



Skate Canada 2023-2024 Carding Criteria

Eligible athletes who meet the Skate Canada selection criteria to represent Skate Canada internationally in the Olympic disciplines of Women's and Men's Singles, Pair, Ice Dance, and Team Event, are eligible for Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program (AAP). According to Sport Canada allocations, Skate Canada will be limited to a maximum full financial value of 29 **senior cards** (\$614,220), operating on a twelve-month cycle, beginning July 1, 2023, through to June 30, 2024.

The athlete carding nomination list will be submitted to the Skate Canada Provincial (Section) Offices on or before July 1st, 2023. Upon distribution, athletes have five days to notify Skate Canada, through the High Performance Director, if there have been any errors or omissions in the calculation of scores.

Cards are designated as follows:

Senior International: SR1 (year one), SR2 (year two)
Senior National: SR
Development: D

Senior International (SR1/SR2) Cards: eligible for two years of AAP support, with the first year referred to as a SR1 Card and the second year referred to as a SR2 Card. The second year is subject to the athlete being re-nominated by Skate Canada. Athletes currently carded at SR1 and who meet the criteria in the 2022-2023 season may maintain their SR1 Card.

Senior National (SR) and Development (D) Cards: eligible for one year of AAP support.

In all cases, a minimum condition of carding requires a Skate Canada approved yearly training plan, and monitoring by Skate Canada at an approved competitive event.

Definitions

Target: in all cases in this document the "target" is understood to be the average between the second and third place scores (rounded down to the nearest whole number) at the 2023 ISU World Figure Skating Championships. Examples of "rounded down to the nearest whole number" are: (a) 86.44 will be rounded to 86, (b) 86.50 will be rounded to 86, (c) 86.73 will be rounded to 86.

Percentage of Target: In all cases in this document the "percentage of the target" will be rounded to the nearest whole number. Examples of "rounded to the nearest whole number" are: (a) 86.44 will be rounded to 86, (b) 86.50 will be rounded to 87, (c) 86.73 will be rounded to 87.

Minimum Eligibility Criteria for Nomination to Sport Canada

Card Level	Criteria	Exceptions	Restrictions
Senior International – SR1	<p>Athletes meeting one of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placement in top eight at the 2023 ISU World Figure Skating Championships if sixteen or more entries • Top half of field at the 2023 ISU World Figure Skating Championships if less than sixteen entries • Top half of the field of qualified teams at the 2023 World Team Trophy 		
Senior International – SR2	Athletes who did not meet SR1 criteria this season (2022-2023), but met SR1 criteria in previous season (2021-2022), subject to being re-nominated by Skate Canada		
Senior National – SR	<p>Athletes meeting one of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Top three senior placements at the 2023 Canadian Championships • Participation at the 2023 ISU World Figure Skating Championships • Achieved a season best international score that is 80% of target. Only scores from international events assigned by Skate Canada will be considered. 		Athlete may receive a maximum of five SR cards while competing at the Senior International Level; may be eligible for sixth SR card if they demonstrate continued improvement towards SR1/2
Development Cards – D	<p>Athletes meeting one of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Placement in the top eight at 2023 ISU World Junior Championships if sixteen or more entries • Top half of field at the 2023 ISU World Junior Championships if less than sixteen entries • Achieved a season best international score that is 60% of target. Only scores from international events assigned by Skate Canada will be considered. 	New partnerships in pairs and ice dance if the athlete was carded at senior level (SR, SR1, SR2) in 2021-2022 or 2022-2023 season.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Athlete has received a maximum of four D cards while competing at the Senior International Level • Athlete has received three or more Senior cards (SR, SR1 or SR2) & is no longer ISU Junior age eligible

Special Considerations

Injury Policy

In the event that injuries, illness, pregnancy or other health related circumstances prevent a skater who is carded at the SR1/SR2 or SR level in the 2022-2023 season from competing in relevant competitions or affect their performance, Skate Canada may, within the maximum number of cards available, make injury nominations for Sport Canada's consideration based on AAP policy on "Failure to Meet Renewal Criteria for Health-Related Reasons".

Athletes Retiring

If an athlete retires mid-carding cycle after having received carding support for 2023-2024, carding will terminate. The athlete will be entitled to two months of living/training allowance (and any already-approved supplementary support allowances) past the date of retirement within the carding cycle for transitional support.

Returning Olympic/World Podium Athletes

An athlete/team who is returning to international competition after a period of no more than two competitive seasons away, may be nominated for an SR card if they demonstrate the following criteria:

- Has/have previously obtained a podium result at the 2022 Olympic Winter Games and/or 2021 or 2022 World Championships,
- A commitment to international competition in the upcoming season, and
- An approved training and coaching plan by the High Performance Director.

In the case of an athlete in pair or ice dance returning with a new partner, only the medalist in question will be eligible for nomination for a SR card. The new partnership will be assessed as per the Athlete Changing Partners – Prior to Carding Nominations' clause below.

Athletes Changing Partners

1. *Prior to Carding Nominations*

An athlete, in pair or ice dance, who are carded at the senior level (SR1/2, SR) in the 2022-2023 season who separate and continue to skate and search for a new partner shall be included in the qualifying process, with their eligibility and ranking determined according to their results with their previous partner. A change in partners would result in forfeit of the potential for a "second year Senior International card (SR2)".

- a. In the case that the athlete(s) in question form a new partnership prior to nomination then the nomination can only be considered if the new partnership receives a successful evaluation conducted by Skate Canada.
- b. In the case that the athlete(s) in question do not form a new partnership prior to nomination, the athlete(s) in question must inform Skate Canada in writing by August 15th, if they have formed a new partnership. This new partnership must then receive a successful evaluation conducted by Skate Canada by September 15th. If all criteria are met by the deadlines outlined above, carding will continue. If deadlines are not met or the criteria are not successful, carding will cease.

2. *Following the Approval of Carding Nominations*

When an athlete, in pairs or ice dance, separates before the end of their competitive season and after having been carded for the particular year, and is continuing to skate and search for a new partner, carding will be put on hold. Skate Canada shall provide a maximum of four months from the date of the split, but no later than May 1st, for the athlete to secure a new partner and undergo an evaluation conducted by Skate Canada.

- a. If the evaluation is positive, the originally carded athlete will be carded retroactively to when carding had been suspended. The new partner will not be carded unless they otherwise qualified for carding independent of this new partnership. A change in partners would result in forfeit of the potential for a "second year Senior International card (SR2)".
- b. If, by May 1st, the athlete does not establish a new partnership in the same discipline or approved by Skate Canada, carding will be terminated.

Allocation Procedure for Skate Canada Cards:

Cards will be allocated according to the following procedure until there are no remaining cards or there are no remaining eligible athletes. Note, if the last card(s) to be allocated are to a pair or ice dance team and the value remaining is less than the two full cards then the remaining value should be split by the pair or ice dance team. A minimum of four months of card support must be available to be allocated to an athlete.

Procedure for Determining Order of Allocation:

1. **Ranking of disciplines:** The disciplines will be ranked according to the highest finishing place at the 2023 ISU World Figure Skating Championships. If a tie exists, then the priority will be given to the discipline whose top entry's total score represents a higher percentage of the winning score at the 2023 ISU World Figure Skating Championships. At each stage of card allocation, this ranked order will be used. Note: In the case that two or more disciplines remain tied (e.g. Multiple first placements at the 2023 ISU World Figure Skating Championships), the tie will be broken by applying the same procedure to the second entries in those disciplines.
2. **Rotation of Women and Men in pair and ice dance teams:** Regarding the order of the names listed of a pair or ice dance team on the carding nomination list; in even years the women will be listed first, and then the men. In odd years the men will be listed first, and then the women.

Procedure for Allocation:

Allocation corresponds to the level of carding: a) SR1, b) SR2, and c) SR, beginning with the highest ranked discipline and proceeding through each discipline by rank, until there are no remaining cards or there are no remaining eligible athletes. Allocation of d) D will follow the rank outlined in 6. below, until there are no remaining cards or there are no remaining eligible athletes.

1. **Allocation of Senior International Cards (SR1):** All athletes who meet the Senior International criteria will be nominated for SR1 carding. Within disciplines, athletes/teams will be ranked according to placement at the 2023 ISU World Figure Skating Championships.
2. **Allocation of year two Senior International Cards (SR2):** Within disciplines, athletes/teams will be ranked according to their placement at the 2023 Canadian Championships, followed by those athletes who did not compete at these National Championships ranked by their International Season Best Scores (only events assigned by Skate Canada will be considered).
3. **Allocation of Returning Olympic/World Podium Athletes:** will be ranked at the end of all SR2 card nominations. In the case of more than one such nomination within any discipline, the nominations will be ranked in order of their placement at the 2022 Olympic Winter Games. Those with no Olympic result will be

ranked after the returning Olympic medalist(s) and ranked in order of their placement at the 2022 World Figure Skating Championships, followed by the 2021 World Figure Skating Championships. Placement in the team event will not be used in any of these cases.

4. **Allocation of Senior National Cards (SR):** eligible athletes are ranked within their discipline based on the following order:
 - a. athletes who participated at the 2023 ISU World Figure Skating Championships will be ranked according to their placement.
 - b. athletes ranked according to their top three placements at the 2023 Canadian Championships in the Senior event.
 - c. athletes ranked according to their International Season Best Scores (only events assigned by Skate Canada will be considered).
5. **Allocation of Injury Nominations:** will be ranked based on their 2021-2022 International Season Best Scores (only events assigned by Skate Canada will be considered).
6. **Allocation of Development Cards (D):** eligible athletes are ranked based on the following order:
 - a. athletes who finished in the top eight at the 2023 World Junior Championships if more than 16 entries or top half of field at the 2023 ISU World Junior Championships if less than sixteen entries will be ranked according to their placement. If there is a tie (e.g. multiple 1st placements at the 2023 ISU World Junior Championships) the order will follow the discipline ranking.
 - b. New partnerships per exception
 - c. according to their percentage achieved of the target score based on International Season Best Scores (only events assigned by Skate Canada will be considered). If there is a tie (e.g. same percentage achieved) the order will follow the discipline ranking. If they are from the same discipline the rank will be determined by the International Season Best.

Special Cases:

1. In the case where there is only one card remaining and the next allocation is to a pair or ice dance team, and there is twelve months available, this last card will be allocated as two six-month cards to each athlete.
2. In the case where there is only one card remaining and the next allocation is to a pair or ice dance team, and there is eight to twelve months available, this last card will be split equally between the team.
3. In the case where there is only one card remaining and the next allocation is to a pair or ice dance, and there is less than eight months available, it will be given to one member of the pair or ice dance team according to rotation of women and men in pairs and ice dance

Note: in any case in which a card is forfeited after allocation and a provision exists for the card to be reallocated to the next qualified athlete according to the overall ranking.

Appeals

Any appeals of carding decisions will follow Skate Canada's Athlete International Competition and Carding Selection Appeal Procedure