



Racquetball Canada Exemption Policy

Introduction

As a member of Racquetball Canada's National Team, athletes are expected to attend all events used for National Team selection and make every effort to participate and compete to the best of their ability. However, Racquetball Canada recognizes that certain circumstances may prevent an athlete from attending a selection event. This policy outlines the process for requesting an exemption due to injury or other exceptional circumstances.

1. Injury Exemptions

Athletes who sustain an injury prior to the start of a selection event and are unable to compete may submit an exemption request. The request must include a note from an in-person assessment by a qualified medical professional, such as a medical doctor, physiotherapist, athletic therapist, psychiatrist, or psychologist, confirming the injury.

- The documentation must be submitted to the High Performance Director no later than 7 days after the first day of the event for which the exemption is requested.

2. Non-Injury Exemptions

If an athlete is unable to attend a Racquetball Canada selection event due to circumstances other than injury, they may submit a request for exemption to the High Performance Committee for evaluation.

Specific Circumstances & Requirements:

- **Illness:** A doctor's note from an in-person examination must be submitted. The note should specify the medical reasons preventing the athlete from participating.
 - **Deadline:** No later than 7 days after the first day of competition of the event for which the exemption is requested.
- **School/Exams:** A letter from the school administration, teacher, or professor must be submitted. The letter must clearly explain why attendance for a class, an exam or other school function is mandatory. If attendance is not mandatory, the letter must clearly explain why missing a class, exam or school function would create a significant hardship (academic or otherwise). Reasons of competing interests with other activities (i.e. non-racquetball events or even other racquetball tournaments), will generally not be considered an adequate reason to grant an exemption.
 - **Deadline:** At least 7 days prior to the first day of the event for which the exemption is requested.
- **Work Commitments:** Work-related conflicts are not eligible for exemption consideration.
- **Other Requests:** Any other exemption requests must be submitted in writing with supporting documentation.
 - **Deadline:** No later than 7 days after the first day of competition of the event for which the exemption is requested.

3. Submission Process:

- A completed Racquetball Canada Exemption Form must be submitted with all exemption requests.
 - [Racquetball Canada On-Line Exemption Form](#)
- All exemption requests must include the required supporting evidence.
- **No exemption requests will be considered after the stated deadlines.**

4. Decision Process

All exemption requests will be initially reviewed by the High Performance Committee and then forwarded to the Racquetball Canada Board of Directors for a final decision as to the validity of the exemption request. All decisions regarding the exemption request will be provided in writing.

Racquetball Canada is committed to reviewing exemption requests as efficiently as possible. Decisions will be made in a timely manner, taking into account the availability of the High Performance Committee and the Racquetball Canada Board. Athletes will be notified of the outcome at the earliest possible opportunity.

5. Results of an Approved Exemption

Singles Exemption Criteria points are the average of the athlete's placement in the last 3 selection events on the Racquetball Canada calendar (rounding down at .49 and rounding up at .5) and then adding 2 places.

Doubles Exemption Criteria points are the athlete's doubles result at the previous National Championships plus 2 additional places.

In situations where an athlete's/team's average placement is higher than the total number of athletes/teams registered in the current draw (for example, an average placement of 9th, but only 5 entries in the draw), the exempted athlete/team will be assigned a placement no lower than one position below the total number of entries in the draw. This calculation includes all approved exempted athletes/teams for the event. As a result, if multiple athletes/teams are granted exemptions in this scenario, they will all receive the same average placement.

In addition, and specifically for Doubles, when the scenario of having an average placement that is higher than the number of teams in the current draw applies, if there is only one previously exempt athlete (not both athletes from a team), then that will still count as one exempted team.

Athletes/teams with no placement in any of the events will be given the placement of 1 more than the number of athletes/teams in the draw of the missed event or 17 (if fewer than 16 in the draw).

See Appendix A for examples of approved exemptions and placement calculations.

6. Exemptions During an Event

Once an athlete/team has started their first game in the current selection event, their resulting position will be determined without any bearing on previous selection events.

Racquetball Canada believes all healthy athletes should endeavor to participate in all matches scheduled for them to the best of their ability during a Racquetball Canada event.

7. Appeals

Decisions made under Racquetball Canada's Exemption Policy may be appealed in accordance with the procedures set out in Racquetball Canada's Appeal Policy (<https://racquetballcanada.ca/policies/>).

Appendix A

Singles Examples:

	Past Event 1	Past Event 2	Past Event 3	Avg.	# of Athletes in Draw	# of Exempt Athletes	Final Placement for Missed Event
Athlete 1	5 th	4 th	6 th	5 th	18	0	7 th
Athlete 2	1 st	3 rd	1 st	1.67 = 2 nd	12	1	4 th
Athlete 3	9 th	9 th	7 th	8 th	5	2	8 th

Athlete 1 Example:

With an Average placement of 5th based on the 3 previous events, and 18 athletes in the current draw, the Final Placement for the Missed Event is 5th + the 2 additional spots to equal 7th. Since the Final Placement is lower than the # of Athletes in the Draw (18), it does matter if there were Exempt Athletes or not.

Athlete 2 Example:

With an Average placement of 2nd based on the 3 previous events, and 12 athletes in the current draw, the Final Placement for the Missed Event is 12th + the 2 additional spots to equal 4th. Since the Final Placement is lower than the # of Athletes in the Draw (12), it does matter that there were Exempt Athletes or not.

Athlete 3 Example:

With an Average placement of 8th based on the three previous events, but only 5 athletes in the current draw, and 2 Exempt Athletes for a total of 7 total athletes, the Final Placement for the Missed Event is limited to 8th. Here, it matters how many athletes are in the draw and how many Exempt Athletes there were, because the Average placement was higher than the total number of players, including the Exempt Athletes.

Doubles Examples:

	Previous National Doubles	# of Teams in Draw	# of Exempt Athletes/Teams	Final Placement for Missed Event
Athlete 1	5 th	12	2	7 th
Athlete 2	5 th	4	1	6 th

Athlete 1 Example:

With a Previous National Doubles finish of 5th, and 12 teams in the current draw, the Final Placement for the Missed Event is 5th + the 2 additional spots to equal 7th. Since the Final Placement is lower than the # of Athletes in the Draw (12), it does matter if there were Exempt Athletes/Teams or not.

Athlete 2 Example:

With a Previous National Doubles finish of 5th, but only 4 teams in the current draw, and 1 Exempt Athletes/Team, the Final Placement for the Missed Event is limited to 5th + 1 additional spots to equal 6th. Here, it matters how many teams are in the draw and how many Exempt Athletes/Team there were,

because the Previous National Double placement + 2 additional spots would have been higher than the total number of athletes, including the Exempt Athletes/Teams.

For clarification the partner of an exempt athletes has two options:

1. Compete with a new partner (as per Open Doubles Policy): Not eligible for exemption points; or
2. Accept exemption points: Not eligible to play doubles in the exempted tournament
 - a. The partner does not need to formally apply for an exemption.