



# **CANOE KAYAK CANADA'S ATHLETE ASSISTANCE POLICY – SPRINT**

**November 1, 2018 to October 31, 2019**

## **1. PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

The purpose of this document is to define criteria used by Canoe Kayak Canada (CKC) to determine the nominations that will be submitted to Sport Canada for the Athlete Assistance Program (AAP). The target audience for this document are athletes, and their coaches.

Canoe Kayak Canada's AAP objectives for the Sprint Discipline are based on Sport Canada's AAP International and National Objectives (*Section 1 and 5 of the Sport Canada AAP Policy and Procedures Document*).

Sport Canada policies, including the Athlete Assistance Program, are designed to support amateur high performance pathway athletes that demonstrate the potential to progress to the Top 8 in the World. The purpose of the AAP is to improve Canadian performances at major international sporting events such as the Olympic/Paralympic Games and the World Championships. The program seeks to do so by relieving some of the financial pressures associated with preparing for, and participating in, international sport.

The ICF 2020 Olympic Program is as follows:

|       | 200 m | 500 m    | 1000 m |
|-------|-------|----------|--------|
| Men   | K1    | K4       | K1 K2  |
|       |       |          | C1 C2  |
| Women | K1    | K1 K2 K4 |        |
|       | C1    | C2       |        |

**Note:** The Sport Canada AAP will only approve Athletes competing in the ICF 2020 Olympic Program events.

## 2. GENERAL INFORMATION AND DEFINITIONS

### 2.1 Carding Categories

The Sport Canada AAP funds Athletes at two levels:

- **Senior Cards**
  - Senior International Card (SR1/SR2) (\$1,765.00/month)
  - An athlete who achieves a Top 8 Performance at a Senior World Championship or Olympic Game;
  - Senior National Card (SR) (\$1,765.00/month)
  - First year Senior National Card (C1) (\$1,060.00/month)
- **Development Cards:** (\$1,060.00/month)

### 2.2 Canoe Kayak Canada's Authority for Decisions

CKC does not grant Carding to Athletes, however, based on the criteria outlined in this document, and AAP policies, the Chief Technical Officer (CTO) will recommend to the High-Performance Committee (HPC) those athletes eligible for nomination for a Sport Canada AAP Card. The HPC is responsible for ensuring that the CTO, has in their nominations, followed the criteria found within this document.

Final approval of all nominations submitted to Sport Canada for Cards is the sole responsibility of the CTO<sup>1</sup>. All nominations will then be reviewed and independently approved by Sport Canada. Sport Canada approves nominations in accordance with the AAP policies and the National Sport Organization's published Carding criteria.

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<sup>1</sup> **Note:** In the case of a vacancy in the CKC CTO position, the HPC will appoint a designate to fill the CTO's role for the purpose of applying the criteria.

## 2.3 Athlete Eligibility

To be eligible for a Carding nomination, an Athlete must meet all the following requirements:

- A. Must be a current registered member of, and in good standing with, CKC;
- B. Must have participated in the applicable competitions required for Carding purposes (see section 2.4) unless a request for an exemption due to injury, medical condition, or illness is approved, in advance, by the Chief Technical Officer (CTO) – (Section 5);
- C. Must possess Canadian citizenship, or Permanent Resident status, by November 1, 2018, and must satisfactorily demonstrate that he/she will be eligible to compete for Canada in International Canoe Federation (ICF) competitions and the Olympic Games;
- D. Must not be under suspension, or other sanction, for any doping or doping-related offense;
- E. Must sign the Athlete Agreement as required by CKC and/or Sport Canada;
- F. Must otherwise comply with all eligibility requirements set out by Sport Canada in its publication "[Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program 2015](#)";
- G. Must have met the Specific Criteria set out in Section 4, 5 (where relevant), and 6 (Progression Criteria);
- H. Does not have any outstanding accounts with CKC that are more than 30-days in arrears or are without an approved payment plan;
- I. Carded athletes who are no longer in secondary school must be under the supervision of a National Team Coach. The athlete is required to be in a quality training environment offered at a recognized CKC training center and / or at a training hub approved by the NDC in consultation with the CTO.

## 2.4 Events for Performance Evaluation

Decisions on Carding nominations will be based upon performances in the following events.

Priority ranking is listed in Section 4:

| Type of Card or Performance Level | NTT1 | NTT2 | NTT3 | Senior World Championships | U23 World Championships | Jr World Championships |
|-----------------------------------|------|------|------|----------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|
| SR1/SR2 Cards                     |      |      |      | ✓                          |                         |                        |
| Senior (SR/C1) Cards              | ✓    | ✓    | ✓    | ✓                          | ✓                       |                        |
| Development (D)                   |      | ✓    | ✓    |                            |                         | ✓                      |
| Evidence of Progression           | ✓    | ✓    | ✓    | ✓                          | ✓                       | ✓                      |

## 3. FUNDING ALLOCATION

Sport Canada has awarded \$540,000 for AAP funding to CKC for the November 2018 to October 2019 Carding cycle. Sport Canada regularly reviews its carding allocations annually this amount is therefore subject to change.

Depending on performances and the Carding history of athletes in 2018, CKC will split the allocated funds creating a combination of Senior (SR1, SR2, SR, and C1) and Development (D) Cards.

It should be noted that where an athlete qualifies for both a D card and a Senior Card, the athlete will have the choice to decline the Development card in favor of being nominated for a Senior Card.

An athlete who is selected to the Senior World Championship Team or an Olympic Team is automatically identified as a Senior Card they are not required to spend one year at the C1 level.

## 4. SPECIFIC CARDING CRITERIA

The following 10 Carding Criteria Priorities constitute the sequential order for nominating eligible Athletes

- Cards will be awarded in a “top down” fashion until the total allocation of cards is exhausted;
- Cards assigned via Priority 1 to 4 and Priority 6 contribute to meeting the Senior Discipline Quota Targets
- Cards assigned via Priority 5 contribute to meeting the U21 Development Quota Targets.

### 4.1 Priority 1: International Cards (SR1/SR2)

The crew must have placed in the Top 8 AND Top Half of the competing field in an ICF 2020 Olympic Program event at the:

- **SR1 card:** 2018 Senior World Championships;
- **SR2 card:** 2017 Senior World Championships;

Athletes will be nominated as an SR2 card if they are maintaining a training and competition program supervised by the National Discipline Coach.

### 4.2 Priority 2: Allocation of Senior World Championship Senior Cards

Crews who achieve a Top 1/3 finish in an ICF 2020 Olympic Program event at the 2018 Senior World Championships will be eligible for nomination for Senior Carding.

### 4.3 Priority 3: Allocation of Illness, Injury and Pregnancy Cards for SR1/SR2 Athletes

See criteria in Injury and Illness, Section 5.1

### 4.4 Priority 4: Allocation of U23 World Championship Team Podium Senior Cards

U23 eligible Athletes who achieve a Podium Performance in an ICF 2020 Olympic Program event at the 2018 U23 World Championships will be eligible for nomination for a Senior Card.

#### **4.5 Priority 5: Allocation of Junior World Championship Podium Performance Based Development Card**

Junior eligible Athletes who achieve a Podium Performance in an ICF 2020 Olympic Program event at the 2018 Junior World Championships will be eligible for nomination for a Development Card.

#### **4.6 Priority 6: Allocation of Senior World Championship Team Senior Cards**

Athletes who were named to, and competed at, the 2018 Senior World Championships, will be nominated for a Senior Card. Athletes will be nominated in order of performance rank achieved.

#### **4.7 Priority 7: Allocation of Senior Quota Target Cards (SR/C1)**

4.7.1 If after the application of priorities 1-4 and priority 6, the Senior Quota Target per discipline has not been met the remaining funds will be allocated to Athletes in disciplines according to a Senior Combined Discipline Ranking list (see section 7 below).

4.7.2 This ranking list will be based on NTT2 and NTT3.

4.7.3 The available cards will be distributed according to the 2018 Senior World Championships Ranking of Discipline List (see section 8 below).

4.7.4 Minimum Performance Requirement: All athletes being considered for a Senior Quota Target Card must have reached an A Final at NTT1 or NTT3.

4.7.5 The Senior Quota Targets are determined according to the following discipline ranking lists:

| <b>Discipline</b> | <b>Senior Quota Target<br/>(No. Athletes)</b> |
|-------------------|---|
| WK 200m/500m      | 8   |
| WC 200m/500m      | 4   |
| MK 1000m          | 3   |
| MK 200m/500m      | 5   |
| MC 1000m          | 4   |
| <b>Total:</b>     | <b>24</b>                                     |

## 4.8 Priority 8: Illness, Injury and Pregnancy Cards for SR Athletes

4.8.1 See criteria in Injury and Illness section 5.2

4.8.2 Minimum requirement: Must have been nominated to the Senior World Championship Team or the Olympic Team in the previous year.

## 4.9 Priority 9: Allocation of U21 Quota Target Development Cards

4.9.1 If cards are still available a U21 Quota target for the number of Development cards will be allocated according to the following discipline ranking lists:

| <b>Discipline</b> | <b>U21 Quota Target<br/>(Number of Athletes)</b> |
|-------------------|--|
| WK 200/500        | 2  |
| WC 200/500        | 1  |
| MK 200/500        | 1  |
| MK 1000           | 1  |
| <b>MC 1000</b>    | <b>1</b>   |
| <b>Total:</b>     | <b>6</b>   |

4.9.3 In the event that a discipline does not meet the U21 Quota Target through Priority 5 then the eligible athlete with the highest national rank on the discipline ranking list (See section 7) will be nominated. In women's kayak if required the top 2 athletes with the highest national rank will be nominated.

4.9.3.1 The athlete must have also achieved the highest position of finish amongst eligible athletes in that event at either NTT2 or NTT3.

4.9.4 If a tiebreaker within a discipline is required the crew with the highest position of finish at NTT3 will be nominated.

4.9.4.1 If a second tiebreaker is required then the crew with the smallest percentage time differential from the winner will be nominated.

4.9.5 If a tiebreaker between disciplines is required then the discipline with the highest position of finish at NTT3 will be nominated:

4.9.5.1 If a second tiebreaker is required then the discipline with the smallest time percentage time differential from the winner at NTT3 will be nominated.

#### **4.10 Priority 10: Allocation of Remaining Cards based on the Discipline Ranking Lists (National Rank);**

4.11.1 After exhausting Priorities 1 to 9, funds still remain to nominate additional eligible athletes (Senior and/or Development) it will be based on the athlete's National Rank.

4.11.2 A combined discipline ranking list will be created based on results at NTT2 and NTT3 (See Section 7 below) and the 2018 Senior World Championships Ranking of Discipline List (See section 8 below).

4.11.3 Minimum Performance Requirement: All athletes being considered for a Senior Card must have reached an A Final at NTT1 or NTT3.

## **5. INJURY, ILLNESS AND PREGNANCY CARDS FOR ICF 2020 OLYMPIC EVENTS**

Canoe Kayak Canada will consider nominating Athletes for an injury card in accordance with section 9.1.3 of the Sport Canada AAP policy.

5.1 **A SR1/SR2 or an athlete who was a member of the Senior World Championship or Olympic Team in the previous year**, who at the end of the Carding cycle, has not achieved the standard required for the renewal of Carding status strictly because of health-related reasons, may be considered for re-nomination for the upcoming year provided the following conditions are met:

5.1.1 In the case of injury or illness, no Carding nominations will be made for injuries that are determined by CKC to be career-ending;



- 5.1.2 An Athlete must, immediately following the incident or occurrence, report injuries, a medical condition (including pregnancy) or illnesses in writing and provide a medical certificate to the CTO. The CKC's Chief Medical Officer will assume responsibility for the assessment and management of such injuries, medical conditions<sup>2</sup> or illnesses and for the determination of whether such injuries or illnesses are career-ending;
- 5.1.3 If an Athlete competes in a qualifying event, they may not invoke Section 5 in respect to the qualifying event in which he or she competed. The intention of this provision is to ensure that Athletes who are injured, suffering from an illness, or medical condition do not compete, which could cause further ill health, or harm. If an Athlete does compete, they must accept the race result they have achieved;
- 5.1.4 The Athlete may be nominated for a Senior Card on the grounds of injury, a medical condition (including pregnancy) or illness at the sole discretion of the CTO based on the following factors:
- the number of Cards available;
  - the nature and details of the diagnosis and prognosis;
  - assessment and training data provided by the Athlete that is verifiable and objective by the discipline coach and IST;
  - evidence of the Athlete's level of performance prior to injury;
  - the strength of the Athlete's rehabilitation and training plan as evaluated by the CTO in conjunction with the discipline coach;
  - the advice of medical experts provided to the CMO; and
  - the realistic expectation that the Athlete can return to full fitness and continue to demonstrate the potential to perform at the Top-8 level and progress toward the podium.

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<sup>2</sup> CMO will not be responsible for assuming responsibility for the assessment and management of a pregnancy

## **6 PROGRESSION CRITERIA**

- 6.1 A progression criteria will apply to all athletes who are senior carded and do not achieve SR1 status (Priority 1) in 2018 but qualify for a senior card through the other means (See section 4). CKC performance objectives are to support athletes who show the potential of a top 8 performance and are progressing toward podium performances at Senior World Championships and Olympic Games.
- 6.2 An athlete who satisfies nomination criteria for a senior card but does not show performance progression toward the performance objectives identified above will not be re-nominated for a senior card according to the following guidelines\*:
  - 6.2.1 An SR2 athlete must achieve SR1 status within two competition years following their SR2 nomination.
  - 6.2.2 An athlete who is nominated to any combination of 4 Senior World Championship or 3 World Championships and an Olympic Team and do not achieve SR1 status.
  - 6.2.3 A previously nominated Senior World Championship athlete who does not earn a nomination to the Senior World Championship Team for two successive competition years.
  - 6.2.4 A Senior Card athlete (includes C1) that does not achieve a Senior World Championship nomination within three years after U21 eligibility.
  - 6.2.5 A Senior Card (includes C1) athlete who does not see an improvement in National Rank for two successive years.

## **7 DISCIPLINE RANKING LISTS (NATIONAL RANK)**

- 7.1 All athletes will compete in open events (Senior and Junior) to establish an overall National Rank for each combined ranking list.
- 7.2 Athletes who are nominated to the Senior World Cup Team will not be at NTT2 and therefore each Senior World Cup athlete will be allocated points at NTT2 according to their position of finish on the relevant ranking list at NTT1.
- 7.3 Discipline Ranking List points that will be used to establish the final National Rank include NTT2 and NTT3.

- 7.4 Points will be applied to the position of finish with 1<sup>st</sup> place scoring 18 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> place 17 points, 3<sup>rd</sup> place 16 points, and so on. The scores from trials races are added to establish an overall score. Athletes will be ranked according to this combined score;
- 7.5 Only results from the final at any trials will be used. Race-off results related to team selections will not be considered;

## **8 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RANKING OF DISCIPLINE LIST**

- 8.1 The results of the Canadian entries in an ICF 2020 Olympic event, at the 2018 relevant World Championships, in ICF 2020 Olympic events in each discipline will be used to find the average World Championship rank for that discipline. For U21 the U23 World Championships will be used. For Senior the Senior World Championships will be used;
- 8.2 The average rank for the best 2 finishes in an ICF 2020 Olympic event within that discipline will be used to create the Discipline Ranking Order (e.g. WK1 200 10<sup>th</sup>, WK1 500 3<sup>rd</sup>, WK2 500m 13<sup>th</sup>, WK4 500m 8<sup>th</sup>: average is WK1 500 and WK4 500 =  $(3 + 8)/2 = 5.5$ );
- 8.3 In the case that an event has no Canadian entry or does not qualify for a B-Final, that event will be ranked 19th;
- 8.4 If two disciplines tie in the Discipline Ranking Order, the Discipline with the highest position of finish will be ranked ahead.
- 8.5 The order of allocation will be one per discipline and then repeated until all available funding is exhausted.
- 8.6 If required within the discipline the event with the highest position of finish at the relevant World Championships will be used (For Men's Kayak 1000m (K1 or K2) and for the 200/500 (K1 200 or K4 500))

## **9 APPEALS PROCESS**

Appeals of Canoe Kayak Canada AAP nomination/re-nomination decision, or of a Canoe Kayak Canada's recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through Canoe Kayak Canada's review process. This includes an application to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC). Appeals of AAP Decision made under Section 6 ([Application for and Approval of Cards](#)) or Section 11 ([Withdrawal of Carding Status](#)) may be pursued through Section 13 of the AAP Policies, Procedures and Guidelines.

