



**CARDING NOMINATION CRITERIA & PROCEDURES FOR THE
SPORT CANADA ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AAP) 2023-2024
Carding Cycle for PARA-SNOWBOARD**

Approval Authority:	Executive Director & Sport Canada
Responsible Department:	High Performance
Approval Date:	November 30, 2022
Revision:	Yearly (Pre-Season)
Next Review Date:	August 2023
Related Policies:	Canada Snowboard High Performance Program General Policies, & Team Selection Protocols.

Canada Snowboard is carefully following the evolution of the coronavirus on the global and domestic level and how it may impact the AAP Carding criteria for 2023-24, Unless otherwise required by exceptional and unforeseen circumstances related to the impact of the coronavirus, Canada Snowboard will respect this published nomination criteria as written.

However, situations related to the coronavirus pandemic may arise that require this nomination criteria to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly impact the nomination criteria. In such circumstances, any modifications will come into effect as of the date of publication and will be communicated to all affected individuals as soon as possible.

Further, situations may arise that do not allow this nomination criteria to be modified or applied as written due to time constraints or other exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. In such situations, any decision, including nomination decisions, will be made by the individual(s) with decision-making authority, as stated in this nomination criteria, in consultation with the relevant individual(s) or committee(s) (as applicable), and in accordance with the stated performance objectives and selection philosophy and approach as stated herein. Should it be necessary to make any decision in this manner, Canada Snowboard will communicate with all affected individuals as soon as possible.

I. GENERAL PRACTICES

- 1) The Carding Criteria are developed as prescribed in Sport Canada’s AAP Policies and Procedures, “Section 5.5 - Establishing Carding Criteria”. Specifically, the process is:
 - a) Nomination Criteria and Procedures are developed by the High-Performance Program technical and coaching staff;
 - b) These are reviewed by the CS Athlete’s Council and Executive Director and they independently propose recommendations;
 - c) Sport Canada reviews the criteria to ensure they comply with the AAP Policies; and
 - d) Final version of the criteria is approved by the Executive Director, as the Board delegated “NSO decision making body” for submission to Sport Canada.



- 2) This document is renewed on an annual basis, published and communicated normally 8 to 10 months before the beginning of the carding cycle as recommended by Sport Canada. Approved criteria should be published no later than the beginning of the competition season for the upcoming carding period.
- 3) Canada Snowboard in and of itself does not make the final decisions regarding the carding of individual athletes but rather nominates eligible athletes for AAP support (carding) to Sport Canada based on the application of the criteria and procedures outlined in this document, and in compliance with Sport Canada’s AAP Policies and Procedures.
- 4) The recommendation of nominees for carding is based on a robust process as outlined in Section V – Decision Making Process of these Nomination Criteria and Procedures.

II. SPORT CANADA ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AAP) OVERVIEW

- 5) The Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) is a sport-funding program that contributes to the pursuit of excellence. AAP support seeks to relieve some of the financial pressures associated with preparing for and participating in international sport and assists high-performance Canadian athletes to combine their sport and academic or working careers while training intensively in pursuit of world-class performances. The AAP is commonly referred to as “*Athlete Carding*”.
- 6) Sport Canada’s general policies and procedures governing AAP can be referenced online at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance/policies-procedures.html>
- 7) Athletes approved by Sport Canada for the AAP may be eligible for a living and training allowance, tuition support, deferred tuition support, and supplementary support. Athletes funded by AAP receive a monthly financial stipend for up to 12 months as follows:

Card Type	Monthly Stipend
Senior International Card (SR1/SR2)	\$1,765
Senior National Card (SR)	\$1,765
Senior Probationary Card (C1)*	\$1,060
Development Card (D)	\$1,060

NOTE: C1 carded athletes are funded at the Development Card level in the first year if they meet the national criteria for a Senior Card, even if they have previously been carded at the Development (D) level. If, however, the athlete has been previously carded at the SR1 or SR2 level, has been named to the national senior team, and has competed in World Championships or the Paralympics before meeting the national criteria for the Senior Card for the first time, then the athlete will be funded at the Senior Card (SR) level rather than at the Development Card level.

III. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- 8) In order to be **eligible for nomination** by Canada Snowboard to participate in the AAP, that is, to be nominated as a carded athlete, an athlete **must:**



- a) Be named as a team member of the 2023-24 High Performance Program (HPP), which is defined as the National Team or NextGen (Team or Program). The HPP selection criteria can be found in the 'Document Centre' of the Canada Snowboard Website: <https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs/>;
- b) Be a Canadian citizen or Permanent Resident of Canada and have been a legal resident in Canada (student status, refugee status, work visa or permanent resident) for a minimum period of one year before the beginning of the carding cycle. The athlete would normally be expected to have participated in Canada Snowboard sanctioned programs during that time period;
- c) Compete in snowboard events on the 2026 Paralympic program (Snowboardcross and Banked Slalom);
- d) Achieve competition results as an individual as detailed in section, "VII. Carding Criteria" between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023.
 - i. Team event results are not eligible for carding nominations.
- e) The athlete, under the Snowboard eligibility requirements of the Federation International de Ski (FIS), must currently be eligible to represent Canada at major international competitions, including World Championships, at the beginning of the carding cycle for which the athlete is being nominated; and
- f) Be a member in good standing with Canada Snowboard, as that term is understood in Section 1.1(f) of the Canada Snowboard Bylaws, applied mutatis mutandis.

NOTE: Canada Snowboard recommends that all athletes with an annual income after sport deductions of \$50,000 or more, decline AAP financial support. Funds declined in this way are reallocated to other athletes in the same sport whose income is below the voluntary income guideline.

IV. PRIORITIZATION OF NOMINATIONS

- 9) The quota for Canada Snowboard is the equivalent of 4 Senior Cards (\$84,720). Sport Canada normally reviews its carding allocations for all sports after each Paralympic/Olympic Games; therefore, Canada Snowboard's carding quota may be subject to change.
 - a) Nominations for AAP will be made in the following priority order for each of the three (3) Carding levels:
 - 1. International Senior Card (SR1/SR2)
 - a. Carding Priority Met
 - i. Athlete Score ranking
 - 2. National Senior Card (SR, C1) including Senior Injury Cards (SRinj)
 - a. Carding Priority Met
 - i. Athlete Score ranking
 - 3. Development Card (D) including Development Injury Cards
 - a. Carding Priority Met
 - i. Athlete Score ranking

Nominations will be made at each Carding level in the order of priority until there are no remaining eligible athletes in the Carding level before allocating cards to the next Carding level and so on, until there are no remaining cards, or there are no remaining eligible athletes.

NOTE: A minimum of four (4) months of carding support must be available for an athlete to be nominated.



- b) There will be up to three (3) Senior Cards (SR1, SR2, SR, C1 and SRinj) allocated to eligible athletes based on priority order of the discipline for a total of three (3) Senior Cards (up to \$63,540).
- c) There will be one (1) Development Card (D) allocated to the first ranked eligible athlete for a total of one (1) Development Card (up to \$12,720).
- d) Any unused carding from the above in addition to the \$8,460 that remains will be allocated to the next eligible athlete in the carding priority order of Senior International (SR1/SR2), Senior National (SR/C1), then Development (D) as a partial card until there is no longer eligible athletes or no longer any available funding to allocate.

Canada Snowboard ‘Athlete Point’ Calculation and Ranking Example:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Event 1</u>	<u>Event 2</u>	<u>‘Athlete Points’</u>	<u>World Position</u>	<u>Priority Event Result</u>	<u>Carding Level met</u>
PARA Rider 1	Landgraaf BSL WC - 3	Secret Garden, Paralympics SBX – 5	600	7	Secret Garden, Paralympics SBX – 5	SR1
PARA Rider 2	Phya SBX WC – 3	Secret Garden, Paralympics SBX – 9	386	11	Phya SBX WC – 3	S – Priority 1
PARA Rider 3	Landgraaf BSL WC – 9*	Phya SBX WC - 11	410	14	Landgraaf BSL WC – 9*	S – Priority 2
Para Rider 4	Landgraaf BSL WC – 8**	Phya SBX WC - 9	190	22	Landgraaf BSL WC – 8**	D – Priority 1

*Indicates a result within the top 1/3

**Indicates a result within the top ½ but not the top 1/3

In the above example, the athletes are first ranked by the carding criteria they have met, SR being Senior International (obtained from a Paralympic Top 8 result), then S for Senior National (Results from World Cup events or higher) and so on. Within the different carding priorities, the athletes are ranked within the priority by the Canada Snowboard ‘Athlete Points’ which is the FIS points earned from their best two (2) results, as typically described on the 2024 FIS Base Points List. In the event that the FIS Base Points List are not published before the AAP Nomination Deadline, Canada Snowboard calculates ‘Athlete Points’ by the average of the FIS Points earned from their best two eligible results from the just concluded competition season.

V. DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

- 10) The Selection Committee will consist of the Sport & High-Performance Director (HPD), High Performance Managers (HPM) and the High Performance Coordination (HPC) in consultation with the Para National Team Coach(es) or appointed technical coach. The Selection Committee will evaluate all eligible athletes based on Canada Snowboard’s published nomination criteria and then recommend a prioritized list of athletes to be nominated for carding support. The prioritized list is submitted to Canada Snowboard’s Executive Director for approval based on the recommendations of the Selection Committee.



- 11) This prioritized list will be posted around May 31, 2023 on the Canada Snowboard website and sent to all members of Canada Snowboard (athletes and coaches) via Canada Snowboard Newsletter (email) of the provisional nominations.

Athletes will have a period of seven (7) days following the notification to appeal their provisional status of not being nominated or their ineligibility for carding. Any appeal launched by an athlete will be expedited in accordance with the *'Canada Snowboard Appeal Policy'* at: https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/Canada_Snowboard_Appeals_Policy_EN.pdf

NOTE: It is important to note that the email used for your CS membership account will be the one used for the newsletter unless you have opted out of receiving notifications. To sign up an email address there is a newsletter sign up box at the bottom of the Canada Snowboard webpage.

- 12) Sport Canada reviews all nominations put forward by Canada Snowboard and has the final approval of the nominations in accordance with the Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) policies and Canada Snowboard approved carding nomination criteria.

VI. APPLICATION PROCESS

- 13) Athletes whose nominations are approved by Sport Canada **must complete** the following to receive their carding support:
 - a) Complete an AAP Application Form;
 - b) Sign the Canada Snowboard athlete agreement for the year in question; and
 - c) Complete the CCES online anti-doping courses for the year in question.

VII. CARDING CRITERIA

Field Placing Definition:

A field placing result is not rounded to the nearest whole number because the priority is looking for an actual final finish position result. As a practical example, the dividing line between the top third (1/3) and the rest of the field in a final finish field depth of 58 competitors is at 19.33 so all those who finished 19th place or better are in the top third and those who finished 20th or poorer are not. DNFs and DSQs are counted when determining the field size as those competitors started in the event; however, DNS does not count toward the field size and will be removed from the field size calculation.

- 14) **International Senior Card (SR1/SR2):**
 - a) **Only** athletes named to the Canada Snowboard 2023-24 High Performance Program may be eligible for an International Senior Card (SR1/SR2).
 - b) Athletes who meet the criteria are eligible to be nominated for carding for two consecutive years (SR1 = 1st year, SR2 = 2nd year).
 - c) Only eligible results from events on the 2026 Paralympic Program (Snowboardcross or Banked Slalom) will be considered.
 - i. Team event results will not be considered for SR1/SR2 carding.



- d) The second year of International Senior Carding (SR2) is contingent on the athlete remaining in the Canada Snowboard High Performance Program (or be granted approval to train outside of the HPP), being re-nominated by Canada Snowboard and maintaining a training and competitive program approved by both Canada Snowboard and Sport Canada.
- e) Sport Canada sets the criteria for International Senior Cards:

INTERNATIONAL SENIOR CARDS (SR1/SR2) PARA

International Senior Cards (SR1, SR2) are awarded to athletes named to the 2023-24 High Performance Program, and who achieve the following priority:

Priority 1: An eligible athlete qualifies for an SR1 Card if they placed in the top eight (8) and top half (1/2) of the field at the 2023 La Molina World Championships (WCH). Ranking will be determined by final results placing.

Priority 2: An eligible athlete qualifies for an SR2 Card if they placed in the Top Eight (8) and Top Half (1/2) of the field at the 2022 Beijing Winter Paralympic Games (PWG), and are renamed to the 2023-24 HPP. Ranking will be determined by final results placing.

If a tie exists within Priority 1 or 2, the tie shall be broken by the Canada Snowboard Athlete Ranking determined by the 'Athlete Points' (including frozen FIS Points for a health-related curtailment of activities).

15) National Senior Card (SR/C1) Criteria:

- a) **Only** athletes named to the Canada Snowboard 2023-24 HPP may be eligible for a Senior Card (SR).
- b) SR/C1 cards support athletes with the potential to reach International Senior Card status. Senior Cards are awarded to members of the HPP on the basis of International Event results.
- c) For the first year an athlete meets the Senior National Criteria, he or she will receive a C1 Senior Card, which is funded at the Development card level. If, however, the athlete has been previously carded at the SR1 or SR2 level, has been named to the National Senior team of their discipline, or has competed in World Championships or the Paralympic Winter Games before meeting the national criteria for the Senior Card for the first time, the athlete will be funded at the Senior Card (SR) level rather than at the Development Card level.
- d) **Team Event** results will **not** be considered for SR/C1 carding.
- e) An athlete is expected to progress in their results in order to maintain Senior card (SR) status. Five (5) years is the maximum that an athlete will be carded at the Senior (SR & C1) level based on national criteria (carding at the SR1/SR2/SRinj/D level) will not count towards the Five (5) year maximum. After such time, the Selection Committee, in consultation with Sport Canada, will conduct a comprehensive review of the athlete's performance over the past five years in order to demonstrate progress towards meeting the International Senior carding criteria and justify the nomination for an additional year at the Senior Carding level. To do so the Selection Committee will analyze a variety of elements including but not limited to: the athlete's results and skill progression compared to the Top 8 performers at the International Level in the discipline, the Gold Medal Profile and Podium Pathway data.



- f) Athletes that have reached this maximum number of years as per point e) above will be informed by Canada Snowboard that on top of meeting the SR criteria they must show progression towards being a Top-8 performer in their discipline at the International Level to be eligible for an additional year of AAP support.

NATIONAL SENIOR CARDS (SR/C1) PARA
<p>Senior Cards (SR, C1, SRinj) are awarded to athletes named to the 2023-24 HPP, and who achieve one of the following priorities:</p> <p>Priority 1: Athletes placing on the Podium (1st place through 3rd place) and within the Top-Half of the field in a FIS World Cup or 2023 FIS World Championships (WCH) during the 2022-23 season.</p> <p>Priority 2: Athlete who place in the Top Third (1/3) at one (1) of the following competitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• FIS World Cup, or• FIS 2023 World Championships (WCH). <p>Priority 3: Athletes who meet the “Health Related Curtailment of Activities” criteria as described in Section 18 points a) through c) and were carded the previous year at the Senior level (SR2/SR/C1). Prioritization will be based on the athletes ranking for nomination the previous year.</p> <p>Priority 4: This priority is only available to athletes who meet the Senior National Carding criteria for the first time, ordinarily for a C1 card:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Athletes who have placed in the Top-Half (1/2) at a minimum of one (1) FIS World Cup or 2023 FIS World Championships (WCH) during the 2022 – 23 season. <p>If, however, an athlete has previously been named to the Senior National Team or competed at a FIS World Championships or the Paralympic Winter Games before meeting the national Senior Card (for the first time), she or he will receive a Senior card (SR).</p> <p>NOTE: This priority is not available to athletes that have met the Senior International (SR) Carding Criteria in previous years.</p> <p>Rankings within the priorities: Rankings within the priorities will be based on the Canada Snowboard Athlete Ranking determined by the ‘Athlete Points’ (included frozen FIS Points for a health-related curtailment of activities).</p> <p>If a further tie exists in the ‘Athlete Points’, the tie shall be broken by the single best (lowest) field placing at an eligible event within the priority until the tie is broken using the equation (field placing = final result / field size x 100)</p>

16) **Development Card (D):**

- a) **Only** athletes named to the 2023-24 Canada Snowboard HPP may be eligible for a Development Card (D).



- b) 'D' cards are intended to support the developing athletes who clearly demonstrate the potential to achieve the Senior International criteria in the future but are not yet able to meet the Senior National criteria.
- c) 'D' cards are awarded on the basis of the athlete's Canada Snowboard Athlete Ranking which will include International/National events.
- d) Team event results will not be considered for 'D' carding.
- e) Athletes will be nominated based on the following priorities and as per the nomination process outlined in section VI.
- f) Development Card Restrictions:
 - 1. Athletes previously carded at a Senior level (SR1, SR2, SR, SRinj, C1) for two (2) or more years are not eligible for nominations under the Development card criteria, unless they were at the FIS Junior age category or in another discipline/sport when they achieved these levels.

The details of FIS junior age categories can be referenced online in point 2014.10 on page 58 at: https://assets.fis-ski.com/image/upload/v1657274302/fis-prod/assets/SBFSFK_NEW_ICR_marked_up_spring_2022_clean_08.07.22.pdf

DEVELOPMENT CARDS (D) PARA
<p>A minimum of one (1) Development card will be allocated to the top ranked eligible athlete based on the development priorities and the 'Athlete Points'. If there is less than one (1) eligible athlete that meet the Development criteria, then the unused carding amount will be returned to the overall amount for allocation.</p> <p>Development Cards (D) are awarded to athletes named to the 2023-24 HPP, and who achieve one of the following priorities:</p> <p>Priority 1: Athletes placing within the Top Half (1/2) of the field in a FIS World Cup during the 2022-23 season.</p> <p>Priority 2: Athletes named to the HPP who meet the "Health Related Curtailment of Activities" criteria (as described in Section 18) and were carded the previous year at the Development (D) level. Rankings will be based on the Canada Snowboard Athlete rankings (including the athlete's frozen FIS Points).</p> <p>Priority 3: Remaining cards will be awarded to the highest ranked Development card eligible athletes based on the Canada Snowboard Athlete Ranking.</p> <p>Ranking within the priorities:</p> <p>In Priority 1, if there are fewer cards than athletes meeting the Development criteria, the athletes with the highest placing at a 2022-23 FIS World Cup will be ranked higher. If a tie still exists, then the Canada Snowboard Athlete Ranking will be used to break the tie.</p> <p>In Priority 2 & 3, if there are fewer cards than athletes meeting the priority, then athletes will be ranked using the Canada Snowboard Athlete Ranking (including frozen FIS Points for a health-related curtailment of activities). If a further tie exists in the 'Athlete Points' it shall be broken using the athletes' best percentage of field placing calculated as follows:</p> <p>Athletes placing divided by the total number of athletes multiplied by 100 in their best FIS World Cup competition</p>



during the 2022-23 season.

If a tie remains it shall be broken on the basis of the athletes' percentage of the field placing at their next best FIS World Cup competition during the 2022-23 season until the tie is broken.

17) Athletes Qualifying for Cards in Multiple Disciplines or Both Development and Senior Cards:

- a) An athlete who is eligible for both a Senior Card (SR) and a Development Card (D) must be nominated for a SR Card and cannot be nominated for a D Card unless no SR Cards remain available.
- b) An athlete can only be nominated for a single card even if they meet criteria for multiple disciplines.

18) Health Related Curtailment of Activities Card Criteria (SRInj):

- a) A carded athlete who, for health-related reasons documented by a Canada Snowboard approved physician, is unable to participate in training or competitive activities shall continue to be carded for the balance of the cycle, provided the following conditions are met:
 - 1. The athlete does not withdraw from the HPP during that period and provides written confirmation of his or her intention to return to full participation in the HPP at the earliest possible date.
 - 2. Written evaluation is provided by both the Canada Snowboard coaching staff and a Canada Snowboard approved physician, indicating that the athlete can be expected to return to full participation within the next twelve (12) months.
 - 3. The athlete undertakes in writing to train and/or rehabilitate under the supervision of Canada Snowboard or its designate at a level that minimizes risk to the athlete's personal health and ensures an optimal return to full training and competition at the earliest possible date. Failure to follow such a program without due cause shall be grounds for the immediate termination of the athlete's carding.

- b) A carded athlete, who at the end of the carding cycle has not achieved the standard required for the renewal of their carding status after missing at least 15% of events that they would have normally been invited (and planned) to attend strictly due to a health related issue (pregnancy/illness/injury) and the issue has been clearly documented by a Canada Snowboard approved physician (or Physio Lead), or multiple event cancellations due to unforeseen circumstances such as a pandemic may be considered for re-nomination for carding at the same level (C1 carded athletes may be recommended for SR) based on the priority of nominations set in the carding criteria (Point #16) and provided that sufficient cards remain available at that level, under the following conditions:
 - 1. The athlete has not started in eight (8) or more events throughout the 2022-23 carding cycle (DNF & DSQ will count as a start but a DNS will not).
 - 2. The athlete has fulfilled all reasonable Canada Snowboard supervised training and rehabilitation requirements;



3. **Health Related Issue:** A written evaluation to be provided by a Canada Snowboard designated physician (or Para-Medical Lead) indicating that the athlete can be expected to return to full participation during the extended carding period;

Only used for major unforeseen circumstances such as a Global Pandemic: To be considered eligible, athletes who were carded at a SR level (including C1) for the 2022-23 season that were unable to re-meet the carding nomination criteria due to multiple cancelled events must have previously met the SR carding criteria at least one of the same cancelled events, at the same location, within the previous two competition seasons. Athletes meeting this requirement will still be ranked within the priority based on the Canada Snowboard Athlete Ranking determined by the 'Athlete Points'. In this case, if the athlete has started in two (2) or more events in the 2022-23 season, the athlete's points for ranking will be determined by their 2022-23 results. If, however the athlete was unable to attend two (2) events during the 2022-23 competition season, Canada Snowboard will use their 'Athlete Points' ranking from the previous year.

4. A written evaluation to be provided by the Canada Snowboard coaching staff indicating that the athlete can be expected to achieve at least the minimum standards required for future carding during the extended carding period; and
 5. The athlete has demonstrated his or her long-term commitment to the HPP and has stated his or her intention to pursue full high-performance training and competition during the extended carding period.
- c) A carded athlete who misses, for health-related reasons documented by a Canada Snowboard approved physician, two consecutive seasons of training/competition due to the same health issue (pregnancy/illness/injury), will no longer be eligible for re-nomination for an "injury card".

VIII. WITHDRAW TEMPORARILY OR PERMANENTLY

- 19) If an athlete wishes, for other than health related reasons, to withdraw temporarily or permanently from regular athlete training and competition activities (unless Canada Snowboard has authorized them to train outside of the HPP), the normal rules for withdrawal from the Athlete Assistance Program shall apply. The athlete will no longer be eligible for monthly training and living support, but may be eligible, if qualified, for Deferred Tuition or Supplementary support.

IX. APPEALS

- 20) Appeals of the Canada Snowboard AAP nomination/re-nomination decision or of Canada Snowboard's recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through Canada Snowboard's review process, which 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](#)).
- 21) Any member in good standing of Canada Snowboard who is materially affected may appeal a decision of Canada



Snowboard with respect to a nomination/re-nomination/withdraw of an athlete to the Athlete Assistance Program. Appeals must be conducted in accordance with the Canada Snowboard Appeals Protocol, which is available on the Canada Snowboard website https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/Canada_Snowboard_Appeals_Policy_EN.pdf

Members in good standing are also encouraged to consult the Canada Snowboard Appeals Policy Process Map which is available on the Canada Snowboard website at:
<https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/AppealsPolicyProcessMap.pdf>

- 22) In the event of an appeal, the affected athletes will have their carding support placed on hold until the appeal outcome is finalized. If a nominated athlete is listed as an affected athlete in an appeal, they will be notified by Canada Snowboard that their card has been placed on hold and will be invited to participate in the appeal process, should they choose to do so.