



BATTLE OF THE BORDER

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

(Approved October 2023)

EVENT OVERVIEW:

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.

- 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.
- 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.
- Once the Team has been selected, the final team order for the players will be at discretion of the National Team Coaches. Their criteria will be based on, but not limited to, the following: National ranking, results of challenge matches, general performance & fitness level, on and off-court behaviour.
- While Squash Canada does subsidize the Battle of the Border, there are player fees attached to participation.

PURPOSE/AUTHORITY:

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, in accordance with the criteria below.

COMMUNICATION:

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

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

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

- Have played a minimum of 3 NJC tournaments within 12 months preceding selection
- 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, and
- Be a registered member in good standing of a Provincial/Territorial Squash Association, and
- Pay any required fees.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Spots on the Canadian Team will be offered to players in the following sequence:

- 1st and 2nd place finishers in the boy's and girl's U13, U15 and U17 age categories at the most recent Canadian Junior Closed Championships. Should any player(s) decline a position, the next highest-placed player(s) will be selected.
- The 1st and 2nd ranked players on the U15 and U17 National Junior Circuit rankings, and the 1st and 2nd ranked players on the U13 Club Locker Ratings. Should any player(s) decline the position, the next highest ranked player will be selected, and so on.
- Reminder: players must have played a minimum of 3 NJC tournaments within 12 months preceding selection in order to be eligible.

INJURY CONSIDERATION:

If a player's Club Locker rating or other performance indicators are adversely affected in the immediate six months prior to the end of the Canadian Junior Closed Championships due to extended injury or sickness within those six months, the Junior/Athlete Pathway Committee may consider an Injury application. An Injury application must be submitted in writing and received no later than midnight EST on the last day of the Canadian Junior Closed Championships, Attention: Manager Athlete Development of Squash Canada, via email to samantha.cornett@squash.ca. The application must be accompanied by a medical certificate that meets the following requirements:

- Statement of injury
- Statement of recommended time period the athlete should or has refrained from squash training and competition.
- Sent on headed paper with the physician/medical company name, address and date.
- Signed by an arm's length medical professional authorizing the document, who is not a family member, or personal friend/contact of the person with whom the medical certificate applies to.

The Committee retains the right to request additional documentation and/or to conduct further investigation. It is the Committee's sole discretion to accept or reject an Injury application.

NOTES:

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.

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.

At all times, players agree to acquaint themselves with, and strictly abide by the Squash Canada Code of Conduct, Discipline and Complaints Policy, Appeal Policy and all other policies, rules, and regulations of the organization. In addition, all athletes who have received an endorsement or selection by Squash Canada are required to adhere and consent to the UCCMS (Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport).