



CARDED ATHLETE PROGRAM

2018-2019 CYCLE

October 2017

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1 – INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to present the policies and procedures for Wrestling Canada Lutte's Athlete Assistance Program (AAP); a program funded by Sport Canada. The target audiences for this document are the athletes, coaches and sport administrators who currently access or wish to access the program.

Sport Canada policies, including the Athlete Assistance Program, are designed to support amateur high performance pathway athletes that demonstrate the potential to progress to the Top 8 in the World. The purpose of the AAP is to improve Canadian performances at major international sporting events such as the Olympic and the World Championships. The program seeks to do so by relieving some of the financial pressures associated with preparing for and participating in international sport.

International podium performances, top 8, and top ½ of competing entries provide the framework for our performance standards.

Sport Canada AAP will only fund athletes who are competing in the UWW 2020 Olympic program events. Athletes who wish to be nominated for a Senior or the Post-Junior Development card must accumulate nomination criteria in the six (6) Olympic weight classes (nomination criteria are weight class specific):

Men's Freestyle (FS):	57, 65, 74, 86, 97, 125 kg
Women (WW):	50, 53, 57, 62, 68, 76 kg
Greco-Roman (GR):	59, 66, 75, 85, 98, 130 kg

Athletes who wish to be nominated for a Junior Development card will be able to accumulate nomination criteria in the six (6) junior weight classes (nomination criteria is weight class specific):

Men's Freestyle (FS):	57, 65, 74, 86, 97, 125 kg
Women (WW):	50, 53, 57, 62, 68, 76 kg

Please refer to Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Policies Document (2015), which can be found on the Sport Canada [Website](#).

1.1 – OVERVIEW OF THE CARDING SYSTEM

The Sport Canada AAP funds Athletes at two levels:

1. SENIOR CARDS

- **Senior International Cards (SR1/2)** (\$1,765.00/month). Criteria as determined by Sport Canada.
 - An athlete who achieves a Top 8 and Top Half Performance at a Senior World Championship or Olympic Games;
- **Senior National Cards (SR)** (\$1,765.00/month). Criteria as determined by Wrestling Canada Lutte (WCL).
 - First year Senior National Card (C1) (\$1060.00/month)

2. DEVELOPMENT CARDS

- Development Card (D): (\$1,060.00/month)

An athlete who has qualified for a development card as well as qualified for a senior card has the choice to accept either the development card or the senior card.

2 – CARDING ALLOCATIONS

Sport Canada has awarded the equivalent of 15 Senior Women's Cards (\$317,700) and 9 Senior Men's Cards (\$190,620) for AAP funding to WCL for the May 2018 to April 2019 carding cycle. Sport Canada will review the card quota for all sports after the 2018 Olympics and Paralympics. In the event that WCL's carding quota changes, WCL may have to modify the allocation of cards based on the principles noted above. Any modifications approved by Sport Canada and will be communicated to athletes and coaches in a timely manner.

The funding will be allocated by WCL as follows:

SENIOR CARDS:

Men	8 athletes
Women	13 athletes

DEVELOPMENT CARDS (minimum):

Men	1 athletes
Women	3 athletes

3 – DECISION AUTHORITY

The High Performance Director (HPD) is responsible for the development and implementation of a carding program that falls within Sport Canada AAP guidelines and parameters. The High Performance Manager (HPM) will assist the HPD in ensuring that the process outlined in this document is properly followed.

WCL does not grant AAP Cards to Athletes. Athletes eligible for a Sport Canada AAP Card are nominated by WCL to Sport Canada based on the criteria outlined in this document and AAP policies. All nominations are then reviewed and approved independently by Sport Canada.

The WCL AAP program will be overseen by the High Performance Director (HPD) and managed by the High Performance Manager (HPM).

4 - ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for a Carding nomination, an Athlete must meet all the following requirements:

- A. Must be a current registered member of, and in good standing with the WCL;
- B. Must have participated in the applicable competitions required for carding purposes unless a request for an exemption due to injury, medical condition, or illness is approved, in advance, by the High Performance Director – (Section 13);
- C. Must possess Canadian citizenship by May 1, 2018; the beginning of the carding cycle;

- D. Must satisfactorily demonstrate that he/she will be eligible to compete for Canada in United World Wrestling (UWW) competitions and the Olympic Games;
- E. Must not be under suspension, or other sanction, for any doping or doping-related offense;
- F. Must sign and comply with the Athlete Agreement as required by WCL and/or Sport Canada;
- G. Must otherwise comply with all eligibility requirements set out by Sport Canada in its publication [“Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program 2015”](#)
- H. Must have met the Specific Criteria set out in Section 4, 8, 9 (where relevant), and 12 (Progression Criteria);
- I. Athletes who are full-time permanent residents outside Canada for more than two successive years and are competing within the Canadian sport system and representing Canada at international competitions (as a WCL sanctioned member of the Canadian National Team), may be considered for carding at the discretion of the High Performance Director;
- J. Must fulfill the requirements of the WCL Senior/Junior Team Training Program.

5 – CARDING CYCLE AND QUALIFICATION PERIOD

The twelve-month carding cycle, which includes development cards, will run from May 1st, 2018 to April 30th, 2019. Since most of the development carding criteria falls within the summer months, nominations to Sport Canada for development cards will take place at the end of the summer (late August / early September) once the final rankings have been established. These development cards will be retroactive to the beginning of the current carding cycle (May 1st, 2018).

Athletes will be eligible to accumulate carding points (international and domestic) from the end of the 2017 Senior Canadian Championships until the end of the 2018 Senior Canadian Championships.

6 – GRECO-ROMAN

Athletes competing in Greco-Roman must qualify for carding by meeting the stated criteria for SR1 and SR2 cards at the Senior World Championships and/or Olympic Games. Greco-Roman athletes are not eligible for SR, C1 or development cards.

7 – CARDING PRIORITIZATION

Cards will be allocated to eligible athletes in the following order of priority, based on gender:

SENIOR CARD

1. Athletes who meet the SR1 carding criteria;
2. Athletes who meet the SR2 carding criteria;
3. Athletes who meet the SR carding criteria: Top ranked athlete in the 2018 Senior Final Ranking;
4. Athletes who meet the SR carding criteria: Tiering Index 1.0 – FS, Tiering Index 1.2 – WW.
5. Athletes who meet the SR carding criteria: Senior Carding Identification System;

DEVELOPMENT CARD

1. Junior World Medallists;
2. Post-junior development cards: one (1) female and one (1) male card;
3. Junior development cards: minimum of one (1) male and one (1) female;
4. Post-junior development cards: up to the maximum remaining funds available.

There will be no more than 3 senior cards (SR1, SR2, SR, C1) awarded per Olympic weight class, unless all eligible athletes are carded.

8 – SENIOR CARDING CRITERIA

8.1 – SENIOR INTERNATIONAL CRITERIA (SR1/SR2 CARDS)

Awarded to Greco-Roman and Freestyle athletes.

- The athlete(s) must have placed in the top 8 AND top half of the competing field in an UWW 2016 Rio Olympic Program weight class at the:
 - **SR1 card:** 2017 Senior World Championships;
 - **SR2 card:** 2016 Olympic Games;
- 2018-19 SR1 carded athletes will be required to compete and train in a 2020 Tokyo Olympic weight class in order to be re-nominated for their 2019-2020 SR2 card;
- SR1 athletes will be nominated ahead of SR2 athletes;
- Athletes nominated for an SR2 card need to demonstrate that they are maintaining a training and competition program approved by the HPD including participation in the final ranking process (Canadian Championships and/or World Team Trials).

8.2 – SENIOR NATIONAL CRITERIA (SR/C1 CARDS)

8.2.1 – ATHLETES COMPETING IN MEN’S AND WOMEN’S FREESTYLE:

The 2018 top ranked athlete in each eligible Olympic weight class upon completion of all final ranking events for World Team* or Olympic Team Selection will be eligible for nomination for a senior card.

*The wrestle-off for Women’s Freestyle will occur at the World Team Wrestle-Offs, to be held prior to the 2018 Canada Cup, to establish the 2018 Final Ranking.

8.2.2 – TIERING INDEX 1.0 FOR ATHLETES COMPETING IN MEN'S FREESTYLE, 1.2 FOR ATHLETES COMPETING IN WOMEN'S FREESTYLE:

Athletes who achieve an international tiering index of 1.0 for men, or 1.2 for women or greater (on the International Tiering System) within the qualification period will be eligible for nomination with the following conditions:

- a) Athletes must have placed in the top 3 Canadians in the final ranking in the Olympic weight class they are to be carded in;
- b) A maximum of one (1) athlete per weight class may be nominated based on the tiering index criteria. If more than one athlete per weight class has achieved a tiering index of 1.0 (men) / 1.2 (women) or greater, the athlete with the highest number of international tiering points will be nominated. The remaining athlete(s) would be ranked within the Senior National Carding Identification System.

8.2.3 – ATHLETES COMPETING IN MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FREESTYLE:

The remaining eligible athletes will be nominated, until the carding maximum is met, based on their position on the **Senior National Carding Identification System** described in Section 9. Athletes must have placed in the top 3 Canadians in the final ranking, in the Olympic weight class they are to be carded in, to be considered for carding.

9 – SENIOR NATIONAL CARDING IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

The WCL Senior National Carding Identification System is an objective method used to rank athletes in terms of their potential to perform at the elite level of international wrestling. The identification system will be the same for both women and men. Point accumulation is specific to a single weight class.

There are five factors used to obtain an athlete's ranking:

- a) The athlete's international tiering index (Freestyle)
- b) The athlete's domestic results at either of the designated Carding Tournaments (West & East)
- c) Placement at the Olympic Team Trials (in an Olympic year)
- d) Placement at the 2018 Final Ranking (Freestyle)
- e) The number of years the athlete has been carded at the SR1, SR2, SR and C1 levels

The weighting and scale of each factor is summarized in the table below:

SENIOR NATIONAL CARDING IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

International Tiering			Domestic Result		2018 Senior Final Ranking (upon completion of all ranking events)		Years Carded (Senior)	
Tier	FS points	FW points	Ranking	Points	Ranking	Points	Years	Points
1.7	35	17.5	1	15	1	30	< 3	5
1.6	33	16.5	2	11	2	18	3	4
1.5	30	15	3	7	3	12	4	3
1.4	27	13.5	4	3			5	2
1.3	24	12	5	2			6	1
1.2	21	10.5	6	1			> 6	0
1.1	18	9						
1.0	15	7.5						
0.9	12	6						
0.8	9	4.5						
0.7	6	3						
0.6	3	1.5						
0.5	0	0						

9.1 – INTERNATIONAL TIERING

A maximum of 35 points for men and a maximum of 17.5 points for women can be earned through international tiering.

The international tiering index indicates the overall success of the athlete at international competitions. The calculation of the index is outlined in Appendix A: International Tiering System. The above table converts the international tiering index value into carding points.

The international tiering index is rounded to the nearest decimal place.

9.2 – DOMESTIC CARDING TOURNAMENTS

A maximum of 15 points (men & women) can be earned through participation in either of the domestic carding tournaments (Olympic weight classes only). Only the best result of the two tournaments counts for carding points. The results of domestic carding tournaments are counted to 6th place.

Each carding tournament will hold a certified weigh-in using United World Wrestling weight classes (for carding purposes, Olympic weight classes only) with a maximum 2-kilogram weight allowance. For both national carding tournaments, any athlete who is attempting to gain carding points must weigh-in on-site;

all other domestic athletes may weigh in off-site provided the weigh-in is carried out by a nationally accredited official or Athletic Director.

WEST: 2017 SFU Open
EAST: 2018 Guelph Open

If an athlete competes at a domestic freestyle tournament but is not eligible for carding points (i.e. foreign athletes, landed immigrants, athletes that did not weigh in on site, etc.) the athlete will be removed from the final rankings (for carding purposes only) and the next eligible athlete will be moved up in the ranking and will receive the corresponding carding points.

9.3 – 2018 SENIOR FINAL RANKING

The final results of all the 2018 Senior Ranking Events are counted to 3rd place. Carding points are not allocated until the completion of all ranking events. The 2018 Ranking Events include the following:

- 2018 Senior Canadian Freestyle Championships including True Second Ranking and challenge matches;
- 2018 Senior Women's World Team Trials – Olympic Weight classes (2018 Canada Cup);
- Wrestle Offs as per wrestle off policies.

If an athlete places in the top 3 at the 2018 Senior Canadian Freestyle Championships, but is not eligible for carding points (i.e. foreign athletes, landed immigrants, etc.) this athlete will be removed from the rankings (for carding purposes only) and the next eligible athlete will be moved up in the ranking and will receive the corresponding carding points after all the final ranking events have occurred.

9.4 – YEARS CARDED

A maximum of 5 points (men & women) can be earned through the athletes total number of years carded.

Athletes who have been carded for several years at the senior level (SR1, SR2, SR, and C1) are expected to be earning carding points through the international tiering index. As the athlete continues their development as a National Team member, they are expected to obtain international results. As such, any athlete that has been carded less than 3 years at the senior level will receive the full 5 points, whereas an athlete that has been carded for more than 6 years at the senior level will not receive any points.

9.5 – TIE-BREAKING CRITERIA FOR SENIOR NATIONAL CARDING IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

If athletes are tied in carding points at the end of the qualification period, the following criteria will be used in rank order to break the tie:

1. Placement at the Olympic Team Trials (in an Olympic year)
2. Placement in the 2018 Final Ranking
3. The International Tiering Index
4. Placement at the 2017 Canada Cup
5. Placement at the 2017 Final Ranking

10 – DEVELOPMENT CARDING CRITERIA

The following priority order will be used to nominate the development cards:

1. Junior World Medallists;
2. Post-junior development cards: one (1) female and one (1) male card;
3. Junior development cards: minimum of one (1) male and one (1) female;
4. Post-junior development cards: up to the maximum remaining funds available.

Please note that normally a Development Card cannot be allocated to an athlete previously carded at the Senior Card level (C1, SR, SR1, SR2) for more than two years. An exception can be made, at Sport Canada's sole discretion, for an athlete carded at the Senior Card level for more than two years for exceptional circumstances; for example, an athlete carded as a senior card for 2 or more years while still competing at the Junior international level.

10.1 – JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PODIUM CRITERIA - MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FREESTYLE

Junior eligible Athletes who achieve a Podium Performance in a UWW 2020 Olympic Program event at the 2018 Junior World Championships will be eligible for nomination for a Development Card.

If there is a tie or there are too many eligible athletes for the remaining carding quota, athletes will be nominated based on their final rank on the Junior Card Identification System.

10.2 – POST-JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT CARDS

Where funding remains, WCL will nominate one (1) female and one (1) male post-junior development card.

To be eligible for this card, an athlete must satisfy at least one of the following requirements:

- Former Junior Canadian Freestyle Champion; OR
- 2018 Junior World Team Member; OR
- Placed in the top six (6) at any Senior Canadian Freestyle Championship (Olympic weight classes only).

As well as satisfy all the following requirements:

- Be 24 years or younger as of the 31st of December in the year that the card is initiated;
- Demonstrate a commitment to training and be located at a National Training Centre or a WCL approved high performance club with a fully certified NCCP level four (or equivalent) coach.

The athletes for the post-junior development cards will be selected based on their position on the Post-Junior National Card Identification System described in XX below:

There are three factors used to obtain an athlete's ranking in an Olympic Weight Class:

- a) Placement at the 2018 Canada Cup;
- b) Placement at the 2017-18 Domestic Carding Tournaments;
- c) Placement at the 2018 Final Ranking.

The weighting and scale of each factor is summarized in the table below:

POST-JUNIOR NATIONAL CARD IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

2018 Canada Cup		Domestic Carding Tournaments		2018 Senior Final Ranking	
Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points
1 st	6	1 st	6	1 st	10
2 nd	5	2 nd	5	2 nd	8
3 rd	4	3 rd	4	3 rd	7
4 th	3	4 th	3	4 th	6
5 th	2	5 th	2	5 th	5
6 th	1	6 th	1	6 th	4

10.2.1 – 2018 CANADA CUP:

A maximum of 6 points (men & women) can be earned through participation in the 2018 Canada Cup (Olympic weight classes only).

The results of the 2018 Canada Cup will be counted to 6th place.

10.2.2 – DOMESTIC CARDING TOURNAMENTS:

A maximum of 15 points (men & women) can be earned through participation in either of the domestic carding tournaments (Olympic weight classes only).

The results of domestic carding tournaments are counted to 6th place with only the best result of the two (2) tournaments counting for carding points.

Each carding tournament will hold a certified weigh-in using United World Wrestling weight classes (for carding purposes, Olympic weight classes only) with a maximum 2-kilogram weight allowance. For both national carding tournaments, any athlete who is attempting to gain carding points must weigh in on-site; all other domestic athletes may weigh in off-site provided the weigh-in is carried out by a nationally accredited official or Athletic Director.

WEST: 2017 SFU Open
EAST: 2018 Guelph Open

If an athlete competes at a domestic freestyle tournament but is not eligible for carding points (i.e. foreign athletes, landed immigrants, athletes that did not weigh in on site, etc.) the athlete will be removed from

the final rankings (for carding purposes only) and the next eligible athlete will be moved up in the ranking and will receive the corresponding carding points.

10.2.3 – 2018 FINAL RANKING:

The final results of all the 2018 Ranking Events are counted to 3rd place. Carding points are not allocated until the completion of all ranking events. The 2018 Ranking Events include the following:

- 2018 Senior Canadian Freestyle Championships including True Second Ranking and challenge matches;
- 2018 Senior Women's World Team Trials – Olympic Weight classes (2018 Canada Cup);
- Wrestle Offs as per wrestle off policies.

If an athlete places in the top 3 at the 2018 Senior Canadian Freestyle Championships, but is not eligible for carding points (i.e. foreign athletes, landed immigrants, etc.) this athlete will be removed from the rankings (for carding purposes only) and the next eligible athlete will be moved up in the ranking and will receive the corresponding carding points after all the final ranking events have occurred.

10.2.4 TIE-BREAKING CRITERIA FOR POST JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT CARD:

If athletes are tied in carding points at the end of the qualification period, the following criteria will be used in rank order to break the tie:

1. Placement at the Olympic Team Trials (in an Olympic year)
2. Placement at the 2018 Junior Final Ranking
3. The International Tiering Index
4. Placement at the 2018 Canada Cup
5. Placement at the 2018 Senior Final Ranking

10.3 – JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT CARDS

Where funding remains, and no athlete meets the Junior World Championships criteria, there will be a maximum of one (1) male and one (1) female junior card that may be nominated based on the Junior Card Identification System. The WCL Junior Card Identification System is an objective method used to rank athletes in terms of their future potential to perform at the elite level of international wrestling. The identification system will be the same for both women and men.

To be eligible for this card, the athlete must satisfy at least one of the following requirements:

- 2018 Junior Canadian Freestyle Champion; OR
- 2018 Junior World Team member

As well as satisfy the following requirement:

- Demonstrate a commitment to training and be located at a National Training Centre or a WCL approved high performance club with a fully certified NCCP level four (or equivalent) coach.

10.3.1 – JUNIOR CARD IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM:

There are five factors used to obtain an athlete's ranking:

- a) Placement at the 2018 Canada Cup;
- b) Placement at the 2017-18 Domestic Carding Tournaments;
- c) Placement at the 2018 Junior Canadian Championships (Freestyle);
- d) Placement at the 2018 Junior World Championships;
- e) Placement at the 2018 Final Ranking (Freestyle);

The weighting and scale of each factor is summarized in the table below:

NOTE: Athletes will be able to accumulate carding points in any of the six (6) United World Wrestling Olympic junior weight classes.

JUNIOR NATIONAL CARD IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM

2018 Canada Cup		Domestic Carding Tournaments		2018 Junior Canadian Championships		2018 Junior World Championships		2018 Senior Final Ranking	
Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points
1 st	6	1 st	6	1 st	10	1 st	15	1 st	10
2 nd	5	2 nd	5	2 nd	8	2 nd	14	2 nd	8
3 rd	4	3 rd	4	3 rd	7	3 rd	13	3 rd	7
4 th	3	4 th	3	4 th	6	4 th	12		
5 th	2	5 th	2	5 th	5	5 th	11		
6 th	1	6 th	1	6 th	4	6 th	10		
						7 th	8		
						8 th	6		
						9 th	4		
						10 th	3		
						11 th	2		
						12 th	1		

10.3.2 – 2018 CANADA CUP:

A maximum of 6 points (men & women) can be earned through participation in the 2018 Canada Cup (Olympic weight classes only).

The results of the 2018 Canada Cup will be counted to 6th place.

10.3.3 – DOMESTIC CARDING TOURNAMENTS:

A maximum of 15 points (men & women) can be earned through participation in either of the domestic carding tournaments (Olympic weight classes only).

The results of domestic carding tournaments are counted to 6th place with only the best result of the two (2) tournaments counting for carding points.

Each carding tournament will hold a certified weigh-in using United World Wrestling weight classes (for carding purposes, Olympic weight classes only) with a maximum 2-kilogram weight allowance. For both national carding tournaments, any athlete who is attempting to gain carding points must weigh in on-site; all other domestic athletes may weigh in off-site provided the weigh-in is carried out by a nationally accredited official or Athletic Director.

WEST: 2017 SFU Open
EAST: 2018 Guelph Open

If an athlete competes at a domestic freestyle tournament but is not eligible for carding points (i.e. foreign athletes, landed immigrants, athletes that did not weigh in on site, etc.) the athlete will be removed from the final rankings (for carding purposes only) and the next eligible athlete will be moved up in the ranking and will receive the corresponding carding points.

10.3.4 – 2018 JUNIOR CANADIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS:

The final results of all the 2018 Junior Canadian Championships are counted to 6th place. Carding points are not allocated until the completion of all ranking events. The 2018 Junior Ranking Events include the following:

- 2018 Junior Canadian Freestyle Championships including True Second Ranking and challenge matches;
- Wrestle Offs as per wrestle off policies.

If an athlete places in the top 6 at the 2018 Junior Canadian Freestyle Championships, but is not eligible for carding points (i.e. foreign athletes, landed immigrants, etc.) this athlete will be removed from the rankings (for carding purposes only) and the next eligible athlete will be moved up in the ranking and will receive the corresponding carding points after all the final ranking events have occurred.

10.3.5 – 2018 JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS:

Please refer to the Junior National Card Identification System chart.

10.3.6 – 2018 SENIOR FINAL RANKING:

The final results of all the 2018 Senior Ranking Events are counted to 3rd place. Carding points are not allocated until the completion of all ranking events. The 2018 Ranking Events include the following:

- 2018 Senior Canadian Freestyle Championships including True Second Ranking and challenge matches;
- 2018 Senior Women's World Team Trials – Olympic Weight classes (2018 Canada Cup);
- Wrestle Offs as per wrestle off policies.

If an athlete places in the top 3 at the 2018 Senior Canadian Freestyle Championships, but is not eligible for carding points (i.e. foreign athletes, landed immigrants, etc.) this athlete will be removed from the rankings (for carding purposes only) and the next eligible athlete will be moved up in the ranking and will receive the corresponding carding points after all the final ranking events have occurred.

10.4 – POST-JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT CARDS ROUND 2

Any card quota remaining after nomination through criteria 7, 8, 10.1, 10.2 and 10.3, will be allocated through the application of criteria 10.2.

11 – OLYMPIC GAMES

An athlete who qualifies for the Olympic Games, through the International qualification system (Freestyle), will automatically be nominated for an SR card during the Olympic carding cycle (2020-2021).

The winner of the Canadian Olympic Trials (Freestyle) will receive 30 carding points (equivalent to 1st place at the 2018 Senior Final Ranking). The carding points at the next Senior Canadian Championships (in that same Olympic year) will change to:

1 st place:	18 points
2 nd place:	12 points
3 rd place:	6 points

In the event the winner of the Team Trials competes in the Senior Canadian Championships (in that same Olympic year), they will receive no carding points for their participation in the Senior Canadian Championships; the next eligible athlete will be moved up in ranking and will receive the corresponding carding points.

12 – PROGRESSION CRITERIA

In order to be nominated for carding, athletes who are entering their 8th year past United World Wrestling junior age, must achieve international performance standards as outlined below, in addition to meeting all the other senior national carding and ranking criteria:

- a) An athlete who have demonstrated one of the following performance markers will be eligible for nomination at the SR level for one (1) additional year:
 - i. Wins the 2018 Senior Pan American Championship - weight class specific;
 - ii. Defeats a 2017 Senior World Top 5 or 2016 Olympic Top 5 at a WCL endorsed or UWW sanctioned event – weight class specific;
 - iii. Medallist at the 2017 Senior World Championships in a Non-Olympic weight class.

- b) An athlete who has achieved senior international criteria within the 6th to 8th years post United World Wrestling junior age may be nominated at the SR level for two (2) additional years after which he/she must meet the senior international criteria or have earned an international tiering index of 1.0 (men) / 1.2 (women) or greater to be eligible for nomination in each year.
- c) An athlete who has achieved an international tiering index of 1.0 (FS) / 1.2 (WW) or greater within the 6th to 8th years post United World Wrestling junior age may be nominated at the SR level for one (1) additional year after which he/she must meet the senior international Criteria (Article 8.1) or have earned an international tiering index of 1.0 (FS) / 1.2 (WW) or greater to be eligible for nomination in each year.

An injury provision will count towards the maximum number of years at SR/C1.

Summary of Article 12 – International Performance Standards:

Year past UWW Junior age	(12.a) Athlete has met performance markers	(12.b) Athlete has achieved the senior international criteria within the 6th to 8th year post UWW junior age	(12.c) Athlete has earned an international tiering index of 1.0 (FS) / 1.2 (WW) or greater within the 6th to 8th year post UWW junior age	All other scenarios
*8 th year	Eligible for nomination at SR level	Eligible for nomination at SR level	Eligible for nomination at SR level	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 1.0 (FS) / 1.2 (WW) tiering index OR achieve Performance Markers
9 th year	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 1.0 (FS) / 1.2 (WW) tiering index OR achieve Performance Markers	Same as above	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 1.0 (FS) / 1.2 (WW) tiering index OR achieve Performance Markers	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 1.0 (FS) / 1.2 (WW) tiering index OR achieve Performance Markers

10 th year	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 1.0 (FS) / 1.2 (WW) tiering index OR achieve Performance Markers	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 1.0 (FS) / 1.2 (WW) tiering index OR achieve Performance Markers	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 1.0 (FS) / 1.2 (WW) tiering index OR achieve Performance Markers	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 1.0 (FS) / 1.2 (WW) tiering index OR achieve Performance Markers
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* Turning 28 years of age in the calendar year in which the carding cycle is initiated.

13 – PROVISION FOR ILLNESS, INJURY OR PREGNANCY (SR1, SR2, SR, AND C1 ATHLETES ONLY)

Illness, injury or pregnancy may prevent a current senior carded athlete from attending a sufficient number of competitions in order to re-qualify for carding.

The injured, ill or pregnant athlete (currently holding a card) will still be able to obtain carding points through the injury, illness and pregnancy provision as outlined below. The injured, ill or pregnant athlete (currently holding a card) will then be ranked with all other athletes using the points obtained through the injury, illness and pregnancy provision and must still re-qualify for carding based on the their points total.

Athletes will not be eligible for injury, illness, or pregnancy cards in consecutive years. Athletes who have been approved for an injury, illness and pregnancy provision will be exempt from Article 12.

Considerations for athletes under the injury, illness and pregnancy provision:

1. Athletes who received an SR1 or SR2 card in the previous carding cycle (2017-2018) will receive:
 - a) 100% of the international tiering points will be awarded from the previous carding cycle if the athlete is unable to complete ten (10) international matches in the current carding cycle;
 - b) 100% of the domestic tiering points from the previous carding cycle's carding tournaments will be awarded in the current carding cycle, only for the event that the athlete is unable to compete in. Only the best result of the two will be counted for domestic tiering points.
 - c) 100% of the current carding cycle's Senior Canadian Championship points will be awarded based on the athlete's placement in the previous carding cycle at the Senior Canadian Championships, if the athlete is unable to compete at the Senior Canadian Freestyle Championships in the current carding cycle.
 - d) Carding points for number of years carded will follow the yearly progression.

2. Athletes who received an SR or C1 card in the previous carding cycle (2017-2018) will receive:

- a) 50% of the international tiering points will be awarded from the previous carding cycle if the athlete is unable to complete ten (10) international matches in the current carding cycle;
- b) 50% of the domestic tiering points from the previous carding cycle's carding tournaments will be awarded in the current carding cycle, only for the event that the athlete is unable to compete in. Only the best result of the two will be counted for domestic tiering points.
- c) 50% of the current carding cycle's Senior Canadian Championship points will be awarded based on the athlete's placement in the previous carding cycle at the Senior Canadian Championships, if the athlete is unable to compete at the Senior National Freestyle Championships in the current carding cycle.
- d) Carding points for number of years carded will follow the yearly progression

Athletes will only have access to clauses 1a and 2a above, if their health-related reason (illness, injury or pregnancy) has been so substantial that they have not been able to compete for a minimum of 10 of the 12 months during the qualification period. It is expected that the athlete will be able to return to competition during the next carding cycle.

In addition to the requirement that the affected athlete (currently holding a card) must meet in order to re-qualify for carding based on his/her point total, the coach must submit a written petition to the High Performance Director, prior to the weigh-in for the event. The petition must include the following:

- The official WCL Inability to Participate Medical Certificate, completed by an approved WCL physician prior to the nearest upcoming carding event, indicating the date and nature of the injury with the prescribed rehabilitation program and an estimated recovery period.
 - A full medical recovery must be possible within the next carding period
 - WCL reserves the right to have a second medical opinion
- For the duration of the injured athlete's inability to fulfill their training and competitive commitments, which are part of the carded athlete's contract, the athlete must commit, in writing, to train and/or rehabilitate under the supervision of WCL. This must be done at a level that mitigates risk to the athlete's personal health and ensures a timely return to a full training and competitive program that is in line with the other members of the National Team.

14 – CARDING CONTRACT & RESPONSIBILITIES

Athletes are nominated for carding by WCL to the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program. An athlete's carding status is subject to the obligations and commitments as detailed in the WCL Carded Athlete Contract (which will include, but not limited to, annual competition, training, and Edge 10 monitoring requirements) and the Sport Canada Guide to Athlete Assistance. No carding contracts will be processed by WCL without the \$150 athlete fee.

15 – FINANCIAL BENEFITS

More information on AAP financial support can be found at: <http://www.pch.gc.ca/eng/1267374509734>.

16 – ATHLETE WITHDRAWAL AND NON-RENEWAL

Athletes may lose their carded status or have their carded status withdrawn under the following conditions:

- Non-renewal of carded status;
- Failure to meet training or competitive commitments;
- Violation of the athlete/NSO agreement;
- Athlete's failure to meet responsibilities outlined in AAP policies;
- Gross breach of discipline; and
- Fraudulent misrepresentation

The High Performance Director may recommend the withdrawal of an athlete's carded status to Sport Canada, under the following conditions:

1. Provide a verbal warning to the athlete, including the steps and timelines to remedy the situation and the consequences of a failure to heed the warning;
2. Where applicable, follow up with a written warning to the athlete;

If the above steps are not successful in resolving the matter and WCL still wishes to recommend withdrawal of carded status, WCL must:

1. Send a letter to the Sport Canada Program Officer and the AAP Manager with a copy of the athlete's carded status. This letter must indicate:
 - a) The grounds on which the recommendation is being made;
 - b) The steps already taken to address the issue (verbal warning followed by a formal letter of warning);
 - c) Provide notice to the athlete of the athlete's right to contest the WCL recommendation to withdraw carded status through WCL's internal appeal process within the prescribed time.

Athletes may also withdraw from the AAP by expressing their wish to do so to WCL. This may involve retiring permanently or temporarily foregoing the commitments of being a carded athlete. If recommended by WCL, athletes who retire permanently in mid-season may be allowed two (2) months of AAP support past the date of their actual retirement to help them adjust to their post-athletic situation. This does not preclude the athlete from applying for or receiving special-needs assistance or deferred tuition support.

17 – APPEALS

Appeals of WCL's AAP nomination/re-nomination decision or of a WCL's recommendation to withdraw carding may be pursued only through the WCL's Appeal Policy. Appeals of AAP Decision made under Section 6 ([Application for and Approval of Cards](#)) or Section 11 ([Withdrawal of Carding Status](#)) may be pursued through Section 13 of the AAP Policies, Procedures and Guidelines.

ANNEX A: INTERNATIONAL TIERING SYSTEM

1 – INTRODUCTION

The objective of the international tiering system is to develop an objective ranking of athletes based upon their international performance throughout the qualification period. The utility of such a system is as follows:

1. To enhance the World team and Olympic team selection process by identifying those athletes capable of performing at the world-class level on a consistent basis.
2. To establish a direct link between international performance and the various levels of carding. For example, a tiering index of 1.2 (women) and 1.0 (men) is considered equivalent to achieving a top 8 performance at the Senior World Championships.
3. To have a system capable of quantifying performance such that objective performance goals can be clearly stated and progress towards those goals can be effectively monitored and evaluated by WCL and its performance partners.
4. To provide athlete accountability.

International podium performances, top 8, and top ½ competing entries provide the framework for our performance standards.

2 – METHOD

The ability to accurately measure international performance is essential in order for the tiering concept to be implemented effectively.

Tournament placement by itself is, at best, a poor indicator of performance; particularly for rankings beyond 4th place. The randomness of the draw allows the element of chance to influence the tournament results in an unpredictable fashion. Moreover, the ranking method tends to only evaluate an athlete when he/she performs well and gives no feedback when he/she performs poorly.

The win/loss record affords an opportunity to examine an athlete's performance capabilities in more detail and on a more consistent basis. By classifying the opponent into one of five tiers, the athlete's overall win/loss record can be broken-down into five separate win/loss records.

Only head-to-head competition against recognized opponents (see table 2.1 and 2.2 below) are taken into account for international tiering purposes. The opponent's previous senior record is examined to determine if the opponent can be classified based on previous placement at the World/Olympics, European, Asian, or Pan American Championships.

Applying Table 2.1: Opponents' Previous International Performance Criteria Grid, WCL will be able to effectively classify opponents. Previous performance criteria apply to the past 2-3 years at the specific weight class and style that the opponent is currently competing in.

An athlete will be able to amass tiering index points in the six (6) Olympic weight classes. Only opponents competing in the six (6) Olympic weight classes will be considered for tiering index calculations.

TABLE 2.1:
OPPONENTS' PREVIOUS INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE CRITERIA & CORRESPONDING POINTS FOR WIN

Points (Tier)	5	4	3	2	1
Senior World Championships & Olympic Games					
2017	1-2	3	5	7	8
2016		1-2	3	5	7
2015			1-2	3	5
Senior European Championships					
2017		1	2	3	5
2016			1	2	3
2015				1	2
Senior Asian Championships					
2017		1	2	3	5
2016			1	2	3
2015				1	2
Senior Pan American Championships					
2017			1	2	3
2016				1	2
2015					1
Senior African Championships					
2017				1	2
2016					1
Junior/U23/FISU World Championships/ Senior non-Olympic weight class World Medallist					
2017			1	2	3
2016				1	2

It should also be noted that in the competitions listed above, countries are only able to send one athlete per weight class. As such, athletes that have the wrestling ability to be among the top in the world are not able to compete. Table 2.2 has been established to allow for a point structure that allows countries to be recognized as having strong wrestling programs. Athletes from countries that have ranked in the top 3 at the most recent World Championships and Olympic Games will be classified based on their performance at their respective selection trials.

TABLE 2.2:

TOP 3 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS / OLYMPIC COUNTRIES PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

Points	5	4	3	2	1
Senior World Championships & Olympic Games #1					
2016			1	2	3
2015				1	2
2014					1
Senior World Championships & Olympic Games #2					
2016			1	2	3
2015				1	2
2014					1
Senior World Championships & Olympic Games #3					
2016				1	2
2015					1
2014					1

Any other international wins (not classified in Table 2.1 or 2.2), at an approved tournament (see article 4.9), will be worth 0.7 points.

3 – CALCULATION OF THE INDEX

The tiering index more accurately reflects an athlete's ability to compete internationally as the number of matches increase. Therefore, it is essential that carded athletes compete in a sufficient number of tournaments in order to accurately assess their performance capabilities.

Regardless of number of matches wrestled, the total will always be divided by 10.

CALCULATION EXAMPLE:

Match	Points	Bonus Points	10 Best Matches
1	3		3
2	1		1
4	0		
5	0.7		
6	2		2
7	2		2
8	3		3
9	0		
10	0		
11	0		

12	2		2
13	0.7		
14	3		3
15	0		
16	0		
17	4		4
18	3		3
19	1		1
Total Points			24

Index = 24/10 (total points divided by 10 best matches) is equal to a Tiering Index of 2.4

NOTE: The index will be rounded to one decimal place.

4 – RULES FOR INTERNATIONAL TIERING

1. **Athlete's Responsibility:** Each individual athlete has the responsibility to maintain a record of all international matches and to verify results produced by WCL within one week of receiving a WCL summary.
2. **Coaches' Responsibility:** Coaches have the responsibility to verify any results reported by WCL with their individual athletes. Coaches and athletes will have one week after the publication of the tiering index to report errors or omissions. After this date the athlete's results will not be adjusted.
3. **WCL's Responsibility:** The High Performance Director has the responsibility to maintain an international competitive record for all carded athletes.
4. **Weight Class:** Opponents are classified according to the weight class that they are currently wrestling at. Due to UWW weight class changes in September of 2017, female athletes will be permitted to accumulate points in both the 2016 Rio Olympic weight classes and the Tokyo 2020 weight classes from April 2017 to March 2018.
 - a) The Rio Olympic weight classes will be counted from April 2017 to September 2017 and must be specific to one weight class;
 - b) The Tokyo Olympic weight classes will be counted from October 2017 to March 2018 and must be specific to one weight class;
5. **Style:** Opponents are classified according to the style that they are currently wrestling in.
6. **Injury:** No credit will be given if an opponent does not show up for a match or defaults the match due to injury regardless of the score at the time of the injury.

7. Only United World Wrestling sanctioned tournaments that have been accepted by WCL will be approved for international tiering purposes.
8. **Carding:** A minimum of 10 international matches are required in order to calculate the tiering index for carding purposes. These matches must be accumulated within the qualification period (the completion of one Senior Canadian Championship to the next). If the athlete is short 10 matches as of the cut-off date the index will still be calculated and the point total will still be divided by 10.