



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

**Carding Cycle: November 1, 2022 to October 31, 2023**

Final Selection Criteria Approved by the Sprint Racing Council – March 17, 2022

## **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 is athletes and their coaches. This applies to both athletes who now currently access, or, wish to access the AAP.

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 AAP, are designed to support amateur high performance pathway athletes that demonstrate the potential to progress to the Top 8 in the World in an Olympic 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 2024 Olympic Program is as follows:

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

**Note:** The Sport Canada AAP will only approve athlete/crew performances achieved in the ICF 2024 Olympic 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 followed the criteria found within this document when making nominations.

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 these Carding 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. Meaning in this instance not be currently suspended or under sanction which precludes them from being eligible for carding.
- 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 CTO – (Section 5);
- C. Must possess Canadian citizenship, or Permanent Resident status, by November 1, 2022, and must satisfactorily demonstrate that they will be eligible to compete for Canada in International Canoe Federation (ICF) competitions and the Olympic Games;
- D. Must not be under suspension (including a provisional suspension), or other sanction, for any doping or doping-related offense;

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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.

- E. Must not be under suspension (including a provisional suspension) for any violation of CKC policies or the policies of any other sport organization with authority over the athlete;
- 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; and
- J. 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.

## 2.3 Events for Performance Evaluation

Decisions on carding nominations will be based upon performances in the following events only. Priority ranking is listed in Section 4:

Type of Card or Performance Level	NTT2	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 the Sprint discipline the equivalent of 30 Senior Cards or \$635,400 in AAP funding for the November 2022 to October 2023 Carding cycle. Sport Canada reviews its carding allocations regularly therefore 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 in a Olympic Event at a Senior World Championships or Olympic Games.

Depending on performances and the carding history of athletes in 2022, 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 an Olympic 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 4.6 below then the method used to rank athletes will be:

Position of finish (e.g. 2<sup>nd</sup> will be ranked ahead of 3<sup>rd</sup> and so on). In the event that there is a tie, the percentage time differential from the Gold Medal Time will determine who will be nominated.

Please note that athletes considered for nomination as a Senior National Card under Priorities 2, 4, 6, 7 may also be subject to Progression Criteria (See Section 5 for details).

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

The Crew must have placed in the Top 8 AND top half of the field<sup>2</sup> in an ICF 2024 Olympic Program event at the:

- **SR1 card:** 2022 Senior World Championships;
- **SR2 card:** 2021 Olympic Games;

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 National Cards**

Crews who achieve a Top 1/3 of field finish<sup>3</sup> in an ICF 2024 Olympic Program event at the 2022 Senior World Championships will be eligible for nomination as a Senior National Card.

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

See criteria in Injury and Illness, Section 6.1

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<sup>2</sup> In order to determine the size of the field, disqualifications (DSQ) and did not finish (DNF) results will count; however, a did not start (DNS) will not be counted when determining the size of the field.

<sup>3</sup> Please see note 2 above.

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

U23 eligible Crews who achieve a Podium Performance in an ICF 2024 Olympic Program event at the 2022 U23 World Championships will be eligible for nomination as a Senior National Card.

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

Junior eligible Crews who achieve a Podium Performance in an ICF 2024 Olympic Program event at the 2022 Junior World Championships will be eligible for a nomination as a Development Card.

#### **4.6 Priority 6: Allocation of Junior World Priority Development Card**

Junior eligible Crews who win the 2024 Olympic Distance Singles U18 final at NTT2 will be eligible for nomination for a Development Card. For women's kayak, this priority applies only to the U18 Women's Final 1.

#### **4.7 Priority 7: Allocation of Senior World Championship Team Senior National Cards**

Crews who were named to 2022 Senior World Championships in an ICF 2024 Olympic Program event by either being nominated through Method A (Section 4) of the Senior World Championship Selection processor or through winning two Olympic events at NTT1 and/or NTT2 combined, will be eligible for a nomination as a Senior National Card. Crews will be eligible under this priority for a nomination in order of final ranking achieved at the 2022 Senior World Championships in a 2024 Olympic Program event.

#### **4.8 Priority 8: Allocation of Remaining Cards**

For those athletes who are not already carded through Priorities 1-6, the allocation of any remaining Senior National and Development cards will be determined according to a National Rank and a Performance Rank, as described below.

The athlete with the highest National Rank on each discipline ranking list will be assessed to determine a Performance Rank. The athlete with the highest Performance Rank will be nominated for a Senior National Card.

Following the nomination of the first Senior National Card described above, the U21 athlete with the highest National Rank on each discipline ranking list will be assessed to determine a Performance Rank. The athlete with the highest Performance Rank will be nominated for a U21 Development Card.

Exception: If the athlete with the highest U21 Performance Rank is also the athlete with the highest National Rank (including seniors in the same discipline) and has the highest Performance Rank across disciplines, then the athlete will be offered a Senior National Card. If the athlete accepts the Senior National Card the next U21 athlete with the highest National Rank and Performance Rank amongst U21 athletes will be nominated as a Development Card. If the athlete declines the Senior National Card then the next athlete with the highest national rank and performance rank amongst all athletes (U21 and Senior) will be nominated for a Senior National Card.

The process of alternating from Senior National Card to Development Card assessment will continue until no funding remains.

#### **4.7.1 National Rank**

4.7.1.1 National Rank will be determined on the basis of the combined ranking of the following events from NTT2:

- Women's Kayak 500m Final 1 and Final 2.
- Women's Canoe 500m and 200m
- Men's Canoe 1000m and 500m
- Men's Kayak 1000m and 500m



4.7.1.2 All athletes will compete in open events to establish an overall National Rank for each event identified in 4.7.1.1 above. The ranking list will be calculated by adding the points achieved at NTT2 in the above-mentioned events.

4.7.1.3 Athletes nominated to the Senior World Championship Team under Method A of the 2022 Senior World Championships Team Criteria Supplement and who do not race at NTT2 will be placed in the NTT2 discipline ranking list based on the ranking they achieved at NTT1.

For example, if Athlete A is selected to the Senior World Championships Team under Method A was ranked first in Men C1 1000m and third in Men C1 500 at NTT1, the ranking list for NTT2 in Men C1 1000m would start with Athlete A as the first ranked, then the winner of NTT2 would be ranked second, and so on In the C1 500m, athletes who place first and second would be placed at those respective rankings, and then Athlete A would be ranked third. The athlete who placed third in the C1 500 at NTT2 would be ranked fourth on the ranking list.

4.7.1.4 Only results from the A or B final at any trials will be used. Race-off results related to team selections will not be considered.

#### **4.7.2 Performance Rank**

Athletes will also be ranked according to an assessment of performance. This performance rank will be used to determine a rank between two athletes within a discipline and between disciplines.

- 4.7.2.1 Factors that will be considered when assessing the quality of performance can include:
- % time differential from the GMT - An athlete/crew's performance against a Gold Medal Time (see Appendix A)

- % time differential from the Winner
- % time differential from the previous finisher
- 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, but only if they are communicated to athletes in advance of the relevant selection event(s).

Where relevant and necessary, environmental factors and course conditions may be considered when conducting the performance assessment described above.

Should a tie breaker be required, the % time differential from the GMT will be used.

## **5 PROGRESSION CRITERIA**

- 5.1 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 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.

- 6.1 **A SR1/SR2 or a Senior National Card 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:
- 6.1.1 The 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 the CTO in consultation with medical professionals to be career-ending;

6.1.3 If an athlete competes in an event used for performance evaluation (listed in 2.3 above) 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 as determined by CKC staff, the CTO will, where possible, consult with the HC and the HPC to determine if the circumstances justify racing or 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 APPEALS PROCESS**

Appeals of Canoe Kayak Canada AAP nomination/re-nomination decisions, or of a Canoe Kayak Canada's recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through Canoe Kayak Canada's appeal process as described in its Appeal Policy. Appeals of decisions made by Sport Canada under Section 6 (Application for and Approval of Cards) or Section 11 (Withdrawal of Carding Status) of Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program Policies and Procedures may be pursued as described in Section 13 therein.

## APPENDIX A

### Performance Times

Any performance times to be compared against the A-Final Time (AFT) will be rounded to the 10<sup>th</sup> of a second  
E.g. 3.49.46 becomes 3.49.5 another example 45.88 would become 45.9.

Event	Senior GMT	Senior AFT
MC1 1000m	3:50.0	4:00.0
MC2 500m	1:39.6	1:43.9
MK1 1000m	3:27.0	3:33.1
MK2 500m	1:28.3	1:33.0
MK4 500m	1:18.0	1:20.0
WK1 500m	1:48.5	1:52.0
WK2 500m	1:39.0	1:44.0
WK4 500m	1:31.6	1:35.5
WC1 200m	46.0	50.0
WC2 500m	1:57.0	2:05.0

## 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