



BOXING CANADA

2023-2024 ATHLETE CARDING PROGRAM

TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1	Introduction	3
SECTION 2	General	3
SECTION 3	Decision Making Authority	4
SECTION 4	Athlete Eligibility Requirement	4
SECTION 5	Additional Conditions for All Carded Athletes	5
SECTION 6	Eligible Weight Categories	5
SECTION 7	Carding Allocations and Carding Cycle Period	
SECTION 8	Carding Prioritization	6
	8.1 - Carding Criteria Prioritization	
SECTION 9	Carding Criteria	6
	9.1 - Senior International Card 9.2 - Development Card 9.3 - Senior National Card	
SECTION 10	Failure To Meet Renewal Criteria for Health-Related Reasons	8
SECTION 11	Athlete Withdrawal and Non-Renewal	9
SECTION 12	Appeal	9
SECTION 13	Language	10

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 sports. It is not intended to serve as an athlete’s sole source of income. The AAP is designed to support consistent or developing athletes 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 who are members of the Boxing Canada High Performance Program, have executed a current Athlete Agreement, and meet the eligibility criteria below.
- 2.3.** Carding nominations are submitted by Boxing Canada to Sport Canada annually, usually in late April. As of the date of the Boxing Canada submission of carding nominations to Sport Canada, any athlete who has not provided evidence of their 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 the 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 financial assistance may be available to carded athletes through Sport Canada’s APP. These include tuition payments, excellence living and training allowance, child-dependent allowance, relocation assistance and deferred tuition assistance for retired athletes. For further information, athletes should refer to section 8 of the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Policy and Procedures document (<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 2023/24 APP nomination policy development is the responsibility of the High-Performance Director (HPD). The Boxing Canada High Performance Advisory Group (HPAG) will oversee the development and implementation of the Athlete Carding Program.
- 3.2. The HPD is responsible for implementing the Athlete Carding Program 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, fair, and equitable for all candidates.
- 3.3. Boxing Canada does not grant AAP Cards to athletes. Boxing Canada nominates athletes eligible for a Sport Canada AAP Card 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 ten 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 2023-2024 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 offences;
- Sign a fully executed Athlete Agreement as Boxing Canada requires and is required for 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 the time of nomination and maintain this status until the completion of the Carding cycle. Unless otherwise authorized, in advance and writing, athletes must have paid all outstanding invoices to Boxing Canada at the nomination date.
- To be eligible for an SR1, SR2, SR, or D card, athletes born between January 1st, 1983, and December 31st, 2005, must train full-time 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 daily training environment (DTE); if athletes choose to remain in their 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 agree to follow the yearly training plan and program of training and competition activities designed by the National Coaches under the direction of 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 National Coaches and HPD;
- Whether based at the HPTC or their DTE, Youth carded athletes must commit to training on a full-time basis. In addition, Youth carded athletes accept to follow the yearly training plan and program of training and competition activities designed by the National Coaches. 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;
- A 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 – Standard Weight Category
48kg
51kg
54kg
57kg
60kg
63.5kg
67kg
71kg
75kg
80kg
86kg
92kg
92+kg

Women - Standard Weight Category
48kg
50kg
52kg
54kg
57kg
60kg
63kg
66kg
70kg
75kg
81kg
81+kg

7. CARDING ALLOCATIONS AND CARDING CYCLE PERIOD

Sport Canada has awarded Boxing Canada the equivalent of four (4) Senior Men’s Cards (\$84,720) and four (4) Senior Women’s Cards (\$84,720) for AAP funding to Boxing Canada for the 2023/2024 Boxing carding cycle, which starts on May 1st, 2023, and ends on April 30th, 2024 (12 months).

Sport Canada will review the card quota for all sports after the 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympics. Any revisions to the carding quota will only be applied to the 2025/2026 Carding Cycle.

8. CARDING PRIORITIZATION

Cards will be allocated to eligible Athletes in the order of priority listed in the phased steps below (section 8.1). Each step will be completed in its entirety, with the 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); (the top-ranked U19 male and the top-ranked U19 female athlete)
- 3) Athletes eligible for Injury/Illness/Pregnancy cards
- 4) Athletes eligible for "Senior Performance" cards (SR).
- 5) Athletes eligible for "Development" cards (D); (any remaining U19 athletes)

9. CARDING CRITERIA

9.1. Senior International Card (SR1 / SR2)

Criteria:

- As per Sport Canada policies and procedures, Carding is awarded to an eligible athlete placing in the top 8 and top half of the field at the 2022 Senior World Championships. Only weight classes on the program of the upcoming Olympic Games will be considered for this category.
- 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 maintaining a training and competitive program approved by Boxing Canada and Sport Canada. 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 earlier in 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 one year. Only athletes U19 are eligible for the D cards. Development Cards provide one year of funding. A maximum of one (1) male and one (1) female D cards will be issued as the second level of Carding prioritization (Section 7.1). The fifth level of Carding prioritization (Section 7.1) will consider any remaining U19 athletes.

- 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 in the top 8 with at least one (1) win will be considered for carding.

If there is a tie or 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 the process noted in 9.2.1, the following will apply in priority order:

- If there are two or more athletes with the same number of points, the athletes with the highest number of international points from the Boxing Canada Point System between May 1st, 2022 and March 15th, 2023, 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)

In general, Boxing Canada 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.

- SR: Senior Card level (\$1,765 per month/\$ 21,180 per year).

Senior Performance Carding Criteria (SR) are awarded to athletes for a year according to their ranking in the High Performance Program. Athletes must meet the following criteria to be eligible for a “Senior Performance” card nomination.

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 four 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 two 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.

9.4. Senior carding criteria prioritization:

As outlined in Section 7, Sport Canada has awarded Boxing Canada four(4) cards for women and four (4) cards for men. The same criteria will apply to each gender.

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

- 1- Athletes with the most points in international competitions for May 1st, 2022 – March 15th, 2023. among those ranked #1 at the 2023 Elite National Championships (February 2023).
- 2- Athletes with the most points in international competitions for May 1st, 2022 – March 15th, 2023. among those ranked #2 after the 2023 Elite National Championships assessment process (February 2023).

Boxing Canada Point System available at: <https://boxingcanada.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/Boxing-Canada-Points-System-EN.pdf>

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

At the end of the carding cycle, a carded athlete without the standard to renew their carding status solely for health-related reasons may be considered for renomination for the upcoming year. To be considered for renomination for 2023-2024, an athlete must meet all of the following requirements:

1. The athlete must have been carded during the 2022-2023 carding cycle.
2. The athlete was selected for the Elite World championships or Olympic Games in the last four (4) years;
3. Meet the Athlete Eligibility Requirement from Section 4.
4. The athlete duly notified the Boxing Canada HPD, or delegate, in writing of their injury or health status within 14 days of the date of diagnosis or when the athlete had to interrupt their training. A licensed sports medicine practitioner approved by Boxing Canada must support such a 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 their 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.

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 rehabilitate under the supervision of Boxing Canada. This must be done at a level that mitigates risk to the athlete's health and ensures a timely return to a full training and competitive program in line with the other members of the National Team.

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's 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 supplementary support or deferred tuition support.

12. APPEAL

Appeals of Boxing Canada's AAP nomination/renomination decision or of Boxing Canada's recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through 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 concerning a nomination/renomination/withdrawal of an athlete to the Athlete Assistance Program. Appeals must follow the Boxing Canada Appeals Policy, 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.