

SPEED SKATING CANADA HIGH PERFORMANCE BULLETIN #166 - SHORT TRACK



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April 2015

HIGH PERFORMANCE BULLETINS

The High Performance Committee – Short Track (HPCST) will issue bulletins periodically throughout the season informing skaters, coaches and associations of any update and/or changes to selection criteria, competitions, etc.

The HPCST reserves the right to modify or change the enclosed policies in the event that exceptional circumstances arise and that any such changes are clearly in the best interest of the high performance program. In these situations all athletes and coaches will be advised of any changes as soon as they are confirmed by the HPCST.

Athlete Assistance Program 2015/2016 Carding Criteria

Introduction/preamble

The aim of this document is to describe the criteria that will be used by Speed Skating Canada for nominating athletes for Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program (AAP).

The Sport Canada policy and procedures which govern the AAP and the establishment and application of criteria can be found on Sport Canada's website http://canada.pch.gc.ca/DAMAssetPub/DAM-PCH2-sport-sport/STAGING/texte-text/athleteAssistanceProgram_1421333786429_eng.pdf?WT.contentAuthority=13.0

For any matters related to the Athlete Assistance Program Nomination or de-carding, all appeals must follow the Policies and Procedures of Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) Section 13.

SSC has been allocated equivalent 48 senior cards (\$864,000) by Sport Canada for both long track and short track programs. The equivalent of 28 senior cards (\$504,000) will be allocated to the Long Track program and 20 senior cards (\$360,000) to the Short Track program.

The High Performance Committee of the LT and ST programs are responsible for nominating athletes for carding in their respective program.

Sport Canada's AAP is responsible to review all nominations of eligible athletes for the AAP support made by National Sport Organization (NSO) and to approve nominations in accordance with AAP policies and the published approved, AAP compliant carding criteria.

1. Eligibility

Only athletes named to Speed Skating Canada's National/Development teams program are eligible to be nominated to Sport Canada for AAP Carding.

The athletes must meet the carding criteria standard in an event on the 2018 Olympic program. The standard must be met during the 2014-15 competitive season.

AAP support is subject to athletes' availability to represent Canada in international competitions, including World Cups, World Championships and Olympic Games. Any withdrawal from any international competitions is subject to HPC approval. The athlete must be a Canadian citizen or a permanent resident of Canada on the date of the beginning of the carding cycle, and the athlete must have been a legal resident in Canada (student status, refugee status, work visa or permanent resident) for a minimum period of one year before being considered for AAP support.

2. Short Track Vs. Long Track

Athletes who decide to change programs (from Long Track to Short Track or vice versa) will be evaluated on the criteria of the program they are joining unless otherwise agreed by both HP Committees. **In either event, the athlete must meet carding criteria.**

3. Injury Cards

The respective High Performance Committees may add an athlete to the National Team, Development Team according to past performances. A carded athlete who must refrain from participating in a ranking competition for health-related reason may be nominated for carding based on the AAP policy 9.1.3 Failure to meet renewal criteria for health-related reasons. For nomination purposes, the Athlete will be ranked at the same position as he/she was in the program in the previous year (e.g., Racing Team members, Top 16 at the Worlds, etc.) with the performance of the previous year.

Note: the first injury year will not count towards the maximum number of years of eligibility for Senior National or Development carding. Subsequent injury years will count towards the maximum number of years of eligibility at those card levels.

4. Prioritization of nominations for the AAP:

Eligible athletes will be nominated in the following priority order:

1. Senior International cards;
2. Senior National cards (including C1); and
3. Development cards

Please note that if fewer athletes in a program qualify for carding than the number of cards in this program, then the unused cards will be transferred to the other program. A minimum of 4 months of carding support must be available to provide AAP support to the last athlete on the nomination list.

SSC Support

Athletes who are selected to the SSC Development Team but do not receive AAP carding support from Sport Canada will receive replacement funding from SSC at half the Developmental Card level of funding for the same duration and carding cycle in effect.

SSC will only provide “replacement” funding for half the stipend of the AAP Training and living allowance. SSC will not provide any of the other AAP financial benefits such as tuition support, relocation assistance, etc. SSC support for an athlete who does not receive AAP carding support will be limited to a maximum of 2 years. Additional years may be added in special circumstances evaluated by the respective HPC.

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5. SENIOR CARDING CRITERIA

A MAXIMUM OF 6 MEN AND 6 WOMEN WILL BE ELIGIBLE FOR NOMINATION FOR SENIOR CARDING SUPPORT (SR1, SR2, SR & C1)

THE 12 ELIGIBLE ATHLETES WILL BE IDENTIFIED BASED ON THESE CRITERIA:

5.1 Senior International Card Criteria (SR1, SR2)

Criteria: Athletes that placed in the top 8 (counting a maximum of 3 entry per country) and in the top 1/2 of the field in an individual distance (500m, 1000m or 1500m) **or** in the relay at the 2015 Short Track World Championships

NOTE: Each member of the Relay Team will be evaluated according to the results of the team in the relay. To be eligible under the relay criteria, the athlete must have participated in either the semi-final or final that qualifies the Relay Team for the top 8 finish.

Athletes that qualify for carding under the Senior International criteria are eligible for two years of AAP support, with the card for the first year referred to as an SR1 Card and the card for the second year referred to as an SR2 card. The second year is subject to the athlete being re-nominated by Speed Skating Canada, following a training and competitive program approved by Speed Skating Canada and Sport Canada and signing the AAP application and SSC/Athlete agreement.

5.2 Senior National Card Criteria (SR, C1)

Senior National cards are intended to support athletes with the potential to reach Senior International cards status. Athletes are expected to improve each year to maintain Senior National card level.

If after the application of the senior international criteria the 6 athletes/gender have not been identified, the following senior national criteria will be used to complete the nomination for senior card in the following priority order:

Priority 1: Skaters selected to the National Team. These athletes will be ranked based on their position on the National Senior ranking.

Maximum number of years at Senior National card level: Once an athlete has reached the International Federation senior age, he/she is generally expected to be Senior National (including C1 Card) carded for no more than five (5) years, at which time it would be expected that Senior International criteria have been met. After such time, Sport Canada will require a comprehensive and thoroughly documented review of the athlete's performance over the previous five years in order to demonstrate progress toward performance equivalent to the senior international criteria in order to justify nomination to "Senior National" card status for an additional year. This process must be followed for all subsequent years that the athlete is nominated at this level.

For an athlete changing programs, there may be a different maximum number of years at the senior national card level. This number will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the respective High Performance committee. The athlete will be informed on this requirement the first year he/she enters the new program.

6. DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA

Development Cards are intended to support the developmental needs of younger athletes who clearly demonstrate the potential to achieve the Senior Card international criteria but are not yet able to meet the Senior Card criteria.

Eligible athletes will be nominated in the following priority order:

Priority 1: Athletes in their final junior year who placed in the top 3 at the 2015 World Junior Championships in the overall classification. These athletes will be prioritized based on order of final classification.

Priority 2: Athletes in their non-final junior year who placed in the top 6 at the 2015 World Junior Championships in the overall classification. These athletes will be prioritized based on order of final classification.

Priority 3: The next athletes will be nominated based on their position in the overall Canadian Senior Ranking until up 6 athletes per gender have been nominated under the development carding criteria (as per Priorities 1, 2 and 3).

Priority 4: The final two athletes nominated for Development cards will be based on their nominations/selections to the Development team under the discretionary selections of 2/gender and according to the National Teams Bulletin and the identified selection criteria.

A senior age athlete is expected to be eligible for a D card for no more than three (3) years at senior age. Note the first injury year will not count towards this maximum number of years of carding. Subsequent injury years will count towards the standard limits.