



## **Ontario Fencing Association**

### **Quest for Gold – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program 2009-2010**

### **ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA TEMPLATE**

*Quest for Gold* – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program 2009-2010 (OAAP) is funded by the Government of Ontario, through the Ministry of Health Promotion (MHP), and operated through the Sport and Recreation Branch. The overarching goal of the *Quest for Gold* – OAAP is directly related to the Enhanced Excellence goals of both *ACTIVE2010* and 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. (Consideration will be given to older junior-aged athletes if a PSO/MSO’s NSO-approved Long Term Athlete Development model (LTAD) identifies older athletes in the “Train to Train” and “Train to Compete” categories). 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 Fencing Association 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 2009-2010. The Selection Criteria is approved by the Board of Directors and reviewed by MHP staff. Nominated athletes will be required to sign and comply with an Athlete Agreement between the athlete and Ontario Fencing Association. Carding status will be for one year starting April 1, 2009 ending March 31, 2010.

In 2009-2010, the Ministry of Health Promotion allocated a certain amount of OAAP Ontario Cards to each eligible Provincial Sport / Multi-Sport Organization (PSO/MSO). The Ontario Fencing Association has been allotted a total of 18 Ontario cards (split evenly as 9 male and 9 Female Cards).

*The Ontario Fencing Association has also decided to exercise the option made available by MHP 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 Ministry of Health Promotion 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 18 cards issued to Ontario Fencing Association will be allocated as follows:

	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 Team	6 Full Cards (3 Male, 3 Female)
Junior Team	8 Full Cards (4 male, 4 female)
Youth Development	8 Half Cards (4 male, 4 female)

In accordance with the OAAP guidelines the Ontario Fencing Association is responsible for forming a Selection Committee and sport specific selection criteria to nominate the athletes for Ontario carding status in 2009-2010. This selection criteria has been approved by the Ontario Fencing Association Board of Directors.

The Selection Committee is comprised of the following members:

June McGuire	Executive Director	Ontario Fencing Association
Ranil Sonnadara	President/ HP Coach	Ontario Fencing Association
John Makela	Director	Canadian Fencing Federation

### How much funding is available?

The exact level of funding for the 2009-2010 carding year will be determined by the Ministry after the total number of athletes nominated for Ontario Card status has been determined. Funding will be released prior to March 31, 2010.

### How will the Ontario Fencing Association Selection Committee decide who receives funding?

The Ontario Fencing Association Selection Committee will use both the Ministry of Health Promotion Eligibility Criteria and the Sport Specific Selection Criteria detailed below to determine which athletes will be nominated by the Ontario Fencing Association for Ontario Card status in 2009-2010:

#### Ministry of Health Promotion Eligibility Criteria:

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

- Athlete must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant;
- Athlete must be a resident of Ontario for one year prior to his/her nomination for carding status, with the following exception;
 

The residency requirement will be waived if the athlete is a direct family member of:

  - a regular force member, or
  - a reservist as defined in subsection 1 (1) of the *Employment Standards Act, 2000* who is deployed under a circumstance described in clause 50.2 (1) (a) or (b) of that Act, or who is deployed or in any other way placed on active duty under a circumstance described in regulations made for the purposes of clause 50.2 (1) (c) of that Act.
- Athletes must be training and continuing to train in Ontario. Exceptions ("Residency Exceptions") will be made on a case specific basis providing that the athlete can substantiate that:

- 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);
  - ▶ The onus is on the athlete to demonstrate that he/she needs to be out of province. The athlete will submit written documentation to their PSO/MSO's Selection Committee clearly indicating how they meet these exceptions. The Ministry may require that the athlete provide supporting documentation from the athlete's PSO/ MSO, National Sport Organization (NSO) or other sources to verify reasons for athlete's absence from the Province of Ontario.
- He/She must attend a post-secondary institution out-of-province because the course of study is not available to him/her in Ontario;
- 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.
- 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 demonstrate a commitment and dedication to a proper training and competitive program.
- Athlete must be instructed by a coach who has been trained and certified in the National Coaching Certification Program (NCCP) Level 2 or equivalent.
- Athlete must not be under sanction as per the Canadian Anti-Doping Policy.
- Athlete must be attending an educational institution full-time (i.e. primary and secondary schools)
  - Exceptions will be made providing 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))
- 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 given consideration.
- If eligible, the athlete must compete, and continue to compete 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. Athletes who have achieved Canada Card status are not eligible for Ontario Cards.
- Eligibility will be limited to Ontario junior-aged athletes ("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 Senior level athletes not funded by Sport Canada – see note below) who have been identified as a next generation national team athlete as demonstrated by:
  - Identification within the NSO pool of identified next generation national team athletes for the last two competitive seasons; OR
  - Results at regional championships, national championships (junior and/or senior) or other recognized national/international competitions over the last two competitive seasons; OR
  - Representation on a Canadian National Team (developmental and/or junior). Athletes training for Canada Games or provincial teams may also be considered.

### **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.
- 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.
- 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.

- An athlete that received Sport Canada Carding between April 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009 and/or April 1, 2009 and March 31, 2010 and is no longer in receipt of Sport Canada Athlete Assistance shall not be eligible to receive *Quest for Gold* funding during fiscal year 2009-2010 (April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2010.) 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 on a case-by-case basis. Exceptions may include, but may not be limited to logistical or administrative changes, injuries, etc.
- An athlete can only be nominated to receive *Quest for Gold* funding in one sport.
- 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.
- In the event of a conflict or inconsistency, the selection criteria established by the Ministry and set out the Athlete Handbook provided to each nominated athlete shall prevail over the selection criteria established by the PSO/MSO.

# **Ontario Fencing Association**

## **Quest Ontario Athlete Assistance Program**

### **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 sport specific athlete selection criteria will be utilized in the identification, ranking and selection of athletes for Ontario Cards. All athletes must meet the Ontario minimum athlete eligibility requirements to be considered for the OAAP.

### **Sport Specific Eligibility Requirements**

#### **Minimum Standards**

To be eligible for OAAP, an athlete:

- Must hold a Competitive Membership with the Ontario Fencing Association and a CFF licence in the season in which they are applying for OAAP.
- Must be a registered member and active participant in the Ontario Elite Team Program
- Must be working with minimum Level 2 NCCP certified coach or equivalent (Aide Moniteur) as specified in the Ministry of Health Promotion Program Guidelines
- Must attend a minimum number of Provincial events as identified by Team Criteria

Athletes who are receiving Sport Canada AAP funding are not eligible to be selected for the Quest Ontario Card but will be eligible for the Quest Canada Card.

### **OAAP Qualification Criteria**

#### **Team Criteria**

The qualification period will be September 1, 2009 to Dec. 30, 2009

The eligibility period will be from Sept. 1 to March 30 during which qualified athletes may become ineligible if minimum standards are not met.

The following criteria will be used to determine those athletes who are eligible to be selected for Quest Ontario Athlete Assistance Program: Eligibility does not imply automatic selection for funding. The athlete must meet the minimum standards for selection in order to be considered.

#### **1. Senior Team**

Three male and three female athletes will qualify for selection in the following order

- Athletes who are selected to and attend 2009-2010 Sr. World Championships or 2009-2010 Senior Pan American Championships in order of ranking on the National High Performance Program Senior ranking as of Dec. 31, 2009
- Athletes on the National High Performance Program Senior ranking as of Dec. 31, 2009 in order of ranking regardless of weapon

- Athletes ranked on the top six Ontario Senior Elite Team Ranking in order of ranking regardless of weapon
- The fourth athlete in each gender will be named alternate and will be eligible to receive funding if one of the three selected athletes (male and female) declines or is deemed ineligible.

## **2. Junior Team (-20 age group)**

Four male and four female athletes (*born in 1990 or later who are not already nominated*) will qualify for selection in the following order:

- 1) Athletes who attended the 2009 Cadet/Junior World Championships, in order of ranking on the National High Performance Program Junior Ranking as of Dec. 30, 2009
- 2) Athletes on the National High Performance Program Junior Ranking in order of ranking, as of Dec. 30, 2009 regardless of weapon.
- 3) Athletes from the Ontario Junior Elite rankings, as of **Dec. 31, 2009**, in order of ranking regardless of weapon, will be selected.
- 4) The fifth athlete in each gender will be named alternate and will be eligible to receive funding if one of the four selected athletes (male and female) declines or becomes ineligible.

**In all cases the rankings posted on the CFF and OFA websites on Dec. 31 2009 will be used for selection.**

## **3. Youth Development Team (Y16 age group)**

Four male and four female athletes (*born in 1993 or later who are not already nominated*) will qualify for selection in the following order:

- 1) Athletes who attended the 2009 Cadet/Junior World Championships, in order of ranking on the National High Performance Program Cadet Ranking as of Dec. 30, 2009
- 2) Athletes on the National High Performance Program Cadet Ranking in order of ranking, as of Dec. 30, 2009 regardless of weapon.
- 3) Athletes from the Ontario Cadet Elite rankings, as of **Dec. 31, 2009**, in order of ranking regardless of weapon, will be selected.
- 4) The fifth athlete in each gender will be named alternate and will be eligible to receive funding if one of the four selected athletes (male and female) declines or becomes ineligible.

*Athletes nominated in this category will be awarded Development Cards (see Carding Policies)*

### **Carding Policies**

- Senior Team Cards may total less than six if fewer than six meet the criteria

- Cards not awarded in the Senior Category will be awarded to the Junior Team Category for a total of 8 plus the number of extra cards
- Junior Team Cards may total less than 8 if fewer than 8 meet the criteria
- If fewer athletes meet the Junior Team criteria than the number of cards allotted, the top ranked athletes from the Youth Development category will move up into the Junior Team category.
- Development Cards awarded in the Youth Development category are split cards which means they are 50% of the Senior and Junior cards
- Athletes who qualify in more than one category will be placed in the highest level achieved i.e. an athlete who qualifies in Sr Team and Jr. Team will be placed in the Sr. category. An athlete who qualifies in both Junior Team and Youth Development Team will be placed in Junior
- In the overall program gender equity will be maintained.

### ***Tie Breaking***

- In case of a tie the athlete with the highest international point totals on the Dec. 30 2009 National High Performance Program Ranking in the appropriate category of Sr., Jr., or Cadet, will be nominated first.
- If the point totals are the same for two or more athletes, the one with the highest single international result on the National High Performance Program Ranking in the appropriate category of Sr., Jr., or Cadet, will be ranked higher.
- If a tie still remains, the athlete with the highest result in the most recent National Championships will be ranked higher.

### **Definitions**

#### **OAAP: Ontario Athlete Assistance Program**

Funding from the Ministry of Health Promotion for the purpose of financially assisting athletes who are training and competing to achieve National Team status and international results at the Senior, Junior, or Youth Development level.

#### **Ontario Elite Team Program:**

A program of enhanced training and competition, delivered by the Ontario Fencing Association, to assist athletes to achieve national and international results, in the range of LTAD Train to Train and Train to Compete

- **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 PSO/MSO in order to be considered for funding in fiscal 2009-2010.**

## **Residency Exceptions:**

Any athlete living/training outside of Ontario is required to submit written documentation to the Ontario Fencing Association identifying how they met the residency exceptions, identified in the Ministry of Health Promotion's General Eligibility Criteria:

- Athletes must be living and continuing to train in Ontario. Exceptions will be made on a case specific basis providing that the athlete can substantiate that:
  - 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);
  - He/She must attend a post-secondary institution out-of-province because the course of study is not available to him/her in Ontario;
  - 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.

This information must be received by the Selection Committee by no later than **Dec. 30, 2009** in order to be considered.

**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. This means that eligible military family members now qualify for OAAP funding immediately upon becoming residents of Ontario. Please see the 2009-2010 *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.

## **Alternates:**

The Ontario Fencing Association 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 2009-2010 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 (Form and Agreement attached) must be submitted to:

Name June McGuire  
Email info@fencingontario.ca  
Address 984 Main St. W. Hamilton, Ontario, L8S 1B2  
Phone number 905 5256693  
Fax number 905 5259032

no later than **January 5, 2010**. The athlete agreement will only come into effect if an athlete is selected and accepts carding status through the OAAP program.

.....  
The Ontario Fencing Association will publish or make known the athletes nominated for Ontario Card status by no later than **January 18, 2010**).

## Appeals

Appeals will be allowed in writing from athletes who have not been nominated by a PSO/MSO for Ontario Card status. Appeals will be dealt with by an Appeals Committee comprised of representatives from the sport community and chosen by the Ministry.

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

A) Whether or not the PSO/MSO has completed the selection process in accordance with their own published selection criteria and related procedures;

B) 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:

1. Direct the PSO/MSO 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.

The appeals will only be accepted on the MHP-provided template, in writing through regular post, registered mail, courier or delivered in person. 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. The Appeals Committee will discuss all appeals at once, after PSO/MSOs publish their list of nominated athletes. Appeals received in advance of the PSO/MSO announcing nominees will not be reviewed until after the Appeals deadline.

The deadline for athletes to submit appeals to the Appeals Committee is

Cycle Two: **February 1, 2010**.

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

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

## 2009/2010 Quest for Gold – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program Appeal Template

The deadline for athletes to submit appeals to the Appeals Committee is October 26, 2009 for Cycle 1 and February 1, 2010 for Cycle 2. Appeals will only be accepted on the MHP-provided template, in writing through regular post, registered mail, courier or delivered in person. **Please refer to the appeals section of your PSO/MSO's Athlete Selection Criteria document prior to completing this form.**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sport / PSO: \_\_\_\_\_

### Reason for Appeal (Check one only):

- 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.

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

**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 if necessary):**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Print Name of Appellant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Appellant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Any/all information provided to the Appeals Committee may be shared with the athlete's PSO by the Appeals Committee.

## Ontario Quest Application

NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	dd/mm/yyyy
CLUB	WEAPON	
RANKINGS		
PROVINCIAL	NATIONAL DOMESTIC	
HPP	FIE	
OFA REGISTRATION DATE	CFF #	FIE #

PERSONAL INFORMATION		
STREET ADDRESS		
CITY	POSTAL CODE	
HOME PHONE	WORK PHONE	CELL
FAX	EMAIL	

COACH INFORMATION		
NAME		
STREET ADDRESS		
CITY	POSTAL CODE	
HOME PHONE	BUSINESS PHONE	CELL
FAX	EMAIL	
NCCP #	NCCP LEVEL (OR EQUIVILENT)	

By registering in the Ontario Quest Program, I agree to;

- follow a training and competition plan that is designed and approved by my identified coach and the OFA High Performance Committee to qualify me for National Team status and International success.
- attend Ontario Fencing Association training camps and promotional events when requested
- train with other Ontario athletes whenever possible
- accept invitations by the Canadian Fencing Federation to training camps and international events

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of applicant

\_\_\_\_\_  
signature of parent (if under 18)

\_\_\_\_\_  
signature of coach



**Sports Organization - Athlete Agreement**

AGREEMENT made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_

BETWEEN

The Ontario Fencing Association having its provincial office

At 984 Main St. W., Hamilton, Ontario (hereinafter referred to as "the PSO/MSO")

AND

\_\_\_\_\_, residing at

\_\_\_\_\_ (hereinafter referred to as "the Athlete").

WHEREAS the Athlete wishes to be an active competitor in PSO/MSO sanctioned events with his or her rights and obligations clearly defined;

WHEREAS the PSO/MSO is recognized by Canadian Fencing Association and The Ministry of Health Promotion as the sole Provincial Federation governing the sport of Fencing in Ontario;

WHEREAS the PSO/MSO and \_\_\_\_\_ recognize the need to clarify the relationship between the PSO/MSO and the Athlete by establishing their respective rights and obligations;

AND WHEREAS the *Quest for Gold* – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program (hereinafter referred to as "the Ontario AAP") requires these rights and obligations to be stated in a written agreement to be signed by the PSO/MSO and the Athlete who applies for assistance under the Ontario AAP;

AND WHEREAS the National Federation requires that the PSO/MSO certify the eligibility of the Athlete to compete as a member in good standing;

NOW THEREFORE the parties agree to the following:

## **PSO/MSO's Obligations**

### **1. The PSO/MSO shall:**

- a. organize, select and operate teams of athletes, coaches and other necessary support staff (a Provincial Team) to represent Ontario in the sport of fencing at Provincial and National competitions;
- b. publish criteria for the selection of athletes to the Ontario AAP before the selection process begins for the particular sport;
- c. nominate all athletes who meet Ontario AAP criteria;
- d. organize programs and provide funding for the development and provision of coaching expertise, officials and event training centres in Ontario in the sport of fencing in accordance with the budget of the PSO/MSO;
- e. assist the Athlete in obtaining quality medical care and advice;
- f. regularly provide Provincial Team and OAAP information (training and competition) to the Athlete in the form of mailed correspondence;
- g. provide a formal review of the Athlete's annual training program;
- h. provide and include in Agreement a dispute mechanism and related procedures/process that is in conformity with the principles of natural justice and procedural fairness, which shall include access to an independent arbitration process with respect to any dispute the carded athlete may have with the PSO/MSO related to or arising out of this Agreement.

## **Athlete's Obligations**

### **2. The Athlete shall:**

- a. recognize the responsibilities of the coaches in coaching-related decisions and follow the training and competitive program mutually agreed to by the following:
  - a. the PSO/MSO High Performance Committee
  - b. the Athlete's personal coach; and
  - c. 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 Ontario High Performance Committee or his or her delegate, by mail sent to the Provincial Office, with :
  - an Annual Training and Competition Plan developed and monitored by an NCCP Level Three (or higher) coach
  - monthly updates of changes to the plan or any other appropriate information that the PSO may request
  - Training Log on application for funding and when requested by the PSO.
  - All documents must be signed by personal coach

- *Note: all logs and training plans must meet the standard of High Performance training leading to National Team participation. If athlete's program does not meet this standard, the athlete will be asked to change the training plan or forfeit Quest funding.*
  - d. participate in all mandatory training camps and competitions as described in **Appendix A** of this Agreement
  - e. Join the National High Performance Program if invited and participate in all National Team Projects for which you are selected and all National Training Camps if invited.
- Exceptions will be made for verifiable medical reasons only.*
- f. notify the PSO/MSO immediately in writing of any injury or other legitimate reason that will prevent the Athlete from participating in an upcoming event referred to in **Appendix A** of this Agreement 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;
  - g. agree to compete exclusively for Ontario and/or Canada from one year from being enrolled in Ontario AAP (from date of receipt of Minister's letter informing athlete of enrolment), dress in the Provincial Team uniform and other official clothing, if applicable, while traveling or participating as part of the Provincial Team;
  - h. 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; sing and abide by the Ontario Fencing Association and Canadian Fencing Federation Athlete Codes of conduct: see Appendix B
  - i. avoid the use of banned substances that contravene the rules of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), the rules of the International Federation and the Canadian Policy on Doping in Sport;
  - j. submit, without prior warning, to unannounced doping-control tests in addition to other prior-notice tests and submit at other times to doping-control testing when requested by the PSO/MSO, Sport Canada, the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) or other authorities designated to do so;
  - k. avoid the possession of anabolic drugs and neither supply such drugs to others directly or indirectly nor encourage or condone 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 PSO/MSO to do so, in any Doping Control/Education Program developed by the PSO/MSO in co-operation with Sport Canada and the CCES;
  - m. avoid participating in any competitions where federal government sport policy has determined that such participation is not permitted;
  - n. participate in sport-related, non-commercial promotional activities on behalf of the Government of Ontario. The PSO/MSO 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 PSO/MSO's 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 Ontario AAP funding obtained only on the following items:
  - Normal living costs
  - Costs directly associated with training (e.g. coaching, facility fees, other athlete services)
  - Costs associated with attending training camps and competitions (e.g. entry fees, travel costs)
  - Sport specific equipment
  - Tuition and education related expenses (e.g. books, fees).

### **3. Default of Agreement**

- a. Where one of the parties to this agreement is of the opinion that the other party has failed to conform with its obligations under this agreement, the following shall occur:
  - i. The one party shall notify the other party in writing of the particulars of the alleged default.
  - ii. If there exists a reasonable opportunity to correct the default and the default is not so fundamental as to amount to a repudiation of this agreement, the notifying party shall indicate in the notice the steps to be taken to remedy the default and a reasonable period of time to complete the remedial steps.
  - iii. The parties agree that the giving of the above referred-to notice by a party will not prevent that party from later asserting that the default was so fundamental as to amount to a repudiation of this agreement.
- b. If the party receiving the notice remedies the breach within the specified time, the dispute shall be considered resolved and neither party shall have any recourse against the other concerning the matter alleged to comprise the default. If the party receiving the notice fails to remedy the breach within the specified time and either party wishes recourse against the other concerning the matters alleged to comprise the default, that party shall use the dispute settlement mechanism of this agreement to resolve the differences between the parties.

**All minimum eligibility criteria for athletes within the *Quest for Gold* Program (OAAP) apply to this agreement.**

#### **4. Resolution of Disputes**

PSO/MSO and the ATHLETE agree that alleged breaches and disputes relating to this Agreement shall be dealt with as follows:

- a) In dealing with alleged breaches and disputes relating to this Agreement, time shall be of the essence.
- b) Information pertaining to alleged breaches or disputes relating to this Agreement shall be kept confidential. Except for disclosures to the Ontario Ministry of Health Promotion, which the ATHLETE and the PSO/MSO hereby authorise for the purpose of administering the Ontario AAP, such information shall only be disclosed to outside parties with the express permission of PSO/MSO and the ATHLETE, unless such disclosure is required by law, is mandated by the policies of PSO/MSO or the Government of Ontario, or is required by virtue of a contractual commitment PSO/MSO or the ATHLETE may have to another party or parties.
- c) Where the Provincial Coach, in consultation with the VP responsible for the High Performance Program, is of the view that the ATHLETE is in breach of any of the provisions of this Agreement, the ATHLETE shall be notified immediately by e-mail with a copy by regular mail. The VP responsible for High Performance shall be copied on all correspondence pertaining to the alleged breach.
- d) In the event that the Provincial Coach and VP responsible for High Performance cannot remedy the alleged breach within 14 days after the ATHLETE has been notified, the matter shall be referred to the President of PSO/MSO who shall, within 14 days, investigate and decide the dispute.
- e) In deciding the dispute, the President shall have the authority to stipulate specific performance to remedy the breach of the Agreement and/or to discipline the ATHLETE by applying any one or combination of the following disciplinary sanctions:
  - i. a written reprimand;
  - ii. removal of certain High Performance Program privileges;
  - iii. suspending the ATHLETE from further participation on the Provincial Teams Program, either for specified events or for a specified period of time;
  - iv. dismissing the ATHLETE from the Provincial Teams Program;
  - v. termination of this Agreement; and/or
  - vi. any other sanction that it considers appropriate in the circumstances.
- f) Where the ATHLETE is of the view that the Provincial Coach, the VP responsible for High Performance, or any other representative of PSO/MSO is in breach of any of the provisions of this Agreement, the ATHLETE shall notify the PSO/MSO President who shall investigate and decide the dispute in a timely manner.

- g) Any decision made with respect to an alleged breach of this Agreement may be referred to PSO/MSO's policies pertaining to the resolution of disputes, including the PSO/MSO Appeals Policy.

### **Duration of Agreement**

This AGREEMENT comes into force on the date that the Ministry of Health issues an Approval Letter announcing the award of Ontario AAP funding to the ATHLETE and shall be in effect for a period of one year from the date of that Approval Letter, unless terminated earlier.

### **Athlete Declaration**

I hereby declare that in return for any financial assistance provided by the *Quest for Gold* – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program, I undertake to fulfil all commitments and responsibilities outlined in the booklet "OAAP Athlete Handbook" and my Athlete/PSO/MSO Agreement. I agree to refund any assistance provided to me, should my eligibility status change or my carded status be withdrawn, effective the withdrawal/change of status date.

---

Athlete signature

---

Date

---

Parent signature (if athlete is under 18)

---

Date

---

PSO/MSO representative signature

---

Date

## Appendix A

All Quest program athletes from Senior Team will be expected to attend:

Any two of the following events in 2010:

London Heroes

Ottawa Shield

Brock Open

Queen's Open

Governor General's

Plus

Sr. Provincial Championships

And

Ontario High Performance Camp

All Quest program athletes from Junior Team will be expected to attend:

Any two of the following events in 2010:

London Heroes

Ottawa Shield

Brock Open

Queen's Open

Governor General's

Plus

Jr. Provincial Championships

And

Ontario High Performance Camp

All Quest program athletes from Youth Development Team will be expected to attend:

Any two of the following events in 2010:

London Heroes

Ottawa Shield

Brock Open

Queen's Open

Governor General's

Plus

Vidosa Cadet Open

Ontario summer Games

And

Ontario High Performance Camp

## Appendix B

### Ontario Participant Code of Conduct

All members of the OFA are expected to: act as ambassadors for their clubs and the OFA participate in the spirit of fair play, cooperation and respect for others at all times;

- respect the rules of fencing
- perform to their best ability in every competition and accept with pride the result their effort brings;
- respect their opponents and the directions and decisions of coaches, managers and other officials;
- be gracious in victory and defeat;
- respect the rights of the residents in the host communities;
- conduct themselves in a manner that ensures a safe and harassment-free environment for all participants.

### **INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR AND ACTIVITIES**

Behaviour and activity that obstructs or hinders the rights of others to enjoy the event is unacceptable and prohibited. **Activities that are unacceptable and prohibited include:**

#### **Level 1 (behaviours of an easily resolvable nature)**

- Creating a disturbance
- Using profanity/obscene language directed at/or disturbing to others
- Engaging in horseplay, causing unsafe condition
- Causing unsanitary conditions
- Wearing attire or displaying material intolerant of human rights
- Blocking thoroughfares/corridors/stairways/exits
- Use of tobacco on club or competition sites or property

#### **Level 2 (any unresolved problems from Level 1 and those behaviours that may cause harm to members and/or the community:**

- Fighting/harassing;
- Any activity intimidating/threatening others, or disrupting a program or event;
- Cheating
- Participating in or promoting any initiation practices that involve behaviours that are offensive, unsafe, humiliating or in poor taste, with or without the agreement of participants.

#### **Level 3 (behaviours of a clearly criminal nature)**

- Vandalising property;

- Use of prohibited substances by minors including alcohol, drugs, and tobacco are prohibited. Possession or use of such substances will result in the immediate suspension from participation.
- harassment or interference of a sexual nature
- possession or use of illegal substances of any kind by any participant
- physical violence of an extreme nature
- Stealing
- Possession of a weapon other than fencing equipment

## **Consequences of Breaching Code of Conduct**

### **Level One**

First Occurrence: A verbal warning will be given by the Club Coach, competition organizer, or OFA Board Member.

Second Occurrence:

- dismissal from practice/competition/event:
- parents informed in the case of a minor.
- Third Occurrence: becomes a Level Two offence

### **Level Two**

A Discipline Committee, consisting of at least three members pre-selected for this purpose, will determine the seriousness of the offence, and through an approved procedure, will impose consequences including but not limited to:

- Letter of apology and/or other written document (essay etc)
- Suspension from part or all fencing activities for a specified amount of time (may include suspension or expulsion from specific programs such as Ontario and Canada Games.)
- Suspension of OFA/CFF membership for a specified period

All Level 2 and Level 3 offences will be recorded and retained in a disciplinary file at the Ontario Fencing Association for a period of two years.

### **Level Three**

Any offences of a criminal or illegal nature are considered extremely serious and will be treated as such by OFA officials. Consequences will be severe and will include:

- Immediate three month suspension from all fencing membership privileges (OFA/CFF)
- Involvement of authorities and parents or legal guardians
- Disciplinary hearing

# **Guidelines for Conduct of Participants In National Team Activities**

## **Definitions**

- Participants are considered to be individuals who are seen to represent the CFF at a particular event.

Participants can be athletes, coaches, managers, referees and / or designated representatives.

- Events are tournaments, training camps, meetings and / or functions where the CFF is seen to have an interest and is being represented by a designated individual or group of individuals.

## **Expectations**

### **I. General:**

- a) Treat fellow participants with respect at all times.
- b) Work cooperatively with designated coaches, managers, and / or team leaders.
- c) Demonstrate a high degree of professionalism in your National Team involvement.
- d) Ensure that one's activities and / or behaviour does not jeopardize the safety of oneself or fellow participants.
- e) Provide information and opportunities for fellow participants to be meaningfully involved in the decisions that affect them.
- f) Do not engage in any type of derogatory behaviour or offensive language with fellow participants.
- g) Refrain from, and refuse to tolerate in others, all forms of harassment and discrimination related to gender, race, athletic potential, colour, sexual orientation, etc.
- h) Advocate the positive aspects of sport, i.e. sporting excellence, fair play, honest competition and effort, while refraining from any practices that would suggest favouritism or cheating.

### **II. Specific:**

- a) Team Uniform – Wear the designated Canadian Team uniform at all times when at a competitive venue, and on other occasions as directed by the team leader / manager.
- b) Team Support – Actively support Canadian Teammates, when otherwise not directly involved yourself.
- c) Commitment – Take part in all required team functions and meetings. Also, participants who are no longer involved in the competition, should make it a practice to observe succeeding rounds, including the finals.
- d) Alcohol – If under the legal drinking age, refrain totally from the use of all alcoholic beverages. If over the legal drinking age, avoid alcohol consumption to a level which would reasonably be expected to impair performance and / or result in disruptive or unsafe behaviour.
- e) Illegal Substances – Refrain from using banned substances in contravention of the rules of the IOC, FIE and CFF. Actively discourage the use of performance-enhancing drugs.
- f) Consideration of Others – Refrain from activities and behaviours which may interfere with or distract others, thereby lessening their ability to focus on the competition.

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- g) Initiation Activities – Refrain from pranks, jokes, initiation ceremonies and other activities which endanger, embarrass and / or ridicule others.
- h) Hygiene – Practice daily cleanliness routines (body and clothing), particularly in consideration of close quarter living with fellow participants.
- i) Curfew – Respect curfew times set by coaches / manager and be particularly sensitive disturbing behaviour during designated “quiet times.”