

## SCOTTISH SQUASH WOMEN'S MASTERS SELECTION PROCEDURES, CRITERIA AND RANKING STRUCTURE 2025-26

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### **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 Women'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 Women's over (WO) 35/40, WO45, WO50, WO55 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 3 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 1-3 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. Three wild card selections can be made in each team. The wild card selections must meet the following criteria:
  - a. 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). For the second wild card there is no criteria against its selection.
  - b. If three wild card selections are made, at least two of the players must have competed in a minimum of one pre-selected master ranking competitions (see appendix 1). For the third wild card there is no criteria against its selection.
6. 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.
7. The players will be selected for the Women's over (WO) 60 and WO65 team from the following category:
  1. Teams will be made up of a maximum of 4 players based on the criteria below.
  2. The top 2 ranked eligible and available players in the WO60 and WO65 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 ranked 1-2 is 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).

## **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, 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 [ADM10-G06 Masters Ranking Points Structure](#)) 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 – Masters Ranking Points Structure 2025/26**

Note: For information on draw formats and tournament regulations for Masters Regional competitions, see [ADM10-G03 Regulations for Sanctioned Competitions](#)

### **1. Introduction to the Masters Ranking Points Structure**

- The Masters Ranking Points structure will be used as part of the Men's and Women's Masters Selection Procedures & Criteria.
- A player can gain points by playing in an eligible competition during the season.
- The competitions for which points are awarded each season are stipulated in [Appendix 1](#) of this document.
- The higher the finishing position of the player, the more points awarded.
- A player's top 4 results from the season will count towards their ranking points total.
- If a draw is for more than 16 participants, there are only points available from the last 16 onwards.
- The maximum draw size for a Masters Regional tournament is 32 players.
- The rankings will be updated and communicated to the Scottish Squash community after each Scottish regional event and following the Scottish Masters National Championships.
- The Masters ranking points will be used as a tool to aid in event seedings.

### **2. 2025-26 Ranking Points Allocation**

|                 |    | Draw Size |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------|----|-----------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Finishing Place |    | 1         | 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11  | 12  | 13  | 14  | 15  | 16  |
|                 | 1  | 0         | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90 | 100 | 110 | 120 | 130 | 140 | 150 |
|                 | 2  |           | 0  | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80 | 90  | 100 | 110 | 120 | 130 | 140 |
|                 | 3  |           |    | 0  | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70 | 80  | 90  | 100 | 110 | 120 | 130 |
|                 | 4  |           |    |    | 0  | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60 | 70  | 80  | 90  | 100 | 110 | 120 |
|                 | 5  |           |    |    |    | 0  | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50 | 60  | 70  | 80  | 90  | 100 | 110 |
|                 | 6  |           |    |    |    |    | 0  | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40 | 50  | 60  | 70  | 80  | 90  | 100 |
|                 | 7  |           |    |    |    |    |    | 0  | 10 | 20 | 30 | 40  | 50  | 60  | 70  | 80  | 90  |
|                 | 8  |           |    |    |    |    |    |    | 0  | 10 | 20 | 30  | 40  | 50  | 60  | 70  | 80  |
|                 | 9  |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 0  | 10 | 20  | 30  | 40  | 50  | 60  | 70  |
|                 | 10 |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 0  | 10  | 20  | 30  | 40  | 50  | 60  |
|                 | 11 |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    | 0   | 10  | 20  | 30  | 40  | 50  |
|                 | 12 |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     | 0   | 10  | 20  | 30  | 40  |
|                 | 13 |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |     | 0   | 10  | 20  | 30  |
|                 | 14 |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |     |     | 0   | 10  | 20  |
|                 | 15 |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     | 0   | 10  |
|                 | 16 |           |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |    |     |     |     |     |     | 0   |

#### **2.1 - Additional Points Available**

In addition to "Placing Points", points are also gained by:

- A point for each match played
- A point for each game won

Therefore, total points available are points for placing + matches played points + games won points.

#### **Example**

If a player wins a tournament with 15 people in it they will receive 140 (placement points) + 4 (matches played including byes) + 12 (games won including 3 games for a bye) = 156 points.

If this tournament also has a multiplying factor the 156 would be multiplied by the factor.

## **2.2 - Multipliers**

The tournaments where points are available and the multiplication factors on the total points at the tournaments are as below:

| <b>Event</b>                    | <b>Factor</b> | <b>2025-26</b> | <b>Notes</b>                       |
|---------------------------------|---------------|----------------|------------------------------------|
| Scottish Masters Regional       | 1.00          | Yes            | Sept. 2025 – Jan. 2026             |
| English Masters Regional        | 1.00          | Yes            | Sept. 2025 – Jan. 2026             |
| World Championships             | 1.25          | No             | Not held in 2025                   |
| British Closed                  | 1.25          | No             | Due to event date (see Appendix 1) |
| British Open                    | 1.25          | Yes            | June 2025                          |
| European Championships          | 1.25          | Yes            | August 2025                        |
| Scottish National Championships | 1.50          | Yes            | February 2026                      |

## **3. 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 players current age group is not offered at a Masters tournament. In this instance, only players who initially entered the unoffered age group, and were eligible for that age group, will receive a duplication of points.
  - Based on this ruling, Scottish Squash would encourage entrants to always enter an event in their actual age group.

## **4. Withdrawals, Injury, Illness And Penalties**

### Events outside Scotland

- Players must adhere to the local rules and regulations of the tournament as regards injury, illness and withdrawal. Ranking points will be awarded based on the published result of the tournament.

### Scottish Events

- Players must inform 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.
- During a tournament, it is the player's responsibility to advise the Tournament Director personally at the earliest opportunity on a decision to withdraw.

- A player who withdraws from a match due to injury or illness may compete in the next round as a 'forwarded loser' at the discretion of the tournament organiser, and the player can still achieve ranking points for the tournament.
  - The decision to play in the next round should be made by the player a minimum of 1.5 hours before the player's next match time.
  - Where the next round takes place the following day, the decision should be made by 10pm on Friday, and 8pm on Saturday by the player, allowing time for the organisers to adjust the schedule and for opponents to be informed.
- A player who withdraws from the tournament due to injury or illness, or has missed one round of competition due to injury or illness, may not re-enter or resume play at a later stage.
  - Such a player will be awarded ranking points based on their lowest possible finishing position at the time of withdrawal (e.g. withdrawing in a quarter-final = 8th place; withdrawing before an 11/12 playoff = 12th place).
- If two players decide not to play a scheduled match without a valid reason (as determined by the tournament organisers), both players will be withdrawn from the tournament and receive zero points for the tournament.
  - The allocation of zero points will count as one of each of the player's 4 best results for that season.
- 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.
  - The allocation of zero points will count as one of the player's 4 best results for that season.
  - 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.