



2017 WSF WORLD DOUBLES CHAMPIONSHIP (Softball) and 2018
COMMONWEALTH GAMES
ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Approved
May 8, 2017



2017 WSF World Doubles Championship (Softball) and 2018 Commonwealth Games

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BACKGROUND:

Prior to the 2014 Commonwealth Games, Commonwealth Games Canada (CGC) lost a major sponsor and were forced to re-evaluate their criteria for Commonwealth inclusion. CGC are now basing their new criteria on athletes who have potential for a top 5 or top 8 finish based on a proven track record. CGC allowed Squash Canada to send 2 athletes at our own expense for the 2014 Games. Participation was secured for Canada's number one female and male players.

With similar CGC criteria in place we do not make the top 5 or top 8 criteria at this time for the 2018 Commonwealth Games; no Canadian is PSA ranked high enough for the individual draws and the 2015 Pan Am Games Doubles silver medals do not meet criteria. It is therefore felt that our best chance at CGC funded 2018 Commonwealth inclusion is through a top 5 finish at the 2017 World Doubles. CGC has suggested a top 5 finish at the 2017 World Doubles does meet their criteria for Commonwealth Games and they have space reserved for 2 athletes and a coach for Squash if this criteria is met.

Squash Canada has secured funds to have the athletes play the 2017 World Doubles which will allow them to earn CGC funded 2018 Commonwealth Games inclusion. If no Team makes top 5 at the 2017 World Doubles then Squash Canada will plan to secure the self-funded option to make sure of 2018 Commonwealth participation.

EVENTS:

The date and location of the 2017 World Doubles is 1-5 August, 2017, Manchester England.

The date and location of the 2018 Commonwealth Games is 4-15 April, Gold Coast, Australia.

PURPOSE:

This policy governs Squash Canada's selection to the 2017 World Doubles Team. If a top 5 finish is achieved at the 2017 World Doubles then criteria for 2018 Commonwealth Games comes into effect. If a top 5 is not achieved then secondary criteria is considered.

COMMUNICATION:

This Policy and any amendments to this Policy will be posted on the Squash Canada website. The Squash team size may increase should additional quota spots become available from Commonwealth Games Canada. Increase in team size will be communicated as soon as possible.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

1. To be eligible for selection to the 2017 World Doubles Team and 2018 Commonwealth Games Team, a player must:

- a) Be a member in good standing with his/her provincial/territorial squash association and a player in good standing with Squash Canada as outlined in the athlete agreement; and,
- b) Must be a member of the High Performance or Transition Squad in the year of the 2017 World Doubles and 2018 Commonwealth Games, pursuant to the High Performance and Transition Squad Eligibility and Selection Criteria, and
- c) Be eligible to represent Canada in the World Doubles and Commonwealth Games. This requires that a player be born in Canada or be a citizen of Canada as outlined by the Commonwealth Games eligibility policy.
- d) Have not represented another country in the three (3) years preceding the start date of the Commonwealth Games in a recognized international Squash Championship in any age group. Thereafter, s/he may represent Canada only with the prior approval of the World Squash Federation (WSF) Competitions Committee;
- e) Sign and submit the Commonwealth Games Canada athlete agreement, eligibility and conditions form by Commonwealth Games of Canada's imposed deadline.
- f) Have signed the Squash Canada athlete agreement for the Commonwealth Games.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

- 2. Decisions on team selection are made by a Selection Committee, comprised of:

For the Men: a Squash Canada Board member with HP Background and/or the Athlete Director, the Men's Vice Chair, the Senior Men's Coach, the Performance Director and/or Executive Director of Squash Canada.

For the Women: a Squash Canadian Board member with HP background and/or the Athlete Director, the Women's Vice Chair, Senior Women's Coach, the Performance Director and/or Executive Director of Squash Canada.

Selection decisions will be based on recommendation from the National Coaches and are at the discretion of the Selection Committee upon majority vote, exercised in accordance with the criteria set out below.

- 3. The 2017 World Doubles Team will consist of two (2) female and two (2) male athletes comprising 1 female doubles team, 1 male doubles team and 2 mixed doubles teams for the 2017 event. Criteria for inclusion to the 2017 World Doubles Team will be based on a Doubles trials to be held from 20-22 of June, 2017 at the Moncton Squash Club, Moncton, NB. Only Squash Canada High Performance Athletes will be invited to the Doubles trials along with Transition Athletes who have demonstrated previous Doubles excellence.
- 4. The 2017 World Doubles trials will determine who makes the 2017 World Doubles Team. Each invited player will play doubles matches over a 3 day period. The Squash Canada Performance Director and the Senior Men's and Women's Coaches will determine the team partnerships and match compositions for trials and will schedule to have as many partnerships and matches as possible.
- 5. The Performance Director and the Senior Men's and Women's National Coaches will make a Team Canada recommendation to the HPC for review and confirmation for the 2017 World Doubles based on their observation at Trials.
- 6. If more than one team makes top 5 at the 2017 World Doubles event the team that finished higher will make the

2018 Commonwealth team. If more than one team makes top 5 at the 2017 World Doubles and finish in the same position then; 1. For a Mixed Doubles tie the combined PSA ranking of each team will be compared based on January 1st 2018 and the highest combined ranking will determine who will make the 2018 Commonwealth Games team, 2. For a Men/Women's Doubles tie the combined PSA ranking of each team, minus 10 for each of the men, will be compared based on January 1st 2018 and the highest combined ranking will determine who will make the 2018 Commonwealth Games team,

7. If no team finishes top 5 at the 2017 World Doubles then the highest PSA ranked female and male on January 1st 2018 will be chosen for the 2018 Commonwealth Games (subject to change only if CGC requires earlier athlete confirmation).
8. If CGC were to increase our athlete quota for the 2018 Games the following criteria will be used; CGC have agreed that a Commonwealth Games ranking will be applied which includes only Commonwealth eligible athletes. A male/female athlete must meet a Commonwealth Games ranking of top 5 for singles criteria based on the January 1st ranking 2018. Using the PSA World ranking as a start, the Commonwealth Games ranking is determined by excluded non-Commonwealth players along with Commonwealth players who cannot make the Games because they will not make their relevant team due to national athlete quota. Each nation is allowed only 3 athletes for the singles event.
9. The Commonwealth Games Team may consist of two (2) athletes male or female based on selection criteria items 3-7 above. Commonwealth Games Canada will make the final determination on Squash Canada's team size based on the available player quota.

ALTERNATES AND LATE ATHLETE REPLACEMENT POLICY:

2017 World Doubles substitutions are subject to the World Squash Federation (WSF) Late Athlete Replacement Policy. 2018 Commonwealth Games substitutions are subject to Commonwealth Games Canada Late Athlete Replacement Policy.

COACH SELECTION:

Squash Canada will select one (1) coach for the 2017 World Doubles and one (1) coach for the 2018 Commonwealth Games. Squash Canada may elect to appoint the Senior Women's or Senior Men's National Coach or may choose to appoint an alternate coach through an open selection process which will be evaluated on the following:

- a) Must be in good standing with Squash Canada
- b) Must be National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) Level 3 certified or Competiton Development Context Certified; or in the NCCP Level 4/5 program
- c) Previous Games experience either as a player / coach
- d) Must be a current registered member of the Coaches Association of Canada

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Final selection of the 2017 World Doubles Team will be made following a conference call held by the appropriate Selection Committee. Nominations to the Commonwealth Games Team will be determined by the appropriate Selection Committee and the athletes will be nominated with final approval by the Commonwealth Games Canada. Nomination does not guarantee selection. Selection is subject to Commonwealth Games Canada (CGC) approval.

CHANGES TO THIS DOCUMENT:

The reason for changing this document mid cycle is to include the 2017 World Doubles as a part of our 2018 Commonwealth Games pathway. With limited funds available it makes sense to give the athletes the opportunity 'earn' a CGC funded place at the 2018 Commonwealth Games by finishing top 5 at the 2017 World Doubles. If unsuccessful we can still pursue the self-fund option and plan to have our two highest ranked players compete at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

The High Performance Committee reserves the right to make changes to this document, which in its discretion are necessary to ensure selection of the best teams possible for the Commonwealth Games. Any changes to this document shall be communicated directly to all National Team Members through e-mail. This clause shall not be used to justify changes after a competition or trials which formed part of the internal nomination procedure unless it is related to an unforeseen circumstance. The purpose of this section is to allow for changes to this document that may become necessary due to a typographical error or a lack of clarity in a definition or wording before it has an impact on athletes. The purpose of such changes must be in order to avoid disputes over the meaning of the provisions of this document rather than to allow changes to be made to justify selection of different athletes than would have otherwise been selected. Such changes must be reasonably justifiable in accordance with fundamental principles of natural justice and procedural fairness. In the event of a change to this document "Squash Canada" shall inform Commonwealth Games Canada of the changes and the reasons for those changes as soon as possible.