

REGULATION 27 - NATIONAL JUNIOR RANKING POLICY 13 - 19 YEAR AGE GROUPS

(4th December 2009)

Purpose

This National Junior Ranking Policy describes the process to be followed by Squash players and organisations in Australia to allow the creation and publishing of Junior Rankings and where necessary their Appeal.

Qualification Requirements for a National Junior Ranking

1. In order to receive a National Junior Ranking, a player must meet the following requirements:
 - a. Be an Australian Citizen or Permanent Resident not ranked by another national Squash Association or with PSA or WISPA under any other nationality.
 - b. Have a State/Territory ranking on the last ranking list issued by the relevant State/Territory Association.
 - c. Have participated in either the last Australian Junior Championships or a minimum of one National Junior Series tournament in the last 12 months; and
 - d. Have participated in at least one State/Territory Championship in the last 12 months.

Should the National Selection Panel (NSP) determine a player warrants a National Ranking and the player does not meet any or all of Qualification Requirements 1b., 1c., 1d., the NSP will retain the flexibility to rank an individual player where the player has demonstrated sufficient current results to warrant inclusion.

Procedure for establishing National Junior Rankings

2. The NSP shall strictly adhere to the following criteria and procedures when carrying out rankings for age groups 13 to 19 years. They shall consider the different criteria in descending order of priority as shown below.
3. When determining new National Junior Rankings, the NSP will take the existing National Junior Rankings and the previous National Junior Rankings into consideration for all relevant age groups – i.e. the last two rankings. A heavier weighting shall be given to the existing ranking than to the previous one.
4. Major competition results since last ranking. The NSP shall consider the results of the following competitions and championships:
 - a. Australian Junior Individual and Team Championships;
 - b. National Junior Series Tournaments;
 - c. State and Territory Championships;
 - d. Major overseas tournaments.

All results from the above tournaments are to be taken into consideration, not just the finishing positions.

5. State / Territory rankings since the last National Junior Rankings.
6. Any other results that have been received by the NSP including overseas and senior tournaments.

Dates for National Junior Rankings to be Issued

7. National Junior Rankings will be issued four (4) times a year as at the following dates:
 - * 1 February (will reflect new age groups as at 1 January)
 - * 1 May (will include the results of the National Junior Series Events)
 - * 1 August (will include the results of the State/Territory Junior Championships)

* 1 November (will include the results of the Australian Junior Championships)

8. Squash Australia will post new rankings on its website and distribute them to Member State/Territory Associations and other appropriate people during the first week of the relevant month – i.e. February, May, August, and November.

Number of Players to be Ranked

9. Whenever possible, a maximum of 16 males and 16 females shall be ranked. In the event that the NSP consider that there are insufficient results or insufficient players to warrant a national ranking in a particular age group, they shall be entitled to rank less than 16.

Ranking of Players in a Higher Age Group

10. A player may be ranked in an age group above his/her own age group, when, in the opinion of the NSP, there are sufficient results to enable that player to be legitimately ranked in the older age group and the player is ranked in the older age group by his/her State/Territory Association.

11. This does not necessarily mean that a particular player has to play in an older age group in order to be ranked in that age group.

Number of Age Groups in which a Player may be Ranked

12. There is no limit on the number of age groups in which a player may be ranked. This will be left to the discretion of the NSP.

Deadline for Receipt of Information

13. The deadlines for receipt of information in the Squash Australia office are shown at paragraph 16 below. Information received after these dates will not be considered and in the event of an appeal against a ranking, information not received by the deadline will not be considered in the appeal.

14. One day after the date that has been set as the deadline for receipt of information, Squash Australia will forward the State/Territory information to the NSP for consideration.

The Responsibilities of State and Territory Associations

15. State/Territory Associations have a very important role to play in the national ranking process by providing the required information to Squash Australia on time and by producing accurate State rankings consistent with this national policy.

16. For the NSP to produce rankings that accurately position all eligible players, State and Territory Associations are requested to provide their State rankings to Squash Australia by the following deadlines (see paragraph 13 above):

- * 20 January – will reflect age group changes
- * 15 March – to allow accurate seeding for the National Junior Series
- * 20 July – to be used for the August ranking
- * 20 October – to be used for the November ranking

17. Provide State rankings for the following age groups: 13, 15, 17 and 19.

18. Rank players in age groups above their own age group when sufficient results are available to enable accurate National Junior Rankings to be done.

Procedure for Lodging an Appeal

19. An Appeal will only be considered if it is lodged within 14 days of the ranking list being issued to State / Territory Associations. Rankings will be sent by email.

20. An Appeal must be lodged on the official Squash Australia Appeal Form and is to be sent by email, fax or post. A separate form must be lodged for each appeal and is available from the Squash Australia website.

21. An Appeal may be lodged by a player or a player's parent or guardian if the player is less than 18 years of age or by a representative of the player's home State or Territory Association authorised by the player or his/her parent or guardian. An Appeal lodged by anyone else will not be accepted.

22. An Appeal that is submitted on the official form with appeal application funds paid within the required time will be examined by the Chief Executive Officer and subject to meeting the requirements of this policy, he/she will establish an Appeal Committee to consider the matter. The Appeal Committee will generally:

- comprise three persons;
- be independent of the NSP, the player and the affected player's member association;
- have experience at State and or National level in the Ranking of Squash players.

23. The Appeal Committee is required to consider the Appeal objectively, fairly and thoroughly. It shall review all information that was received or held by Squash Australia at the time such information was forwarded to NSP. Information not held by Squash Australia at this time shall not be considered in the Appeal.

24. The Appeal Committee shall inform the Chief Executive Officer, in writing of the outcome of the Appeal and provide a brief report explaining the committee's decision. This report will not be forwarded to the appellant or the State Association.

25. The appellant will be notified in writing of the Appeal outcome by the Chief Executive Officer or his representative. Neither the Appeal Committee nor any other representative of Squash Australia shall be required to provide a detailed explanation or justification of the decision.

26. A copy of the Ranking Appeal Form is attached as Annex A.

Appeals Administration Fee

27. An administration fee of \$200 is to be paid for each appeal against the Rankings. All or part of the fee will be reimbursed, if the Squash Australia Appeals Committee finds for the appellant.

Regulation Version Control	
Original	12 April 2005
Version Two	4 December 2009

**SQUASH AUSTRALIA
RANKING APPEAL FORM**

Player's Name: _____

Age Group: _____

Female / Male

State / Territory: _____

Grounds for appeal:

Name of Person/s Lodging Appeal (see below):

Authorised by:

Appellant Address: _____

Phone No: Email address:

Note:

1. An appeal may be lodged by a player or a player's parent or guardian if the player is less than 18 years of age or by a representative of the player's home State or Territory Association authorised by the player or his/her parent or guardian. An Appeal lodged by anyone else will not be accepted.
2. An administration fee of \$200 is to be paid for an appeal against a ranking. All or part of the fee will be reimbursed if the Appeal is upheld.