



## **JUNIOR NATIONALS PARTICIPATION POLICY**

Tennis Canada provides programs and benefits for high performance athletes who participate in the Junior Nationals and meet designated performance standards.

Adhering to the Junior Nationals Participation policy is a requirement to be eligible for the programs and benefits listed below:

- Wild Card Assistance
- Sponsorship Assistance
- International Tours
- International Team Event Selections
- National Training Camps
- Full-time Montreal NTC or RTC Programs in the regions
- Sport Canada Carding Program

### **Junior Nationals Participation Policy - U12, U14, U16, U18 Athletes**

Athletes may enter the system and become eligible for program and benefit consideration after competing in both the Indoor and the Outdoor Junior Nationals. Once in the system and receiving benefits athletes must adhere to the Junior Nationals Participation Policy outlined below. In addition, athletes receiving Sport Canada carding must maintain eligibility throughout the entire yearly carding cycle by meeting the Junior Nationals Participation policy requirements.

Participation Policy: Athletes must make themselves available and compete in both the Indoor and Outdoor Junior National Championships in any age division annually unless they apply for and are granted an exemption.

### **Exemptions Overview**

Athletes may be eligible for an exemption from meeting the Junior Nationals Participation Policy for reasons that may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Injury or illness
- Family bereavement
- Representing Canada at a major international event at the same time as the Junior Nationals
- Unforeseen circumstances

Also, previous Junior National Champions who have met the published Performance Standards (U12, or 1<sup>st</sup> year U14) or the SILVER published Performance Standards (2<sup>nd</sup> yr. U14 through U18) will be strongly considered for an exemption should they apply.



The Tennis Canada high performance staff has been granted the authority to use discretion while applying the guidelines above due to the ever-changing nature of our sport and the difficulty in capturing all scenarios.

### **Exemption Request Process**

**Injury/Illness:** Players are required to submit a written medical certificate clearly indicating that participation in the Junior Nationals is not possible and outlining the injury, prognosis, and recovery plan. The medical certificate is to be reviewed and signed by designated Tennis Canada high performance staff prior to submission.

**Representing Canada/Family Bereavement/Unforeseen Circumstance:** Players are to submit a written request outlining the circumstances to be considered. Players training at the Montreal NTC or RTC (BC)/RTC (ON) Programs are also to advise one of the national coaches.

All written exemption requests are to be submitted to the Janet Petras (Director High Performance Programs and Administration) at [jpetras@tenniscanada.com](mailto:jpetras@tenniscanada.com) one (1) month prior to the Indoor or Outdoor Junior Nationals in question. The requests will be reviewed and approved by Tennis Canada's high performance staff.