



## **BATTLE OF THE BORDER ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA**

**Approved, March 4, 2020**

### **OVERVIEW OF THE BATTLE OF THE BORDER EVENT:**

1. The objective of the Battle of the Border is to provide a quality international athlete development opportunity for Canada's top young talent and an inspirational taste of representing Team Canada against the United States.

2. Battle of the Border athletes are:

Athletes within the Learn to Train, Train to Train or Train to Compete stage of the LTAD model and have a proven high performance junior squash profile.

3. Each of the Canadian and American teams will be comprised of 4 males and 4 females in each of the U13, U15 and U17 age categories. The age cut off will be the same as at the Canadian Junior Championship of the same year.
4. While Squash Canada does subsidize the Battle of the Border, there are player fees attached to participation.

### **PURPOSE/AUTHORITY:**

5. This Policy governs Squash Canada's selection of the players to the Canadian Team for the Battle of the Border. The Junior/Athlete Pathway Committee will select athletes upon completion of the National Junior Closed Championships which is usually held in April, in accordance with the criteria below.

### **COMMUNICATION:**

6. This Policy, and any amendments to it, will be posted on the Squash Canada website, <http://squash.ca/>.

### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

7. To be named to the Canadian Team for the Battle of the Border an athlete must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- a) Be a member in good standing with his/her Provincial/Territorial squash association and a player in good standing with Squash Canada pursuant to any prior Athlete Agreement executed by the athlete, and
- b) Be eligible to represent Canada at World Squash Federation World titled championships, or to satisfy Squash Canada that the player is on a committed path to becoming eligible to represent Canada in World titled championships.
- c) pay any required fees.

**SELECTION CRITERIA:**

- 8. Spots on the Canadian Team will be offered to players in the following sequence:
  - a) Players who finished 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the boy's and girl's U13, U15 and U17 age categories at the most recent Canadian Junior Championships.
  - b) Players who are ranked 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in the U13, U15 and U17 Canadian Junior Rankings first published immediately following the most recent Canadian Junior Championships.
  - c) If steps (a) and (b) above do not identify four different athletes in an age category, or should all four players not accept the invitation to the Canadian Team, up to 2 spots on the team will be discretionary picks of the Junior/Athlete Pathway Committee. Such discretionary picks will take into account a combination of such considerations as: placement in the most recent Canadian Junior Championships, Canadian Ranking, whether an athlete may have 'played up' an age category in the most recent Canadian Junior Championship, whether in a 'down year' and if so placement in the previous year's Canadian Junior Championship in the younger age category, experience in and performance at previous international junior opens, current skill level, talent potential for the future, head to head results in the previous 12 months against players identified in steps (a) and (b) above or other highly ranked players.
  - d) If steps (a) through (c) have not confirmed selection and acceptance of 4 players in any age category, the spots will be offered to the player who finished 3<sup>rd</sup> at the most recent Canadian Junior Championships, followed by the player with the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest Canadian Rankings as first published immediately following the most recent Canadian Junior Championships, and subsequently alternating to the 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> and so on such players in sequence until all spots are filled.
- 9. The Junior/Athlete Pathway Committee will issue invitations to the Canadian Team as outlined above as soon as is practical after the Canadian Junior Championships.
- 10. A player offered a spot on the Canadian Team will be given a limited number of days to accept the selection, before the Committee must offer the spot to the next player in line.