

Ontario Council of Shooters

Announcement of Shooting Sports Athlete Selection Criteria Quest for Gold – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program 2006/2007

The Quest for Gold – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program (OAAP) 2006/2007 is funded by the Provincial Government of Ontario, through the Ministry of Health Promotion. The Program will provide direct financial assistance to individual junior level athletes from Ontario through an “Ontario Card” designation. 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 2006-2007, the Sport and Recreation Branch, Ministry of Health Promotion, allocated a certain amount of OAAP Ontario Cards to each eligible Provincial Sport/ Multi-Sport Organization (PSO/ MSO). In accordance with the OAAP guidelines, the Ontario Council of Shooters (Canadian Shooting Sports Assn) is responsible for forming a Selection Committee and sport specific selection criteria to select the athletes who will be awarded Ontario Card status in 2006/2007.

How much funding is available?

The exact level of funding for the 2006/2007 fiscal year will be determined by the Ministry after the total number of athletes nominated for Ontario Card status has been determined.

How will the Ontario Cards be allocated?

The Ontario Council of Shooters has been allocated a total of 8 cards to fund Ontario shooting athletes. The Ontario Cards will be divided as follows:

- a. Senior Level Athletes – 2 Cards (either Rifle and/or Pistol) – Identified shooting athletes who are currently on the national senior, junior or development teams who are not funded by Sport Canada currently.
- b. Junior Level Athletes – 6 Cards (from Rifle and Pistol) - Athletes who meet the age criteria as set out and are eligible to compete at the Canada Games.
- c. Junior aged athletes who meet the criteria to qualify for the Senior Level card will be considered first for the Senior Level card and if unsuccessful, will be considered for the Junior Level card second.

The Ontario Council of Shooters is committed to Gender Equity in sport. As such:

- a. Combined Categories a) and b) should be gender equal (4 males and 4 females), although if possible, Category a) and Category b) should be gender equal individually.

How will the Ontario Council of Shooters Selection Committee decide who receives funding?

Sport Selection Criteria

Eligible Developmental Athletes:

- a. Are not carded by Sport Canada.
- b. Meet all minimum eligibility requirements as determined by the Ministry of Health Promotion.
- c. Competed in the LSBA Airgun matches scheduled for December 9/10, 2006 and January 13/14, 2007.
- d. A total of eight Ontario Cards will be awarded. They will be assigned as four rifle and four pistol, between four males and four females to ensure discipline and gender neutrality.
- e. Two (2) Ontario Cards for identified Senior Level Athletes will be allocated based on National Team Developmental Status and upon the highest combined percentile rankings from the LSBA competitions listed in (c.) If there are no eligible Senior Level athletes in either the rifle or pistol discipline, then both cards will go to the Junior Level athletes. If there is only one eligible Senior Level athlete, then the remaining card in the other discipline will be given to the Junior Level athletes. If there are two eligible Senior Level athletes, but only in one discipline, then they will take one card from the juniors in that discipline, and the four cards in the other discipline will all go to Junior Level athletes. Please note: male and female athletes are competing within both disciplines for these two cards. As a result, Senior Level cards could be awarded to only one gender in one discipline, based on percentile ranking in their respective events.
- f. Six (6) Ontario Cards for Junior Level Athletes will be allocated based upon the highest combined percentile rankings from the LSBA competitions listed in (c.)
- g. Once eligibility criteria has been met, the selection committee will use percentile ranking of Senior and Junior Open placement as the deciding factor, when choosing among disciplines or between a male or a female. For instance, a 540/600 in air rifle is not as strong as a 540/600 in air pistol. Yet, if one person came in 51st out of 67 competitors (in the 25th percentile), versus someone who came in 21st out of 28th (better, the 29th percentile), the person in the 29th percentile should receive the nomination. The athletes who place higher among their peers will be rewarded. If choosing between a male or female, for instance to ensure gender neutrality, then we select the athlete who ranked highest within their peer group.
- h. Essentially, one adult in each discipline is named, if they meet the MHP criteria. Next the top two male and top two female juniors in each discipline are chosen. The remaining juniors are chosen to equalize the gender and discipline issues as a result of the senior athletes. Percentile ranking in the open class (total ranking, not within classification) will be used to settle ties, choose between disciplines or determine higher ranked gender.
- i. In the unlikely event of an absolute tie by percentile ranking to one decimal point (i.e. 96.1%), then a single shot shootoff will be arranged at a date and location to be determined prior to January 22, 2007, to determine a tie-breaker.

What's Next?

By January 22, 2007, the Canadian Shooting Sports Association will nominate athletes, based upon the above criteria. The athletes will then be notified and asked to submit an application for the funding.

Appeals

Athletes who have not been nominated and who wish to appeal this decision can do so by filing an appeal *in writing only* with the *Quest for Gold* Ontario Athlete Assistance Program Appeals Committee. Appeals must be submitted through regular post, registered mail, in person or by courier. Appeals that are delivered personally or by courier shall be deemed to be received on the date of delivery. Appeals that are delivered by regular post or registered mail shall be deemed to be received three days after the date of mailing. **Appeals submitted by e-mail or fax will not be accepted.**

Grounds for appeals will be limited strictly to:

- whether or not the PSO/MSO has completed the selection process in accordance with their own published selection criteria and related procedures;
- whether or not the selection criteria developed and applied by the PSO/MSO were fair, objective, transparent and free from discrimination or conflict of interest.

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

- Direct the PSO/MSO to redo the selection process using the correct criteria/process and submit new list of nominated athletes;
- Deny the appeal;
- Allow the appeal and nominate the appellant for carding status.

The deadline for athletes to submit appeals to the Appeals Committee is **February 6, 2007**.

Appeals can be directed to:

Quest for Gold Ontario Athlete Assistance Program Appeals Committee
c/o Sport and Recreation Branch
Ministry of Health Promotion,
18th floor, 393 University Avenue
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 2S1