

SPEED SKATING CANADA

HIGH PERFORMANCE BULLETIN

#169 - Long Track



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HIGH PERFORMANCE BULLETINS

The philosophy for team selection is to select the athletes that will achieve the best possible results for Canada at Olympic Games and World Single Distance Championships.

The High Performance Committee will issue bulletins periodically throughout the season informing Skaters, Coaches, ODC and SSC Branches of any update and/or changes to selection criteria, competitions, etc.

The HPC reserves the right to modify or change the enclosed policies in the event that exceptional circumstances arise and that any such changes are clearly in the best interest of the High Performance program. In these situations, all athletes and coaches will be advised of any changes as soon as they are confirmed by the HPC.

Athlete Assistance Program 2014 / 2015 Carding Criteria

Introduction

The aim of this document is to describe the criteria that will be used by Speed Skating Canada for nominating athletes for Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) for the 2014/15 carding year.

The Sport Canada policy and procedures which govern the AAP and the establishment and application of criteria can be found on Sport Canada's website <http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/sc/pol/athl/index-eng.cfm>

For any matters related to the Athlete Assistance Program Nomination or de-carding, all appeals must follow the Policies and Procedures of Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) Section 13.1 <http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/sc/pol/athl/114-eng.cfm>

SSC has been allocated 50 Senior Cards by Sport Canada for both long track and short track programs. Sport Canada will announce the new quotas in the spring of 2014. Therefore SSC number of cards may change for the 2014-15 carding cycle.

The High Performance Committee of the LT and ST programs are responsible for nominating athletes for carding in their respective program.

Eligibility

Only athletes named to Speed Skating Canada's National Team or Development Team are eligible to be nominated to Sport Canada for AAP Carding.

AAP support is subject to athletes' availability to represent Canada in international competitions, including World Cups, World Championships and Olympic Games. Any withdrawal from any international competitions is subject to HPCLT approval. The athlete must be a Canadian citizen or 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.

Short Track Vs. Long Track

Athletes that decide to change programs (from Long Track to Short Track or vice versa) will be evaluated on the criteria of the program they are joining unless otherwise agreed by both HP Committees. In either event, the athlete must meet carding criteria. For an athlete changing programs and qualifying with the appropriate carding criteria, there will be a maximum number of additional years at the respective carding level. For example, 3 additional years at Senior national level, 2 additional years at Development level.

Injury Cards

The High Performance Committees - Short Track or Long Track may add an athlete to the National Team or Development Team according to past performances. A carded athlete who is the victim of

an injury or illness which compromises his/her participation in a ranking meet may be nominated for carding based on the AAP policy on "Curtailed of Training and Competition for Health-related Reasons". For nomination purposes, the Athlete will be ranked at the same position as he/she was in the program in the previous year (e.g., Racing Team members, Top 16 at the Worlds, etc.) with the performance of the previous year.

An athlete will receive an injury card at the same level as the previous year except in the case of C1 card which will be awarded at the SR level. Note the first injury year will not count towards the maximum allowances of carding at the TC and SR National levels. Subsequent injury years will count towards the standard limits.

Priorization of The Cards

Cards are allocated in the following priority order:

1. Senior International cards;
2. Senior cards (including C1); and
3. Development cards - Junior
4. Development cards – Training Centre – Development Team

Please note that if fewer athletes in a program qualify for carding than the number of cards in this program, then the unused cards will be transferred to the other program.

SSC Support

Athletes who are selected to the SSC National Team but do not receive AAP carding support from Sport Canada will receive replacement funding from SSC at the 2014 / 15 Training Centre Card level of funding.

Athletes who are selected to the SSC Development Team but do not receive AAP carding support from Sport Canada will receive replacement funding from SSC at half the 2014 / 15 Training Centre Card level of funding.

SSC will only provide funding for living allowance. SSC will not provide any of the other AAP allowances such as tuition support, relocation assistance, etc. SSC support for an athlete who does not receive AAP carding support will be limited to a maximum of 2 years. Additional years may be added in special circumstances evaluated by the HPCLT.

LONG TRACK

Senior International Card Criteria (SR1, SR2)

Criteria : Top 8 and top ½ of the qualification field in individual distance or top 8 and top ½ of the qualification field for Team Pursuit

Competitions: 2014 Olympic Winter Games (OWG)

500m: From the cumulative time of the two 500m at the 2014 OWG

1000m: From the rank at the 2014 OWG

1500m: From the rank at the 2014 OWG

3000m: Only for Women, from the rank at 2014 OWG

5000m: From the rank at the 2014 OWG

10000m: Only for Men, from the rank at the 2014 OWG

Team pursuit: From the rank at the 2014 OWG

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 an SR1 Card and the card for the second year referred to as an SR2 Card. The second year is subject to the athlete being re-nominated by Speed Skating Canada, a training and competitive program approved by Speed Skating Canada and Sport Canada and signing the AAP application and SSC/Athlete agreement.

Senior National Card Criteria (SR, C1)

Senior National cards are intended to support athletes with the potential to reach Senior International card status. Athletes are expected to improve each year to maintain Senior National card level.

The nomination and acceptance of athletes will be determined as follows:

- 2014 Olympic Winter Games, and athletes qualified on the official ISU listing (including both the points ranking and time ranking) not including the reserve list
- 2014 World All Round Championships qualifiers plus the 1st alternate from the original selection competition (replacement skaters other than the 1st alternate will not be considered)
- 2014 World Sprint Championships qualifiers plus the 1st alternate from the original selection competition (replacement skaters other than the 1st alternate will not be considered)
- Skaters who are ranked in the top 28 of the ISU World Rankings
- Skaters selected to the National team at the discretion of the High Performance Committee on the basis of performance history, current performance indicators and future potential

An athlete is generally expected to be Senior National level carded (including C1 Card) for no more than five (5) years, at which time it would be expected that Senior International criteria have been met. Further carding at that time could be discussed based on the athlete's improvement, actual results over the carding period, future potential, etc.

Development Card

There are 2 types of criteria used to determine Development Cards.

These are:

1. Development criteria for junior skaters only
2. Training Centre criteria for junior and post junior skaters

Speed Skating Canada will prioritize the nomination for Development Cards in the following priority order:

1. Development Criteria – Junior

Cards awarded, based on Development criteria – Junior, may be available for a period of 12 months for young athletes showing exceptional potential as demonstrated by their performances at the World Junior Championships

The nomination and acceptance of athletes will be based on consideration of the following:

- a) Athletes who placed in the top 8 and top 1/3 of the field in an individual distance, or overall, at the Junior World Championships. Note the 500m will be based on the combined 2 x 500m.

2. Training Centre criteria – Development Team

Training center cards may be available to junior and post junior skaters who demonstrate high performance potential.

Training Centre eligibility criteria:

1. Skaters who have previously been carded at Senior Levels (including C1) for more than 2 years are not eligible to receive a TC Card.
2. Training Centre carding will be offered for a maximum of 4 years (consecutive or total) at the post junior level. The 4th year of support will be decided at the discretion of the HPC based upon the pattern of development during their previous 3 years in the Development Team.

Development Team

Development Team skaters not already carded will be prioritized according to the following:

- a) Canadian Ranking per distance and gender for which they have been selected to the Development Team

For skaters with the same ranking they will then be compared on the basis of the percentage of their best time skated during the 2013 – 2014 season compared to the average time recorded by

the 1st place finisher for the last 2 years in World Cup, World Championships, and Olympic Games or the last 4 years for 5000m women, 10000m men). Please note that the distances used are the Olympic distances. The competitions where these times can be achieved are: Canadian Championships, ISU World Cups, International Competitions (including Canada Cup races, Can-Am races, North Americans and the Oval Finale), or World Championships (only times recorded with an electronic timing system will be considered).