

- 1.0 Quest for Gold – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program 2019-2020 (OAAP) is funded by the Government of Ontario, through the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries (MHSTCI), and operated through the Sport, Recreation & Community Programs Division. The overarching goal of the Quest for Gold – OAAP is directly related to the High Performance Sport goal of the Canadian Sport Policy – that Canadians are systematically achieving world-class results at the highest levels of international competition – by improving 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 intent of the OAAP is to provide funding to individual athletes in the sport's Train to Train through Train to Win categories based on their demonstrated commitment to high performance sport, allowing them to continue to pursue athletic excellence at the highest levels of national and international competition. **Only those athletes that meet the required minimum performance standard detailed in this Selection Criteria will be considered for this program.** Ideally an athlete will first receive a Quest for Gold "Ontario Card" for 1 to 3 years, which will allow them to train towards the goal of a national team position in subsequent years. Once an Ontario athlete reaches the national level and becomes a recipient of Sport Canada's carding program, they become eligible for the Quest for Gold "Canada Card". Athletes who are not planning to train towards this level of competition should not apply for this program.

2.0 How does it work?

In accordance with the OAAP guidelines, Judo Ontario develops sport-specific selection criteria and forms a Selection Committee that will apply these criteria. The top-ranked athletes, based on the criteria, will be awarded Ontario Card status in 2019-2020. This Selection Criteria has been approved by Judo Ontario and reviewed by MHSTCI staff. Nominated athletes will be required to sign and comply with an Athlete Agreement between the athlete and Judo Ontario. Carding status will be for one year starting April 1, 2019 ending March 31, 2020.

Carded athletes will be required to compete exclusively on behalf of the Province of Ontario at National Championship events and for Canada at International Championship events, for a period of one year from the date carding is approved and acknowledge Ontario as their permanent place of residence on athlete profiles, Media Guides, PSO/NSO and personal websites, and in similar types of public communications.

- 2.1 For 2019-2020, the MHSTCI has allocated Judo Ontario a total of 18 Ontario cards (split evenly as 9 male and 9 female Cards).

Judo Ontario has also decided to exercise the option made available by MHSTCI 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 MHSTCI 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).

- 2.2 As a result, the 18 cards issued to Judo Ontario will be allocated as follows:

Cards	Male	Female
Full Cards – 14	7	7
Half Cards – 4 full cards = 8 half cards	4	4

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

Category	Number of cards
Senior (Born in 1999 and before) *	6 Full Cards (3 male, 3 female)
U21 (Born in 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005) *	8 Full Cards (4 male, 4 female)
U18 (Born in 2003, 2004 & 2005) *	4 Full Cards = 8 Half Cards (4 male, 4 female)

* Also includes Early Bloomer years, see Section 6.0 below

An athlete's age will be determined as of January 1, 2020

Judo Ontario is not obligated to assign all Ontario Cards if there are an insufficient number of athletes who have demonstrated potential to be considered for future National Teams.

2.3 The Selection Committee, as approved by Judo Ontario is comprised of the following members:

- Brian Kalsen, Quest for Gold Chair, OHPSI Committee Member, Director Ontario Region (Judo Canada)
- James Millar, Quest for Gold Committee Member, Judo Ontario Technical/Coaching Director, Judo Canada RTC Coach

How much funding is available?

The exact level of funding for the 2019-2020 carding year will be determined by the MHSTCI after the total number of athletes nominated for Ontario Card status has been determined.

How will the Judo Ontario Selection Committee decide who receives funding?

The Judo Ontario Quest for Gold Selection Committee will use the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries Eligibility Criteria and the Sport Specific Selection Criteria detailed below to determine which athletes will be nominated for Ontario Card status in 2019-2020:

3.0 Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries Eligibility Criteria:

All athletes must meet the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries' minimum athlete eligibility criteria:

- Athlete must be a Canadian citizen or permanent resident (previously known as a Landed Immigrant).
- Athlete must be a permanent resident of Ontario for one year prior to his/her nomination for carding status, (and continue to be a permanent resident throughout the term of the agreement).
- Athletes who have achieved Canada Card status (carded by Sport Canada) are not eligible for Ontario Cards.
- Athletes must be living in and continuing to train in Ontario.

3.1 Residency Exceptions:

Exceptions to these criteria, known as a "Residency Exception" will be considered on a case specific basis by the Judo Ontario, Quest for Gold Selection Committee provided that the athlete can substantiate in writing 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.

Any change in an athlete's residency status must be communicated in writing to the PSO/MSO immediately.

The onus is on the athlete to demonstrate that he/she needs to be out-of-province for one of the above reasons. The athlete must submit written documentation to the Judo Ontario by no later than March 27th 2020, clearly indicating how they meet a residency exception(s).

Athlete's applying for a Residency Exception related to exception (a) above, who are training at an NSO-approved National Training Centre MUST include a letter from the NSO outlining their support for the athlete, the progress the athlete is making and the athlete's potential to make the national team level. Additional documentation may include, but shall not be limited to an explanation of 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 Judo Ontario.

3.2 Length of time living outside Ontario:

Athletes living outside Ontario for more than 30 consecutive days within the ministry fiscal year 2019-2020 for athletic or academic purposes must demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the PSO/MSO Selection Committee that appropriate training programs are in place and are being monitored by the PSO/MSO. The onus is on the athlete to:

1. Provide a written plan outlining their training and competition plans to the PSO/MSO prior to their departure from Ontario, as part of their Residency Exception request (Due March 27th 2020); and
2. Adhere to the PSO/MSO-approved competition and training plan throughout the carding cycle. At a minimum, this requires regular contact by the athlete with the Judo Ontario Quest for Gold Committee at Q4G@judoontario.ca at least quarterly; and
3. A written annual training and competition plan and regular training logs to the PSO/MSO to track progress against the PSO/MSO-approved competition and training plan.

***Athletes who were formally invited to and are currently participating in their NSO's national team training program are exempt from this requirement (specifically 1, 2 and 3, above). ***

3.3 Ministry criteria continued:

- 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 2019-2020;
- Athlete must demonstrate a commitment and dedication to a proper training and competitive program, the goal of which is to continue to train towards a national team position and Sport Canada carding;
- Athlete's coach should be minimum Level 2 NCCP certified or trained status Competition Stream or the sport's equivalent in the Instruction Stream, or be engaged in completing this training, as determined by the PSO;
- 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.

3.4 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 contact Judo Ontario for more information if you are applying for this exemption.

- 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.
- 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.

4.0 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, 2019 to March 31, 2020) and who continue to meet AAP and OAAP eligibility requirements will automatically be considered for a *Quest for Gold* 'Canada Card'. MHSTCI 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.

An athlete who received Sport Canada AAP carding during any part of MHSTCI' fiscal year April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2019 and/or any part of fiscal year April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020 and is no longer in receipt of Sport Canada Athlete Assistance shall not be eligible to receive *Quest for Gold* funding during fiscal year 2019-2020 (April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020.)

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.

4.1 Canada Card Exception (CCE)

Exceptions may apply to this rule (known as a Canada Card Exception (CCE)) and will be considered by the Ministry on a case-by-case basis. Exceptions may include, but may not be limited to logistical or administrative changes (e.g. reduction in Sport Canada carding allocation), injuries, etc.

It is the sole responsibility of the athlete to contact Judo Ontario Selection Committee prior to **March 27th, 2020** to request a CCE. The athlete must submit, in writing, an explanation of why they have not been, or do not expect to be re-carded by their NSO. The submission must include a statement from the NSO, signed and dated on their letterhead, confirming that the athlete still has potential to return to the NSO's carding program in the future. It is the responsibility of the athlete to submit this letter to Judo Ontario; Judo Ontario will not obtain this letter from the NSO on the athlete's behalf.

Judo Ontario will then contact MHSTCI in writing prior to the submission of the Athlete Nomination Form to seek individual Canada Card Exceptions. Judo Ontario is not responsible for seeking a CCE for any athlete unless requested to do so by the athlete as detailed above.

5.0 National College Athletic Association (NCAA):

On August 1, 2013, the NCAA revised their By-law that previously prevented an athlete from accepting grants from a governmental entity, such as Quest for Gold. Despite this change, any athlete considering an application to an NCAA institution is strongly encouraged to contact the NCAA Eligibility Center prior to applying for QFG funding.

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

NCAA Eligibility Center mailing address:

NCAA Eligibility Center P.O. Box 7136, Indianapolis, IN 46207

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

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

6.0 Judo Ontario Athlete Selection Criteria:

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

It is in keeping with the Ministry's expectations that those athletes, particularly junior-aged athletes, already identified by the NSO RTC (and not already in receipt of Sport Canada Carding) should receive primary focus and priority ranking in the ranking process. These are the athletes already identified by the NSO RTC and/or Sport Canada within their talent identification process.

Age Standards as defined for the 2019-2020 Season

U18 (Born in 2003, 2004 and 2005)

U21 (Born in 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005)

Seniors (Born in 2005 and before)

It is understood that at the time of the 2019 U18 and U21 Canadian Championships, the definition of each age standard differed by at least one calendar year.

It is also understood that under the Judo Canada "Early Bloomer Clause" athletes born in 2006 may be considered for U18, U21 or Senior.

Selection for U18 and U21 Cards

The minimum performance threshold is: earning points, as described below, in **two (2)** pointable tournaments. Selection Criteria for Quest for Gold cards for U18 and U21 categories are awarded based on an accumulation of points calculated using the best two (2) out of the following three (3) tournaments and the point allocation in Table A below:

- 2019 U18 U21 Canadian Championships – Edmonton, Alberta (May 16th, 17th, 18th, and 19th, 2019)
- Quebec Open 2019 – Montreal, Quebec, November 2nd and 3rd, 2019)
- Ontario Open 2019 – Toronto, Ontario, November 9th and 10th, 2019)

Table A: U18 and U21 Points – the best 2 out of 3 tournaments listed below are pointable:

U18 and U21 Tournaments		1 st	2 nd	3 rd	5 th	7 th
1	May 2019 U18 & U21 Canadian Championships	80	70	60	45	30
2	Quebec Open 2019	80	70	60	45	30
3	Ontario Open 2019	80	70	60	45	30

- a) In cases where an athlete has two wins and the division has less than 5 contestants, he/she will receive 80% of the awarded ranking points.
- b) In addition, the athlete will receive 6 points per win. This does not include wins by a bye, default or an injury before a match has commenced.
- c) For example: An athlete places 3rd with a record of 2 wins and 1 loss receives 60 points for 3rd place plus 6 points for each win for a total of 12 points and for a grand total of 72 points; if the athlete was in a division of less than 5 contestants, then the total is 80% of 60 points, i.e. 48, plus 12 points, for a grand total of 60 points.
- d) In order to accumulate points at a tournament, the athlete must have a minimum of two wins.
- e) Athletes eligible by age to qualify for and compete as a U18 in the 2019 National Judo Championships, may use and combine their best results in qualifying events from the U18 or U21 age divisions, but are only eligible for a U18 Quest for Gold Card if results are combined.
- f) Where an athlete competes in the U18 and U21 divisions at the same qualifying event, the better of the two results will be used for U18 points.
- g) Athletes who are no longer age eligible to compete in U16 in the 2019-2020 Quest for Gold Cycle, and are now in U18 may count 50% of their points from the 2019 U16 National Championships towards the U18 2019-2020 Cycle.
- h) Athletes who are no longer age eligible to compete in U18 in the 2019-2020 Quest for Gold Cycle, and are now in U21 may count 50% of their points from the 2019 U18 National Championships towards the U21 2019-2020 Cycle.
- i) In the event that an athlete qualifies for both U18 and U21, that athlete will receive the Quest for Gold Card that the Quest for Gold Selection Committee determines, provided he/she is age eligible to both U18 and U21 competitions during the current season.
- j) In the event of a tie for the final Quest for Gold card, the following process shall apply:
 - a. the athlete already identified by the NSO RTC within their talent identification process and through the NSO RTC, and not already in receipt of Sport Canada Carding, shall be awarded the final card;
 - b. if still tied, the athlete with the highest ranking at the May 2019 U18 and U21 Canadian Championships will be awarded the final card; and
 - c. if still tied, the athlete with the best result at Quebec Open 2019 will be awarded the final card.
- k) 2019-2020 QFG recipients living within 250kms from the Judo Ontario office must attend 75% (6 out of 8) of the monthly Provincial Trainings unless granted an exemption from the Selection Committee of Judo Ontario prior to missing the said training.
- l) 2019-2020 QFG recipients living within 250kms from the Judo Ontario office must attend 75% (9 out of 12) of the monthly Open Mat trainings unless granted an exemption from the Selection Committee of Judo Ontario prior to missing the said training.
- m) 2019-2020 QFG recipients living more than 250kms from the Judo Ontario office must attend 2 monthly Provincial Trainings or Open Mat trainings throughout the 2019-2020 season unless granted an exemption from the Selection Committee of Judo Ontario prior to missing the said training.
- n) 2019-2020 QFG recipients living in the Ottawa area must attend 2 monthly Provincial Trainings or Open Mat trainings and 4 NTC trainings in Montreal unless granted an exemption from the Selection Committee of Judo Ontario prior to missing the said training.
- n) 2019-2020 QFG recipients must attend the Summer Training Camp (at least one week), Winter Training Camp and National Camp after the May National Championships, organized by Judo Canada in 2020.
- o) 2019-2020 QFG recipients must attend the following tournaments in 2020:

- a. 2 of the 4 following tournaments: Saskatchewan Open, Pacific International, Edmonton International and Eastern Canadian Open; OR Bremen (GER - Male) Thuringia (GER - Female), if selected by Judo Canada; the German tournaments are only for U18 and U21; and
- b. also Elite Invitational Nationals (if selected), May National Championships, Quebec Open and Ontario Open.
- p) QFG recipients training at the NTC must attend a minimum of 5 judo trainings per week. (NTC coaching staff will keep attendance).
- q) Note: If there is a conflict of dates of trainings and/or tournaments and a QFG recipient is unable to attend an above-noted event, the athlete must:
 - a. be selected by Judo Canada or Judo Ontario to participate in an international event; or
 - b. make a request for an exemption from the QFG criteria, in writing to the Selection Committee of Judo Ontario, prior to the event.
- r) Completion of the CCES e-learning module "True Sport Clean" by **April 31, 2020** (at <http://education.cces.ca>).

For additional resources and general information about anti-doping, contact the CCES:

Email: info@cces.ca

Call toll-free: 1-800-672-7775

Online: www.cces.ca/athletezone

Selection Criteria for Senior Cards

The minimum performance threshold is: top 7 and a minimum of 2 wins at **two (2)** of the tournaments listed in Table A above or at the May 2019 Senior Canadian Championships, and a minimum of 7 National Points, see below.

- a) All points considered for senior carding must be current National Points obtained in IJF weight divisions for which Judo Canada calculates national points.

**** Please note: Currently Judo Canada does not calculate points for the Sr. -55kg (male) and -44kg (female) divisions. Therefore these divisions will not be considered in the 2019-20 Quest for Gold funding cycle.****

- b) To be eligible for a Quest for Gold card you must be born in 1995 or after.
- c) Athletes must have placed in the top 7 and have a minimum of 2 wins in at least two of the tournaments listed in Table A above or at the May 2018 Senior Canadian Championships.
- d) A minimum of 11 National Points are required. National Points are calculated under Policy 8 of the Judo Canada (JC) National Team Handbook.
- e) Also see Policies 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 in the JC National Team Handbook for further details.
- f) In the event that an athlete qualifies for both U21 and Senior Quest for Gold Cards, that athlete will receive the Quest for Gold Card that the Quest for Gold Selection Committee determines provided he/she is age eligible to compete in U21 competitions during the current season.
- g) National Team Points up to and including December 1, 2019 will be counted. Points accumulated after that date will not be included in the 2019-2020 Quest for Gold totals.
- h) In the event of a tie for the final Quest for Gold card, the following process shall apply:
 - a. the athlete already identified by the NSO RTC within their talent identification process (and not already in receipt of Sport Canada Carding) shall be awarded the final card;
 - b. if still tied, the athlete with the highest ranking at the May 2019 Senior Canadian Championships will be awarded the final card; and
 - c. if still tied, the athlete with the best result at the Quebec Open 2019 will be awarded the final card.

- i) 2019-2020 QFG recipients living within 250kms from the Judo Ontario office must attend 75% (6 out of 8) of the monthly Provincial Trainings unless granted an exemption from the Selection Committee of Judo Ontario prior to missing the said training.
- j) 2019-2020 QFG recipients living within 250kms from the Judo Ontario office must attend 75% (9 out of 12) of the monthly Open Mat trainings unless granted an exemption from the Selection Committee of Judo Ontario prior to missing the said training.
- k) 2019-2020 QFG recipients living more than 250kms from the Judo Ontario office must attend 2 monthly Provincial Trainings or Open Mat trainings throughout the 2019-2020 season unless granted an exemption from the Selection Committee of Judo Ontario prior to missing the said training.
- l) 2019-2020 QFG recipients living in the Ottawa area must attend 2 monthly Provincial Trainings or Open Mat trainings and 4 NTC trainings in Montreal unless granted an exemption from the Selection Committee of Judo Ontario prior to missing the said training.
- m) 2019-2020 QFG recipients must attend the Summer Training Camp (at least one week), Winter Training Camp and National Camp after the May National Championships, organized by Judo Canada in 2020, and the Camp after Quebec Open 2020
- n) 2019-2020 QFG recipients must attend the following tournaments in 2019-20 season:
 - a. the Elite Invitational National Championships (if selected); and
 - b. 2 of the 4 following tournaments: Saskatchewan Open, Pacific International, Edmonton International and Eastern Canadian Open; OR a tournament in Europe (as selected by Judo Canada), May National Championships, Quebec Open, and Ontario Open.
- o) QFG recipients training at the NTC have to attend a minimum 5 judo trainings per week. (NTC coaching will keep attendance).
- p) Note: If there is a conflict of dates of trainings and/or tournaments and a QFG recipient is unable to attend an above-noted event, the athlete must:
 - a. be selected by Judo Canada or Judo Ontario to participate in an international event; or
 - b. make a request for an exemption from the QFG criteria, in writing to the Selection Committee of Judo Ontario, prior to the event.
- q) Completion of the CCES e-learning module "True Sport Clean" by **April 31, 2020** (at <http://education.cces.ca>).

For additional resources and general information about anti-doping, contact the CCES: Email: info@cces.ca

Call toll-free: 1-800-672-7775

Online: www.cces.ca/athletezone

7.0 Breaking a Tie:

In the event of a tie for the final Quest for Gold card, the following process shall apply:

- a. the athlete already identified by the NSO RTC within their talent identification process and through the NSO RTC, and not already in receipt of Sport Canada Carding, shall be awarded the final card;
- b. if still tied, the athlete with the highest ranking at the May 2019 U18 and U21 Canadian Championships will be awarded the final card; and
- c. if still tied, the athlete with the best result at Quebec Open 2019 will be awarded the final card.

8.0 Failure to Meet Selection Criteria for Health-related Reasons

Athletes who, for strictly health-related reasons, have not achieved the standards required for nomination of carded status may be considered for nomination under the following conditions:

- The athlete has fulfilled all reasonable training and rehabilitation requirements aimed at a speedy return to full high-performance training and competition during the period of his or her injury, illness or pregnancy and, despite making every reasonable effort to attain the applicable carding standards during the year in which the injury, illness or pregnancy occurred, has failed to do so, in the view of the PSO/MSO, for reasons strictly related to the injury, illness or pregnancy.
- The Judo Ontario, based on its technical judgement and that of a PSO/MSO team physician or equivalent, indicates in writing the expectation that the athlete will achieve at least the minimum standards required for carding during the upcoming carding period.
- The athlete has demonstrated and continues to demonstrate his or her long-term commitment to high-performance training and competition goals, as well as his or her intention to pursue full high-performance training and competition throughout the carding period for which he or she wishes to be renewed despite not having met the carding criteria.

If an Ontario Team athlete became injured and was unable to compete in part of the previous competitive season due to injury, the athlete could be considered for nomination, based on prior seasons' ranking, so long as they meet the following:

- a. Notification - they must have sent written notification and proof to the Judo Ontario office as soon as they became injured, and before September 1 of each season. This notification must include the projected date by which the athlete is able to return to competition, and must include proper documentation from a Judo Ontario approved medical doctor.
- b. Eligibility – To be considered under the Injury, Illness or Pregnancy clause, an athlete MUST have been either Nationally Carded or on the Quest for Gold program last year. Athletes cannot be carded under the Injury, Illness or Pregnancy clause two years in a row.
- c. Data Ranking Process – Once it has been determined an athlete is eligible to use this injury clause, the athlete in question would receive the same number of currently age eligible points that he or she received in the previous year's pointable tournaments.

9.0 **Alternates:** Judo Ontario 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 2019-2020 fiscal year;
- An alternate meeting all requirements 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).

10.0 To Apply:

All required information to be sent to Judo Ontario must be submitted to:

Judo Ontario
info@judoontario.ca
875 Morningside Avenue, Suite 2040
Toronto, Ontario M1C 0C7
Phone number: (416) 447-5836, Fax number: (416) 449-5836

All eligible athletes will be automatically included in the ranking and selection process.

10.1 Any athlete requesting a "Residency Exception" must submit this information by **March 27th, 2020** as detailed above.

- 10.2 It is the sole responsibility of the athlete to provide a full and complete application that meets all stated requirements by **March 27th 2020**. Judo Ontario will neither review applications in advance of the deadline in order to make applicants aware of any missing/incorrect information and/or attachments nor make corrections on behalf of the athlete. Any revisions on the part of the athlete will only be accepted prior to the posted submission deadline.

Applications that are sent directly to the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries rather than to Judo Ontario will not be considered valid or to have been received by the Judo Ontario deadline.

- 10.3 An email will be sent by confirming receipt by **March 27th 2020**. It is the athlete's responsibility to contact Judo Ontario if this email is not received, 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. Athletes who fail to return a signed Athlete Agreement by the deadline date will not be carded.

- 10.4 Judo Ontario will publish or make known a draft list of athletes nominated for Ontario Card status by no later than **April 8th, 2020**.

In the event of a conflict or inconsistency between the MHSTCI eligibility requirements detailed in the MHSTCI 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 MHSTCI Binder/Athlete Handbook shall prevail.

11.0 Appeals

Athletes who have not been nominated for an Ontario Card by the Judo Ontario 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 MHSTCI. Appeals will be heard by an Appeals Committee comprised of representatives from the sport community, selected by the MHSTCI.

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.

Issues related to the specific content or selection requirements contained in the Judo Ontario Selection Criteria are not grounds for an appeal and should therefore be discussed directly with the leadership of Judo Ontario.

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

If the athlete is not satisfied with the Judo Ontario response, the athlete may submit a **Notice of Appeal**, found below. A Notice of Appeal will only be accepted from the athlete or their parent/guardian on the MHSTCI-provided template (typed or hand-printed, no hand-written entries) through email, regular post, registered mail, courier or delivered in person. One appeal cannot be written on behalf of multiple athletes. The Notice of Appeal must be received by MHSTCI by noon on the deadline day. Appeals that are delivered personally or by courier shall be deemed to be received on the date of delivery.

Once MHSTCI has received the Notice of Appeal, it will share it with Judo Ontario, who will then submit a "**Response**" with MHSTCI by a specified deadline. The Response will outline why Judo Ontario believes that the Selection Committee's decision not to nominate the athlete should be upheld by the Appeals Committee. MHSTCI will share the Judo Ontario Response with the athlete.

If, after receiving the Judo Ontario Response, the athlete believes that Judo Ontario 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 MHSTCI, 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 MHSTCI-provided template.

Once MHSTCI 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 Judo Ontario.

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

1. Direct Judo Ontario 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 Judo Ontario 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: Judo Ontario is encouraged to resolve disputes or disagreements informally with athletes who have not been nominated to avoid, wherever possible, formal appeals.

- 11.1 The deadline for athletes to submit an "**Athlete's Notice of Appeal**" to the Appeals Committee is **April 20th, 2020 at 12 noon.**
- 11.2 Appeals must be completed on the Notice of Appeal template below and will be directed to:

Quest for Gold Appeals Committee
c/o Sport, Recreation and Community Programs Division
Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries
777 Bay Street, 18th Floor
Toronto ON M7A 1S5
Email: questforgold@ontario.ca

2019-2020 *Quest for Gold* – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program Athlete's Notice of Appeal Template

Appeals will only be accepted on the MHSTCI-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.**

Deadline: 12 noon on April 20, 2020

Return form to:

***Quest for Gold* Appeals Committee**

c/o Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries

Sport, Recreation and Community Programs Division

777 Bay Street, 18th Floor, Toronto ON M7A 1S5 Email: questforgold@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, and the date the information was provided. (Note: This Appeal will not be accepted unless it contains a response from your PSO/MSO.)

Date of PSO response: _____

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.

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.