



## **Selection Criteria**

2023 BWF World Junior Championships

Sept 25 - Oct 8, 2023

Washington DC, USA

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### 1. Introduction

1.1. Being selected as a National team member representing Ghana is a great honour.

Ghana Badminton (BAG) recognizes the importance of the next generation of young Ghanaian badminton players and assists in their development. BAG has established a goal of providing more support and guidance to these athletes with the vision of tremendous success on the international stage.

1.2. Only athletes named to the Junior National and/or Junior National Development Teams ("JNT" combined unless otherwise indicated throughout the balance of this document) will be eligible to compete in the Championships and/or Junior World Championships.

1.3. Athletes will be named members of the Team in August 2023 and remain members of the National Team for one full calendar year through the 2023/2024 National Championships.

1.4. All benefits and costs associated with membership in the JNT will be outlined from June 2023.

## **2. World Junior Championships**

2.1. Participation in the World Junior Championships is vital for Ghana Badminton for the following reasons-

- It provides a benchmark to compare the junior development level in Ghana with the rest of the world.
- It is an excellent development experience for athletes and coaches
- It brings key ranking points opportunities for BWF junior rankings
- It is crucial politically for Ghana Badminton to remain active in key BWF international competitions.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Time qualified for the World Championship

2.2. Tournament play at the World Junior Championships includes one Team event (Sudirman Cup style: 1MS, 1WS, 1MD, 1WD, 1XD) and Individual play in all disciplines. For Individual play, each country is restricted to the number of entries as per BWF regulations based on the previous World Junior Championships results.

2.3. Athletes selected to be part of the Junior National team may have to attend a mandatory pre-competition staging/training camp before the Junior World Championships. Should the camp be held, if a player is unable to commit to attending the duration of the training camp and the competition, they may be considered to have declined their invitation to participate in the Event.

## **3. Performance Objectives**

3.1. Junior National Team-

3.1.1. Enhance the overall level of play for Ghana's best Junior level athletes

3.1.2. Help prepare athletes for progression to the Ghanaian National Team and senior domestic and international competitions

3.1.3. Create opportunities to better develop the Ghanaian badminton system and Junior National Team program.

3.1.4. Provide training and development opportunities for international success at the Junior African and World Junior Championships

3.2. World Junior Championships-

3.2.1. Team Event- Place between 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> in the Overall Team Rankings

3.2.2. Individual Events- Two Top 16 finishes in any events combined

#### **4. Team Size World Junior Championships**

4.1. For the Team event, Ghana Badminton will invite a minimum team size of 8 athletes (4 male, four female) and a minimum of three Coaches, Two Team managers, Two Physiotherapists, four officials, Fice Media personnel and Team Security Detail personnel, assuming that enough eligible athletes elect to accept their invitations. Ghana Badminton may invite up to the maximum team size allowed by the regulations at their discretion.

4.2. Additional age-eligible athletes who meet a minimum standard (see below) will be invited to compete in the Individual competition if positions are available after considering the athletes selected for the Team event.

4.3. Personal media and personal coaches may be considered to coach in the individual event portion of the tournament, provided they meet the requirements set out by Ghana Badminton, and sufficient accreditations are available. All media and personal participation is solely by invitation of Ghana Badminton, or any private persons or coaches will provide no funding. Parents or other individuals wishing to travel with the team may do so at their expense, provided accreditation is available.

#### **5. Selection Process**

##### **5.1. TEAM EVENT**

5.1.1. Ghana Badminton will base selection for the African Junior Championships – U19

Individual Events based on athlete rankings within the final point standings are listed below. The point standings will be based on the **best three results combined** from any of the events. The qualification will be based on performance in singles, doubles and mixed doubles, with results in each discipline being used only to determine athlete rankings for that discipline (e.g. singles results will not be used to assess athlete rankings for doubles). The qualification will be determined utilizing results from the following competitions in the 2021-2024 season, which runs from Sept 1 2021, to Aug 31, 2023, and the athlete's long-term development plan, provided they meet the Juniors Championship additional regulations of not having participated in a non-sanctioned event during the calendar year.

- Junior Series Events (U19/U15)
- 2023 National Championships or the 2023 Junior National Championships.

- BWF & BAG sanctioned events from 1<sup>st</sup> June 2022 to August 2023 (Senior and U19 levels)

## 5.2. INDIVIDUAL EVENT

5.2.1. Badminton Canada will base selection for the African Junior Championships – U19 Individual Event based on athlete rankings within the final point standings listed on the website. The point standings will be based on the **best three results combined** from any of the events listed below. The qualification will be based on performance in singles, doubles and mixed doubles, with results in each of the disciplines being used only to determine athlete rankings for that discipline (e.g. singles results will not be used to assess athlete rankings for doubles). The qualification will be determined utilizing results from the following competitions in the 2022-23 season, which runs from Jun 1, 2022, to Aug 31, 2023-

- Juniors Elite Series Events (U19/U15)
- 2023 National Championships or the 2023 Junior National Championships
- BWF Senior & Junior sanctioned events from September 2022 to August 2023 (Senior and U19 levels).

5.2.2 The Ghana Badminton event structure table provides the point allocation from events hosted in Ghana that will determine selection. Ghana Badminton reserves the right to amend these point allocations based on any changes to the national or international event calendar or sanctioning of the events-

## 6. Athlete Eligibility

6.1. The World Junior Championships follow the BWF Rules for the World Junior Championships that players are eligible to compete in the World Junior Championships provided they remain **under 19 years of age** throughout the calendar year in which the World Junior Championships are held".

6.2. The following clarifies selection issues related to doubles/mixed partnerships:

For the U19 Events-

Junior (eligible player born 2005 or later) partnerships;

- For the Team event, the eligible junior will score points towards the Junior National Team selection process and **may** be considered for invitation dependent upon team needs but **will not** be chosen ahead of any higher-ranked age-eligible pairs.
- For the Individual events, the eligible junior will score points towards the Junior National Team selection process and **may** be considered for invitation based on whether or not there are other players in the same situation with whom they could be partnered. They will not be invited ahead of a higher-qualified age-eligible team.

## 7. Selection Priority

7.1. **TEAM EVENT** Only athletes who are members of the 2023-24 Junior National Team are eligible for consideration. The Team event will consist of the top-ranked U19 players for singles and pairs for doubles. Ghana Badminton will base the African Junior Championships – U19 Individual Event selection based on athlete rankings within the final point standing. The point standings will be based on the **best three results combined** from any of the events listed below. The qualification will be based on performance in singles, doubles and mixed doubles, with results in each of the disciplines being used only to determine athlete rankings for that discipline (e.g. singles results will not be used to determine athlete rankings for doubles). The qualification will be determined utilizing results from the following competitions in the 2022-23 season, which runs from Jun 1, 2022, to Aug 31, 2023-

- Junior Elite Series Events (U19/U15)
- 2023 National Championships or the 2023 Junior National Championships
- BWF Senior & Junior sanctioned events from September 2022 to August 2023 (Senior and U19 levels)

The High-Performance Committee and the team leader(s)/coach(es) will review the requirements for Ghana to field the strongest team possible for the 2023 World Junior Championships (based on expected competition) and may add athletes to the team.

7.1.1. In the interest of enhancing the "Next Generation" athletes within Ghana, should there still be slots available after the whole team has been selected, the HPC may choose to add additional athletes who would be invited to gain experience at the World Junior Championships. The athletes targeted would be first-year U19 players and/or U17 and U15 players likely to lead Team Ghana at future events. Any invitations will be entirely self-funded and solely at the discretion of the coaching team and the HPC.

## **7.2. INDIVIDUAL EVENT-**

7.2.1. Only athletes who are members of the 2023/24 Junior National Team are eligible for consideration. The number allowed for each Event in the Individual competition is dependent upon results at the World Junior Championships from the previous year (2020/21 cancelled) as follows-

7.2.1.1. Member Associations placed 1-8 in the previous World Junior Team Championships are allowed to enter a maximum:

- Men's Singles- 4 players
- Women's Singles- 4 players
- Men's Doubles- 6 players (3 pairs)
- Women's Doubles 6 players (3 pairs)
- Mixed Doubles- 8 players (4 pairs)

7.2.1.2. Member Associations entering a team in the World Junior Team Championships but not placed 1-8 are allowed to enter a maximum:

- Men's Singles- 3 players
- Women's Singles- 3 players
- Men's Doubles- 4 players (2 pairs)
- Women's Doubles- 4 players (2 pairs)
- Mixed Doubles- 6 players (3 pairs)

7.2.1.3. Member Associations not entering a team in the World Junior Team Championships are allowed to enter maximum:

- Men's Singles- 2 players
- Women's Singles- 2 players
- Men's Doubles- 2 players (1 pair)
- Women's Doubles- 2 players (1 pair)
- Mixed Doubles- 2 players (1 pair)

7.2.2. Spots for the Individual events will be prioritized to those athletes who have been named to the Team Event. In order for a Team Event athlete to be entered in an Individual event, that athlete must have finished in the top 6 (For singles and mixed) or the top 3 (for doubles) in the final points ranking, considering only age eligible athletes plus individual funded player are allowed.

7.2.3. If there are still spaces available, players/teams will be invited to compete in the Individual events based on their final ranking as per the points system in section 5.2. Invitations will be made

to players/pairs, in the order of their ranking, that fall within the top 6 singles, top 3 doubles or top 6 mixed doubles respecting the maximum allowable entries (after considering 7.2.2) listed in 7.2.1.

7.2.4. There will be no alternates named to the Individual events. If any invited athletes choose not to compete, any available spots will be filled by players who have accepted their invitations. Players in doubles events who have a partner that declines their invitation may still be partnered up with another player who has accepted their invitation at the discretion of the High-Performance Committee.

7.2.5. All athletes must prove they will be accompanied by responsible adult supervision during the entire Event.

## **8. Athlete Entry**

8.1. Ghana Badminton reserves the right to determine athlete entry by Event

8.2. Ghana Badminton reserves the right to modify athlete pairings in doubles/mixed doubles events, or create new pairings as required to create the best possible performances for the Event (s)

8.3. Athletes will be self-funded for all expenses unless Ghana Badminton is able to secure sponsorship for the Event.

## **9. Injury clause**

9.1. To be considered for selection to the World Junior Championships, the injured player must have demonstrated extraordinary results prior to or after the injury, a Doctor's certificate attesting full recovery, information from the athlete's personal coach confirming return to full capability, and provide conclusive evidence and proof that they would surpass other potential candidates.

9.2. In the case of injury arising after an athlete has been selected, but prior to departure, Ghana Badminton reserves the right to revoke selection of the athlete if, in Ghana Badminton sole discretion, the athlete's or team's performance will be compromised. Ghana Badminton reserves the right to select a player/pair based on the criteria in sections 8.1, 8.2 or 8.3 as appropriate to replace the injured athlete(s).

## **10. Selection Protocol**

10.1. Official selection to the team is via written personal correspondence (via email) and discussions

## **11. Conditions of Participation**

11.1. Prior to final team selection, athletes must abide by the following regulations:

11.1.1. Athletes who were invited to the 2023-24 Junior National Team and decline the invitation will not be eligible to compete at the 2023 BWF World Junior Championships

11.1.2. Athletes must be members in good standing with a Ghana Badminton and have paid their International Registration Fee.

11.1.3. Athletes must have paid all outstanding invoices to Ghana Badminton at least 30 days prior to departure.

11.1.4. Athletes must have signed either the Ghana Badminton National Team Member Agreement or the Ghana Badminton Conditions of Participation Agreement at least 14 days prior to departure.

11.1.5. Athletes must meet all eligibility requirements for team participation under the BWF policies governing the World Junior Championships.

11.1.6. Athletes must agree to participate in any Ghana Badminton designated camps related to this Event. Failure to comply will lead to removal from the team.

## **12. Appeal Procedure**

12.1. Athletes wishing to appeal decisions regarding team selection must follow the Ghana Badminton Appeal Procedure. Copies of the Appeal Procedure can be obtained through request to the Ghana Badminton National Office, or by downloading from the Ghana Badminton website ([www.ghanabadminton.org](http://www.ghanabadminton.org)).

## **13. Notes**

13.1. Ghana Badminton reserves the right to make adjustments to National Team programming based on financial requirements.

13.2. Ghana Badminton reserves the right to review (and change) any selection criteria or decision related to this selection process in the case of rule or policy changes from Badminton African or the BWF that affect previously published criteria or team selection decisions.



13.3. Ghana Badminton reserves the right to not send players to the World Junior Championships if it is deemed that there could be negative political, financial or safety issues.

13.4. In case of any wording discrepancies between the English and French versions of the selection criteria, the English wording takes precedence.

#### **14. Amendments & Unforeseen Circumstances**

##### **4.1. Unexpected Circumstances:**

14.1.1. Should the Ghana Badminton High Performance Committee determine that unexpected or unusual circumstances have arisen during the process of applying these Criteria, the Selection Committee shall have the full and absolute discretion to resolve the matter as it sees fit, taking into account factors and circumstances that it deems relevant.

14.1.2. Any such exercise of discretion shall be subject to the Ghanaian administrative law principles of fairness.

##### **4.2. Changes to this document:**

14.2.1. Ghana Badminton reserves the right to make changes to this document, which in its discretion are necessary. No such changes shall be made after the commencement of the first selection event unless the changes relate to the High-Performance Committee exercising its discretion under the "Unexpected Circumstances" provisions above.

14.2.2. Ghana Badminton reserves the right to review and modify this Selection Criteria or decisions related to the selection process in the case of rule or policy changes from BWF that affect the criteria set out in this document.

14.2.3. Any changes to this Selection Criteria shall be published to the Ghana Badminton website forthwith.

