



## **Ontario Curling Council**

### **Quest for Gold – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program 2011-2012**

### **ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA**

*Quest for Gold* – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program 2011-2012 (OAAP) is funded by the Government of Ontario, through the Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport (MHPS), and operated through the Sport, Recreation & Community Programs Branch. The overarching goal of the *Quest for Gold* – OAAP is directly related to the Enhanced Excellence goals of the *Canadian Sport Policy* – to improve the performance and number of Ontario athletes performing at the national and international level; thereby contributing to the improved performance of Canada at international competitions. Specific objectives of the program are:

- a) To help athletes continue their pursuit of athletic excellence at the highest levels of national and international competition;
- b) To encourage athletes to stay in Ontario to live and train;
- c) To compensate athletes for earnings lost while training;
- d) To enable athletes to successfully pursue excellence in sport while fulfilling their educational goals;
- e) To increase athlete access to improved high performance coaching; and
- f) To enhance training and competitive opportunities available to athletes.

The program will provide direct financial assistance to Ontario junior-aged athletes through an “Ontario Card” designation. “Junior-aged athlete” is defined as those athletes who fall within the eligible age range for the Canada Games - 11 to 22 years of age. A PSO/MSO with a NSO-approved Long Term Athlete Development Model (LTADM) that identifies older athletes in the “Train to Train” and “Train to Compete” categories may apply to MHPS for a variation to this 11-22 age range. A PSO/MSO may choose to allocate a maximum of 30% of its carding allotment to athletes older than 22 years of age who have been identified as a potential next generation national team athlete by the PSO/MSO’s selection process.

The intent of the OAAP is to provide funding to individual athletes based on their demonstrated commitment to high performance sport, allowing them to pursue athletic excellence at the highest levels of national and international competition.

#### **How does it work?**

In accordance with the OAAP guidelines, the Ontario Curling Council is responsible for developing sport specific selection criteria and forming a Selection Committee that will apply the criteria to select those athletes who will be awarded Ontario Card status in 2011-2012. The Selection Criteria are approved by the Board of Directors and reviewed by MHPS staff. Nominated athletes will be required to sign and comply with an Athlete Agreement between the athlete and Ontario Curling Council. Carding status will be for one year starting April 1, 2011 ending March 31, 2012.

In 2011-2012, the MHPS allocated a certain amount of OAAP Ontario Cards to each eligible Provincial Sport / Multi-Sport Organization (PSO/MSO). Ontario Curling Council has been allotted a total of 8 Ontario cards (split evenly as 4 male and 4 female Cards) and 4 cards issued to the wheelchair curlers (split evenly as 2 male and 2 female).

The Ontario Curling Council has also decided to exercise the option made available by MHPS to split up to 30% of its carding allotment (i.e. issue ½ cards in designated categories).

A minimum of 70% of the Ontario Cards will be allocated to what the MHPS defines as junior-aged athletes (11 to 22 years of age). A maximum of 30% of the Ontario Cards may be allocated to athletes no longer eligible for “junior athlete” status, (athletes 23 and over).

As a result, the 12 cards issued to the Ontario Curling Council will be allocated as follows:

	Male	Female
Full Cards – Able bodied Curlers	3	3
Half Cards – Able bodied Curlers	2	2
Full Cards – Wheelchair Curlers	2	2

**\*Wheelchair curlers – in all cases please read “Curlers with a disability”**

Cards will be specifically allocated to the following categories/disciplines:

Category	Number of Cards
Able Bodied – Junior Age, < 21 years of age	4 Full, = 2 male & 2 female
Able Bodied, Bantam Age, 12- <17 years of age	2 full (split into 4 half cards) = 2 male & 2 female
Able Bodied Curlers, - Older Junior Age, 21-29 years	2 Full = 1 male & 1 female
Wheelchair Curlers*	4 Full= 2 male & 2 female

In Able Bodied curling there are multiple age groups. “Junior” is defined as “maximum of 20 years as of Dec.31<sup>st</sup> of year prior to Canadian Championship” (Canadian Championship is in January)

“Bantam” is defined as “maximum of 16 years of age as of Dec 31<sup>st</sup> of year prior to Provincial Championship” (Provincial Championship is in March)

“Older junior” age is 21-29 years as of Dec 31<sup>st</sup> of the year prior to the Canadian Championship. These curlers are in the “Train to Train” and “Train to Compete” categories of the Canadian Curling Association’s Long Term Athlete Development Model.

The Ontario Curling Council is not obligated to allocate all cards to Wheelchair Curlers if there are an insufficient quantity of athletes that meet the criteria to be deemed as future national team athletes.

**Selection Committee**

In accordance with the OAAP guidelines the Ontario Curling Council is responsible for forming a Selection Committee and sport specific selection criteria to nominate the athletes for Ontario carding status in 2011-2012 This selection Criteria has been approved by the Ontario Curling Council Board of Directors.

The Selection Committee is comprised of the following members:

John McCrae, Ontario Curling Council, Chief Administrative Officer

Kathy Ryan, Chair, Ontario Curling Council, Board of Directors

Ryan Lafraniere, Northern Ontario Curling Association, Learning Facilitator

Jan Pula Northern Ontario Curling Association Learning Facilitator

Dick Henderson Northern Ontario Curling Association, Technical Coordinator,

Linda Corcoran, Ontario Curling Association, Technical Coordinator

Tom Ward, Ontario Curling Association, Technical Assistant

**How much funding is available?**

The exact level of funding for the 2011-2012 carding year will be determined by the MHPS after the total number of athletes nominated for Ontario Card status has been determined. Funding will be released prior to March 31, 2012.

## How will the Ontario Curling Council Selection Committee decide who receives funding?

The Ontario Curling Council Selection Committee will use both the Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport Eligibility Criteria and the Sport Specific Selection Criteria detailed below to determine which athletes will be nominated for Ontario Card status in 2011-2012:

### Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport Eligibility Criteria

All athletes must meet the Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport's minimum athlete eligibility criteria:

- Athlete must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant.
- Athlete must be a permanent resident of Ontario **for one year prior** to his/her nomination for carding status.
- Athletes must be living in and continuing to train in Ontario. Exceptions shall be made **on a case specific basis by the PSO/MSO Selection Committee** provided that the athlete can substantiate in writing at the time of application/nomination for carding status that:
  - (a) He/She cannot receive the required level of training in Ontario and is out of the province **temporarily** during the year (i.e. due to lack of facilities, coaching, competitions);
  - (b) He/She must attend a post-secondary institution out-of-province either because the course of study is not offered by an Ontario institution: or
  - (c) It is more financially feasible to attend a post-secondary institution out-of-province, or other extenuating circumstances that require the athlete to be out of the province.

The onus is on the athlete to demonstrate that he/she needs to be out-of-province for one of the above reasons. Any documentation required to clarify this "residency exception" must be submitted in its entirety to the **Ontario Curling Council** Selection Committee by no later than **December 8, 2011 by 12 o'clock noon** in order to be considered. Documentation related to exception (a) above may include, but shall not be limited to, a letter from the athlete's NSO outlining the following, as well as any other pertinent information:

- why the athlete is training out of province;
  - whether or not the athlete was formally invited by the NSO;
  - what additional opportunities are being made available beyond those provided in Ontario; and
  - any other information that will illustrate that the athlete is receiving enhanced training while still meeting all obligations of the Ontario Curling Council.
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- Athlete must be a member in good standing with PSO/MSO and NSO where applicable;
  - Athlete must have entered into a Sports Organization - Athlete Agreement with his or her PSO/MSO and must be in full compliance with the terms and conditions of that agreement;
  - Athlete must have met all terms and conditions of any previous *Quest for Gold* Sports Organization – Athlete Agreements to the satisfaction of the PSO/MSO in order to be eligible for consideration in 2011/2012;
  - Athlete must demonstrate a commitment and dedication to a proper training and competitive program;
  - Athlete's coach must be minimum Level 2 NCCP certified or NCCP Certified Competition Coach.
  - Athlete must not be under a sanction that prohibits competition as per the Canadian Anti-Doping Policy;
  - Athlete must be attending an educational institution full-time (i.e. elementary and secondary schools):
    - Exceptions will be made provided that the athlete can substantiate that his/her training will not allow for full-time attendance or if an athlete requires special needs that preclude full or part-time attendance (e.g. Athlete with a disability (AWAD) athlete);
  - Athletes who have completed their area of study at the secondary level (i.e. high school) and who continue to train towards participation in major national or international competitions will also be considered;
  - If eligible, the athlete must compete, and continue to compete solely for Ontario and/or Canada for one year from the date of the Minister's letter informing the athlete of acceptance into OAAP program, at Canada Games and other national competitions involving provincial team competitions;
  - Athlete must not receive financial support from any other provincial/territorial athlete assistance program. This does not include academic scholarships, bursaries, student grants, student loans, social assistance, disability pensions, and other forms of financial assistance that have nothing to do with competitive sport.
  - Eligibility will be limited to Ontario junior-aged athletes, ages 11-22 ("junior-aged" refers to chronological age, not a sport's specific age category - only exception is for PSO/MSOs using 30% of Ontario Card allotment for athletes older

than 22 years of age who have been identified as a potential next generation national team athlete by the PSO/MSO's selection process.

Residency Exemption for Military Families: The one-year Ontario residency requirement is waived for any Ontario Card or Canada Card applicant who is a spouse or dependant of a: Regular Force member of the Canadian Forces; or Reservist currently deployed by the Canadian Forces into active service and who takes up residence in Ontario during the fiscal year. This means that eligible military family members now qualify for OAAP funding immediately upon becoming residents of Ontario. Please see the 2011-2012 *Quest for Gold* Athlete Handbook for details of this exemption, including a list of documents needed to verify eligibility for this waiver of the one-year Ontario residency requirement.

### **Important Notes:**

- To be deemed a potential next generation national team athlete, the athlete must be age-eligible to compete on the national team in the year following receipt of Ontario Card funding.
- An athlete that received Sport Canada Carding during any part of MHPS' fiscal year April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011 and/or any part of fiscal year April 1, 2011 and March 31, 2012 and is no longer in receipt of Sport Canada Athlete Assistance shall not be eligible to receive *Quest for Gold* funding during fiscal year 2011-2012 (April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012.) The intent of this rule is to prevent athletes whose performance levels and rankings no longer qualify them for Sport Canada carding from taking an Ontario Card from a future national-level athlete. However, exceptions may apply and will be considered by the MHPS on a case-by-case basis. Exceptions may include, but may not be limited to logistical or administrative changes (ex. reduction in Sport Canada carding allocation), injuries, etc. The Ontario Curling Council must contact MHPS in writing prior to the submission of the Athlete Nominations to seek individual exceptions.
- All athletes under the age of 18 must have their parent or legal guardian sign their OAAP application form. Cheques will be processed in the name of the eligible athlete.
- An athlete can only be nominated to receive *Quest for Gold* funding in one sport.
- Athletes who are attending any foreign post-secondary educational institution (including NCAA institutions) and are receiving an athletic scholarship in any sport are not eligible to receive OAAP support.
- The onus is entirely on the athlete to determine the impact of accepting OAAP funding on current or future NCAA eligibility and to decide whether or not to accept OAAP funding. The athlete will be required to acknowledge this onus and responsibility when signing the OAAP Ontario Card application form and agreeing to the related terms and conditions of the program. Athletes are strongly encouraged to contact the NCAA Eligibility Center to determine the impact of *Quest for Gold* - OAAP funding on current or future eligibility for a NCAA scholarship or on eligibility to compete in a non-scholarship NCAA sport.

National Collegiate Athletic Association

[www.ncaa.org](http://www.ncaa.org)

NCAA Eligibility Center mailing address:

NCAA Eligibility Center

P.O. Box 7136

Indianapolis, IN 46207

Customer service hours - 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Eastern time Monday through Friday.

Toll-free phone number (U.S. callers) - Customer service line – 877-262-1492

Phone number (international callers) - Customer service line – 317-223-0700

Fax number - 317-968-5100

- In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between the MHPS eligibility requirements detailed in the MHPS binder provided to PSO/MSOs and duplicated in the Athlete Handbook provided to each nominated athlete and the eligibility requirements listed in the PSO/MSO Athlete Selection Criteria Document prepared by the PSO/MSO, the MHPS Binder/Athlete Handbook shall prevail.

### **Athletes funded through the Sport Canada AAP:**

Ontario athletes who have been nominated and accepted for funding through Sport Canada's AAP within the government of Ontario's fiscal year (April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012) and who continue to meet AAP and OAAP eligibility requirements will automatically be considered for a *Quest for Gold* 'Canada Card'. MHPS will contact those athletes directly at the mailing and email addresses the athlete provided to Sport Canada. Athletes are solely responsible for ensuring that their contact information is kept accurate and up to date at all times.

### **Sport Specific Athlete Selection Criteria:**

The following sport specific athlete selection criteria will be utilized in the identification, ranking and selection of athletes for Ontario Cards.

#### **The Athlete shall:**

- a. Recognize the responsibilities of the coaches in coach-related decisions and follow the training and competitive program mutually agreed to by the following:
  - o The OCC representative responsible for developing and monitoring Provincial Team training and competitive programs (the Provincial Coach or his/her Assistant or High Performance Director);
  - o The Athlete's personal coach and
  - o The Athlete
- b. Avoid living in an environment not conducive to high performance achievements or taking any deliberate action that puts his or her ability to perform at risk or limits performance;
- c. Provide the Provincial Coach or his/her designate by mail, with an annual training chart and regular updates of changes to the chart or any other appropriate information that the PSO/MSO may request.
- d. Train between 5-10 hours per week in the off-season, mostly in fitness, team dynamics, mental toughness readings (work with a Sport Psychologist) and strategy (view of tapes, discussions with other players and coach about shots).
- e. In season spend a minimum of 10 hours per week training, in team practices, individual practices, competitions, bonspiels, fitness and other events, during the curling season.
- f. Work with the Provincial Coach and/or his designate in the areas of mental toughness, fitness, team dynamics and technical/tactical improvement in preparation for competitions.
- g. Notify the OCC immediately in writing of any injury or other legitimate reason that will prevent the Athlete from participating in an upcoming event recommended by the Provincial Coach or his/her Assistant and ensure in the case of an injury that a certificate from a medical doctor setting out the specific nature of the injury is forwarded to the PSO/MSO within three weeks of the injury.
- h. Dress in the Provincial Team uniform and other official clothing, if applicable, while traveling or participating as part of the Provincial team.
- i. Avoid any action or conduct that would reasonably be expected to significantly disrupt or interfere with a competition or the preparation of any Athlete for a competition.
- j. Avoid the use of banned substances, which are in contravention to the rules of the IOC, the World Curling Federation (WCF) and Canadian Policy on doping in sport. Agree to submit to, without prior warning, unannounced doping control tests in addition to other prior notice tests and at other times to doping control testing upon request of the WCF, CCA (Canadian Curling Association), Sport Canada, the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport, COC or any other authority designated to do so.
- k. Avoid the possession of anabolic drugs and neither supplies such drugs to others *directly or indirectly*, nor encourages or condones their use by knowingly aiding in any effort to avoid detection of the use of banned substances or banned performance-enhancing practices.
- l. Participate, if asked, by the CCA or the Ontario Curling Council, or the OCA or the NOCA to do so, in any Doping Control/Education Program developed by the CCA or the Ontario Curling Council in cooperation with Sport Canada and the CCES.
- m. Avoid participating in any competitions where federal government sport policy has determined participation is not permitted;
- n. Participate in sport-related, non-commercial promotional activities on behalf of the government of Ontario. The OCC usually makes such requests for participation and arranges the activities. Unless supplementary compensation is arranged, these activities do not normally involve more than two working days per athlete per year;
- o. Adhere to and comply with the OCC dispute mechanism procedure in the event of a dispute relating to or arising out of this Agreement.

- p. Actively participate in all Ontario AAP evaluation activities. Athletes will cooperate fully in any evaluation of the Ontario AAP that may be conducted by the Minister or anyone authorized to act on the Minister's behalf and provide such data as the person conducting the evaluation considers necessary for the proper conduct of the evaluation.
- q. Spend the OAAP funding obtained only on the following items:
  - o Normal living costs
  - o Tuition & education related expenses (books, fees)
  - o Costs directly associated with training (coaching, facility fees, other athlete services)
  - o Costs associated with attending training camps and competitions (entry fees, travel costs, accommodations)
  - o Sport specific equipment

The terms and conditions of the *Quest for Gold* program require athlete recipients to retain all records and documents related to the grant (e.g. receipts) for a three year period and must make them available for inspection by the Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport when requested. However, the Ministry will not be requesting receipts from carded athletes on an ongoing basis. *Athletes who receive an OAAP grant will not be issued a T4A form.*
- r. Always respect and comply with the Curling Code of Ethics
- s. Athletes who received Quest for Gold funding in 2010-2011 must meet all the terms of the 2010-2011 Ontario Curling Council Quest for Gold Athlete Agreement before the Ontario Curling Council will consider their application for carding in 2011 - 2012.

**Both the MHPS and the Ontario Curling Council Eligibility Criteria must be met before financial assistance can be awarded to any curler.**

An athlete who previously received *Quest for Gold* funding and entered into a Sports Organization – Athlete Agreement must have complied with the terms of that agreement to the satisfaction of the Ontario Curling Council in order to be considered for funding in fiscal 2011 – 2012.

**Points will be granted for each category and at each level of competition as listed on the specific pages referring to the category – either Older Junior, Junior, Bantam, or Wheelchair.**

**Bantam and Junior curlers may need to complete the forms for both categories if they have qualified in both categories. Similarly older juniors may need to complete the junior category for the same reason.**

**The points are then added and the individuals with the greatest number of points will win the cards.**

#### **Selection Process – OAAP**

- The Ontario Curling Council will conduct a formal process for nominating athletes for Ontario Cards. Rules and procedures for Ontario Cards are as detailed in this document.
- The Ontario Curling Council will have in place an Athlete – Ontario Curling Council Agreement signed by each individual athlete who is being nominated for an Ontario Card. The Athlete – Ontario Curling Council Agreement will contain in writing the rights, responsibilities and obligations of the athlete and of the Ontario Curling Council.
- All international and domestic results are used in the development of sport-specific criteria, (the Application Form) with points being given for every appropriate achievement. OCC may also use objective measures of technical ability and skill levels
- Ontario Cards are applied for and granted to individuals not to teams.
- The OJCRT, CTRS, NOCA ranking system and OCCTRS, Ontario Junior Curling Tour, Canadian Team Ranking System, NOCA ranking system and Ontario Curling Council Team Ranking for wheelchair teams, respectively, are the main vehicles for establishing the top team/individuals in Canada and Ontario. Each consists of a complex system of points for placings gathered at bonspiels and competitions. Only the top-ranked bonspiels and competitions are eligible for entry into these ranking systems., If a team name appears on both the OJCRT and the NOCA ranking systems, the more senior OJCRT will take precedence. The older-junior category will be ranked according to the CTRS and the wheelchair teams will be ranked according to the OCCTRS.
- The Ontario Curling Council will nominate athletes from three categories in the able-bodied category and one in the wheelchair category. However, cards allotted will be gender equal within total carding allotment. Two full cards will be granted in the older junior category,(1 each male and female), 4 full (2 each male and female),in the junior

category, 4 half cards (2 each male and female) in the bantam division, and 4 full cards (2 each male and female) to the wheelchair curlers.

- No limit shall be placed on the number of years an athlete can be nominated for an Ontario Card, as long as the athlete meets the selection criteria.
- The curlers must apply for the Ontario cards using the attached multi-page Application Form for their correct category. (Junior, bantam, older junior or wheelchair). Applications should be sent c/o John McCrae at the Ontario Curling Council Office and all applications must be received in the office by 12 o'clock noon December 8, 2011. Applications received after that date will not be considered. Athletes are solely responsible for submitting a complete application. The OCC will not contact athletes to advise of an incomplete application.
- Each application will be given specific points (as noted on each question) and then totalled to arrive at that curler's score. The top scores in each category will be nominated for Ontario cards as per the number allotted to the Ontario Curling Council.
- *Ties will be broken by the total number of points gained and added together from five categories, namely 1.NCCP Courses taken, 2. Camp Experience, 3. Camp Instruction, 4.Scholarships/Awards (curling related) and 5. Volunteer work in the sport. The points awarded will not count towards the curlers final point count but will be used to break any ties should they occur.*
- Events that may earn points are described in detail on the Application Form. The curlers should read INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE CURLING APPLICATION FORM and follow these instructions carefully before proceeding.
- Each athlete must enter into an Athlete Agreement with the Ontario Curling Council (Agreement to be supplied by the Ontario Curling Council to the athlete)
- Applications from curlers from the Ontario Curling Association and the Northern Ontario Curling Association will be given equal consideration.
- Positions on the team are equally important – skip, vice, second, lead will all be considered equal.
- Only those achievements that have occurred since May 1, 2009 may be recorded. Achievements prior to May 1, 2009 may not be included. **The one exception to this rule is that NCCP courses (listed under Ties) taken at any time are eligible for points.**
- Mixed results may not be included except in the case of Wheelchair curling where all the competitions are mixed.
- Coaches must have a minimum of NCCP Certified Competition Coach

**Alternates:** The Ontario Curling Council will also nominate alternates to those athletes nominated for Ontario Card status. Alternates will be those athletes who are ranked directly behind those athletes nominated for the allotment of Ontario Cards in a particular category/discipline. The names of alternates will be published along with the names of nominated athletes. If an athlete drops out or is removed from the OAAP an alternate will be substituted into that athlete's position, provided that:

- Alternate is substituted within 2011-2012 fiscal year;
- An alternate is available from the same category/discipline/card level (Full/Half);
- Funding for athlete being substituted is still available within fiscal year (e.g. full funding for card has not already been paid out to athlete no longer in program).

#### **To Apply:**

All required information must be submitted by email, fax, courier or regular mail) and must be received no later than 12 o'clock noon December 8, 2011

Include your:

- Application Form
- Coach's Letter of Recommendation
- Coach's NCCP CC number. (on front page of the Application form)

Submit to

John McCrae, Chief Administrative Officer, Ontario Curling Council

1400 Bayly Street, Office Mall 2, #2B, Pickering, Ontario, L1W 3R2

Phone:(905-831-3699) Fax: (905-831-1083)

Email: [john@ontcurl.com](mailto:john@ontcurl.com)

It is the athlete's responsibility to contact the Ontario Curling Council to be certain that the application has been successfully received by the deadline date.

The Sports Organization – Athlete Agreement will only come into effect if an athlete is selected and accepts carding status through the OAAP program.

**The Ontario Curling Council** will publish or make known a draft list of athletes nominated for Ontario Card status by no later than **January 13, 2012**.

## Appeals

Athletes who have not been nominated for an Ontario Card by the Ontario Curling Council Selection Committee or who have been nominated for a 'Half Card' versus a 'Full Card', where applicable will be allowed to appeal that decision by filing a "Notice of Appeal" with MHPS. Appeals will be heard by an Appeals Committee comprised of representatives from the sport community, selected by the MHPS.

Grounds for appeals will be limited strictly to issues related to:

- A) Whether or not the Selection Committee has completed the selection process in accordance with its own published selection criteria and related procedures;
- B) Whether or not the Selection Committee applied the selection criteria in a manner that was free from bias, discrimination and/or conflict of interest.

Please note that before an athlete can file a Notice of Appeal, he or she must first ask the Ontario Curling Council for reasons explaining why he or she was not nominated for an Ontario Card.

If the athlete is not satisfied with the OCC's response, the athlete may submit a Notice of Appeal, found below. A Notice of Appeal will only be accepted on the MHPS-provided template (typed or hand-printed, no hand-written entries) through email, regular post, registered mail, courier or delivered in person. The Notice of Appeal must be received by MHPS by 4 p.m. on the deadline day. Appeals that are delivered personally or by courier shall be deemed to be received on the date of delivery.

Once MHPS has received the Notice of Appeal, it will share it with the Ontario Curling Council, who will then have an opportunity to file a "Response" with MHPS by a specified deadline. The Response will outline why the Ontario Curling Council believes that the Selection Committee's decision not to nominate the athlete should be upheld by the Appeals Committee. MHPS will share the Ontario Curling Council's Response with the athlete.

If, after receiving the Ontario Curling Council's Response, the athlete believes that the Ontario Curling Council has raised new or additional reasons to justify the Selection Committee's decision not to nominate the athlete for an Ontario Card, then the athlete will have an opportunity to file a "Reply" with MHPS, responding to these additional reasons. The Reply must be limited to these additional reasons and cannot be used to make submissions already raised in the Notice of Appeal, or that the athlete neglected to include in the Notice of Appeal. The Reply will only be accepted on the MHPS-provided template.

Once MHPS receives the Notice of Appeal, the Response, and the Reply (if applicable), it will provide those materials to the Appeals Committee. The Appeals Committee will discuss all appeals at once. During its review of the appeals, the Appeals Committee reserves the right to request additional information from both the athlete and the Ontario Curling Council.

After reviewing an appeal the Appeals Committee will have the authority to:

1. Direct the Ontario Curling Council to redo the selection process using the correct criteria/process and submit a new list of nominated athletes;
2. Deny the appeal; or
3. Allow the appeal and nominate the appellant for carding status.

Once the Appeals Committee has reached its decision, it will contact the athlete and the Ontario Curling Council in writing to communicate its decision and the reasons therefore.

An athlete who has had his or her appeal denied is not permitted to submit a second appeal to the Appeals Committee on the same or different grounds.

**Note:** The Ontario Curling Council is encouraged to resolve disputes or disagreements informally with athletes who have not been nominated to avoid, wherever possible, formal appeals.

The deadline for athletes to submit an “**Athlete’s Notice of Appeal**” to the Appeals Committee is  
4 PM on January 26, 2012.

Appeals must be completed on the Notice of Appeal template below and will be directed to:

*Quest for Gold* Ontario Athlete Assistance Program Appeals Committee  
c/o Sport, Recreation and Community Programs Branch  
Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport  
Suite 702, 777 Bay Street  
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1S5

## 2011/2012 *Quest for Gold* – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program Athlete's Notice of Appeal Template

The deadline for an athlete to submit an appeal to the Appeals Committee is 4:00 p.m. on January 26, 2012 for Cycle 2. Appeals will only be accepted on the MHPS-provided Notice of Appeal template. **Please refer to the appeals section of your PSO/MSO's Athlete Selection Criteria document prior to completing this form.**

**Return form to:**

***Quest for Gold* Appeals Committee  
c/o Ministry of Health Promotion and Sport  
777 Bay Street, Suite 702, Toronto ON M7A 1S5  
Fax: 416-314-6301 Email: Scott.Cooper@ontario.ca**

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Sport / PSO \_\_\_\_\_

**Reason for Appeal (Check all that apply):**

- Whether or not the PSO/MSO has completed the selection process in accordance with its own published selection criteria and related procedures;
- Whether or not the PSO/MSO applied the section criteria in a manner that was free from bias, discrimination and/or conflict of interest.

**Provide a two-line summary of the reason for the appeal:**

**In the space below, (continue on to next page as needed) provide the reasons communicated to you by your PSO/MSO as to why you were not nominated for an Ontario Card. (Note: If your PSO/MSO did not provide you with any reasons, please make a request to your PSO/MSO to see these reasons before completing this Appeal Template.)**

**In the space below (continue on to next page as needed), provide a detailed account of the situation to allow the Appeals Committee to understand the basis of the appeal (please submit additional pages/supporting documentation as necessary):**

**PLEASE NOTE that all decisions of the Appeals Committee are final.**

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Print Name of Appellant

Signature of Appellant

Date

All information provided to the Appeals Committee will be shared with both the Appellant and the PSO/MSO.