



CANOE KAYAK CANADA'S ATHLETE ASSISTANCE POLICY – PARA CANOE

November 1, 2020 to October 31, 2021

Under Review as of April 6, 2020.

Final Criteria Approved by the Sprint Racing Council – February 19, 2020

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 Para canoe 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 in a Paralympic event. 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 Paralympic Program* is as follows:

	200 m
Men	KL1
	KL2
	KL3
	VL2
	VL3
Women	KL1
	KL2
	KL3
	VL2

***Note:** The Sport Canada AAP will only approve athlete performances achieved in the ICF Paralympic Program events during the selection process.

2. GENERAL INFORMATION AND DEFINITIONS

2.1 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 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.

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

2.2 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 2.3) unless a request for an exemption due to injury, medical condition, or illness is approved, in advance, by the Chief Technical Officer (CTO) – (Section 6);
- C. Must possess Canadian citizenship, or Permanent Resident status, by November 1, 2020, 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 classified in an eligible category under the ICF/IPC classification system for para canoe;
- 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](#)";
- H. Must have met the Specific Criteria set out in Section 5 (Progression Criteria if applicable), and 6 (where relevant);
- I. Does not have any outstanding accounts with CKC that are more than 30-days in arrears or are without an approved payment plan;

2.3 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 (NTT)	2020 Paralympic Games (SR1)	2019 Senior World Championships (SR2)
SR1/SR2 Cards		✓ (SR1)	✓(SR2)
Senior (SR/C1) Cards	✓	✓	
Development (D)	✓		
Evidence of Progression	✓	✓	

3. FUNDING ALLOCATION

Sport Canada has awarded the Sprint Discipline the equivalent of 4 Senior Cards or \$84,720 in AAP funding for the November 2020 to October 2021 Carding cycle. Sport Canada regularly reviews its carding allocations. This amount is therefore subject to change.

The Sport Canada AAP Program provides three types of cards – Senior International, Senior National and Development – and 2 levels of funding, \$1765 / month for Senior International and Senior National, and \$1060/month for first-year Senior National and Development cards. A Senior International Card is awarded to an athlete who achieves a Top 8 Performance and top ½ of the field in a Paralympic event at a Senior World Championships or at the Paralympic Games.

Depending on performances and the Carding history of athletes, 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 National Card, the athlete will have the choice to decline the Development card in favor of being nominated for a Senior National Card.

Athletes who meet the national criteria for Senior Cards for the first time are normally awarded C1 Cards and are funded at the Development Card level. If, however, the athlete has been previously carded at the SR1 or SR2 level or was named to the Senior World Championship Team or a Paralympic Team before meeting the national criteria for the Senior Card for the first time, the athlete will be funded at the Senior National Card (SR) level rather than at the Development Card level.

4. SPECIFIC CARDING CRITERIA

The following priorities constitute the sequential order for nominating eligible athletes until there are no funds remaining.

In the event that there are insufficient funds to award a Development or Senior Card to all athletes within each of the priorities 4.1 to 4.4 below then the method used to rank athletes will be:

Position of finish (e.g. 2nd will be ranked ahead of 3rd and so on). In the event that there is a tie the percentage time differential from the A Final Time will determine who will be nominated.

Please note that athletes considered for nomination as a Senior National Card under Priority 2 and 4 may also be subject to Progression Criteria (See Section 5 for details).

4.1 Priority 1: International Cards (SR1/SR2)

Top 8 AND Top Half of the competing field in an ICF 2020 Paralympic Program event. An SR1 card takes priority over an SR2 card:

4.1.1. **SR1 card:** 2020 Paralympic Games;

4.1.2. **SR2 card:** 2019 Senior World Championships;

Athletes nominated for SR2 need to demonstrate that they are maintaining a training and competition program supervised by the National Discipline Coach.

4.2 Priority 2: Allocation of Paralympic Games Senior National Cards

Athletes who are nominated and compete at the 2020 Paralympic Games will be eligible for nomination as a Senior National Card.

4.3 Priority 3: Global Qualifier 2020 World Championships

Athletes who compete for Canada at the 2020 Global Qualifier Duisburg World Para Canoe Championships (Paralympic Qualification events only), but are not nominated to the 2020 Paralympic Team will be eligible for nomination as a Senior Card. Note: Athletes may be subject to progression criteria (See section 5 for details)

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

See criteria in Section 6.

4.5 Priority 4: Allocation of Development Cards

4.5.1 After exhausting the above priorities, eligible athletes will be nominated according to the Para canoe Trials Ranking List at NTT for each Classification. If two or more athletes are the highest ranked athletes on their respective ranking list then a **Performance Rank** will be determined for each athlete. The athlete with the highest performance rank will be nominated. This process will be repeated until the AAP funds are exhausted.

4.5.2 Factors assessing the quality of performance can include:

- % time differential from the AFT - An athlete's performance against an Top 8 Final Time (See Appendix A).

- % time differential from the GMT – An athlete’s performance against a Gold Medal Time (See Appendix A).
- Performance Progression (See Section 5)
- Injury, Illness and Pregnancy (See Section 6)
- Unforeseen Circumstances (See Section 7)

These factors are in no particular order and one or more may be used to either support or dismiss a selection. Other factors not listed may also be considered.

5 PROGRESSION CRITERIA

Athletes can retain Senior (SR or C1) card status for a maximum of four years total (excludes the U21 Category), by the end of which SR1/SR2 card status should have been attained. This four-year period may be extended if an athlete is demonstrating improvement towards SR1/SR2 status and, after a thorough review (Conducted by the CTO), is recommended by CKC and approved by Sport Canada. Any extension would be for a one-year period only.

6 INJURY, ILLNESS AND PREGNANCY CARDS FOR ICF 2020 PARALYMPIC 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.

6.1 **A SR1/SR2 or a Senior National Card athlete who was a member of the Senior World Championship or Paralympic 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:

6.1.1 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 CTO will assume responsibility for the assessment and

management of such injuries, medical conditions or illnesses and for the determination of whether such injuries or illnesses are career-ending;

- 6.1.2 In the case of injury or illness, no Carding nominations will be made for injuries that are determined by CTO in consultation with medical professionals to be career-ending;
- 6.1.3 If an Athlete competes in a qualifying event, they may not invoke Section 6 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;
- 6.1.4 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 CTO; 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.

7 UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

These criteria are intended to apply where fair racing conditions exist. Situations may arise where unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond CKC's control do not allow racing or team/crew selection to take place in a fair manner or in the best interests of the priorities and general principles for selection as indicated in these criteria; or do not allow the procedure for nomination as described in this document to be applied.

In the event of such unforeseen circumstances the CTO will, where possible, consult with the HC and the HPC to determine if the circumstances justify if selection should take place in an alternative manner. The CTO will determine whether to allow racing or selection to take place so that the priorities and general principles of selection as indicated in these criteria and the nomination procedure as described in this document may be applied in a fair and just manner.

8 PARA CANOE TRIALS RANKING LISTS

To establish the Para canoe Trials Ranking List:

- 8.1 To be considered for a Senior National or Development Card there will be two (2) finals for each classification and event at NTT.

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](#).

APPENDIX A

Gold Medal Times

Any performance times to be compared against the AFT will be rounded to the 10th of a second. E.g. 49.46 becomes 49.5 or alternatively 1:00.34 would become 1:00.3.

EVENT	GMT	AFT (Top 8)
KL3-MEN	40.0	43.0
KL3-WOMEN	50.0	56.0
KL2-MEN	42.0	46.0
KL2-WOMEN	50.0	59.0
KL1-MEN	50.0	55.0
KL1-WOMEN	56.0	62.0
VL3-MEN	48.0	53.0
VL3-WOMEN	60.0	73.0
VL2-MEN	53.0	59.0
VL2-WOMEN	59.0	72.0
VL1-MEN	66.0	72.0
VL1-WOMEN	74.0	80.0

APPENDIX B

Ranking List Assignment of Points

Position of Finish	Points
1	18
2	17
3	16
4	15
5	14
6	13
7	12
8	11
9	10
10	9
11	8
12	7
13	6
14	5
15	4
16	3
17	2
18	1