

Selection Criteria for Junior Development Pathways

The purpose of the below-outlined Junior Development Pathways is to encourage the continued improvement of juniors, under an experienced coach, in a uniform manner.

Participation in a Club Development Squad, Talent Squad, or the State Team is by invitation only.

To assist juniors achieve minimum participation requirements, Squash WA has introduced Tournament Tours. Criteria for these can be found in Appendix B¹.

We understand that exceptions and/or additions may be required. These will be permitted at the sole discretion of Squash WA, as and when required.

General Selection Eligibility

To be selected for a Club Development Squad, Talent Squad, or the State Team, a junior must:

- Be a financial member of Squash WA and be registered to an affiliated squash Club in Western Australia.
- Not be under a suspension handed out by the Squash WA tribunal that will not be completed until after the Australian Junior Championships.
- Meet the Australian Citizenship criteria as defined in Squash Australia AJC regulations².
- Always uphold the 8 True Sport Values³; players must always demonstrate exemplary behaviours and sportsmanship on and off the court.
- Show a commitment to squash (ie. consistent participation and attendance) throughout the pathway.
- Be able to attend training at the specified times/days.
- Read the following documentation to understand the Squash WA Junior Development Pathways and expectations (juniors and parents/caregivers):
 - Squash WA Junior Development Pathways Model⁴.
 - Squash Australia 'Australian Junior Squash Tour' Policy².
 - Squash WA 'AJC State Team' Policy⁵.
 - Squash Australia Code of Conduct⁶.
- Pay fees applicable for Club Development and Talent Squads. Squash WA will endeavour to run the State Team training at no charge to parents.

¹ [Appendix B: Tournament Tours](#)

² [Squash Australia 'Australian Junior Squash Tour' Policy](#)

³ [True Sport Values](#)

⁴ [Squash WA Junior Development Pathways Model](#)

⁵ [Squash WA 'AJC State Team Selection' Policy](#)

⁶ [Squash Australia Code of Conduct](#)

Club Development Squad

Selection Criteria

- Current participation in a junior club program.
- Minimum red (level three) rating passed⁷.
- Ability to demonstrate:
 - A positive impact on the player's junior club program.
 - Learning to work as a team.

Expectations

- An attendance rate of above 80%.
- Sportsmanship, fairness and 100% effort at each session.
- A minimum of 6 events/tournaments must be played throughout the 12-month period from AJC to AJC, including:
 - Two or more seasons of metro junior pennants or adult country pennants.
 - Metropolitan and country tournaments (individual and/or teams), including Club Champs.

Talent Squad

Selection Criteria

- Current participation in a Club Development Squad, junior and or adult pennants (adult pennants if playing at a country Club), and metropolitan and country tournaments.
- Minimum orange (level four) rating passed⁷. Juniors also need to be in the top eight in their respective age group's ranking list to be considered, as at the last day of the Australian Junior Championships event of that year.
- Ability to demonstrate:
 - A positive impact on the player's junior club program.
 - Working as a team.
 - An increase in cooperative training.
 - Understanding of the rules, and marking skills.

Expectations

- An attendance rate of above 80%.
- Sportsmanship, fairness and 100% effort at each session.
- A minimum of 10 events/tournaments must be played throughout the 12-month period from AJC to AJC, including:
 - Two or more Silver category tournaments.
 - Two or more seasons of junior and/or senior pennants.
 - Additional metropolitan and country tournaments, including Club Champs.
 - Essential: WA Junior State Championships (Gold category), both Individuals and Zone (excluding U19) Teams each year.

⁷ [Squash WA Junior Ratings](#)

State Team

Team members will be chosen to maximise WA's performance, by a selection panel comprising the Squash WA Head Coach and office, to then be ratified by the Board.

Team playing order is at the discretion of the State Team Coach.

The State Team players will be responsible for covering the expenses of the Australian Junior Championships.

Appeals must be submitted to the Squash WA General Manager, in writing, within five business days of the State Team announcement. Appeals will be heard by an independent Appeals Tribunal, and an outcome determined within 14 days of receiving the appeal. Appeals Tribunal decisions are final.

Selection Criteria

- Participation in a Talent Squad, junior pennants/adult pennants and metropolitan and country tournaments.
- Ability to attend the Australian Junior Championships which may take place outside of Western Australia.
- A minimum of 10 events/tournaments must have been played throughout the 12-month period from AJC to AJC, including:
 - Two or more Silver category tournaments.
 - Two or more seasons of junior and/or senior pennants.
 - Additional metropolitan and country tournaments, including Club Champs.
 - Australian Junior Championships - Individuals.
 - Essential: WA Junior State Championships (Gold category), both Individuals and Zone (excluding U19) Teams each year.
- Ability to demonstrate:
 - A positive impact on the player's junior club program.
- Pass the written rules exam, and confidently mark and referee.
- Be team oriented.
- A State Junior Ranking SPIN to be able to compete nationally (<https://www.worldsquash.org/spins/>).

Expectations

- An attendance rate of 100%. Otherwise, a medical certificate or written notification from a parent/caregiver must be provided to Squash WA. (Country players will be required to follow the training plan provided for each session by the State Team Coach).
- Be prepared to adhere to all terms and conditions as set down by Squash WA. This includes staying with the State Team during the Teams event at the Championships and wearing the approved State Team uniform as required.
- Be willing to conform to the requirements of living and competing in a team environment.
- Sportsmanship, fairness and 100% effort at each session.

Appendix A: Process and Responsibilities

Club Development Squad

Junior Coordinators:

- Identify juniors that fit the outlined criteria.
- Liaise with Club Development Squad coach to ensure space available.
- Provide invitation letter to junior.
- Send an email to Squash WA detailing the juniors who are invited (including whether they accepted or declined), who the Club Development Coach is, and the time and day that training sessions take place and date the junior passed Red.

Club Development Squad Coach:

- Level 1 Coaching certification.
- Be registered with Squash WA for insurance purposes.
- Draw up weekly session plans.
- Keep accurate attendance records and provide these to Squash WA at the end of each term.
- Manage their own fees and court bookings.

Squash WA:

- Provide letter template for Junior Coordinators to use.
- Liaise with the Club Development Squad Coach regarding format of sessions to ensure uniformity among Club Development Squads.
- Provide support to Club Development Coaches, offering resources and professional development opportunities as available.

Talent Squad

Squash WA:

- Liaise with Junior Coordinators and Club Development Squad Coaches to identify juniors that fit the outlined criteria.
- Provide invitation letters directly to selected juniors.
- Appoint Talent Squad Coaches.
- Provide support to Talent Squad Coaches, offering resources and professional development opportunities as available.
- Administer the squad.
- Communicate directly with parents/caregivers and juniors.

State Team

Squash WA:

- Provide State Team information packs to selected juniors.
- Coach, player and carer selection.
- Administer the Team program.
- Communicate directly with parents/caregivers and juniors.

Exiting a Squad

There are two ways a junior can exit a squad:

1. They choose not to continue with the squad,
2. Junior is asked to leave the squad due to lack of effort, performance and/or disciplinary action.

In any level squad, written notification must be provided by the junior's parent/caregiver to Squash WA, outlining when the junior will be exiting and the reason/s why. Squash WA will likewise provide written notification to parents/caregiver should the player be asked to leave.

Appendix B: Tournament Tours

- Assessment of skill level including ability to serve.
- Commitment to squash (ie. consistent participation and attendance)
- Understanding and acceptance of the Squash WA Code of Conduct, including adherence to the 8 True Sport values.
- Junior player to be under the age of 18 years on the last day of the tournament.
- Preference will be given to junior players from country clubs.
- Junior player must be registered with an affiliated club including with Squash WA.
- Junior player must be able to organise own transport to and from the collection point at Squash WA HQ, Belmont at the designated times.
- Package cost per junior will factor in meals, van hire (if required), fuel and accommodation. A tournament shirt will be an additional and optional expense.

Appendix C: Associated Documents

The documents listed throughout this Selection Criteria can be found at the following locations:

Squash WA Junior Development Pathways Model

<https://wasquash.com.au/development-pathways/>

Squash Australia 'Australian Junior Squash Tour' Policy

<https://www.squash.org.au/w/events/australian-junior-squash-tour>

Squash Australia Code of Conduct

<https://www.squash.org.au/w/about-us/governance-documents/regulations>

Squash WA 'AJC State Team Selection' Policy

<https://wasquash.com.au/state-team/>

Squash WA Junior Ratings

<https://wasquash.com.au/development-pathways/>

True Sport Values

<https://truesport.com.au/values/>
