

## **BC SPORT BRANCH ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AAP) CANOEKAYAK BC-WHITewater SELECTION CRITERIA**

### **Background**

The **BC Athlete Assistance Program** (BC AAP) is an athlete-centred program of financial assistance funded by the Province of British Columbia and administered by the Sport and Recreation Branch of the Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts. The program seeks to recognize high performance athletes who are participating in programs offered through a provincial sport organization or post secondary institution and competing in recognized national or international competitions to relieve some of the pressures associated with training and competition needs.

#### **Program Objectives:**

- To focus support to athletes in the “training to compete” and “training to win” stages of Canadian Sport for Life – Long Term Athlete Development Model;
- To contribute to improved performances of Team BC athletes at the Canada Games; and
- To increase the number of BC athletes reaching federal carding status thus expanding BC representation on national teams and at eligible major international multi-sport Games.

The program reaches its objectives through adherence to the guiding principles of being athlete centred, equitable, accessible, fair and merit based in its decisions.

Beginning in the 2006/07 fiscal year, provincial funding for the BC Athlete Assistance Program was increased from \$700,000 to \$1.4 million. Subsequently, four priority program areas were identified for allocation of these funds:

- Provincial Sport Organizations (PSO)
- Post Secondary Institutions (PSI)
- Athletes with a Disability
- Open Funding and Recognition Pool

The intent of the BC Athlete Assistance Program (BC AAP) for PSO's is to provide support to those athletes who are in the position to compete for Team BC at the Canada Games (or next multi-sport international games) and are just below those receiving Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program funding (S1/S2 carding levels).

**Sport/Discipline Eligibility:** To participate in the BC AAP, the sport/discipline must satisfy the following eligibility criteria:

- The sport must be on the program for either the 2009 or 2011 Canada Games and/or the next scheduled recognized International Multi-Sport Games (Olympics, Pan American or Commonwealth Games).

### **CanoeKayak BC-Whitewater AAP Selection Committee**

The Selection Committee will consist of:

Development Director  
Performance Director  
Athlete's Representative  
Regional Coaches  
Provincial Coach

## Principles of the CanoeKayak BC-Whitewater AAP Criteria

1. Athlete development is the main aim of the BC Team and the AAP program. It is a stepping-stone to the National Team and Sport Canada support. Athletes who demonstrate the ability and commitment to improve their skills deserve support.
2. CanoeKayak BC-Whitewater considers participation in BC competitions as one means for athletes to demonstrate their commitment and willingness to improve. In addition, attendance helps to support provincial programs that contribute to the BC Team. Therefore athletes who attend these events will be given priority.
3. As above, attendance at formal BC Team training camps will give the athlete higher priority.
4. Qualification for AAP should also be based on performance. Athletes with the highest BC Ranking will be prioritized.
5. CanoeKayak BC-Whitewater places participation at National Championships and National Team Trials as high priorities.
6. Participation in Canada, Western Canada, and BC Summer Games is a high priority. Athletes who attend these events, to gain experience and improve their skills, deserve support.
7. Athletes who reside in a provincial zone that does not have a Regional Development Centre should be prioritized for support.
8. Special needs athletes should be prioritized for support.
9. CanoeKayak BC-Whitewater has a clear policy on prioritization of disciplines. Those disciplines that provide athletes the opportunity to compete at the highest levels (i.e. Olympic Games) will be prioritized.

## CanoeKayak BC-Whitewater AAP Minimum Criteria

Athletes who wish to be considered for AAP support must:

1. Be a *competitive* member in good standing of CanoeKayak BC-Whitewater
2. Be a member of the BC Team.
3. Fill in the 'BC AAP Application' form and return to the Performance Director by specified date
4. Earn ranking points between November 1 and September 30 as outlined below, by competing in provincial, regional, and national competitions as specified, as well as by attending BC Team training camps.
5. Meet all AAP specifications as specified by the Provincial Recreation and Sports Branch
6. Send all documentation to the Performance Director by specified date, as requested (i.e. proof of residency, or other documentation required)

## CanoeKayak BC-Whitewater AAP Ranking Criteria

A point system is used to compile a ranking list of all athletes meeting the minimum requirements. Athletes with the highest number of total points will be prioritized for AAP support. Points are accumulated for attendance at events, performance, and other factors such as special needs or location. Athletes can accumulate the most points by attaining a high points total in the Final BC Ranking that is compiled annually.

Athletes can only earn points in one discipline (i.e. whitewater slalom), one class, and one age group (For example, if someone races K-1 Jr, C-1 Jr, and C-2 Sr, they would have to choose one class to earn points in). **For the purposes of AAP Ranking, Masters athletes will be ranked with the Seniors, according to event results. This includes national ranking.** Points for ranking are accumulated as follows:

### AAP Points Earned Summary Table

Event/Category	Points Earned
Compete at Canada, Western Canada, or BC Summer Games	10 per race, max. of 30
Compete at National Championships	10
Compete at National Team Trials	10
Compete at BC Championships	10
Qualify for National Development Team (Junior or Senior)	10
Primary residence is in a Regional Zone with no Development Centre	10
Special needs athlete	10
Attend formal BC Team training camp	10 per camp, max. of 30
Final BC Ranking Points	See points charts below
Total Points	Sum

In the above, a 'formal' event means that the event was either advertised in the CKBC newsletter or on the CKBC website a month in advance, or reasonable efforts were made to contact potential attendees. If the latter option is the case, some form of communication of the event at least a month in advance must be made with the Performance Director.

### Method for Accumulating BC Ranking Points

#### National Ranking Points

Rank	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11 or less
Points	30	27	24	20	15	13	11	9	7	5	1

The athlete's final national ranking as published by CanoeKayak Canada, will be used.

#### BC Competitions Ranking Points

Rank	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10 or less
Points	10	8	7	6	5	4	2	2	2	1

#### Sample Final BC Ranking

Athlete	BC Race 1		BC Race 2		BC Race 3		BC Race 4		BC Race 5		National Rank		Total
	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	Rank	Points	
F. Wosk	3	7	1	10	3	7	3	7	4	6	6	13	50
A. Doe	1	10	2	8	2	8	4	6	3	7	10	5	44
J. Smith	2	8	3	7	1	10	7	2	5	5	9	7	39

## CanoeKayak BC-Whitewater AAP PROCESS

A preliminary ranking list (as per the point system above) of all athletes who meet the minimum criteria will be published typically in October of each year.

The amount of AAP funding varies from year to year. CanoeKayak BC-Whitewater will distribute AAP funding with the aim of giving minimum amounts of \$500 (may vary depending on total funding available), so the actual number of athletes who get AAP funding will be calculated as:

$$N = \text{TOTAL AAP FUNDS} / 500 \text{ (rounded down to whole numbers)}$$

Only the top N athletes will be included in the final list of qualified athletes. The available AAP funding will be distributed using the following guidelines:

The point total for each athlete on the final list of AAP qualified athletes will be summed to generate a POINT TOTAL.

$$\text{ATHLETE AAP} = (\text{TOTAL AAP FUNDS} / \text{POINT TOTAL}) \times \text{INDIVIDUAL POINTS}$$

ONCE this has been done, and following any appeals, a cheque and a notifying letter containing the phrase *“The BC Athlete Assistance Program is funded by the provincial government in support of BC athletes, like yourself, in reaching athletic goals and encouraging the pursuit of academic education”* will be sent to athletes in March. The athletes who received this funding will be mentioned in the next issue of the CKBC newsletter, or on the CKBC website.

### Appeal Process

Any appeals must be submitted in writing or by email to the Selection Committee within 7 days of the list of selected athletes being published. The reasons for the appeal must be clearly stated. Appeals will be heard by the CKBC-WW Executive at a formal meeting. A maximum five minute presentation may be made by either the athlete or the Selection Committee, or both, and afterwards the CKBC-WW executive (excluding the AAP Selection Committee members where applicable) will vote – majority decision being final. If the parties involved so choose, they may have someone else represent their interests at the meeting. The athlete may subsequently make further appeal to the Provincial Appeals Committee, through the Sport & Physical Activity Branch.

### Typical Program Schedule (updated annually)

CKBC-WW sends BC AAP PSO Selection Criteria Form to Branch	October
Selection Committee publishes ranking list of selected athletes	October 15
Deadline for athlete appeals	October 24
Deadline for athletes to submit completed ‘BC AAP Application Forms’	November 15
Selection Committee appeal hearing and decision, athlete notified	December 03
CKBC-WW publishes final list of selected athletes	December 12
CKBC-WW submits BC AAP Athlete Funding Summary Report	December 15
Cheques distributed to athletes prior to	March 31

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