



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## SQUASH CANADA ANNOUNCES CREATION OF A TALENT IDENTIFICATION (TID) PROGRAM

OTTAWA (ON) – Squash Canada today announced the creation of a new talent identification program for the start of the 2014 – 2015 squash season.

“The new Talent Identification Program (TID) creates an opportunity to be more involved in the development of our players at younger ages and with the support of Squash Canada and their home club’s and squash professionals we feel we can work together to propel our athletes to new levels of international excellence”, said Squash Canada Performance Director, Jamie Hickox.

The TID Program has produced squad athletes from 5 provinces / territories in Canada with athletes residing coast to coast. In addition, to these junior aged named athletes, Squash Canada also recently named three junior aged athletes to senior high performance squads for meeting Squash Canada Performance Standards, they include: 18 year old David Baillargeon of Quebec City, QC (Men’s Transition Squad); 16 year old Chloe Chemtob of Montreal, QC (Women’s Transition Squad) and 18 year old Alyssa Mehta of Toronto who was recently named to Squash Canada’s (Senior Women’s High Performance Squad).

Squash Canada Executive Director Danny Da Costa said, “we are encouraged by the development of our players across Canada. The fact that we have athletes named from 6 different provinces is a testament to the great work being done by our coaches at the club and provincial level”.

The launch of the TID program comes on the heels of a cross-country tour by Squash Canada’s Performance Director Jamie Hickox who visited clubs and worked with all the best junior players in each provincial/territorial jurisdiction across Canada through the Centre of Excellence Program.

The selected athletes will receive the following benefits:

1. They will enjoy the prestige of being named as a national squash player of interest
2. They will receive advice and direction on career matters such as coaching, training and competition
3. They will have access to the Squash Canada Center of excellence program:
  - They will have appropriate access to the COE – Toronto
  - They will have access to the SC COE program through the COE country wide HP tour
  - It is in the plan to create COE TID Camps

Young athletes were selected across Canada from the U13, U15, U17, U19 with members of the Squash Canada high performance community making recommendations.

The 2014 – 2015 Female Talent Identification Squad members are:

Name of Athlete	City, Province	Home Club	Age Category
Sophie Mehta	Toronto, Ontario	National Squash Academy	U17 (16 years)
Alison Richmond	Toronto, Ontario	Granite Club	U19 (17 years)
Madlen O’Connor	Toronto, Ontario	Granite Club	U19 (17 years)
Tara Shannon	Calgary, Alberta	Glencoe Club	U19 (17 years)

Annika Alexander	Winnipeg, Manitoba	Winnipeg Winter Club	U19 (17 years)
Grace Thomas	Victoria, British Columbia	Cedar Hill Squash Club	U17 (16 years)
Nicole Kendall	Newmarket, Ontario	Mayfair Parkway	U17 (15 years)
Amy Commisso	King, Ontario	Executive Squash & Fitness	U17 (15 years)
Hannah Blatt	Winnipeg, Manitoba	Winnipeg Winter Club	U17 (15 years)
Miriam Mansoor	Richmond Hill, Ontario	Executive Squash & Fitness	U15 (14 years)
Andrea Toth	Richmond, British Columbia	Sports Central	U15 (14 years)
Emma Jinks	Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island	The Spa Fitness & Racquet	U15 (14 years)
Bethany Churchill	Calgary, Alberta	World Health Edgemont	U15 (13 years)
Charlotte Orcutt	Toronto, Ontario	Granite Club	U15 (13 years)
Marlow Benson	Bolton, Ontario	Executive Squash & Fitness	U15 (13 years)
Lucia Bicknell	West Vancouver, British Columbia	Evergreen Squash Club	U13 (12 years)

The 2014-2015 Male Talent Identification Squad Members are:

Name of Athlete	City, Province	Home Club	Age Category
Carter Robitaille	Toronto, Ontario	Mayfair Parkway	U19 (17 years)
Michael Thompson	Vancouver, British Columbia	Jericho Tennis Club	U19 (18 years)
Alexi Gosset	Toronto, Ontario	Toronto Lawn Tennis Club	U19 (17 years)
Matthew Toth	Richmond, British Columbia	Sport Central	U17 (16 years)
Akasham Rajagopaul	Niagara Falls, Ontario	The Club @ White Oaks	U17 (15 years)
Michael Mehl	Calgary, Alberta	World Health Edgemont	U17 (15 years)
Husam Hamour	Niagara Falls, Ontario	The Club @ White Oaks	U17 (16 years)
Brett Schille	Calgary, Alberta	Calgary Winter Club	U17 (16 years)
Matthew Henderson	Victoria, British Columbia	Cedar Hill Squash Club	U19 (17 years)
Jackson Kay	Toronto, Ontario	National Squash Academy	U15 (14 years)
Justin Ghaeli	Richmond Hill, Ontario	Executive Squash & Fitness	U15 (14 years)
Julien Gosset	Toronto, Ontario	Toronto Lawn Tennis Club	U19 (17 years)
Ryan Picken	Vancouver, British Columbia	Jericho Tennis Club	U17 (15 years)
James Flynn	Toronto, Ontario	Granite Club	U15 (13 years)
Neel Ismail	Toronto, Ontario	Mayfair Parkway	U15 (13 years)
Nikhil Ismail	Toronto, Ontario	Mayfair Parkway	U13 (11 years)
Abdelrahman Dweek	Calgary, Alberta	World Health Edgemont	U13 (12 years)
Dylan Deveril	Cambridge, Ontario	Kitchener-Waterloo Racquet	U13 (12 years)
John Dempsey	Vancouver, British Columbia	Jericho Tennis Club	U15 (13 years)

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