SCOTTISH SQUASH MEN'S MASTERS SELECTION PROCEDURES & CRITERIA 2025/26



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 2025/26 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 2025/26 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 Scottish Squash Performance Pathway Team 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 eligibility requirements:

- a) Players must have reached the specified age by no later than the start date of the competition.
- b) The player must be eligible to represent Scotland according to the rules of the Representative Event.
- c) 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. Up to two wild card selections can be made in each team. The wild card selections must meet the following criteria:
 - a. If only one wild card selection is made, there is no criteria against its selection.
 - b. If two wild card selections are made, at least one of the players must have competed in a minimum of one pre-selected master ranking competitions (see appendix 1).
- 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. 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 1-2 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:
 - If only one wild card selection is made, there is no criteria against its selection.
 - b. If two wild card selections are made, at least one of the players must have competed in a minimum of one pre-selected master ranking competitions (see appendix 1).

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;
- 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, HR & 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, HR & 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 2026

The places will be awarded to the top ranked players (based on the Scottish Masters ranking points total – see <u>ADM10-G06 Masters Ranking Points Structure</u>) from the following events:

- 1. Scotland Masters Regional Competitions:
 - a. Competition 1 Tayside & Fife Masters Regional Event | 12 14 September 2025
 - b. Competition 2 Highlands & Islands Masters Regional Event | 03 05 October 2025
 - c. Competition 3 West of Scotland Masters Regional Event | 31 October 02 November 2025
 - d. Competition 4 Grampian Masters Regional Event | 05 07 December 2025
 - e. Competition 5 Central Masters Regional Event | 09 11 January 2026
- 2. Scottish Masters National Championships: Edinburgh Sports Club, 06 08 February 2026
- 3. England Masters Regional Competitions:
 - a. South of England Masters | 19 21 September 2025
 - b. West of England Masters | 24 26 October 2025
 - c. North of England Masters | 28 30 November 2025
 - d. Midlands England Masters | 16 18 January 2026
- 4. British Open Masters Championships: 04 08 June 2025
- 5. European Masters Individual Championships: Wrocław, Poland, 27 30 August 2025 // World Masters Championships (not applicable for 2025) (these competitions take place in alternating years)

Note for 2025-26

The British National Championships in 2026 (25 February – 01 March) will not be included in the ranking points events for the 2025-26 season due to its lateness in the season and overlap with the selection period. The last points event of the season will be the Scottish Masters National Championships in February 2026, after which Captains will be confirmed and the selections for Home Internationals 2026 will be completed.

Any inclusion of results for the British National Championships 2026 in selection criteria for season 2026-27 will be decided in 2026.

Appendix 2 - Points Available for Selected Competitions

Please refer to ADM10-G06 Masters Ranking Points Structure.