WORLD SQUASH JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS
ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

Approved October 7, 2026

EVENT INFORMATION:

The 2027 World Junior Championships (hereinafter referred to as the Championships) will be hosted in Chengdu, China in July 2027. The event historically consists of an Individual Event and a Team Event. Notably, for each round of the World Squash Junior Championships Team Event, only 3 of 4 Team players compete.

This policy therefore has been developed to outline the player eligibility requirements for Squash Canada.

There is the possibility of athletes attending both the World Squash Junior Championships and the PanAm Squash U19 Junior Championships should they meet both criteria.

Squash Canada is committed to Canada sending a Junior Men's Team and/or a Junior Women's Team, 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,
- 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.

At the time of this policies approval the Championship's variety of events that a nation can enter into is as follows:

- 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 Junior Men's Team event consisting of minimum 3 players to a maximum of 4.
- A Junior Women's Team event consisting of minimum 3 players to a maximum of 4.

The Canadian Team's official playing order, will be determined at the discretion of the Appointed Coach(es) attending the Championships and in accordance with the World Squash protocols.

Selected Team players should expect to contribute a minimum of a $3,500 player contribution, not including flights. This is subject to change and may be adjusted based on the location.

- Costs include the Entry Fee, accommodation, transportation, team training, uniforms, coaches, and other logistical expenses.
- Final costs per player will be communicated as soon as possible in advance of the event.

PURPOSE:

This policy governs Squash Canada's selection of the athletes to compete in the World Squash Junior Championships.

COMMUNICATION:

This Policy and any amendments to this Policy will be posted on the Squash Canada website.

AUTHORITY:

The Board of Directors of Squash Canada has delegated the authority for selections and decisions under this Policy to the Junior/Athlete Pathway Committee (JAPC). Selection decisions are at the discretion of the JAPC upon majority vote, exercised in accordance with the criteria set out below. If circumstances require an at-Games decision (e.g., late athlete replacement), in the interest of timing, the Director of Athlete Development and/or the team coaches shall have the authority to make such decisions.

TIMELINE:

1. **By January of the same season –** The Expression of Interest (EOI) registration will be released and communicated.
2. **Prior to First Selections –** Register using the EOI form. The EOI fee is $100, and EOI registration is mandatory for selection and registrations will close prior to initial selections. Those not selected may be refunded.
3. **By March 1, 2027 –** The first selections are communicated, as per the below Selection Criteria.
4. **Following the Canadian Junior Championships –** The second selections will occur, as per the Selection Criteria.
5. **Within 2 weeks of selection -** A $400 deposit will be paid, and the event athlete agreement will be signed.
6. **As soon as possible after selection –** Athletes will book flights or travel and complete any required training (ex. Canadian Safe Sport education).
7. **Minimum one week prior to event -** Remaining full event payment (EOI fee and deposit subtracted from the total). Estimated fee schedule will be indicated on the EOI registration page)
8. **1-3 weeks prior to event –** Expect a Team announcement via press release and a Team Canada meeting.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

To be eligible for selection to the World Junior Team, a player must:

1. Meet the respective age eligibility requirements as established by the World Squash Federation;
2. Meet the relevant event eligibility criteria as established by the World Squash Federation;
3. 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 selection (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;
4. Be a registered member in good standing of a Provincial/Territorial Squash Association and a player in good standing with Squash Canada;
5. Be prepared to comply with any potential vaccination requirements;
6. Fill out an Expression of Interest here which will close two weeks prior to initial selections, and pay a $100 deposit (refundable if not selected);
7. Have no documented serious on or off court conduct violations of Squash Canada's Code of Conduct and Ethics; and
8. Pay any required deposits and fees;
9. Sign a Squash Canada Athlete Agreement covering the period of the championships; and
10. 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), or the player must be deemed eligible to represent Canada according to WSF Championship Regulations, Regulation K: Eligibility. See https://www.worldsquash.sport/world-championship-regulations-2/

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Selection decisions under this policy will be made by the Squash Canada Junior Athlete Pathway 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.

1. **NJC Ranking-Based Qualification (2 athletes):** The two (2) highest-ranked U19 NJC players as of March 1, 2027 will be selected to the World Squash Junior Championship for Canada.
2. **NJC Ranking-Based Qualification (1 athlete):** The one (1) highest-ranked U19 NJC player not already selected to Team Canada as of May 19, 2027 will be selected to the World Squash Junior Team Championship for Canada.
3. **Discretionary Selection (1 athlete):** One (1) player will be selected at the discretion of the Junior/Athlete Pathway Committee, based on NJC ranking, Club Locker Rating, head-to-head results, domestic/international experience and results, documented Code of Conduct and Ethics history, and eligibility for future World Junior Championships. Selection will take place before May 19th.

Notes:

- In the event of an NJC ranking tie, the players' head-to-head results 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 Championships will break the tie.
- To confirm acceptance of the selection and to 'hold' their spot, each player will be required to submit to Squash Canada a $400 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.

INJURY/EXCEPTIONAL CIRCUMSTANCE PROVISIONS:

If a player is unable to attend the required number of designated selection events through injury or extenuating circumstance and wishes to be considered for selection, the player must submit an Injury/Exceptional Circumstance application to info@squash.ca no later than 11:59 pm EDT on the last day of the Canadian Junior Squash Championships the year of selection as supported by relevant medical and any other documentation. It will be at the Junior/Athlete Pathway Committee's sole discretion whether to accept or reject the application.

REQUIREMENTS TO REMAIN SELECTED AND FOR REMOVAL:

Upon nomination and/or selection, the player is 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 event, and participating in all designated pre-event training programs, competitive activities, evaluation activities, and reporting procedures. If a player is unable to maintain demonstratable 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);

- Sign a Squash Canada Athlete Agreement;
- Provide to Squash Canada all required documents (medical records, birth certificate, etc.);
- Fulfill all Squash Canada, host nation, and/or organizing committee travel, vaccination, or other health and safety requirements as may exist.
- Participate in all World Squash Junior Championship Team events, activities and meetings;
- Ensure proper equipment, clothing, and funds;
- Obey all rules established by Squash Canada;
- Assist Squash Canada in public relations and fundraising projects where required;
- Pay any required fees (e.g., 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 Canadian Safe Sport Program requirements, including the UCCMS (Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport); and
- At all times, agree to acquaint themselves with, and strictly abide by the Squash Canada Code of Conduct and Ethics, Discipline and Complaints Policy, Appeal Policy, and all other policies, rules, and regulations of the organization located here.

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 Squash Canada's Code of Conduct and Ethics 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 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 for the event.

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 organized 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 Ethics 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/standards.
- 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 JAPC 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 athlete agreement.

Withdrawals made without valid reason such as medical illness or bereavement and/or without sufficient notice may still be subject to the full or partial payment of the coaching and endorsement fees, at the discretion of Squash Canada. Squash Canada reserves the right to request appropriate supporting documentation.

CHANGES TO THIS DOCUMENT:

The JAPC 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 World Junior Championships. Any changes to this document shall be communicated directly to all potential participants 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 Junior Athlete Pathway 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.