



**ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
NOMINATION CRITERIA**

**CYCLE
May 1, 2011 – April 30, 2012***

* The carding cycle for 2010/11 has been extended by one month to accommodate a shift in cycle timing. Future carding cycles will be twelve months, from May 1st – April 30th.

(aussi disponible en français)

1. INTRODUCTION

Purpose of the Athlete Assistance Program (“Carding”) Program - The purpose of the Athlete Assistance Program (AAP, also known as ‘carding’) is to ensure that athletes who have demonstrated outstanding abilities and commitment to excelling in the sport of boccia are afforded the necessary opportunities in order to achieve future international success. It is intended to allow athletes to enter into a training and competitive schedule which, by design, is intended to lead to consistent improvement with respect to future international results.

The Sport Canada policy and procedures which govern the AAP and the establishment and application of criteria can be found on the Sport Canada website at http://www.pch.gc.ca/progs/sc/prog/paa-aap/paa-aap_e.pdf

The program is not a reward for past work or past results.

- 1.1 **Guiding Principles** - The 2011-2012 criteria is intended to allow fair and equitable treatment for all athletes while ensuring that the system and criteria will be as objective and transparent as possible.
- 1.2 **Funding** - The Athlete Assistance Program is funded by Sport Canada. The maximum number of cards for each cycle is determined by Sport Canada.
- 1.3 **Maintaining Carded Athlete Status Within a Cycle** - The athlete status is dependent upon both athlete performance and their adherence to the obligations as outlined in the Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association Carded Athlete Agreement and Sport Canada’s Athlete Assistance Program Policy and Guidelines.
- 1.4 **Carding Cycle and Duration** - The Carding Cycle will begin **May 1st, 2011 and will end April 30, 2012.** The period for 2011-2012 card status is 12 months, coinciding with the carding cycle, provided that the training and competitive program approved by the Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association and Sport Canada is maintained.
- 1.5 **Carding quotas** - **Boccia is currently eligible to receive the equivalent of 8 Senior cards. Sports carding allocations will be reviewed following the 2010 Paralympic Games. The new carding quotas will be implemented as of April 1, 2011, therefore, the number of cards allocated for Boccia is subject to change by Sport Canada.**

2. BASIC ELIGIBILITY FOR CARDING

- 2.1 **Performance Criteria** – The athletes must meet the performance criteria outlined in 3.1 and/or 3.2.
- 2.2 **Canadian Citizenship** – The athletes must be a Canadian citizen or Permanent Resident of Canada, on the date of the beginning of the carding cycle, and the athlete shall 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. The athlete would normally be expected to have participated in NSO-sanctioned program during that time period. After a three year period as a permanent resident, continued eligibility to receive AAP support is contingent on the athlete becoming eligible to represent Canada at the Paralympic Games.
- 2.3 **Eligibility** - The athlete must currently be eligible to represent Canada at World Championships or Paralympic Games. In particular athletes competing in the 2011 National Championships must be a Canadian Citizen **prior** to the 2011 National Championships. Athletes must be in good standing in respects with Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association, including all Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports

Association fees paid up to date. In addition, in order to be nominated for carding, athletes must be members of the National Team for the duration of the carding cycle.

- 2.4 **Canadian Residency** – The athlete must normally maintain their residence within Canada during the carding period to remain eligible for carding. Athletes living outside Canada for athletics or academic purposes must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association and Sport Canada that appropriate training programs are in place and are being maintained at an appropriate level. The Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association reserves the right to reject such a request.
- 2.5 AAP support is subject to the athlete's availability to represent Canada in major international events, including the World Championships, the World Cup, the America's Championship and Paralympic Games; participation in preparatory and annual training program; and adherence to the Athlete/National Sport Organization Agreement.

3. OVERVIEW OF CARDING SYSTEM

Eligible athletes will be nominated base on the following priority order until all cards have been allocated:

3.1 SR1/SR2 Cards – Senior International Criteria.

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 a SR1 Card and the card for the second year referred to as a SR2 Card. The second year is subject to the athlete being re-nominated by CCPSA, having a training and competitive program that is approved by CCPSA and Sport Canada, signing an Athlete/CCPSA agreement and completing the AAP application form for the year in question.

In events with one entry per event - Pair BC3, Team BC1/BC2: Athletes who achieve a Top 8 and top ½ of the field finish at the 2010 Boccia **World Championships**.

In events with two entries per event - Individual events: Athletes who achieve a Top 12 and top ½ of the field finish at the 2010 Boccia **World Championships**.

In event with three entries per event - Individual events: Athletes who achieve a Top 16 and top ½ of the field finish at the 2010 Boccia **World Championships**.

In event that do not have a minimum of 10 countries entered: Athletes who achieve a Top 3 finish at the 2010 Boccia **World Championships**, minimum of 5 countries and 10 entries.

3.2 SR/C1 Cards – Senior National Team Criteria

SR/C1 Cards are awarded for a one-year period. They are available to athletes in all divisions who meet the eligibility criteria outlined below.

C1 cards are awarded to athletes who meet the National Team Criteria for the first time and are funded at \$900/mth.

After an athlete has been carded for four (4) consecutive years at the "Senior National Team Card (SR/C1)" level, the Head Coach will conduct a comprehensive documented review of the Athlete's performance over the past four years. In order to recommend the athlete for carding, the Head Coach must demonstrate progression of the athlete toward performance equivalent to Senior International. (This process must be followed for all subsequent years that the Athlete is nominated under the Senior national team criteria). Only those athletes who have demonstrated consistent measurable progress may be recommend for AAP carding support.

The following ranking system will be used to prioritize athletes for AAP SR/C1 card nominations.

Priority will be given to athletes who earn the most points.

Card Title	Description	Eligibility Criteria	Points
SR-C1 Card	SR \$1500/month C1 \$900/month	Canadian Ranking Prior to the 2011 Canadian Championships	4 – First 3 – Second 2 – Third 1 – Top Third of Ranking
		2010 Boccia World Championships (Team, pair and individual)	15 – Gold 12 – Silver 10 – Bronze 8 – Top Half of the field
		2011 Canadian boccia championships "individual" results	9 – Gold 6 – Silver 3 – Bronze 1 – Top half of the field (if more than 7 athletes)

a. Additional Information

To earn points from a performance in the team or pairs event, the members of the team or pair must have played in at least one end during the competition.

3.3 Injury Card Criteria

Athletes who were carded in the previous year and were unable to meet the carding criteria strictly due to health-related reasons may be considered for re-nomination by CCPSA for the upcoming carding period.

The CCPSA must receive and accept a written request as outlined in Section 7. The athlete will then receive the same number of points as he or she got at the international event in the previous year, as stated in section 3.2, and will be ranked by points under with all the other athletes eligible under the SR/C1 Cards - National Team Criteria.

The Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association will present the names of the ranked and nominated athletes to Sport Canada for consideration. All nominations are subject to approval by Sport Canada.

4. PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

Once approved for carding by Sport Canada, to maintain carding during the approved carding cycle, the following conditions must be met by both carded athletes:

4.1 Participate in Training Program - Take part in all competitions and National Training Camps, as specified in the Athlete Agreement.

- **Training Events** – Must attend all official Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association Training Camps and Training Sessions
- **Competitions** – Must participate in domestic and international competitions included in the carded athlete training program as determined by the Head Coach.

- **Training Logs** – Carded athletes must submit yearly training plans and monthly training logs to the Ottawa office of the Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association. Following receipt by the National Office, the National Office will forward all training logs to the National team Coach(es), who will provide a summary training activity report to the High Performance Chair several times per year.
- **Extenuating Circumstances for Non-participation** – Should extenuating circumstances arise to prevent an athlete participation in international competition and national training camps, the athlete or his/her personal coach should present written documentation to the National Office/National team Coaching staff, outlining the extenuating circumstances, where possible in advance of the event. The National Team Coaching staff, in conjunction with the High Performance Chair, reserves the right to reject the submission.

4.2 Medical Examinations - Carded athletes must participate in medical examinations as outlined in Section 7.

5. NOMINATION PROCESS

The Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association staff will determine which athletes are eligible for nomination to Sport Canada for carding based on the criteria identified in section 3. The Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association will compile a ranked list of athletes based on athletes who meet the SR1/SR2 criteria followed by athletes eligible under the SR/C1 Cards - National Team Criteria and the Injury Carding Criteria.

In the event of a tie, the athlete with the best individual results at the 2011 Canadian Boccia Championships will prevail. In the event of two athletes with the exact same results are in different category we will consider the differential between point for and point against in all the games played by each athletes (including finals) divided by the numbers of games that they have played. The points score in extra ends (overtime) by athletes will not be taken in consideration and the athlete with the highest differential (highest score) will have the advantage.

All nominations must be approved by Sport Canada.

6. CARDING AGREEMENT AGREEMENTS

Athletes selected for carding will be required to sign the Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association Carding Agreement. No carding nomination will be processed without the signed Agreement.

The nominee must agree to participate in the team training program including all training camps and competitions for which they are selected.

The Carding Agreement will clearly indicate the performance requirements in the 2011/2012 period for each athlete to maintain carded athlete status, and the Carding Agreement will contain a statement to the effect that the athlete understands the performance requirements in the 2010/2011 period..

7. INJURY PROVISION OR EXEMPTION

In any injury provision request, The Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association reserves the right to obtain a second and third medical opinion at any time.

In the event that a carded athlete is unable to attend a competition or a training camp due to injury, the injured athlete may still remain eligible for carding. A written request must be submitted by the athlete to the Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association, including the following:

- i. A doctor's medical certificate indicating the date and nature of the injury with the prescribed rehabilitation program and estimated recovery period. A full recovery must be possible within the next carding period.
- ii. Agreement that for the period of time for which the athlete or assistant is unable to fulfill the training and competition commitments which are part of the normal carded Athlete's Agreement, that the athlete will train and/or rehabilitate under the supervision of The Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association (or a person designated by The Canadian Cerebral Palsy Sports Association) at a level which minimizes risk to the athlete's personal health, and ensures optimum return to full training and competition at the earliest possible time.
- iii. A written intention to return to full high performance training and competition at the earliest date possible following the illness or injury.

8. APPEAL PROCESS

All appeals related to the Athlete Assistance Program Nomination or de-carding, must follow the Policies and Procedures of Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) Section 13.1
http://www.pch.gc.ca/progs/sc/pol/athlete05/1_e.cfm.

CCPSA policy related to Disputes Resolutions and Appeals, can be found on www.ccpsa.ca.