



## **Irish Squash Junior Selection Criteria for 2021/2022 Season**

### **Policy Statement**

It is the policy of Irish Squash that for national team selection, our aim is to field the strongest possible team at all levels. Those responsible for junior team selection are the Junior Committee, team coach and national head coach. If there is a conflict of interest with any member of the selection committee then an impartial provincial junior rep will replace the member where the conflict exists. In the event of a junior player being selected on a team which corresponds with playing 2 age groups higher than their current age, the Irish Squash Child Protection Officer will also have a role in the selection process.

Teams are announced within 2 weeks of the final qualifying tournament.

### **GENERAL CRITERIA**

Players must

- be eligible to play for Ireland (<https://www.irishsquash.com/eligibility-to-play/>)
- be under the relevant age on the final day of the relevant competition
- comply with the Irish Squash Code of Conduct
- attend squad training sessions/adhere to guidance provided by team coaches and managers throughout the season

Wild card selection is used in exceptional circumstances only at the discretion of the selection committee

## **AGE SPECIFIC CRITERIA**

Selection on a team is not solely based on a player's total national ranking points

A player's best results from a defined number of tournaments in the previous 12 months is used in team selection:

### **Compulsory Events for U13/15/17 teams:**

- best 2 results from provincial junior open tournaments, **and**
- Irish Junior National (Closed) Championship, **and**

### **Compulsory Events for U19 team:**

- best 2 results from provincial junior open tournaments, **and**
- Irish Junior National (Closed) Championship, **and**
- Senior National Closed Championships (no points awarded for junior ranking)

### **Players competing in higher age group than their own must:**

- notify Junior Committee in writing (by email) of intention to play in higher age group before start of season (before first Junior Tour event), and
- the Junior Committee will determine whether this is appropriate for that individual in consultation with that player's parents/guardians, and
- if agreed, that player will compete in the higher age group in all tournaments for the season including the Irish Junior National (Closed) Championship

Please note that where a player competes at a higher age category throughout the season and yet remains eligible by age to be selected for the national team in the younger age group, in exceptional circumstances only, a wild card may be used in selecting that player on the 'younger' national team.

## **Selection Criteria for Overseas Players**

Applies to junior players who are eligible to play for Ireland and who reside in a location that is a minimum 4 hour plane journey to Dublin

Compulsory tournaments in own age group:

1) The Junior Nationals

**and**

2) Two Junior provincial open events - both to be agreed in advance with junior committee

Overseas Players must fulfil these criteria to be eligible for team selection:

- Register their intention to play in Irish Junior Tour events with the Irish Squash junior committee at start of season (before first Junior Tour Event)
- Declare for Ireland at U17 age group or younger
- Compete on the Irish Junior Tour for 2 seasons (do not have to be consecutive)

## **Anti-Doping Training**

Juniors of any age who are selected to play for Ireland must complete the anti-doping training.

Please see the Irish Squash anti-doping page (<https://www.irishsquash.com/anti-doping/>) and link to the e-training on <http://www.worldsquash.org/adel-the-anti-doping-e-learning-platform/>.

Please note: Sporty HQ is the new platform introduced by Irish Squash. In next season 2022 - 2023, a player's Sporty HQ rating may be used for seeding players in Tour Tournaments. See Irish squash Rating and Ranking Policy for explanation of terminology etc. Tour points will still be used in team selection.