

2015/16 ATHLETE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (AAP)

Guidelines for Selection of Athlete Recipients

1. General

The **BC Athlete Assistance Program** (BC AAP) is an athlete-centred program of financial assistance funded and administered by the Ministry of Community, Sport and Cultural Development, Sport Branch. BC AAP seeks to recognize and support BC high performance athletes striving to represent the Province and Canada in athletic competition. Athletes who have demonstrated the potential and commitment to attain this level of excellence can qualify for different levels of financial support based on relative levels of development and competition achieved within the overall limits of funds available.

The program seeks to relieve some of the pressures associated with training and competition needs when participating in provincial, national and international sport events. The Sport and Recreation Branch intends that BC AAP focus on those athletes who are in the position to compete for Team BC and are just below those receiving Sport Canada funding. This financial assistance will ensure a continuum of support for the development of national and international class BC athletes.

In summary, the overall AAP philosophy of Triathlon BC is to award the allocated funds to help defray costs for athletes who meet the selection criteria listed in Section 5.0 of this document.

1.1. OBJECTIVES

- To help athletes reach their athletic potential.
- To use the BC sport system by encouraging athletes to remain in the Province to pursue their athletic careers.
- To provide positive role models for young people in BC and increase the resulting number of participants entering sport.
- To identify and recognize centers and programs of high performance within BC and ensure adequate support and access for top level BC athletes.
- To increase the number of BC athletes reaching federal carding status.
- To improve performances of Team BC in multi-sport games.
- To increase BC representation on National Teams participating in multi-sport games.

2. Administration of the Athlete Assistance Program (AAP)

- 2.1. **The Selection Committee:** The Triathlon BC AAP Selection Committee is responsible for the identification, nomination and ranking of athletes for funding assistance through the BC Athlete Assistance Program.
- 2.2. **Applications:** All applicant must meet the Triathlon BC selection criteria as identified in Section 5.0.

Note: The application by an athlete does not guarantee that the athlete will receive BC AAP funding.

- 2.3. **Equitable:** Athletes at differing levels of excellence will receive commensurate levels of financial support, based on the selection criteria and rankings established by Triathlon BC (see Section 5.0). This process will give consideration to any educational or working environment of the athlete, the required time and financial commitment of the athlete to excel in the sport of Triathlon, and the overall limits of funds available.

3. Eligibility Requirements for the Athlete Assistance Program

- 3.1. **Citizenship and Residency:** To be eligible for an award, an athlete must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident of Canada, and a resident of British Columbia for at least one year prior to his/her date of nomination.
- 3.2. **Use of Banned Substances and Methods:** BC's Policy on Sport and Physical Activity clearly outlines the "ethical pursuit of excellence" – which includes competing without the use of banned substances – as one of its pillars of support to sport. The Province of British Columbia and Triathlon BC 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.

Athletes who are suspended by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport and/or the International Triathlon Union and/or Triathlon Canada for any anti-doping rule violation, will be declared permanently ineligible for BC Athlete Assistance.

- 3.3. **Coaching:** To be eligible for funding assistance, athletes should be coached by individuals who are Triathlon Canada NCCP Comp Intro or Comp Dev certified, or enrolled in the Triathlon Canada Performance Stream. A Triathlon Canada Individual Performance Plan (IPP) is required with all Triathlon BC AAP applications. These are available through Triathlon BC.
- 3.4. **Commitment to Triathlon BC:** Any athlete receiving financial assistance from the Province of British Columbia must be available for provincial team selections and if selected, commit to train and represent British Columbia and the sport of Triathlon in the applicable competition.
- 3.5. **Membership:** Athletes receiving financial assistance must be registered members of Triathlon BC (annual membership) at the time the assistance is awarded, and during the competitive year in which the funding is based. They are also expected to make themselves available to contribute to athlete development and coaching development programs delivered by Triathlon BC.
- 3.6. **Nationally Carded Athletes:** Athletes who receive S1/S2 funding through Sport Canada's Athlete Assistance Program are eligible to receive BC AAP funding, however, Triathlon BC may not allocate more than 25% of the total BC AAP funding to S1/S2 Sport Canada funded athletes.
- 3.7. **Athlete Selection:** Athlete selection will be made according to the criteria set out in Section 5.0 of this document, with preference given to developing high performance athletes.
- 3.8. **Selection Criteria:** Triathlon BC is responsible for developing and publishing the selection criteria and standards that will be utilized in the identification, ranking and selection of athletes. It is the responsibility of the Selection Committee to ensure fair, equitable and consistent application of these standards.
- 3.9. **Funding Level:** Consideration by the Selection Committee will be given to the required time and financial commitment required to excel in the sport, and the educational or working environment of the athlete. Under provincial guidelines, a minimum of \$500 and up to a maximum of \$3,500 can be awarded to any one athlete. Award denomination hinges on:
 1. The total amount of funding available for this program;
 2. The level of athletic performance;
 3. Whether the athlete is/was in the immediate past year, named to
 - A Triathlon Canada National Team Tier 1-5;
 - A representative of Triathlon Canada at Elite, U23 or Junior World Championships
 - A BC Junior or Youth competing in Draft Legal triathlon;
 - Sport Canada Carded athlete are ineligible for the Triathlon BC AAP;
- 3.10. **Athletes Training Outside BC:** Athletes residing outside of the province will only be considered for AAP funding in the following cases:
 1. Pursuit of specialized program of studies not offered in B.C.
 2. Participation with a (Canadian) National Sport Centre outside of B.C.
 3. A suitable athlete development program that is currently unavailable in B.C.
 4. BC athletes training outside of BC will only be considered for funding if there is a demonstrated commitment to provincial teams and other athlete development activities.

4. Appeal Process

- 4.1. **Appeals:** Any appeals to the APP Selection Committee must be made in writing and submitted to the Selection Committee, care of Triathlon BC office, PO Box 34098 Station D, Vancouver, BC, V6J 4M1 within 14 days of the Athlete Assistance Program roster release for any given year.

- 4.2. **Appeals Committee:** The Appeals Committee will be formed of three people, all members of Triathlon BC , with preferably one member of the Executive. In order to avoid the potential for conflict of interest, (e.g. the parent of a nominated athlete being on the appeals committee), the membership of the Committee will be selected by the Board.

4.3. **Obligations of Triathlon BC**

- a. Publish the BC AAP ranking and selection criteria, procedures, and the selected BC AAP calendar outline to athletes and coaches before the beginning of the nomination process.
- b. Publish the Appeal Process to athletes and coaches before the beginning of the nomination process.
- c. Inform their athletes and coaches as to their list of nominated athletes.

After the final nomination lists have been approved, Triathlon BC will publish a list of their funded athletes on the Triathlon BC website, magazine and through electronic news media, with acknowledgment of the Ministry's contribution for the support of the athletes.

5. **Triathlon BC AAP Selection Criteria**

Selection Criteria is based on, but not limited to, the following:

- I. Athletes meet all eligibility requirements.
- II. Athletes have performed well in the past year.
- III. Athletes must demonstrate a continued commitment to training and racing.
- IV. Athletes must demonstrate excellence in performance or potential for improvement.
- V. Athletes must demonstrate dedication to their sport other than training.
- VI. Athletes must contribute to the development of their sport.

5.1. **Eligibility:**

- a. Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada; and a BC resident for the past year (you must include a photocopy of your BC MSP card with your application).
- b. A minimum of 15 years of age as of December 31, 2016.
- c. Member in good standing of Triathlon BC at time of application.
- d. Preference will be given to athletes Under 23 years of age**.
- e. Applications must be accompanied by a Triathlon Canada IPP prepared by the athlete's coach.

5.2. **Performance Criteria (in descending order of importance)**

- a. A Triathlon Canada National Team Tier 1-5;
- b. A representative of Triathlon Canada at Elite, U23 or Junior Championship Events (i.e Worlds, CAMTRI or CAMTRI NA);
 - ITU U23 World Championships (to 20th place)
 - ITU Junior World Championships (to 20th place)
 - CAMTRI Junior Championship (to 15th place)
 - CAMTRI NA Junior Championships (to 10th place)
- c. A BC Junior or Youth competing in Draft Legal triathlon;
 - Triathlon Canada National U23 Championships (to 3rd place)
 - Triathlon Canada National Junior Championship (to 5th place)
 - Junior Series ranking (to 5th place)
 - BC Games individual triathlon result (to 5th place)
- d. Other triathlon events (ITU age group, 70.3, IM, etc.)
 - IM or 70.3 overall professional ranking in top 40
 - ITU World Championships AG Podium (standard or sprint)
 - IM or 70.3 World Championships AG Podium

5.3. **Service to the Sport Criteria (Triathlon)**

- a. Speaking at triathlon outreach seminars or in schools – evidence required.
- b. Volunteering at Triathlon BC Sanctioned events– evidence required.
- c. Involvement with promoting triathlon in their community– evidence required.

5.4. Financial Need

- a. Educational commitment.
- b. Status as a full-time athlete

APPLICATION PROCESS

5.5. Submission deadline: February 16, 2016

To be considered for funding, eligible athletes must submit a detailed application outlining how they best meet points 5.1 through to 5.4 above. Only 2015 results (and links) will be considered.

Submissions must include page 1 and 2 of the BC AAP Application Form, together with an Individual Performance Plan (IPP) completed by their coach.

Please note, in a bid to reduce paper consumption, only electronic submissions will be accepted. Completed packages can be sent to the Triathlon BC office at via fax or email:

Email: info@tribc.org

Fax: (604) 736-3180