



2022-2023 TEAM CANADA – NEXTGEN

SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS

1. Introduction

The objective of Team Canada – NextGen is to provide resources and support to help developing Canadian junior and young amateur golfers maximize their potential and eventually reach the LPGA or PGA TOUR.

Previously called the “National Junior Squad”, Team Canada – NextGen was expanded to include players who recently aged out of junior eligibility and in some cases haven’t accumulated an extensive amateur record to be selected to Team Canada. Expanding the age eligibility of the Team Canada – NextGen ensures continuity of support for Canada’s top professional golf prospects.

The selection criteria published in this document outline how a player can be selected to Team Canada – NextGen depending on whether they fall into the following three categories:

- a) **Category A – “Not in College”**. The player is not playing college golf in fall 2022, and is either junior-aged (i.e., has not reached their 19th birthday by August 1st, 2022) or is a U21 amateur (i.e., players who have not reached their 21st birthday by August 1st, 2022) taking a gap year or additional secondary schooling such as CEGEP. These players may be selected based on an automatic exemption as outlined in section 4 or through the NextGen Selection Camp as outlined in section 5.
- b) **Category B – “Incoming College Freshman”**. The player is entering their first year of college golf in fall 2022. Due to their college schedules, these players are not able to attend the NextGen Selection Camp and therefore may be selected based on an automatic exemption as outlined in 4 or through the criteria outlined in section 6.
- c) **Category C – “Returning College Player”**. The player is entering their second year or third year of college golf in fall 2022 *and* is a U21 amateur (i.e., has not reached their 21st birthday by August 1st, 2022). Due to their college schedules, these players are not able to attend the NextGen Selection Camp and therefore may be selected based on an automatic exemption as outlined in section 4 or through the criteria outlined in section 7.

Note: *a player who is a freshman or sophomore but 21 or older as of August 1, 2022, may still be considered for selection if they had previously taken a gap year or attended CEGEP.*

Selection for Team Canada – NextGen will be completed by October 1, 2022. The Sport Committee will review these selection criteria on a yearly basis.

2. Prerequisites to selection

To be selected to Team Canada – NextGen, all players must meet the following prerequisites:

- a) Must be a Canadian Citizen or a Permanent Resident of Canada who is intending to obtain Canadian citizenship. (*Note: To receive Sport Canada AAP funding or play in International Team Championships, [IGF Nationality Policy](#) specifies that a player must be a Canadian Citizen*).
- b) Must be an amateur golfer under the Rules of Amateur Status at time of selection.
- c) Must not be subject to any disciplinary process or sanction of Golf Canada.

- d) Must be in compliance with the Canadian Anti-Doping Policy (CADP).

3. Definitions

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

Junior-aged – A player who has not reached their 19th birthday by August 1st, 2022.

U21 amateur – A player who has not reached their 21st birthday by August 1st, 2022. *Note: If a player is in CEGEP, they are exempt from the age threshold provided they complete CEGEP in a maximum of three years.*

Selection camp – The National Team Canada – NextGen Selection Camp to take place from September 8-11, 2022 at TPC Toronto in Caledon, Ont. at which non-collegiate players are invited to try out for spots on Team Canada – NextGen.

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 Team Canada – NextGen Head Coach, the Team Canada – NextGen Assistant Coaches, and additional representatives with expertise in elite amateur or professional golf. The Golf Canada Chief Sport Officer shall be the Chair of the Selection Committee.

SC – Sport Committee of Golf Canada.

Staff – Coach(es) and Integrated Support Team (IST) of TC – NextGen. These individuals are integrally involved and responsible for the continuing development of the player.

TC – NextGen – Team Canada – NextGen

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

4. Automatic selection criteria

If an eligible player meets the criteria below, they will automatically earn a spot to join TC – NextGen.

- a) Winner of the 2022 Canadian Junior Girls and Boys Championships.
- b) Winner of the 2022 Canadian Women's and Men's Amateur Championships.
- c) The top-ranked Canadian junior-aged girl on WAGR as of August 25, 2022, provided their ranking is 600 or better and their applied divisor is at least 9.
- d) The top-ranked Canadian junior-aged boy on WAGR as of August 25, 2022, provided their ranking is 1200 or better and their applied divisor is at least 10.
- e) Playing members of the 2022 World Amateur Teams.

5. How Category A players ("Not in College") are selected for TC-NextGen

Category A players are not playing college golf during the fall of 2022 and are either junior-aged or U21 amateurs. Unless a player meets the automatic selection criteria outlined in section 4, Category A players must qualify for TC – NextGen through the selection camp.

a) Invitation criteria for the selection camp

Eligible players who meet any of the following criteria will automatically be invited to the selection camp:

- i) Players who meet the criteria for automatic selection in section 4 to Team Canada – NextGen. These players may attend and participate in the selection camp at their own discretion.
- ii) Age eligible members of 2022 Team Canada – NextGen (i.e., currently called “National Junior Squad”).
- iii) Any junior girls ranked within the top-1000 on the WAGR and any junior boys ranked within the top-2000 on WAGR as of August 11th, 2022.
- iv) 2022 Canadian National Juvenile Champions (boys and girls).
- v) Champions from each of the ten Provincial Association junior or amateur championships from 2022, provided the winner is age-eligible for TC – NextGen, the winning total score is even par or better, and the championship has concluded before August 7th.

The following criteria will guide decisions to select the remaining players for invitation to the selection camp:

Provincial players – Each Provincial Association may nominate their top boys and girls who they deem to have future potential. Nominations must be submitted to Golf Canada by Thursday, August 11th. Identification by Provincial Association does not guarantee a player an invitation to the Selection Camp.

Discretionary invitations – Open application for TC – NextGen to be posted on the Golf Canada website for any age-eligible applicant to apply by Thursday, August 11th.

Extenuating circumstances caused by injury or illness will be taken into consideration.

b) Process for invitation to the selection camp

TC – NextGen selection camp invitations will be distributed according to the following process.

- i) Invitations to the selection camp will be sent out by Monday, August 15.
- ii) Players must accept or decline the invitation to the selection camp within five (5) days of receiving the invitation.
- iii) The selection camp will take place from September 8-11, 2022, at TPC Toronto in Caledon, Ont. There is no entry fee to participate in the selection camp and players will be provided with a stipend to cover travel costs.

c) Process for selection to Team Canada – NextGen from the selection camp

Players will be selected to TC—NextGen from the selection camp based on the following criteria:

- i) The winners for both boys and girls of a 54-hole competition at the selection camp will automatically be selected to TC – NextGen. If any of the winners are already qualified for TC – NextGen through other criteria, these qualifying positions will be assigned to the at-large criteria outlined below.

The rest of the players will be considered for remaining spots based on the following at-large criteria:

- ii) Results from the 2022 season (September 1, 2021, until September 11, 2022) according to event strength (based on the WAGR Power Number).
- iii) Results from the selection camp 54-hole competition.
- iv) Skills testing from the selection camp.
- v) 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.

6. How Category B players (“Incoming College Freshman”) are selected to TC – NextGen

Category B players are in their first year of college starting in the fall of 2022 and may be junior-aged or U21 amateurs. The purpose of including college freshman as part of TC—NextGen is to support players as they transition out of junior golf and into amateur golf.

a) Process for selection

Category B players who are not already exempt under section 4 will be considered for selection based on the following criteria:

- i) Junior and amateur results from the 2022 season (September 1, 2021 until September 11, 2022) according to event strength (based on the WAGR Power Number).
- ii) WAGR ranking as of September 11, 2022, and progression relative to age and experience
- iii) 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.

7. How Category C players (“Returning College Player”) are selected to TC – NextGen

Category C players are in their second or third year of college starting in the fall of 2022 *and* are U21 amateurs. The purpose of including college players as part of TC-NextGen is to support players as they transition out of junior golf and into amateur golf.

a) Eligibility

In order to be considered for selection, Category C players must meet the following WAGR ranking thresholds:

- i) For women, WAGR ranking of 600 or better as of September 11, 2022, provided the applied divisor is at least 9.
- ii) For men, WAGR ranking of 1000 or better as of September 11, 2022, provided the applied divisor is at least 10.

b) Process for selection

Category C players who meet the WAGR thresholds in section 7a) and are not already exempt under Section 4 will be considered for selection based on the following criteria:

- i) Amateur results from the 2022 season (September 1, 2021 until September 11, 2022) according to event strength (based on the WAGR Power Number).
- ii) WAGR ranking as of September 11, 2022, and progression relative to age and experience
- iii) 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.

8. Team Canada—NextGen process for selection

- a) A selection meeting will take place via conference call chaired by the Chief Sport Officer the week following the TC—NextGen selection camp.

- b) Players will be selected according to criteria outlined above based on their respective category.
- c) The Selection Committee will rank the squad in order of selection and recommend selections to the Sport Committee. Younger players with demonstrated potential derived from factors including their WAGR progression relative to age or results in high-level events will be prioritized when ranking the order of the squad.
- d) The Sport Committee will ratify selection of TC—NextGen.
- e) The Chief Sport Officer or their designee will notify all selected players in writing of their selection.
- f) The Athlete Agreement will be forwarded to all selected players, who must confirm their participation on TC—NextGen by signing and submitting the agreement to the High Performance Manager, or their designee within one week of receipt.
- g) Players who do not return the Athlete Agreement within one week may lose their position on TC—NextGen.

9. Term of selection to Team Canada – NextGen

The standard term of selection to TC – NextGen is one year. However, to support players as they transition from junior golf to amateur golf, players selected to Team Canada – NextGen in their final year of high school or CEGEP will receive support through their freshman year of college, provided that basic behavioral and performance expectations are met.

For example, if a player graduates high school in spring 2023 and qualifies for TC – NextGen through the September 2022 selection camp, they will receive support until September 2024. At that point they must either qualify for TC – NextGen as a Category C player (“Returning College Player”) or qualify for Team Canada based on their amateur results and professional golf aspirations.

If a player elects to take a gap year between high school and college, they will be supported until they complete their freshman year of college.

10. Appeal Procedure

The Appeal Policy and Procedure can be viewed or downloaded from the Golf Canada website:
<https://d340o5x54o72bd.cloudfront.net/app/uploads/2021/04/7.SSP-Appeal-Policy-and-Procedure.pdf>

11. Financial Constraints

The financial capacity of Golf Canada, notwithstanding the results of the Selection Guidelines, may limit the number of selected players that receive funding from Golf Canada.