

CROSS COUNTRY CANADA

PARA-NORDIC PROGRAM

ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CARDING CRITERIA 2012-13

PART 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION

1.0 AIM

- 1) The aim of this document is to describe the criteria that will be used by Cross Country Canada for nominating Para-Nordic athletes for Sport Canada's Assistance Program (AAP) for the 2012-13 carding year.
- 2) This document is published under the authority of CCC's Director of High Performance.
- 3) The Sport Canada policy and procedures which govern the AAP and the establishment and application of criteria can be found on the Sport Canada website: <http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/sc/pol/athl/index-eng.cfm>

2.0 ELIGIBILITY

- 1) In order to qualify for AAP cards, an athlete (and guide if applicable) must meet the following criteria set out by Sport Canada:
 - a) The athlete must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada on the date of the beginning of the carding cycle, and the athlete must have been a legal resident in Canada (student status, refugee status, work visa or permanent resident) for a minimum period of one year before being considered for AAP support. The athlete would normally have been expected to participate in CCC-sanctioned activities during that period.
 - b) The athlete, under the cross-country skiing eligibility requirements of the International Paralympic Committee (IPC), as it pertains to citizenship or residency status, must currently be eligible to represent Canada at major international events, including World Championships.
 - c) Athletes must meet the carding criteria as the member of a Canadian team, at international events or at a domestic event or events sanctioned by CCC for such purpose.
 - d) Following a three-year period as a permanent resident of Canada, continued eligibility to receive AAP support is contingent on the athlete becoming eligible to represent Canada at the Paralympic Games.
- 2) In addition, CCC has established the additional criterion that in order to be eligible for AAP support, an athlete must be a member of the National Ski Team (World Cup Team or Development Team) or a member of a club program. (Refer to 6.2.b).

3.0 TYPES OF CARDS

- 1) There are two types of cards: Senior Cards and Development Cards.
- 2) Senior Cards. Senior Cards are awarded on the basis of two different sets of criteria:
 - a) International Criteria (SR1/SR2). Sport Canada sets these criteria. Senior Cards based on international criteria are normally awarded to recognize outstanding performance at the IPC World Championships or Paralympic Winter Games. They are eligible for two years of AAP support, with the card for the first year referred to as a SR1 Card and the card for the second year referred to as a SR2 Card. The second year is subject to the athlete meeting requirements in 2.0 Eligibility, and signing and Athlete/NSO agreement. (Note: In years when a World Championships or Paralympics are not held, SR cards will be awarded for international criteria, be based on World Cup results and will be for one year only).

- b) National Criteria (SR/C1). Senior Cards awarded based on national criteria are intended to support athletes with the potential to reach international criteria. National criteria for Senior Cards are negotiated between Sport Canada and CCC and are approved by Sport Canada each year. Senior Cards based on national criteria are awarded for one year and are referred to as SR Cards. C-1 cards are awarded to athletes who meet the national criteria for Senior Cards for the first time. They are awarded for a period of one year and are funded at the Development Card level.
- 3) Development Cards (D). Development Cards are intended to help meet the developmental needs of younger athletes who clearly demonstrate the potential to achieve the Senior Card international criteria but are presently unable to meet the Senior Card criteria. Development Card criteria are negotiated between Sport Canada and CCC and are approved by Sport Canada each year. Development Cards are awarded for one year and are referred to as D Cards. A Development Card may be awarded to an athlete who has met SR criteria if there are insufficient SR cards. For recording purposes, an athlete in this situation would be considered to have received a SR card.

4.0 ALLOCATION OF CARDS

- 1) International Cards are no longer considered above the quota, and will be drawn from the Para-Nordic Program allocation of Senior Cards. Senior Cards may be converted to Development Cards, with two Senior Cards converting to three Development Cards and one Senior Card converting to one Development Card.
- 2) Sport Canada cards will be allocated in the following order of priority until no further cards remain in the quota:
 - a) SR2
 - b) SR/C1 Priority 1
 - c) SR/C1 Priority 2
 - d) D
- 3) During the 1st six months of the carding cycle, the NSO may recommend withdrawal of the carding support of a guide for health related reasons or if the guide is no longer a member of the National Team. The remaining months of carding may be allocated to the new guide as long as he/she is a recommended by the National Team Coach and he/she is a member of the National Team. In the case of a SR, SR1 or SR2 card replacement, if the new guide has never been carded at the Senior level before he/she will be eligible for a C1 card.

PART 2 - CARDING CRITERIA

5.0 SENIOR CARDS

5.1 INTERNATIONAL CRITERIA (SR1/SR2)

For the 2012-13 carding year, athletes carded who held a SR1 Card in 2011-12 are eligible for nomination for a SR2 card.

5.2 NATIONAL CRITERIA (SR)

- 1) Athletes are expected to make progress in their results in order to maintain SR Card status. Normally, eight years is the maximum that an athlete will be carded at the senior level based on national criteria. After which time, Sport Canada will require a comprehensive thoroughly documented review of the athlete's performance over the past eight years in order to demonstrated progress toward performance equivalent to top 16 and top half at the World Championships or Paralympic Games, which then warrants nomination of "Senior National" card status for an additional year. This process must be followed for all subsequent years that the athlete is nominated at this level.
- 2) Priority 1: Athletes achieving an average World Cup ranking of top 16 and top half in those events. This average ranking will be based on the athlete's best two World Cup results from the 2011-12 World Cup events. The events used for ranking must have a minimum of 10 entries and a minimum of five countries entered per event.

- 3) Priority 2 Only athletes on the Para-Nordic National Ski Team will be eligible for Priority 2 SR cards. The National Para-Nordic Ski Team comprises of the Para-Nordic World Cup Team and Development Team. Selection to the Team will be determined by the High Performance Committee (HPC) in April 2012, through application of the 2011-12 Para-Nordic National Ski Team (PNST) Selection Criteria. Therefore, the performance standards and ranking mechanisms contained in 2010-11 PNST Selection Criteria also function as the entry standard for AAP carding. The 2011-12 PNST Selection Criteria can be found at the following link:
[http://www.cccski.com/getmedia/30a540a4-1b40-444c-a962-2f4081fd3d76/2011-12-Selection-Criteria-\(12-Sept-2011\)---updated-links-\(26-Sept-2011\).pdf.aspx](http://www.cccski.com/getmedia/30a540a4-1b40-444c-a962-2f4081fd3d76/2011-12-Selection-Criteria-(12-Sept-2011)---updated-links-(26-Sept-2011).pdf.aspx)

Nomination for Priority 2: Nomination of athletes for Priority 2 SR cards will be made in the following order of priority:

- a) First - athletes who held SR2 Cards in 2011-12 and who fall under the AAP Policy for "Curtailed of Training and Competition for Health-Related Reasons".
- b) Second - athletes selected to the Para-Nordic World Cup Team in accordance with the 2011-12 PNST Selection Criteria, but not already nominated for international criteria, ranked in accordance with their best (lowest percentage behind the winner) individual result in an IPC World Cup race during the 2011-12 season.
- c) Third - athletes holding SR/C-1 Cards in 2011-12 who fall under the AAP Policy for "Curtailed of Training and Competition for Health-Related Reasons".

6.0 DEVELOPMENT CARDS (D)

- 1) Athletes are expected to make progress in their results in order to progress to a SR Card status. Normally, three years is the maximum that an athlete will be carded at the development level. After which time, Sport Canada will require a comprehensive thoroughly documented review of the athlete's performance over the past five years in order to demonstrate progress toward a performance equivalent to top 16 and top half at the World Championships or Paralympic Games, which then warrants nomination of "Development" card status for an additional year. This process must be followed for all subsequent years that the athlete is nominated at this level.

Athletes who have previously been carded 3 years or more at the Senior card levels (SR1, SR2, SR & C1) are no longer eligible to be nominated for Development cards.

- 2) Eligibility. To be eligible for a Development Card, athletes must meet the following criteria:

- a) Be a member of the Para-Nordic World Cup or Development Team; or
- b) Athletes must be members of a CCC club program and follow an annual periodized program that is (1) adapted to their stage of athletic development and (2) consistent with CCC's sport's LTAD model with regard to the type, the amount, and the sequential organization of training activities to be carried out. This program will be monitored by a CCC National Coach or designate. All club athletes must also achieve a finish time of 90% or higher compared to the best individual category time at any distance IPC World Cup event during the 2011-12 season.

- 3) Nomination. Nomination of athletes for Development Cards will be made in the following order of priority:

- a) First Priority - Athletes on the Para-Nordic World Cup Team ranked in accordance with their best (lowest percentage behind the winner) individual result at an IPC World Cup race during the 2011-12 season.
- b) Second Priority - Athletes on the Para-Nordic Development Team ranked in accordance with their best (lowest percentage behind the winner) individual result at an IPC World Cup race during the 2011-12 season.
- c) Third Priority - Club program athletes ranked in accordance with their best (lowest percentage behind the winner) individual result at an IPC World Cup race during the 2011-12 season.

- d) Fourth Priority - athletes holding Development Cards in 2011-/12 who fall under the AAP Policy for "Curtailed Training and Competition for Health-Related Reasons".

In the event of a tie, the tie will be broken by looking to the number of IPC World Cup 1st place finishes, then the number of 2nd place finishes, etc.