

# **ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM CARDING CRITERIA**

FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2018-2019 CARDING CYCLE



**KARATE  
CANADA**

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The aim of this document is to describe the criteria that will be used by KARATE CANADA for nominating athletes for Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program (AAP).
- 1.2 The carding cycle for karate is from May 1, 2018 to April 30, 2019.
- 1.3 The Sport Canada quota available to KARATE CANADA is the equivalent of six (6) Senior cards (\$108,000). Sport Canada is frequently reviewing the card quota for all sports, this may affect the card quota available to Karate for the 2018-19 carding cycle.
- 1.4 The Senior National Team Head Coaches (NTHC) or designated substitute are responsible to nominate athletes for Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) based on the approved published AAP compliant carding criteria. Sport Canada reviews and may approve nominations of eligible athletes, based on the published NSO approved AAP-compliant Carding Criteria and the policies and procedures of the AAP.
- 1.5 The AAP policies, procedures and guidelines can be found on the Sport Canada website at: <http://canada.pch.gc.ca/eng/1414514343755>.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY

In order to qualify for AAP carding supports, an athlete must meet the following eligibility criteria:

- 2.1 The athlete, under the karate eligibility requirements of the World Karate Federation, must currently be eligible to represent Canada at major international events, including World Championships. This means that the athlete must possess a Canadian passport at the beginning of the carding cycle.
- 2.2 The athlete must complete and sign both the Athlete Agreement and Athlete Assistance Program Application Form for the year in question.
- 2.3 To be eligible for nomination for AAP carding for the 2018-2019 carding cycle, the athlete must meet the performance standards described hereafter.
- 2.4 The athlete must be a member in good standing of the Senior or Junior National Team Roster.
- 2.5 Any other athlete eligibility requirements listed in the AAP policies and procedures.

### **3. SENIOR CARDING CRITERIA**

#### **3.1 Senior International Carding Criteria (SR1/SR2)**

These criteria are set by Sport Canada.

Athletes who meet the International criteria, are eligible to be nominated for carding for two consecutive years, with the first year referred as SR1 and the card for the second year referred as SR2. The second year of carding is contingent to the athlete meeting the eligibility criteria, being re-nominated by KARATE CANADA and a training and competitive program approved by KARATE CANADA and Sport Canada being maintained.

To be considered for carding under the Senior International carding criteria:

- 3.2 The athlete must place in the top 8 and top half of the field (pool) with at least one win, in the WKF-approved individual divisions, at the latest (2016) World Karate Federation (WKF)'s Senior World Championships. Bye and absence of adversary do not count as a win.

Please note: The next opportunity to qualify for a SR1 Card will be at the WKF's 2018 Senior World Championships.

For the purpose of creating a priority listing of candidates for the 2018-19 season, the athletes meeting SR2 criteria will be nominated based on their result from the 2016 WKF Senior World Championships.

##### **3.2.1 Tie Breaking for Senior International Cards (SR1 & SR2):**

If there are fewer cards than the number of athletes that meet the Senior International carding criteria, the following process will apply to determine the athletes eligible for nominations:

- a. The athlete holding the highest ranking point sub-total from their performance at the highest priority competition of the season (as per the 2017-2018 Senior National Team Criteria -table 4) will be ranked higher;
- b. If the tie persists, the athlete holding the highest ranking point sub-total from their performance at the second highest priority competition of the season (as per the 2017-2018 Senior National Team Criteria -table 4) will be ranked higher;
- c. The same process (as described in 3.2.1 a and b above) will be followed until the tie is broken, or until all ranking point sub-totals (earned from competitions) have been compared and a tie still exists;
- d. If, after the application of this ranking process, a tie still exists, a final decision will be taken by the Senior National Team Head Coaches (or appointed substitutes). The Coaches' (or appointed substitutes) decision may include a challenge match, in the case of athletes of the same gender and in the same division. This final selection and process must be approved by Karate Canada's High Performance Committee.

### 3.3 Senior National Carding Criteria (SR/C1)

Any remaining Senior cards will be allocated to eligible athletes using the ranking process below, up to a maximum of two (2) nominated athletes per individual division (including athletes who met SR1 or SR2 Criteria), applied in the following order:

To be eligible for nomination under the Senior National Card criteria:

- a) The athlete must be holding at minimum a National A, an International C, an International B or an International A status, &
- b) The athlete must be holding Senior National Team Roster member status.

Eligible athletes will be prioritized for nomination based on the number of earned national team ranking (status) points held as of April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, adhering to the following sequence:

1. Highest ranked International A status-holding kumite athlete;
2. Highest ranked international A status-holding kata athlete;
3. Next highest ranked International A status-holding kumite athlete;
4. Next highest ranked international A status-holding kata athlete;

The sequence above will be applied until exhaustion of eligible International A status-holding athletes, after which:

5. Highest ranked International B status-holding kumite athlete;
6. Highest ranked international B status-holding kata athlete;
7. Next highest ranked International B status-holding kumite athlete;
8. Next highest ranked international B status-holding kata athlete;

The sequence above will be applied until exhaustion of eligible International B status-holding athletes, after which:

9. Highest ranked International C status-holding kumite athlete;
10. Highest ranked international C status-holding kata athlete;
11. Next highest ranked International C status-holding kumite athlete;
12. Next highest ranked international C status-holding kata athlete;

The sequence above will be applied until exhaustion of eligible International C status-holding athletes, after which the following priorities will apply.

(Please note: for priorities 13 to 20 below, respective matches won at any of the competitions listed will be subject to relative weighting, using the following “Strength of Field” Criteria:

In order for won matches to be considered as having full value, the athlete having won them must have been positioned on the same side of the draw / pool as at least 2 opponents from any one of the 5 “Strength of Field” categories listed below:

### Strength of field categories:

- An athlete in Top 8 at the most recent World (WKF) Championships
- An athlete in the Top 5 at the most recent Pan American (PKF) Championships
- An athlete in the Top 5 at the most recent European (EKF) Championships
- An athlete in the Top 5 at the most recent Asian (AKF) Championships
- An athlete in the World Top 20 in the WKF Sport Data rankings

If only 1 opponent from any one of the 5 “Strength of Field” categories below was on the same side of the draw / pool as the athlete, then matches won by the athlete at that event will be weighted at only 75% of their full value. If no opponents from the categories below are on the same side of the pool / draw as the athlete, then matches won at that event will be weighted at only 50% of their full value. See examples and table in Appendix A.)

13. Highest ranked National A status-holding kumite athlete having won a total of at least two matches (in the same discipline where the status is held) in one event at either of the following international competitions of the 2017-2018 season: 2017 Senior Pan American Championships, 2017 German Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships or 2018 Paris Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships;
14. Highest ranked National A status-holding kata athlete having won a total of at least two matches (in the same discipline where the status is held) in one event at either of the following international competitions of the 2017-2018 season: 2017 Senior Pan American Championships, 2017 German Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships or 2018 Paris Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships;
15. Next highest ranked National A status-holding kumite athlete having won a total of at least two matches (in the same discipline where the status is held) in one event at either of the following international competitions of the 2017-2018 season: 2017 Senior Pan American Championships, 2017 German Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships or 2018 Paris Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships;
16. Next highest ranked National A status-holding kata athlete having won a total of at least two matches (in the same discipline where the status is held) in one event at either of the following international competitions of the 2017-2018 season: 2017 Senior Pan American Championships, 2017 German Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships or 2018 Paris Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships;

The sequence above will be applied until exhaustion of eligible National A status-holding athletes having won at least two matches (in the same discipline where the status is held) in one event at either of the following international competitions of the 2017-2018 season: 2017 Senior Pan American Championships, 2017 German Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships or 2018 Paris Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships. After the list of such eligible athletes is exhausted, the next priority will be:

17. Highest ranked National A status-holding kumite athlete having won at least one match (in the same discipline where the status is held) in any of the following international competitions of the 2017-2018 season: 2017 Senior Pan American Championships, 2017 German Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships or 2018 Paris Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships;
18. Highest ranked National A status-holding kata athlete having won at least one match (in the same discipline where the status is held) in any of the following international competitions of the 2017-2018 season: 2017 Senior Pan American Championships, 2017 German Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships or 2018 Paris Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships;

19. Next highest ranked National A status-holding kumite athlete having won at least one match (in the same discipline where the status is held) in any of the following international competitions of the 2017-2018 season: 2017 Senior Pan American Championships, 2017 German Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships or 2018 Paris Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships;
20. Next highest ranked National A status-holding kata athlete having won at least one match (in the same discipline where the status is held) in any of the following international competitions of the 2017-2018 season: 2017 Senior Pan American Championships, 2017 German Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships or 2018 Paris Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships;

The sequence above will be applied until exhaustion of eligible National A status-holding athletes having won at least one match (in the same discipline where the status is held) in any of the following international competitions of the 2017-2018 season: 2017 Senior Pan American Championships, 2017 German Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships or 2018 Paris Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships.

A minimum of 4 months of AAP support must be available to recommend an athlete.

NB: Senior cards awarded to athletes who meet the SR card criteria for the first time are called C1 cards and are funded at the development card level (\$900/month).

### 3.2.2 Tie Breaking for Senior Cards (SR and C1):

If two or more athletes who meet the Senior National Criteria hold the same amount of ranking points, the following process will be applied to determine the ranking of these athletes:

- a. The athlete holding the highest ranking point sub-total from their performance at the highest priority competition of the season (as per the 2017-2018 Senior National Team Criteria -table 4) will be ranked higher;
- b. If the tie persists, the athlete holding the highest ranking point sub-total from their performance at the second highest priority competition of the season (as per the 2017-2018 Senior National Team Criteria -table 4) will be ranked higher; The same process (as described in 3.2.2 a and b above) will be followed until the tie is broken, or until all ranking point sub-totals (earned from competitions) have been compared and a tie still exists;
- c. If the tie persists, the athlete having won the most matches (after consideration of the “Strength of Field” criteria listed below priority 12 above) at either the 2017 German Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships or at the 2018 Paris Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships will be ranked higher.
- d. If the tie persists, the athlete having won the most total matches at point-earning international competitions of the 2017-2018 season (as listed in Table 4 of the 2017-2018 Senior National Team Criteria) will be ranked higher (after consideration of the “Strength of Field” criteria listed below priority 12 above).
- e. If, after the application of this ranking process, a tie still exists, a final decision will be taken by the Senior National Team Kata Head Coach (or appointed substitute, for kata divisions) and / or by the Senior National Team Kumite Head Coach (or appointed substitute, for kumite divisions). The Coach (or appointed substitute)’s decision may include a challenge match, in the case of athletes of the same gender and in the same division. This final selection and process must be approved by Karate Canada’s High Performance Committee.

- 3.3 Maximum number of years at SR/C1 level – This criterion applies once the athlete reached the WKF post-junior (21 years and older) age category:

(Note: Since the WKF's "Junior" divisions include U21 (18-20 year old), the designation "WKF post-junior age category", in this document, refers specifically to athletes 21 years of age and older.)

Once the athlete reaches the WKF post-junior age category, he /she can be carded at the SR/C1 Card level for a maximum of four (4) years, after which the Senior National Team Head Coach in the respective discipline (or appointed substitute) will review the athlete's past performances to determine the potential to progress to the Senior International Card level. If approved by Sport Canada, an athlete will be eligible for a maximum of two more years at the SR level subject to meeting the annual performance standards and an annual review.

#### **4. DEVELOPMENT CARDING CRITERIA**

If a card quota remains available after the Senior criteria have been applied, it may be used to nominate athletes(s) who meet the following Development Card criteria. A minimum of 4 months of AAP support must be available to recommend an athlete.

##### **Priority 1:**

The athletes who placed in the top 8 in a U21 individual division at the 2017 Junior World Championships with at least one win. Bye and absence of an adversary do not count as a win.

If there are fewer Development cards available than the number of athletes who meet the Priority 1 of the Development carding criteria, the following process will apply to determine the athletes eligible for nominations:

- a. The athlete with the highest placing (in the same discipline) at the 2017 Junior World Championships with at least one win (Bye and absence of an adversary do not count as a win) will be ranked higher;
- b. If two or more athletes have the same placing at the 2017 Junior World Championships, the athlete with the most matches won (in the same discipline; bye and absence of an adversary do not count as a win) at the Junior World Championships will be ranked higher;
- c. If two or more athletes still have the same number of wins at the 2017 Junior World Championships, any athlete who will have won gold (in the same discipline) in an individual U21 division at the 2017 Junior Pan American Championship will be ranked higher;
- d. If two or more athletes have won gold in an individual U21 division at the 2017 Junior Pan American Championship, any athlete who is also a current Senior National Team member (in the same discipline) at the time of the athlete selection for Carding nomination will be ranked higher;
- e. If after the application of this ranking process a tie still exists, a final decision will be taken by the Senior National Head Coaches (or appointed substitutes). The Coaches' (or appointed substitute) decision may include a challenge match, in the case of athletes of the same gender and in the same division. This final selection and process must be approved by the High Performance Committee.

## **Priority 2:**

U21 age-eligible kumite athlete holding Senior National Team Roster member status, and Junior (16-17) and U21 age-eligible kata athlete holding Senior National Team Roster member status.

Tie Breaking for Development Cards allocated according to Priority 2 above:

If there are fewer Development cards available than the number of athletes who meet Priority 2 of the Development card criteria, the process below will be applied in the following order:

- a. The athlete having achieved the best finish (in the discipline where he / she is both a Junior and Senior National Team Roster member at the time of the carding nomination) with at least one win (Bye and absence of an adversary do not count as a win) at the highest priority competition of the season (as per the 2017-2018 Senior National Team Criteria -table 4) will be ranked higher;
- b. If the tie persists, the athlete holding the having achieved the best finish (in the discipline where he / she is both a Junior and Senior National Team Roster member at the time of the carding nomination) with at least one win (Bye and absence of an adversary do not count as a win) at the second highest priority competition of the season (as per the 2017-2018 Senior National Team Criteria -table 4) will be ranked higher;
- c. The same process (as described in a and b above) will be followed until the tie is broken, or until all finishes in point-earning competitions of the season have been compared and a tie still exists;
- d. If, after the application of this ranking process, a tie still exists, a final decision will be taken by the Senior National Team Head Coaches (or appointed substitutes). The Coaches' (or appointed substitutes) decision may include a challenge match, in the case of athletes of the same gender and in the same division. This final selection and process must be approved by Karate Canada's High Performance Committee.

## **5. INJURY / ILLNESS / PREGNANCY CARD CRITERIA**

Athletes carded the previous year at SR1 or SR2 level who have failed to meet renewal criteria strictly due to health-related reasons may be considered for re-nomination for the upcoming carding period under the following conditions:

- 5.1 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 their 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 the KARATE CANADA, for reasons strictly related to the injury, illness or pregnancy.
- 5.2 KARATE CANADA, based on its technical judgment and that of a KARATE CANADA team physician or KARATE CANADA 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.



- 5.3 KARATE CANADA, based on its technical judgment and that of KARATE CANADA National Team Coaches, determines that the athlete has satisfactorily demonstrated and continues to demonstrate a 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.
- 5.4 If there are fewer cards than the number of athletes that meet the Injury carding criteria, the athletes will be ranked as per the previous year AAP nomination ranking.
- 5.5 Athletes should familiarize themselves with the policy explained in Section 9 of the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Policies and Procedures. This document can be found online at:  
[http://canada.pch.gc.ca/DAMAssetPub/DAM-PCH2-sport-sport/STAGING/texte-text/athleteAssistanceProgram\\_1421333786429\\_eng.pdf?WT.contentAuthority=13.0](http://canada.pch.gc.ca/DAMAssetPub/DAM-PCH2-sport-sport/STAGING/texte-text/athleteAssistanceProgram_1421333786429_eng.pdf?WT.contentAuthority=13.0)

## **6. PRIORITIZATION**

Nominations for AAP support will be made in the following order of priority:

- 1) Athletes eligible for “Senior International” cards;
- 2) Athletes carded the previous year at the SR1 or SR2 levels, eligible for Injury cards;
- 3) Athletes eligible for “Senior National” (SR/C1) cards;
- 4) Athletes eligible for “Development” (D) cards based on Priority 1
- 5) Athletes eligible for “Development” (D) cards based on Priority 2

## **7. NOTIFICATION OF NOMINATION**

The list of athletes being nominated for the AAP Carding support will be posted on Karate Canada’s official website. Athletes will have a review period of seven days commencing on the date of announcement to advise Karate Canada of any omissions or errors in the nomination list. Final approval of nominations is determined by Sport Canada.

## **8. APPEAL PROCEDURE**

Appeals of Karate Canada’s AAP nomination / re-nomination decision or of a Karate Canada recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through Karate Canada’s Appeal process, as described in its Appeals Policy.

Appeals of AAP Decisions made under Section 6 (Application for and Approval of Cards) or Section 11 (Withdrawal of Carding Status) of the AAP Policies, Procedures and Guidelines may be pursued through Section 13 of these same AAP Policies, Procedures and Guidelines (which can be found at: [http://canada.pch.gc.ca/DAMAssetPub/DAM-PCH2-sport-sport/STAGING/texte-text/athleteAssistanceProgram\\_1421333786429\\_eng.pdf?WT.contentAuthority=13.0](http://canada.pch.gc.ca/DAMAssetPub/DAM-PCH2-sport-sport/STAGING/texte-text/athleteAssistanceProgram_1421333786429_eng.pdf?WT.contentAuthority=13.0)).

## **APPENDIX A –**

### **EXAMPLES OF THE “STRENGTH OF FIELD” CRITERION BEING APPLIED TO MATCHES WON**

Below are examples of how the ‘Strength of Field’ criterion may apply to specific hypothetical situations and be used to determine the relative value of matches won at specific international competitions:

#### **Example 1:**

An athlete wins his first match, loses his second match but then wins another match in repechage at the 2017 Senior Pan American Karate Championships. On his side of the draw, there are 2 athletes who meet the ‘Strength of Field’ criterion (both of these rivals are ranked amongst the world’s top 20 in this division, as per the current WKF SportData athlete rankings). Whether our athlete has faced one of these rivals or not, his won matches are therefore weighted at full value, and he is considered as having won two (2) matches at the 2017 Senior Pan American Championships.

#### **Example 2:**

An athlete wins her first two matches only at the 2018 Paris Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships. On her side of the draw, there is only 1 athlete who meets the ‘Strength of Field’ criterion (this rival had finished amongst the top 8 in this division at the latest Senior World Championships). Whether our athlete has faced this rival or not, her two won matches are therefore both weighted at only 75% of their full value, and she is considered as having won a total of 1.5 (one and a half) matches at the 2018 Paris Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships.

#### **Example 3:**

An athlete wins his first two matches only at the 2017 German Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships. On his side of the draw, there are unfortunately no athletes who meet the ‘Strength of Field’ criterion. Our athlete’s two won matches are therefore both weighted at only 50% of their full value, and he is considered as having won a total of only one (1) match at the 2017 German Open Karate-1 Premier League Championships.

**TABLE A.1 – Relative value of matches won based on “Strength of Field”**

Number of “Strength of Field” competitors in candidate’s side of draw	Value of a win	Number of actual wins	Final value of match(es) won after application of “Strength of Field” criterion
0	50%	1	0.50
		2	1.0
		3	1.5
		4	2.0
1	75%	1	0.75
		2	1.5
		3	2.25
		4	3.0
2 or more	100%	1	1.0
		2	2.0
		3	3.0
		4	4.0
			etc