



ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AAP) POLICY - PARACANOE

November 1, 2017 to October 31, 2018

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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. This applies to both athletes who now currently access or wish to access the program.

Canoe Kayak Canada's AAP objectives for the Paracanoe 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 proposed ICF 2020 Paralympic Program is as follows:

	200 m
Men	KL1
	KL2
	KL3
Women	KL1
	KL2
	KL3

Note: The Sport Canada AAP will only support nominations of athletes competing in the ICF 2020 Paralympic 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) (\$1,500.00/month)
 - An athlete who achieves a Top-8/Top-half Performance at a Senior World Championship or Paralympic Game;
 - Senior National Card (SR) (\$1,500.00/month)
 - First year Senior National Card (C1) (\$900.00/month)
- **Developmental Cards:** (\$900.00/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 its 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 CTO¹. 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.

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;

¹ 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.

- 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, 2017, and must satisfactorily demonstrate that he/she will be eligible to compete for Canada in International Canoe Federation (ICF) competitions and the Paralympic Games;
- D. Must be at minimum nationally classified in an eligible category under the ICF/IPC classification system for Paracanoe;
- E. Must not be under suspension, or other sanction, for any doping or doping-related offense;
- F. Must sign the Athlete Agreement as required by CKC and/or Sport Canada;
- G. Must otherwise comply with all eligibility requirements set out by Sport Canada in its publication [“Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program 2015”](#);
- H. Must have met the Specific Criteria set out in Section 4, 5 (where relevant), and 6 (Progression Criteria);
- I. Does not have any outstanding accounts with CKC that are more than 30-days in arrears or are without an approved payment plan.

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	National Team Trials (NTT1)	National Team Trials (NTT2)	Senior World Championships (2017) Paralympic Games (2016)	Coach Data
SR1/SR2 Cards			✓	
Senior (SR/C1) Cards		✓		
Development (D)		✓		

Evidence of Progression against GMP/PP	✓	✓	✓	✓
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3. FUNDING ALLOCATION

Sport Canada has awarded \$54,000 for AAP funding to CKC for the November 2017 to October 2018 carding cycle. Sport Canada regularly reviews its carding allocations; this amount is therefore subject to change. CKC will split the allocated funds in priority order according to the criteria laid out in section 4.

4. SPECIFIC CARDING CRITERIA

The following four (4) 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.

Priority 1: Allocation of SR1/SR2 Cards;

Priority 2: Allocation of Senior National Cards to athletes nominated to the 2017 Paracanoe World Championships;

Priority 3: Allocation of Illness, Injury or Pregnancy cards for athletes who were carded at the SR1 or SR2 criteria and meet the Injury or illness criteria (*This includes pregnancy*);

Priority 4: Allocation of Development cards based on the Paracanoe Combined Trials Ranking.

4.1 Priority 1: International Cards (SR1/SR2)

- The athlete(s) must have placed in the Top-8 AND Top-half of the competing field in an ICF 2020 Paralympic Program event.
 - **SR1 Card:** 2017 Senior World Championships;
 - **SR2 Card:** 2016 Paralympic Games;
- SR1 cards will take priority over SR2 cards;
- Athletes nominated for SR2 need to demonstrate that they are maintaining a training and competition program supervised by the National Discipline Coach and approved by the CTO.

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

Athletes who are nominated to the 2017 Paracanoe Senior World Championships will be eligible for nomination for Senior Carding. If the number of eligible athletes exceeds the number of cards available, the following process, in priority order, will be used to rank the nominations:

1. World Championship rank: 1st beats 2nd beats 3rd;
2. If there is a tie, the NTT2 ranking list will be used to break the tie.

4.3 Priority 3: Allocation of Illness, Injury and Pregnancy Cards

See criteria in Injury and Illness, Section 5.1

4.4 Priority 4: Allocation of Development Cards

After exhausting the above priorities, eligible athletes will be nominated according to the Paracanoe Trials Ranking List.

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.

SR1/SR2 Cards

- Athletes who hold SR1/SR2 cards 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 for 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 his/her progression of performance toward and then within a Top-8 performance at the World Championships/Paralympic Games.
- In the case of injury or illness, carding nominations will not be made for injuries that are determined by CKC to be career-ending;
 - 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. CKC's Chief Medical Officer (CMO) will assume responsibility for the assessment and management of such injuries, medical conditions² or illnesses and for the determination of whether such injuries or illnesses are career-ending;
 - If an athlete competes in a qualifying event, they may not invoke clause 5.1 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, he/she must accept the race result they have achieved.

6. PROGRESSION CRITERIA

A progression criteria will apply to all athletes who are carded. Continued measure of progression is a tool for all stakeholders (coaches, athletes, IST) to ensure that the athlete is best supported in his/her efforts towards a Top-8/Podium performance at a World Championship or Paralympic Games.

1. An athlete is eligible for a cumulative four (4) years at the Senior National Team Card level (C1/SR). Once the fourth year of SR card is completed, the athlete is expected to achieve a Top-8/Top-half performance to be re-nominated;
2. An athlete must demonstrate performance progression annually, in the same sport class, to be re-nominated for senior carding;

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

- Athletes who continue to produce a Top-8/Top-half in their designated sport class, will be re-nominated for carding.

7. PARACANOE TRIALS RANKING LISTS

To establish the Paracanoe Trials Ranking List:

- There will be two (2) finals for each discipline at NTT2;
- Athletes will be ranked on a % Gold Medal Time (GMT) from their best final at NTT2;
- Where a tie exists on the % GMT comparison, the athletes will be ranked on their second-best time at NTT2;
- Where an athlete missed trials due to injury, an athlete would need to be a SR1/SR2 athlete and fulfill the Injury and Illness requirements in Section 5.1 to be approved for exemption by the CTO.

8. 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 Sport Canada's AAP Policy 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.

APPENDIX A

Paracanoe Performance Times

Any performance times to be compared against the AFT and BFT will be rounded to the 10th of a second. E.g.

3.49.46 becomes 3.49.5

EVENT	GMT
KL3-MEN	40.00
KL3-WOMEN	51.00
KL2-MEN	42.00
KL2-WOMEN	54.00
KL1-MEN	51.00
KL1-WOMEN	57.00
VL3-MEN	51.00
VL3-WOMEN	60.00
VL2-MEN	51.00
VL2-WOMEN	62.00
VL1-MEN	56.00
VL1-WOMEN	57.00

KL Time Calculations: Only data from 2015 onwards was used due to change in classification system.

VL Time Calculations: Data from 2013 onwards was used to calculate GMT, AFT, and BFT.