



2026 Pan American Junior Championships Selection Criteria

The Pan American Junior Championships brings together junior competitors from all competing nations in North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean. This event includes a team competition, an individual singles event, and for many years also features softball doubles. US Squash will support a contingent of players as a development opportunity for the country's top ranked junior players. US Squash will nominate eight players—four girls and four boys—to represent Team USA with the players being selected based on the following criteria.

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

1. Eligibility Criteria

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

- Maintain full United States citizenship.
- Be age-eligible to compete in the 2027 World Junior Championships should they meet the criteria for that event.
- Maintain US Squash membership from the start of the candidate process through the end of the competition.
- Comply with all World Squash Federation and Pan Am Squash eligibility requirements regarding international championships.
- 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 Pan American Junior Championships will be selected based on the following criteria:

- The four (4) next top-ranked players in the both the GU19 and BU19 divisions *after* those selected to represent the U.S. in the 2026 World Junior Championships, who confirm their interest, will be selected to represent the U.S. at the 2026 Pan American Junior Championship.
- Note that players must also age-eligible to compete for Team USA the following year at the 2027 World Junior Championships. Players meeting this age eligibility will be selected based on the following criteria:
 - Players remaining in the top 16 of the U19 rankings after those already selected, in order of ranking;
 - If no eligible players remain in the top 16 of the U19 rankings, additional positions will be filled from the U17 rankings, in order of ranking.
- Players who accept a position to the 2026 World Junior Championship team may not compete in the 2026 Pan American Junior Championship; athletes may not represent the U.S. in both competitions.
- Rankings will be based on the first rankings run after the 2026 U.S. Junior Championships (March 18, 2026).



2026 Pan American Junior Championships Selection Criteria

- In the event that players are tied in ranking point average, player ratings are used to break the tie, with the higher-rated player earning the team selection.

3. Team Order of Play

Once the Team has been selected, the final team order for the players will be at the discretion of the Director of Junior National Teams and National coaches. Their criteria will be based on, but not limited to, the following:

- National ranking
- Results of challenge matches
- General performance & fitness level at training squads
- On and off-court behavior

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 Director of Junior National Teams at 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:

- Unexcused absence from a Junior National Squad.
- Failure to complete training log in a timely manner.
- Violation of team rules.
- Violation of US Squash Code of Conduct.

5. 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 these 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.

6. Compliance with US Squash, USOPC and USADA Rules and Regulations

Players must be willing to submit Athlete Location Forms to the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency and comply with all US Squash, USOPC and USADA regulations and requirements to remain eligible. Failure to comply will be



2026 Pan American Junior Championships Selection Criteria

met with disciplinary measures to be enforced by US Squash up to and including removal from the eligible player pool.

7. National Teams Committee

The committee is comprised of the following representatives:

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

8. US Squash Coaches

US Squash will assign national/regional coaches to accompany the players to the 2026 Pan American Junior Championship. Players may not bring their private/personal coaches on this Team USA trip.