

# **SPEED SKATING CANADA HIGH PERFORMANCE BULLETIN**

## **#181 Team Selection & Carding Criteria**

**SHORT TRACK**



## **January 2019**

### **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.

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# **1 National Team Selection Criteria**

## **1.1 Introduction:**

The High Performance Committee - Short Track (HPCST) will confirm the athletes who qualify for the 2019/20 National Team and Development Team respectively within 1 week of the HPCST's Annual Review meeting scheduled for April 2019.

The HPCST will select athletes as detailed below. The intention for the 2019-20 season is to carry a total of 14 athletes on the National and Development teams. Additions to this number will only be considered under exceptional situations evaluated by the HPCST.

PLEASE NOTE: Selection to the National Team or Development Team is provisional until any and all bye requests have been resolved.

## **1.2 National Team Selection**

The National Team will be composed of 8 athletes per gender, notwithstanding eventual withdrawals or replacements.

The 2019/20 National Team will be selected on the basis of the following:

1. The 5 male and 5 female athletes selected for the 2019 World Short Track Speed Skating Championships.  
In the case that Canada does not qualify a relay team for the World Championships, the athletes qualified for individual distances will be selected to the national team, and then the next top ranked athletes according to the 2018-19 final Canadian Ranking (following bye requests) to a maximum of 5 athletes.
2. The Canadian team alternate, IF required to skate at the World Short Track Speed Skating Championships.
3. The next highest ranked athletes per gender from the adjusted 2018-2019 final Canadian Rankings (following bye requests) to fill 8 positions on the National Team

## 1.3 Development Team Selection

The Development team will be composed of 6 athletes per gender, notwithstanding eventual withdrawals or replacements.

The 2019/20 Development Team will be selected on the basis of the following prioritization until the team quota has been filled:

1. The next two ranked athletes not already named to the team from the adjusted 2018/19 final Canadian Rankings (following bye requests)
2. Athletes who finished top 3 in an individual distance at the 2019 Junior World Championships. Ties will be broken by prioritizing the athlete with the best result in their second best distance. Any persisting tie will be decided by favoring the athlete with the best third distance.
3. Athletes, excluding those completing their final season of eligibility, who finished in the top 6 in an individual distance at the 2019 Junior World Championships. Ties will be broken by prioritizing the athlete with the best result in their second best distance. Any persisting tie will be decided by favoring the athlete with the best third distance.
4. Athletes from the NextGen ranking list not already named to the team, who meet at least two criteria down to standard C.
5. Athletes from the NextGen ranking list not already named to the team, who meet at least one criterium down to standard C.
6. The next ranked athletes not already named to the team from the adjusted 2018/19 final Canadian Rankings (following bye requests), who have ALSO demonstrated an objective improvement in their adjusted final ranking compared with the previous season (therefore moved up at least 1 place in the adjusted final ranking), up to a maximum total of 6 athletes on the Development Team.

### 1.3.1 Limits

Normally, an athlete can remain a Development Team member for a maximum of four (4) years (consecutively or in total). Please note that any years that a junior-aged athlete is a member of the Development Team are not considered as part of this 4 year maximum.

Additional years of SSC Development Team status will be decided at the discretion of the HPCST on the basis of performance history, current performance indicators and development pathway based on SSC's LTPAD model.

## 1.4 Confirmation of Team Membership

Athletes have 7 days following the internal announcement of the 2019/2020 Teams to confirm acceptance of their position on the Team by email. Athletes will subsequently be required to return a signed copy of the SSC National / Development Team Athlete Agreement.

Confirmation of Team membership indicates a commitment by the athlete to participate fully in the National / Development Team program and to participate in the respective selection events for these teams. Confirmation of Team membership also confirms acceptance of the Terms and Conditions of the SSC National / Development Team Athlete Agreement.

If SSC does not receive confirmation from the athlete within the prescribed timeline that s/he accepts his/her position on the Team, that athlete will be regarded as having declined the position and any associated benefits. Any extensions to this confirmation period must be requested in writing by the athlete and will only be approved in exceptional circumstances.

## 1.5 Replacement of Skaters

Following confirmation to the 2019/20 National Team, if an athlete subsequently withdraws from the National Team prior to the Canadian Short Track Championships Competition of the 2019/20 season, and the withdrawal causes the National team number to be reduced below 8 members, the available spot **may** be replaced as follows, in order to keep a total of 14 athletes on the national and development team:

- The first athlete on the development team **may** be elevated to National Team Status

AND/OR

- The next ranked athlete from the 2018/19 final adjusted Canadian Ranking **may** be granted a spot in the Development Team.

Similarly, following confirmation of the 2019/20 Development Team, if an athlete withdraws from the Development Team prior to the Canadian Short Track Championships Competition of the 2019/20 season, the resulting vacancy **may** be filled by the next eligible athlete not already selected to the team according to point 6 of the development team criteria, and only if such withdrawal causes that the total National Team plus Development Team number falls below 14.

If an athlete withdraws from the National Team or Development Team after the Canadian Short Track Championships competition, the vacancy on either team **will not** be filled.

All replacements will be evaluated by the National, Development and/or NextGen coach(es) and recommended to the HPCST with consideration to individual development progress on the basis of performance history, current performance indicators with respect to SSC's LTPAD model, as well as program objectives and budgetary implications.

## **2 Sport Canada Carding criteria**

### **2.1 Introduction**

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

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 [HERE](#). 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.

Relevant portions of the Sport Canada policy have been included within the pages of this document for the sake of providing complete information to speed skating athletes relative to carding nominations. In the event that changes are made to the Sport Canada policy, the text found on the official website of Sport Canada will prevail.

### **2.2 SSC Carding quota**

SSC has been allocated the equivalent of 47 senior cards (SR1, SR2, SR) by Sport Canada for both long track and short track programs. The division of cards between the two programs will be decided at the Sport Canada Review and will be based on the needs and capacity of each program to deliver podium results at the 2022 Olympic Games in Beijing.

Two cards will be reserved for the purpose of transfer requests (see section 2.3). If both cards are unused for the season/carding cycle, one shall be returned to each program. If only one is used, then the other will be returned to the program the transfer athlete is leaving.

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. If fewer athletes in a program qualify for carding than the number of cards allocated to that program, 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 any athlete on the nomination list.

## **2.3 Short Track – Long track transfer cards**

An athlete previously carded at the Senior international level for at least 3 years and who has met the criteria for the upcoming season may request permission to transfer the card from one speed skating sport to the other. Athletes who decide to change programs (from Short Track to Long Track or vice versa) will be evaluated on the carding criteria of the program they are joining unless otherwise agreed to by both High Performance Committees. The relevant High Performance Committee of the sport being transferred into must evaluate whether the athlete presents a credible chance at high performance and if so, whether it is appropriate for the athlete to train with the national team group. Provided these evaluations are favorable,

- the athlete will be permitted to benefit from a senior level card for one year in order to train and eventually compete in the new sport. The High Performance programs of both sports may add additional requirements specific to this transition season that may either require or prohibit the participation of the athlete in select competitions.
- Before being assured carding, the athlete and the high performance programs must come to an agreement to the terms for the year.
- To be eligible for carding in any subsequent year, the athlete must meet the usual carding requirements.
- An athlete can be eligible for such a transfer card only one time in their career.

In order to request a transfer card:

The eligible athlete must inform the High Performance Director of the program from which s/he is currently carded of the desire to change within two weeks of the final selection competition of the season.

Program transfers will be considered in step 3 of the carding process.

For the short track program, an athlete who is accepted to transfer to long track will be not be counted in the total of athletes on the short track team – that is to say that this athlete will retain a modified National team status, but not count towards the 8 National Team athlete quota, and therefore will be replaced on the team according to the provisions under Replacement of Skaters on page 5 of the present Bulletin.

## 2.4 Support available

### 2.4.1 Living and training allowance, Tuition support, Supplementary AAP support

Athletes approved by Sport Canada for AAP may be eligible for a living and training allowance, tuition support (in a Sport Canada approved Institution, including the NCCP program), and deferred tuition support.

The current monthly stipend follows the table below.

Card Type	Monthly Stipend	Annual Value (12 month value)
Senior International card (SR1/SR2)	\$1,765	\$21,180
Senior National Card (SR) (transfer cards)	\$1,765	\$21,180
1st year Senior Card (C1)	\$1,060	\$12,720
Development card (D)	\$1,060	\$12,720

The AAP program also provides athletes with the possibility of additional financial assistance in relation to specific circumstances, such as achievement of excellence at major games, relocation, retirement etc.

For details on the support available, please consult the Sport Canada policy online [HERE](#)

## 2.5 Carding process

1. At the end of the season Short Track Annual review, HPCST members evaluate bye requests to the national and development teams. A final adjusted National ranking, in consideration of the bye requests according to HP Bulletin 182, is achieved.
2. The NextGen criteria are updated to reflect performances in international competitions from the season. A ranking of athletes who meet NextGen criteria is created according to the prioritization in HP Bulletin 183.
3. Athlete transfer requests are considered by the HPD and HPCs.
4. Athletes are named to the National and Development teams according to the National/Development Team criteria above.
5. The NT and DT team lists are used to allocate cards according to the published prioritization.
6. All athletes eligible for carding are informed of their provisional status by letter (nominated, not re-nominated, alternate etc), and the nominations are posted on the Speed Skating Canada website.
7. After a review period of 7 days from the date of notification of nomination status



during which the athlete can appeal the decision, Speed Skating Canada presents its nominations to Sport Canada, usually in June.

8. Sport Canada approves the nominations in accordance with the AAP policies and the published NSO approved, AAP compliant carding criteria.
9. Athletes approved for the AAP complete the Sport Canada AAP application forms and the Speed Skating Canada National/Development team member agreement, as well as any anti-doping courses required.
10. The carding cycle begins on July 1, 2019.
11. Speed Skating Canada, through the national team coaches, and any other relevant coaches, monitors the carded athletes on a regular basis.

## **2.6 Carding eligibility**

### **2.6.1 Athlete eligibility requirements**

- The athlete must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada at the beginning of the carding cycle for which the athlete is being nominated (For Speed Skating, this begins on July 1, 2019). Permanent residents must live in Canada for the full year preceding the carding cycle for which the athlete is being considered for AAP support. All athletes are expected to have participated in NSO-sanctioned programs during that time period;
- The athlete must be available to represent Canada in major international competitions, including World Championships, Olympic Games. Any withdrawal from any international competitions is subject to approval of the High Performance Director.
- The athlete must also be eligible according to citizenship or residency status requirements of the International Skating Union (ISU) to represent Canada at major international competitions, including World Championships, at the beginning of the carding cycle for which the athlete is being nominated;
- For athletes who have been permanent residents of Canada for three years or more, continued eligibility to receive AAP support is contingent on the athlete becoming eligible to represent Canada at the Olympic Games;
- The athlete must meet the published SSC approved, AAP compliant sport specific carding criteria;
- The athlete must participate in national team preparatory and annual training programs.

## **2.6.2 Ineligible athletes**

- Athletes who have been ruled ineligible to participate in sport for two years or more as a result of an anti-doping rule violation and who have not, in the case of pre-2004 violations, subsequently been reinstated;
- Athletes who are serving an anti-doping rule violation sanction of less than two years of sport ineligibility at the start of the carding cycle; and
- Athletes who meet the carding criteria as members of another national team.

Athletes competing in World Championship events that are not on the Olympic program are not eligible for carding based on performances in those events.

# **3 Senior and Development carding policies**

## **3.1 General Policy**

The AAP cards are awarded on the basis of published SSC approved AAP compliant carding criteria.

- Senior Cards are awarded on the basis of either international criteria or national criteria.
- Development Cards are awarded on the basis of sport-specific criteria.

## **3.2 Prioritization of cards**

Eligible athletes will be nominated in the following priority order:

1. Senior International cards (prioritized by SR1 before SR2, ties broken by best individual rank, then relay rank at World Championships or Olympic Games);
2. Senior National cards (including C1 & Injury cards) (according to priority listed on page 11, then ties broken by adjusted Canadian Overall rank, then by total points earned in the ranking);
3. Development cards (including Development injury cards), according to priority listed on page 12, then ties broken by adjusted Canadian Overall rank, then by total points earned in the ranking);

## **3.3 Senior Card Policy**

### **3.3.1 International cards (SR1, SR2)**

### 3.3.1.1 Philosophy

International criteria recognize Canadian athletes for outstanding performance at World Championships or the Olympic Games.

### 3.3.1.2 Criteria

- Athletes who placed in the top 8 (counting a maximum of 3 entries 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 2019 Short Track World Championships.

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 who 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 to either the national or development team by Speed Skating Canada, following a training and competitive program approved by Speed Skating Canada and Sport Canada and signing the AAP application, SSC/Athlete agreement and completing the online anti-doping courses.

In Olympic years, new Senior Cards based on the international criteria will be awarded only on the basis of results achieved in the Olympic Games. Results achieved at World Championships in Olympic years will not be used for awarding new SR1 cards.

## 3.3.2 Senior National Cards (SR, C1)

### 3.3.2.1 Philosophy

National criteria identify athletes who have the potential to achieve international criteria. Athletes who meet the national criteria for Senior Cards for the first time are awarded C1 Cards and are funded at the Development Card level. If the athlete is being carded at the SR1 level or has participated at the World (Senior) Championships before meeting the national criteria for the Senior Card, the athlete will be funded at the Senior Card (SR) level rather than at the Development Card level.

### 3.3.2.2 Criteria

The following senior national criteria will be used to complete the nomination for senior cards in the following priority order:

- Skaters selected to the National Team. These athletes will be ranked based on their position in the adjusted National ranking.

### 3.3.2.3 Limits

Normally, the maximum total number of years an ISU Senior aged athlete can hold a senior national card is five (5) years. If after five (5) years the athlete has not attained senior international status, Sport Canada will require a comprehensive and thoroughly documented review of the athlete's year-to-year improvement, progression toward the international criteria and future potential. On the basis of this review, Sport Canada will, in discussion with SSC, exercise its discretion in determining whether an additional year of support as a Senior Card based on national criteria is warranted. This process must be followed for all subsequent years that the athlete is nominated at this level. Note the first injury year will not count towards this maximum number of years of senior carding. Subsequent injury years will count towards the standard senior carding limits. All injury years count towards the injury card limits (with special exceptions noted in the Injury card section below).

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.

## 3.4 Development Card Policy

### 3.4.1 Development cards

#### 3.4.1.1 Philosophy

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.

The allocation of Development Cards is intended to ensure that financial support is provided to the athletes with the greatest potential.

#### 3.4.1.2 Criteria

Eligible athletes will be nominated in the order of their nomination to the development team. Ties in the order of nomination by gender will favour the higher criteria and if necessary, the higher attainment within the category.

Athletes nominated based on criteria 1-4 will receive 12 month cards.

Athletes nominated based on criteria 5 and 6 will receive 6 month cards.

#### 3.4.1.3 Limits

All athletes who meet the eligibility criteria for a development card will be nominated to Sport Canada, however carding will be prioritized for those highest in the nomination list.

The maximum number of years an athlete can hold a development card, once s/he has attained the ISU Senior age, is four (4) years. Note the first injury year will not count towards this maximum number of years of development carding. Subsequent injury years will count towards the standard development card limits. All injury years count towards the injury card limits (with special exceptions noted in the Injury card section below).

Normally, a Development Card cannot be allocated to an athlete previously carded at the Senior Card level (C1, SR) for more than two years. An exception may be made, at Sport Canada's sole discretion, for an athlete carded at the Senior Card level while still a junior athlete.

## **3.5 Injury/Illness/Pregnancy Card policy**

### **3.5.1 Injury/illness/pregnancy cards**

#### **3.5.1.1 Philosophy**

The respective High Performance Committee may grant an athlete a place on the National Team or the Development Team according to being awarded a bye. 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.

#### **3.5.1.2 Criteria**

The athlete must have been carded the previous season.

The athlete must earn a place onto either the National or Development team following the granting of a bye according to Bulletin 182.

#### **3.5.1.3 Limits**

An athlete can only be the recipient of a total of 3 years of injury carding, with a maximum of 2 consecutive years. Note that any injury card received due to pregnancy will not count towards the stated maximum.

## 3.6 Withdrawal of carded status

Athletes may have their carded status withdrawn under the following conditions:

- Failure to meet training or competition commitments;
- Violation of the SSC national/development team Agreement;
- Failure to meet athlete responsibilities outlined in the Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) Policies and Procedures;
- Gross breach of discipline;
- Investigation for cause; and
- Violations of anti-doping rules.

SSC may make the recommendation that carded status be withdrawn; however Sport Canada may also withdraw carded status without a recommendation from SSC. The procedure and specific reasons for which carding may be withdrawn are described in the Sport Canada policy, see Section 11 Withdrawal of Carded Status.

## 3.7 AAP Decision Appeals

Appeals of Speed Skating Canada AAP nomination/re-nomination decision or of a Speed Skating Canada recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through Speed Skating Canada's review process, which includes an application to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC). See SSC Appeal Policy RES 100 as posted online [HERE](#). 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.

Approved by the High Performance Committee Short Track on January 08 2019.