



## 2026 British Junior Open Championships Selection Criteria

The British Junior Open (BJO) is one of the most prestigious junior tournaments in the world and is an opportunity for top U.S. junior players to challenge themselves in a major international competition.

The BJO will be held at the beginning of January (2-6), 2026. England Squash generally allows US Squash to nominate five (5) players per age division to participate in the tournament.

Note that this trip is **self-funded** by the players.

*The selection criteria listed below are subject to change pending final information being provided by England Squash.*

### 1. Eligibility Criteria

In order to be considered for selection, all players must:

- Maintain full United States citizenship.
- Be age-eligible for the competition in question.
- Maintain US Squash membership from the start of the candidate process through the end of the competition.
- Have no documented serious on or off-court conduct violations of the US Squash Code of Conduct.
- Sign and comply with all US Squash U.S. Junior Team policies and contracts.

### 2. Selection Information

Players wishing to participate on the U.S. Team for the 2026 BJO will be selected based on the following criteria:

- The top three (3) players by US Squash rating per division who are age-eligible to compete in the BJO in the Boys' and Girls' U11, U13, U15, U17 and U19 age divisions, who confirm their interest, will be selected for the U.S. Team.
  - Ratings will be based on the player ratings as of the Wednesday (October 15, 2025) after the October JCT event: the Arlen Specter Pennsylvania Junior Championships (11-13 October)
  - Players do not need to have a current points-based ranking in the age division in which they will compete. However, in order to be eligible to be selected by rating, players must have completed a minimum of twelve (12) matches in accredited competition—recorded on their Club Locker profile—played within the 12 months before October 15, 2025 (from October 10, 2024, to October 11, 2025). Friendly matches do not apply towards this match count.



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- The remaining two positions will be selected based on a combination of player rating and ranking as of the Wednesday after the October JCT event: the Arlen Specter Pennsylvania Junior Championships (11-13 October).
- The National Team Selection committee will make the final decision regarding the selection of the players.
- All players must have passed their age-appropriate referee exam.
- Should any player(s) decline a position, the next highest-rated player(s) will be selected.
- In the event that players are tied in rating, the rating will be taken to the next decimal point to break the tie, with the higher-rated player earning the team selection.

### 3. Seeding

Player seeding at the British Junior Open is determined by England Squash. Seeding for the players representing the U.S. in the tournament will not necessarily reflect the order in which players were selected.

There is one round of petitions for US Squash officials and the national coaching staff to submit petitions on behalf of the seeded players. Parents are encouraged to submit results within the past 2 years to the coaches for their players against foreign players seeded higher than them.

### 4. Replacement & Removal of Athletes

Following final selection of the Team members, replacements will only be made if any of the following apply:

- An athlete voluntarily withdraws due to injury or illness, certified by a physician.
- An athlete is injured but refuses verification of their fitness for competition by a physician; the injury may be assumed to be disabling and the player may be removed.
- A qualifying Team member voluntarily submits their resignation from competition in writing to the National Coach at [nationalteams@ussquash.org](mailto:nationalteams@ussquash.org).

Removal of Team members — players are expected to engage in all team preparatory activities and uphold a high level of conduct. Potential grounds for removal of a team member include but are not limited to:

- Violation of team rules.
- Violation of US Squash Code of Conduct.

### 5. International Disclaimer

These procedures are based on BJO and England Squash rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to the US Squash. However, the selection process is always subject to unforeseen intervening circumstances and realistically cannot account for every possible contingency.



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### 6. National Team's Selection Committee (NTSC)

The committee comprises the following representatives:

- Committee Chair: President & CEO, US Squash
- Ganek Family US Squash Head National Coach
- Director of National Teams
- Director of Junior National Teams
- Chief Program Officer, US Squash
- US Squash Board Athlete Representative and Alternate