



2025 PAN AMERICAN JUNIOR SQUASH CHAMPIONSHIPS

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

(Approved January 2025)

EVENT OVERVIEW:

The FPS Pan American Junior Championships brings together male and female junior 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 may be on a singles court or a regulation softball doubles court). This event is held annually in one of the member nations of the Pan American Squash Federation.

The 2025 edition of the Pan American Junior Championships will be held in Santiago, Chile, June 29th- July 5th 2025. There is the possibility of athletes attending both the World Junior Championships and the Pan Am Junior Championships should they meet both criteria.

EVENT DETAILS AND COSTS:

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

- The Canadian Junior Men's Team shall consist of up to four (4) male athletes, and/or
- The Canadian Junior Women's Team shall consist of up to four (4) female athletes;
- Each of the Canadian Junior Men's and Junior Women's Teams may have (2) non-travelling reserves named.

For the Championship's variety of events, a nation can enter any or all of the following:

- A maximum of 4 athletes in the Junior Men's Individual Championship.
- A maximum of 4 athletes in the Junior Women's Individual Championship.
- A maximum of 1 Junior Men's Team in the Doubles Championship.
- A maximum of 1 Junior 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.
- A Junior Men's Team event consisting of minimum 2 players to a maximum of 4.
- A Junior 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.

The Canadian Team's official playing order, the doubles pairings to compete in each event, and the players to compete 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.

Selected team players should expect to contribute a minimum of \$3,500 player contribution, subject to change based on location of the event. See Annex A of this document for estimated costs for each athlete. The athlete can pay this amount entirely; however, Squash Canada suggests running a fundraising event to cover this cost. Squash Canada will endeavour to support as much as possible through the organization's donation platform in a fundraising campaign for Team Canada

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

To be eligible for selection to the Canadian Junior Men's or Junior Women's Team, a player must:

- Fill out an expression of interest by February 20th and pay a \$100 deposit (refundable if not selected);

- Be a member in good standing with his/her provincial/territorial squash association;
- 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;
- Be younger than 19 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);
- 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.
- Athletes must sign a Squash Canada Athlete Agreement (upon selection);
- Meet the host country and federation's eligibility criteria for entrance and participation, and Squash Canada COVID-19 vaccination policies as may be applicable;
- Pay any required fees; and
- Athletes must have a valid WSF SPIN #. In addition
- 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).

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Selection decisions under this policy will be made by the Junior/Athlete Pathway Committee, who will select the players and possible reserves at its discretion, taking into account:

- The top two highest finishing athletes on the U17 National Junior Circuit rankings on March 1st. Should a position be declined, the invitation will be offered in order of ranking up to and including the 8th NJC-ranked player.
- Two discretionary Committee picks made by the Junior Performance committee no later than May 9th
Selections will be made using but not limited to the following
 - NJC rankings;
 - Club Locker Ratings;
 - Head to head results;
 - Canadian Junior Championship results;
 - Eligibility for future World Junior Championships;
 - Previous international junior competition experience and performance

In the event of an NJC ranking tie, the players' head-to-head results in the preceding 12 months will break the tie. If tied in head-to-head results, the player with the most recent win will be selected. If there are no head-to-head results, the player with the higher rating will be selected. In the event of a rating tie, the players' finishing positions at the most recent Canadian Junior Closed Championships will break the tie. If all of the above are tied, the selection will be discretionary.

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 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;
- Maintain status as a member in good standing with their provincial/territorial squash association;
- Maintain the obligations stated in the athlete-signed Squash Canada - Athlete Agreement;

- Participate in all designated training programs, competitive activities, evaluation activities and reporting procedures under supervision of the Canadian Junior National Coach and/or Manager of Athlete Development;
- 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;
- Provide satisfactory medical clearance upon the request of Squash Canada and/or the Canadian Junior National Coach or Squash Canada office personnel;
- The amount of the overall Participation Fee remains the sole responsibility of the athlete to furnish. Any financial commitment made by Squash Canada with the use of the Participation Fee, is subject to either, full, partial or no reimbursement, contingent on the policy Squash Canada is subject to, and at what stage for which the financial commitment was made; and
- At all times, 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 been selected or received an endorsement by Squash Canada are required to adhere and consent to the UCCMS (Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport).
- To confirm acceptance of the selection and to 'hold' their spot, each player will be required to submit to Squash Canada a \$500 security deposit within two weeks of acceptance of their position, which may only be refunded if the player incurs a documented injury or other extenuating circumstance and as accepted at the sole discretion of the Junior/Athlete Pathway Committee.
- The player(s) identified above will be required to confirm or reject their opportunity to participate within 72 hours of the invitation from Squash Canada.

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 Junior/Athlete Pathway Committee.

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: CEO Jamie Nicholls of Squash Canada, via email to jamie.nicholls@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; and
- 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.

INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER:

These procedures are based on World Squash Federation and Pan American Squash Federation rules and 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 Squash Canada. However, the selection process is always subject to unforeseen intervening circumstances and realistically cannot account for every possible contingency.

COACHING:

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