

2026 – 2027 Canadian Sailing Team Sport Canada Carding Criteria.¹

¹ *These criteria are published by Sail Canada and are subject to, and must be interpreted in accordance with, the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program Policies and Procedures (AAP Policies and Procedures). In the event that these criteria conflict with those policies and procedures, the Sport Canada AAP policies and procedures shall take precedence.*

The version of these criteria that is posted on the Sail Canada website may be subject to corruption from various causes including but not limited to hardware and software issues. Should such circumstances arise, any discrepancies shall not be attributed to Sail Canada and shall be resolved by referring to the version of these criteria accepted by Sport Canada.

Sail Canada does not make decisions to grant carding to athletes, but rather submits a list of nominations for carding based on the application of these criteria. Sport Canada approves nominations in accordance with the AAP policies and the published National Sport Organisation's carding criteria.

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Mission of the Canadian Sailing Team:

To win Olympic medals and have athletes consistently achieve top 16 results at Olympic Class Senior World Championships and Olympic Games.

General Program Description and Purpose:

The Athlete Assistance Program (AAP) is a national-level funding program designed to contribute toward Canadian performances at major international sporting events such as the Olympic Games and Olympic Class Senior World Championships. To this end, the AAP identifies and provides funding directly to athletes for the applicable Carding cycle who have demonstrated an ability to finish in the Top 16 of the fleet (counting a maximum of 3 entries per country), and finish in the top half of the overall fleet at the Senior World Championships or an Olympic Games.

AAP support is known as Carding. Athletes who are approved for AAP support are referred to as Carded Athletes. Carding is intended to contribute to an athlete's living and training costs. It is not intended to serve as an athlete's sole source of income.

All Carded Athletes are members of the Canadian Sailing Team (CST).

These criteria are to be applied to determine AAP nominations for the Carding cycle starting May 1st, 2026.

Olympic Class Carding Criteria:

Allocation of Cards: Each year Sail Canada is awarded a financial value which represents a defined number of Senior Cards by Sport Canada. These Cards are allocated as a combination of Senior Cards (SR) and Development (D) Cards, in the priority order listed below.

Specifically, Senior Cards are allocated based on Tiers 1-5, and Development ("D") Cards based on Tiers 1-2 of Development Card Qualification. Any additional Senior Cards and Development Cards will be allocated based initially on Tier 6 Senior Card rankings and finally Tier 7, as well as the athlete's demonstrated potential to be top 16 in the world at the sole discretion of the High Performance Director ("HPD") or his or her equivalent. Any remaining cards will be allocated as Development ("D") Cards, based on Tier 3 of Development Card Rankings.

Unforeseen Circumstances

These criteria are intended to apply as drafted and, specifically, where no athletes are prevented from competing because of unanticipated or unforeseen circumstances. Situations may arise where unforeseen circumstances or circumstances beyond Sail Canada's control do not allow competition or nomination to take place in a fair manner or in the best interests of the priorities and general principles for AAP nomination as indicated in these criteria, or do not allow the procedure for nomination as described in this document to be applied.

In the event of such unforeseen circumstances the HPD will, where possible, consult with the Head Coach and Olympic Development Coordinator to determine if the circumstances justify competition or nomination should take place in an alternative manner. In such circumstances, the HPD shall communicate the alternative selection or nomination process to all impacted individuals as soon as possible.

Rules of General Application for Olympic Class Carding

There are *three stages* to being nominated to Sport Canada for Carding. The *first stage* is meeting the minimum eligibility criteria as outlined below, the second stage is achieving the objective performance criteria or, where applicable in Tier 7, being ranked high enough on the depth chart to be nominated as outlined in this document, and the third *stage* is fulfilling the requirements outlined in the “Additional Criteria” section of this document. Athletes must satisfy all three stages to be nominated to Sport Canada for Carding.

If an athlete achieves the minimum eligibility criteria, objective criteria or ranking as outlined for Senior Cards and/or Development Cards, but does not meet the Additional Criteria, the next athlete in line who meets all three stages, will be nominated to receive AAP Carding.

For the purposes of these criteria, an individual athlete may be described as “athlete or team”. The term “team” shall also apply to the entire crew, including the skipper on a particular boat for all double-handed classes.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements

In order to be nominated for Carding, an athlete:

- a) Must be a current registered member in good standing of Sail Canada (via Sailing Club membership or Provincial Membership);
- b) Must possess Canadian Citizenship and/or under the eligibility requirements of World Sailing, as it pertains to citizenship or residency status, must be eligible to represent Canada at major international competitions, including World Championships, at the beginning of the Carding cycle for which the athlete is being nominated (May 1, 2026);
- c) Must not be serving a provisional suspension or period of ineligibility for any anti-doping rule violation.
- d) Must not be serving a suspension pursuant to the disciplinary rules of Sail Canada, the Canadian Safe Sport Program, World Sailing, or the disciplinary rules of any other sport organization that has authority over the athlete.
- e) Must commit to sign an Athlete Agreement as required by Sail Canada and Sport Canada if nominated for Carding.
- f) Must submit a Sail Canada National Team Application form on or before March 31, 2026.
- g) Must participate in a minimum of three of the evaluation events listed within either Tier 7 Senior Card and Tier 3 Development Card Criteria, unless a request for an exemption due to injury, illness or other legitimate circumstance is approved in advance in writing by the HPD.
- h) Commit to attend designated training blocks (to be determined) during the 2026-2027 Carding cycle unless a request for an exemption due to injury, illness or other legitimate circumstance is approved in advance in writing by the HPD.

Restrictions on Senior Cards

(A) No athlete will be nominated for a Senior Card under **Tier 3-7** for more than **four years** unless they have:

- 1) Demonstrated performance improvements through Sail Canada Performance Result Tracking at World Championship and/or European Championship results taking into consideration fleet size and quality over the duration of the Carding cycle in question; **and**
- 2) Demonstrated commitment to a quality training and competitive program, as determined by the HPD in his/her sole discretion.

Notwithstanding the above:

- Athletes that have earned Senior Card **prior to age 23** will not have any such years of Senior card status counted against their total of four years of support at this level.

- An athlete that changes classes and subsequently qualifies for a Senior Card under Tiers 5 - 7 may be carded at the Senior Card level for a further four years at the discretion of the HPD.
 - A team that changes team/crew make-up by changing one or more crew members is eligible to be carded at the Senior Card level via Tiers 5-7 for an additional two years, when qualifying in the class they have been previously carded.
 - An athlete carded as Senior Injury Card, having qualified under Senior Card Tiers 2 - 7, will not have the injury card year counted against the four-year total referred to above.
 - For clarity, if one of two athletes in a two-handed boat is ineligible for a Carding nomination, based on having reached the maximum number of years at SR, the other eligible athlete CAN be nominated for Carding. This would still count as a card for that boat class towards the maximum allowable.
- (B) The number of Senior Cards per class at the Tier 1 level shall not be fixed, except as limited by the total number of Senior Cards available to Sail Canada. If the number of Tier 1 cards for a particular class reaches four or more, there shall be no further Senior available to that class at the Tier 2 - 7 levels.
- (C) If a class does not include an Internationally Carded team (**SR1/SR2 – qualified via Tier 1**) the maximum number of Senior and Development Cards available shall not exceed **three** carded teams.
- (D) If the maximum number of cards in a class is met, and after all other eligible athletes have received Carding nominations, Carding support remains, the top ranked athlete(s) not already supported from a class having achieved the maximum number of cards may be considered for Carding support.
- (E) If an athlete is eligible for Carding and does not wish to accept Canadian Sailing Team status or has retired, the next Canadian team at that Tier will be eligible for a Senior Card provided that they meet the requirements of that Tier and any other conditions and/or requirements in these criteria.
- (F) For the purpose of calculating overall finish positions for all Carding qualification events at any and all Tiers for gender restricted classes that have a mixed fleet of men and women, the scores of the men's fleet and women's fleet shall be recorded and considered separately.
- (G) **Senior Card – International Criteria (Tier 1) (SR1/SR2 Cards):** Sport Canada sets these criteria for Senior Cards. Athletes who meet the Tier 1 international criteria are eligible to be nominated by Sail Canada for two consecutive years, with the card for the first year referred to as SR1 and the card for the second year referred to as SR2. The second year of Carding is contingent on the athlete being re-nominated by Sail Canada and a training and competitive program approved by Sail Canada and Sport Canada being maintained. The athlete must also sign an Athlete/NSO agreement and complete an AAP Application form for the carding cycle in question.

Health Related Circumstances

The Health Related Circumstances policy shall apply to teams in both **Olympic and Paralympic** classes. The policies set out in section 9 of the AAP Policies and Procedures shall apply, the most relevant of which state:

*“The Health Related Circumstances policy shall apply to teams in both **Olympic and Paralympic** classes. The policies set out in section 9 of the AAP Policies and Procedures shall apply, the most relevant of which state:*

1. *Short-term Curtailment of Training and Competition for Health-Related Reasons.*
Health-related circumstances that limit a carded athlete's training and competition for four months or fewer are a matter strictly between the NSO and the athlete and do not fall under AAP policy. Carded athletes so affected will continue to receive AAP financial support.
2. *Long-term Curtailment of Training and Competition for Health-Related Reasons.*

Carded athletes who are unable to maintain full training and competition commitments for longer than four months because of injury, illness or pregnancy will continue to receive 100 percent of the AAP financial support to which they would otherwise be entitled, provided the following conditions are met:

- a. The carded athlete undertakes in writing, to train or rehabilitate, or both, under the supervision of the NSO, or its designate, for the period of time for which the athlete is unable to fulfil the training and competition commitments included in the Athlete/NSO Agreement, and at a level that minimizes risk to the athlete's personal health and ensures optimal return to full training and competition at the earliest possible date.*
- b. The carded athlete signifies in writing, their intention to return to full high-performance training and competition at the earliest date possible following the illness, injury, pregnancy or other health-related circumstance.*
- c. The affected athlete provides a positive prognosis from a NSO team physician or equivalent for their return to training and competition at the carded-athlete level in their sport normally within 8 to 12 months."*

Carding Priority for Cards in Health Related Circumstances

An athlete, who is eligible for a Carding Nomination under these health-related circumstance card provisions, shall be eligible for a Carding nomination at the bottom of the Tier in which they were carded the previous year. (e.g., an athlete who was carded at the Tier 2 level in 2025-26 would receive the last available Tier 2 Carding nomination in his/her class for 2026-27 cards after first considering all athletes who competed in the selection event(s). If awarded, Carding due to health-related circumstances will result in one or more athletes who do compete in the selection events not getting a card for which they would have otherwise been nominated.) For clarity, if a health-related card is awarded, an additional card can be awarded in that specific class.

Transfer of Senior Cards to Development Cards

Where not all Senior Cards can be awarded to athletes based on the outlined criteria, the unallocated Senior Cards will be transferred to the Development Card Criteria for allocation to athletes based on availability of additional cards and athletes meeting any other conditions and/or requirements in the Development Card Criteria.

If a single Senior card or Development card remains following the application of the criteria, the card will be split amongst the eligible team members of the boat in question (for example, for a two-person class the team members are carded for a 6-month period.)

- Default position is that, if there is a remaining card, and it is to be given to teammates, it is split equally unless the teammates agree otherwise (but this is for them to determine, not Sail Canada);
- If one of the team members retires, the remainder of the retired team member's card goes to the other team member automatically, but only if permitted by the AAP Policies and Procedures (i.e., where there is 4 or more months left in the card).

Qualification System for Senior Cards

Sport Canada AAP policies and procedures allow National Sport Organizations (Sail Canada) to set criteria for Senior Cards (Sail Canada Tiers 2- 7) and Development Cards. Sport Canada sets the Carding Criteria for Senior International Cards (Sail Canada Tier 1).

Sail Canada has divided the Carding Qualification system into a 7 Tier system for Olympic Senior Cards, and a 3 Tier system for Development Cards.

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| <p>Tier 1: Sport Canada Senior International Criteria (SR1/SR2) (2-year card)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish in the top 8 of the fleet at the 2025 Class World Championships in an Olympic class/event. • Counting a maximum of three entries per country; AND • Finish in the top half of the overall fleet. <p>If more athletes qualify under Tier 1 than the number of cards available, all athletes in this group will be ranked as follows:</p> <p>Finish position divided by total fleet size in the relevant Championship. Lower fractions rank ahead of higher fractions. Ties will be resolved based on the application of Rule A8 of the Racing Rules of Sailing.</p> |
| <p>Tier 2: 1 year Senior Card (SR/) Availability: If any cards remain after the application of Tier 1 criteria, eligible athletes may be considered for a Carding nomination under Tier 2 criteria.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish in the top 16 of the fleet at the 2025 World Championships, or 2025 European Championships in an Olympic class/event. • Counting a maximum of three entries per country; AND • Finish in the top half of the overall fleet. <p>If more athletes qualify under Tier 2 than the number of cards available, all athletes in this group will be ranked as follows:</p> <p>Finish position divided by total fleet size in the relevant Championship. Lower fractions rank ahead of higher fractions. Ties will be resolved based on the application of Rule A8 of the Racing Rules of Sailing.</p> |

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| <p>Tier 3: 1 year Senior Card (SR)</p> <p><i>Availability:</i> If any cards remain after the application of Tier 1 & 2 criteria, eligible athletes may be considered for Carding nomination under Tier 3 criteria.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finish in the top 16 Nations at the 2025 World Championships or 2025 European Championships; AND • Finish in the top half of the overall fleet. <p>If more athletes qualify under this Tier than the number of cards available, all athletes in this group will be ranked as follows:</p> <p>Finish position divided by total fleet size in the relevant Championship. Lower fractions rank ahead of higher fractions. Ties will be resolved based on the application of Rule A8 of the Racing Rules of Sailing.</p> |
| <p>Tier 4: Transitional Performer/Returning Performer 1 year Senior Card (SR)</p> <p>A returning performer athlete (Defined as Top 10 at World Championships or Top 10 at Olympic Games during the past two quadrennials) or transitional performer (defined as Top 10 at World Championships or Top 10 at Olympic Games during the past two quadrennials in non-Olympic events that have subsequently become an Olympic event) that has proven themselves in an Olympic Class can be carded at this level for a maximum of two years.</p> <p><i>Availability:</i> If any cards remain after the application of Tiers 1, 2 & 3 criteria, eligible athletes may be considered for Carding nomination under Tier 4 criteria.</p> | <p>If the identified transitional performer/returning performer does not meet Tier 1, 2, or 3 Criteria, he or she must qualify for a Carding nomination via a minimum of Tier 5-7 and will be ranked within the overall ranking of athletes prior to those athletes qualifying at Tier 5, 6 and 7.</p> |
| <p>Tier 5: 1 year Senior Card (SR)</p> <p><i>Availability:</i> If any cards remain after the application of Tier 1 – 4 criteria, eligible athletes may be considered for Carding nomination under Tier 5 criteria.</p> | <p>Finish in the Top 50% of fleet at the 2025 Olympic Class World Championships.</p> <p>If more athletes than the number of cards available finish in the top 50% at the World Championship, all athletes in this group will be ranked as follows:</p> <p>Finish position divided by total fleet size in the relevant World Championship. Lower fractions rank ahead of higher fractions. Ties will be resolved based on the application of Rule A8 of the Racing Rules of Sailing.</p> |

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| <p>Tier 6: 1 year Senior Card (SR)</p> <p><i>Availability:</i> If any cards remain after the application of Tiers 1-5 criteria, eligible athletes may be considered for Carding nomination under Tier 6 criteria.</p> | <p>Finish in the top 10% and top 3 overall at one of the nomination events (A minimum of 10 boats is required to satisfy this criteria)</p> <p>Nomination Events: 2025 Olympic Class North American Championships; or 2025 Sail Canada Senior Championships Formula Kite – August 8-10, Kingston (CORK) 49er & 49erFX – August 21-24, Kingston (CORK) ILCA 6 & ILCA 7 – October 3-5, Kingston (CORK)</p> <p>If more athletes than the number of cards available meet this criterion, all athletes in this group will be ranked as follows:</p> <p>Finish position divided by total fleet size at relevant championships. Lower fractions rank ahead of higher fractions. Ties will be resolved based on the application of Rule A8 of the Racing Rules of Sailing.</p> |
| <p>Tier 7: 1 year Senior Card (SR)</p> <p><i>Availability:</i> If any cards remain after the application of Tiers 1-6 criteria, eligible athletes may be considered for Carding nomination under Tier 7 criteria.</p> | <p>See Box 1, page 10</p> <p>Athletes that have been carded at the Senior card level for three or more years are not eligible to be re-carded via Tier 6 unless those cards were received by athletes who were under 23 years of age at the time of Carding. Cards received in such years will not be counted as part of the three-year restriction.</p> |

Note: If an athlete is unable to meet the objective criteria of Tier 1-6, their inclusion in Tier 7 is at the sole discretion of the HPD based on his or her review of the submitted documentation from the Head Coach and Olympic Development Coordinator and in the opinion of the HPD still has the potential of being in the Top 16 in the world in an Olympic Class at the World Championships or Olympic Games as per the purpose of Carding. These available cards may, at the sole discretion of the HPD, be used as development Cards, based on demonstrated performance(s).

Box 1 - Tier 7 Senior Carding Nominations:

Unlike Tiers 1-6 athletes who are assessed in these criteria on the basis of objective performance, Tier 7 athletes will be nominated for SR Carding on the basis of their position on the Tier 7 depth chart, created by the High Performance Director or his or her equivalent. Athletes who meet the Minimum Eligibility Criteria set out in these criteria will be ranked based on the factors listed below. The weighting of each factor will be the same for each Tier 7 athlete, with an evaluated score of 1-10 multiplied by the assigned weighting factor.

International Potential – includes attendance at prescribed international events, finishes at international events, including demonstrated improvements in performance both in individual races and overall standing, demonstrated ability to perform at Tier 7 Evaluation events (see list below) demonstrated ability to manage a competitive schedule, and the demonstrated focus of the athlete(s) on the achievement of goals leading to future competitive success. (Evaluated Score x 1.5)

Technique: Includes assessment of major skill sets – upwind speed skills, downwind speed skills, down-speed boat handling skills, and starting skills, as assessed utilizing the Sail Canada skills matrix. (Evaluated Score x 1)

Tactics and Strategy: Includes assessment of strategy and tactical application in competitive environment, communication skills (crewed boats), decision making, as assessed utilizing the skills matrix. (Evaluated Score x 1)

Physical Testing: Athletes will provide the HPD with test scores based on approved Sail Canada protocol, with testing completed at one of the Canadian Sport Institutes where applicable. These scores will be submitted as part of the athlete application process. (Evaluated Score x 1)

Coachable: Includes assessment of ability to communicate with coaches, adoption of new techniques, strategy or tactics, receive and understand feedback, willingness to address/change flaws, and respect of coaching decisions, and commitment to train with a team at designated training blocks. (Evaluated Score x 0.75)

Evaluation Events:

World Championship, European Championships, Princess Sofia (Palma), Semaine Olympique Française (Hyeres), Dutch Water Week (Almere), Kiel Week, Long Beach OCR.

Class sanctioned Canadian, US Nationals and North American Championships.

Class sanctioned Mid-winter Championships.

CORK (unless conflicting with major event approved by HPD)

FOILKingston Regatta (for kites)

Identified National Team training blocks.

To be evaluated, athletes must participate in a minimum of three of the evaluation events listed above. It is not required to have participated in all events to be considered for a Carding nomination under Tier 7.

Qualification System for Development Cards

Availability: D Cards 1 year

The number of Development Cards is dependent upon the number of athletes that achieve Senior Card objective standards. Any remaining Cards will be allocated as Development Cards at the sole discretion of the HPD or his/her equivalent.

All athletes must meet the Minimum and Additional Criteria as outlined in this document.

In order for an athlete to receive a Development Card, they must demonstrate their ability to fulfill the commitments of a training and competitive program in an Olympic class approved by the HPD and be based at a suitable training location as approved by the HPD. If the athlete is not able to demonstrate the commitment required for progression in performance to the HPD's satisfaction, the nomination will go to the next athlete eligible for a Development Card.

Athletes competing in identified classes as listed below are eligible to apply for Carding status by submitting a detailed strategy as to how they plan to transition to an Olympic class. This transition strategy must be approved by the HPD, on or before March 31, 2026 and include comprehensive training and competition plan in the Olympic class boat in question.

Identified Classes:

I420 Men (M) & Women (W), 29er M & W, ILCA 6 M & W, ILCA 7 Men, iQ Foil M & W, 49er FX M & W, Formula Kite Men & Women, 470 Mixed

Qualifications/Restrictions on Carding

1. Athletes must be under 23 years of age at the time of Carding to be nominated for a Development Card.
2. Any athlete that obtains a Senior Card while under 23 years of age at the time of Carding in any class will be considered eligible for a Development Card if they meet the Tier 1, or Tier 2 Development Criteria
3. All Development Cards earned before the age of 19 shall not be counted when considering the Carding restrictions listed below.
 - a. Athletes that obtain a Senior Card while under 23 years of age at the time of Carding in any class, who do not currently meet Tier 1, or Tier 2 Development Card Criteria in section 2 above will be considered eligible for nomination via the Tier 3 Criteria for a maximum of one year.
 - b. An athlete that has previously received a Senior Card is eligible to receive a Development Card in the same class for a maximum of three years, unless the athlete meets Tier 1, or Tier 2 Development Criteria,
 - c. An athlete can only be carded at the Development Card level for a maximum of three years unless the athlete meets Tier 1, or Tier 2 of Development Card Criteria.
4. No more than three teams may receive Development Cards in each class, provided the class remains within the overall parameters for the maximum number of cards allowed for each class.
5. For the purpose of calculating overall finish positions for any Carding qualification event that has a mixed fleet of men and women, the scores of the men's fleet and women's fleet shall be recorded and considered separately.
6. An athlete is eligible to receive a Development Card for an additional two years when qualifying in a different class.

Development Card Qualification

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| <p>Tier 1</p> | <p>An athlete/team that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finishes in the top 5 of the fleet at the 2025 World Sailing Youth Worlds; AND • Finishes in the top half of the overall fleet. <p>OR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finishes 1st at the 2025 Jr Pan Am Games (August 2025) <p>will be eligible to apply for Carding status in an Olympic Class.</p> <p>In the event of a tie, ranking shall be resolved by taking the finish position divided by the total fleet size at the relevant championship. Lower fractions rank ahead of higher fractions.</p> |
| <p>Tier 2</p> <p><i>Availability:</i> If any Development cards remain after application of Development Card Tier 1, eligible athletes may be considered for Carding nomination under Development Card Tier 2 criteria.</p> | <p>An athlete/team that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finishes in the top 20% of the fleet at the identified 2025 Youth and or/Jr World Championships, counting a maximum of three entries per country; AND • Finishes in the top half of the overall fleet, <p>will be eligible to apply for Carding status in an Olympic Class.</p> <p>Identified 2025 World Championships: ILCA 7 and ILCA 6 u21 World Championship, ILCA 6 Youth World Championships (women), 49er/FX Junior World Championships, IQ foil Youth & Junior World Championships, 470 Junior World Championships, Formula Kite World Youth (U21) Championships</p> <p>The events listed above must be stand-alone events hosted by the class. Events sailed as part of a Senior championship will not be considered.</p> <p>In the event of a tie between teams, it shall be resolved on the basis of comparing all athletes scores based on Rule A8 of the Racing Rules of Sailing.</p> |
| <p>Tier 3</p> <p><i>Availability:</i> If any Development cards remain after application of Development Card Tier 1 and 2, eligible athletes may be considered for Carding nomination under Development Card Tier 3 criteria.</p> | <p>See Box 2, below, page 13.</p> |

Box 2 - Tier 3 Development Carding Nominations:

Unlike Tier 1-2 athletes who are assessed in these criteria on the basis of performance, Tier 3 athletes will be nominated for Development Carding on the basis of their position on the Tier 3 depth chart, created by the High Performance Director or his or her equivalent. Athletes who meet the Minimum Eligibility Criteria set out in these criteria will be ranked based on the factors listed below. The weighting of each factor will be the same for each Tier 3 athlete, with an evaluated score of 1-10 multiplied by the assigned weighting factor.

International Potential – includes attendance at prescribed international events, finishes at international events, including demonstrated improvements in performance both in individual races and overall standing, demonstrated ability to perform at Tier 3 Evaluation events (see list below) demonstrated ability to manage a competitive schedule, and the demonstrated focus of the athlete(s) on the achievement of goals leading to future competitive success. (Evaluated Score x 1.25)

Technique: Includes assessment of major skill sets – upwind speed skills, downwind speed skills, down-speed boat handling skills, and starting skills, as assessed utilizing the Sail Canada skills matrix. (Evaluated Score x 0.75)

Tactics and Strategy: Includes assessment of strategy and tactical application in competitive environment, communication skills (crewed boats), decision making, as assessed utilizing the skills matrix. (Evaluated Score x 0.75)

Physical Testing: Athletes will provide the HPD with test scores based on approved Sail Canada protocol with testing completed at one of the Canadian Sport Institutes where applicable. These scores will be submitted as part of the athlete application process. (Evaluated Score x 1)

Coachable: Includes assessment of ability to communicate with coaches, adoption of new techniques, strategy or tactics, receive and understand feedback, willingness to address/change flaws, and respect of coaching decisions, and commitment to train with team at designated training blocks. (Evaluated Score x 0.75)

Evaluation Events:

Age Group World Championship, Age Group European Championships, Dutch Water Week (Almere), Kiel Week

Class sanctioned Canadian, North American and US Nationals Championships.

Class sanctioned Mid-winter Championship.

CORK (unless conflicting with major event approved by HPD)

FOIL Kingston Regatta (for kites)

Identified National Team training blocks.

To be evaluated athletes must participate in a minimum of three of the evaluation events listed above. It is not required to have participated in all events to be considered for a Development card Carding nomination.

Athletes competing in identified classes as listed below are eligible to apply for Carding status as they transition to an Olympic class.

Identified Classes: I420 M & W, 29er M & W, ILCA 6 M & W, ILCA 7 M, iQ Foil M & W, 49er FX M & W, 470 Mixed, Formula Kite M & W

Additional Criteria for Olympic Classes

Meeting the outlined performance criteria or being ranking on the depth chart does not guarantee a nomination for AAP support. In line with the performance targets and objectives of Sail Canada for World Championships and Olympic, and to optimise the development of athletes along the Podium Pathway, the following additional criteria must also be met for any athlete to be nominated for Carding.

- a) An athlete must be able to demonstrate progression in their performance, as shown by performance indicators such as, in comparison to performances in previous years, performance on fitness assessments, and maintenance of appropriate body composition for the class in question.
- b) The athlete must agree to engage with the designated National Team Coach/identified coach and the HPD to complete an individual annual training plan and must agree to and follow the training recommendations to meet the aims and objectives of the athlete for 2026-27.
- c) The athlete must be based at a training location identified by the National Team Coach/identified coach and the HPD or at a suitable location agreed to by the National Team Coach/identified coach and the HPD, making it possible for the athlete's training plan to be carried out under regular coaching supervision.
- d) The athlete must be able to show a history of engagement with the Sail Canada National Team where applicable, including taking part in NT training camps, training groups, tests and assessments.
- e) The athlete must agree to follow the NT program as outlined by the National Team Coach/identified coach and HPD in its entirety and attend all NT training camps and competitions as required. Some exceptions may be made with consultation and agreement of the athlete's identified coach and the HPD.
- f) The athlete must take part in an in-person interview with the HPD and/or the National HP Coach at a Canadian Sailing Team Training Camp (Dates to be confirmed)

Para Class Carding Criteria:

Allocation of Cards: Each year Sail Canada is awarded a number of Senior Paralympic Cards. These cards will be allocated based on results at the various qualifying events listed below. These cards will be a combination of Senior International Cards (Tier 1) and Senior National Cards (Tiers 2 & 3)

To be considered eligible for any Carding under these criteria, all members of the team must meet the Classification requirement in force for the 2025 Para World Championships, for the class in which that team seeks Carding nomination.

Rules of General Application for Para Class Carding

There are *three stages* to being nominated for Carding to Sport Canada. The *first stage* is meeting the minimum eligibility criteria set out in these criteria, the second stage is achieving the objective performance criteria as outlined in this document, and the third *stage* is fulfilling the requirements outlined in the “Additional Criteria” section of this document. If an athlete achieves the minimum eligibility criteria, but does not meet the Additional Criteria, the next athlete in line who meets all three stages, will be nominated to receive AAP Carding.

For the purposes of these criteria, an individual athlete may be described as “athlete or team”. The term “team” shall also apply to the entire crew including skipper on a particular boat for all double and triple handed classes.

Restrictions on Senior Cards:

(A) No athlete will be guaranteed a Senior Card under Tiers 2 and 3 for more than **Four** (4) years.

To be considered eligible for a Senior Card under Tiers 2 and 3, in their current class for more than **Four** (4) years, an athlete must:

- 1) Demonstrate performance improvements at international events, taking into consideration fleet size and quality over the duration of the Carding period in question; **and**
- 2) Demonstrate improving results in Open and Para World Championships Para classes in the 2.4 meter and Venture RS classes, taking into consideration fleet size and quality over the duration of the Carding period in question; **and**
- 3) Demonstrate commitment to a quality program, as determined by the HPD in his/her sole discretion.

An athlete that changes classes and subsequently qualifies for a Senior Card under Tiers 2 and 3 may be carded at the Senior Card level for a further four (4) years before the above-mentioned criteria takes effect.

A team that changes team/crew make-up by changing one or more crew members is eligible to be carded at the Senior Card level via Tiers 2 and 3 for an additional two years, when qualifying in the class that they have been previously carded in.

(B) If an athlete is eligible for Carding and does not wish to accept Canadian Sailing Team status or has retired, the next Canadian team at that Tier will be eligible for a Senior Card provided they meet the requirements of that Tier and any other conditions and/or requirements in these criteria.

(C) For the purpose of calculating overall finish positions for all Carding qualification events at any and all Tiers for Paralympic events that have both able bodied and athletes with a disability competing, the scores for the athletes with a disability shall be recorded and considered separately.

(D) **Senior Card – International Criteria (Tier 1) (SR1/SR2 Cards):** Sport Canada sets these criteria for Senior Cards. Athletes who meet the international criteria are eligible to be nominated by Sail Canada for two consecutive

years, with the card for the first year referred to as SR1 and the card for the second year referred to as SR2. The second year of Carding is contingent on the athlete being re-nominated by Sail Canada and a training and competitive program approved by Sail Canada and Sport Canada being maintained. The athlete must also sign an Athlete/NSO agreement and complete an AAP Application form for the year in question.

If a single card remains following the application of the criteria, the card will be split amongst the eligible team members of the boat in question, thus for a two-person class the team members are carded for a six-month period, for a three-person class the team members are carded for a four-month period.

Qualification System for Paralympic Senior Cards

Tier 1:

Two year Senior Card (SR1/SR2)

Sport Canada International Criteria:

Performance Criteria:

- Finish in the top 8 of the fleet at the 2025 2.4 mR Open World Championships (Para Division) or 2025 Para World Sailing Championships (2.4 mR and RS Venture); AND
- Finish in the top half of the overall fleet.

In the event of a tie between teams in different classes, the ranking shall be resolved by taking the finish position divided by the total fleet size at the relevant championship. Lower fractions rank ahead of higher fractions.

Tier 2:

One year Senior Card (SR)

Availability: If any cards remain after application of Tier 1 criteria, eligible teams may be considered for Carding nomination under Tier 2 criteria.

Performance Criteria:

- Finish in the top ½ at the 2025 2.4 mR Open World Championships (Para Division) or 2025 Para World Sailing Championships (2.4 mR and RS Venture)

In the event of a tie between teams in different classes, the ranking shall be resolved by taking the finish position divided by the total fleet size at the relevant championship. Lower fractions rank ahead of higher fractions.

Tier 3:

One year Senior Card (SR)

Availability: If any cards remain after the application of Tier 1 & Tier 2 criteria, eligible teams may be considered for Carding nomination under Tier 3 criteria.

Performance Criteria:

1. The first Canadian team in the 2.4 mR provided that they place in the top ½ of the registered fleet at the 2025 2.4 mR Canadian Championships. (date TBD)
2. If cards remain the top performing and subsequently ranked Canadian teams provided that they place in the top 1/2 of the registered fleet at the 2025 2.4 mR Canadian Championships. (date TBD)

For the purpose of calculating overall finish positions for all Carding qualification events at any and all Tiers for Para events that have both able bodied and athletes with a disability competing, the scores for the athletes with a disability shall be recorded and considered separately.

Additional Criteria for Para classes

Meeting the outlined performance criteria alone does not guarantee a nomination for AAP support. In line with the performance targets and objectives of Sail Canada for the Para World Championships, and to optimise the development of athletes along the Podium Pathway, the following additional criteria must also be met for any athlete to be nominated for Carding.

- a) An athlete must be able to demonstrate progression in their performance, as shown by performance indicators such as, in comparison to performances in previous years, performance on fitness assessments, and maintenance of appropriate body composition for the class in question.
- b) The athlete must agree to engage with the designated National Team Coach/identified coach and the HPD to complete an individual annual training plan and must agree to and follow the training recommendations to meet the aims and objectives of the athlete for 2026-2027.
- c) The athlete must be based at a training location identified by the National Team Coach/identified coach and the HPD or at a suitable location agreed to by the National Team Coach/identified coach and the HPD, making it possible for the athlete's training plan to be carried out under regular coaching supervision.
- d) The athlete must be able to show a history of engagement with the Sail Canada National Team where applicable, including taking part in NT training camps, training groups, tests and assessments.
- e) The athlete must agree to follow the NT program as outlined by the National Team Coach/identified coach and the HPD in its entirety and attend all NT training camps and competitions as required. Some exceptions may be made with consultation and agreement of the athlete's identified coach and the HPD.