



July 16th, 2019

CARDING NOMINATION CRITERIA FOR THE SPORT CANADA ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR 2020-21 NOMINATIONS

I. INTRODUCTION

- A. The aim of this document is to describe the criteria that will be used by Freestyle Canada (FC) for nominating athletes for Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) for the 2020-21 cycle.
- B. The nomination of athletes to the AAP is the responsibility of the FC's Chief Executive Officer, acting on the recommendations of the HPP Selection Committees. Sport Canada is responsible for the final approval of nominations to the AAP.
- C. Sport Canada's general policies and procedures governing AAP can be found on the Sport Canada website at:
<http://canada.pch.gc.ca/eng/1414514343755/1414514385181>

This includes all information pertaining to the establishment and application of criteria used by FC.

- D. The definitions in the 2019-2020 FC HPP discipline National Team Selection Protocols will apply to this document.

Priority of Nominations:

Cards will be allocated in the following priority order:

- A. Athletes who meet SR1 criteria;
- B. Athletes who meet SR2 criteria;
- C. Injured athletes carded at SR2 in 2019-20 who meets the Extraordinary Circumstance clause in the HPP Team selection criteria;
- D. Athletes who meet the SR/C1 criteria in the order described in section IV;
- E. Athletes who meet the D criteria in the order described in section V. - C.;



II. ELIGIBILITY

In order to qualify for AAP cards, an athlete must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- A. The athlete must be a 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 FC-sanctioned activities during that period.
- B. The athlete, under the Freestyle Skiing eligibility requirements of the Federation International de Ski (FIS), must currently be eligible to represent Canada at major international events, including FIS World Championships.
- C. To be eligible for Sport Canada Carding an athlete must be a member in good standing of the FC High Performance Program.
- D. Only athletes competing in 2022 Olympic Winter Games medal events – single moguls, aerials, team aerials, halfpipe, slopestyle and big air – are considered for Sport Canada Carding.
- E. The athlete must provide, prior to the AAP review (by the end of May), confirmation of his or her intention to compete in the coming year through;
 - i. Signing the 2020-21 FC/High Performance Program Athlete contract
 - ii. Purchasing the 2020-21 FC membership and paying any appropriate team fees

(Athletes who have not done this may not be eligible for nomination for carding).



TYPE OF CARD	ALLOCATED FOR	AMOUNT
Senior International card	2 years SR1 : 1 st year with that card SR2: 2 nd year of that card	\$21,180 per year (\$1,765 per month)
Senior National card / C1	1 year (maximum 5 years)	1 st year (C1): \$12,720 per year (\$1060 per month) Following years: \$21,180 per year (\$1,765 per month)
Development card	1 year (maximum 5 years)	\$12,720 per year (\$1060 per month)

* The current AAP allotment for Freestyle Canada is the equivalent of 41 Senior cards. Sport Canada regularly reviews its allocation of cards to National Sport Organizations; therefore this number is subject to change.

III. SENIOR INTERNATIONAL CARD CRITERIA (SR1/SR2)

- A. Eligible athletes placing in the top 8 and top half of the field (counting a maximum of three entries per country) at the FIS World Championships or at the Olympic Games may be nominated for SR1/SR2.
- B. In Olympic years, nominations for carding will be based on results from athletes competing in 2022 Olympic Winter Games medal events – single moguls, aerials, team aerials, halfpipe, slopestyle and big air.
- C. In FIS World Championships years, nominations for carding will be based on results from athletes competing in 2022 Olympic Winter Games medal events – single moguls, aerials, team aerials, halfpipe, slopestyle and big air.
- D. Athletes that qualify for carding under the Senior International criteria 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 being re-nominated by FC, training and competitive program approved by FC and Sport Canada, signing an Athlete/FC agreement completing the on-line anti-doping courses, and signing the AAP application form for the year in question.



IV. SENIOR NATIONAL CARD CRITERIA (SR/C1)

- A. Carding in this category will be granted for a period of one year at a time.
- B. For the first year an athlete meets the SR National Criteria he or she will be classified at the C1 carding level and is funded at the Development card level. If an athlete is selected to the Freestyle Canada A Team and/or has competed at the last World Championships, they may skip the C1 classification and be eligible for a Sr Card. Athletes previously carded at SR1/2 would also skip C1 (example: an athlete is carded at D, then goes to SR1/SR2, then meets SR).
- C. Athletes are expected to make progress in their results and/or maintain top 8 international rankings (i.e. WC FIS standings for moguls, aerials, slopestyle, big air and halfpipe), in order to maintain SR Card status. Normally, five (5) years is the maximum that an athlete will be carded at the senior level based on national criteria (excluding years when the athlete was awarded a SR/C1 injury card). After such 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 performance equivalent to top 8 and top half at the FIS World Championships or Olympic Games, which then warrants nomination of "Senior National" card status for an additional year. In addition, FC will specify performance criteria (training criteria or competitive results) that must be met to receive subsequent nominations. This process must be followed for all subsequent years that the athlete is nominated at this level
- D. Athletes will be nominated based on the following order:
 - 1. Eligible athletes, named to the 2020-2021 National team 'A' group in any of the freestyle ski Olympic disciplines, may be eligible for nomination for a SR card.
 - 2. Eligible athletes named to the 2020-2021 National team 'B' group who meet the following performance benchmark may be eligible for nomination for a SR/C1 card:
 - i. Moguls:
One (1) FIS World Cup podium (excluding Dual Moguls)
OR
Two (2) Top 12 placings from FIS World Cup and/or World Championship competitions (Final placings only, from singles and dual mogul events).



ii. Aerials:

One (1) FIS World Cup podium

OR

One (1) Top 12 and top half of the field at the FIS World Championships

*Senior National carding for aerial athletes is only available for individual aerialists, not for those with results in the aerial team event.

iii. Halfpipe :

One (1) 19-20 HPP Ranking Tier 1 eligible event podium

OR

Two (2) Top 12 placings within the top 2/3rd of the field size, from eligible FC HPP Tier 1 events (boosted and neutral), as per the outlined HPP selection valued events.

i. Slopestyle:

One (1) 19-20 HPP Ranking Tier 1 neutral and boosted eligible event podium

OR

Two (2) Top 12 placings within the top 2/3rd of the field size, from eligible FC HPP Tier 1 events (neutral and boosted), as per the outlined HPP selection valued events.

- See the HPP Ranking Criteria for description of the Tiers and Neutral or Boosted events:

<https://www.freestylecanada.ski/files/FC-2019%202020%20Halfpipe%20National%20Team%20Selection%20and%202018%202019%20World%20Cup%20Spot%20Allocation%20Criteria%20FINAL%20Nov%202019%202018.pdf>

ii. Big Air:

One (1) 19-20 HPP Ranking Tier 1 (neutral and boosted) eligible event podium.

OR



One (1) Top 12 placings within the top 2/3rd of the field size, from eligible FC HPP Tier 1 events (neutral or boosted), as per the outlined HPP selection valued events.

- See the HPP Selection Criteria for descriptions of the Tiers and Neutral or Boosted events:
<https://www.freestylecanada.ski/files/hpp/2019/FC-HPP-2019%202020%20Slopestyle-National-Team-Selection%202018%202019%20World%20Cup%20Spot%20Allocation%20FINAL%20Nov%201%202019.pdf>

3. Eligible athletes named to the 2020-2021 National team 'A' and 'B' groups by the "Extraordinary circumstances" clause, as outlined in the HPP team selection protocols and who had a SR card for the 2019-20 carding cycle, may be eligible for nomination for a SR injury card (SR-HC).
4. Eligible athletes named to the 2020-2021 National 'A' and 'B' groups, who were ranked Top 10 in World rankings in 2019-20 (As of May 1st 2020: FIS World Cup Standings) may be eligible for nomination for a SR card for 2020-21 upon the High performance selection committee's recommendation, provided they were carded at a Senior card level for the 2019-2020 carding cycle.

E. If there are fewer Cards than athletes meeting one of the Senior National criteria, and there is a need to compare athletes from different disciplines or within a discipline, the following tiebreaking will be used:

1. The athlete's 2 best eligible placings from high level competitions (i.e. FIS World Cups and Tier 1 neutral or boosted events) held in the previous twelve months, will be given a value of the placing. (1st = 1 point, 7th = 7 points). The athlete with the lowest sum of points will be ranked highest. If a tie remains it will be broken in favor of the athlete with the best eligible placing.
2. If a tie remains, it will be broken in favor of the athlete with the best ranking on the final 2019-20 FIS World Cup standings list of their discipline.



V. DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA (D)

A. Development Card restrictions:

1. Once they have reached the Senior FIS age, as defined by the FIS age categories, athletes are eligible to be carded a maximum of five (5) years at the D card level (excluding years when the athlete was awarded a D injury card).
2. Athletes previously carded at the Senior card levels (SR1, SR2, SR, C1) for two or more years are not eligible for nominations under the Development card criteria, unless they:
 - i. Were at the FIS Junior age category;
 - AND/OR**
 - ii. We're competing in another discipline/sport, when they achieved these levels.

B. Development Card eligibility requirement:

In addition to the requirement listed in II Eligibility, mogul, aerial, halfpipe, slopestyle / big air athletes named to HPP nominated for a Development card (D) must meet the following eligibility requirement:

1. Commit to relocating to a designated Freestyle Canada Training Centre or approved training program, under the terms set out in her or his FC/High Performance Program Athlete Agreement;
2. Compete in at least 3 competitions (or greater) eligible for National team selection in the season just ended.
3. Athletes must meet the minimum performance level described below, in order to be eligible for card nomination:

Moguls Athlete D Card Qualifiers:

Mogul Athletes, named to HPP, who meet qualifier #1 or #2 or #3 may be eligible for nomination for Development Carding:



#1 - One (1) medal at a NorAm level event (or other Continental Cup (CC) event recognized by Freestyle Canada for HPP selection purposes) in single moguls. Recognized events will be published before the start of the competitive season on the Freestyle Canada website as part of the HPP Selection criteria.

#2 - Two (2) top 8 at a NorAm level event (or other CC event recognized by Freestyle Canada for HPP selection purposes) in single or dual moguls (final placing only). Recognized events will be published before the start of the competitive season on the Freestyle Canada website as part of the HPP Selection criteria:

<https://www.freestylecanada.ski/en/programs/hp/policies/>

#3 - One (1) Top 16 (in top 1/2 of field size) at a Canadian WC level event **OR** top 50% of field size at a non-Canadian WC level event in single or dual moguls (final placing only).

Aerial Athlete D Card Qualifiers:

Aerial Athletes, named to HPP, who meet qualifier #4 or #5 may be eligible for nomination for Development Carding.

#4 - One (1) medal and Top 50% of field size at a NorAm level event (or other Continental Cup (CC) event recognized by Freestyle Canada for HPP selection purposes) **OR** Nationals. Recognized events will be published before the start of the competitive season on the Freestyle Canada website as part of the HPP Selection criteria:

<https://www.freestylecanada.ski/en/programs/hp/policies/>

#5 - Achieve 1 jump raw score of 25.8 or higher from HPP National ranking eligible events, while performing a degree of difficulty of 2.6 or higher (bLT) for women and 2.9 or higher for men (bLF).



Halfpipe and Slopestyle / Big Air Athlete D card Qualifiers:

Halfpipe and Slopestyle/Big Air Athlete, named to HPP, who meet qualifier #6 or #7 or #8 may be eligible for nomination for Development Carding.

#6 - Two (2) Top 8 and top 2/3rds at a Tier 2 level or higher event. Only from HPP Ranking eligible events.

#7 - One (1) Top 16 and top 2/3rds at a Tier 1 coming from HPP Ranking eligible events.

#8 – One (1) podium at a Tier 2 event, coming from HPP Ranking eligible events.

- See the HPP Selection criteria for description of the HPP Ranking eligible events:
https://www.freestylecanada.ski/files/hpp/2019/FC-HPP-2019%202020%20Slopestyle-National-Team-Selection%202018%202019_%20World%20Cup%20Spot%20Allocation%20FINAL%20Nov%202019.pdf

C. Distribution of Development Cards:

Round 1: After the nominations of the athletes eligible for Senior level cards is completed, the remaining amount will be divided equally as Development cards between Aerials, Moguls, Halfpipe and Slopestyle / Big Air disciplines. If the remaining quota of D cards is an uneven number, the odd number card(s) will be allocated in round 2. These discipline cards will then be allocated equally by gender to eligible athletes (or to eligible athletes within one gender if there is not an equal gender distribution), according to each discipline's HPP rankings (see HPP Team selection protocols for ranking procedure), including previously carded athletes who qualify under the Extraordinary clause and are ranked accordingly in the HPP ranking of their discipline.

Round 2: Repeat round 1 for the remaining disciplines with eligible athletes. If the number is uneven, the tie-breaking rule will be applied (see section D, below).



D. Development Card Tie breaking between disciplines or genders:

If there is an odd number of Cards remaining for athletes meeting the Development card criteria and there is a need to compare athletes from each discipline, or Female and Male athletes, the following tiebreaking process will be used:

1. The athlete with a Top 16 and Top 1/3rd of field size in a high level event (i.e. FIS World Cup or Tier 1 event. (Including Dual moguls)) would receive the card. If neither have a top 16, then;
2. The athlete's 2 best eligible placings from Tier 2 (or higher) level eligible events OR HPP Valued Continental level competitions held in the 2019-20 competition season, will be given a value of the placing. (1st = 1 point, 7th = 7 points). The athlete with the lowest score will be ranked highest. If a tie remains it will be broken in favor of the athlete with the best top placing.
3. If a tie still remains after tiebreaking 1. and 2. have been applied, it will be broken in favor of the athlete with the highest number of FIS points, from the most recent published list.

VI. Health Related Curtailment of Activities card criteria (SR-HC or D-HC)

1. Health Related Curtailment of Activities will use the regulations outlined in the team selection protocols under "Extraordinary Circumstances".
2. Athletes who were not carded in the previous season are not eligible for a Senior or Development HC card.
3. Athletes who were carded in the previous season and were unable to meet the carding criteria strictly due to health-related reasons as outlined in the HPP teams' selection document under "Extraordinary Circumstances", may be eligible for a Senior or Development HC Card if the following conditions are met:
 - The athlete meets the extra-ordinary circumstance criteria in the discipline specific HPP Team Selection policy;
 - The athlete must be recommended for an Injury Card by the HPP Selection Committee;



Conditions for the athlete injured:

1. The athlete does not withdraw from the High Performance Program 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 FC's coaching staff and a FC designated physician, indicating that the athlete can be expected to achieve at least the minimum standards required for carding during the upcoming carding period.
3. The athlete undertakes in writing to train and/or rehabilitate under the supervision of Freestyle Canada or its designate at a level that minimizes risk to the athlete's personal health, and ensures optimum return to full training and competition at the earliest possible date. Failure to follow such a program without due cause shall be grounds for immediate termination of carding.

VIII. Returning Olympic/World Top-8 Athletes

An athlete/team who is returning to the national team after a period of no more than one competitive season may be nominated for an SR card if they demonstrate the following criteria:

- Has previously obtained a top-8 result at the Olympic Winter Games and/or at one of the two most recent World Championships,
- Is currently demonstrating they are tracking well towards the competitive skill levels as described in section IV-D, "SR NATIONAL CARD CRITERIA (SR / C1)." The HPP selection committee will determine within the timelines of this policy,
- A commitment to international competition in the upcoming season, and
- An approved training and coaching plan.

Returning athletes will be ranked at the end of all SR card nominations, in the discipline order for the given carding cycle. In the case of more than one such nomination within any discipline, the nominations will be ranked in order of their placement at the most recent Olympic Winter Games. Those with no Olympic result will be ranked after the returning Olympic medalist(s) and ranked in order of



their placement at the most recent Worlds, followed by the preceding Worlds. Placement in the aerial team event will not be used in any of these cases.

IX. WITHDRAW TEMPORARILY OR PERMANENTLY:

If an athlete wishes, for health-related reasons or other reasons, to withdraw temporarily or permanently from normal carded athlete training and competition activities, 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 for Deferred Tuition or Special Needs support.

X. APPEAL PROCESS:

Appeals of FC's AAP nomination/re-nomination decision or of FC's recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through FC'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.