

This document is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances.

CURLING CANADA MIXED DOUBLES NATIONAL TEAM/CARDING PROGRAM 2024/2025 STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

The National Team Program exists for the purpose of training athletes with the potential to represent Canada in the World Championships and the Olympic Games.

CARD QUOTA

Sport Canada provides the equivalent of 7 Senior cards to the Mixed Doubles program (\$148,260). After every Olympic Games, Sport Canada reviews carding allocations for all sports. As a result, the number of cards allocated to the curling mixed doubles program is subject to change.

ACCESS

Access to the program shall be gained as a result of national/international performance, agreeing to meet National Team Program standards and guidelines and upon signing the athlete agreement forms (attached).

To qualify for Sport Canada funding, the athlete must be playing with the same partner with whom he/she earned his/her carding status unless otherwise approved by Curling Canada.

ELIGIBILITY

In the carding year/cycle (July 1st, 2024 to June 30th, 2025), 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;
- Meet the eligibility requirements of the sport's International Federation as it pertains to citizenship or residency status, the athlete must be eligible to represent Canada at major international competitions, including World Championships and Olympic Games.
- Participate in national team preparatory and annual training programs during the time period in which they qualify for AAP support;

Note 1: Athletes can only be carded in one discipline, either able-bodied or mixed doubles.

PRIORITY ACCESS

Priority for Nomination

Priority #1: Sport Canada International Criteria SR1.

Priority #2: Sport Canada International Criteria SR2.

Priority #3: SR1/SR2 - Health related cards.

Priority #4: Sport Canada National Criteria SR.

For carding details, see Appendix 1

PROGRAM INCLUSION

National Team Program members who meet established criteria and sign all pertinent agreements shall be eligible to be nominated by Curling Canada to the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program (AAP).

APPEALS

- Any appeals related to carding shall be heard pursuant to Curling Canada's Appeal Policy.
- Upon receiving a notice of an appeal and the athlete's appeal, Curling Canada and the athlete may first attempt to resolve the dispute pursuant to Curling Canada's *Dispute Resolution Policy* or through the Early Resolution Facilitation services offered by the Sport Dispute Resolution Centre of Canada (SDRCC); and
- Notwithstanding the aforementioned, by agreement of the parties, the internal appeal process may be bypassed and the appeal may be heard directly before the SDRCC.

COMPETITION

All athletes with carding status shall compete in a minimum of 8 regional, national or international competitions as approved by Curling Canada, unless an exception is granted by Curling Canada. Each year an athlete is selected to the National Team Program, the athlete shall enter and compete in all levels of competition that lead to Provincial/Territorial Championships, Canadian Championships (Canadian men's or Canadian women's) and Canadian Curling Trials. The Athlete shall make every effort to qualify and participate in the World Championships and Winter Olympics. National Team Program competitions may, as well, include events on the Men's and Women's Tour or Canada Cup Bonspiel Series events, international invitational events, national invitational events, "made-for-television" competitions, and other events as approved by Curling Canada.

TRAINING

- National Team Program athletes shall submit an individualized Annual Competition and Training Plan in consultation with the National Team Program Manager, for a year-round training program which involves scheduled training in the following competitive components:
 - skill analysis and development- fitness - general and sport specific under the guidance of an exercise physiologist- mental toughness under the guidance of a certified sports psychologist strategical/
 - tactical analysis and development- team dynamics- nutritional counselling under the guidance of a nutritionist- other as required
- All National Team Program athletes shall make themselves available to participate in high performance camps or training sessions as identified in the Annual Competition and Training Plan. These initiatives will be formatted based on national team athlete/coach input.
- All National Team Program athletes will be provided access to sport science support as determined by the athlete and National Team Program Manager and will be based on the National Team Program budget.

FITNESS STANDARDS

- Each athlete shall meet or surpass the physical fitness standards previously agreed to by the athlete, national team program manager and sport science consultant. These fitness standards shall be documented in the athletes' individualized Annual Competition and Training Plan and achieved within a time frame agreed to by the athlete and National Team Program Manager.
- Fitness testing shall be scheduled by the athlete in consultation with the National Team Program Manager.

TRAINING/PERFORMANCE MONITORING

Curling Canada, in consultation with the National Program athletes, shall assign a National Program consulting coach to monitor each athlete's training regimen, competitive performance and fitness over the program season. A consulting coach shall be assigned for each of the men's and women's programs.

DRUG TESTING REQUIREMENT

Each athlete shall make themselves available to drug testing procedures as and when requested to do so by an authorized person/agency in Canada and overseas, as required by Curling Canada/athlete agreement and as stated in the AAP Policies and Procedures Manual.

CURLING CANADA/ATHLETE AGREEMENT

Each athlete seeking access to the National Team Program and Sport Canada carding shall study, sign and return the agreement to the Curling Canada office. The agreement shall be considered valid for the period of National Program inclusion and for the carding period of one year. The agreement shall be returned to the Curling Canada office on or before June 15th of the appropriate year. (Agreement attached)

SPORT CANADA ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Each athlete's specific Sport Canada carding status shall be determined by their national/international performance and sport specific carding guidelines as determined by Sport Canada in consultation with Curling Canada (Appendix 1 attached). Information on Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program is available at the following web site:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance/policies-procedures.html>

If you do not have internet access, please request a hard copy.

NATIONAL TEAM PROGRAM APPLICATION

Curling Canada will endeavor to provide each athlete who meets program access requirements with the program application package at the conclusion of the competitive season and prior to May 30th.

NOTIFICATION TO ATHLETE ON REQUEST FOR SPORT CANADA CARDING

Curling Canada will endeavor to meet with appropriate Sport Canada representatives to present each athlete's application for carding prior to June 15th and as a result notify each athlete in writing of their carding status prior to June 30th.

APPENDIX 1

Curling Canada Mixed Doubles National Team/Carding Program

Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program (Carding) Criteria

Priority for Nomination

Priority #1: Sport Canada International Criteria SR1.

Priority #2: Sport Canada International Criteria SR2.

Priority #3: SR1/SR2 - Health related cards.

Priority #4: Sport Canada National Criteria SR.

SENIOR CARD CRITERIA

Priority #1: Sport Canada International Criteria (SR1)

Olympic Games – must finish top 6 and ties, and top ½ of the field to be eligible

World Championship – must finish top 8 and ties, and top ½ of the field to be eligible

The mixed doubles team nominated to compete at the 2024 World Mixed Doubles Championship may be eligible for the SR1 card. (12 months)

Note 1: Athletes/teams that qualify for carding under the Senior International criteria are eligible for two years of AAP support, with the card for the first carding cycle being referred to as an SR1 Card, which results in a 12-month card. The card for the second year is referred to as an SR2 card. The athlete must earn SR2 status by meeting the performance, competition and training criteria outlined below. The second year is subject to:

The team must meet the training and competition requirements established within the initial year's Annual Competition and Training Plan. This includes participation in the World/Olympic Championship playoff process as per Curling Canada's National Team Program standards and guidelines.

The team must also be re-nominated for AAP carding by Curling Canada. Submit a training and competitive program to be approved by Curling Canada and Sport Canada, complete the online anti-doping courses, complete and sign the AAP application and Curling Canada/Athlete agreement.

Note 2: If the team does not finish top 6 or 8 as described above, the team will be nominated to receive SR 12-month cards.

Note 3: If a card is unable to be assigned to an athlete(s), the card(s) will be allocated to Priority #4. (Sport Canada National Criteria)

Priority #2: Sport Canada International Criteria (SR2)

The mixed doubles team nominated to compete at the 2023 World Mixed Doubles Curling Championship may be eligible for an SR2 card if they are not eligible for the SR1 card. (12 months)

The athletes must meet the training and competition requirements established within the initial year's Annual Competition and Training Plan. This includes participation in the World/Olympic Championship playoff process as per Curling Canada's National Team Program standards and guidelines.

The athletes must also be re-nominated for AAP carding by Curling Canada. Submit a training and competitive program to be approved by Curling Canada and Sport Canada, complete the online anti-doping courses, complete and sign the AAP application and Curling Canada/Athlete agreement.

Note 1: If a card is unable to be assigned to an athlete(s), the card(s) will be allocated to Priority #4. (Sport Canada National Criteria)

Priority #3: Failure to meet criteria for health-related reasons (SR1, SR2 athletes)

A SR1/SR2 carded athlete who at the end of the carding cycle has not achieved the standard required for the renewal of carding status because of strictly health related reasons may be considered for re-nomination for the upcoming year provided the following conditions are met: 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 or is continuing a rehabilitation program approved by the Curling Canada;

In the view of the Curling Canada, the athlete's failure to attain the applicable carding standards is strictly related to the injury, illness or pregnancy;

Curling Canada, based on its technical judgement and that of a Curling Canada team physician or 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.

Priority #4: Sport Canada National Criteria Other (SR)

The two athletes who win the 2025 Canadian Mixed Doubles Trials, if not already having received an SR1/SR2 mixed doubles card or an SR 4-person card in the 2024-25 season, will be awarded 6-month SR mixed doubles cards from January to June 2025. This carding can be in addition to any SR mixed doubles carding earned for July to December 2024.

If these two athletes already have received an SR1/SR2 mixed doubles card or an SR 4-person card in the 2024-25 season, the 6-month SR mixed doubles cards will be awarded to the highest ranked team on the 2025 Trials CMDR as of December 9, 2024.

Athletes on teams that have qualified for the 2025 Canadian Mixed Doubles Trials, not already receiving an SR1 or SR2 card, will be awarded 4-month SR cards. If there are more athletes qualified for the Mixed Doubles Curling Trials than there are 4-month cards available, they will be awarded in the following order:

- 1) 2023/24 CMDR – Highest Ranked Qualified Team as of April 30, 2024
- 2) 2023/24 CMDR – 2nd Highest Ranked Qualified Team as of April 30, 2024
- 3) 2024 Canadian Mixed Doubles Curling Championship – Silver Medalists
- 4) 2024 Canadian Mixed Doubles Curling Championship – Bronze Medalists

If there are remaining carding funds available, after the above Priorities have been fulfilled, additional carding months will be awarded to the Trials qualified teams, in order, based on the priority list above until all Trials qualified teams are receiving 6-months of carding.

If there are still any remaining carding funds available, after the above Priorities have been fulfilled, they will be awarded, in order, based on a team's 2023/24 CMDR as of April 30, 2024. Cards for up to 6-months will be distributed until the available carding funds are consumed.

The athletes must meet the training and competition requirements established within the initial year's Annual Competition and Training Plan. This includes participation in the World/Olympic Championship playoff process as per Curling Canada's National Team Program standards and guidelines.

The athletes must also be re-nominated for AAP carding by Curling Canada. Submit a training and competitive program to be approved by Curling Canada and Sport Canada, complete the online anti-doping courses, complete and sign the AAP application and Curling Canada/Athlete agreement.

Note 1: Normally, an athlete is expected to improve each year to maintain a Senior National Card and eventually achieve the international criteria. Therefore; an athlete is generally expected to hold a Senior National Card for no more than 5 years (not necessarily consecutive). In that time, it is expected that an athlete would have had an opportunity to reach the International Senior Card standards. However, an athlete may be carded at the Senior National Card level (SR) for 6 years or beyond if he/she continues to demonstrate continued progression toward achieving the Senior International card level. This is demonstrated through stronger performances/placements at national/international events throughout the competitive season as reported by Curling Canada.

Note 2: If an athlete earns a card under both the 4-person team carding criteria and the MD carding criteria, they will be awarded the card with the greatest value and the other card will be reassigned.

2024 / 2025

7 Senior Cards Available

1,765.00 84 \$ 148,260.00

MIXED DOUBLES	CARD	MTH AMOUNT	DURATION	TOTAL	
Jennifer Jones	S2	1,765.00	12	\$ 21,180.00	2023 CMDCC Champs
Brent Laing	S2	1,765.00	12	\$ 21,180.00	2023 CMDCC Champs
2024 CMDCC Champs	S1	1,765.00	12	\$ 21,180.00	2024 CMDCC Champs
2024 CMDCC Champs	S1	1,765.00	12	\$ 21,180.00	2024 CMDCC Champs
2025 Mixed Doubles Trials Champs	S	1,765.00	6	\$ 10,590.00	Qualified for 2025 WMDCC
2025 Mixed Doubles Trials Champs	S	1,765.00	6	\$ 10,590.00	Qualified for 2025 WMDCC
2023/2024 CMDR Rankings	S	1,765.00	4	\$ 7,060.00	Qualified for 2025 MD Trials
2023/2024 CMDR Rankings	S	1,765.00	4	\$ 7,060.00	Qualified for 2025 MD Trials
2023/2024 CMDR Rankings	S	1,765.00	4	\$ 7,060.00	Qualified for 2025 MD Trials
2023/2024 CMDR Rankings	S	1,765.00	4	\$ 7,060.00	Qualified for 2025 MD Trials
2nd Place 2024 CMDCC	S	1,765.00	4	\$ 7,060.00	Qualified for 2025 MD Trials
2nd Place 2024 CMDCC	S	1,765.00	4	\$ 7,060.00	Qualified for 2025 MD Trials
*3rd Place 2024 CMDCC	S	1,765.00	0	\$ -	Qualified for 2025 MD Trials
*3rd Place 2024 CMDCC	S	1,765.00	0	\$ -	Qualified for 2025 MD Trials
*2023/2024 CMDR Rankings	S	1,765.00	0	\$ -	
*2023/2024 CMDR Rankings	S	1,765.00	0	\$ -	

Total	\$ 148,260.00
Remaining Funds	\$ -

*Only awarded if additional mixed doubles carding funds are available

ATHLETES CHANGING PARTNERS

Prior to or after Carding Nominations

Athletes that separate from his/her partner will have a review with Curling Canada which may result in the forfeit of their cards.

That card(s) will be reassigned to Priority #4 listed above.