



Ghana Badminton

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NATIONAL JUNIOR HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM PLAN

2020-2028

Ghana Badminton Association



1. Program Aims/Objectives 2020-2024

Please note the terms 'Junior High Performance Program, Squad/s or Player/s' and 'National Junior Program, Squad/s or Player/s' are used synonymously and interchangeably throughout this plan.

1.1 Overview

Badminton Association of Ghana (BAG) has a 4-year plan for its Junior High Performance Program (2020-2024). BAG will work together with National Sports Authority and Commonwealth Games Ghana to deliver a structured, targeted program to achieve BAG's performance and strategic objectives over this period. The 2022 Youth Olympic Games (YOG), the 2022 Commonwealth Youth Games and 2023/4 World Junior Championships and other continental and national Juniors events have been identified as key target events.

1.2 Key Events

- 2020 Africa Juniors Championship – Benin
- 2020 Africa Schools Championship – Tunisia, Africa
- 2020 World Junior Championships – Auckland, New Zealand
- 2021 Africa Mixed Team Championships – South Africa
- 2021 Commonwealth Youth Games – Trinidad & Tobago and sports included TBC
- 2021 Africa U19 Championships – Benin
- 2021 World Junior Championships – China
- 2022 Africa U15/U19 Championship
- 2023 World Junior Championships – USA
- 2023/24 Europe/Asia/Oceania Juniors Events
- 2023 Africa Youth Games
- 2024 Ghana International – Ghana
- 2024 Ghana International Juniors – Ghana
- 2026 Youth Olympic Games – Senegal, Africa



Player Contracts

To be part of the BA Junior High-Performance Program, players must sign a player contract committing themselves to BAG's requirements for National Junior Squad members.

Funding Allocation

- Funding support for domestic training camps will be evenly distributed across all four age groups (U19, U17, U15 & U13).
- Teams selected to be official representatives of Ghana (i.e. the Africa Series, World Junior Championships team) will receive priority in funding support.

Player Costs

- Players will be expected to cover some costs associated with participating in international junior tournaments (i.e. maximum 4 Youth International) as part of the BAG Junior High-Performance Program.

1.3 Performance Objectives

Year	Event	Proposed Target
2020	African Juniors Championship - Individual	2 Gold, 3 Silver, 3 Bronze
2020	African Juniors Championship - Team	Winner
2020	World Juniors Championship - Individual	Reach R16 in a minimum of one event
2020	World Juniors Championship - Team	Top 20 out of 60 countries and Africa's Best
2021	African Mixed Team C. - Individual	Minimum 2 Golds
2021	African Mixed Team C. - Team	Silver
2021	Commonwealth Youth Games - Individual	Trinidad/Tobago and sports included TBC
2021	Commonwealth Youth Games - Team	Trinidad/Tobago and sports included TBC
2021	World Juniors Championship - Individual	Reach R32 in a minimum of two events
2021	World Juniors Championship - Team	Top 16
2022	Commonwealth Games	Minimum 2-5 current NJS player/s
2022	Youth Olympic Games	Qualify one male and one female
2022	World Juniors Championship - Individual	Reach QF in a minimum of one event
2022	World Juniors Championship - Team	Top 16
2023	U15/U19 Events	Minimum 2 Gold, 4 Silver, 5 Bronze
2023	World Juniors Championships - Team	Quarterfinals



1.4 Strategic Objectives

To be part of the BA Junior High-Performance Program, players must sign a player contract committing themselves to BAG's requirements for National Junior Squad members.

1.4.1 Strategic Objective 1 - Player Transition

Strategic Aim - Transition a greater number of Junior money. High-Performance players into the senior High-Performance Program.

Strategic Action 1 - BAG will create and manage a pathway to and transition a greater number of Junior High-Performance players in to the Senior High-Performance Program.

Strategic Action 2 – Provide opportunities for promising U19 players BAG to train with the Senior National Squad, if any for small periods of National Junior time may be agreed.

Strategic Review – Annually quantify and compare over time the each number of active members in the BAG Senior High-Performance program that have graduated from the BAG Junior High-Performance program.

1.4.2 Strategic Objective 2 - Player Retention

Strategic Aim – Reduce the number of Junior High-Performance players that drop out of badminton, for sustained periods of times, due to academic and social reasons.

Strategic Action - BAG will investigate and look to implement a their means of retaining high performing junior program players that have and commitment issues through important academic periods, job placement and social activities.

Strategic Review – Annually quantify and compare over time how many Junior High-Performance players are dropping out of badminton at the start of the academic year.

1.4.3 Strategic Objective 3 - Tournament Exposure

Strategic Aim – Starting from 2020 increase the tournament program. exposure and tournament variety for players on the Junior High-Performance Program in all Africa Junior events, 4 European/Asia and 2 PANAM tournaments.

Strategic Action 1 - BAG will create and implement a more U19).

transparent and objective selection model which will incentivize players to participate in more tournaments (both domestic/international and junior/senior).

Strategic Action 2 - BAG will look to provide at least one opportunity annually, for members of the BAG Junior High-Performance Program to play in an international tournament, outside the Africa Region, each year.

Strategic Action 3 – BAG will provide a financial reward to the winner/s of the U19 National Individual Championships to be spent on participating in a Senior International event (Boys Singles \$200, Girls Singles \$200, Boys Doubles \$300 per pair, Girls Doubles \$300 per pair, Mixed Doubles \$300 per pair). The fund created will be reimbursed through development and international preparation and not given as prize

Strategic Review – Review the tournaments played by members of the Junior High-Performance Program twice a year (July December).

1.4.4 Strategic Objective 4 - Training Camps

Strategic Aim – Provide more opportunities for members of Junior High Performance program to train with the Coach and other players on the camping program.

Strategic Action - BAG will aim to host 1 domestic training camp year open to all players on the Junior High-Performance Program.

Strategic Review – Review and monitor the number of domestic weekly training camp hosted by BAG.

1.4.5 Strategic Objective 5 - Physical Competencies

Strategic Aim – To increase the physical competencies and awareness of all Junior High- Performance program players. Strategic Action - BAG will aim to provide sports science support and guidance to most Junior High- Performance program players on how to structure physical training, manage communication, marketing commercial manage their bodies.

Strategic Review – Physical testing to be conducted and the results analyzed at training

1.4.5 Strategic Objective 5 - Physical Competencies

Strategic Aim 1 – To increase the frequency, quality and transparency of BAG's communication for matters concerning the Junior High-Performance

Strategic Action 1 – BAG National Junior Coach/Performance Manager will aim to conduct a presentation and open forum for Junior High-Performance players, parents and coaches during each of the National Junior Championships (U15, U17 and

Strategic Action 2 – BAG National U13, U15, U17 and U19 Junior High Performance Committee will aim to visit all Junior High-Performance player's daily training environment, at least once

Strategic Measure – Junior High-Performance Committee to review and seek feedback from players, parents and coaches.

2. Program Model 2020-2028

2.1 Management and Officials

Junior High-Performance Management Committee (JHMPC)

1. Daniel Danso - Chair
2. Ivy Emefa Adai-Secretary
3. Makafui Dablu Helious
4. Agnes Abefe
5. Moses Adu
6. Ernest Awuyo-King-BAG Performance Assistant

Junior High-Performance Selection Committee (JHPC)

1. Ivy Emefa Adai
2. Jacob Evans Wilson
3. Ocansey Ahumey
4. Divine Akpeletey
5. Daniel Danso

2.2 Program Structure

The entire Junior High-Performance program will be based on being able to field 4 separate teams in a Sudirman Cup (1 BD, 1 GD, 1 XD). This is the team format commonly used in international junior and senior events. Structuring the program in this way ensures the BAG junior program is not over concentrated in any one discipline. The structure underpinning the BAG National Junior Program, can be seen below:

- BAG Junior Team (4-6 boys, 2-6 girls)
- BAG Junior Reserve Team (2-4 boys, 2-4 girls)
- BAG Junior Development Group (8-12 players)

BAG reserves the right to select a total squad size (all players) of 24, for inclusion in the National Junior Program (except at the discretion of the BAG Junior Selectors and JHPC).

2.3 National Junior Squads (NJSs)

There will be two National Junior Squads (U15 and U19) and the following names will be used:

- Progress (U17 National Squad) and Excel Group (Squad)
- Discover (U13 National Squad) and Engage Group (Squad)
- 2.4 Player Contracts
- To be part of the BAG Junior High-Performance Program, players must sign terms with parents' contract each year committing to BAG's requirements for National Junior Squad members.

2.5 Funding Allocation

- The 'Progress and Excel Group' will be the priority group for the Junior High-Performance Program and will receive career financial and development support from BAG.
- The program for the 'Discover and Engage Group' is a pay-as-you-go system. There may be occasions where BAG provides subsidies and/or contributions to cover costs associated with events/trips.
- Anticipated costs of BAG events/trips will be distributed among members of the Junior High-Performance program as



3. Program Selection Model 2020-2028

It is the responsibility of BAG to have an excellent knowledge and appreciation for the best junior players in Ghana. BAG would also like to make the selection process for the National Junior Squads more objective and transparent as usual. For this reason, BAG is introducing an automatic selection process for the National Junior Squads starting this year (2020) to fill 10 places on the program in April 2023 through the National Junior Championship.

3.1 National Junior Squad - Automatic Selection

National Junior Rankings will be formulated privately by BAG using the same points system as the Senior National Rankings at the end of the calendar year.

U19 Players (players born in 2002 or later, players born in 2001 will no longer be eligible for the National Junior Program in 2020)

1. Ghana U19 National Championships or U17 Nationals Championships.
2. One Senior International Tournament in the Africa Region.
3. One BAG Sanctioned tournament, in your region.
4. One BAG Sanctioned Open tournament, outside your region.
5. One BWF Sanctioned Junior International Tournament (U17 or U19)10
6. One BAG Sanctioned U19 tournament, inside your home region (exc. National Junior Championships).

U15 Players (players born in 2006 or later)

1. Ghana U15 National Championships
2. Ghana U17 Nationals Championships or U19 National Championships.
3. One BAG Sanctioned Junior tournament, inside your home region (U17 or U19, exc. National Junior Championships).
4. One BAG Sanctioned Open tournament, inside your home region.
5. One BAG Sanctioned Junior tournament, outside your home region (U17 or U19, exc. National Championships)
6. One BWF Sanctioned Junior International Tournament (U15, U17 or U19). 2 U15 singles players (the top boy & girl) will be automatically be invited for the NJS in 2020. 4 U19 singles players (the top 2 boys & 2 girls) will be automatically be invited for the NJS in 2020. 4 U19 doubles players (the top 2 boys & 2 girls) will be automatically be invited for the NJS in 2020.

If you do not play in some of the tournament types specified in the lists above, only your relevant results will be counted. There is no minimum or maximum number of tournaments a player can play, but only the best results (determined by ranking points) from the tournament types above will be counted. If a player is ranked in the top 2 for singles and ranked in the top 2 for doubles, the 3rd highest ranked singles player will also

be automatically selected. If both the top 2 ranked singles players are also ranked in the top 2 for doubles, the 3rd highest ranked singles player and the 3rd highest ranked doubles player will also be automatically selected.

For U19 players born in 2001 that are graduating from the National Junior Program in 2020:

If you are ranked in the top 2 at U19 in singles and/or doubles you will automatically be offered a place on the 'Incentive Program' within the BAG Senior HighPerformance Program from 2020. The 'Incentive Program' will be introduced to the Senior High-Performance Program with the aim of incentivizing players to compete in international tournaments through a financial reward-based model for achieving certain results. To be part of the program players are required to train with the Senior National Squad when invited. Further details and conditions of the Incentive Program will be shared where necessary. BAG invite players from outside this framework per competence and relevance.

3.2 National Junior Squad - Development Selection

BAG reserves the right to select the remaining players to make up the NJSs based on the following:

- Funding available.
- Balance of singles and doubles players within the National Junior Program.
- Balance of gender representation within the National Junior Program.
- Balance of age representation within the National Junior Program.
- Player's potential and commitment to represent Ghana at International level.
- Player's results across all BAG and BWF sanctioned tournaments within the last 12 months.
- Player's physical, technical, tactical and psychological competencies.
- Player's attitude and sportsmanship.

This is the criteria that has been used to select the entire National Junior Squad for 2020. Automatic selection will commence in 2020 based on player's tournament results in 2020.

3.3 National Junior Squad – Mid Year Selections and Removals

NJS players will be reviewed against key criteria (see 3.32) in July and December each year, starting in 2020. Players can only be introduced to or removed from the NJS at this time during the year.



3.3.1 Mid-Year Selections

New players can be invited to join the Junior High-Performance Program, based on the development selection criteria outlined above (see 3.2), providing the total number of players in the NJS remains between 16 and 24 (exceptions may apply).

3.3.2 Mid-Year Removals

BAG reserves the right to remove members of the Junior High-Performance program, in July (from 2020), in the following circumstances:

- Player has failed to meet the conditions of the BAG Junior High-Performance Contract.
- Player has achieved results below expectations of the BAG Junior High-Performance Program.
- Player results fall well below those set in their performance goals.

Players who have been removed from the Junior High-Performance Program can be re selected at the start of a new year or in July, providing the reasons for their initial removal were not due to a breach of contract conditions.

3.4 National Junior Team Selections

BAG reserves the right to select the remaining players to make up the NJSs based on the following:

- Players can only represent the Ghana National Junior Team if they are on the BAG Junior High-Performance program.
- Players will not be required to be invited for Ghana National Junior Team representation.
- BAG will select from players currently on the BAG Junior High-Performance program only.
- Only in extreme circumstances, at the discretion of the BAG Junior Selectors and JHPC, can players outside the BAG Junior High-Performance Program be selected for Ghana National Junior Teams.