7	53.85%	13	7
TOKIC Bojan SLO	01/13/1981	33	29	54	0.00%	2	0	0.00%	2	0
LEE Sangsu KOR	08/13/1990	24	30	56	50.00%	12	6	50.00%	12	6
SKACHKOV Kirill RUS	08/06/1987	27	31	58	54.55%	11	6	54.55%	11	6
AL-HASAN Ibrahim KUW	08/22/1986	28	32	240	50.00%	6	3	50.00%	6	3

### Women's Singles

Name	Player Information				Performance statistics 2013 (including w.o. matches)					
	Date of Birth	Age	Seeding	WR-Jan	WT	Plyd	Won	Sgls	Plyd	Won
LIU Shiwen CHN	4/12/91	23	1	1	81.48%	27	22	81.48%	27	22
WU Yang CHN	1/5/92	22	2	4	78.57%	14	11	78.57%	14	11
FENG Tianwei SIN	8/31/86	28	3	5	66.67%	21	14	66.67%	21	14
CHEN Meng CHN	1/15/94	20	4	6	88.24%	17	15	88.24%	17	15
ZHU Yuling CHN	1/10/95	19	5	7	72.73%	22	16	72.73%	22	16
ISHIKAWA Kasumi JPN	2/23/93	21	6	10	70.37%	27	19	69.57%	23	16
SEO Hyowon KOR	5/10/87	27	7	12	80.00%	25	20	80.00%	25	20
JIANG Huajun HKG	10/8/84	30	8	14	63.16%	19	12	63.16%	19	12
HAN Ying ^ GER	4/29/83	31	9	17	75.00%	12	9	75.00%	12	9

YU Mengyu SIN	8/18/89	25	10	18	50.00%	16	8	50.00%	16	8
LEE Ho Ching HKG	11/24/92	22	11	21	63.64%	44	28	60.00%	25	15
SEOK Hajung KOR	1/11/85	29	12	22	61.54%	13	8	61.54%	13	8
YANG Haeun KOR	2/25/94	20	13	23	64.29%	28	18	62.50%	16	10
JEON Jihee KOR	10/28/92	22	14	24	62.96%	27	17	62.50%	24	15
HIRANO Sayaka JPN	3/24/85	29	15	25	55.56%	18	10	55.56%	18	10
CHENG I-Ching TPE	2/15/92	22	16	26	58.82%	34	20	59.09%	22	13
HU Limei CHN	1/23/95	19	17	27	80.00%	10	8	80.00%	10	8
HU Melek TUR	1/27/89	25	18	30	66.67%	15	10	66.67%	15	10
LI Fen SWE	8/25/76	38	19	33	71.43%	14	10	71.43%	14	10
MORIZONO Misaki JPN	4/16/92	22	20	37	61.29%	31	19	63.64%	22	14
SHAN Xiaona GER	1/18/83	31	21	38	66.67%	21	14	66.67%	21	14
LI Xue FRA	4/14/85	29	22	39	58.82%	17	10	58.82%	17	10
HUANG Yi-Hua TPE	7/20/84	30	23	42	55.00%	20	11	55.00%	20	11
MONTEIRO DODEAN Daniela ROU	1/13/88	26	24	46	57.14%	7	4	57.14%	7	4
ISHIGAKI Yuka JPN	7/22/89	25	25	47	66.67%	18	12	66.67%	18	12
PESOTSKA Margaryta UKR	8/9/91	23	26	48	66.67%	3	2	66.67%	3	2
SOLJA Petrissa GER	3/11/94	20	27	49	68.00%	50	34	57.14%	21	12
VACENOVSKA Iveta CZE	3/22/86	28	28	49	50.00%	8	4	50.00%	8	4
Fu YU POR	11/29/78	36	29	52	-	0	0	-	0	0
DOO Hoi Kem HKG	11/27/96	18	30	53	60.00%	20	12	66.67%	12	8
NG Wing Nam HKG	8/9/92	22	31	54	62.50%	40	25	55.00%	20	11
WAKAMIYA Misako JPN	6/23/89	25	32	56	41.67%	12	5	41.67%	12	5

### Men's Doubles

Seeding	Name P1	Ass P1	Name P2	Ass P2	DBL ranking	DOB P1	DOB P2	2013 Total matches	Won	Won %
1	CHEN Chien-An	TPE	CHUANG Chih-Yuan	TPE	1	6/16/91	4/2/81	14	9	64.29%
2	CHIANG Hung-Chieh	TPE	HUANG Sheng-Sheng	TPE	2	2/22/89	10/26/87	13	8	61.54%
3	GARDOS Robert	AUT	HABESOHN Daniel	AUT	4	1/16/79	7/22/86	15	9	60.00%
4	LIVENTSOV Alexey	RUS	PAIKOV Mikhail	RUS	5	11/2/81	7/31/89	16	10	62.50%
5	KIM Minseok	KOR	LEE Sangsu	KOR	unr	2/25/92	8/13/90	0	0	-
6	GERELL Par	SWE	YAN An	CHN	33	6/23/82	1/12/93	4	3	75.00%
7	CHO Eonrae	KOR	SEO Hyundeok	KOR	unr	10/1/86	5/9/91	0	0	-
8	AL-HASAN Ibrahim	KUW	AL-HASAN Salem	KUW	unr	8/22/86	1/28/93	0	0	-

### Women's Doubles

Seeding	Name P1	Ass P1	Name P2	Ass P2	DBL ranking	DOB P1	DOB P2	2013 Total matches	Won	Won %
1	CHENG I-Ching	TPE	HUANG Yi-Hua	TPE	2	2/15/92	7/20/84	17	9	52.94%
2	CHEN Meng	CHN	ZHU Yuling	CHN	3	1/15/94	1/10/95	14	12	85.71%
3	PARK Youngsook	KOR	YANG Haeun	KOR	4	12/18/88	2/25/94	12	9	75.00%
4	FENG Tianwei	SIN	YU Mengyu	SIN	5	8/31/86	8/18/89	9	3	33.33%
5	BARTHEL Zhenqi	GER	SHAN Xiaona	GER	9	1/9/87	1/18/83	15	10	66.67%
6	LIU Shiwen	CHN	MU Zi	CHN	unr	4/12/91	1/9/89	0	0	-
7	LEE Ho Ching	HKG	NG Wing Nam	HKG	32	11/24/92	8/9/92	5	3	60.00%
8	JEON Jihee	KOR	SEOK Hajung	KOR	38	10/28/92	1/11/85	4	2	50.00%

Full entry list and seeding can be found here: <http://bit.ly/1odIVQg>.



## Prize Money

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

<b>Winner:</b>	US\$ 21,000
<b>Runner-up:</b>	US\$ 10,500
<b>Semi finalist:</b>	US\$ 7,000
<b>Quarter finalist:</b>	US\$ 3,500
<b>Round of 16:</b>	US\$ 1,750
<b>Round of 32:</b>	US\$ 875

### Men's Doubles and Women's Doubles:

<b>Winner:</b>	US\$ 5,600
<b>Runner-up:</b>	US\$ 2,800
<b>Semi finalist:</b>	US\$ 1,400
<b>Quarter finalist:</b>	US\$ 700

### U21 Men's Singles and Under 21 Women's Singles:

<b>Winner:</b>	US\$ 1,400
<b>Runner-up:</b>	US\$ 700
<b>Semi finalist:</b>	US\$ 350
<b>Quarter finalist:</b>	US\$ 175

**Total:** US\$ 210,000

## Past Winners

### MEN'S SINGLES

Year	Winner		Runner up	
2006	MA Lin	CHN	CHEN Qi	CHN
2008	SAMSONOV Vladimir	BLR	CHEN Qi	CHN
2009	MA Long	CHN	WANG Hao	CHN
2010	XU Xin	CHN	MA Lin	CHN
2012	MIZUTANI Jun	JPN	RYU Seungmin	KOR
2013	ZHANG Jike	CHN	MA Long	CHN

### WOMEN'S SINGLES

Year	Winner		Runner up	
2006	JIANG Huajun	HKG	GUO Yue	CHN
2008	ZHANG Yining	CHN	LI Xiaoxia	CHN
2009	DING Ning	CHN	GUO Yue	CHN
2010	LIU Shiwen	CHN	FUKUHARA Ai	JPN
2012	FENG Yalan	CHN	KIM Kyungah	KOR
2013	LIU Shiwen	CHN	FENG Tianwei	SIN

### MEN'S DOUBLES

Year	Winner		Runner up	
2006	MA Lin (CHN)	CHEN Qi (CHN)	KO Lai Chak (HKG)	LI Ching (HKG)
2008	MA Lin (CHN)	WANG Hao (CHN)	ZHANG Jike (CHN)	CHEN Qi (CHN)
2009	MA Lin (CHN)	CHEN Qi (CHN)	HAO Shuai (CHN)	MA Long (CHN)





**INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION**  
**GAC GROUP 2014 ITTF World Tour,**  
**Super Series - Kuwait Open**  
**12-16 FEBRUARY 2014 KUWAIT CITY, KUWAIT**

2010	ZHANG Jike (CHN)	MA Long (CHN)	WANG Liqin (CHN)	XU Xin (CHN)
2012	LI Hu (SIN)	GAO Ning (SIN)	LEE Jungwoo (KOR)	KIM Donghyun (KOR)
2013	XU Xin (CHN)	YAN An (CHN)	ZHANG Jike (CHN)	MA Long (CHN)

**WOMEN'S DOUBLES**

Year	Winner		Runner up	
2006	WANG Nan (CHN)	ZHANG Yining (CHN)	LAU Sui Fei (HKG)	LIN Ling (HKG)
2008	WANG Nan (CHN)	ZHANG Yining (CHN)	LI Jiawei (SIN)	SUN Beibei (SIN)
2009	GUO Yue (CHN)	ZHANG Yining (CHN)	JIANG Huajun (HKG)	TIE Yana (HKG)
2010	GUO Yan (CHN)	GUO Yue (CHN)	DING Ning (CHN)	LIU Shiwen (CHN)
2012	CHEN Meng (CHN)	ZHU Yuling (CHN)	CHANG Chenchen (CHN)	FENG Yalan (CHN)
2013	LI Xiaoxia (CHN)	DING Ning (CHN)	ISHIKAWA Kasumi (JPN)	MORIZONO Misaki (JPN)

**Most Successful Kuwait Open Players**

No male player has ever won the Kuwait Open twice. As MIZUTANI Jun (JPN) is the only previous champion in the field, he has the chance to make history in Kuwait.

Liu Shiwen (CHN) is the only female to have won the Kuwait Open twice. She will again lining up in Kuwait to make it an unprecedented 3 victories.

**Interesting Tournament Facts**

- The youngest male player is **ALBAHRANI Abdullah (KUW)** who will be 14 years, 2 months, and 22 days years old on the first day of the event. The oldest is **SAWALHA Wael (JOR)** who will be 37 years, 5 months, and 11 days old.
- The youngest female is **Mima ITO (JPN)** who will be 13 years, 3 months, and 21 days years old on the first day of the event. The oldest is **LI Fen (SWE)** who will be 37 years, 5 months, and 18 days old.
- This year is the 7th edition of the Kuwait Open.
- The first Men’s Singles winner was Ma Lin in 2006.
- The first Women’s Singles winner was Jiang Huajun (Hong Kong); she created a sensation by beating Zhang Yining (China), Wenling Tan Monfardini (Italy), Guo Yan (China) and Guo Yue (China) to win the WS title. At the time Zhang Yining was both Olympic and World champion. Jiang Huajun is the no.8 seed in the Women’s Singles event in 2014.
- No man has ever won the MS title in Kuwait on more than one occasion.
- When Ma Long won MS in 2007 it was his first ever ITTF World Tour MS title.
- It was in Kuwait in 2008 that Zhang Jike made his first appearance on the ITTF World Tour as a member of the Chinese Men’s Team (he had played in Japan in 2002 as a 14 year old).He was beaten in R3 by Chen Weixing (Austria).
- The most successful female player is Liu Shiwen – she won WS in 2010 and 2013.



**INTERNATIONAL TABLE TENNIS FEDERATION**  
**GAC GROUP 2014 ITTF World Tour,**  
**Super Series - Kuwait Open**  
**12-16 FEBRUARY 2014 KUWAIT CITY, KUWAIT**

## **ITTF.com**

Make sure you follow the GAC GROUP 2014 ITTF World Tour, Super Series - Kuwait Open on ITTF.com to obtain the following:

- Head to head comparisons between each player: <http://bit.ly/HPIInQ8>
- Live results: <http://bit.ly/1noaNqg>
- Up to date schedule: <http://bit.ly/1daKdWO>
- Live steaming at ITTF.com/itTV
- Live twitter blog #ITTFWorldTour: <http://bit.ly/NrIMK8>
- Editorial images: <http://www.actionimages.com/itf/> (Login Name : ITTF Media  
Password : ITTF2000)
- Upcoming ITTF World Tour events: <http://bit.ly/1bicxrF>
- Past results: <http://bit.ly/16UJzth>
- Everything you need to do with international table tennis!: ITTF.com