

2026-2027 TEAM CANADA – NEXTGEN
SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCESS



1. Introduction

Team Canada – NextGen is comprised of elite juniors and recently aged out juniors not yet in college. The purpose of the program is to provide Canada's top emerging young players with the support required for a successful transition into amateur and professional golf. The program is delivered through a combination of group training camps, individualized training plans, and exposure to high-level competition. Players are supported in a holistic nature by the national team coaching staff and integrated support team, adding value to the players by working collaboratively with personal coaching teams. TC – NextGen lays the foundation of support for Canada's top professional golf prospects.

The selection criteria published in this document outline how a player can be selected to TC – NextGen. Selection for TC – NextGen will be completed by early October 2026. 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 not be playing college golf in fall 2026 or spring 2027 (CEGEP not included), and is either junior-aged (i.e., has not reached their 19th birthday by August 1st, 2026) or is taking a gap year or additional secondary schooling such as CEGEP and has not reached their 20th birthday by the first round of the TC – NextGen Selection Camp.
- b) 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).*
- c) Must be an amateur golfer under the Rules of Amateur Status at the time of selection.
- d) Must be in compliance with the Canadian Anti-Doping Policy (CADP).
- e) Must not be subject to any disciplinary process or sanction of Golf Canada or other sport authority.

3. Definitions

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

JGS – Junior Golf Scoreboard

Junior-aged – Player who has not reached their 19th birthday by August 1st, 2026.

SC – Sport Committee of Golf Canada.

Team Canada – NextGen Selection Camp – In 2026, two distinct TC – NextGen Selection Camps will be held to facilitate talent identification for Team Canada – NextGen. The Boys' Selection Camp is scheduled to run concurrently with the Canadian College Invitational September 13-16, 2026 at Oviinbyrd Golf Club in MacTier, Ont. The Girls' Selection Camp is scheduled to run concurrently with the Women's Canadian College Invitational from September 21-23, 2026, at Beacon Hall Golf Club in Aurora, Ont. The first round for the girls' is September 22, 2026 and the first round for the boys' is September 14, 2026.

Selection Committee – The committee responsible for player selection. The Selection Committee is comprised of the Chief Sport Officer, the High Performance Director, the High Performance Sr. Coordinators, the Team Canada – NextGen Head Coaches, the Team Canada – NextGen Assistant Coaches, and additional representatives with expertise in elite junior, amateur or professional golf. The High Performance Director shall be the Chair of the Selection Committee.

Staff – Coaches, Integrated Support Team (IST) and admin staff of TC – NextGen. These individuals are integrally involved and responsible for the continuing development of players.

TC – NextGen – Team Canada – NextGen

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

WAGR Divisor – The WAGR divisor is the number of counting events (tournaments) used to calculate a player's average ranking points in the World Amateur Golf Ranking system.

4. Automatic selection criteria

If an **eligible** player (as per Section 2) meets the criteria below, they will automatically earn a spot to join TC – NextGen.

- Winner of the 2026 Canadian Junior Girls' and Boys' Championships.
- Winner of the 2026 Canadian Women's and Men's Amateur Championships.
- The top-ranked Canadian junior-aged boy on WAGR as of August 26, 2026, provided their ranking is 700 or better and their applied divisor is at least 13.
- The top-ranked Canadian junior-aged girl on WAGR as of August 26, 2026, provided their ranking is 300 or better and their applied divisor is at least 15.
- Winners of the 54-hole tournament at the TC – NextGen Selection Camps (1 boy & 1 girl)

5. Player Selection for TC – NextGen

Unless a player meets the automatic selection criteria outlined in section 4, players must qualify for TC – NextGen through the TC – NextGen Selection Camp.

a) Automatic Invitation Criteria for the TC – NextGen Selection Camp

Eligible players who meet any of the following criteria will automatically be invited to the TC – NextGen Selection Camp in the following order:

- i) Players who meet the criteria for automatic selection in section 4 to TC – NextGen.
- ii) Age-eligible members of 2026 TC – NextGen.
- iii) 2026 Canadian Juvenile Champions (boys' and girls').
- iv) 2026 Canadian U15 Champions (boys' and girls').
- v) Champions from each of the ten Provincial Association junior or amateur championships in 2026, provided the winner is eligible for TC – NextGen, the winning total score is even par or better, and the championship has concluded before the respective Canadian national championship.
- vi) Champions from each of the six Golf Canada NextGen Championships (girls and boys divisions).

Note: Automatic qualification for the World Junior Girls Championship is different from TC – NextGen. Player(s) who are exempt under section 4 for TC - NextGen may still have to earn their spot on the World

Junior Girls Team through TC - NextGen Selection camp. Please reference the World Junior Girls Championship criteria.

b) Selection Process for Remaining Invitations for the TC – NextGen Selection Camp

The following criteria will guide the selection of remaining players for invitation to the TC – NextGen Selection Camp:

Application Pathways

Players may be considered through multiple pathways:

Provincial Association Nominations – Each Provincial Association may nominate up to 3 boys and 3 girls for consideration of entry to TC – NextGen Selection Camp. Nominations must be submitted to Golf Canada using the provided nomination procedure by August 17, 2026. Identification by Provincial Association does not guarantee a player an invitation to the TC – NextGen Selection Camp.

Open Applications – Open application for TC – NextGen Selection Camp to be posted on the Golf Canada website for any eligible applicant to apply by Wednesday, August 6th.

All eligible players—whether nominated by a Provincial Association, applying through the open process, or identified independently by Golf Canada—will be evaluated as of August 19, 2026.

Selections will be made based on a combination of the following factors:

- World Amateur Golf Ranking (WAGR) and Junior Golf Scoreboard (JGS) rankings
- Provincial Association recommendations (where applicable)
- Talent ID camp data (where applicable)
- Competitive results over the past 12 months

Golf Canada reserves the ability to identify and select players who may not have been nominated by a Provincial Association or applied through the open process.

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

c) Process for Invitation to the TC – NextGen Selection Camp

TC – NextGen Selection Camp invitations will be distributed according to the following process.

- i) Invitations to TC – NextGen Selection Camp will be sent out by August 21, 2026
- ii) Players must accept or decline the invitation to the TC – NextGen Selection Camp by August 24, 2026 at 5:00pm ET

There is no entry fee to participate. There will additionally be financial support provided by Golf Canada to offset expenses, which will be confirmed in the invitations.

d) Selection Process to TC – NextGen from TC – NextGen Selection Camp

Players will be selected to TC - NextGen from the TC – NextGen Selection Camp based on the following criteria.

- i) The winners for both boys and girls of a 54-hole competition at the TC – NextGen 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 2025-26 season according to event strength. Results will be considered relative to a player's age and stage of development.
 - a. The Boys' 2025-26 season is defined as September 17, 2025 – September 18, 2026.
 - b. The Girls' 2025-26 season is defined as September 23, 2025 – October 3, 2026.
- iii) Evaluation by Golf Canada coaches and high-performance staff. Information to aid these evaluations may also be gathered from provincial associations, local coaches, and other sources.
- iv) Results from the selection camp 54-hole competition.
- v) Skills testing from the selection camp.

6. Team Canada - NextGen process for selection

- a) A selection meeting will take place via conference call chaired by the High Performance Director the week following the TC – NextGen Selection Camp.
- b) Players will be selected according to the criteria outlined above. There is no set number of players to be selected, this will fluctuate year over year depending on the pool of players.
- c) The Selection Committee will rank TC – NextGen in order of selection and recommend selections to the Sport Committee. Players with demonstrated potential derived from factors including their WAGR/JGS progression relative to age or results in high-level events will be prioritized when ranking the order of the team.
- d) The Sport Committee will ratify the selection of TC – NextGen.
- e) The High Performance Director 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 within one week of receipt.
- g) Players who do not return the Athlete Agreement within one week may lose their position on TC – NextGen .

7. Term of selection to Team Canada – NextGen

The standard term of selection to TC – NextGen is one year.

8. Appeal Procedure

The Appeal Policy and Procedure can be viewed or downloaded from the Golf Canada website:
<https://d340o5x54o72bd.cloudfront.net/app/uploads/2023/05/Safe-Sport-Policies-Appeal-Policy-May-2023-1683893148.pdf?x70283>

9. 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.

10. Amendments and Provisions

Golf Canada reserves the right to amend this selection criteria at any time to reflect changes in the professional and amateur golf landscape. This section is included to allow Golf Canada to maintain alignment with evolving professional tour structures, player development needs, and international best practices and ensuring that our selection process reflects the current golf landscape