

BOWLS BC

ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SELECTION CRITERIA

(VERSION 2)

(Updated March 30, 2016)

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1. BC ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The **BC Athlete Assistance Program** (BC AAP) is a program of financial assistance funded by the Province of British Columbia through the Sport Branch of the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development and administered through viaSport British Columbia. 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.

PROVINCIAL SPORT ORGANIZATION PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

The intent of the BC Athlete Assistance Program (BC AAP) is to provide support to BC high performance athletes striving to represent the Province and Canada in athletic competition. The program seeks to relieve some of the pressures associated with training and competition needs association with participation in national and international sport. The focus of BC AAP funding is for those athletes who are in the position to compete for Team BC at the Canada Games and are just below those receiving Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program funding (S1/S2 carding levels); however athletes in receipt of Sport Canada funding may be eligible for BC AAP funding. This document provides all necessary information to assist administrators, coaches and athletes become familiar with the objectives, selection criteria and allocation guidelines of the program.

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;
- 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; and
- To assist BC athletes reach their athletic potential.
- The program reaches its objectives through adherence to the guiding principles of being athlete focused, equitable, accessible, and fair and merit based in its decisions.

NOTE ON PERFORMANCE ATHLETE SUPPORT

Since 2012, the BC Athlete Assistance Program funding has been combined with the Sport on the Move travel grant funding to make up the Performance Athlete Support program. Provincial Sport Organizations annually receive Performance Athlete Support and may use those funds to either support individual athletes or support group travel. The division of funding between supporting individuals or groups is up to the discretion of each Provincial Sport Organization and should be based on the organization’s needs.

When supporting individual athletes, the BC Athlete Assistance Program guidelines must be followed. When supporting groups, funds can be used for travel to practices, training camps, or competitions organized by or authorized by the Provincial Sport Organization as part of the sport performance program offered to identified athletes and coaches. It can be used for both in or out of province travel.

Funder:

Sport and Recreation Branch of the Ministry of
Community, Sport and Cultural Development,
Province of British Columbia (SRB)

PSO:

Bowls BC (BBC)

**The BC Athlete Assistance Program is funded by
the Provincial Government and administered by
viaSport British Columbia in support of BC
athletes, like yourself, in reaching your athletic
goals**

2. ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

The BC Athlete Assistance Program will be athlete focused. Awards will be allocated to individual athletes and funded through the provincial sport organization based on their demonstrated commitment to high performance sport and excellence, and their potential to compete for British Columbia and Canada. Athletes must meet sport-specific selection criteria based on the following minimum standards:

Athletes must meet the following minimum standards:

2.1 Citizenship and Residency:

To be eligible for BC AAP funding, an athlete must be a Canadian citizen or be of landed immigrant status, and a resident of British Columbia for at least one year prior to his/her date of nomination.

2.2 PSO Membership:

Athletes must be registered members of a Bowls BC member club for the funding period. Athletes must be in good financial standing with their club, Bowls BC (BBC) and Bowls Canada (BCB). Awards may be withheld at any time if the athlete is not in good standing with any of the above Associations.

Training and Competition:

This program is aligned with the Canadian Sport for Life – Long Term Athlete Development (LTAD) Model, therefore to be eligible the athlete must be involved in programs and competitions that are within the LTAD stages of “Train to Train” and/or “Train to Compete” as defined by the appropriate National Sport Organization. Athletes who meet the eligible stages of the LTAD model are expected to be involved in a year round training and competition plan, competing in an appropriate number of national and/or international competitions and regularly working with a Level 3 NCCP Coach. Bowls BC expects that the bowler-athletes will be undergoing regular training and coaching from a Level 3 NCCP. However, Bowls BC has limited NCCP qualified Level 3 and Level 2 Coaches. Therefore the expectation, from Bowls BC, is that there is a minimum of 10 hours weekly of training and/or competitions for all Tier One athletes and a minimum of 5 hours weekly for Tier Two athletes.

Tiers 1 applicants for funding must also provide to Bowls BC, through the AAP Committee a short written statement on a proposed “self-directed” regular training & preparation for funded events and where feasible, in conjunction with a qualified coach for the coming season. Athletes are encouraged to make use of the Bowls BC Coaching and Sport Development Programs to help develop their plan. This task must be undertaken within 60 days of receiving funding.

2.4 Performance:

Athletes must be competing within the ‘training to compete’ and training to win’ stages within the funding period. Funding within these stages is based on the level at which the athlete has competed (April 1- March 31), regardless of past performance or funding level.

2.5 Use of Banned Substances and Methods:

BC's Policy on Sport and Physical Activity clearly outlines the "ethical pursuit of excellence" and competing without the use of banned substances – as one of its pillars of support to sport. The Province of British Columbia strongly opposes the use of prohibited substances and methods as they are contrary to the ethics of sport and may be harmful to the health of athletes. Since we look to our elite athletes to set the standards for all who aspire to be at the top level of competition, athletes who are suspended by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport and/or their respective International Sport Federation for an anti-doping rule violation will be declared permanently ineligible for BC Athlete Assistance Funding.

Bowls BC expects elite athletes to set the standards for all who aspire to be at the top level of competition and athletes who are suspended by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport and/or their respective International Sport Federation for an anti-doping rule violation will be declared ineligible for BC Athlete Assistance Funding until cleared by the regulating bodies for the infraction.

2.6 Commitment and Responsibilities to Bowls BC:

- Encourage other development athletes
- Share important competitive information
- Assist BC clubs and coaches
- Create a positive "public relations" component

Athletes receiving financial support under this program will be required to complete the following tasks that would benefit the general bowling community and possibly encourage others to compete at a higher level.

Athletes have the choice of one of the following to be completed within 12 months of the funded event.

2.6.1 Tier 1 and Tier 2 Events

- Actively assist in a Bowls BC seminar or conduct a coaching session at a club or alternate appropriate facility with a minimum of 10 participants.
- Presentation to school, seniors groups, and disabled group or Community agency detailing the event, experience and health Benefits related to bowls.
- A summary (300 words min.) of event experience to be submitted to the Bowls BC, Director of Sport Development & Education.

Failure to complete this responsibility by December 31st will exclude applicants from further funding for two years, notwithstanding selection and participation in listed events.

2.7 Withdrawal of BC AAP Sport Funding:

The Sport and Recreation Branch has the authority to withdraw BC AAP support to any athlete if it is deemed that the athlete is no longer in compliance with the policies and requirements of the BC Athlete Assistance Program.

3. SELECTION CRITERIA

3.1 Bowls BC- AAP Selection Committee

- Bowls BC Director of Sport Development & Education.
- Bowls BC Head Coach or designate
- One other member of the Bowls BC Board of Directors

3.2 Event Based Funding Format

Support for athletes will be allocated by the “type” of event. Event funding allocation will be based on a percentage of the total funding recognizing the level of the event.

To meet the objective of focusing support on both the following:

- athletes in the “training to win”
- athletes in the “training to compete”

In addition to Tier One events which provides assistance to bowlers “training to win”, Tier 2 of funding assistance level are introduced to provide a measure of support for bowlers “training to compete”.

For this reason, the following support will be allocated as:

- Tier One Events – 75% of total annual grant (surplus transferred to Tier 2)
- Tier Two Events – 25% of total annual grant plus any surplus from Tier 1.
- Tier 1+ Tier 2 surplus – all remaining surplus to be distributed as determined by Bowls BC Board towards National representation expenses incurred by Provincial Champions or qualifying athletes. (Does not include Zone Qualifiers or individual entries to National Open Singles)

All funds will be awarded per fiscal year as follows:

- ***Apr 1st to Mar 31st***

Event Ranking

Tier ONE: International Competitions (“Training to Win”)

- Up to \$1500 per Athlete Yearly Maximum.
- Athletes who have been selected for the Canadian National Team (NT) at the start of the fiscal period and who competed on the World stage. (i.e. Commonwealth Games, World Bowls Championship, or other International Event selected by the NT)
- Athletes who represent Canada through Sanctioned Qualifying Events. (i.e. World Junior Cup Under 25, Champion of Champions, World Cup Indoor Championship, Asia Pacific Championships, Atlantic Rim Championships)

3.3.2 Tier TWO: Developmental Competitions (“Training to Compete”)

- Up to \$500 per athlete Yearly Maximum.
- Athletes who participated in the North America Challenge and not selected for Team Canada (NT)
- Athletes who were a member of the NT, who participated in North America Challenge (NAC) but were not eligible under Tier 1
- BC Junior (18 and under) Champion who competes at the Canadian Junior (18 and under) Finals.
- NT Training and Trials Camp, National Open Championship of any country affiliated with World Bowls Board, World Bowls Tour, World Games or other significant events including World Junior Cup Qualifier if participated in the Bowls BC Qualifier.

3.3.2.1

If there are any funds remaining after awarding all successful Applicants, Bowls BC will utilize the remaining funds to be distributed equally towards athletes attending Canadian Championships within the fiscal year.

All funds will be awarded per fiscal year as follows:

- ***Apr 1st to Mar 31st***

3.4 Not all athletes who meet eligibility criteria are guaranteed to receive BC AAP funding.

3.5 Athletes are eligible for funding in only one Tier per fiscal year.

Bowls BC Board of Management reserves the right to increase maximum grants per tier if financial circumstances permit it.

3.6 Athletes Training Outside BC:

Athletes residing and/or training outside the province will only be considered for BC AAP funding support in the following cases:

- 1) If they are enrolled in a specialized program of study;
 - 2) If they are participating/training with a National Sport Centre; and/or
 - 3) If a suitable athlete development program in that sport is currently unavailable in B.C.
- All out-of-province athletes will only be considered for funding if there is a demonstrated commitment to BC provincial teams and other athlete development activities as determined by the PSO Selection Committee.

Gender Equity Funding Allocation:

Provincial sport organizations must allocate funding equitably between male and female athletes unless receiving gender designated funding.

Use of Funds:

Athletes receiving funding through BC AAP can spend the funding obtained for the following purposes:

Normal living costs

Costs directly associated with training (e.g. coaching, facility fees, other athlete services)

Costs associated with attending training camps and competitions (e.g. entry fees, travel costs)

Sport specific equipment.

4 APPEAL PROCESS

It is understood that athletes have an inherent right to submit an appeal regarding the Bowls BC Athlete Assistance Program if they believe that;

- the award level or amount for which they have been selected does not meet Bowls BC ranking and selection criteria as published; OR
- The athlete has not been selected for an award and they believe that, in accordance with Bowls BC published criteria for the ranking and selection of athletes, the athlete deserves to be included in the award.

4.1 The appeal must be submitted in writing describing reasons for the appeal

- *Appeal will be based upon the criteria set down by Bowls BC and the decision will be final.*
- *Disagreement with the criteria cannot be the basis of appeal.*
- The appellant must be in good standing with their club, Bowls BC and Bowls Canada Boulingrin.

4.2 Appeal to be sent to Bowls BC Secretary to determine eligibility within 10 calendar days of Publication of Preliminary Selected Athletes List.

- If deemed eligible (providing requested information and in a fair and reasonable manner), the appeal will be forwarded to a Bowls BC Appeal Committee within 14 calendar days of receipt of the appeal.
- If not considered eligible, Bowls BC Executive will notify the appellant within 10 calendar days of the application review.
- Copies of the appeal to be sent to the Bowls BC AAP Selection Committee.

4.3 On receiving the appeal, The Appeals Committee will make a decision within 14 calendar days to accept or deny the appeal.

- *Appeal will be based upon the criteria set down by Bowls BC and the decision will be final.*
- *Disagreement with the criteria cannot be the basis for an appeal.*

4.4 On accepting the appeal Bowls BC Appeals Committee will:

- The athlete would be invited to make representation at the conference call of the Bowls BC Appeal Committee.
- Recommend appeal go to mediation.

- 4.4.1 On acceptance of the recommendation by appellant, Bowls BC Appeals Committee will arrange mediation. Mediation costs to be covered by Bowls BC.
- 4.4.2 The appellant will be responsible for personal and travel costs.

4.5 Bowls BC Appeals Committee for AAP Appeals.

- **One member of the Bowls BC AAP Selection Committee**
- **A Bowls BC Executive Officer**
- **A Bowls BC Member at Large as selected by Bowls BC**

5. Forms and Time Line

5.1 Application for funding forms is available at the following website
<http://www.bowlsbc.com>

Applications will only be accepted in the Bowls BC format provided.
 Submit via online application available on the Bowls BC website

<http://bowlsbc.com/athletic-assistance-program-online-application-form/>

5.2 Time Line	<i>version 2</i>
Deadline for Applications	December 31st
Publishing of selected athlete list on web site	January 15th
Deadline of Appeals	January 25th
Publishing of final list of awarded athletes on web site	February 20th
Cheque to be issued to athletes before	March 31st
Tier 1 “self-directed” regular training & preparation written statements submitted to BBC AAP	May 31st

6. Criteria Amendment Procedures:

Funding Criteria may be changed by Bowls BC at the AGM & S/AGM only, based solely on recommendation by the Board of Management through a prior review process. This review process must include Sports and Recreation Branch Policies, Procedures and Guidelines. Due to the diligence required, no changes to the criteria will come from ad hoc motions at the AGM. Motions for changes would be referred to the Board for review and possible ratification at the next AGM.

7. Table - Event Ranking and Criteria

Tier	Eligible Events	Remarks	Funding
<p style="text-align: center;">1 “training to win”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Selected to Canada's National Team (<i>per BCB criteria</i>), and who participated in a World/International event • Athlete who represents Canada through a sanctioned Qualifying Event (i.e. World Indoor Singles, Champion of Champions, World Junior Cup (Under 25), Asia Pacific Championships Outdoor and Indoor. 	<p>Max of \$1,500 per athlete</p> <hr/> <p>75% of Fund</p>	<p>2016 - \$4875</p> <p>surplus to Tier 2</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">2 “training to compete”</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Participated in North America Challenge (<i>not selected for NT</i>) • Member of NT, and participated in NAC and not eligible for Tier 1 • Member of NT, who did not participate in NAC nor eligible for Tier 1 • BC Champion to Canadian Junior (Under 18) Championship, • Participated in Team Canada Training Camp, • World Junior Cup Qualifier (<i>participated in BC Qualifier</i>) • National Open Championship of a country affiliated with World Bowls Board • World Bowls Tour Events • Other significant lawn bowls Tournaments as determined by Bowls BC AAP committee. 	<p>Maximum will be \$500</p> <hr/> <p>All Funds to be distributed per fiscal remaining surplus to be distributed <u>Tier 1 + Tier 2</u> Surplus towards BC Athletes going to Canadian Nationals as defined in Section 3.3.2.1</p>	<p>Base 25% = \$1625 + Transfer from Tier 1</p>