



**CARDING NOMINATION CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES
FOR THE SPORT CANADA ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AAP)
2025-2026 Carding Cycle**

Approval Authority:	Vice President, Sport
Responsible Department:	High Performance
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Related Policies:	Canada Snowboard High Performance Program General Policies and Team Selection Protocols

I. GENERAL PRACTICES

- 1) These Carding Nomination Criteria and Procedures (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) Draft Carding Criteria are developed by the High Performance Program (HPP) technical and coaching staff;
 - b) These are reviewed by the Canada Snowboard Athletes’ Council and Vice President, Sport (VPS), who independently propose recommendations and/or modifications to the original draft;
 - c) Sport Canada reviews the Carding Criteria to ensure it complies with the AAP Policies; and
 - d) A final version is approved by the VP Sport, as the Board-delegated “NSO decision making body”, for submission to Sport Canada.
- 2) This document is renewed on an annual basis and is normally published and communicated eight (8) to ten (10) months before the beginning of the carding cycle, as recommended by Sport Canada. Approved Carding Criteria should be published no later than the beginning of the competition season for the upcoming carding period.
- 3) Canada Snowboard 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. Sport Canada remains the final approval authority of the carding of individual athletes.
- 4) The recommendation of nominees for carding is based on a robust process as outlined in Section V of this Carding Criteria.

II. SPORT CANADA ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AAP) OVERVIEW

- 5) The AAP is a sport-funding program supporting athletes in their pursuit of excellence. AAP support seeks to relieve some of the financial pressures associated with preparing for and participating in international sport competitions. Additionally, it is intended to assist high-performance Canadian athletes to combine their sport and academic or

working careers while training intensively in pursuit of world-class performances in their sport. The AAP is commonly referred to as “Athlete Carding”.

- 6) Sport Canada’s latest version of their 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 (paid every two months) for a period of up to 12 months. The financial stipend amounts are based on the card type as follows:

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

*These amounts are subject to change by Sport Canada.

III. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- 8) In order to be **eligible for nomination** by Canada Snowboard to Sport Canada to participate in the AAP, that is, to be nominated as a carded athlete to Sport Canada, an athlete **must:**
 - a) Be named as a team member of the 2025-26 Canada Snowboard HPP, which is defined as the National Team or NextGen Team. The HPP Selection Protocol for all disciplines 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 (PLY) and Olympic (OLY) schedule (Para Snowboardcross, Para Banked Slalom, Parallel Giant Slalom, Halfpipe, Slopestyle, Big Air or Snowboardcross);
 - d) Achieve competition results, as an individual, detailed in Section VII. Carding Criteria, between July 1, 2024 and May 31, 2025;
 - i. **Team event** results are not eligible for carding nominations;
 - e) The athlete, under the Snowboard eligibility requirements of the International Ski and Snowboard Federation (FIS), must currently be eligible to represent Canada at major international competitions, including World Championships (WCH), 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*.
https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/files/Canada_Snowboard_Bylaws_EN.pdf

NOTE: Canada Snowboard recommends that all athletes with an annual income after sport expense 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 carding allocation for Canada Snowboard is the equivalent of four (4) Paralympic Senior Cards or \$84,720 and twenty-nine (29) Olympic Senior Cards or \$614,220. Sport Canada normally reviews its carding allocations for all sports after each Paralympic/Olympic Games (summer and winter); therefore, Canada Snowboard's carding allocation may be subject to change following the publication of this document.

- 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), including Senior Injury Cards (SRinj)
 - a. Carding Priority Met
 - i. Athlete Score ranking
 3. Development Card (D), including Development Injury Cards (Dinj).
 - 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.

Paralympic carding is only available to eligible athletes competing in competitions on the Paralympic program. These cards are not available to athletes competing in competitions on the Olympic program. If there are funds left in either Paralympic or Olympic card allocations following the nomination process, the remaining funds may be used to nominate a further eligible athlete in the other snowboard program.

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

- b) There will be a minimum of one (1) Development card allocated to the Paralympic discipline (which encompasses both Para-SBX and BSL) and two (2) Development Cards allocated to each Olympic discipline (SBX, ALP, SBS, Halfpipe) for a total of nine (9) Development Cards (\$114,480) reserved from the overall carding allocation available to CS. If there are less than one (1) Para and two (2) Olympic eligible athletes that meet the Development Card criteria in a discipline, then the unused carding amount will be returned to the overall amount for allocation.

In the rare case that a card nomination is returned and an athlete nominated for a Development Card is eligible for a National Senior Card due to the available funds, it is possible that the new Development Card for that discipline would be awarded as a partial card.

- c) Athlete ranking will be done separately between Paralympic and Olympic disciplines. For nomination within the carding priorities, the nomination order will be determined by the cross-discipline Canada Snowboard Athlete Ranking List using the 'Athlete's Points'. This list will be made internally by collecting data from the FIS Points List for Speed and the World Snowboard Points List (WSPL) and the FIS Points List for Park and Pipe.
 1. Park and Pipe athletes eligible for carding will be ranked on the same scale as Speed athletes and will be based on the Speed FIS Points rules. Any event that is a FIS World Cup (or higher) or non-FIS event that is 800+ WSPL Points or higher (being a World Cup or better event) will be calculated



on the same point distribution as a FIS Speed World Cup. The athletes’ best two (2) results will be averaged and calculated, which will be the same as the Speed FIS Points List for each eligible athlete. The point scale we will use can be referenced on page 5 of the Rules of the FIS Points Snowboard / Freestyle / Freeski, available here:

https://assets.fis-ski.com/f/252177/x/c8a8e9920c/sbfsfk_fis_points-2425-clean.pdf

Note: All Park and Pipe Continental Cup events will use the FIS Points assigned to them from FIS (this includes the Rev Tours and Air Nation events).

- For the purpose of the nomination rankings, the Slopestyle and Big-Air disciplines will be considered **one** discipline, and only Slopestyle results will be used for the athlete score ranking. The other four disciplines will be Alpine (including both Parallel Slalom (PSL) and Parallel Giant Slalom (PGS)), Snowboardcross, Halfpipe, and Para-Snowboard (including both Para-Snowboardcross and Banked Slalom).

Canada Snowboard ‘Athlete Point’ Calculation and Ranking Example:

Athlete	Carding Level Event Results	Carding Level	Priority	Event 1	Result	FIS Points	Event 2	Result	FIS Points	Average Points
SBX 1	WCH (SR1) 5 / 30 competitors	SR1	1	Gudauri WC	4	500	St Moritz WC	9	290	395
SBS 1	WCH (SR1) 8 / 32 competitors	SR1	1	Tignes WC	5	450	Stoneham NAC	1	200	325
SBS 2	Laax WC 1st / 59 Competitors	SR	1	Laax WC	1	1000	Silvaplana WC	1	1000	1000
SBX 2	Les Deux Alpes WC 1st / 68 competitors	SR	1	Les Deux Alpes WC	1	1000	St Moritz WC	2	900	950
ALP 1	injury (health related curtailment)	SR	1	Cortina PGS WC	22	90	Injury		562.5	562.5
SBX 3	Mt St Anne WC 4 / 57 competitors	SR	1	Mt St Anne WC	4	500	Montafon WC	7	360	430
HP 1	Copper Mountain WC 6th / 22 Competitors	SR	1	Secret garden WC	6	400	Copper WC	6	400	400
ALP 1	Pamporovo WC 16 / 60 Competitors	SR	1	Gotschen EC	1	360	Alpine Ski Club NAC	1	320	340
SBX 4	NAC Overall Ranking	D	2	Steamboat NAC	1	160	Gore Mountain NAC	1	160	160
HP 2	Development Ranking Athlete Score	D	4	Calgary WC	13	200	Copper WC	15	160	180
SBS 3	Development Ranking Athlete Score	D	4	Tignes WC	14	180	Stoneham NAC	2	153	166.5

In the above example, the athletes are first ranked by the carding criteria they have met, “SR1/SR2” being Senior International (results obtained from a WCH or PLY/OLY Top 8 result), “SR” being Senior National (results obtained from World Cups, 800+ WSPL events or higher), and so on. Within the different carding priorities, the athletes are ranked by the Canada Snowboard ‘Athlete Points’, which are the points earned from their best two (2) results.

For Park and Pipe athletes Canada Snowboard will calculate ‘Athlete Points’ using the same points scale as the Speed FIS Points List for all World Cups, World Championships and 700+ WSPL events (note that carried over FIS Base List values from the previous competition season are not eligible to determine an athlete’s ‘Athlete Points’ for ranking purposes within the carding priority). In the event that the FIS Base List for the just concluded competition season is not published before the AAP Nomination Deadline, Canada Snowboard calculates the ‘Athlete Points’ by the average of the FIS Points earned from their best two eligible results from the just concluded competition season.

In the example above, SBS and HP riders best two results have be calculated based on the Rules of the FIS Points Snowboard / Freestyle / Freeski applicable to Speed FIS Points List. The point scale used is the same point scale for all athletes in all

Olympic disciplines. All events below a World Cup level event will use the allocated FIS Points as published for both Speed and Park and Pipe. This remains the case for high level Rev Tours worth 700 or above on the WSPL, as these are technically a Nor-Am.

The example above also shows where an 'injury' rider who met the SR carding in the previous year would rank within the allocation process based on their frozen FIS points from the previous year.

V. DECISION MAKING AND PROVISIONAL NOMINATION PROCESS

- 10) The Selection Committee will consist of the Speed and Park and Pipe High Performance Directors (HPD's) and other CS HPP staff. The Selection Committee will evaluate all eligible athletes based on Canada Snowboard's published Carding Criteria and will then recommend a prioritized list of athletes to be nominated for carding support to Sport Canada. Before delivery to Sport Canada, the prioritized list is submitted to Canada Snowboard's VP, Sport for approval based on the recommendations of the Selection Committee.
- 11) The prioritized list of provisional nominations will be posted around May 31, 2025 on the Canada Snowboard website and sent to all members of Canada Snowboard (athletes and coaches) via Canada Snowboard Newsletter (email). The provisional list may be appealed within seven (7) days of announcement. The timeline is to ensure CS can account for any appeals within the nomination process to Sport Canada.

Note: Athletes are responsible for ensuring that Canada Snowboard has the correct email address for communication purposes. The registration email used for a Canada Snowboard membership account is the email used for the CS Newsletter mail outs, unless the athlete has opted out of receiving the newsletter notifications. Athletes may sign up for the Newsletter by entering their email address into the "Newsletter sign up" box at the bottom of the Canada Snowboard webpage (www.canadasnowboard.ca).

- 12) Sport Canada reviews all nominations put forward by Canada Snowboard and has the final approval of the nominations in accordance with the AAP policies and Canada Snowboard's approved Carding 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 HPP program year in question;
 - c) Sign the Universal Code of Conduct to Prevent and Address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS) Informed Consent Form, if required by Canada Snowboard;
 - d) Sign the Office of the Sport Integrity Commissioner (OSIC) Consent Form, if required by Canada Snowboard; and
 - e) 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 lower 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):

International Senior Card (SR1/SR2) Criteria for All Disciplines:

- a) **Only** athletes named to the Canada Snowboard 2025-26 HPP 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 or Olympic program (Para Snowboardcross, Para Banked Slalom, Parallel Giant Slalom, Halfpipe, Slopestyle, Big Air or Snowboardcross) 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 a member of the Canada Snowboard HPP for the season following their SR1 nomination (or being 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 (SR1/SR2) Cards:

INTERNATIONAL SENIOR CARDS (SR1/SR2) All Disciplines

International Senior Cards (SR1, SR2) are awarded to athletes named to the 2024-25 HPP, and who achieve the following priority for eligible disciplines in both programs (Paralympic/Olympic):

Priority 1:

Paralympic Disciplines: An eligible athlete qualifies for an SR1 Card if they placed in the Top Eight (8) and within the Top Half (1/2) of the field in their respective Sport Classification for Men and Women at the 2025 FIS Para Snowboard World Championships (PWCH) in their respective discipline. The athletes ranking will be determined by their final result placing.

Olympic Disciplines: An eligible athlete qualifies for an SR1 Card if they placed in the Top Eight (8) and within the Top Half (1/2) of the field at the 2025 FIS Snowboard World Championships (WCH) in their respective discipline. The athletes ranking will be determined by their final result placing.

Note: Only individual Paralympic/Olympic disciplines will be considered for SR1/SR2 carding. This includes Para SBX & BSL, PGS, SBX, SBS, HP & BA.

Please Note: No SR2 cards will be available for the 2025/26 season carding cycle because there was no FIS Para/Snowboard World Championships or Paralympics/Olympics scheduled for the 2024/25 season.



If a tie exists within Priority 1 within each program (Paralympic or Olympic), the tie shall be broken by the Canada Snowboard Athlete Ranking determined by the 'Athlete Points' (which includes frozen FIS points for a health-related curtailment of activities).

15) National Senior Card (SR):

National Senior Card (SR) Criteria for All Disciplines:

- a) Only athletes named to the Canada Snowboard 2025-26 HPP may be eligible for a Senior Card (SR).
- b) SR cards support athletes with the potential to reach International Senior Card (SR1) status. SR cards are awarded to members of the HPP on the basis of eligible International Event results.
- c) Eligible results from competitions on the 2026 Paralympic or Olympic program (Para Snowboardcross & Banked Slalom, Parallel Giant Slalom, Halfpipe, Slopestyle, Big Air or Snowboardcross) and one discipline not currently on the Olympic Program, Parallel Slalom (PSL), will be considered for SR carding.
 - i. **Team** event results will not be considered for SR carding.
- d) 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) level based on national criteria (carding for an injury or at a SR1/SR2/D level will not count towards the five-year maximum).

After such time, the Selection Committee, in consultation with Sport Canada, will conduct a comprehensive review of the athlete's performances over the past five years in order to assess whether they have demonstrated progress towards meeting the International Senior (SR1) carding criteria to justify nomination for an additional year at the Senior (SR) carding level. In doing so, the Selection Committee will analyze a variety of elements, including but not limited to: the athlete's results and skill progression relative to Top 8 performers in the discipline at the international level, the athlete's trajectory in comparison to historical performance trends (Podium Results Track) based on the average progression patterns of athletes who have previously achieved Top 8 finishes at marquee international competitions (Paralympics, Olympics, World Championships), and data available to Canada Snowboard, at its sole discretion.

- e) In addition to meeting the Senior (SR) criteria, athletes who have reached the maximum number of years as outlined in Point (d), above, must demonstrate progression towards being a Top 8 performer in their discipline at the International Level to be eligible for an additional year of AAP support at the Senior (SR) carding level.

**NATIONAL SENIOR CARDS (SR)
All Disciplines**

Senior Cards (SR) are awarded to athletes named to the 2025-26 HPP, and who achieve one of the following priorities:

Priority 1:

Paralympic Disciplines: Athletes placing on the podium (1st place through 3rd place) and within the Top-Half (1/2) of the field at one of the following competitions during the 2024-25 season:

- FIS Para World Cups; or

- FIS Para World Championships (PWCH).

Olympic Disciplines: Athletes who place in the Top Third (1/3) of the field at one (1) of the following competitions during the 2024-2025 season:

- FIS World Cup (Speed); or
- FIS World Championships (WCH)(Speed); or
- 800+ point WSPL event (Park and Pipe); or
- FIS World Cup / FIS World Championships at a 700 WSPL point level (Park and Pipe);

Paralympic & Olympic Disciplines: Athletes named to the HPP who meet the “Health Related Curtailment of Activities” criteria (as described in Section 18, below) and who were carded during the previous carding cycle at the Senior (SR2, SR) level.

Priority 2:

Paralympic Disciplines: Athletes who place within the Top Third (1/3) of the field for Men or Top Half (1/2) of the field for Women in their respective Sport Classification at one (1) of the following competitions during the 2024-2025 season:

- FIS Para World Cups; or
- FIS Para World Championships (PWCH).

Olympic Disciplines: Athletes who place in the Top Half (1/2) of the field at one (1) World Cup, and finish the season ranked within the Top 35 in the World on their respective discipline rankings as of the latest FIS Points List (Speed) or WSPL (Park and Pipe) at the conclusion of the 2024-2025 season May 31, 2025.

Note: Only rankings on the Slopestyle WSPL will be used for Slopestyle/Big Air Athletes. The Parallel (PAR) list will be used for Alpine athletes.

Priority 3:

Paralympic: Athletes who place within the Top Half (1/2) of the field for Men or Top Two-Thirds (2/3) of the field for Women in their respective Sport Classification at one (1) of the following competitions during the 2024-2025 season:

- FIS Para World Cups; or
- FIS Para World Championships (PWCH).

Rankings within the priorities for each program (Paralympic or Olympic) will be based on the Canada Snowboard Athlete Ranking determined by the ‘Athlete Points’ (which includes frozen FIS points for a health related curtailment of activities).

If a further tie exists within each program (Paralympic or Olympic) in the ‘Athlete Points’ they shall be broken by the single best (lowest) field placing at an eligible event within the priority until the tie is broken (field placing = Result / field size x 100).

16) Development Card (D):

Development Card (D) Criteria for All Disciplines:

- a) Only athletes named to the 2025-26 Canada Snowboard HPP may be eligible for a Development Card (D)
- b) D cards are intended to support the development needs of younger athletes who clearly demonstrate the potential to achieve the Senior International (SR1) criteria in the future but who are not yet able to meet the Senior National (SR) criteria.
- c) 'D' cards are awarded on the basis of the athlete's Canada Snowboard Athlete Ranking which will include International/National event results.
- d) Eligible results from competitions on the 2026 Paralympic or Olympic program (Para Snowboardcross & Banked Slalom, Parallel Giant Slalom, Halfpipe, Slopestyle, Big Air or Snowboardcross) and one discipline not currently on the Olympic Program, Parallel Slalom (PSL), will be considered for D carding.
 - i. **Team** event results will not be considered for D carding.
 - ii. **Big Air** results will only be considered for a D card based on Priorities 2 and 4.
- e) Athletes will be nominated based on the priorities outlined directly below and as per the nomination process outlined in Section IV, above.

Development Card Restrictions:

- 1. All Disciplines – Para SBX & BSL, PGS, PSL, SBX, SBS/BA, HP
 - a. Athletes previously carded at a Senior level (SR1, SR2, SR, C1) for two (2) or more carding cycles are not eligible for nominations under the Development (D) card criteria, unless they were at the FIS Junior Age Category or in another discipline/sport when they achieved these levels.
- 2. Alpine and SBX
 - a. Athletes must be under the age of 25 (U25) as of December 31, 2025, which is five years post the FIS Junior Age Category of these disciplines as of the 2025/26 season.
- 3. HP and SBS / BA
 - a. Athletes must be under the age of 22 (U22) as of December 31, 2025, which is four years post the FIS Junior Age Category of these disciplines as of the 2025/26 season.

The details of FIS Junior Age Categories can be referenced online in the International Snowboard / Freestyle / Freeski Competition Rules, Book VI, Article 2013 at:

https://assets.fis-ski.com/f/252177/x/e350153441/sbfsfk-new-icr-spring-2024_05-08-2024.pdf

DEVELOPMENT CARDS (D)

A minimum of one (1) Paralympic and two (2) Olympic Development Cards will be allocated to the top ranked athlete(s) per program discipline based on the development priorities outlined below and the 'Athlete Points'. If there are less than one (1) Paralympic or two (2) Olympic discipline eligible athletes that meet the Development criteria in a discipline, then the unused carding amount will be returned to the overall amount for allocation as prioritized in Section 9(a), above.

Development Cards (D) are awarded to athletes named to the 2025-26 HPP, and who achieve one of the following priorities:

Priority 1:

Paralympic Disciplines: Athletes placing within the Top Half (1/2) of the field for Men or the Top 2/3 of the field for Women in their respective Sport Classification in a FIS Para World Cup or the 2025 FIS Para World Championships during the 2024-25 season.

Note: This priority is only used if there are no longer any Senior (SR) cards available for athletes who have met Priority 3 of the Senior (SR) carding criteria outlined in Section 15, above.

Olympic Disciplines (Speed): Athletes who place in the Top Half (1/2) of the field at a minimum of one (1) FIS World Cup or the 2025 FIS World Championships; or

Olympic Disciplines (Park and Pipe): Athletes who place in the Top Half (1/2) of the field at an 800+ Point WSPL event or a FIS World Cup or the 2025 FIS World Championships at a 700 WSPL event level.

Priority 2:

Olympic Disciplines: Athletes who podium (place within the Top Three (3)) at the FIS Junior World Championships (JWCH) that falls within the 2024-2025 competition season. Rankings will be based on the athlete's final results placing at JWCH.

Priority 3:

Paralympic Disciplines: Remaining cards will be awarded to the highest ranked Development card eligible athletes based on the Canada Snowboard 'Athlete Ranking'. Rankings will be based on the athlete's 'Athlete Points' in either Para Snowboardcross or Banked Slalom.

Olympic Disciplines: Athletes who rank within the Top Three (3) on their respective 2024-25 Nor-Am Tour Overall Ranking. Rankings will be based on the athlete's final placing on the Overall NorAm Tour Rankings.

Priority 4:

Olympic Disciplines: Athletes who place within the Top Eight (8) and fall within the Top Third (1/3) of the field at the FIS Junior World Championships (JWCH) that falls within the 2024-2025 competition season. Rankings will be based on the Athlete's final results placing at JWCH.

Priority 5:

Olympic Disciplines: Remaining cards will be awarded to the highest ranked Development card eligible athletes based on the Canada Snowboard 'Athlete Ranking'.

Athletes named to the HPP who meet the "Health Related Curtailment of Activities" criteria (as described in Section 19 below) and who were carded the previous year at the Development (D) level. Rankings in Priority 2 for Paralympic and Priority 4 for Olympic will be based on the Canada Snowboard Athlete Ranking (which includes the athlete's frozen points).

In Priority 1, 2 & 4: if there is a tie and there are fewer cards for that program than athletes meeting the priority, then to break the tie, athletes will be ranked using the Canada Snowboard 'Athlete Ranking'. If a tie still remains, then it will be broken by the single best (lowest) field placing result at a FIS Nor-Am event until the tie is broken (field placing = Result / field size x 100).

In Priority 3: if there are fewer cards for that program than athletes meeting the priority, then athletes will be ranked using the Canada Snowboard 'Athlete Ranking'. If a tie still remains, then it will be broken by the single best (lowest) field placing result at a FIS Nor-Am event until the tie is broken (field placing = Result / field size x 100).

In Priority 5: if a tie remains within a program, then it will be broken by the athlete's best result (based on FIS Points) until the tie is broken.

17) Athletes Qualifying for Cards in Multiple Disciplines or for 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 Senior (SR) Card and cannot be nominated for a Development (D) Card unless no Senior (SR) Carding funds available.
- b) An athlete can only be nominated for a single card even if they meet the criteria (priority) for multiple disciplines.

18) Health Related Curtailment of Activities Card Criteria:

- 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 during an ongoing carding cycle for which they are carded shall continue to be carded for the balance of the carding 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 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 and who has missed at least 15% of events that they would have normally been invited (and planned) to attend as demonstrated by the athletes Individual Performance Plan (IPP), and as documented by Canada Snowboard, strictly due to:
 - a health-related reason (pregnancy/illness/injury), where the reason has been clearly documented by a Canada Snowboard approved physician (or Physio Lead), or
 - multiple event cancellations due to a major unforeseen circumstance, such as a global pandemic,

In such circumstances, a carded athlete may be considered for re-nomination for carding, at the same level, based on the priority of nominations set out in Section: VII Carding Criteria, above, 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, which will be determined by the competition results throughout the 2024/25 carding cycle (DNF and DSQs will count as a start but DNS will not);

2. The athlete has fulfilled all communicated Canada Snowboard supervised training and rehabilitation requirements;
3. **Health Related Reason:** A written evaluation is provided by a Canada Snowboard approved physician (or Lead Physio) indicating that the athlete can be expected to return to full training and competition participation during the extended carding period;

Major unforeseen circumstances, such as a Global Pandemic: To be considered eligible, athletes who were carded at a Senior (SR) level for the 2024-25 season and who were unable to re-meet the carding nomination criteria due to multiple cancelled events must have previously met the Senior (SR) carding criteria during 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 2024-25 season, the 'Athlete Points' will be determined by their 2024-25 results. If, however, the athlete was unable to attend two (2) events during the 2024-25 competition season, Canada Snowboard will use their 'Athlete Points' ranking from the previous year;

4. A written evaluation is 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 reason (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 reasons 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 AAP 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) Notwithstanding that nominations are provisional, pending final approval of Sport Canada, athletes will have a period of seven (7) days following the date of distribution of the Canada Snowboard newsletter containing AAP Provisional nominations to appeal Canada Snowboard's decision not to nominate them for carding or the determination of their ineligibility for carding.

The seven (7) day window is to prepare the provisional nominations to Sport Canada to include sufficient carding allocations for any appeals which have been communicated to Canada Snowboard. Appeals outside of the seven (7)

day window (if accepted) will only be allocated AAP funding if there is any funding remaining in Canada Snowboards AAP Carding quota.

- 21) Appeals of a Canada Snowboard AAP nomination/re-nomination decision or of Canada Snowboard's recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through Canada Snowboard's *Appeal Policy*, which may include an application to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC). Appeals of AAP Decisions made by Sport Canada under Section 6 ([Application for and Approval of Cards](#)) or Section 11 ([Withdrawal of Carding Status](#)) may be pursued through Section 13 (Appeals Policy) of the [AAP Policies, Procedures and Guidelines](#).
- 22) 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 AAP. Appeals must be conducted in accordance with the Canada Snowboard's *Appeals Policy*, which is available on 'Document Centre' of the Canada Snowboard website <https://www.canadasnowboard.ca/en/docs/>

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>

- 23) 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.