
England Junior Representation

To help add clarity to the published England Squash Selection Policy, the following information relates specifically to England junior representation.

The selection panel only ever consider ranking within the context of the wider criteria highlighted in points 5.3 – 5.6 in the aforementioned selection policy. **England teams are not selected solely on ranking.**

Mandatory Selection Events

For the 2016-17 season a series of six mandatory selection events have been identified. Any player who wishes to be considered for England junior selection must play each of the following events;

1. British Junior Nationals (28th / 29th / 30th October)
2. English Junior Closed (10th / 11th / 12th March)
3. Silver #2 Edgbaston Priory (8th / 9th October)
4. Silver #4 Ipswich (4th / 5th February)
5. Silver #5 Manchester (25th / 26th March)
6. Silver #6 Nottingham (29th / 30th April)

If injury or illness is cited as a reason for not competing at a compulsory event, a medical certificate will be required to enable this to be taken into account when making England selections. This needs to be completed and sent to the performance department via post or email (louise.pickford@englandsquash.com) within a week of the completion of the event.

If a player is in the process of transitioning in to the England Academy, then exemption may be given from Silver events, but it remains the expectation that a player still plays the British Junior Nationals, English Junior Closed and British Junior Open.

As of February 2017, the England Squash performance team will no longer seed 'mandatory selection events' due to recent reductions in workforce. Seeding will now be based solely on the current ranking list.

Only occasionally in exceptional circumstances will the performance team adjust the seeding of an event.

Exceptional circumstances include but are not limited to:

- A player of England representative quality who due to injury, has missed a significant amount of time and therefore their current ranking is not reflective of their playing level.
- A player who is deemed good enough to play up an age group and is competing for England Selection.
- A player who has performed exceptionally at either the British Junior National Closed, British Junior Open or English Closed Championships.

Playing 'up' Age Groups

For the purposes of England selection, players have to achieve notable performances. It is recognised that for a small number of players, there is benefit to playing up an age group at certain domestic and international events.

If a player is considering playing 'up' they have to be confident that they can achieve notable results in their 'true' age group first and foremost. They then have to be capable of competing at the older age group in order to achieve notable performances.

Consequently, where a player has a realistic chance of representing England at a higher age group, a player may be permitted to play 'up' at Silver events.

To give a player the chance of selection in their 'true' age group, players must play the following events in their true age category;

1. British Junior Nationals
2. British Junior Open
3. English Junior Closed*

* In exceptional circumstances, where a player has dominated an age group, then dispensation may be given to that player to play 'up' at the English Junior Closed.

A notable performance in the context of a players 'true' age group is considered as winning the event and in some instances, finishing as runner-up. If a player finishes as runner-up, it is advised the player consults with the National Coaching team when planning future events.

It remains the policy of England Squash that the principal objective with regards to performance is to consistently be the world's best at senior level. It is important that points 4.1 and 4.2 of the selection policy are understood.