

# National Championship Eligibility

The College Squash Association hosts annual team and individual championships for men and women.

These guidelines apply for both women's and men's tournaments.

## NATIONAL TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

Championship Calendar: The College Squash Association championships typically occur in late February through early March.

The National Team Championships are divided into two weekends. During the first weekend, men's teams in the C – H Divisions and women's teams in the C – F Divisions compete at the same location. During the second weekend, men's and women's teams in the A and B Divisions compete at the same location. During both weekends, men's and women's matches are not typically played concurrently.

The Men's and Women's Individual Championships are each divided into six divisions.

**Minimum Number of Matches:** To be eligible to compete in the National Team Championships, teams must compete in a minimum number of matches.

Varsity teams are required to play ten (10) matches against other CSA teams to enter team championships. At minimum, each team should have at least 6 different opponents. Varsity teams should play the majority of their matches against other varsity schools.

Club teams are required to play eight (8) matches against other CSA teams to enter team championships. In addition, club teams must play at least four (4) matches between January 1st and February 10th. At minimum, each team should have at

least five (5) different opponents.

Teams entering the Emerging Teams Division of the National Team Championships should compete in three (3) five-person matches during the regular season. Teams may only enter the Emerging Teams Division for two consecutive seasons.

**Official Entry into the National Team Championships:** All varsity teams will automatically be entered in the National Team Championships. The remaining spots in the event will be selected based on a declaration of their intent to play the National Team Championships and team rankings at the end of the regular season.

Each season, club teams must declare their intent to compete in the National Team Championships to the College Squash Association by January 15th.

Each varsity and club team must submit payment for the National Team Championships by the deadline and compete in the minimum number of matches to be eligible for the event.

**Line-ups for National Team Championships:** Each team must submit final line-ups to the Tournament Director by noon (EST) on the Monday prior to the start of that team's championship weekend.

Teams may submit line-ups of 11 players; however, only the top 10 players are eligible to compete in the top 9 ladder positions. Unless a petition for an exemption is made to the Tournament Director, teams must submit and bring at least 9 players to Team Championships.

If multiple players in the top 9 ladder positions are injured during the tournament and are unable to compete, a petition for an exemption may be made to the Tournament Director. Please note that exemptions will be extremely rare.

Each season, the Tournament Director and the Executive Committees will determine the status of the exhibition match between the #10s. If the match is played, it may be best of three games.

All line-ups will be posted for review on the Monday evening prior to a team's championship weekend. Coaches have until 5:00 PM on Tuesday to protest a team line-up to the Tournament Director. The Tournament Director and Executive Committee will review all protests and make a decision on each one by Wednesday at noon and communicate the results to the impacted membership.

As a general rule, late changes will not be allowed, and players may not be added to the roster after the deadline. Any proposed late ladder changes (occurring past the posting deadline on that Monday) must be explained by the coach, reviewed by the Executive Committee, and approved before the start of the event. The coach is

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responsible for providing the necessary information to the committee. In the case of line-ups not being submitted on time, the last used line-up in an official intercollegiate CSA dual match will be the one used in the tournament by that team. If a team that did not submit a line-up by the deadline appeals their own line-up, a monetary penalty {link} must be paid.

**Divisions:** Teams shall be placed in divisional brackets based on their final ranking of the regular season.

For the Men's National Team Championships, teams are divided into nine (9) nine-player divisions:

- Potter Cup (A Division) – For teams ranked 1st – 8th
- Hoehn Cup (B Division) – For teams ranked 9th – 16th
- Summers Cup (C Division) – For teams ranked 17th – 24th
- Conroy Cup (D Division) – For teams ranked 25th – 32nd
- Chaffee Cup (E Division) – For teams ranked 33rd – 40th
- Serues Cup (F Division) – For teams ranked 41st – 48th
- Hawthorn Cup (G Division) – For teams ranked 49th – 56<sup>th</sup>
- H Division – For teams ranked 57<sup>th</sup> – 64<sup>rd</sup>

For the Women's National Team Championships, teams are divided into six (6) nine-player divisions:

- Howe Cup (A Division) – For teams ranked 1st – 8th
- Kurtz Cup (B Division) – For teams ranked 9th – 16th
- Walker Cup (C Division) – For teams ranked 17th – 24th
- Epps Cup (D Division) – For teams ranked 25th – 32nd
- E Division – For teams ranked 33rd – 40<sup>th</sup>
- F Division – For teams ranked 41<sup>st</sup> - 48<sup>th</sup>

Initial matches shall be based upon the seeding in each division. For example, in an eight-team division, the initial match-ups will be as follows:

- Team 1 plays team 8
- Team 2 plays team 7
- Team 3 plays team 6
- Team 4 plays team 5

If needed, the lowest nine-player division of each National Team Championship may be played as a round robin.

The Emerging Teams Division of each National Team Championship is for newly formed teams. The Emerging Teams Division will have a maximum of six (6) teams. Each team in this division is composed of five (5) players. The format for this division will vary based on the number of entries.

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Introductions: For non-divisional finals, both teams will introduce their entire squads followed by a group acknowledgement. For example, Team A introduces players #9 through #1, and then Team B introduces players #9 through #1. After the conclusion of Team B's introductions, all players acknowledge their opponents.

For division finals, each team will alternate introducing players. For example, Team A will introduce player #9, then team B will introduce player #9. Team A's and Team B's #9s will greet the other player, acknowledge the opponent's coaches and captains, and acknowledge their teammates. This pattern will repeat for the remaining players.

## INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

For the Men's and Women's Individual Championships, each varsity school is guaranteed one (1) entry.

If a team only sends one (1) player to Individual Championships, this player must have represented their team in the top three ladder positions at Team Championships.

Remaining positions for the Individual Championships are based on the most recent individual rankings.

A team may only enter up to nine (9) players in the individual championships.

If a college student from a school without a team wants to enter the Individual Championships, they must present their match record to the Executive Committee for review. After reviewing the documentation, the Executive Committee will determine if the player will receive an entry into the Individual Championships.

Players and coaches must be available for all assigned match times. Please note that no special accommodations (court changes, time changes, etc.) will be made.

The A flights of the men's (Pool Trophy) and women's (Ramsay Cup) individual championships will be 16-person draws.

For both the men's and women's individual championships, players seeded 17<sup>th</sup> - 64<sup>th</sup> will be divided into four draws.

- Draw 1 will be composed of the players seeded 17, 21, 25, 29, 33, 37, 41, 45, 49, 53, 57, 61
- Draw 2 will be composed of the players seeded 18, 22, 26, 30, 34, 38, 42, 46, 50, 54, 58, 62

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- Draw 3 will be composed of the players seeded 19, 23, 27, 31, 35, 39, 43, 47, 51, 55, 59, 63
- Draw 4 will be composed of the players seeded 20, 24, 28, 32, 36, 40, 44, 48, 52, 56, 60, 64

Unless there is a hardship waiver in the top-16 post-individual championship rankings, the winners of Draws 1, 2, 3, and 4 will be ranked 17th, 18th, 19th and 20<sup>th</sup> in the final individual rankings of the season.

### **HOSTING THE NATIONAL TEAM OR INDIVIDUAL CHAMPIONSHIPS**

To host the National Team Championships, the following criteria must be satisfied:

- The host school or schools must have at least fourteen (14) courts and at least one (1) exhibition court with seating for at least two hundred and fifty (250) people.
- Within close proximity, other facilities must be available to host matches. The Men's National Team Championship requires at least 36 courts, while the Women's National Team Championships requires at least 14 courts.
- Each facility used must be able to accommodate large crowds.
- Each facility must be able to provide medical and training staff accommodations.
- Each facility must be able to provide sufficient parking.
- Ample hotels and restaurants should be within close proximity of each facility.

To host the Individual Championships, the following criteria must be satisfied:

- The host school must have at least ten (10) courts in a single location.
- The host school must have at least one (1) exhibition court that may accommodate one hundred (100) spectators.
- The facility must be able to provide medical and training staff accommodations.
- The facility must be able to provide sufficient parking.
- Ample hotels and restaurants should be within close proximity of the facility.

If schools are interested in hosting the National Team or Individual Championships, they should contact the [CSA](#).

For the Women's Individual Championships, the number of entries is based on the results from the National Team Championships:

Teams 1 - 6 are guaranteed four (4) entries

Teams 7 - 12 are guaranteed three (3) entries

Teams 13 -18 are guaranteed two (2) entries

All other varsity teams are guaranteed one (1) entry