



## **CARDED ATHLETE PROGRAM**

### **2025 CYCLE**

August 2023

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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 at the Senior World Championships or Olympic Games, 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 WCL approved events in preparation for the 2024 Olympic program events. Athletes who wish to be nominated for a Senior or the Post-Junior Development card must accumulate nomination criteria as specified in this document.

Men's Freestyle (FS):	57, 65, 74, 86, 97, 125 kg
Women (WW):	50, 53, 57, 62, 68, 76 kg
Greco-Roman (GR):	60, 67, 77, 87, 97, 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 are 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 (2022), which can be found on the Sport Canada Website (<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance/policies-procedures.html>).

WCL is carefully following the evolution of the coronavirus on the global and domestic level and its impact on athletes' ability to consistently prepare for, participate in and perform on an international level. Unless otherwise required by exceptional and unforeseen circumstances related to the impact of the coronavirus, or other pandemic viruses, WCL will respect this published Carded Athlete Program (2025) as written.

However, situations related to the coronavirus or other pandemic viruses may arise that require this Carded Athlete Program (2025) to be modified. Any modifications will be made promptly and as often as required following developments that directly impact the Carded Athlete Program (2025). In such circumstances, any modifications will be communicated to all affected individuals as soon as possible.

Further, situations may arise that do not allow this Carded Athlete Program (2025) to be modified or applied as written due to time constraints or other exceptional and unforeseen circumstances. In such

situations, any decision, including nomination decisions, will be made by the individual(s) with decision-making authority, as stated in this Carded Athlete Program (2025), in consultation with the relevant individual(s) or committee(s) (as applicable), and in accordance with the stated performance objectives and nomination philosophy and approach as stated herein. Should it be necessary to make any decision in this manner, WCL will communicate with all affected individuals as soon as possible.

### 1.1 – OVERVIEW OF THE CARDING SYSTEM

The Sport Canada AAP funds Athletes at two levels (this may be adjusted based on the Sport Canada Yearly Allocation):

#### A. 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 in an Olympic Event at a Senior World Championship or Olympic Games;
- **Senior National Cards (SR)** (\$1,765.00/month). Criteria as determined by WCL<sup>1</sup>.

#### B. DEVELOPMENT CARDS:

- **Development Cards (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

As of July 2023, Sport Canada has awarded the equivalent of 14 Senior Women’s Cards (\$296,520) and 8 Senior Men’s Cards (\$169,440) for AAP funding to WCL for the 2025 Carding cycle (December 2024 to November 2025). Sport Canada reviews the carding quota (subject to change) on a regular basis.

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 will be communicated to athletes and coaches in a timely manner.

The funding will be allocated by WCL as follows:

#### SENIOR CARDS:

Men	6 athletes
Women	12 athletes

#### DEVELOPMENT CARDS (minimum):

Men	3 athletes
Women	3 athletes

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<sup>1</sup> The C1 level cards are being discontinued and phased out of the AAP effective November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

### 3 – DECISION AUTHORITY

The High Performance Director (HPD), or their designate, is responsible for the development and implementation of a carding program that falls within Sport Canada AAP guidelines and parameters. The High Performance Manager will assist the HPD in ensuring that the process outlined in this document is properly followed. The High Performance Advisory Committee (HPAC) will provide oversight in the development and implementation of the Carded Athlete Program.

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), or their designate, and managed by the High Performance Manager.

### 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<sup>2</sup>;
- 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, or their designate (Section 12);
- c) Must possess Canadian citizenship by December 1, 2024; 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: Policies and Procedures – Athlete Assistance Program (<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance/policies-procedures.html>);
- h) Must have met the Specific Criteria set out in Section 4, 8, 9 (where relevant), 11 (Progression Criteria) and 12 (Injury Provision);
- 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 as defined by the WCL Yearly Training Program (YTP) including testing, training, camps and events.
- k) Compliance rate of 80% via the Athlete Management System (Kinduct or other).

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<sup>2</sup> In Good Standing with WCL: meet all eligibility requirements, no outstanding invoices or money owed to WCL, comply with all applicable code of conducts and discipline codes.

## 5 – CARDING CYCLE AND QUALIFICATION PERIOD

The twelve-month carding cycle, which includes development cards, will run from December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025. This cycle is in line with the schedule of payments.

Athletes will be eligible to accumulate carding points (international and domestic) from December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 to November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

## 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 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 (8.1)
2. Athletes who meet the SR2 carding criteria (8.2);
3. Athletes who are Top 5 ranking in a Non-Olympic Weight at the 2024 Senior World Championships (8.3.1);
4. Athlete who are Top 12 in an Olympic Weight at the 2024 Olympic Games, with a minimum of 2 wins (not by forfeit or those injury matches that never started) (8.3.2);
5. Athletes who achieve a Top 3 ranking at the 2024 U23 World Championships (8.3.3);
6. Athletes who meet the SR carding criteria (8.3.4):
  - International Performance index – FS 2.0
  - International Performance index – WW 2.5;
7. Athletes who are the 2024 top ranked athlete in each eligible Olympic weight class after final senior national ranking (8.3.5);
8. Athletes who meet the SR carding criteria: Senior Carding Identification System (8.3.6);

Women's cards: where funding permits, and in an effort to develop weight classes, a minimum of 1 senior card (SR1, SR2, SR) will be awarded per Olympic weight class.

### DEVELOPMENT CARDS

1. 2024 Junior World Medallists (Olympic weight classes);
2. Post-junior development cards: up to the maximum of remaining funds available.

## **8 – SENIOR CARDING CRITERIA**

### **8.1 – SENIOR INTERNATIONAL CRITERIA (SR1 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 at the 2024 Olympic Games.

### **8.2 – SENIOR INTERNATIONAL CRITERIA (SR2 CARDS)**

The athlete(s) must have placed in the Top 8 **AND** Top Half of the competing field in an Olympic weight class at the 2023 Senior World Championships and awarded an SR1 card.

2024 SR1 carded athletes will be required to compete and train in the same Olympic weight class in order to be re-nominated for their 2025 SR2 card. Additionally, athletes nominated for an SR2 card need to demonstrate that they are at a minimum following the WCL National YTP and / or WCL approved individualized program, including participation in the final ranking process (Canadian and/or World/Olympic Team Trials).

### **8.3 – SENIOR NATIONAL CRITERIA (SR CARDS)**

#### *8.3.1 ATHLETES WHO ACHIEVE A TOP 5 IN A NON-OLYMPIC WEIGHT CLASS AT THE 2024 SENIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS*

Athletes who achieve a Top 5 placement in a non-Olympic weight at the 2024 Senior World Championships will be nominated for a Senior Card.

#### *8.3.2 ATHLETE WHO ARE TOP 12 IN AN OLYMPIC WEIGHT AT THE 2024 OLYMPIC GAMES WITH A MINIMUM OF 2 WINS*

Athletes who achieve a Top 12 placement at the 2024 Olympic Games, with a minimum of 2 wins (not by forfeit or those injury matches that never started), will be nominated for a Senior Card.

#### *8.3.3 ATHLETES WHO ACHIEVE A TOP 3 AT THE 2024 U23 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS*

Athletes who achieve a Top 3 placement in an Olympic weight at the 2024 U23 World Championships will be nominated for a Senior Card.

#### *8.3.4 INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDEX 2.0 FOR ATHLETES COMPETING IN MEN'S FREESTYLE (FS), INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDEX 2.5 FOR ATHLETES COMPETING IN WOMEN'S WRESTLING (WW)*

Athletes who achieve an international performance index of 2.0 for men, or 2.5 for women or greater (on the International Performance Index System – please refer to Annex A) 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) Athletes cannot accumulate more than 40% of their Performance Index points in a non-Olympic weight category;
- c) A maximum of one (1) athlete per weight class may be nominated based on the performance index criteria. If more than one athlete per weight class has achieved a performance index of 2.0 (men) / 2.5 (women) or greater, the athlete with the highest number of international performance index points will be nominated. The remaining athlete(s) would be ranked within the Senior National Carding Identification System.

#### *8.3.5 ATHLETES WHO ARE THE 2024 TOP RANKED ATHLETE IN EACH ELIGIBLE OLYMPIC WEIGHT CLASS*

The 2024 top nationally ranked athlete in each eligible Olympic weight class upon completion of all 2024 final senior national ranking event(s) will be eligible for nomination for a senior card.

#### *8.3.6 – 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 (SNCIS)** described in Section 9.

Athletes must have placed in the top 3 Canadians in the 2024 final ranking, in the Olympic weight class they are to be carded in, to be considered for carding via the SNCIS, unless there is an injury provision.

## **9 – SENIOR NATIONAL CARDING IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM (SNCIS)**

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 performance index (Freestyle)
- b) The athlete's domestic results at either of the designated Carding Tournaments (West & East)
- c) Placement at the Canadian Team Trials (in an Olympic year)
- d) Placement at the 2024 final senior national ranking event(s) (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 Performance Index			Domestic Carding Tournaments (Olympic Weight Only)		2024 Canadian Team Trials (aka Olympic Trials)		2024 Final Senior National Ranking (upon completion of all ranking events) Olympic Weight Only		Years Carded (Senior)	
Tier	FS points	FW points	Ranking	Points	Ranking	Points	Ranking	Points	Years	Points
3.0	35	17.5	1	15	1	30	1	18	< 3	5
2.9	33	16.5	2	11			2	12	3	4
2.7	30	15	3	7			3	6	4	3
2.5	27	13.5	4	3					5	2
2.3	24	12	5	2					6	1
2.1	21	10.5	6	1					> 6	0
2.0	19	10								
1.8	18	9								
1.5	15	7.5								
1.3	12	6								
1.1	9	4.5								
0.9	6	3								
0.7	3	1.5								
0	0	0								

### 9.1 – INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDEX

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

The international performance index indicates the overall success of the athlete at international competitions. The calculation of the index is outlined in the “International Performance Index” (Annex A). The above table converts the international performance index value into carding points.

The international performance 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 6<sup>th</sup> place.

Each carding tournament will hold a certified weigh-in using UWW weight classes (for carding purposes, Olympic weight classes only) with a same day weigh-in and will include a +1 kg weight allowance.

EAST: 2024 Guelph Open

WEST: 2024 Simon Fraser University (SFU) Open

If an athlete competes at a domestic freestyle tournament but is not eligible for carding points by the end of the carding cycle (i.e. foreign athletes, permanent residents, 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 – 2024 FINAL SENIOR NATIONAL RANKING**

Carding points are not allocated until the completion of all ranking events. The 2024 Ranking Events include the following:

- 2024 Canadian Team Trials (Freestyle) – top ranked athlete, after the completion of all wrestle-offs;
- 2024 Senior Canadian Wrestling Championships (Freestyle) including True Second Ranking (final results are counted to 3<sup>rd</sup> place);
- Wrestle-offs as per wrestle-off policies.

If an athlete places in the top 3 at the 2024 Senior Canadian Wrestling Championships, but is not eligible for carding points by the end of the carding cycle (i.e. foreign athletes, permanent Residents, 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 athlete's 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 performance 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. The International Performance Index
2. Placement at the Canadian Team Trials (in an Olympic year)
3. Placement in the 2024 Final Senior National Ranking
4. Placement in the 2023 Final Senior Ranking

## 10 – DEVELOPMENT CARDING CRITERIA

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

1. 2024 U20-Junior World Medallists (Olympic weight classes);
2. 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 – U20-JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP PODIUM CRITERIA - MEN'S AND WOMEN'S FREESTYLE

Junior eligible Athletes who achieve a Podium Performance in an Olympic weight class at the 2024 U20-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 using the following tiered approach:

1. International Performance Index
2. 2024 U20-Junior World Championship Final Placement
3. Placement at the Canadian Team Trials (in an Olympic year)
4. 2024 Final Senior National Ranking
5. 2024 Final U20-Junior National Ranking
6. 2024 Carding Tournament Ranking

### 10.2 POST-JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT CARDS

Where funding remains, WCL will nominate post-junior development cards up to the maximum remaining funds available.

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

- Former U20-Junior Canadian Freestyle Champion (2021 - 2023); OR
- 2024 Junior World Team Member; OR
- Placed in the top six (6) at the 2024 Senior Canadian Wrestling Championships (Olympic weight classes only).

As well as satisfy all the following requirements:

- Be 23 years or younger as of the 31<sup>st</sup> of December in the year that the card is initiated;

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

There are three factors used to obtain an athlete's ranking in an Olympic Weight Class (point accumulation is not specific to a single weight class):

- a) Placement at the designated 2024 International Development Tournament(s).
- b) Placement at the 2024 Domestic Carding Tournaments;
- c) Placement at the 2024 Final Senior National Ranking.

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

**POST-JUNIOR DEVELOPMENT CARD IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM**

2024 International Development Tournament(s) Olympic Weights Only		Domestic Carding Tournaments Olympic Weights Only		2024 Final Senior National Ranking Olympic Weights Only	
Canadian Ranking	Points	Place	Points	Place	Points
1 <sup>st</sup>	6	1 <sup>st</sup>	6	1 <sup>st</sup>	10
2 <sup>nd</sup>	5	2 <sup>nd</sup>	5	2 <sup>nd</sup>	8
3 <sup>rd</sup>	4	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4	3 <sup>rd</sup>	7
4 <sup>th</sup>	3	4 <sup>th</sup>	3	4 <sup>th</sup>	6
5 <sup>th</sup>	2	5 <sup>th</sup>	2	5 <sup>th</sup>	5
6 <sup>th</sup>	1	6 <sup>th</sup>	1	6 <sup>th</sup>	4

*10.2.1 – 2024 INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TOURNAMENT(S)*

- The designated “Development Tournaments” for 2024 include:
  - a) To be determined upon confirmation of the finalized 2024 United World Wrestling calendar
  - b) Bill Farrell Memorial 2024
  - c) All WCL supported international events (minimum support of an official)
- The best result will count for carding points;
- Athletes must achieve at least one win (not by forfeit or those injury matches that never started) at each of the designated international development tournament(s) they participate in;
- For the purposes of determining the “Canadian Ranking”, all non-Canadian athletes and those athletes ineligible for carding will be removed from ranking and all eligible athletes will be ranked accordingly;
- Athletes placing out of the top 6 original event ranking (which includes all athletes), will be ranked according to the following tie-breaking criteria:
  - a) Matches won
  - b) Result of a head-to-head match
  - c) UWW classification points
  - d) Total points scored
  - e) Total points conceded

If a tie still remains, the athletes involved will share ranking and corresponding points.

### *10.2.2 – DOMESTIC CARDING TOURNAMENTS*

A maximum of 6 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 6<sup>th</sup> 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 UWW weight classes (for carding purposes, Olympic weight classes only) with a same day weigh-in and will include a +1 kg weight allowance.

EAST: 2024 Guelph Open

WEST: 2024 Simon Fraser University (SFU) Open

If an athlete competes at a domestic freestyle tournament but is not eligible for carding points by the end of the carding cycle (i.e. foreign athletes, permanent residents, 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 – 2024 FINAL SENIOR NATIONAL RANKING*

Carding points are not allocated until the completion of all ranking events. The 2024 Ranking Events include the following:

- 2024 Canadian Team Trials (Freestyle) – top ranked athlete, after the completion of all wrestle-offs;
- 2024 Senior Canadian Wrestling Championships (Freestyle) including True Second Ranking (final results are counted to 3<sup>rd</sup> place);
- Wrestle-offs as per wrestle-off policies.

If an athlete places in the top 3 at the 2024 Senior Canadian Wrestling Championships (Freestyle), but is not eligible for carding points by the end of the carding cycle (i.e. foreign athletes, permanent residents, 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 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. The International Performance index
2. 2024 Senior World Championship Final Placement
3. 2024 U23 World Championship Final Placement
4. 2024 U20-Junior World Championship Final Placement
5. Placement at the Canadian Team Trials (in an Olympic year)
6. 2024 Final Senior National Ranking
7. 2024 Final U20-Junior National Ranking

## 8. 2024 Carding Tournament Ranking

### 11 – PROGRESSION CRITERIA

In order to be nominated for carding, athletes who are entering their 8<sup>th</sup> year past United World Wrestling U20-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 has demonstrated one of the following performance markers will be eligible for nomination at the SR level for one (1) additional year:
  - i. Wins the 2024 Senior Pan American Championship – in an Olympic weight class;
  - ii. Defeats a 2023 or 2024 Senior World or Olympic Games Top 5 (Olympic & non-Olympic weight classes) at a WCL endorsed or UWW sanctioned event – in an Olympic weight class;
  - iii. Medalist at the 2023 or 2024 Senior World Championships in a Non-Olympic weight class.
  
- b) An athlete who has achieved senior international criteria within the 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> years post United World Wrestling U20-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 performance index of 2.0 (men)/2.5 (women) or greater to be eligible for nomination in each year.
  
- c) An athlete who has achieved an international performance index of 2.0 (FS)/2.5 (WW) or greater within the 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> 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 performance index of 2.0 (FS)/2.5 (WW) or greater to be eligible for nomination in each year.

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

**Summary of Article 11.1 – Performance Requirements**

<b>Year past UWW U20-Junior age</b>	<b>(12.a) Athlete has met performance markers</b>	<b>(12.b) Athlete has achieved the senior international criteria within the 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> year post UWW junior age</b>	<b>(12.c) Athlete has earned an international performance index of 2.0 (FS)/2.5 (WW) or greater within the 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> year post UWW U20-Junior age</b>	<b>All other scenarios</b>
*8 <sup>th</sup> 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 2.0 (FS)/2.5 (WW) performance index OR achieve Performance Markers
9 <sup>th</sup> year	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 2.0 (FS)/2.5 (WW) performance index OR achieve Performance Markers	Same as above	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 2.0 (FS)/2.5 (WW) performance index OR achieve Performance Markers	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 2.0 (FS)/2.5 (WW) performance index OR achieve Performance Markers
10 <sup>th</sup> year	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 2.0 (FS)/2.5 (WW) performance index OR achieve Performance Markers	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 2.0 (FS)/2.5 (WW) performance index OR achieve Performance Markers	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 2.0 (FS)/2.5 (WW) performance index OR achieve Performance Markers	Must meet Senior International Criteria OR 2.0 (FS)/2.5 (WW) performance index OR achieve Performance Markers

\* Turning 28 years of age in the calendar year in which the carding cycle is initiated

## **12 – FAILURE TO MEET RENEWAL CRITERIA FOR HEALTH-RELATED REASONS (SR1, SR2, SR, AND C1 ATHLETES ONLY)**

Illness (including recovery from documented COVID), 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 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 clause 11.

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

1. Athletes who received an SR1 or SR2 card in the previous carding cycle (2024) will receive:
  - a) 100% of the international performance index 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 carding 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 carding points.
  - c) 100% of the current carding cycle's Senior Canadian Wrestling 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 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 (2024) will receive:
  - a) 50% of the international performance index 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 carding 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 carding points.
  - c) 50% of the current carding cycle's Senior Canadian Championships 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 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 or at the discretion of the HPD. 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, and approved by the WCL CMO, 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.

### **13 – 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 Agreement (which will include, but not limited to, annual competition, training, fitness testing, YTP confirmation and athlete monitoring system compliance, consent to administration and enforcement of the UCCMS) and the Sport Canada Guide to Athlete Assistance.

### **14 – FINANCIAL BENEFITS**

More information on AAP financial support can be found at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance/policies-procedures.html#a9>.

### **15 – 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 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:

1. The grounds on which the recommendation is being made;
2. The steps already taken to address the issue (verbal warning followed by a formal letter of warning);
3. 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.

## 16 – 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 (<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance/policies-procedures.html#a7>) or Section 11 Withdrawal of Carding Status (<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/services/funding/athlete-assistance/policies-procedures.html#a12>) may be pursued through Section 13 of the AAP Policies, Procedures and Guidelines.

## **ANNEX A: INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDEX SYSTEM**

### **1 – INTRODUCTION**

The objective of the international performance index 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 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.
3. 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 for the performance index concept to be implemented effectively.

Tournament placement by itself is not a comprehensive 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 way wrestlers win/lose (e.g. by Tech Fall, by Points, and the final points differential of the match) affords an opportunity to examine an athlete's performance capabilities in more detail and on a more consistent basis. Also, by classifying the opponent's quality based on best historical results, the athlete's overall win/loss record can be assessed quantitatively.

The International Performance Index System is calculated based on a "Match Quality Formula" applied to every one of the matches held by our wrestlers at UWW sanctioned, WCL informed international tournaments:

<b>Formula for Matches ended by Tech Fall and Points (any won match regardless the scoring, lost matches only if CAN wrestler scored 2 pts minimum):</b>	<b>Formula for Victories by Fall (Pinning)*:</b>
$Mq = Oq + SGI$	$Mq = Oq + 1$
<p>Where:</p> <p>Mq = Match Quality</p> <p>Oq = <b>Opponent quality</b>: ranging from 0.7 to 4.0, based on the Best Historical Result of the Opponent according with tables 2.1 to 2.4.</p> <p>SGI = <b>Scoring Gap Index</b>: The SGI is calculated by subtracting lost points from the scored ones, then dividing the result by 10. In this way, the index should range between 0.0 and 1.0 - this last as result of the minimum scoring gap to win by technical superiority (10 pts scored – 0 points lost / 10 = 1.0). If the scoring gap is higher than 10 (e.g. a win by Tech fall where the winner scored 12 pts vs. 0 from opponent), it will be normalized as 10.</p> <p>* In occasion of victories by pinning, as it is considered the ultimate way to win in wrestling, the formula does not consider the scoring index. In this way, a winning by pin would worth same as victories by Technical Superiority.</p>	

The following matches won't be considered to get International Performance Index:

- Matches won by Forfeit
- Matches lost by Pin, regardless points scored-lost.
- Any lost match by any other method (tech fall, points, injury) if the Canadian wrestler did not score at least 2 pts. NOTE: in this case, the SGI will be negative thus this negative value will be subtracted from the Opponent's quality value.

Example:

Match against a 2017 bronze medalist in an Olympic Weight Class, whose Oq is 3.3 (see table 2.1):

<b>Match won by points 7 - 3</b>	<b>Match lost by points 3 - 7</b>
$Mq = Oq + SGI$ $3.3 + 0.4 = 3.7$	$Mq = Oq + SGI$ $3.3 + (-0.4) = 2.9$

If, as result of a negative SGI value against a wrestler with low Oq value, the MQ results negative, such match won't be considered to get any international carding points.

Only head-to-head competition against recognized opponents (see table 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 below) are considered for international performance index purposes. The opponent's previous senior, U23 and U20-Junior record is examined to determine if the opponent can be classified based on previous best placement at the World/Olympics or Continental Championships.

Applying Tables 2.1 to 2.3: Opponents' Previous International Performance Criteria Grid, WCL will be able to effectively classify opponents. Previous performance criteria apply to the past 4 years at the specific weight class and style that the opponent is currently competing in. Best results in Olympic weight classes are considered with higher value than the Non-Olympic ones, resulting in differentiated tables.

An athlete will be able to amass performance index points in any senior weight class, but additional requirements are set for Non-Olympic performers.

**TABLE 2.1 – OLYMPIC WEIGHT CLASSES**

Opponents' Previous International Performance Criteria & Corresponding Opponent's Value

Event	Final Place – Opponent's Value								
	Year	Gold	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Senior Worlds & Olympic Games	2024	4.0	3.9	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.0
	2023	3.6	3.5	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.6
	2022	3.2	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.2
	2021	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.9
Senior European Championships	2024	3.5	3.4	3.2	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.5
	2023	3.2	3.1	2.9	2.8	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.2
	2022	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8
	2021	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6
Senior Asian Championships	2024	3.7	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.1	3.0	2.8	2.7
	2023	3.3	3.2	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.3
	2022	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0
	2021	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7
Senior Pan-Am Championships	2024	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0
	2023	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7
	2022	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4
	2021	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.2
Senior African/Oceanian Championships	2024	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.5
	2023	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4
	2022	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.3
	2021	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.2

**TABLE 2.2 – NON-OLYMPIC WEIGHT CLASSES**

Opponents' Previous International Performance Criteria &amp; Corresponding Opponent's Value

Event	Final Place – Opponent's Value								
	Year	Gold	2nd	3rd	4th	5th	6th	7th	Top 8
Senior World	2024	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0
	2023	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8
	2022	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6
	2021	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4
Senior European Championships	2024	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.5
	2023	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.3
	2022	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.1
	2021	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.9
Senior Asian Championships	2024	2.8	2.7	2.5	2.4	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8
	2023	2.6	2.5	2.3	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6
	2022	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4
	2021	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.2
Senior Pan-Am Championships	2024	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.2
	2023	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.1
	2022	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0
	2021	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.9
Senior African/Oceanian Championships	2024	2.0	1.9	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0
	2023	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.0	0.9
	2022	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.8
	2021	1.7	1.6	1.4	1.3	1.1	1.0	0.8	0.7

**TABLE 2.3 – NON-SENIOR MAJOR WORLD LEVEL EVENTS**

Opponents' Previous International Performance Criteria &amp; Corresponding Opponent's Value

<b>Non-Senior, World Major Events</b>									
<b>Event</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Gold</b>	<b>2nd</b>	<b>3rd</b>	<b>4th</b>	<b>5th</b>	<b>6th</b>	<b>7th</b>	<b>Top 8</b>
<b>U23/U20-Jr Worlds</b>	<b>2024</b>	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0
	<b>2023</b>	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7
	<b>2022</b>	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4
	<b>2021</b>	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	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 may not be able to compete thus they may be unranked at World, Continental Championships or Olympic Games but may attend other international tournament and face Canadian athletes. Table 2.4 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 Women's Wrestling top 10 or Men's Freestyle top 10 at the most recent Major Event (World Championships or Olympic Games) will be classified based on those tables.

**TABLE 2.4 - Strong Country Wrestling Programmes' Performance Criteria**

<b>Opponent's Value for unranked wrestlers from Senior World's Top Teams</b>											
<b>Event</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>1<sup>st</sup></b>	<b>2<sup>nd</sup></b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup></b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>Men's Freestyle</b>	<b>2024</b>	3.5	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.6	2.5	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7
	<b>2023</b>	3.2	2.9	2.6	2.3	2.3	2.2	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4
	<b>2022</b>	2.8	2.5	2.2	2.0	1.9	1.8	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2
	<b>2021</b>	2.6	2.3	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.6	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0
<b>Women's Wrestling</b>	<b>2024</b>	3.0	2.9	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7
	<b>2023</b>	2.7	2.6	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4
	<b>2022</b>	2.4	2.3	2.1	2.0	1.8	1.7	1.5	1.4	1.3	1.2
	<b>2021</b>	2.2	2.1	1.9	1.8	1.6	1.5	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.0

Any other international opponent not classified in the above Tables, at an approved tournament (see article 4.9), will be worth 0.7 points.

### 3 – CALCULATION OF THE INDEX

The international performance 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 to accurately assess their performance capabilities.

A minimum of 10 international matches are required in order to calculate the performance index for carding purposes. These matches must be accumulated within the qualification period. 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.

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

CALCULATION EXAMPLE:

Match number	Oq	Outcome	Pts Scored	Pts Lost	Scoring Index	Points by Formula	Considered
1	1.8	Won	8	3	0.5	2.3	✓
2	1.9	Won	10	7	0.3	2.2	✓
3	2.0	Lost	4	4	0.0	2.0	✓
4	1.2	Won	9	4	0.5	1.7	✓
5	0.7	Won	8	0	0.8	1.5	✓
6	1.7	Lost	8	10	-0.2	1.5	✓
7	1.0	Won	5	0	0.5	1.5	✓
8	0.8	Won	9	2	0.7	1.5	✓
9	1.2	Won	3	3	0.0	1.2	✓
10	0.9	Won	6	4	0.2	1.1	✓
11	0.0	Won	10	0	1.0	1.0	
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>1.7</b>	

Index =  $16.5/10$  (total points divided by 10 best matches) is equal to an International Performance Index of 1.7

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



## 4 – RULES FOR INTERNATIONAL PERFORMANCE INDEX

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 performance index to report errors or omissions. After this date the athlete's results will not be adjusted.
3. **WCL's Responsibility:** The Performance Analyst Coach, under the direction of the High Performance Director has the responsibility to maintain an international competitive record for all carded athletes.
4. **Style:** Opponents are classified according to the style that they are currently wrestling in.
5. **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.
6. Only United World Wrestling sanctioned tournaments that have been accepted by WCL will be approved for international performance index purposes.
7. **Carding:** A minimum of 10 international matches are required in order to calculate the performance index for carding purposes. These matches must be accumulated within the qualification period. 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.