



CyclingCANADACyclisme

CYCLING CARDING CRITERIA FOR MTB NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2014 CARDING CYCLE

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Note: In case of any wording discrepancies between the English and French versions of the selection criteria, the English wording takes precedence.

Note: From this point forward disciplines will be considered as cycling sports (ex. Track) and disciplines are considered as being events in a cycling sport. (Example: Track is cycling SPORT in which there are sport disciplines like the Team pursuit)

1. Introduction

The goal of the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) is to contribute to improved Canadian performances at major international sporting competitions such as the Olympic/Paralympic Games, Commonwealth Games, Pan Am Games and World Championships. To this end, the AAP identifies and supports athletes already at or having the potential to be in the top 16 in the world.

The AAP has three specific objectives:

- to identify and support Canadian athletes performing at or having the greatest potential to achieve top 16 results at Olympic/Paralympic Games and World Championships;
- to help Canada's international-caliber athletes excel at the highest level of competition while assisting them to prepare for a future career or engage in full- or part-time career activities; and
- to allow athletes to maintain a long-term commitment to training and competition to further their high performance athletic goals.

Athletes approved by Sport Canada for the AAP are eligible for a living and training allowance, tuition support (in a Sport Canada approved University or College program), deferred tuition support, and special needs assistance. Athletes funded by AAP receive a monthly financial stipend as follows:

- Senior International Card (SR1/SR2) \$1500/month
- Senior National Card (SR) \$1500/month
- Senior Probationary Card (C1) \$900/month
- Development Card (D) \$900/month

Further information on the AAP can be obtained through the Sport Canada web site <http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/sc/pol/athl/index-eng.cfm>.

2. Eligibility

In order to be considered for nomination for AAP support, an athlete must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- The athlete must compete in Olympic events
- Results posted in Olympic events, between December 1st 2012 and November 30th, 2013 will be considered.
- The athlete must have competed at the 2013 National Championships, unless a written exemption has been granted by Cycling Canada (CC).
- The athlete must complete CC application form (see CC website) and return it to CC on or before October 31st, 2013.
- The athlete must be a licensed member of CC and be a member in good standing with their Provincial Association.
- The athlete must not be under suspension or any other sanction by any recognized body for any doping or doping-related offence.
- The athlete 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 CC-sanctioned programs during that time period.
- The athlete, under the eligibility requirements of UCI, as it pertains to citizenship or residency status, must currently be eligible to represent Canada at major international competitions, including World Championships.
- Athletes must have accepted participation to either world championships and/or Paralympic or Olympic Games if selected by Cycling Canada *

Sport Canada recommends that an athlete with annual income after sport expenses of \$50,000 or more, decline AAP financial support. Funds declined in this way are reallocated to other athletes in the same sport whose income is below the voluntary income guideline.

* Exceptions can be considered by the HPD and HPC if an athlete presents valid reasoning like financial, medical, etc

3. Application Process

Cycling Canada (CC) makes every effort to keep track of and recognize athletes' results that may qualify them for carding. However, given that a large proportion of results may be achieved at events outside of the National Team program, it is impossible for CC to be aware of all relevant performances. Therefore; it is the responsibility of each athlete to ensure that CC is aware that they are eligible for carding support. Athletes who have met the criteria outlined in this document must apply to CC no later than October 29th, 2013 in order to be considered for AAP support in the 2014 cycle. Applications must be in by October 31st, 2013 but results can be compiled up until November 30th, 2013. Athletes shall complete the application form posted on CC's website and return it to CC on or before the deadline. The athlete's coach responsible for overseeing their training program must be identified on this form and must also sign it. A detailed 2014 Training and Competition Plan must accompany the application form. Failure of submitting any aforementioned details may result in a suspension of funding until the necessary information is submitted.

In the case of Track cycling CC will actively monitor the results of those athletes that are competing in events during the month of November 2013 that may make them eligible for carding support, but it is still the responsibility of the athlete to contact CC immediately if they feel they have met the carding criteria during this period.

4. Decision-making Process

The High Performance Director/Head Coach (HPD) in consultation with the Cycling Sport specific National Coach evaluates all athletes who have submitted a complete application for AAP support, and based on Cycling Carding Criteria, recommends a prioritized list of athletes that are to be nominated for carding support. The prioritized list is submitted to the High Performance Committee (HPC) or sport specific Selection Advisory Group* for approval.

This prioritized list will be posted on Cycling Canada website and all the athletes who submitted an application form will be notified via email of the provisional status accorded to them by the HPD. Athletes will have a review period of seven (7) days, following the notification by e-mail, to appeal the decision not to nominate them for carding. Any appeal launched by an athlete will be expedited in accordance with the CC Appeals Policy.

Following the review period, the names of the athletes who are eligible to be nominated for carding support will be submitted to Sport Canada for final approval.

Sport Canada reviews all nominations put forward by CC and approves nomination in accordance with Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) policies. Athletes whose nominations are approved by Sport Canada must sign the 2014 CC Carded Athlete Agreement and complete the AAP Application Form before they can begin receiving carding support.

* The sport specific selection advisory group is a group of people chosen by the High Performance Committee members who are experts in a specific cycling sport who assist the HPC and national sport Coach with High Performance decisions.

5. Description of carding levels

Senior International (SR1/SR2)

Sport Canada sets the criteria for SR1/SR2 cards. They are based solely on results at the Olympic Games in games years and World Championships in "Non Games" years. Athletes who meet the SR1/SR2 criteria are eligible to be nominated for carding for two consecutive years, with the card for the first year referred to as SR1 and the second year referred to as SR2. If after meeting the SR International criteria an athlete meets the SR international criteria the subsequent year, that athlete may be eligible for another 1st year (SR1). Athletes must meet the maintenance criteria established by CC to be eligible for nomination for a SR2 card.

Note: In cases where the Olympic/Paralympic or World Championship field is restricted by the sport's International Federation (IF), the International Olympic Committee (IOC) or the International Paralympic Committee (IPC) as a result of qualification processes or other types of entry restrictions, the number of entries and countries in the qualification process will be taken in consideration.

Senior National (SR/C1)

National criteria for Senior card has been designed to identify the athletes with the potential to be among the top-16 in the world, within five years. This carding level can be achieved through performances at the World Championships or through sport specific criteria. Cycling Canada identifies three levels of Senior National carding criteria – Automatic, Specific & Discretionary.

Development (D)

Development cards are intended to support the development needs of young senior/elite or Junior athletes who clearly demonstrate the potential to achieve the Senior International card criteria.

In MTB, the Development cards are available to athletes in the UCI U23 and Junior age categories.

In MTB CC identifies three levels of Development carding criteria – International, Automatic & Specific.

Athletes who qualify for this level of carding as an U23 will be given priority over those athletes who qualify for this level of carding as a Junior.

Athletes previously carded at SR1/SR2 level are not eligible for Development cards.

6. Maximum number of years at the Senior National card level

Once an athlete reaches the Elite age, as per UCI regulations, an athlete is expected to achieve progress in their results in order to maintain Senior National carding status. Normally, five (5) years is the maximum that an athlete will be carded at the Senior level (SR & C1) based on national criteria (excluding Injury card). After such time, Sport Canada will require a comprehensive thoroughly documented review of the athlete's performance over the past five years in order to demonstrate progress toward performance equivalent to top 16 and top half at the World Championships or Olympic Games, which then warrants nomination of "Senior National" card status for an additional year. This process must be followed for all subsequent years that the athlete is nominated at this level.

7. Maximum number of years at the Development carding level

In Track, athletes in the Post Junior Transition age category are eligible for carding support at the D level only 4 years into the Elite age category. An athlete may be carded at the D level for a maximum of seven (7) years including the years carded under the Junior and the U23 age criteria but excluding any years that they were carded under Injury card provision.

8. Athletes meeting criteria in more than one cycling sport

In the case where one athlete has met carding criteria in more than one cycling sport; the sport by which that athlete has obtained a higher carding level (International, Automatic or Specific) in will prevail. In the case where the carding levels are the same, then the HPD along with the High Performance Committee will establish from what sport that particular athlete's card should come from.

9. Athletes that qualify for Development card and Senior card

Athletes who qualify for the 3-year International Development card and who also qualify for a Senior card have the choice of accepting any of these. However, if an athlete does decide to choose a Senior card over completing the 3 year International D card, the athlete in question would not be eligible for any subsequent year(s) of that 3-year International Development card.

Athletes who qualify for the Automatic or Specific Development card and who also qualify for a Senior card have the choice of accepting any of these.

10. Number of cards available and distribution

The maximum number of cards available to CC is the equivalent of 38 Senior cards*. Sport Canada is currently reviewing all sports carding allocations; therefore, the number of cards allocated for CC is subject to change by Sport Canada.

Senior cards may be converted to Development cards at the discretion of Cycling Canada as long as the final amount is within the carding quota. Therefore, due to the limited amount of cards available, meeting carding criteria does NOT automatically qualify an athlete for a card.

A maximum of 20 Senior cards may be allocated to athletes eligible for SR1, SR2, SR, C1 and Injury cards. The remaining 18 Senior cards will be allocated at the Development level, for a total of 30 Development cards (D). In the case where Sport Canada reduces the carding allocations, a minimum of 50% of the cards shall remain SR's.

*As Sport Canada is in a review process the amount of cards may differ from what is mentioned in this document. If the amount of cards were to differ from those amount mentioned in this document the HPC would take measures to re-distribute new allotted number of cards.

The cards will be distributed as follows to each cycling sport:

| Cycling Sport | Objective Cards | | Discretionary Cards | TOTALS |
|---------------|---|--|-------------------------------|-------------|
| | Number of Senior cards available per sport. | Number of Development cards available per sport. | Number of discretionary cards | |
| BMX | 2 | 2, plus BMX Objective SR not used | 1SR + 2D | 3 SR + 4 D |
| MTB-XC | 3 | 5, plus MTB-XC Objective SR not used | 3SR + 3D | 6 SR + 8 D |
| Road | 3 | 5, plus Road Objective SR not used | 2SR + 3D | 5 SR + 8 D |
| Track | 4 | 7, plus Track Objective SR not used | 2SR + 3D | 6 SR + 10 D |

NOTE: It is to be noted that the distribution of SR and D cards within each cycling sport may vary depending on where the carding cycle lies in an Olympic quadrennial. For the sake of increasing our development pool it has been decided that in some cycling sports more Development cards are available early on in an Olympic quadrennial and as the carding cycles progress towards the end of a quadrennial the emphasis will be put on increasing the number of SR cards and decreasing the number of D cards.

11. Prioritization - MTB

Objective cards will be allocated to eligible athletes in the following order of priority.

Within each cycling sport, Objective cards will be allocated before the Discretionary cards.

N.B.: This priority order of nominations does not apply to Discretionary cards – please see the section on Discretionary card criteria for more information at page 13 of this document.

| | SR CARD (Total of 4) | D CARD (Total of 9) |
|----|--|---|
| 1 | Athletes who meet the SR1 criteria | Athletes meeting the D international criteria in U23/Transitional category |
| 2 | Athletes who meet the SR2 criteria | Athletes who meet the injury card criteria and who were D international U23/Transitional the preceding year |
| 3 | Athletes who meet injury card criteria and who were SR1 the preceding year | Athletes meeting the D international criteria in Junior category |
| 4 | Athletes meeting the SR automatic criteria | Athletes who meet the injury card criteria and who were D international junior the preceding year |
| 5 | Athletes meeting the SR specific criteria | Athlete meeting the D automatic criteria in U23/Transitional category |
| 6 | Athletes who meet injury card criteria and who were SR2 or SR automatic the preceding year | Athletes who meet the injury card criteria and who were D automatic U23/Transitional the preceding year |
| 7 | Athletes who meet injury card criteria and who were SR specific the preceding year | Athlete meeting the D automatic criteria in Junior category |
| 8 | | Athletes who meet the injury card criteria and who were D automatic junior the preceding year |
| 9 | | Athletes meeting the D specific criteria in U23/Transitional category |
| 10 | | Athletes meeting the D specific criteria in Junior category. |

Within MTB, athletes who are eligible for the same level of card will be prioritized as follows (except for Discretionary cards):

- 1) Highest finish at a 2013 Elite World Championship event in an Olympic program event (Where applicable)
- 2) Highest finish at a 2013 U23 World Championship event in an Olympic program event (Where applicable)
- 3) Highest finish at a 2013 Junior World Championship event in an Olympic program event
- 4) Highest number of UCI points using the UCI rankings from December 1st 2012 to November 30th 2013 to the points released on immediately following XCO world championships
- 5) Highest finish at the 2013 Pan American championships
- 6) Highest finish at the 2013 Elite National Championship in an Olympic program event
- 7) Highest finish at the 2013 U23 National Championship event in an Olympic program event
- 8) Highest finish at the 2013 Junior National Championship event in an Olympic program event

If after all of the above, there still remains a tie, the expert judgement of the HPD will be used to prioritize among the tied athletes taking into account the factors listed in the Discretionary carding criteria section.

If after the allocation the Senior, Development and Discretionary cards in a cycling sport some cards have not been used, any remaining cards may be re-allocated to another cycling sport as additional Discretionary cards.

The distribution of these non-used cards will be made by the HPD and the High Performance Committee based on their expert judgement. The HPD and High Performance Committee will take in consideration the following elements:

- a detailed review of each cycling sport results at the:
 - o 2013 World Championships in an Olympic program event,
 - o 2013 National Championships in an Olympic program event and
 - o 2013 UCI Individual Rankings.
- the number of competitive athletes per cycling sport in the Canadian system;
- the number of cards already allocated to each cycling sport;
- the ranking of the athlete in his/her cycling sport;
- Quadrennial plan strategic objectives

In addition, a card can only “shift” status (From D to SR or vice-versa) when and if no other athlete from any other cycling sport has met that card’s original status criteria. If the aforementioned proves to be the case, a card’s status can be “shifted” and the priority will be given to the cycling sport that was originally in possession of that card.

12. MTB XCO – ELITE WOMEN– SENIOR CARDING CRITERIA

1. INTERNATIONAL SENIOR CARD CRITERIA (SR1/SR2)

At the 2013 World Championships, athletes finishing the elite women's mountain bike XCO event in the top-8 and top ½ of the field will be eligible to be nominated for a Senior International card counting a maximum of 3 entries per nation. This card has a two-year duration. The first year will be classified as SR1 and the second year as SR2. Athletes with a status of SR1 must meet the automatic criteria listed in section two or meet one of the specific criteria listed in section three in order to be eligible for their carded status in year 2 (SR2).

2) AUTOMATIC SENIOR NATIONAL CARD CRITERIA (SR/C1)

Athletes meeting one of the following criteria will be eligible to be nominated for an Automatic Senior card, which will have a one-year duration:

- At the 2013 MTB XCO World Championships, finish the elite women's cross-country race among the top-20 and top ½ of the field
- Finish two times among the top-12 in the elite women's cross-country race at any 2013 UCI MTB XCO World Cup event
- Gold medal at the 2013 Pan Am championships medal in either the MTB XCO

3) SPECIFIC SENIOR NATIONAL CARD CRITERIA (SR/C1)

Athletes meeting one of the following criteria will be eligible to be nominated for a specific Senior card, which will have a one-year duration:

- Finish the 2013 World Championships among the top 25
- Finish among the top-24 at a 2013 UCI MTB XCO World Cup event
- Finish two times among the top-32 at a 2013 UCI MTB XCO World Cup event
- Medal in the XCO event at the 2013 MTB Pan Am Championships (elite event)
- Rank among the Top 3 Canadians on the UCI XCO individual classification immediately following XCO world championships
- Medal at 2013 XCO National Championships and be selected for World Championships as out-lined in the selection document
- Medal two times at a 2013 UCI class 1 or HC open/elite MTB XCO event

13. MTB XCO – ELITE MEN – SENIOR CARDING CRITERIA

1. INTERNATIONAL SENIOR CARD CRITERIA (SR1/SR2)

At the 2013 World Championships athletes finishing the men's MTB XCO race in the top-8 and top ½ of the field will be eligible to be nominated for a Senior International card counting a maximum of 3 entries per nation. This card has a two-year duration. The first year will be classified as (SR1) and the second year as SR2. Athletes with a status of SR1 must meet one of the automatic criteria listed in section two or meet one of the specific criteria listed in section three in order to be eligible for their carded status in year 2 (SR2).

2. AUTOMATIC SENIOR NATIONAL CARD CRITERIA (SR/C1)

Athletes meeting one of the following criteria will be eligible to be nominated for an Automatic Senior card, which will have a one-year duration:

- At the 2013 MTB XCO World Championships, finish the elite men's cross-country race among the top-25 and top ½ of the field.
- Finish among the top 16 in the elite men's cross-country race at any 2012 UCI MTB XCO World Cup event
- Gold medal at the Pan Am championships in XCO event

3. SPECIFIC SENIOR NATIONAL CARD CRITERIA (SR/C1)

Athletes meeting one of the following criteria will be eligible to be nominated for a Specific Senior card, which will have a one-year duration:

- At the 2013 MTB XCO World Championships, finish the elite men's cross country race amongst the top 30
- Finish top- 30 at a UCI MTB XCO World Cup event
- Finish two times among the top-36 at a UCI MTB XCO World Cup
- Medal in the XCO event at the 2013 MTB Pan Am Championships (elite event)
- Medal two times at a 2013 UCI class 1 or HC open/elite MTB XCO event
- Medal at 2013 XCO National Championships and be selected for worlds as out-lined in the selection document
- Rank among the Top 3 Canadians on the UCI XCO individual classification immediately following XCO 2013 world championships

14. MTB XCO – U23 WOMEN – DEVELOPMENT CARDING CRITERIA (D)

1) INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA

At the 2013 MTB XCO World Championships, athletes finishing the U23 women's cross-country race among the top-6 will be eligible to be nominated for a Development (D1) card. This card will have a three-year duration. The first year will be classified as D1, the second year as D2 and the third year as D3.

N.B.: Athletes who qualified for the 3-year International Development card and who also qualify for a Senior card (SR/C1) have the choice of accepting any of these. However, if an athlete does decide to choose a Senior card over completing the 3 year International D card, that athlete may not revert back to a D card any subsequent year.

2) **AUTOMATIC DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA**

- Athletes finishing among the top-12 and top ½ of field in the U23 women's cross country event at the 2013 MTB XCO World Championships will be eligible to be nominated for an automatic Development card, which will have a one-year duration.
- At the 2013 Pan Am championships finish in the top 3 positions in the MTB XCO in elite event

3) **SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA**

Athletes meeting one of the following criteria, in the U23 women's cross country event, will be eligible to be nominated for a specific Development card, which will have a one-year duration:

- Finish among the top-40 at a 2013 UCI MTB XCO World Cup event in the elite field.
- Finish two times among the top-5 Elite at a 2013 UCI class 1or HC open/elite MTB XCO event
- At the 2013 Pan Am championships finish in the top 5 positions in the MTB XCO in elite event
- Medal at 2013 XCO National Championships and be selected for worlds as out-lined in the selection document as a U23
- Rank among the Top 3 Canadians on the UCI XCO individual classification immediately following XCO world championships

15. MTB XCO – U23 MEN – DEVELOPMENT CARDING CRITERIA (D)

1) **INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA**

At the 2013 MTB XCO World Championships, athletes finishing the U23 men's cross-country race among the top-6 and top ½ of the field will be eligible to be nominated for a Development (D1) card. This card will have a three-year duration. The first year will be classified as D1, the second year as D2 and the third year as D3. In order to be eligible for D2 or D3 carded status, an athlete must meet a minimum the Automatic or Specific Criteria.

N.B.: Athletes who qualified for the 3-year International Development card and who also qualify for a Senior card (SR/C1) have the choice of accepting any of these. However, if an athlete does decide to choose a Senior card over completing the 3 year International D card, that athlete may not revert back to a D card any subsequent year.

2) **AUTOMATIC DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA**

- Athletes finishing among the top-20 in the U23 men's cross country event at the 2013 MTB XCO World Championships will be eligible to be nominated for an automatic Development card, which will have a one-year duration.
- At the 2013 Pan Am championships finish in the top 3 positions in either the MTB XCO in elite event

3) **SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA**

Athletes meeting one of the following criteria, in the U23 Men's cross country event, will be eligible to be nominated for a specific Development card, which will have a one-year duration:

- Finish top-15 at a 2013 UCI MTB XCO World Cup event

- Finish two times among the top-7 at a UCI class 1 or HC open/elite 2013 MTB XCO event
- At the 2013 Pan Am championships finish in the top 5 positions in the MTB XCO in elite event
- Medal at 2013 XCO National Championships and be selected for worlds as out-lined in the selection document
- Rank among the Top 3 U23 Canadians on the UCI XCO individual classification immediately following XCO world championships

16. MTB XCO – JUNIOR WOMEN – DEVELOPMENT CARDING CRITERIA (D)

1) INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA (D1):

At the 2013 MTB XCO World Championships, athletes finishing among the top-6 juniors and top ½ of the field will be eligible to be nominated for a Development (D1) card. This card will have a three-year duration. The first year will be classified as D1, the second year as D2 and the third year as D3. To maintain carding athletes must meet a minimum of one of the automatic or specific criteria.

N.B.: Athletes who qualified for the 3-year International Development card and who also qualify for a Senior card (SR/C1) have the choice of accepting any of these. However, if an athlete does decide to choose a Senior card over completing the 3 year International D card, that athlete may not revert back to a D card any subsequent year.

2) AUTOMATIC DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA:

Athletes finishing among the top-15 and top ½ of field in the Junior Women's cross country event at the 2013 MTB XCO World Championships will be eligible to be nominated for an automatic Development card, which will have a one-year duration.

3) SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA

Athletes meeting one of the following criteria, in the Junior Women's cross country event, will be eligible to be nominated for a specific Development card, which will have a one-year duration:

- Finish among the top 20 and top ½ of the field in the 2013 UCI MTB Junior Women's World Championship event
- Finish two times among the top-10 at a 2013 UCI MTB XCO Junior Women's World Cup where 5 or more countries are represented.
- Win the 2013 XCO National Championships and be selected for worlds as out-lined in the selection document

17. MTB XCO – JUNIOR MEN – DEVELOPMENT CARDING CRITERIA (D)

1) INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA (D1):

At the 2012 MTB XCO World Championships, athletes finishing among the top-6 and top ½ of field juniors will be eligible to be nominated for a Development (D1) card. This card will have a three-year duration. The first year will be classified as D1, the second year as D2 and the third year as D3 To maintain carding athletes must meet a minimum of one of the automatic or specific criteria.

N.B.: Athletes who qualified for the 3-year International Development card and who also qualify for a Senior card (SR/C1) have the choice of accepting any of these. However, if an athlete does decide to choose a Senior card over completing the 3 year International D card, that athlete may not revert back to a D card any subsequent year.

2) AUTOMATIC DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA:

Athletes finishing among the top-25 and top ½ of the field in the Junior Men's cross country event at the 2013 MTB XCO World Championships will be eligible to be nominated for an automatic Development card, which will have a one-year duration.

3) SPECIFIC DEVELOPMENT CARD CRITERIA:

Athletes meeting one of the following criteria, in the Junior Men's cross country event, will be eligible to be nominated for a specific Development card, which will have a one-year duration:

- Finish among the top- 30 and top ½ of the field the 2013 UCI MTB Junior Men's World Championship event
- Finish two times among the top-15 at a 2013 UCI MTB XCO Junior Men's World Cup event where 5 or more countries are represented.
- Win the 2013 XCO National Championships and be selected for worlds as out-lined in the selection document

18. INJURY CARD CRITERIA

Injury cards may be available to athletes carded the previous year who have failed to meet renewal criteria strictly due to health-related reasons. At the end of a carding cycle during which a carded athlete has, for strictly health-related reasons, not achieved the standards required for renewal of carded status, he or she 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 during the period of his or her injury, illness or pregnancy and, despite making every reasonable effort to attain the applicable carding standards during the year in which the injury, illness or pregnancy occurred, has failed to do so, in the view of CC, for reasons strictly related to the injury, illness or pregnancy.
- Cycling Canada based on its technical judgement and that of CC's team physician or CC approved equivalent, indicates in writing, to Sport Canada, 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 his or her long-term commitment to high-performance training and competition goals, as well as his or her intention to pursue full high-performance training and competition throughout the carding period for which he or she wishes to be renewed despite not having met the carding criteria.

Athletes should familiarize themselves with the policy explained in Section 9.2 of the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Policies and Procedures. This document can be found online at <http://www.pch.gc.ca/pgm/sc/pol/athl/110-eng.cfm>

All written materials pertaining to any injury must be submitted to CC no later than October 31st, 2013.

Athletes eligible under the Injury card criteria, except for athletes who meet injury card criteria and who were SR1 the preceding year, will be prioritized as in the Discretionary card criteria as outlined below.

19. DISCRETIONARY CARD CRITERIA

Athletes that meet one of the carding criteria (International, Automatic or Specific) but because of their ranking were not selected may be nominated for a Discretionary card if based on the expert judgement of the HPD and the Sport's National Coach the athlete has the potential to achieve top 16 international performances or assist teammates to achieve World Championships and/or Major Games podium. Prioritization will be given to athletes meeting International criteria over Automatic while Automatic will have priority over Specific. The two experts will rank the eligible athletes, using a rubric, based on the evaluation of the following discretionary criteria.

| | | N/A | 2 pts | 4 pts | 6 pts | 8 pts | 10 pts |
|---|--|-----|--|---|--|--|---|
| A | Consistent and successful individual performances of the rider in the 12 month period prior to the selection to pool or team in international competition | | Rider has not demonstrated significant improvement in individual performances during the last 12 months. | Rider has demonstrated results that show improvement and progression toward the podium in Continental Championship and Class 1 sanctioned events. <i>i.e. Top quarter of the field</i> | Rider has achieved podium results in Continental Championship and class 1 sanctioned events | Rider has demonstrated results that show improvement and progression toward the podium in World Cup events. <i>i.e. Top quarter of the field or better at a World Cup</i> | Rider has achieved podium results in World Cup events. <i>ie. achieved a top 5 performance at a World Cup event.</i> |
| B | The rider's UCI individual classification for specific Events for the 12 month period prior to the selection of the Pool or Team (as the case may be); | | Rider is among the top 100 riders in the MTB-XCO UCI Individual Classification. | Rider is among the top 80 riders in the MTB-XCO UCI Individual Classification. | Rider is among the top 60 riders in the MTB-XCO UCI Individual Classification. | Rider is among the top 40 riders in the MTB-XCO UCI Individual Classification. | Rider is among the top 20 riders in the MTB-XCO UCI Individual Classification. |
| C | The riders potential to contribute to Olympic qualifying spots leading into the 2016 Olympic Games | | Rider has not demonstrated significant potential | Rider has demonstrated limited potential | Rider has demonstrated an adequate amount of potential | Rider has demonstrated ample potential | Rider definitely has the potential |
| D | The rider's ability to work within a team structure when selected to a National Team project. | | Rider needs to improve their ability to work within a team structure. Rider puts individual needs ahead of the team's. | Rider sometimes has trouble fully supporting team structure. Rider sometimes prefers to put his/her own interests ahead of the team's. | Rider is supportive of the team structure. Rider is learning how to support the team more effectively. | Rider contributes significantly toward the team structure. Helps to maintain a positive atmosphere within the team. Willing to put team needs ahead of individual needs. | Rider is a highly effective contributor to the team environment. Demonstrates positive leadership qualities. |

| | | N/A | 2 pt | 4 pts | 6 pts | 8 pts | 10 pts |
|---|--|-----|---|--|--|--|---|
| E | The rider's technical ability and bicycle handling skills. | | Rider's overall technical ability requires significant improvement. | Rider's overall technical ability is below average. | Rider's overall technical ability is average. | Rider's overall technical ability is above average. | Rider's overall technical ability is excellent. |
| | | N/A | 1 pts | 2 pts | 3 pts | 4 pts | 5 pts |
| F | The rider's tactical ability. The ability to read and react to the race. Including passive or aggressive racing style. | | Rider's overall tactical ability requires significant improvement. Rider has a passive racing style. | Rider's overall tactical ability is below average. The rider often has a passive racing style. | Rider's overall tactical ability is average. Rider sometimes displays an aggressive racing style. | Rider's overall tactical ability is above average. Rider often displays an aggressive racing style. | Rider's overall tactical ability is excellent. Rider always has an aggressive racing style. |
| | | N/A | 2 pts | 4 pts | 6 pts | 8 pts | 10 pts |
| G | Consideration of the performance of any rider who has been involved in an intense training or competition program; | | The riders training and racing schedule are unknown. Rider has not proactively communicated with National Team Coach about their plans. | Parts of the rider's proposed training and racing schedule are known. Some effort has been made to consult with the National Team coach. More pro-active effort is required on the part of the athlete to insure that training and racing plans are discussed. | The rider's proposed training and racing schedule are known. The training and racing schedule has been communicated to the National Team coach. The program has been designed to support the athlete's ambition to become part of the National Team. | The rider's proposed training and racing schedule are known. The training and racing schedule has been communicated to the National Team Coach. The program is designed to help the athlete improve to the international performance level | The riders training and racing schedule are known. The training and racing schedule has been communicated to the National Team Coach. The program has been designed to support the goals of the National Team. International success is a priority. |
| | | N/A | 1 pts | 2 pts | 3 pts | 4 pts | 5 pts |
| H | The rider's attendance, performance, attitude and conduct in training whilst a member of national team program (project competition and training camp); | | Unacceptable. Contributes negatively to the team atmosphere. | Poor | Average | Good | Excellent |
| | | N/A | 1 pt | 2 pts | 3 pts | 4 pts | 5 pts |
| I | The rider's demonstrated understanding and respect for their position on a Canadian Team; | | Unacceptable | Poor | Average | Good | Excellent |

| | | N/A | 1 pt | 2 pts | 3 pts | 4 pts | 5 pts |
|---|--|-----|--------------|-------|---------|-------|-----------|
| J | The rider's demonstrated willingness to promote cycling in a positive manner; | | Unacceptable | Poor | Average | Good | Excellent |
| K | The rider's demonstrated ability to take personal responsibility for self and their results; and | | Unacceptable | Poor | Average | Good | Excellent |
| L | The rider's proven ability to be reliable. | | Unacceptable | Poor | Average | Good | Excellent |

Pending Sport Canada Approval