



2022-2023

Athlete Carding Program

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1. INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to present the policies and procedures for Boxing Canada Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) also referred to as “Carding”; a program funded by Sport Canada. The target audiences for this document are the athletes, coaches and sport administrators who currently access or wish to access the program.

AAP funding is intended to contribute to an athlete’s living and costs associated with preparing for and participating in international sport. It is not intended to serve as an athlete’s sole source of income. The AAP is designed to support athletes that are consistent or developing within the Boxing Canada Gold Medal Profile (GMP) and Winning Style (WS) parameters who demonstrate the potential to achieve top international performances.

Sport Canada’s general policies and procedures governing AAP can be found on the Sport Canada website (<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance/policies-procedures.html>).

2. GENERAL

- 2.1.** Boxing Canada 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.
- 2.2.** Support under the AAP is only available to athletes in an International Boxing Association (IBA) weight category who are members of the Boxing Canada High Performance Program, who have executed a current Athlete Agreement, and who meet the eligibility criteria set out below.
- 2.3.** Carding nominations are submitted by Boxing Canada to Sport Canada on an annual basis, usually in late April. Any athlete who, as of the date of the Boxing Canada submission of carding nominations to Sport Canada has not provided evidence of his or her intention to compete in the coming year is not eligible for Carding.
- 2.4.** There are several grounds for the withdrawal of funding from a Carded athlete. These include voluntary withdrawal, withdrawal due to lack of participation and withdrawal for violation of agreement. Detailed information concerning grounds for withdrawal of funding is included in this document (Section 11).
- 2.5.** In addition to the regular stipend, other forms of financial assistance may be available to carded athletes through the Sport Canada’s APP. These include tuition payment, special needs assistance, and deferred tuition assistance for retired athletes. Athletes should refer to the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Policy and Procedures document for further information (<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance.html>).
- 2.6.** A minimum of four (4) months of AAP support must be available to nominate an athlete to the AAP.
- 2.7.** There are three (3) general types of Cards: International Senior Cards; Senior Cards; and Development Cards.

3. DECISION MAKING AUTHORITY

- 3.1. The 2022/23 APP nomination policy development is the responsibility of the High-Performance Director (HPD). The Boxing Canada High Performance Advisory Group (HPAG) will provide oversight in the development and implementation of the Athlete Carding Program.
- 3.2. The HPD is responsible for implementation of the Athlete Carding Program that falls within Sport Canada AAP guidelines and parameters. All team nominations made by the HPD will be monitored by the HPAG and ratified by the Boxing Canada Executive Director to ensure that the process outlined in this document is properly followed and that it is fair and equitable for all candidates.
- 3.3. Boxing Canada does not grant AAP Cards to Athletes. Athletes eligible for a Sport Canada AAP Card are nominated by Boxing Canada to Sport Canada based on the criteria outlined in this document and AAP policies. All nominations are then reviewed and approved independently by Sport Canada.
- 3.4. The Boxing Canada AAP program will be overseen by the HPD and managed by the Project & Program Coordinator.

4. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT

To be eligible for carding the athlete **must** meet the following Eligibility Requirements:

- Be an Open Class boxer who has competed in more than 10 bouts;
- Compete in eligible IBA weight categories (see section 6).
- Meet the International Boxing Association (IBA) and International Olympic Committee (IOC) requirements to be eligible to represent Canada at major international events including World Championships and the Olympic Games;
- Be named as a team member of the 2022-2023 High Performance Program (HPP), which is defined as the National Team;
- Must not be under suspension, or other sanction, for any doping or doping-related offenses;
- Sign a fully executed Athlete Agreement as required by Boxing Canada and Sport Canada carded athletes. No Carding application will be processed without the signed Athlete Agreement being filed with Boxing Canada;
- Be a member in good standing with their provincial boxing association (PSO) and Boxing Canada at time of selection and must maintain this status until completion of the season. Unless otherwise authorized, in advance and in writing, athletes must have paid all outstanding invoices to Boxing Canada at the date of selection.
- To be eligible for a SR1, SR2, SR, C or D card, athletes born between January 1st, 1981 and December 31st, 2003 must train on a full-time basis at Boxing Canada's High Performance Training Centre (HPTC) at INS Québec (Montréal, Qc).
- Youth (U19) Athletes (January 1st, 2004 and December 31st, 2005) with a D card, have the option to be based at Boxing Canada's HPTC in Montréal (Qc) or to remain in their own daily training environment (DTE); if athletes choose to remain in their own DTE, they must be supervised by a Boxing Canada designated High-Performance coach.

5. ADDITIONAL CONDITIONS FOR ALL CARDED ATHLETES

- Elite carded athletes must also accept to follow the yearly training plan and program of training and competition activities designed by the High-Performance Director (HPD). This plan includes all HPTC-based daily boxing training sessions, other types of training (e.g., strength training, mental training etc.), performance tests, medical exams, tournaments, training camps or training periods that may take place in Canada or abroad, as approved by the HPD;
- Whether based at the HPTC or their own DTE, Youth carded athlete must commit to train on a full-time basis. In addition, Youth carded athlete accept to follow the yearly training plan and program of training and competition activities designed by the HPD. Such plans include all daily Boxing training sessions, other types of training (e.g., strength training, mental training, etc.), performance tests, medical exams, tournaments, training camps, or training periods that may take place in Canada or abroad, as approved by the HPD;
- Compliance rate of 90% via the Athlete Management System Hexfit is required for both Elite and Youth carded athletes; failure to do so may lead to loss of carding status;

6. ELIGIBLE WEIGHT CATEGORIES

Men - IBA Weight Category	Women - IBA Weight Category
48kg	48kg
51kg	50kg
54kg	52kg
57kg	54kg
60kg	57kg
63.5kg	60kg
67kg	63kg
71kg	66kg
75kg	70kg
80kg	75kg
86kg	81kg
92kg	81+kg
92+kg	

7. CARDING ALLOCATIONS AND CARDING CYCLE PERIOD

Sport Canada has awarded Boxing Canada the equivalent of five (5) Senior Men's Cards (\$105,900) and three (3) Senior Women's Cards (\$63,540) for AAP funding to Boxing Canada for 2022/2023 Boxing carding cycle starts on May 1st, 2022 and ends on April 30th, 2023 (12 months).

Sport Canada will review the card quota for all sports after the 2022 Beijing Olympics and Paralympics. Any revisions to the carding quota will only be applied to the 2023/2024 Carding Cycle.

8. CARDING PRIORITIZATION

Cards will be allocated to eligible Athletes in the order of priority listed in the phased steps set out below (section 8.1). Each step will be completed in its entirety, with nomination of all eligible and qualified Athletes exhausted, before moving to the next step. As a result, it is possible that not all steps will be reached, and that Cards may not be allocated in some categories. Therefore, due to the limited number of Cards available, meeting the Carding criteria does not automatically qualify an athlete for a card.

8.1. Carding Prioritization:

- 1) Athletes eligible for Sport Canada's "Senior International Performance" cards (SR1/SR2);
- 2) Athletes eligible for "Development" cards (D);
- 3) Athletes eligible for "Senior Performance" cards (SR/C1).

9. CARDING CRITERIA

9.1. Senior International Card (SR1 / SR2)

Criteria:

- As per Sport Canada policies and procedures, awarded to an eligible athlete placing in the top 8 and top half of the field at the **2020 Olympic Games (July 2021)**.
- Eligible athletes who meet the international criteria may be nominated for carding for two consecutive years, with the first year referred to as SR1 and the card for the second year referred to as SR2. The second year of carding is contingent on the athlete meeting the eligibility requirements, being re-nominated by Boxing Canada and a training and competitive program approved by Boxing Canada and Sport Canada being maintained. The Athlete must also sign an Athlete Agreement, complete the Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) Application Form for the year in question and complete the online anti-doping courses.

International Senior Cards provide two years of Carding:

- **SR1:** Year one (\$1,765 per month/\$21,180 per year);
- **SR2:** Year two (\$1,765 per month/\$21,180 per year).

9.2. Development Card (D)

Objective: To identify and support young boxers developing within the Boxing Canada Gold Medal Profile (GMP) and Winning Style (WS) parameters with a superior international potential, at an earlier time of their athletic development than is possible with the senior carding system. The program must allow for an enriched training and competitive schedule that will prepare selected athletes to gain skills critical for success at the senior level.

The Development Card U19 is valid for a one-year period. Only athlete's U19 are eligible for the D cards.

DevelopmentCards provide one year of funding.

- **D:** Development Card level (\$1,060 per month/\$12,720 per year).

9.2.1 IBA Youth Men's and Women's World Championship Criteria

In years where IBA Youth Men's and Women's World Championships are held, U19 athletes placing in the top 8 with at least one (1) win in an Olympic weight category will be considered for carding.

If there is a tie or if there are too many eligible athletes for the remaining carding quota, athletes will be nominated based on their final rank on the youth card identification system, summarized below.

9.2.2. To rank athletes beyond 9.2.1 process, the following will apply, in priority order:

- a) If there are two or more athletes with the same number of points as per a), the athletes with the highest number of international points, from the Boxing Canada Point System between April 1st, 2019 and April 30th, 2022, with Boxing Canada's official National Team Program, will be ranked higher. (<https://boxingcanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Boxing-Canada-Points-System-EN.pdf>).
- b) If there are two or more athletes with the same number of points as per b), the athletes with the highest number of domestic points, from the Boxing Canada Point System between April 1st, 2019 and April 30th, 2022, with Boxing Canada's official National Team Program, will be ranked higher. (<https://boxingcanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Boxing-Canada-Points-System-EN.pdf>).

9.3. Senior National Card (SR/C1)

Senior Cards provide one year of funding but may be renewed for further years if the athlete demonstrates progress within the Boxing Canada GMP and WS parameters and continuing improvement toward International Senior Card status. Senior Cards awarded to athletes the first time are called C1 Cards and are funded at the Development Card level. Athletes will be nominated for a C1 card in the first year they meet the national criteria for a Senior Card even if they have previously been carded at the Development (D) level.

- **C1:** Year one at the Senior Card level (\$1,060 per month/\$12,720 per year);
- **SR:** Senior Card level (\$1,765 per month/\$21,180 per year).

Senior Performance Carding Criteria (SR/C1) are awarded for a one-year period to athletes according to their ranking in **HIGH PERFORMANCE PROGRAM**. To be eligible for a "Senior Performance" card nomination, athletes must meet the following criteria.

Years of involvement as a senior athlete in the HPP	Required Carding Standards *
1 to 4	Selection to Boxing Canada High Performance Program.
5 to 7	High Performance Program athletes must have placed at least once in the top 5 at the World Championship or Olympic Games within the past 4 years (i.e., during carding years 4, 5, 6 or 7).
8 and up	High Performance Program athletes must have placed at least once in the top 5 at the World Championship or Olympic Games within the past 2 years (i.e., during carding years 7 or 8).

** The purpose of the required carding standards is to provide a fair opportunity to all carded athletes to develop and establish themselves on the international scene, while at the same time outlining high-performance expectations over time. The longer an athlete has been on the National Team as a carded athlete, the higher performance expectations become, both in terms of results and consistency.*

9.3.1. Senior carding criteria prioritization:

As outlined in Section 7, Sport Canada has awarded Boxing Canada 3 cards for women and 5 cards for men. The same criteria will apply for each gender.

Carding will be allocated to eligible athletes using the system below, in order of priority. In the event that the number of eligible athletes should exceed the number of Sport Canada cards awarded for a gender at a given order of priority, the next order of priority will be used as the tie breaker for the remaining spots.

- 1- Points in international competitions for the period April 1, 2019 – April 2, 2022.
<https://boxingcanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Boxing-Canada-Points-System-EN.pdf>
- 2- Performances at 2022 AMBC, by rank (gold has priority over silver; silver has priority over bronze).
- 3- Athletes with the most points among those ranked #1 at 2022-23 Elite National Team Selection (March 2022).
- 4- Athletes with the most points among those ranked #2 at 2022-23 Elite National Team Selection (March 2022).

10. FAILURE TO MEET RENEWAL CRITERIA FOR HEALTH-RELATED REASONS (ILLNESS, INJURY OR PREGNANCY)

A carded athlete who, at the end of the carding cycle, has not achieved the standard required for the renewal of his/her carding status solely because of health-related reasons may be considered for re-nomination for the upcoming year. In order to be considered for re-nomination for 2022-2023, an athlete must meet all of the following requirements:

1. The athlete must have been carded during the 2021-2022 carding cycle.
2. The athlete was selected for the Elite World championships or Olympic Games in the last 4 years;
3. Meet Athlete Eligibility Requirement from Section 4.
4. The athlete duly notified the Boxing Canada HPD, or delegate, in writing of her or his injury or health status within 14 days of the date of diagnosis or of the date when the athlete had to interrupt her or his training. A licensed sport medicine practitioner approved by Boxing Canada must support such diagnosis.
5. The athlete has fulfilled all reasonable training and rehabilitation requirements aimed at a speedy return to full high-performance training and competition during the period of his or her injury, illness or pregnancy, or is continuing a rehabilitation program approved by Boxing Canada;
6. In the view of Boxing Canada, the athlete's failure to attain the applicable carding standards is strictly related to the injury, illness or pregnancy.
7. For the duration of the athlete's inability to fulfill their training and competitive commitments, which are part of the carded athlete's contract, the athlete must commit, in writing, to train and/or rehabilitate under the supervision of Boxing Canada. This must be done at a level that

mitigates risk to the athlete's personal health and ensures a timely return to a full training and competitive program that is in line with the other members of the National Team.

Athletes nominated under this clause in their career is only for one year.

11. ATHLETE WITHDRAWAL AND NON-RENEWAL

Athletes may lose their carding status or have carded status withdrawn under certain conditions, including the following:

- Non-renewal of carded status;
- Failure to meet training or competitive commitments;
- Violation of the athlete/NSO agreement;
- Athlete's failure to meet responsibilities outlined in AAP policies;
- Gross breach of discipline; and
- Fraudulent misrepresentation.

The High-Performance Director in consultation with the HPAG may recommend the withdrawal of an athlete's carded status to Sport Canada, under the following conditions:

1. Provide a verbal warning to the athlete, including the steps and timelines to remedy the situation and the consequences of a failure to heed the warning;
2. Where applicable, follow up with a written warning to the athlete.

If the above steps are not successful in resolving the matter and the NSO still wishes to recommend withdrawal of carded status, Boxing Canada must:

1. Provide written notification to the AAP Manager and the NSO's Sport Canada Program Officer, with a copy to the athlete, recommending withdrawal of the athlete's carded status. This letter must:
 - a) Indicate the grounds on which the recommendation is being made;
 - b) Indicate the steps already taken to address the issue (verbal warning followed by a formal letter of warning);
 - c) Provide notice to the athlete of the athlete's right to contest the Boxing Canada recommendation to withdraw carded status through Boxing Canada internal appeal process within the prescribed time.

Athletes may also withdraw from the AAP by expressing their wish to do so to Boxing Canada. This may involve retiring permanently or temporarily foregoing the commitments of carded status. If recommended by Boxing Canada, athletes who retire permanently in mid-season may be allowed two (2) months of AAP support past the date of their actual retirement to help them adjust to their post-athletic situation. This does not preclude the athlete from applying for or receiving special-needs assistance or deferred tuition support.

12. APPEAL

Appeals of Boxing Canada's AAP nomination/re-nomination decision or of a Boxing Canada's recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through the Boxing Canada'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](#)).

Any member in good standing of Boxing Canada who is materially affected may appeal a decision of Boxing Canada with respect to a nomination/re-nomination/withdraw of an athlete to the Athlete Assistance Program. Appeals must be conducted in accordance with the Boxing Canada Appeals Policy, which is available on the Boxing Canada website (www.boxingcanada.org).

In the event of an appeal, the affected athletes will have their carding support placed on hold until the appeal is finalized.

13. LANGUAGE

Where there is a difference in interpretation between the French and the English version of this document, the English version shall prevail.