

# SCOTTISH SQUASH MEN'S MASTERS SELECTION PROCEDURES & CRITERIA 2023/24



## Introduction

A Selection Criteria Review Group meets prior to the start of each squash season to draft the team selection criteria for the coming season and agree the tournaments to be taken into account for the purposes of making selection decisions for the Representative Events. The selection tournaments for the 2023/24 squash season are outlined in Appendix 1.

The Scottish Squash Men's Masters Selection Procedures and Criteria document (the "Selection Policy") shall be communicated prior to the 2023/24 squash season and shall remain in place throughout the season. Any competitions which are no longer going to be considered as part of the Selection Policy will be communicated, at the earliest opportunity, to all of the players within the selection process. The Director of Development is responsible for monitoring the Selection Policy at each stage in the process.

## Eligibility

In order to be selected to represent Scotland a player must meet the following requirements:

- a) The player must be eligible to represent Scotland according to the rules of the Representative Event.
- b) The player must be a registered Player member of Squash in Scotland.

## Team Selection

Team selections will be made by a Selection Panel comprising the Competitions Working Group members. A procedural advisor will be present at any selection meetings and all selection meetings will be recorded in writing.

The players will be selected for the Men's over (MO) 35, MO40, MO45, MO50, MO55, MO60, MO65, MO70 teams from the following category:

1. Teams will be made up of 6 players based on the criteria below. Point 7 explains the criteria if teams wish to select a 7-player team. In no circumstances will a team of more than 7 players be selected.
2. The top 4 ranked eligible and available players in each age group in the Scottish Masters ranking points following the Scottish Masters National Championships. Rankings are based on results in pre-selected masters ranking competitions (see appendix 1).
3. If a player(s) ranked 1-4 is/are unavailable, it then continues down the rankings accordingly.
4. The Team Captain in each age group will be the number 1 ranked player at the end of the season (following the Scottish Masters National Championships). If the number 1 ranked player is not available or does not wish to carry out the role of Team Captain this will move to the next ranked player and so on. In the unlikely event that no player wishes to assume the role then Scottish Squash will not be able to enter a team into that age group in the Masters Home Internationals.
5. The Team Captain is responsible for any wild card selections. Two wild card selections can be made in each team. The wild card selections must meet the following criteria:
  - a. The first wild card selection must have competed in a minimum of one pre-selected master ranking competitions (see appendix 1).
  - b. The second wild card has no criteria against its selection.
6. A player may accept a 'wild card' for only one age group in any Home International series. Wild card selections will not necessarily be number 5 and 6 in the team but will play in team order as decided by the Team Captain.
7. If a team wishes to select 7 players, the first 6 players selected must be in a unanimous agreement. The 6 player team are then able to select the seventh player. Similar to 5.b., the seventh player will be treated as a wild card selection with no criteria attached.

The players will be selected for the Men's over 75 team from the following category:

1. Teams will be made up of 4 players based on the criteria below.
2. The top 2 ranked eligible and available players in the MO75 age group in the Scottish Masters ranking points following the Scottish Masters National Championships. Rankings are based on results in pre-selected masters ranking competitions (see appendix 1).
3. If a player(s) ranked 1-4 is/are unavailable, it then continues down the rankings accordingly.
4. The Team Captain in each age group will be the number 1 ranked player at the end of the season (following the Scottish Masters National Championships). If the number 1 ranked player is not available or does not wish to carry out the role of Team Captain this will move to the next ranked player and so on. In the unlikely event that no player wishes to assume the role then Scottish Squash will not be able to enter a team into that age group in the Masters Home Internationals.
5. The Team Captain is responsible for any wild card selections. Two wild card selections can be made in each team. The wild card selections must meet the following criteria:
  - a. The first wild card selection must have competed in a minimum of one pre-selected master ranking competitions (see appendix 1).
  - b. The second wild card has no criteria against its selection.

## **Appeals**

The decision of the Selection Panel may be appealed on the following grounds:

1. The selection policy was not properly followed and/or implemented;
2. The selection policy has been misapplied, or applied without sufficient evidence;
3. The selection process was made in bad faith and/or with bias and/or perversely and/or otherwise been demonstrably unfair; and/or
4. The selection decision was one that no reasonable decision maker could have reached.

Any appeal must be made within seven days following the communication of the team selection. It should be made in writing, marked "Private & Confidential" to the CEO.

## **Composition of the Appeal Panel and Hearing Process**

The timeframe for the Appeal Panel hearing being held will be considered on a selection by selection basis giving sufficient time for players to put together their representations, whilst being mindful of proximity to the tournament at the subject of the appeal.

The members of any Appeal Panel will have had no involvement with the original decision and will be independent of the Selection Panel. The Appeal Panel will be made up of the following:

- The Scottish Squash Limited Board Member responsible for the Risk & Compliance Sub Committee (if the scenario arises whereby this person has had an involvement with the original decision, this role will be delegated to another member of the Risk & Compliance Sub Committee).
- An independent panel member from another sport.
- A second independent panel member from another sport.

The composition of the Appeal Panel will be considered prior to selections being communicated to ensure no unnecessary delays. If the player can demonstrate that the composition of the Appeal Panel is clearly unfair and/or conflicted then Scottish Squash shall give consideration to arbitrate before an independent panel appointed by Sport Resolutions.

In the case of an appeal being upheld, the Appeal Panel will refer the matter back to the Selection Panel for review, along with their reasons for requiring a review.

## **Appendix 1 – Representative Events for which the Selection Policy will be used**

### **Masters**

#### **Masters Home Internationals 2024**

The places will be awarded to the top ranked players (based on the Scottish Masters ranking points total – see Appendix 2) from the following events:

1. **Scotland Regional Masters Competitions:**
  - a. Competition 1 – West of Scotland Regional Masters – 6-8 October 2023
  - b. Competition 2 – Highlands & Islands Regional Masters – 27-29 October 2023
  - c. Competition 3 – Grampian Regional Masters – 17-19 November 2023
  - d. Competition 4 – Tayside & Fife Regional Masters – 15-17 December 2023
  - e. Competition 5 – Central Regional Masters – 19-21 January 2024
2. **Scottish Masters National Championships:** Edinburgh Sports Club 23-25 February 2024
3. **England Masters Regional Competitions:**
  - a. South of England Masters – 29-1 October 2023
  - b. North of England Masters – 3-5 November 2023
  - c. East of England Masters - 8-10 December 2023
  - d. West of England Masters – 12-14 January 2024
4. **British National Championships**
5. **British Open Masters Championships:** 6-11 June 2023

## **Appendix 2 – Points Available for Selected Competitions**

### **Aims:**

- To encourage participation in Masters competitions;
- To aid competition organisers to seed players; and
- To provide automatic selection for players for Home International Scottish men's and women's teams.

Points will be gained at Scottish Masters Regional competitions, The Scottish Masters National Championships, England Masters Regionals competitions, British Closed, British Open, European and World Championships by the following scheme:

Round	Games won			
	0	1	2	3
Last 32 and 16	15	30	45	60
Quarter-finals	20	40	60	80
Semi-finals	25	50	75	100
Final	30	60	90	120
Plate 1/4-finals & 9-16th play-offs 10	15	20	25	
Plate semi-finals & 5-8 <sup>th</sup> play-offs 15	20	25	30	
Plate final & 3-4 <sup>th</sup> play-offs	20	25	30	35
Round-robins: 3 or 4 players	25	50	75	100
Round-robins: 5 players	20	45	70	90
Round-robins of 3 players (if followed by semi-final & final)	20	35	50	70

### **Duplication of points to older Age Groups:**

- Points gained by players who become eligible to move to older age groups during the squash season will have all their previous points included in their new age group when they first compete in that age group.
- Points gained by players who choose to play in age groups younger than their own will not be duplicated in the older age group unless a player's current age group is not offered at a Masters tournament;

### **Points for Byes and Walk-Overs:**

Players will either receive the points for the 1<sup>st</sup> round bye or the points for the plate, whichever points are greater.

Walk-Overs: the 'Still-Standing' player receives the points for all 3 games, but the 'walked-over' player does not receive the points for zero games i.e. they receive zero.

Scottish Masters National Championships, British Open and British Closed: Points will be increased by 50%.

Players will be ranked by total points from their best four competitions

### **Penalties for withdrawing without notification**

Players must inform Scottish Squash, or alternatively the Tournament Director, as soon as possible prior to the commencement of the tournament if they are unable to play in a tournament at the time specified in the published tournament draw. The Tournament Director will inform Scottish Squash if a player fails to turn up for play without informing the Tournament Director. In this case the player will receive zero points for the tournament. This applies at any stage of the tournament, i.e. failure to turn up to play a first round, or failure to play out all scheduled matches. During a tournament, it is the player's responsibility to advise the Tournament Director personally at the earliest opportunity if he wishes to withdraw. This allocation of zero points will count as one of the player's 4 best results for that season.