



Selection Criteria 2024 African Games, March 8th – 23rd 2024, Accra-Ghana

1. Introduction-

1.1. Participation in the African Games is essential for Ghana Badminton (BAG) for the following reasons-

- It provides a benchmark for comparison to other African countries
- It brings vital ranking team ranking points opportunities for BWF rankings and part of the qualifying for the France 2024 Olympic Games
- It is an excellent development experience for athletes and coaches
- It is a multi-sport Games experience for France's 2024 Olympic Games preparation
- It is crucial politically for Ghana Badminton to remain active in key BCA International competitions

1.2. Competition at the African Games includes Mixed Team and Individual play in all five (5) disciplines-

1.2.1. Men's Singles (MS)

1.2.2. Women's Singles (WS)

1.2.3. Men's Doubles (MD)

1.2.4. Women's Doubles (WD)

1.2.5. Mixed Doubles (XD)

1.3. Each country is restricted to the number of entries as per BWF/Badminton African regulations.

A country may register a maximum of three (3) athletes for each Singles event and two pairs for each double and each mixed Doubles variation event entry.

1.4. For questions or clarifications on the contents of this document, please get in touch with our Events Director, Dr Ben Konadu, at bkonadu@ghanabadminton.org

2. Performance Objectives-

2.1. Win a medal in all five (5) disciplines and Silver in the Mixed Team Event

2.3. Have every podium athlete in at least one podium event

2.4. Earn the maximum number of BWF ranking points for France 2024 Olympic Games qualification

3. Team Size-

- 3.1. Ghana Badminton will invite athletes who have qualified via the BWF/Badminton African qualification criteria and achieve all standards outlined in this selection criteria document.
- 3.2. The maximum number of athletes for any Host country is twelve in even gender based on the Badminton African (BWF) criteria (Appendix #1- Badminton Qualification Process). The BWF criteria state that the number of quota positions will be directly determined by the overall country ranking within the African region using the November 7th (week #45) 2023 BWF World Ranking in its list submission to the event organizers.
- 3.3. The International Games & Competitions Committee Qualification System Principles dictate that irrespective of the number of athletes qualified via the BWF criteria, the Ghanaian African Team delegation may comprise 200 funded team members. The International Games & Competitions Committee (IGC) has not yet allocated funded athlete quota places to Ghana Badminton. The Ghana Badminton final number of confirmed athlete slots for the African Games will only be finalized after the Ghana Badminton quota and IGC-funded positions are guaranteed. This will be communicated as soon as possible after final confirmation.
- 3.4. Ghana Badminton will name a minimum of one (1) supporting staff to the team, in addition to a minimum of two (2) coaches. Should Ghana Badminton qualify for the total allocation of six (6) equal-gender athlete slots, Ghana Badminton will name a minimum of four (4) staff to the team, consisting of a minimum of two (2) coaches. All coaches must be in good standing with BAG, considering the future development of our sport and its long-term actionable activities.
- 3.5. Personal coaches may be considered to coach in the tournament provided they meet the requirements set out by Ghana Badminton on travels and sufficient accreditations are available from the IGC and Team Ghana Secretariat. Personal coaches are also welcome to attend the Games should adequate accreditations be unavailable. Still, there will be minimal (if any) access to the athletes without certification during the African Games. All coach participation is solely by invitation of Ghana Badminton, and Ghana Badminton will provide no funding for any personal coaches. Parents or other individuals wishing to be with the team may do so at their own expense and arrangement

4. Selection Process-

- 4.1. Selection criteria will be directly impacted by the number of qualified slots confirmed by the IGC. All guaranteed slots will be filled via the following selection process. Please note that the Team Ghana Secretariat/IGC essential athletes selection information will also be considered where necessary. Athletes and coaches are nominated, invited to a pre-camp, and selected based on performance, overall team and event tactical play, and available finances.
- 4.2. **Nominated Priority #1-** The priority is for the highest-ranked Ghanaian Men's and Women's Singles players, who are ranked in the Top 1100 in the Badminton World Federation (BWF) world rankings, and the highest-ranked Ghanaian Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles pair, who are

ranked in the Top 1100 in the BWF World rankings, according to the BWF World Ranking List published during week 45 of 2023

4.2.1. Athletes will be selected in order based on the highest BWF ranking until all qualification slots are filled, with a maximum of one per discipline. Should only one space be left and a Doubles pair be the next highest ranked, the position will go to the next eligible Singles player, all within the 1100 ranks.

4.2.2 Should only one space be left and a Doubles pair be the next highest ranked, the position will go to the next eligible player/pair, all within the 1100 ranks and should have achieved a minimum of four individual bwf sanctioned events before Week 3 of 2024.

4.3. **Priority #2-** The second priority is for all disciplines that did not have eligible athletes to fill a slot in criteria 4.2 above. Athletes/pairs for those unfilled disciplines will be invited based on the aggregate point totals from their best results and Individual Events' results in national rankings. The point totals will be their best results for events. The invitation will be based on performance in singles, doubles, and mixed doubles for both Individual Events, with aggregate results in all disciplines used to determine athlete rankings for that discipline. Mixed doubles results must be made with the same partner. Should only one slot be left, and a Doubles pair be the next highest ranked, the position will go to the next eligible Singles player.

If there is a tie in the ranking points in singles or doubles, the tiebreakers shall be as follows-

1. The last head-to-head result in an event which could be used for qualification during the qualifying period
2. The higher BWF ranking published in week 45 of 2023
3. The higher total BAG national ranking as at Week 45 of 2023

Priority #3- Should slots remain available after all the above criteria (Sections 4.1-4.3), Badminton Ghana will nominate any remaining spaces.

Priority #4- A 'wild card' may be extended to any player and will be extended an invitation at the discretion of BAG.

- The player will consistently demonstrate a clearly defined game style that is likely to be successful at the level of the event under consideration now and in the next 1-3 years.
- The player demonstrates the highest levels of commitment, professionalism and dedication towards their badminton play throughout the year in competition and training;
- The player is medically and physically ready and able to perform at the required level, and
- The player is committed to a training and competition plan appropriate for the player's age and the tournament level under consideration.
- The player is disciplined and has not brought the national federation into disrepute, including but not limited to deviant social behaviour and legal processes against the national body, to mention but a few.

5. Athlete Entry-

5.1. Ghana Badminton reserves the right to determine athlete entry by the event. Badminton Ghana will make all decisions as the governing body of the sport- especially as host for the African multi-sport event. Once onsite at the event, these decisions will revert to the staff onsite at the Games (coaching staff and team leadership)

5.2. Ghana Badminton reserves the right to modify athlete pairings in doubles/mixed doubles events.

- 5.3. Athletes will receive a one-way trip funded for BAG internal expenses unless otherwise indicated.
- 5.4. Nominated athletes and the team will adhere to a code of conduct with accompanying instructions.
- 5.5. Players or officials on BAG's barred list are not eligible for this competition.

6. Injury Clause-

- 6.1. In the case of injury arising after an athlete has been selected but before departure, Badminton Ghana reserves the right to revoke the athlete's selection if the athlete's or team's performance will be compromised in Badminton Ghana's sole discretion.
- 6.2. The naming of Alternates- Badminton Ghana will name alternates for the African team event. Should athletes be required to fill positions for any reason, BAG will revert to the selection criteria priorities above to name any needed replacements.

7. Selection Protocol-

- 7.1. Official selection to the team is through written personal correspondence (via email) from Badminton Ghana- Athletes must accept nominations in writing (via email) within five (5) business days for it to be considered as accepted. The entire team announcement will be made at a time designated by BAG after the whole team is confirmed in camp and final quotas from Team Ghana/IGC are shared.
- 7.2. For all doubles pairs being nominated and selected, both partners must accept the nomination to be considered. Should one partner decline the nomination, this then indicates that both partners are rejecting the doubles nomination, and BAG will revert to the selection criteria to nominate the next eligible pair where necessary.

8. Conditions of Participation-

- 8.1. Prior to final team selection, athletes must abide by the following regulations
 - 8.1.1. Athletes who were invited to the 2021-2024 National Team Selection events and declined the invitation will not be eligible to compete at the 2023 African Games
 - 8.1.2. Athletes must have paid all outstanding invoices to Badminton Ghana
 - 8.1.3. Athletes must have signed either the Ghana Badminton Conditions of Participation Agreement or
 - 8.1.5. Athletes must agree to participate in any Badminton Ghana-designated camps related to this event. Failure to comply will lead to removal from the team.
 - 8.1.6. Athletes must be Ghanaian citizens as per the Regulations of the African Games and have a valid Ghanaian passport that does not expire on or before March 4th, 2024.
 - 8.1.7. Athletes must sign, submit and comply with the IGC Athlete Agreement and Conditions of Participation Form, where necessary

9. Appeal Procedure-

- 9.1. Athletes wishing to appeal decisions regarding team selection must follow the Ghana Badminton Appeal Procedure. Copies of the Appeal Procedure can be obtained through a request to Ghana Badminton or by downloading from the Badminton Ghana website (www.ghanabadminton.org).

10. Notes

- 10.1. Badminton Ghana reserve the right to adjust African Games Team programming based on financial or technical requirements.
- 10.2. Badminton Ghana reserve the right to review (and change) any selection criteria or decision related to this selection process in the case of rule or policy changes.
- 10.3. Badminton Ghana reserves the right not to send players to the 2023 African Games if it is deemed that there could be possible factors like negative political, financial or safety issues.