



USAB Junior Announcements

Date: Aug 25, 2016

One of the major objectives of USA Badminton (USAB) is to promote the sport of badminton in the U.S. by raising the quality of its sanctioned junior tournaments. In doing so, USAB hopes that the athlete pipeline will become more visible which will in turn lead to stronger grass root support from the local badminton communities.

Over the past five years, it was evident that badminton has had an expanded growth and the U.S. junior athletes' skill level and the performance quality have improved significantly. While past efforts focused on building the junior foundation, today, it is recognized that there is a need to simplify and strengthen the tournament structure while paying equal attention to both high performance and the development side of the junior.

The following announcement is intended to provide the junior athletes and their parents ample time to understand and adjust to new initiatives and requirements.

1) 2016 – 2017 season Tournament Calendar

Please check out the link below for current season tournament schedule at the USAB website.

<http://www.teamusa.org/USA-Badminton/Athletes/Juniors/2016--2017-Schedule>

2) 2016 – 2017 Tournament Structure Change

a. Reduction in number of tournament – effective 2016-2017 season, only two (2) 10% tournaments (instead of 4) will be recognized and count toward the ranking points. This change is necessary to provide time for training, resting and participating of other events such as camp, clinics, or etc. Please refer to the new ranking documentation below.

<http://www.teamusa.org/usa-badminton/rankings/usab-junior-rankings>

b. Late registration – there will be no late registration allowed for all Junior Ranking tournaments.

c. US Mountain Time (mid night) will remain as the tournament registration deadline time zone.

d. Definite cap limit for SR, JIT and JN – Tournament Advisory Group (TAG) will provide the definite cap limit info for SR, JIT and JN. Cap limit size is determined by available court hours and it will vary from facility to facility. This information will be available on the tournament prospectus.

e. **Player's eligibility (citizenship and continuous residency)** – please refer to **tournament prospectus for updated player eligibility and residency rules. It's player's** responsibility to read carefully, comply with the rules and inform tournament director prior to each tournament. Failure to follow instructions might risk disqualification to participate in junior ranking tournaments.

f. **Participation in other country's Jr. or Adult Nationals** – Please refer to the tournament prospectus if you have participated **in another country's Jr. or Adult Nationals. You must** inform tournament director of such events. Failure to comply might risk disqualification to participate in Junior Ranking tournament.

3) Junior International Trials (JIT)

a. Venue – Harbour Pointe Badminton Club in Northwest region, April 14 – 17, 2017.

b. Fixed Cap limit – event caps may not be changed once determined by Tournament Advisory Group (TAG) and published

c. Registration requirement – Players **MUST** upload photo and documentation onto Simply Compete prior **player's registration is considered complete.**

d. Player eligibility – Please refer to JIT prospectus for detailed update relating tournament experience and requirement to at least participate in 1 US Jr. ranking tournament in the last 12 months before JIT.

e. Removal of regional representation – the objective of JIT is to select the best of the bests. Starting 2016-2017 season, there will no longer be a regional representation guarantee for each region. Player eligibility is based on individual ranking points, having US citizenship, and event cap limit.

f. Separate trial for PAJC and WJC – Effective 2017 – 2018 season (after 2017 JN), there will be separate trial for PAJC and WJC.

g. Removal of U11 - Both USOC and USBA are concerned with players' long term sustainability, i.e. prevention of injuries and/or burn out from starting too young and training too aggressively. Effective 2017-2018 season, JIT will only have the following age groups: U19, U17, U15 and U13.

4) Junior National (JN)

Location – Bintang Badminton, South San Francisco

Date – June 27 - 28, 2017 (qualification), June 29 - July 4 (main draw)

Format – full feed-in and full Consolation

5) 2017 - 2018 season New Tournament Structure

Regional Championships – Effective 2017 – 2018 Season (after 2017 JN), there will be no longer any 10%, 20% and 70% junior ranking tournaments. Instead, there will be Open (ORC) and Closed Regional Championships (CRC). For more information, please refer to the link below:

http://www.teamusa.org/~media/USA_Badminton/Documents/2016/Aug/20172018NewTournamentStructureAdditionalInformation82516.pdf?la=en

6) Ranking System Change

Effective 2017 – 2018 season (after 2017 JN), when a player played up other than his/her natural age group, the ranking points earned will remain in the upper age group for ranking point calculation purpose. Player should select carefully what age group they wish to participate in this season as some of the points may impact the 2017-2018 season (52 weeks rolling points rule).

7) Coaching credential Requirement change

a. At Junior National (JN) – to coach in 2017 JN, the minimum coaching level requirement is Sport Performance 1 (SP1). This minimum credential will be strictly enforced at 2017 JN at Bintang Badminton in NorCal.

b. At Junior International Trials (JIT) – to coach in 2017 JIT, the minimum coaching level requirement is High Performance 1 (HP1) is required. This minimum credential will be strictly enforced at 2017 JIT at Harbor Point Badminton in Seattle.

c. Coaches Certification Courses – SP1 certification course will be available on-line starting Nov, 2016, while HP1 courses are scheduled to be held in various major US cities.

8) Communication channel

Official announcement will be posted on USAB website. JAG co-chair and each JAG representatives are also responsible for answering any inquiries about Junior tournaments.

9) Proposal to set up Fundraising Advisory Group

It was suggested to form this new advisory group to focus on fundraising to assist and promote Jr. Badminton program. Should anyone who is interested to start on this project, please contact Mohan Subramaniam, USAB Director of Coaching and High Performance.

10) Junior Advisory Group (JAG) – Roles, Responsibilities and Selection

The job description will be posted on USAB website soon.

There will be a selection process for **each region's JAG representative as well as the co-chairs** of JAG at the end of 2016. Terms will be **2 years and each region's JAG** representative and co-chairs needs to formally apply for the position. Selection committee made up by members of USAB officers and High Performance Advisory Group (HPAG) will evaluate applications to select representatives. Terms serves will begin Jan 1, 2017 and end Dec 31, 2019. More details to follow.

Definition:

JAG – Junior Advisory Group
USAB- USA Badminton
HPAG – High Performance Advisory Group
COAG - Court Official Advisory Group
TAG – Tournament Advisory Group
JN – Junior Nationals
JIT – Junior International Trials
SR – Super Regional
WJC – World Junior Championships
PAJC- Pan Am Junior Championships