



Junior Eligibility Policies 2023/24

- **Gold and Provincials Championships**

The Gold circuit and Provincial Championship are the highest level of competition in Ontario and as such the Squash Ontario Junior Advisory Committee (JAC) has made a policy to include a qualification process for entry to help ensure all players receive quality matches and adequate recovery time.

The top ranked entrants in each division registered by the deadline will secure their spot in the main draw. Any additional registrants outside the draw sizes below will be added to a waitlist. This is not a first come, first serve registration process.

- The top 24 ranked players in the BU19, GU19 and BU17 draws. In addition, 4 local spots and 4 out of province spots may be awarded by the JAC to round out the 32 player draws.
- The top 12 ranked players in the GU17, GU15, BU15, GU13, BU13, GU11, BU11. In addition, 2 local spots and 2 out of province spots may be awarded by the Junior Advisory Committee to round out the 16 player draws.

To accommodate these entry restrictions, Gold and Provincial events will have an entry deadline of 2.5 weeks before the start of the event (Wednesday at 11:59pm). Players meeting the rankings guidelines will automatically be accepted while players outside the guidelines will be notified by Friday at noon if they have received a spot in the draw. They will be kept on a waitlist in the event a spot opens and will be issued a full refund if not.

All draws will be done in the presence of a witness. As per our provincial draw policy, the 1 and 2 seeds are placed at the top and bottom of the draw, 3 and 4 seeds are drawn and put in the middle two spots of the draw, and 5-8 seeds are also drawn randomly and placed in the correct area of the draw depending on the size.

Girls in Boys Events

For a girl to participate in a boys' event, she must have won any two (2) of the following junior events in the Girls Under 19 division: National Championships, Provincial Championships (Open or Closed), Junior Gold. The player must compete in her own age group when playing in the boys' divisions. Squash Ontario does not enter Inter Gender Matches into the rankings. All petitions to play in the Boys events should be sent to tournaments@squashontario.com for review by the JAC.

Moving Up

For a player to move up an age group in a Gold or Provincial tournament, they must have won any two (2) of the following junior events in their current age group: National Championship, Provincial Championship (Open or Closed), Junior Gold. Out of province players must win the equivalent of two gold/provincial/national level events in their province or state to move up.

Any player who wishes to petition this policy must have won at least one Gold tournament in their current age group. These petitions can be sent to tournaments@squashontario.com for review by the JAC.

- **Silver**

The restrictions on who can play these events, or who must move up are based off the Squash Ontario rankings at the closing date.

Boys and Girls Under 11 and Girls Under 13:

- The top 2 ranked U11 players are not eligible to play.
- The top 6 ranked in girls U13 are not eligible to play.

Boys and Girls Under 15, 17, 19 and Boys Under 13:

- Top 8 ranked players are not eligible to play.

If a player is ineligible for their age group but would like to play up a division, they will need to go on a waitlist and will only be allowed entry if there are open spots to fill in the age group above them when entries close. Any age groups with low entry numbers are subject to being combined.

A player who **wins two Silvers must move up an age group**. If a player wins two U19 events, they will be deemed to have graduated from the circuit as there is no additional age category for them to move into. Players may return to their age category for the end of season Ontario Silver Championships even if they have won two previous events.

- **Grand Prix**

As these events involve ranking points, all players must purchase a competitive membership before signing up for any Grand Prix, Silver, or Gold event.

A player who **wins two Grand Prix's must move up an age group for the remainder of the season**. If a player wins two U15 events, they will be deemed to have graduated from the circuit as there is no additional age category for them to move into. Winners of all events will be invited to the end of season Grand Prix finale to play in their current age group.

The restrictions on who can play these events, or who must move up are based off the Squash Ontario rankings at the closing date.

Boys and Girls Under 9:

- All players welcome to play.

Boys and Girls Under 11:

- Must be ranked outside the top 3 in this age group to play.

Boys and Girls Under 13:

- Must be ranked outside top 8 in this age group to play.

Boys and Girls Under 15:

- Must be ranked outside the top 10 in this age group to play.