

Carding Criteria for Nominations for the 2023 Athlete Assistance Program's Carding Cycle

A. Introduction

1. The Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) is a program of direct funding to selected athletes by the Government of Canada and administered by Sport Canada. Water Ski and Wakeboard Canada (WSWC) through its Water Ski Canada High Performance Committee (HPC) nominates water ski athletes to the program based on competition performance criteria developed by the HPC and approved by Sport Canada.
2. This document sets out the criteria to be used by WSWC to nominate athletes for the AAP. These criteria have been developed within the context of the Sport Canada AAP Policies and Procedures.
3. Appeals of a WSWC AAP nomination decision or of a WSWC recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through WSWC's review process, which includes an application to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada. Appeals of an AAP decision made under section 6 (Application for and Approval of Cards) or section 11 (Withdrawal of Carding Status) may be pursued under section 13 of the AAP Policies, Procedures and Guidelines.
4. Sport Canada is responsible for approving nominations in accordance with AAP policies and the published WSWC approved AAP compliant carding criteria.
5. Athletes are recognized for funding (i.e., carded) at different levels of support depending on their competition results. The carding levels are Senior International, Senior National (SR and C1) and Development (D).
6. The Sport Canada quota for the number of cards available to WSWC is the equivalent of seven Senior cards (\$148,260). The holder of a Senior International card or Senior National SR card is eligible to receive up to \$21,180 of living and training support per year. Athletes who meet the Senior National criteria for the first time will receive a C1 card and will be funded at the Development card level (\$12,720 per year). This restriction applies even if the athlete previously held a Development card. However, if the athlete meeting the Senior National criteria has previously been carded at the Senior International level before meeting the Senior National criteria, then the athlete will receive a SR card.
7. Achieving any of the carding criteria does not guarantee receipt of a card. If more athletes meet the criteria than there are cards available, WSWC will nominate athletes in the following order:

Nomination Order	Nomination Criteria
1.	Athletes who meet the Senior International Carding Criteria (see Section C below)
2.	Athletes carded in 2022 at the Senior International level who meet the Health Issue Carding Criteria (see Section F below)
3.	Athletes who meet the Senior National (SR/C1) Carding Criteria (see Section D below)

8. Carded athletes are eligible to receive AAP support for a period of 12 months commencing on January 1, 2023. For more information on AAP financial benefits see Section 8 of the AAP's Policies and Procedures.
9. Subject to the approval of Sport Canada, the HPC reserves the right to change the following criteria if travel, health or other restrictions imposed because of the COVID 19 pandemic would result in the application of the criteria being unfair.

B. General Eligibility Requirements

1. To be eligible for carding, an athlete must:
 - (a) be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada on January 1, 2023;
 - (b) meet the citizenship or residency requirements of the International Water Ski and Wakeboard Federation (IWWF) to represent Canada at the 2023 World Water Ski Championships;
 - (c) be a member of the National Team Program; and
 - (d) sign and adhere to the WSWC Athlete Agreement.

C. Senior International Carding Criteria

1. To be eligible for nomination for a SR International card, an athlete must:
 - (a) have been carded at the SR International level in 2022; and
 - (b) in 2022:
 - (i) finish in the top 12 and the top half of the field in the open category of a slalom, trick or jump event at a Major Tournament listed in Annex 1; or
 - (ii) obtain a score at a record capability tournament that equals or exceeds 95% of the athlete's score in the finals at the 2019 World Water Ski Championships in an event in which the athlete placed in the top eight (maximum of three athletes per country).

D. Senior National (SR/C1) Carding Criteria

1. To be eligible for nomination for a SR/C1 card an athlete must achieve during 2022 in the open category of a slalom, trick or jump event at a record capability tournament at least two scores equal to or greater than the Senior National (SR/C1) Card Minimum Scores listed in Annex 3 (Qualifying Scores). The two scores must be achieved at two separate tournaments and at two separate tournament sites and must qualify for the IWWF World Ranking List.
2. If more athletes meet this criterion than there are SR/C1 cards available, the athletes will be ranked using the following procedure.

Procedure
(a) Each athlete's Event Average Score will be calculated by averaging the athlete's two highest Qualifying Scores.
(b) For each event in which an Event Average Score is calculated, the athlete's Event Overall Score will be calculated using the athlete's Event Average Score as the athlete's score and the Senior National (SR/C1) Card Minimum Score as the first place score. ¹
(c) Each athlete's Surplus Overall Points will be calculated by totalling the amount by which the athlete's Event Overall Score in each event exceeds 1,000.
(d) Athletes will be ranked using each athlete's Surplus Overall Points.
(e) If the Surplus Overall Points of two or more athletes are equal, those athletes' ranking will be determined based on each athlete's third highest event score (regardless of whether or not the score exceeds the Senior National (SR/C1) Card Minimum Score) converted to overall points using the Senior National (SR/C1) Card Minimum Score as the first place score. If the overall points from those athletes' third highest event scores are still equal, the process will be repeated using each athlete's fourth highest event score converted to overall points, then each athlete's fifth highest event score converted to overall points, and so on until the tie is broken.
¹ All overall point calculations will be made using the IWWF overall formulas set out in Annex 2, and all Surplus Overall Points will be rounded to the nearest whole number.

3. Athletes are expected to show progress toward meeting the Senior International carding criteria to continue being eligible for a Senior National (SR/C1) card. For this reason:
- (a) an athlete who has been carded at the Senior International level for more than 12 years will not be eligible to be nominated for a SR/C1 card, unless the athlete:
 - (i) meets the Health Issue Carding Criteria (see Section F below); or
 - (ii) is in the top eight for a male athlete or the top six for a female athlete in at least one of the slalom, trick or jump events on the IWWF May 2022 World Ranking List; and
 - (b) generally, an athlete will be carded at the SR/C1 level for a maximum of four years (because of COVID, 2022 and 2023 will not be counted as part of the four year period); to be nominated for carding at this level beyond that period, the athlete must demonstrate steady improvement in his or her results and skills; the evaluation of an athlete's improvement will be made by the HPC and will be based on improvement in the following areas:
 - (i) the consistency of the athlete's placement on the IWWF World Ranking List;
 - (ii) the athlete's performances at World Championships and the Major Tournaments listed in Annex 1;
 - (iii) the athlete's results from sport science and strength and conditioning programs; and

- (iv) the athlete's performances in 2022 compared to the Senior National (SR/C1) Card Minimum Scores listed in Annex 3.

E. Development (D) Carding Criteria

- 1. No Development card nomination criteria have been determined. As WSWC is limited to seven Senior cards and will have more than seven athletes eligible for consideration at the Senior International or SR/C1 card levels, Development card nomination criteria are not required.

F. Health Issue (e.g., injury, illness, pregnancy) Carding Criteria

- 1. An athlete may be considered for nomination for a Senior International card or SR/C1 card for 2023 if the following conditions are met:
 - (a) for a Senior International card nomination, the athlete:
 - (i) was unable to compete in 2022 in a reasonable number of record capability tournaments due to a health-related issue (e.g., injury, illness, pregnancy) and/or competed in all or a portion of 2022 when not fully recovered from a health-related issue; and
 - (ii) the athlete placed in the top eight (maximum of three athletes per country) in one or more of the slalom, trick or jump events at the 2019 World Water Ski Championships; or
 - (b) for a SR/C1 card nomination, the athlete was unable to compete in 2022 in a reasonable number of record capability tournaments due to a health-related issue (e.g., injury, illness, pregnancy) and/or competed in all or a portion of 2022 when not fully recovered from a health-related issue; and
 - (c) the athlete makes a written submission to the HPC by November 30, 2022. The HPC may provide forms or other standardized documentation to be completed by the athlete. In that case, the athlete must complete those forms, but may also provide other documentation.
- 2. The decision whether or not to nominate the athlete will be made by a committee consisting of the National Team Coach (NTC), the Chairperson of the HPC and a member of the WSWC Board selected by agreement of the NTC and the Chairperson of the HPC; provided that no one who has a conflict of interest may serve on the committee.
- 3. In its deliberations, the committee may consider whatever facts and matters it views as relevant to the decision, including:
 - (a) the criteria set out in section 9.1.3 (Failure to Meet Renewal Criteria for Health Related Reasons) of Sport Canada's APP Policies and Procedures and/or other Sport Canada regulations;
 - (b) training reports and the performance level of the athlete immediately prior to the occurrence of the health issue;

- (c) the circumstances that lead to the athlete's health issue, including whether the athlete was injured while in training or competition and if the athlete took reasonable precautions to avoid injury;
 - (d) the likelihood that the athlete would have been able to meet any of the other carding criteria if the health issue had not arisen;
 - (e) the likelihood of the athlete being able to return to the level at which he or she was performing prior to the occurrence of the health issue; and
 - (f) the athlete who would be deprived of a carding nomination if the athlete with the health issue was nominated.
4. If more than one athlete is eligible for carding nomination consideration under this Section F, the athletes to be nominated, if any, will be determined by the committee.

Annex 1 - List of 2023 Major Tournaments ¹

California Pro Am	Canadian Championships	Malibu Open
Moomba Masters	Pan Am Championships	Swiss Pro Slalom
US Masters	US Open	World Cup Tournaments
All tournaments the results from which qualify for the IWWF's World Ranking List (a list of those tournaments is posted on the IWWF web site).		
¹ Only results that qualify for the IWWF's World Ranking List may be used for the purposes of the Senior National (SR/C1) Carding Criteria. For example, a World Cup tournament the results from which do not qualify for the IWWF's World Ranking List may not be used.		

From time to time the HPC may add or delete a tournament (including the deletion of a World Cup tournament or an IWWF World Ranking List tournament) to or from the list of Major Tournaments.

An athlete may apply to have a tournament added to the list of Major Tournaments by submitting (or having a coach or tournament organizer submit) to the HPC a written request for the inclusion of the tournament at least one month in advance of the tournament. The HPC will determine if the tournament should be added to the list.

If any changes are made to the list of Major Tournaments as a result of a decision by the HPC, the above list will be updated and a revised Carding Criteria for Nominations for the 2023 Athlete Assistance Program's Carding Cycle will be posted on the WSWC web site. It is the responsibility of each athlete to be aware of the tournaments on the list of Major Tournaments by checking for updated information on the IWWF website (with respect to the IWWF's World Ranking List tournaments) and the WSWC website (with respect to updates to the above list of Major Tournaments).

Annex 2 - IWWF Overall Formulas

Slalom - male and female	$(\text{athlete's score} + 12) \times 1,000 \div (\text{first place score} + 12)$ ¹
Tricks - male and female	$\text{athlete's score} \times 1,000 \div \text{first place score}$
Jump - male	$(\text{athlete's score} - 25) \times 1,000 \div (\text{first place score} - 25)$
Jump - female	$(\text{athlete's score} - 17) \times 1,000 \div (\text{first place score} - 17)$
¹ Slalom scores are counted from 58kph/18.25m for males and 55kph/18.25m for females (e.g. 3 @ 13 m = 21).	

Annex 3 - Senior National (SR/C1) Card Minimum Scores

	Slalom	Tricks	Jump
Male	3.21 at 10.75 m (39.21 buoys)	9,944 points	63.63 m (~ 209 ft.)
Female	4.4 at 11 m (34.4 buoys)	8,754 points	49.13 m (~ 161 ft.)