

Revised and approved by Squash NS High Performance Committee, January 2026.

**2027 CANADA WINTER GAMES, QUEBEC CITY  
ATHLETE/PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION SHEET  
FOR THE SQUASH NOVA SCOTIA COMMUNITY**

Dear Athletes, Parents and Guardians,

Held every two years, alternating between summer and winter, the Canada Games are a key event in the development of Canada's young athletes. As the best in their age group, these young competitors come to the Games having trained long and hard to be among those chosen to represent their respective province or territory and compete for the Canada Games Flag (Province with the most points) and Centennial Cup (Province with the most improved points). With the Canada Games poised as a key step in the development of Canada's future stars, Canada Games athletes are Canada's next generation of elite athletes in National and International championships.

During the week of squash at the Canada Games, there are two events. An individual event and a team event. Two (2) athletes from both the men's and women's teams will compete in the individual event and all team members will compete in the team event.

**When and where are the Canada Games?**

February 27 - March 14, 2027 in Quebec City

Squash is in the second week and will be held from March 8 - March 14, 2027. March 7 and March 15 are travel days. Quebec City will play host to 22 sports, 150 events, 3,600 athletes, coaches and officials, up to 6,000 volunteers, hundreds of media and medical professionals and thousands of visitors.

**How is the NS squash Canada Games team comprised?**

**Mens Team:**

Four men Under 19, as of March 14, 2027, at least two of whom are Under 17 as of March 14, 2027.

**Womens Team:**

Four women Under 19, as of March 14, 2027, at least two of whom are Under 17 as of March 14, 2027.

In addition to the players, there is a NS Canada Games Coach (Josh Rudolph), who is a Competition-Development NCCP certified coach. There is also a NS Canada Games Manager (Melissa Shakespeare) as a formal member of the team.

**Canada Games Squad Selection Criteria (July 1, 2026):**

- Meet eligibility criteria set out in the [Canada Games Council Athlete Eligibility Policy](#) and [2027 Canada Winter Games Squash Technical Package](#). Note: Athletes who are Nova Scotia residents but attending a post-secondary or educational institution abroad as a full-time student in the Fall of 2026 are eligible.
- Must be a Competitive Member of Squash Nova Scotia.
- Are eligible to receive health services in Nova Scotia.

- Effective July 1, 2026 is the deadline for joining the Canada Games Squad by expressing your interest on Club Locker and signing the 2027 Squash Nova Scotia Canada Winter Games Team Athlete Agreement (attachment in Club Locker). Club Locker sign up to be sent out in January 2026. Anyone who has not expressed their interest before July 1, 2026 will not be considered for the Nova Scotia Squash Canada Games Team.
- For the 2026-2027 season Squash Nova Scotia Canada Games squad athletes are required to take part in:
  - One Canada Games Squad summer camp (dates to be released January 2026)

AND

3 of the 4 following tournaments to be considered for the Canada Games Team:

- Kentville Rust Remover (September 2026)
- Lighthouse Jr Gold (October 2026) (possibly out of province but within the maritimes)
- SMUfit Open (October 2026)
- NS Jr Open (November 2026)
- If an athlete would like to compete in a squash event/tournament that conflicts with the above listed tournaments, they may request approval to do so to the Squash Nova Scotia High Performance Athlete Subcommittee.
- If an athlete is attending a post-secondary or educational institution abroad (outside Nova Scotia) as a full-time student in the Fall of 2026, they may request an exemption to the Squash Nova Scotia High Performance Athlete Subcommittee of participating in the Kentville Rust Remover (Sep), SMUfit Open (Oct), Lighthouse Jr Gold (Oct) and/or NS Jr Open (Nov) but must be playing sanctioned matches and be available for trials if required.

#### **Core Team Selection (December 1, 2026):**

- Top 7 ranked Men and Women (not more than four U19) as of December 1, 2026 whom are still in those age categories by March 14th, 2027 will be named to the Canada Winter Games Nova Scotia Squash “Core” Team to represent Nova Scotia based off:
  - Club locker ratings
  - Head to head results in sanctioned matches (league, local tournaments and away tournaments)
  - Head to head results in trial matches (November 2026) if required. The Squash Nova Scotia High Performance Athlete Subcommittee has the right to request trials if rankings are considered insufficient in club locker and there are insufficient head to head results from sanctioned matches.
- Core team members are required to take part in the following
  - Canada Games Core Team camp (December 28 - 30, 2026). If trials are needed to select the Canada Games Team, they will be done during this time.

#### **Canada Games Team Selection (January 5, 2027):**

- Top 4 ranked Men and Women (not more than 2 U19) as of January 5, 2027 whom are still in those age categories by March 14, 2027 will be named to the Canada Winter Games NS Squash Team to represent Nova Scotia based off:
  - Club locker ratings

- Head to head results in sanctioned matches (league, local tournaments and away tournaments)
- Head to head results in trial matches (December 2026) if required. The Squash Nova Scotia High Performance Athlete Subcommittee has the right to request trials if rankings are considered insufficient in club locker and there are insufficient head to head results from sanctioned matches.
- Canada Games team members are required to take part in the following tournaments:
  - Dalhousie Open (January)
  - RSM Classic (February)

<b>Selection Dates:</b>	<b>Deadline:</b>
Joining Canada Games Squad	July 1, 2026
Core Team Selection	December 1, 2026
Canada Games Team Selection	January 5, 2027

<b>Squad Commitment Dates:</b>	
Canada Games Squad Summer Camp	Jul 1 - Aug 31, 2026 (exact dates and location TBA)
Kentville Rust Remover	September 2026
Lighthouse Jr Gold	October 2026
SMUfit Open	October 2026
NS Jr Open	November 2026
Trials (if required)	November 2026
<b>Core Team Commitment Dates:</b>	
Canada Games Core Team Camp	Dec 28 - Dec 30, 2026
Trials (if required)	Dec 28 - Dec 30, 2026
<b>Canada Games Team Commitment Dates:</b>	
Dalhousie Open	January 2027
RSM Classic	February 2027
Canada Games	Mar 7 - Mar 15, 2027

**Injury or Illness:**

In the case of injury or illness for not attending a required selection event, the Squash Nova Scotia High Performance Athlete Subcommittee must be notified immediately. A medical certificate may be requested. The medical certificate must include, but not be limited to, the date of injury, diagnosis, treatment plan, and expected date to return to training/competition.

Note: The final decision with respect to team selection is that of the Squash Nova Scotia High Performance Athlete Subcommittee.

**Alternate Selection Process:**

At the time of team selection (January 5, 2027) the team order will also be selected for all 7 players on the men's and women's Core team. Those players named 5 thru 7 will be the first, second and third alternates for both the men's team and the women's team. In the event an alternate is required, player positions on the team are subject to change.

**Individual Event:**

Two (2) players on the men's NS team and two (2) players on the women's NS team are eligible for the individual event during Canada Games. Players will be selected based on their team positions and how it may impact the overall team result. In the event an alternate is required, player positions on the team are subject to change which could impact who is selected for the individual event. This decision will be determined by the Squash Nova Scotia High Performance Athlete Subcommittee.

**Appeals Process:**

Disputes relating to team selection will be handled by the Squash Nova Scotia High Performance Athlete Subcommittee through the [Squash NS Appeals Process](#).

**Funding:**

There is no funding provided by Squash Nova Scotia to individual athletes. All costs associated with travel to and from required events are the responsibility of the athletes. Canada Games team uniforms for the 8 Canada Games team athletes (4 men, 4 women) will be mostly funded by Squash Nova Scotia but a fee may be required. All travel costs associated with the Canada Games during the weeks of February 27 - March 14, 2027 in Quebec City are covered by the Canada Games Council.