



Arjun Gupta Foundation

Bursary for International Excellence

ABOUT ARJUN GUPTA

Arjun Gupta began his prolific squash career winning the Boys U13 Canadian Junior Championship in 2004 and his junior career finished with a historical Team Canada result at the 2010 World Junior Championships, where Arjun and his teammates came third, winning the bronze medal. Arjun then starred for Cornell University as part of the Class of '13, where the team peaked with a 4th place finish in the 2011 NCAA varsity championships.

After his studies in the US, Arjun returned to Canada and continued to dominate on the squash court. During this period, Arjun could be found winning doubles tournaments and mentoring the next generation of juniors with Jim Paton at the Granite Club in Toronto both on and off the court. Arjun was part of one of the most decorated cohorts in Canadian junior squash history, achieving excellence on the court while prioritizing his friendships, family, and the community that makes our sport unique and special.

ABOUT THE BURSARY

The Arjun Gupta Foundation's Bursary for International Excellence will consist of one or a series of \$2500 bursaries available each year specifically for Canadian junior squash players and their pursuit of international excellence. Considerations for bursary selection will include playing level, professionalism of training program and support team, goals for the future, and need based. \$2000 of these funds should be allocated specifically towards coaching, training, competition and/or related expenses (squash coaching, off-court conditioning, mental training, etc.). \$500 of these funds will be allocated to the athlete's designated National Training Centre.

The successful applicant must be a junior aged 13 – 18 years old who is invested in their player development as a Team Canada athlete leading into the LA2028 Olympic Games.

This Bursary is made possible by the Gupta Family.



ELIGIBILITY

- Must be a registered member in good standing of a Canadian Provincial/Territorial Squash Association
- Must have participated in a minimum of three Squash Canada National Junior Circuit events within the preceding 12 months
- Must be eligible to represent Canada at World Squash Federation World-titled championships

APPLICATIONS

Applications will occur annually. The intention of the AGF-BIE is to support summertime tournament activity (World Junior Championships, Pan Am Junior Championships, European events, PSA events, Battle of the Border, etc.). The selection panel will consist of 5 members (Amar Gupta, Jamie Nicholls, Stephanie Edmison, Jim Paton, and Jonathan Hill) who will review the applications and award the bursaries accordingly. One or more candidates will be selected by the Selection Panel on an annual basis. **Application and documentation must be received between February 1 – March 31 each year.** Only complete applications will be reviewed.

Note: This inaugural year, applications will be submitted from April 14-May 15, 2024.

PROCESS

The application must be submitted between to samantha.cornett@squash.ca and must include the below:

- Letter of intent to compete in the summer and for Team Canada, signed by both applicant and parent/guardian
- The letter should include brief responses (1-4 sentences) to each of the following questions:
 1. Indicate your Canadian Club Locker rating, NJC ranking, PSA ranking (if applicable).
 2. Identify your coach and support team (mental trainer, physical trainer, etc).
 3. Briefly describe highlights and improvements made in the first half of the season.
 4. Where do the Olympic Games fit into your goals for squash?
 5. What international or PSA events do you intend to play this summer?
 6. Which events are you hoping to represent Team Canada at within the next 1-5 years?
 7. Briefly describe your financial situation and how this Bursary will impact your training and competition plans.
 8. What other steps are you taking to help access training and competition requirements (ie fundraising, volunteer or paid work – squash coaching or other)?
 9. How do you intend to honour the legacy of Arjun Gupta – excellence, sportsmanship, community involvement, mentorship?

All applicants will receive email confirmation when all supporting documents have been received. Please note that applicants may be invited to a call or meeting with members of the selection panel.



On behalf of the Arjun Gupta Foundation and Squash Canada, we look forward to receiving applications to the Bursary for International Excellence and to providing Canadian athletes with additional tools to represent our country and achieve excellence.

