



PAN AMERICAN SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS 2026

ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Approved February 4, 2026

EVENT INFORMATION:

The 2026 Pan Am Senior Championships will be hosted in Asuncion, Paraguay, August 16-22, 2026.

This policy governs Squash Canada's selection of the athletes to compete in the Pan American Championships. The Pan Am Games are held every 4 years. The Pan Am Squash Federation hosts an annual Pan American Championship, and in the third year, the event serves as qualification for the Pan Am Games held the following year. This Policy and any amendments to this Policy will be posted on the Squash Canada website.

The Board of Directors of Squash Canada has delegated the authority for selections and decisions under this Policy to the [High Performance Committee](#). Selection decisions are at the discretion of the HPC upon majority vote, exercised in accordance with the criteria set out below. If circumstances require an at-Games decision (i.e. late athlete replacement), in the interest of timing the Director of Athlete Development shall have the authority to make such decisions.

The attending respective National Coach shall have the authority to determine playing order and team composition for singles, doubles, and team events as the case may be.

TIMELINE:

1. **Following the Canadian Championships Open Division** – Priority 1 and 3 selections will occur, as per the below Selection Criteria, within 1 month of the Canadian Championships.
2. **Within 3-4 months before the event** – Priority 2 selections, based on PSA rankings, will occur, as per the below Selection Criteria.
3. **As soon as possible after selection** – Athlete flights or travel will be booked and athletes will complete any required training (ex. SIC, Canadian Safe Sport Program education), within two weeks of selection.
4. **1-3 weeks prior to the event** – Expect the Team announcement via press release and a Team Canada meeting.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

To be eligible for selection to Pan American Championships/Pan Am Games Team, a player must:

1. Be eligible to represent Canada in the Pan Am Championships and meet all relevant IF and PanAm Sports requirements for eligibility for entrance and participation;
2. In the case of a Pan American Championship, 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 event (provided that residents who are in Canada as students or who are

temporary workers are not eligible). Notwithstanding the foregoing, a senior 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;

3. Have not represented another country in the three (3) years preceding the start date of the Pan American Championships in a recognized international Squash Championship in any age group. Thereafter, they may represent Canada only with the prior approval of the WSF Competitions Committee;
4. Be a registered member in good standing of a Provincial/Territorial Squash Association and a player in good standing with Squash Canada as outlined in the athlete agreement;
5. Be prepared to comply with any potential vaccination requirements;
6. Have no documented serious on or off court conduct violations of Squash Canada's Code of Conduct; and
7. Have signed the Squash Canada Athlete Agreement covering the period of the Championships.

SELECTION PROCESS:

Selection decisions under this policy will be made by the Squash Canada High Performance Committee. Selection decisions are based in accordance with the criteria set out below. Squash Canada reserves the right to determine whether a team is sent, and the number of athletes sent to the event. Typically, 3 or 4 athletes.

1. **Automatic National Champion Qualification:** The winner of the Open division of the Canadian National Championship preceding the Pan Am Championships qualifies automatically for the team.
 2. **PSA Ranking-Based Qualification (up to 3 athletes):** Eligible athletes must meet the following criteria:
 - **Ranking threshold:** selected in order of ranking, within the more restrictive of:
 - Top 10% of all PSA ranked players, **or**
 - Within the top 90 for Men / top 50 for Women.
 - **Ranking date:** based on the first weekly PSA rankings published four months before the event (e.g., April 1st rankings for an August event).
 3. **Discretionary Selection (to fill remaining spots):**
 - Spots remaining unfilled after Criteria Priority 1 and 2 are applied shall be discretionary decisions by the High Performance Committee at the latest 2 months before the start of the tournament.
 - In making such a decision, the Committee shall consider performance factors such as: player ability, PSA ranking, Canadian ranking, head-to-head results, Canadian Squash Championship results, Previous World Team Championship performance and experience, team cohesion, performance on demand in pressure situations, injury or extenuating circumstances that may have affected PSA rankings or performance in the previous 12 months, and any other such factors needed to field the strongest Canadian team.
- **Note:** The Committee may request that a match, or a series of matches, or trials in any matter as prescribed be contested amongst a small number of candidates to assist with discretionary selections in step 2 above. Should a trials event be held, remaining places on the Team will be awarded based on finishing order.
 - A non-traveling reserve(s) will be selected according to the criteria above.
 - Squash Canada will publicly announce the team. Until then, selection is to remain confidential.

INJURY/EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCE PROVISIONS:

If a player who was otherwise a realistic candidate for Team selection is or was unable to train or compete for an extended period of time due to injury or extenuating circumstance and which has

negatively affected his or her selection consideration, the High Performance Committee shall be entitled to consider such circumstances. The player must submit an Injury/Exceptional Circumstance application to the designated Squash Canada representative or info@squash.ca no later than 11:59 pm EDT on the last day of the Canadian Squash Championships the year of selection as supported by relevant medical and any other documentation. It will be at the High Performance Committee's sole discretion whether to accept or reject the application.

REQUIREMENTS TO REMAIN SELECTED AND REMOVAL:

Upon nomination and/or selection the player will be expected to maintain performance readiness. Under the direction and decision of the Director of Athlete Development, selection is contingent upon the player maintaining or improving fitness levels and ensuring that competitive readiness is maintained at a high standard appropriate for competition at the Games, and participating in all designated pre-Games training programs, competitive activities, evaluation activities, and reporting procedures. If a player is unable to maintain demonstrable competitive readiness, the Director of Athlete Development shall replace the player with a designated reserve.

Additional requirements include:

- Possess a valid WSF Squash Personal Identification Number (SPIN)
- Provide to Squash Canada all required documents (medical records, birth certificate, etc.)
- Fulfill all Squash Canada, host nation and/or host organizing committee travel, vaccination or other health safety requirements as may exist.
- Ensure proper equipment, clothing and funds
- Assist Squash Canada in public relations and fundraising projects where required
- Pay any required fees (i.e., player levies)
- The obligation to immediately report any injury, illness or change in training that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level.
- Adhere and consent to the CSSP requirements, including UCCMS (Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport).

Squash Canada may, at any time, and at their discretion, remove an athlete from the Canadian Team if, after following the relevant and applicable disciplinary process, the athlete has been found to have violated the Squash Canada's Code of Conduct and/or Athlete Agreement. Squash Canada will advise the affected athlete, in writing, of their decision to remove them from the Canadian Team.

As applicable, an athlete may not be nominated or will be removed from the Pan American Championships Team if, they have been subject to a period of ineligibility or a provisional suspension by any anti-doping organization with authority over the athlete and the period of ineligibility or provisional suspension will be in force during the qualification period or the Games.

Squash Canada reserves the right to withdraw an athlete's nomination from the Canadian Team:

- If the athlete has not taken part in the mandatory training camps organised by Squash Canada prior to the event.
- If the athlete has not fulfilled their responsibilities as identified in Squash Canada's Athlete Agreement.
- If the athlete has not fulfilled their responsibilities as identified in Squash Canada's Code of Conduct and other applicable policies, rules, and regulations of the organization.
- If the athlete has not followed any previously communicated training program and/or competition requirements.

- If the athlete fails to respect any other conditions of nomination as specified by Squash Canada at the time of nomination.
- Where a player is to be removed, or demoted to non-travelling reserve status, the High Performance Committee will have the discretion to remove or demote the player from the Team, provided the player is given an opportunity to be heard. Alternatively, the player may be removed from the Team in accordance with Squash Canada's Discipline and Complaints Policy and/or in accordance with the player's Squash Canada - Athlete Agreement.
- After the athlete has been nominated to the Canadian Team, the COC may remove an athlete from the Team if, after following the relevant and applicable disciplinary process, the athlete is found to have violated the COC's Code of Conduct, the terms of the COC Athlete Agreement, or any other relevant and applicable COC policy.

CHANGES TO THIS DOCUMENT:

The HPC reserves the right to make changes to this document, which in its discretion are necessary to ensure selection of the best teams possible for the Pan Am Championships. Any changes to this document shall be communicated directly to all High Performance Squad Members through e-mail. This clause shall not be used to justify changes after a competition or trials which formed part of the internal nomination procedure unless it is related to an unforeseen circumstance. The purpose of this section is to allow for changes to this document that may become necessary due to a typographical error or a lack of clarity in a definition or wording before it has an impact on athletes. The purpose of such changes must be in order to avoid disputes over the meaning of the provisions of this document rather than to allow changes to be made to justify selection of different athletes than would have otherwise been selected. Such changes must be reasonably justifiable in accordance with fundamental principles of natural justice and procedural fairness. The High Performance Committee of Squash Canada reserves the right to review and modify any selection criteria or decision related to the selection process in the case of rule or policy changes from the WSF or the International Olympic Committee that affect the selection criteria set out in this document. In the event that the selection criteria is modified, Squash Canada will promptly post an announcement on its website announcing the changes.

APPEALS:

Nomination decisions taken in respect of this selection criteria may be appealed in accordance with Squash Canada's [Appeals Policy](#). If both parties are in agreement, the Squash Canada [Appeals Policy](#) can be bypassed and the matter brought immediately before the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC) who will then manage the appeals process.

For clarifications or questions on the contents of this document, please contact the designated Squash Canada Representative or info@squash.ca.