



**PAN AMERICAN CHAMPIONSHIP AND PAN AM GAMES
SELECTION CRITERIA**

**AMENDED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
August 14, 2018**



PAN AMERICAN SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP AND PAN AM GAMES SELECTION CRITERIA

BACKGROUND:

The Pan Am Games are held every 4 years. The FPS (Pan American Squash Federation) hosts a Pan American Championship in the first three (3) years of the Pan Am cycle with the fourth year serving as the Pan Am Games. Squash Canada's selection model over the 4-year cycle is:

YEAR	PANAMERICAN EVENT	TEAM EMPHASIS
Year 1*	Pan American Championship	Developmental Team
Year 2 *	Pan American Championship	Enhanced Team
Year 3	Pan American Championship	Strongest Team (Qualification and Seeding event for Pan Am Games Year)
Year 4	Pan Am Games	Games Team (strongest team)

*** NOTE: Based on the organization's budget, Squash Canada may reserve the right, in their sole discretion, to send or NOT send a team to the Pan American Championship in year 1 and year 2.**

PURPOSE:

1. This policy governs Squash Canada's selection of the Pan American Championships and Pan Am Games.

COMMUNICATION:

2. This Policy and any amendments to this Policy will be posted on the Squash Canada website.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

3. To be eligible for selection to Pan American Championships/Pan Am 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 Squad in Year 3 and 4 of the Pan American Championships or Games, pursuant to the High Performance Squad Eligibility and Selection Criteria
 - c) Be eligible to represent Canada in the Pan Am Championship or Pan Am Games. This, at a minimum, requires that a player be born in Canada or be a citizen of Canada as outlined by the Pan American Games eligibility policy.
 - d) Have not represented another country in the three (3) years preceding the start date of the Pan American Championships / Pan Am Games in a recognized international Squash Championship in any age group. Thereafter, s/he may represent Canada only with the prior approval of the WSF Competitions Committee;

- e) Athletes selected by the Canadian Olympic Committee for the Pan Am Games must sign and submit the COC athlete agreement, eligibility and conditions form provided to Canadian Team Members.
- f) If chosen by Squash Canada to represent Squash Canada at the Pan American Championships in each of the first 3 years of the Pan American cycle, athletes must sign the Squash Canada athlete agreement.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Authority

As approved by the Squash Canada Board of Directors, these criteria are under the jurisdiction of the High Performance Committee, who may delegate certain decision making authorities.

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

For the Men: the Chair of the High Performance Committee, the Senior Men's Coach, the High Performance Director and/or Executive Director of Squash Canada, and the Athlete Director.

For the Women: the Chair of the High Performance Committee, the Senior Women's Coach, the High Performance Director and/or Executive Director of Squash Canada, and the Athlete Director.

Selection decisions are the discretion of the Selection Committee upon majority vote, exercised in accordance with the criteria set out below.

If circumstances require an at-Games decision (i.e. late athlete replacement), in the interest of timing the High Performance Director shall have the authority to make such decisions.

The attending, respective National Men's or Women's Coach, in consultation with the High Performance Director, shall have the authority to determine playing order and team composition for singles, doubles and team events as the case may be.

For clarifications or questions on the contents of this document, please contact Martin Heath, Squash Canada High Performance Director, martin.heath@squash.ca, (585) 506-5252.

A) Developmental Team

- 5. Selection to Year 1 of Pan American Championships Teams may include less established High Performance and/or other National Team Squad or elite athletes having minimal or no senior team experience, and junior athletes. The goal of these teams is to develop players for future competition. Selection for the **Developmental Team** is based on results achieved during the current competitive season being September 1st to May 31st each year (as applicable) Selection will be based on the following:
 - a. PSA ranking and/or recent notable world ranking improvement
 - b. Head to Head results among High Performance and Transition squad members
 - c. Order of Finish at the Canadian Squash Championships – Open division in the year of the championship
 - d. Order of Finish at the Canadian Jr. Squash Championships – U19 division
 - e. Order of Finish at the College Squash Association Championships – Singles Division (Top Flight)
 - f. Potential for athletes to make World Championship and Pan American Team in the Pan Am Games year.
 - g. Canadian National ranking
 - h. Head to Head results from international or national sanctioned events from September 1 to August 31 preceding the Championship/Games
 - i. Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) Carding designation

Note: The 1st year in the Pan American Cycle is a fully self-funded event. Those planning to participate must send their Intent to participate to the Squash Canada High Performance Director four months prior to start of the competition. As a self-funded event the athlete is responsible for the entire cost of the trip estimated to be \$2500-\$4000.

B) Enhanced Team

- 6. Selection to Year 2 of Pan American Championships Team will represent a mix of established and less established High Performance and Transition Squad athletes, and may include junior athletes. The goal of these teams is to develop players for future competition but to also include our best players if the Selection Committee feels this is important for the next years ‘qualifying year’ seeding. Selection for the **Enhanced Team** is based on results achieved during the current competitive season, September 1st to May 31st each year. Selection will be based on the following:
 - a. PSA ranking and/or recent notable world ranking improvement
 - b. Head to Head results among High Performance and Transition squad members
 - c. Order of Finish at the Canadian Squash Championships – Open division in the year of the championship
 - d. Order of Finish at the Canadian Jr. Squash Championships – U19 division
 - e. Order of Finish at the College Squash Association Championships – Singles Division (Top Flight)
 - f. Potential for athletes to make World Championship and Pan American Team in the Pan Am Games year.
 - g. Canadian National ranking
 - h. Head to Head results from international or national sanctioned events from September 1 to August 31 preceding the Championship/Games
 - i. AAP Carding designation

C) Strongest Team

- 7. Selection to Year 3 Pan American Championships Team will represent our best players. Year 3 is the Games ‘qualifying and seeding year’ so the goal of these teams is to send our strongest team with a view to podium finishes. Depending on available budget there will be 3 or 4 athletes per men’s and women’s team.
- 8. Selection for the 3 or 4 athletes on the team will be based on the following criteria using the May 1st PSA rankings and the Canadian Championships in the year of the Games, in descending order until all spots are filled:

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
• Priority 1	top 50 PSA	top 40 PSA
• Priority 2	top 2 finish at Canadian Champs	top 2 finish at Canadian Champs
• Priority 3	51-65 PSA	41-55 PSA
• Priority 4	3 rd then 4 th at Canadian Champs	3 rd then 4 th at Canadian Champs
• Priority 5	66-75 PSA	56-65 PSA
• Priority 6	5 th then 6 th at Canadian Champs	5 th then 6 th at Canadian Champs

Note: If more athletes make the same PSA criteria than allowed on the team they will be determined by higher PSA ranking.

D) Games Team

- 9. For the Pan Am Games, the Canadian Olympic Committee (COC) is responsible for team selection. Nomination to the COC for athlete selection to the Pan American Games Team will represent the best eligible players. The goal for these teams is podium finishes.

The team size is determined by the Pan Am Sports Organization (PASO) Qualification System. In the event of changes by PASO to the selection and eligibility criteria, Squash Canada is bound by these changes and will

inform high performance athletes as soon as possible.

According to PASO and/or WSF regulations, qualified countries may only send a team of 3 players per men's and women's team.

10. Providing that Canada qualifies per the PASO qualification system, the Selection Committee will nominate the three (3) players on the team and a non-travelling reserve from amongst the pool of players who, as at the later of May 1st or conclusion of the Canadian Championships in the year of the Games, have met the following criteria:

	<u>Men</u>	<u>Women</u>
• Priority 1	top 50 PSA	top 40 PSA
• Priority 2	top 2 finish at Canadian Camps	top 2 finish at Canadian Camps
• Priority 3	51-65 PSA	41-55 PSA
• Priority 4	3 rd then 4 th at Canadian Camps	3 rd then 4 th at Canadian Camps
• Priority 5	66-75 PSA	56-65 PSA
• Priority 6	5 th then 6 th at Canadian Camps	5 th then 6 th at Canadian Camps

In the event of a tie in PSA rankings, the previous month's rankings shall be used to break the tie, regressing each month thereafter if still tied.

11. The goal of this team is to medal in all events (men's and women's individuals, doubles and teams), with priority given to gold medals. In keeping with this goal, the final nominations from amongst the players in the pool as identified above, will be decided by the Selection Committee according to the following process and principles:
- Priority 1 and Priority 2 will be used, in sequence using higher ranking or placement, as the case may be, to select two Men and two Women for nomination.
 - For the 3rd Man and Woman, the Selection Committee will select the player who, in their opinion, will yield the most prominent of and volume of medals across the singles, doubles and team events. It is the position of the High Performance Committee that the nature of the doubles event is such that the next 'best' singles player may not necessarily combine to form the best gold or other medal potential in that event. Previous doubles experience, doubles technical and tactical abilities, and complimentary partnership characteristics will be considered. It may therefore be that the top 3 ranked/placed singles players may not necessarily be nominated.
 - For the non-travelling reserve, Priority 1 to 6 will be used, in sequence using higher ranking or placement, as the case may be, to select the Male and Female nominations.
12. Upon nomination and/or selection the player will be expected to maintain performance readiness. Under the direction and decision of the High Performance Director, selection is contingent upon the player maintaining or improving fitness levels and ensuring that competitive readiness is maintained at a high standard appropriate for competition at the Games, and participating in all designated pre-Games training programs, competitive activities, evaluation activities and reporting procedures. If a player is unable to maintain demonstrable competitive readiness the High Performance Director shall replace the player with a designated reserve.
13. Substitutions after June 26, 2019 are subject to PASO / Host Organizing Committee's Late Athlete Replacement Policy.
14. Decisions taken in respect of this selection criteria may be appealed in accordance with Squash Canada's Appeals Policy. If both parties are in agreement, the Squash Canada Appeals Policy can be bypassed and the matter brought immediately before the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) who will then manage the appeals process.

ALTERNATES:

15. The Selection Committee may name a non-travelling reserve or reserves.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

16. Final nomination of the Year 4 (Games Year) Pan American Games Team will be made following a conference call held by the appropriate Selection Committee by May 15, 2019. The Canadian Olympic Committee will formally announce the Team selections.

17. Final selection of the Year 1, 2, or 3 Pan American Championship teams will be made following a conference call held by the appropriate Selection Committee in May in each year dependent on event timing.

CHANGES TO THIS DOCUMENT:

18. The High Performance Committee (HPC) 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 Pan Am Games. Any changes to this document shall be communicated directly to all High Performance and Transition Squad 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. If these Criteria have been submitted to COC as required in the lead up to the Pan American Games, and the HPC wishes to affect a change to this document "Squash Canada" shall inform the Canadian Olympic Committee of the changes and the reasons for those changes as soon as possible.

APPEALS:

19. Decisions taken in respect of this selection criteria may be appealed in accordance with Squash Canada's Appeals Policy as posted on www.squash.ca.