



Selection Criteria

2026 BWF World Junior Championships

October 4 – 22, 2026 – Cairo, Egypt



1. Introduction

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

1.2. 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.

1.3. 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.

1.4. Athletes named members of the team in August 2026 will remain members of the National Team for one full calendar year through the 2026/2027 National Championships.

1.5. All benefits and costs associated with membership in the JNT will be outlined from June 2026.

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.
- 2nd time qualified for the World Championship.



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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 8th and 15th 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, 4 female) and a minimum of 3 Coaches, 2 Team managers, 2 Physiotherapists, 4 officials, 5 Media personnel, and Team Security Detail personnel, assuming enough eligible athletes elect to accept



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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, and 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 on athlete rankings within the final point standings 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 2025–2026 season (June 1, 2025, to August 31, 2026), 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)
- 2026 National Championships or the 2026 Junior National Championships
- BWF & BAG sanctioned events from June 1, 2025, to August 31, 2026 (Senior and U19 levels)



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5.2. Individual Event

5.2.1. Ghana Badminton will base selection for the African Junior Championships – U19 Individual Event 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 discipline being used only to determine athlete rankings for that discipline. The qualification will be determined utilizing results from the following competitions in the 2026–2027 season (June 1, 2025, to August 31, 2026):

- Junior Elite Series Events (U19/U15)
- 2026 National Championships or the 2026 Junior National Championships
- BWF Senior & Junior sanctioned events from June 2025 to August 2026 (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 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 U19 Events (Junior eligible player born 2005 or later):

- 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.



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- 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 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 2026–2027 Junior National Team are eligible for consideration. The Team event will consist of the top-ranked U19 players for singles and top-ranked pairs for doubles. Ghana Badminton will base selection on athlete rankings within the final point standings, using the best three results combined from any of the events listed below. Qualification will be based on performance in singles, doubles, and mixed doubles, with results in each discipline used only for that discipline. Competitions considered (June 1, 2025, to August 31, 2026):

- Junior Elite Series Events (U19/U15)
- 2026 National Championships or the 2026 Junior National Championships
- BWF Senior & Junior sanctioned events from June 2025 to August 2026

The High-Performance Committee (HPC) and the team leader(s)/coach(es) will review the requirements for Ghana to field the strongest team possible for the 2026 World Junior Championships and may add athletes to the team.

7.1.1. In the interest of enhancing the "Next Generation" athletes within Ghana, should slots remain after the team has been selected, the HPC may choose to add additional athletes 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 such 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 2026–2027 Junior National Team are eligible for consideration. The number allowed for each Event in the Individual competition depends on results at the previous year's World Junior Championships:

7.2.1.1. Member Associations placed 1–8 in the previous World Junior Team Championships may enter a maximum of:

- 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 but not placed 1–8 may enter a maximum of:

- 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 may enter a maximum of:

- 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 athletes named to the Team Event. 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 top 3 (for doubles) in the final points ranking, considering only age-eligible athletes plus individually funded players.

7.2.3. If spaces remain, players/pairs will be invited to compete in the Individual events based on their final ranking (points system in section 5.2). Invitations will be made in ranking order, within the top 6 singles, top 3 doubles, or top 6 mixed doubles, respecting maximum allowable entries after considering section 7.2.2.

7.2.4. There will be no alternates named to the Individual events. If invited athletes decline, spots will be filled by players who have accepted their invitations. Players in doubles events whose partner declines may be partnered with another accepted player at the discretion of the HPC.

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, an injured player must have demonstrated extraordinary results prior to or after the injury, provide a Doctor's certificate attesting full recovery, provide 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 if, in Ghana Badminton's 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 (email) and discussions.

11. Conditions of Participation

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

11.1.1. Athletes who were invited to the 2026–2027 Junior National Team and decline the invitation will not be eligible to compete at the 2026 BWF World Junior Championships.

11.1.2. Athletes must be members in good standing with 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.



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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 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 by request to the Ghana Badminton National Office or by download from the Ghana Badminton website (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 Africa or the BWF that affect previously published criteria or team selection decisions.

13.3. Ghana Badminton reserves the right not to 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

14.1. 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 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 Ghanaian administrative law principles of fairness.

14.2. 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 HPC 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 on the Ghana Badminton website forthwith.

ISSUED MAY 24 2026