



Policies and Procedures - Athletes

Name:	Approved:	Replaced:
Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) - Sprint	November 2014	

1.0 General

The **BC Athlete Assistance Program** (BC AAP) is an athlete-centered program of financial assistance funded by and administered by the Sport and Recreation Branch of the Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts. BC AAP seeks to recognize and support BC high performance athletes striving to represent the Province and Canada in athletic competition. Athletes who have demonstrated the potential and commitment to attain this level of excellence can qualify for different levels of financial support based on relative levels of development and competition achieved within the overall limits of funds available.

In general, the program seeks to relieve some of the pressures associated with training and competition needs when participating in national and international sport. The Sport and Recreation Branch intends that BC AAP focus on those athletes who are in the position to compete for Team BC and are just below those receiving Sport Canada funding. This financial assistance will ensure a continuum of support for the development of national and international class BC athletes.

The details of the program and the selection criteria are provided in the text below.

2.0 Administration of the BC Athlete Assistance Program (BC AAP)

2.1 The Selection Committee

The CKBC, BC AAP Selection Committee is responsible for the identification, nomination and ranking of athletes for funding assistance through the BC Athlete Assistance Program. The Selection Committee will be composed of members of the Technical Committee and will be chaired by the VP Performance.

2.2 Nominations

Athletes must meet the CKBC selection criteria as identified in Part 5 of this section and be nominated by the CKBC Selection Committee.

Note: The nomination of an athlete does not guarantee that the athlete will receive BC AAP funding.

2.3 Equitable

Athletes at differing levels of excellence will receive commensurate levels of financial support, based on the selection criteria and rankings established by CKBC (see part 5). This process will give consideration to the educational or working environment of the athlete, the required time and financial commitment of the athlete to excel in the sport of Canoe Kayak, and the overall limits of funds available.

3.0 Eligibility Requirements for the Athlete Assistance Program

3.1 Citizenship and Residency

To be eligible for an award, an athlete must be a Canadian citizen or be of landed immigrant status, and a resident of British Columbia for at least one year prior to his/her date of nomination.

3.2 Use of Banned Substances and Methods

BC's Policy on Sport and Physical Activity clearly outlines the "ethical pursuit of excellence" – which includes competing without the use of banned substances – as one of its pillars of support to sport. The Province of British Columbia and CKBC strongly opposes the use of prohibited substances and methods as they are contrary to the ethics of sport and may be harmful to the health of athletes.

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Since we look to our elite athletes to set the standards for all who aspire to the top level of competition, athletes who are suspended by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport and/or the International Canoe Federation for an anti-doping rule violation, will be declared permanently ineligible for BC Athlete Assistance.

3.3 Coaching

To be eligible for funding assistance, athletes must be regularly coached by individuals who meet the established coaching qualification criteria such as the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) standards (see part 5).

3.4 Commitment to CKBC

Any athlete receiving financial assistance from the Province of British Columbia must be available for provincial team selections and if selected, commit to train and represent British Columbia and the sport of Canoe Kayak in the applicable competition.

3.5 Membership

Athletes receiving financial assistance must be registered members of CKBC (individual annual membership) at the time the assistance is awarded. They are also expected to make themselves available to contribute to athlete development and coaching development programs delivered by CKBC.

3.6 Federally Carded Athletes

Athletes in receipt of Sport Canada funding (S1/S2) in a particular fiscal year are not eligible for BC AAP funding distributed by CKBC. This is to maintain consistency with one of the stated objectives of the program which is to provide funding for those athletes who are in the position to compete for the province and are just below those receiving Sport Canada funding.

3.7 Athlete Selection

Athlete selection will be made according to the criteria set out in part 5 of this document, with preference given to developing high performance athletes.

3.8 Selection Criteria

The BC AAP Selection Committee of CKBC is responsible for developing and publishing the selection criteria and standards that will be utilized in the identification, ranking and selection of athletes. It is the responsibility of the Selection Committee to ensure fair, equitable and consistent application of the standards.

3.9 Funding Level

Consideration by the Selection Committee will be given to the required time and financial commitment required to excel in the sport, and the educational or working environment of the athlete. A minimum of \$500 and up to a maximum of \$3500 can be awarded.

3.10 Allocation Procedure

CKBC is responsible for sending the athletes selected for the program their individual cheques along with a letter recognizing the contribution of the Province of British Columbia.

3.11 Athletes Training Outside BC

Athletes leaving the province will only be considered for BC AAP funding support in the following cases:

- a) pursuit of specialized program of studies not offered in B.C.;
- b) participation with a National Sport Centre outside of B.C.; or
- c) a suitable athlete development program in that sport is currently unavailable in B.C.

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BC athletes training outside of BC will only be considered for funding if there is a demonstrated commitment to provincial teams and other athlete development activities.

3.12 Timeline

November 1	PSO publicizes selected athletes
November 30	Athlete Appeal Deadline to PSO BC AAP Appeal Committee
December 15	PSO BC AAP Appeal Committee reviews athlete appeals and responds to athlete(s)
January 15	Final list of selected athletes determined and publicized.
January 15	Submit BC AAP Athlete Funding Summary Report to Sport and Recreation Branch

4.0 Appeals Process

4.1 Appeals

Any appeals to the BC AAP Selection Committee must be made in writing and submitted to the Selection Committee by November 30. Submission of the written appeal must include any supporting documentation.

4.2 Appeal Timelines for any given year.

January 15	PSO publicizes selected athletes
February 1	Athlete Appeal Deadline to PSO BC AAP Appeal Committee
February 15	PSO BC AAP Appeal Committee reviews athlete appeals and responds to athlete(s)
March 1	Final list of selected athletes determined and publicized.
March 15	Submit BC AAP Athlete Funding Summary Report to Sport and Recreation Branch

The athlete is invited to make representation at the meeting of the CKBC - BC APP Appeals Committee.

4.3 Appeals Committee

The appeals committee will be formed of three people, all members of CKBC, with preferably one of them being a member of the Board of Directors. In order to avoid the potential for conflict of interest in any given year (e.g. the parent of a nominated athlete being on the appeals committee), the membership of the committee will be selected by the Board of Directors from a pool of members compiled in April of each year.

4.4 Obligations of CKBC

- publish the BC AAP ranking and selection criteria, procedures, and the selected BC AAP calendar outline to athletes and coaches before the beginning of the nomination process
- publish the Appeal Process to athletes and coaches before the beginning of the nomination process and
- inform their athletes and coaches of the list of nominated athletes.

After the final nomination lists have been approved, CKBC will publish a list of their funded athletes on the CKBC website and through the listserv newsletter, with acknowledgment of the Ministry's contribution for the support of the athletes.

5.0 CKBC AAP Selection Criteria

Selection Criteria is based on but not limited to the following:

- Athletes meet all eligibility requirements.
- Athletes have performed well in the past year.
- Athletes must demonstrate a continued commitment to training.

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- d) Athletes must demonstrate excellence in performance or potential for improvement.
- e) Athletes must demonstrate dedication to their sport other than training.
- f) Athletes must contribute to the development of their sport.

The Priority Ranking list will be used as a guideline for Canoe Kayak athletes seeking to qualify for the BC Athlete Assistance Program.

*Note: Athletes receiving Sport Canada (S1/S2) athlete assistance are NOT eligible for BC AAP funding.

For more information see the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development's Guidelines, Policies and Procedures manual:

http://www.cscd.gov.bc.ca/sport/docs/athletedev/2011_12_PSO_BC_AAP_GUIDELINES.pdf

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