



**2021 PAN AMERICAN SQUASH U23 CHAMPIONSHIPS – SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR, MARCH 28TH – APRIL 3RD, 2021
(the “Championships”)
ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA**

Approved by Squash Canada Board, December 15th, 2020.

Preamble

It is recognized that we are still in the midst of a pandemic and there remain many questions and concerns surrounding international travel to and participation in a squash competition in late March 2021, as well as concerns for adequate athlete preparation for this level of competition. The health and safety of athletes and team support personnel will remain at the forefront of Squash Canada’s decision making around this event.

At the same time, it must be understood that if no conditional planning such as this call for interest and a corresponding selection policy were made at this juncture, it would remove any opportunity for Canadians to compete should the COVID-19 circumstances significantly improve between now and March 2021.

In light of the evolving situation around the COVID-19 pandemic, Squash Canada reserves the right to withdraw the participation of its Team for the competition at any time.

1. THE EVENT:

The Pan American Squash U23 Championships will be played as a Qualifying Event for the 2021 Junior Pan-American Games to be held in Cali, Colombia, September 7-16, 2021. The Pan American U23 Championships brings together male and female U23 competitors from all competing nations in North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean. The event includes an individual event, a Teams event, a softball doubles event, and a softball mixed-doubles event (doubles events on a singles court).

Squash Canada is committed to sending a U23 Men’s Team, a U23 Women’s Teams or both, to the Championships subject to sufficient participation. Representing Canada, each Team will be comprised of the following:

- a) The Canadian U23 Men’s Team shall consist of up to four (4) male athletes, and/or
- b) The Canadian U23 Women’s Team shall consist of up to four (4) female athletes;

For the Championship’s variety of events, a nation can enter:

- A maximum of 4 athletes in the Men’s Individual Championship.
- A maximum of 4 athletes in the Women’s Individual Championship.
- A maximum of 1 Men’s Team in the Doubles Championship.
- A maximum of 1 Women’s Team in the Doubles Championship.
- A maximum of 1 Team, each Team made up of a male athlete and a female athlete, in the Mixed-Doubles Championship. Athletes cannot compete in both Mixed and Men/Women’s doubles.

- A Men's Team's event consisting of minimum 2 players to a maximum of 4.
- A Women's Team event consisting of minimum 2 players to a maximum of 4.
- A maximum of four male athletes and four female athletes per nation may participate in the Championships.

NOTE: This is a partially-funded event. It is budgeted as a \$30,000 event for a full Canadian Team's participation. There will be a required participation fee of \$1,500 per player. With the participation fee and its own financial resources, Squash Canada will cover the cost of entry fees, economy flight, out-of-country medical insurance, visas, meals, accommodation, basic uniform kit, and all Team coaches' expenses and honoraria

2. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

To be eligible for selection to the Canadian Men's or Women's Team, each of the following criteria apply:

- a) Be a member in good standing with his/her provincial/territorial squash association.
- b) Be a Citizen of Canada, or a Permanent Resident of Canada, or be a resident of Canada for at least three (3) years continuously immediately preceding the World Junior Championships (provided that residents who are in Canada as students or who are temporary workers are not eligible). Notwithstanding the foregoing, a junior who is a student but who is residing in Canada with a parent who is a Permanent Resident of Canada or who has been a resident of Canada for at least three (3) years, will not be so disqualified.
- c) Be younger than 23 years of age as of the final day of the Championships (**Note:** all athletes must provide proof of date of birth on a government of Canada, or Canadian provincial government's issued item of identification).
- d) Athletes must be prepared to provide a copy of their passport to the Championships office prior to the first Technical Meeting. In the case of any queries, the original passport must be shown to the Technical Director.
- e) Athletes must sign a Squash Canada Athlete Agreement (upon selection).
- f) Athletes must have a valid WSF SPIN #.
- g) A player is ineligible to represent Canada if she/he has represented another country in the three years preceding the Start Date in a recognized International Squash Team or Individual Championship (i.e. WSF World Championship, Pan Am Team or Individual Championship, official Match between WSF Member national federations in any age group).

3. APPLICATION PROCESS

Players interested in participating in the Championship must submit an Intent to Participate form, included with this document. Forms must be submitted **by midnight EST, January 9th, 2021** to Squash Canada, jamie.nicholls@squash.ca.

4. SELECTION CRITERIA

Due to COVID-19, and the lack of competition results since mid-March 2020, selection criteria for this event is less formulated than normal. Selection decisions under this policy will be made by the Squash Canada High Performance Committee.

Selections will be made from amongst those eligible players who have submitted an Intent to Participate form.

The Squash Canada High Performance Committee will select the players and possible reserves at its sole discretion. In so doing, the Committee will take into account, but not be limited to, such considerations as:

- a) PSA Rankings as of January 1st, 2021
- b) Club Locker Ratings as at January 1st, 2021;
- c) Head to head results;
- d) Provincial/territorial rankings for players from the same province/territory, if applicable
- e) Previous international competition experience and performance
- f) Age eligibility for the 2021 Junior Pan Am Games, the U23 squash event scheduled to occur on September 7-16.
- g) Age eligibility for the 2021 World Junior Championship.
- h) Softball Doubles experience and/or performance
- i) Training opportunity and environment in the months leading up to this expression of interest and if selected
- j) Competition readiness

In addition, the High Performance Committee may request the following tools to aide in selection:

- a) Filmed Fitness testing results
- b) Filmed practice matches
- c) Local trials/qualification matches where safe and applicable

Team selections will be announced by January 15th, 2021 with confirmation of acceptance required by January 20th by athletes.

The Canadian Team's official playing order and the doubles Team pairing on each Canadian Team and players to play in the Individual events will be determined at the discretion of the Appointed coach(es) attending the Championships and in accordance with the FPS Guidelines.

5. OBLIGATIONS ONCE SELECTED:

To remain eligible, all athletes selected to the Canadian Team to compete at the Championships, must adhere to each of the following:

- a) Maintain status as a member in good standing with their provincial/territorial squash association.
- b) Maintain the obligations stated in the athlete-signed Squash Canada - Athlete Agreement.
- c) Participate in all designated training programs, competitive activities, evaluation activities and reporting procedures under supervision of the Coaches or Director of Athlete Development.
- d) Demonstrate commitment to the Canadian Team by maintaining or improving fitness levels and ensuring that competitive performance is maintained at a high standard appropriate for competition at the Championships.
- e) Provide satisfactory medical clearance upon the request of Squash Canada and/or the Canadian Coach or Squash Canada Director of Athlete Development.
- f) Receipt of payment of a deposit of \$750.00 to Squash Canada within 2 days of acceptance to the selection, which contributes to the athlete's Participation Fee. This fee will be refunded if the event is cancelled or comprised due to COVID-19 complications.
- g) Receipt of the balance of the Participation Fee payable to Squash Canada on or before March 1, 2021.

Failure to satisfy any of the above noted criteria may result in an athlete being removed from the Canadian Team at the sole discretion of the HPC.

6. International Disclaimer

These procedures are based on World Squash Federation and Pan American Squash Federation rules and tournament regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in World Squash Federation or Pan American Squash Federation rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to the Squash Canada. However, the selection process is always subject to unforeseen intervening circumstances and realistically cannot account for every possible contingency. Should new information become available that materially changes the intent or scope of this Policy, the High-Performance Committee has the authority to make any changes to the Policy if the timing does not permit for the Squash Canada Board of Directors to review the recommendations.

7. Coaching

Squash Canada will appoint a Team coach(es) to accompany the athletes to the Championships. Athletes may not bring their private/personal coaches to the Championships.



**PAN AMERICAN U23 SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS
(the “Championships”)**

Intent to Participate Declaration

Athlete’s Name:

Parent or Legal Guardian Name(s) if Player is under 18:

Athlete’s Home Address:

Tel #'s:

Parent Email Address:

Athlete Email Address:

PT Membership:

Home Club:

Name of Personal Coach:

Date of Birth:

World Squash Federation SPIN#:

Citizenship:

or have resided in Canada for at least the three (3) years immediately preceding the Championships:

Yes or No:

Current Club Locker Rating/Ranking:

Current or PSA Ranking, if any: :

Previous international competitions you have played in, and any notable results:

International head-to-head win’s against players from other countries or higher ranked Canadian Players:

Experience playing softball doubles on a singles court:

Brief Description of your last 6 months of training activities:

Any other relevant information you would like to provide to the selection committee:

I hereby agree that, if selected to the Canadian Team for the Pan American U23 Squash Championships Team, he/she is eligible as per the Eligibility Criteria, and agrees to:

- a) Maintain status as a member in good standing with my provincial/territorial squash association.
- b) Maintain the obligations stated in the athlete-signed Squash Canada - Athlete Agreement.
- c) Participate in all designated training programs, competitive activities, evaluation activities and reporting procedures under supervision of the Appointed Coach or Director of Athlete Development.
- d) Demonstrate commitment to the Canadian Team by maintaining or improving fitness levels and ensuring that competitive performance is maintained at a high standard appropriate for competition at the Championships.
- e) Provide satisfactory medical clearance upon the request of Squash Canada Appointed Coach or Director of Athlete Development.
- f) Receipt of payment of a deposit of \$750.00 to Squash Canada within 2 days of acceptance to the selection, which contributes to the athlete's Participation Fee.
- g) Receipt of the balance of the Participation Fee payable to Squash Canada on or before March 1, 2021.

Player Name (please print)

Date

Player Signature

Witness

To be completed if the Player is under the age of 18:

Parent/Guardian Name (please print)

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Witness