

CROSS COUNTRY CANADA

ABLEBODIED 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 athletes for Sport Canada's Athlete 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 at <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 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 Federation Internationale de Ski, 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 Olympic Games.
- 2) In addition, CCC has established the additional criterion that to be eligible for AAP support, an athlete must be:
 - a) a member of the National Ski Team (Senior World Cup Team, Senior Development Team and Junior Team);
or
 - b) a member of a National Development Centre (NDC), or a CCC club program (refer to 6.2.ii.).

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 World Senior Championships or Olympic 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, signing an Athlete/NSO agreement and selection to the World Cup Team. (Note: In years when a World Championships or Olympics are not held, e.g. 2011/12, SR cards will be awarded for international criteria, 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.

4.0 ALLOCATION OF CARDS

- 1) International Cards are no longer considered above the quota, and will be drawn from CCC's 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

PART 2 - CARDING CRITERIA

5.0 SENIOR CARDS

5.1 INTERNATIONAL CRITERIA (SR1/SR2)

For the 2012-13 carding year, athletes 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 demonstrate progress toward performance equivalent to top 16 and top half at the World Championships or Olympic 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) Eligibility. Only athletes on the Senior National Ski Team will be eligible for SR cards. The Senior National Ski Team is comprised of the Senior World Cup Team and the Senior Development Team. Selection to the Senior National Ski Team will be determined by the High Performance Committee (HPC) in April 2012, through application of the 2011/12 NST Selection Criteria (approved September 12, 2011). Therefore, the performance standards and ranking mechanisms contained in 2011-12 NST Selection Criteria also function as the entry standard for AAP carding. The web link to the 2011-12 Selection Criteria is as follows:
[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)
- 3) Priority 1 – World Cup

Athletes achieving an average World Cup ranking of top-16 will be nominated. This average is based on their best two World Cup rankings in the modified final result lists (three to count per Nation) from the 2011-12 World Cups. An athlete must enter a minimum of two races in order to be eligible. The average result must be based on Olympic events in either sprint races or distance races, or a combination of both. This includes individual stage events in multi-stage events.
- 4) Priority 2 - Selection Lists. Two genders integrated Selection Lists (sprint and distance) will be used to support the nomination process. The Final 2011-12 NST Selection Points List which will be comprised of Tier 1 Selection Events (refer to the 2011-12 Selection Criteria 2.d which defines Tier 1- Selection Events) based on the Canada Points List (CPL) Distance and Sprint. If there is a tie on either selection list, the tie will be broken by the athletes' best single World Championship or World Cup individual placing. If there is still a tie on the selection list, the tie will be broken by the athletes' best single race result on the Selection List (Distance or Sprint). The list will be the responsibility of the HPC.

Nomination. 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 who fall under the AAP Policy for “Curtailed of Training and Competition for Health-Related Reasons”.
- b) Second – athletes selected to the Senior World Cup Team in accordance with the 2011-12 NST Selection Criteria, but not already nominated for international criteria. Athletes will be ranked in accordance with their single best individual placing in a World Cup event, including individual stages in multi-stage races, during the 2011-12 season.
- c) Third - athletes selected to the Senior Development Team. Priority of nomination from within the Senior Development Team will be determined by ranking on the Selection Lists (Distance and Sprint) and the following priorities:
 - i. The top man and top woman on the Selection List – Sprint, not including athletes who have been nominated under other criteria;
 - ii. The top men and women on the Selection List – Distance, not including all athletes already nominated under other criteria, until a total of three men and three women has been nominated;
 - iii. The remaining eligible athletes (regardless of gender), ranked in accordance with the Selection List - Distance, until the limit of CCC’s SR card allocation is reached.
- d) Fourth - 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 document review of the athlete’s performance over the past three years in order to demonstrate progress toward performance equivalent to top 16 and top half at the World Championships or Olympic 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 for 2 years or more at the Senior card levels (SR1, SR2, SR & C1) are no longer eligible to be nominated for Development cards. This criterion applies once the athlete reaches the post-junior age category.

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

- i. Athletes must be a member of the NST, the Junior Team, or a National Development Centre (NDC); or
- ii. 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.

- 3) Ranking. The National Development Centre standards outlined in section 19.3 in the 2011-12 NST Selection Criteria will function as the ranking list for AAP development carding. The web link to the 2011-12 Selection Criteria can be found at: [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) and are clarified as follows:

- i. Athletes will be ranked on the separate sprint and distance NST selection points lists.
- ii. Athletes’ points will be compared to age group standards (see section 19.3). Junior athletes will be compared against U23 standards (athletes born in 1989 and after). All other athletes (born in 1988 and earlier) will be compared to standards for their age group;
- iii. Athletes whose points compare the most favorably vs. the benchmarks (the closest or above), in either of sprint or distance, for their age group and gender (see 19.3) will be considered first.