

**Wheelchair Basketball Canada (WBC) – Men  
Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) Nomination Process  
2023-2024 Carding Year**

**1. Introduction**

The purpose of this document is to describe the criteria that athletes must meet in order to be eligible and nominated for the AAP.

Currently the Wheelchair Basketball Canada Men's Program is eligible for \$ 360,060 of support from Sport Canada. This support is typically divided into 12 Senior cards with the remainder being assigned to Development cards. This is only a guideline, and the actual division of cards will vary.

The AAP Policies and Procedures are available on the Sport Canada website:

[http://canada.pch.gc.ca/DAMAssetPub/DAM-PCH2-financement-funding/STAGING/texte-text/athlete\\_assistance\\_program\\_2015\\_1449583292452\\_eng.pdf?WT.contentAuthority=13.0](http://canada.pch.gc.ca/DAMAssetPub/DAM-PCH2-financement-funding/STAGING/texte-text/athlete_assistance_program_2015_1449583292452_eng.pdf?WT.contentAuthority=13.0)

**2. Athlete eligibility**

To be considered eligible for AAP assistance, an athlete must:

- Be an identified National Team pool athlete (process outlined below);
- Have a medically-documented physical disability or be considered minimally-disabled by the IWBF;
- The athlete must be a **Canadian citizen** or **permanent resident of Canada** at the beginning of the carding cycle for which the athlete is being nominated. Permanent residents must live in Canada for the full year preceding the carding cycle for which the athlete is being considered for AAP support;
- Must be eligible to represent Canada, under the eligibility requirements of the IWBF as it pertains to citizenship or residency status, at major international competitions, including World Championships, at the beginning of the carding cycle for which the athlete is being nominated;
- The athlete must sign an Athlete Agreement, complete the Athlete Assistance Program Application Form for the year in question and complete the required on-line anti-doping courses.

In the event that the athlete is nominated for the AAP, he/she must continue to fulfill these conditions.

Athletes who wish to be considered for inclusion in the National Team Pool, and by consequence, AAP nomination, must inform the Head Coach no later than February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023, so that sufficient time can be given to measuring the athlete's performance throughout the year. The Head Coach may allow an athlete who does not meet the 2-month timeline, into the National Team Pool, under exceptional circumstances, as determined by WBC in their sole discretion.

An athlete may be selected to the National Team Pool but may not be nominated for the AAP.

### **3. Timing**

The 2023-2024 carding cycle is effective for a period of one year from May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2024.

### **4. Decision making process**

The final recommendation for nominations for the Senior and Development cards is made by the Senior Men's Head Coach, in consultation with the High Performance Director, the U23 Head Coach and the program Assistant Coaches. Sport Canada approves nominations of eligible athletes in accordance with the AAP policies and the published WBC-approved, AAP-compliant carding criteria.

Eligible athletes will be nominated for AAP support in the following order of priority and based on their ranking on the overall depth chart;

1. Full Senior card (12 months);

- 1.1. Athletes eligible for Senior international card
- 1.2. Athletes eligible for Senior national card

2. Partial Senior card (4 – 11 months);

- 2.1. Athletes eligible for Senior international card
- 2.2. Athletes eligible for Senior national card

3. Full Development card (12 months);

- 3.1. Athletes eligible for Development card

4. Partial Development card (4 – 11 months).

- 4.1. Athletes eligible for Development card

5. Athletes eligible for Senior injury card
6. Athletes eligible for Development injury card

The number of months an eligible athlete will be nominated for the AAP will depend on:

- The WBC card quota established by Sport Canada;
- The athlete's position on the depth chart;
- Factors related to team cohesion and team dynamics;
- The athlete's training environment;
- Experience in international competition;
- Commitment to the program and to training as demonstrated through attendance at training and competition throughout the year and submission of training reports to the coaching staff;
- Ability to fit the overall team style of play;
- Evaluation during the year in competitive events;
- The future potential of an athlete to compete in the next Paralympic Games will be considered.

## **5. Carding Criteria for Nomination**

### **5.1 Senior *International* Card Criteria (SR1/SR2)**

Eligible athletes who played on the team that achieved top 8 and top 1/2 at 2020 Paralympic Games and meet the Senior criteria outlined in Appendix 1.

Athletes who meet the international criteria are eligible to be nominated by WBC for two consecutive years; the card for the first year is referred to as an SR1 card, while the second year card is known as an SR2 card. The second year of carding is contingent on the athlete maintaining a training and competitive program approved by WBC, meeting the Senior National criteria (as outlined in Appendix 1 and in the additional criteria listed above) and being re-nominated by WBC.

The athlete must also sign an Athlete/NSO Agreement, complete an AAP Application Form and the required on-line anti-doping courses for the year in question.

## 5.2 Senior National Card Criteria (SR/C1)

Eligible athletes who meet the Senior National criteria outlined in Appendix 1.

### 5.2.1 Number of years an athlete may be carded at the Senior National Level

- An athlete is expected to progress in their development in order to maintain Senior National card status. An athlete who has been carded for more than 5 years at the Senior National level must meet the International Senior carding criteria (as outlined in Appendix 1 and in the additional criteria listed above) or clearly demonstrate continued progress toward being selected on the final roster of the Senior National Team to be recommended for additional years of carding support.
- Athletes who have reached this maximum number of years at senior will be informed by WBC of the minimum standard they must meet to be eligible for an additional year of Senior card support.

## 5.3 Development Card Criteria (D)

Eligible athletes who meet the Development criteria outlined in Appendix 1.

Note: An athlete who has been carded at the C1/SR/SR1/SR2 levels for more than 2 years is no longer eligible for nomination for Development Card, unless he was a U23 age-eligible athlete when carded at these levels.

### 5.3.1 Number of years an athlete may be carded at the Development Level

- An athlete is expected to progress in their development in order to maintain their Development card. An athlete who has been carded for more than 5 years after the age of 22 at the Development level must meet the National/International Senior carding criteria (as outlined in Appendix 1 and in the additional criteria listed above) or clearly demonstrate continued progress toward being selected on the final roster of the Senior National Team to be recommended for additional years of carding support.
- Athletes who have reached this maximum 5 years at Development card will be informed by WBC of the minimum standard they must meet to be eligible for an additional year of D card support.

## 5.4 C1 CARD

C1 carded athletes are funded at the Development Card level in the first year they meet the national criteria for a Senior Card even if they have previously been carded at the Development (D) level. If, however, the athlete has been previously carded at the SR1 or SR2 level, has been named to the national senior team, has competed in World Championships, or in the case of team sports World Championship (Cup) qualifiers, before meeting the national criteria for the Senior Card for the first time, the athlete will be funded at the Senior Card (SR) level rather than at the Development Card level.

## 5.5 Health-related cards

At the end of a carding cycle during which a carded athlete has, for strictly health-related reasons, not achieved the standards required for the renewal of carded status, he may be considered for re-nomination for the upcoming carding period under the following conditions:

- The Athlete has fulfilled all reasonable training and rehabilitation requirements aimed at a speedy return to full high performance training and competition.
- In the view of WBC, the Athlete's failure to attain the applicable carding standards is strictly related to a health related-reason.
- WBC, based on its technical judgment and that of a WBC team physician or equivalent, indicates in writing the expectation that the Athlete will achieve at least the minimum standards required for carding during the upcoming carding period.
- The Athlete has demonstrated and continues to demonstrate their long-term commitment to high performance training and competition goals, as well as their intention to pursue full high performance training and competition throughout the carding period for which they wish to be renewed despite not having met the carding criteria.

## 5.6 Wheelchair Basketball Canada carded athlete requirements

In order to receive and maintain their AAP support, carded athletes must:

- Attend all scheduled activities they are invited to participate in (e.g. once invited an athlete must attend any camps, events, or training sessions);
- Follow year-round training programs that are provided to the athlete by WBC head coach and IST staff or practice and compete in a pro club/University Sept to April approved by the head coach ;
- Submit their training logs as prescribed by the program established by WBC (e.g. training logs must be submitted to WBC via Teambuildr).
- Perform fitness testing as prescribed by the program established by WBC;

Notwithstanding Sport Canada policy for special situations described in section 5.5, if a carded athlete does not submit training or monitoring report (within 10 days of the scheduled deadline) or fails to perform a fitness test, then the following process will be followed:

- 1st occurrence - written notification advising the athlete that they must comply with the requirement to retain their carding status. They will have 7 days to comply.
- 2nd occurrence – WBC HPD will recommend to Sport Canada an immediate withdrawal of the athlete's carding. Athletes will be removed from the WBC Depth Chart and will not be considered for further WBC Program activities.

WBC will implement and facilitate a monitoring plan for each athlete that will allow an evaluation of each athlete's IPP, provide feedback and measure progress accomplished by the athlete.

## **6. Appeals**

Appeals of decisions of the Senior National Coach on AAP nomination/re-nomination decision or to withdraw carding may be pursued only through the WBC's appeal process, which includes an application to the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC). Appeals of AAP decisions made under (Application for and Approval of Cards) or (Withdrawal of Carding Status) may be pursued through Section 13 of the AAP Policies, Procedures and Guidelines.

## Appendix 1

| Name:                   |  |       |                                |                        |   |
|-------------------------|--|-------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---|
| GMP Asset               | Evaluation Components                  | Score | Observations, strengths & gaps | Gap-closing strategies | ! |
| Performance on Demand   | Execution of skills                    |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | Emotion/arousal regulation             |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | Duration of execution                  |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | Experience level                       |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | Technical GMP score                    |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | Tactical GMP score                     |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | 5-Cone drill                           |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | Total                                  | /28   |                                |                        |   |
| Optimize Training Gains | Setting training objectives            |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | Meeting individual expectations        |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | Complete training programs             |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | Complete additional training           |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | Sustain focus during training          |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | Physical Performance Standard          |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | Total                                  | /24   |                                |                        |   |
| Support Teammates       | Peer evaluation basketball development |       |                                |                        |   |
|                         | Peer evaluation personal development   |       |                                |                        |   |

|  |  |      |  |  |  |
|--|--|------|--|--|--|
|  | Total                                    | /8   |  |  |  |
| Maintain appropriate health and well-being | Implementation of skills/strategies      |      |  |  |  |
|  | Compliance to recovery plans             |      |  |  |  |
|  | Engagement with IST/other resources      |      |  |  |  |
|  | Engagement with outside resources        |      |  |  |  |
|  | Total                                    | /16  |  |  |  |
| Commitment to culture of excellence        | Engagement with IST/other resources      |      |  |  |  |
|  | Complete training programs               |      |  |  |  |
|  | Complete additional training             |      |  |  |  |
|  | Engagement with athletes during training |      |  |  |  |
|  | Providing direct feedback                |      |  |  |  |
|  | Equipment                                |      |  |  |  |
|  | Total                                    | /24  |  |  |  |
| Ranking Score                              |  | /100 |  |  |  |
| Additional Comments                        |  |      |  |  |  |