

Boxing Canada

Athlete Assistance Program Selection Criteria

Date of Publication: Oct 22, 2023

## Table of Contents

1	INTRODUCTION .....	1
2	GENERAL .....	2
3	DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY.....	2
4	ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT .....	2
5	ELIGIBLE WEIGHT CATEGORIES .....	3
6	CARDING ALLOCATIONS, CARDING CYCLE PERIOD, AND RESULTS ELIGIBILITY .....	3
7	CARDING PRIORITIZATION.....	3
8	CARDING CRITERIA .....	4
9	ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR RENEWAL OF SENIOR CARDS.....	8
10	ATHLETE WITHDRAWAL AND NON-RENEWAL .....	9
11	APPEAL .....	10
12	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.

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.html>.

## **2 GENERAL**

Boxing Canada does not make the final decisions regarding the carding of athletes. Boxing Canada uses criteria to nominate eligible athletes for AAP support (carding) to Sport Canada. This document's criteria and procedures comply with Sport Canada's AAP Policies and Procedures. Nominations are reviewed and approved independently by Sport Canada.

Carding nominations are submitted by Boxing Canada to Sport Canada annually. Athletes will only be nominated if they are actively competing.

There are several grounds for the withdrawal of funding from a Carded athlete. See Section 11 for details.

In addition to the regular stipend, other financial assistance may be available to carded athletes through Sport Canada's APP. These could include tuition payments and deferred tuition assistance for retired athletes. For further information, athletes should refer to the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Policy and Procedures document (<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance/policies-procedures.html> )

A minimum of four (4) months of AAP support must be available to nominate an athlete to the AAP.

There are three (3) general types of Cards: International Senior Cards (known as SR1 or SR2 Cards), Senior National Cards (known as SR Cards), and Development Cards (known as D Cards).

Boxing Canada will only nominate one athlete per Olympic weight category except if that nomination is for a U19 Excellence Card (Priority 2 in Section 7 below).

## **3 DECISION-MAKING AUTHORITY**

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 a Boxing Canada oversight structure 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.

## **4 ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENT**

To be eligible for carding, the Athlete must meet the following Eligibility Requirements:

1. Compete in eligible Olympic weight categories (see section 6).
2. Meet the Canadian Olympic Committee's (COC), World Boxing's (WB) and the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) requirements to be eligible to represent Canada at major international events, including the World Championships and the Olympic Games
3. Be named as a team member of the 2024-2025 High Performance Program (HPP), which is defined as the National Team
4. Must not be suspended or sanctioned for doping or doping-related offences.
5. Full compliance with the current Athlete Agreement. No Carding application will be processed without the signed Athlete Agreement being filed with Boxing Canada
6. Be a member in good standing with their provincial/territorial boxing organization (PTSO) and Boxing Canada at the time of selection and maintain this status until the completion of the Carding cycle. Unless otherwise authorized, in advance and in writing, athletes must have paid all outstanding invoices to Boxing Canada at the

nomination date.

7. To be eligible for an SR1, SR2, SR, or D card, athletes must train full-time at Boxing Canada's High Performance Training Centre (HPTC) at INS Québec (Montréal, QC); however,
8. U19 athletes allocated a D Card can be based at Boxing Canada's HPTC in Montréal (QC) or remain in their daily training environment (DTE). If U19 athletes choose to remain in their DTE, they must be supervised by a Boxing Canada-designated high-performance coach.
9. Carded athletes must agree to follow an Individual Performance Plan (IPP) designed by the National Coaches under the direction of the High-Performance Director (HPD).
10. 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.

## **5 ELIGIBLE WEIGHT CATEGORIES**

Boxing Canada nominations for Sport Canada AAP Carding will be limited to athletes competing in Olympic weight categories.

Men's Olympic Weight Category	Women's Olympic Weight Category
51kg	50kg
57kg	54kg
63.5kg	57kg
71kg	60kg
80kg	66kg
92kg	75kg
92+kg	

## **6 CARDING ALLOCATIONS, CARDING CYCLE PERIOD, AND RESULTS ELIGIBILITY**

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 2024/2025 Boxing carding cycle starting on May 1, 2024, and ending on April 30, 2025 (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.

Results for used for the selection process must have been earned between May 1, 2023 and April 30, 2024.

## **7 CARDING PRIORITIZATION**

Cards will be allocated to eligible Athletes in the order of priority listed in the phased steps below. Each step will be completed, 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.

Carding Prioritization:

Priority	Description	Card	Goal
Priority 1	Senior International	SR1, SR2	Medal at upcoming Major Games
Priority 2	U19 Excellence	D	Medal at subsequent Major Games
Priority 3	SR 2 Health-Related Circumstances	SR	Maintain SR2 athletes who are unable to compete due to health-related circumstances.
Priority 4	Demonstrated Podium	SR	Medals at international competition
Priority 5	U23 Emerging Potential	SR	U23 Medal Potential at international competition
Priority 6	Podium Potential	SR	Medal Potential at International Competition
Priority 7	SR Health-Related Circumstances	SR	Maintain SR athletes who are unable to compete due to health-related circumstances.
Priority 8	National Development	SR	Support National Team athletes who have yet to demonstrate evidence of international medal potential.

**8 CARDING CRITERIA**

The following criteria describe the performance levels required for athletes to be nominated for Carding at each priority level. All competitions listed in these criteria must be on the designated competition list of the HPP for any given season. Athletes must achieve stated performance benchmarks with at least one win.

When not explicitly noted in the posted results of competitions listed in the following eight carding prioritization tables, Boxing Canada will utilize the following method to determine the Top-4, Top-6 and Top-8 competitive results of athletes plus the final placement of each athlete within the division.

Division Result	Medal	General Result Classification	Result Description
1st	Gold	Top 4	The winner of the Finals of the division
2nd	Silver	Top 4	The loser of the Finals of the division
3rd	Bronze	Top 4	The 3rd place bronze athlete who lost to the gold medalist in the semifinals. (round of 4)
4th	Bronze	Top 4	The 3rd place bronze athlete lost to the silver medalist in the semifinals. (round of 4)
5th	none	Top 6	The 5th-place athlete lost to the gold medalist in the quarterfinals. (round of 8)
6th	none	Top 6	The 5th-place athlete lost to the silver medalist in the quarterfinals. (round of 8)
7th	none	Top 8	The 5th-place athlete lost to the #1 bronze medalist in the quarterfinals. (round of 8)
8th	none	Top 8	The 5th-place athlete lost to the #2 bronze medalist in the quarterfinals. (round of 8)

In large divisions within single-elimination competitions, multiple athletes can achieve division rankings of 9<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup> and 65<sup>th</sup>. If breaking a tie by comparing two or more athletes' final placements at a designated competition is necessary, Boxing Canada will apply the method detailed in the above table to rank athletes beyond 8<sup>th</sup> place. If the competition software used to manage the designated competition provides a relative ranking within each broader ranking category of 9<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 33<sup>rd</sup> and 65<sup>th</sup>, then the software's relative ranking will be utilized to compare athletes within a tie-breaking process.

<b>Priority</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Description</b>	<b>Senior International</b>
<b>Card Type</b>	<b>SR1, SR2</b>
<b>Criteria</b>	Top 8 and top half of the field at the Olympic Games. If no Olympics is held during this carding cycle, then Top 8 and Top Half of the field at the Elite World Championships - only weight classes on the program of the upcoming Olympic Games. SR1 Cards will be awarded before SR2 Cards.
<b>Tie-Break Process</b>	If eligible athletes exceed the number of cards available, the following tiebreaking criterion will be applied singularly and sequentially to determine which athletes are nominated. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The highest-ranked athlete at the Olympic Games/World Championships</li> <li>2. The highest-ranked athlete at a World Olympic Qualifier</li> <li>3. The highest-ranked athlete at the most recent Pan American Games</li> <li>4. The highest-ranked athlete at the most recent Continental Championships</li> <li>5. If the tie persists, the HPAG will rank the top-ranked athletes, with the final decision being taken by the HPD.</li> </ol>

<b>Priority</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Description</b>	<b>U19 Excellence</b>
<b>Card Type</b>	<b>D</b>
<b>Criteria</b>	The top-ranked U19 male and the top-ranked U19 female athlete with either: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. a Top-8 placement at the U19 World Championships or</li> <li>2. a Top -2 at the AMBC U19 Continental Championships in an Olympic weight class.</li> </ol> <p>A maximum of one (1) male and one (1) female Card will be allocated at this level. Athletes may receive D-card funding for four (4) years.</p>
<b>Tie-Break Process</b>	If eligible athletes exceed the number of cards available, the following tiebreaking criterion will be applied singularly and sequentially to determine which athletes are nominated. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Result at the most recent U19 World Championship. The athlete with the highest placement will be ranked higher.</li> <li>2. Results at the most recent U19 Continental Championships. The athlete with the highest placement will be ranked higher.</li> <li>3. If the tie persists, the result at the most recent Canadian Championship or Olympic Qualifier in the U19 age division. The athlete with the highest placement will be ranked higher.</li> <li>4. If the tie persists, the HPAG will rank the top-ranked athletes who placed in the Top 8 of the U19 World Championships, with the final decision being taken by the HPD.</li> </ol>

<b>Priority</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Description</b>	<b>Health Related Circumstances Cards for athletes previously carded as SR2</b>
<b>Card Type</b>	<b>SR</b>
<b>Criteria</b>	At the end of the carding cycle, an SR2 carded athlete without the standard to renew their carding status solely for health-related reasons will be considered for renomination for the upcoming year. To be considered for renomination for 2024-2025, an athlete must meet all the following requirements:

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Meet the Athlete Eligibility Requirement from Section 4.</li> <li>2. The athlete notified the Boxing Canada HPD, or delegate, in writing of their injury or health status within 14 days of diagnosis or when the athlete had to interrupt their training. A physician or licensed sports medicine practitioner approved by Boxing Canada must support such a diagnosis.</li> <li>3. The athlete has fulfilled all reasonable training and rehabilitation requirements aimed at a speedy return to full high-performance training and competition during their injury, illness or pregnancy or is continuing a rehabilitation program approved by Boxing Canada.</li> <li>4. In the view of Boxing Canada, the athlete's failure to attain the applicable carding standards is strictly related to injury, illness, or pregnancy.</li> </ol> <p>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.</p>
<b>Tie-Break Process</b>	<p>If eligible athletes exceed the number of cards available, the following tiebreaking criterion will be applied singularly and sequentially to determine which athletes are nominated.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Results at the most recent Olympic</li> <li>2. Result at the most recent World Championship.</li> <li>3. Results at other major competitions 12 months before the injury, illness, or pregnancy.</li> <li>4. If the tie persists, the HPAG will rank the top-ranked athletes who had previously been carded at SR2, with the final decision being taken by the HPD.</li> </ol>

<b>Priority</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Description</b>	<b>Demonstrated Podium</b>
<b>Card Type</b>	<b>SR</b>
<b>Criteria</b>	<p>A Top-4 placement at one of the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pan American Games,</li> <li>• Olympic Games World Qualifier,</li> <li>• World Boxing Cup</li> </ul>
<b>Tie-Break Process</b>	<p>If eligible athletes exceed the number of cards available, the following tiebreaking criterion will be applied singularly and sequentially to determine which athletes are nominated.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The highest-ranked athlete at a World Olympic Qualifier in this Olympic Cycle</li> <li>2. The highest-ranked athlete at the most recent Pan American Games</li> <li>3. The highest-ranked athlete at the most recent Continental Championships</li> <li>4. If the tie persists, the HPAG will rank the top-ranked athletes, with the final decision being taken by the HPD.</li> </ol>

<b>Priority</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Description</b>	<b>U23 Emerging Potential</b>
<b>Card Type</b>	<b>SR</b>
<b>Criteria</b>	As an athlete under 23 years of age who achieves any of the following performance benchmarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A podium placement at a World Boxing Cup</li> <li>• A podium placement at a World Boxing Challenge</li> <li>• A podium at the Elite Continental Championships</li> </ul>
<b>Tie-Break Process</b>	If eligible athletes exceed the number of cards available, the following tiebreaking criterion will be applied singularly and sequentially to determine which athletes are nominated. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The highest-ranked athlete at a World Olympic Qualifier in this Olympic Cycle</li> <li>2. The highest-ranked athlete at the most recent Pan American Games</li> <li>3. The highest-ranked athlete at the most recent Elite Continental Championships</li> <li>4. <b>If the tie persists, the HPAG will rank the top-ranked athletes, with the final decision being taken by the HPD.</b></li> </ol>

<b>Priority</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Description</b>	<b>Podium Potential</b>
<b>Card Type</b>	<b>SR</b>
<b>Criteria</b>	An athlete who achieves either of the following performance benchmarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Top 8 at the Olympic Games World Qualifier</li> <li>• Top 6 at Pan American Games</li> </ul>
<b>Tie-Break Process</b>	If eligible athletes exceed the number of cards available, the following tiebreaking criterion will be applied singularly and sequentially to determine which athletes are nominated. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The highest-ranked athlete at the Olympic Qualifier</li> <li>2. The highest-ranked athlete at the Pan American Games</li> <li>3. <b>If the tie persists, the HPAG will rank the top-ranked athletes, with the final decision being taken by the HPD.</b></li> </ol>

<b>Priority</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Description</b>	<b>Health Related Circumstances Cards for athletes previously carded as SR</b>
<b>Card Type</b>	<b>SR</b>
<b>Criteria</b>	At the end of the carding cycle, an SR-carded athlete without the standard to renew their carding status solely for health-related reasons will be considered for renomination for the upcoming year. To be considered for renomination for 2023-2024, an athlete must meet all the following requirements: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Meet the Athlete Eligibility Requirement from Section 4.</li> <li>2. The athlete notified the Boxing Canada HPD, or delegate, in writing of their injury or health status within 14 days of diagnosis or when the athlete had to interrupt their training. A physician or licensed sports medicine practitioner approved by Boxing Canada must support such a diagnosis.</li> <li>3. The athlete has fulfilled all reasonable training and rehabilitation requirements aimed at a speedy return to full high-performance training and competition during their injury, illness or pregnancy or is continuing a rehabilitation program approved by Boxing Canada.</li> <li>4. In the view of Boxing Canada, the athlete's failure to attain the applicable carding</li> </ol>

	standards is strictly related to 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.
<b>Tie-Break Process</b>	If eligible athletes exceed the number of cards available, the following tiebreaking criterion will be applied singularly and sequentially to determine which athletes are nominated. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The highest-ranked athlete at a World Olympic Qualifier in this Olympic Cycle</li> <li>2. The highest-ranked athlete at the most recent Pan American Games</li> <li>3. Results at other major competitions 12 months before the injury, illness, or pregnancy.</li> <li>4. If the tie persists, the HPAG will rank the top-ranked athletes, with the final decision being taken by the HPD.</li> </ol>

<b>Priority</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Description</b>	<b>National Development</b>
<b>Card Type</b>	<b>SR</b>
<b>Criteria</b>	Gold medal at the most recent National Championships or Boxing Canada Olympic Qualifier (December 2023)
<b>Tie-Break Process</b>	If eligible athletes exceed the number of cards available, the following tiebreaking criterion will be applied singularly and sequentially to determine which athletes are nominated. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The highest-ranked athlete at a World Olympic Qualifier in this Olympic Cycle</li> <li>2. The highest-ranked athlete at the most recent Pan American Games</li> <li>3. The highest-ranked athlete at the most recent American Continental Championships</li> <li>4. The highest-ranked athlete at last season's Canada Cup overall ranking list</li> <li>5. If the tie persists, the HPAG will rank the top-ranked athletes, with the final decision being taken by the HPD.</li> </ol>

## **9 ADDITIONAL CRITERIA FOR RENEWAL OF SENIOR CARDS**

Senior Cards (SR) are awarded to athletes for a year according to their ranking in the High Performance Program, as detailed in Section 8 above. Athletes must meet the following criteria to be progressively eligible for a Senior Carding nomination to Sport Canada.

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.



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	Within the previous four years, carding-nominated athletes must have placed at least once in the Top 6 at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A World Boxing Cup,</li> <li>• A World Boxing Challenge,</li> <li>• The American Continental Championships,</li> <li>• The Commonwealth Games,</li> <li>• The Pan American Games.</li> </ul>
8 and up	Within the previous two years, carding-nominated athletes must have placed at least once in the top 4 at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A World Boxing Cup,</li> <li>• A World Boxing Challenge,</li> <li>• The American Continental Championships,</li> <li>• The Commonwealth Games,</li> <li>• The Pan American Games.</li> </ul>

## 10 ATHLETE WITHDRAWAL AND NON-RENEWAL

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

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

The High-Performance Director, in consultation with the Executive Director, may pursue the withdrawal of an athlete's carded status to Sport Canada after engaging in the following steps:

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.
3. 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 notifying Boxing Canada in writing. Carded athletes who retire permanently in the mid-carding cycle will be entitled to two months of L/T allowance (and any already-approved supplementary support allowances) past the date of retirement within the carding cycle for transitional support\* to help them adjust to their post-athletic situation. This does not preclude the athlete from applying for or receiving Supplementary AAP Retirement Allowance, Deferred Tuition or Relocation Assistance. (see Sub-Section 8.1).

## **11 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 (<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance/policies-procedures.html> ).

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](http://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.

## **12 LANGUAGE**

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