



## 2022 YOUNG PRO SQUAD

### SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

*Golf Canada is carefully following the evolution of COVID-19 and how it may impact selection for 2021-2022 player development programs. Golf Canada has modified selection criteria to account for the impact of COVID-19, and reserves the right to modify the selection criteria further if circumstances continue to change because of the pandemic. Any modifications will be promptly communicated. For 2022 and beyond, once the impact of the pandemic has subsided, Golf Canada will review and potentially further modify selection criteria.*

#### 1. Introduction

The objective of the Golf Canada Young Pro Squad (YPS) program is to help Canada's top amateur players transition to professional golf with the goal of becoming PGA TOUR and LPGA members. The structure and objectives of the program – including the number of players supported and the nature of the support provided to players – are presently under strategic review.

The selection process outlined in this document seeks to identify Canadian prospects with the best chance of benefitting from the resources provided by the YPS program in their journey to the PGA TOUR and LPGA.

The selection criteria outlined in this document will serve as the basis on which all players are selected for the men's and women's YPS program. Selection will occur in the month of December and players will be notified of their selection in January. The Selection Committee will review these criteria on a yearly basis.

#### 2. Prerequisites to selection

To be selected for the YPS, players must meet the following prerequisites:

- a. Must be a Canadian Citizen or a Permanent Resident of Canada who intends and will be able to become a Canadian Citizen by the time they reach the PGA TOUR or LPGA.
- b. Must be in the first five (5) years of professional career to enter the YPS for the first time.

*Due to the impact of COVID-19 on playing opportunities in women's professional golf, female professional players beyond the five year threshold may be considered for 2021-2022.*

#### 3. Definitions

**Golf Canada-YPS** – Golf Canada Young Pro Squad

**Staff** – Coach(es) and Integrated Support Team (IST) of the Golf Canada-YPS. These individuals are integrally involved and responsible for the continuing development of the player.

**Squad Member Agreement** – The mandatory annual agreement entered into by each player and Golf Canada for each season.



**Selection Committee** – The committee responsible for player selection. The Selection Committee is comprised of the Chief Sport Officer, the Manager of High Performance Sport, the Men’s Young Pro Squad Head Coach, the Women’s Young Pro Squad Head Coach, one member of the Sport Committee, one representative from the PGA of Canada, and one representative with expertise in professional golf. The Golf Canada Chief Sport Officer shall be the Chair of the Selection Committee.

**WAGR** – World Amateur Golf Rankings, as conducted by the R&A and USGA.

**WR** – Professional world rankings for men and women, specifically the Official World Golf Ranking (OWGR) for the men and the Women’s World Golf Rankings (Rolex Rankings) for the women.

#### 4. Prerequisite criteria

The prerequisite criteria have been established to identify Canadian golfers who should be considered for selection to the Golf Canada-YPS. Subject to certain exceptions set out in section 6, a player must meet these prerequisite criteria to be named to the Golf Canada-YPS, but meeting these criteria **does not** mean that a player will automatically be selected to the Golf Canada-YPS.

- a. If male, in order to be considered for selection, a player must have attained a WR of 1200 or better within their first two years as a professional or achieved a Top 100 ranking in the WAGR at anytime in the player’s last two years of his amateur career prior to selection or have status on any of the PGA TOUR or European Tour sanctioned tours (including the Korn Ferry, Forme, Latinoamerica, China, Mackenzie and Challenge Tours) in the current selection year or upcoming year.
- b. If female, in order to be considered for selection, a player must have attained a WR of 600 or better within their first two years as a professional or achieved a Top 75 ranking in the WAGR at any time in the player’s last two years of her amateur career prior to selection or have status on the Symetra Tour, LET or LPGA in the current year or upcoming year. *Due to the impact of COVID-19 on playing opportunities in women’s professional golf, exceptions to this policy may be considered for 2021-2022.*
- c. If a graduating amateur has attained a WAGR of top 25 in the world or better, the player will receive strong consideration for selection to the Golf Canada-YPS.

#### 5. Additional selection criteria

After considering the prerequisite criteria in section 4, the Selection Committee will evaluate the following factors:

- a. WR and WAGR ranking position and progress.
- b. Top performances such as wins and top ten finishes in professional events. For graduating amateurs, results in amateur events will be considered with finishes in higher-ranked WAGR events given more weight.
- c. Head-to-head results, providing a minimum of three common rounds were played.
- d. Data Golf “True Strokes Gained” ranking (men’s YPS selection only, due to current data availability constraints).
- e. Evaluation by Golf Canada coaches and high-performance staff. Information to aid these evaluations may also be gathered from provincial associations, college coaches, and other sources.



Extenuating circumstances caused by injury, illness, maternity leave or schedule impacts caused by COVID-19 will be taken into consideration.

## **6. Selection process**

Golf Canada-YPS selections will occur according to the following process:

- a. A selection meeting will take place via conference call chaired by the Chief Sport Officer.
- b. Players under consideration will first be identified using the prerequisite criteria in section 4.
- c. Players will then be selected using the additional criteria in section 5.
- d. The Selection Committee will rank the squad in order of selection (by gender) and recommend selections to the Golf Canada Foundation for approval.
- e. The Golf Canada Foundation will ratify selection of the Golf Canada-YPS.
- f. The Chief Sport Officer or their designee will notify all selected players in writing of their selection.
- g. The Squad Member Agreement will be forwarded to all selected players, who must confirm their participation on the YPS by signing and submitting the agreement to the Manager, High Performance Sport within one week of receipt.
- h. Players who do not return the Squad Member Agreement within one week may lose their position on the YPS.

## **7. Appeal procedure**

The Appeal Policy and Procedure can be viewed or downloaded from the Golf Canada website:  
<https://d34oo5x54o72bd.cloudfront.net/app/uploads/2021/04/7.SSP-Appeal-Policy-and-Procedure.pdf>