



QUEST FOR GOLD ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA

2019/2020



Dive Ontario

Quest for Gold – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program 2019-2020

ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA

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 and 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, **Dive 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 the PSO and reviewed by MHSTCI staff. Nominated athletes will be required to sign and comply with an Athlete Agreement between the athlete and **Dive 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 **Dive Ontario** a total of 10 Ontario cards (split evenly as 5 male and 5 female Cards).

2.2 An athlete's age will be determined as of **December 31, 2019**.

Dive 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 the **Dive Ontario** is comprised of the following members:

Erin Dobbelsteyn, Chair, Selection Committee and Diving Official
Josie Josten, Member, Selection Committee and Diving Official
Randy Sageman, Member, Selection Committee

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 **Dive Ontario** Selection Committee decide who receives funding?

The **Dive Ontario** 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 **Dive Ontario** 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 **Dive Ontario** by no later than **March 31, 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 the **Dive 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 31, 2020**); and
2. Adhere to the PSO/MSO-approved competition and training plan throughout the carding cycle. At a minimum, this requires regular (**once every three months**) contact by the athlete with the PSO/MSO (**Dive Ontario Head Office**); and
3. Submit regular (**i.e. every three months**) 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.

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 **Dive 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 Ministry 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 **Dive Ontario** Selection Committee prior to **March 31, 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 the PSO; the **Dive Ontario** will not obtain this letter from the NSO on the athlete's behalf.

Dive Ontario will then contact MHSTCI in writing prior to the submission of the Athlete Nomination Form to seek individual Canada Card Exceptions. **Dive 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:
700 W. Washington Street
P.O. Box 6222
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6222
Phone: 317-917-6222

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 Dive Ontario Athlete Selection Criteria:

The sport specific athlete selection criteria are utilized in the identification, ranking, nomination and selection of athletes for Ontario Cards for the 2019-2020 funding year, which is based on the 2018-2019 competitive season. This is a result of the Quest for Gold program following a Ministry timeline that does not align with Dive Ontario's competitive cycle. Accordingly, athletes that receive Quest for Gold funding through this 2019-2020 cycle accept the funding under the premise that they will continue to train and compete on behalf of Ontario for one year from the time funding is approved.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for consideration for an Ontario Card an athlete must meet all of the requirements set out below.

- 1) The athlete must be in one of the following age groups:
 - a. Senior (Women 19 - 22; Men 19 - 22);
 - b. A (Girls 16-18; Boys 16-18);
 - c. B (Girls 14-15; Boys 14-15); or
 - d. C (Girls 12-13; Boys 12-13).
- 2) The athlete must have competed in two DPC-sanctioned Ontario qualifying competitions (the "**Ontario Provincial Competitions**") in the 2018-2019 season.
- 3) The athlete must have competed in the Open 3 Meter Springboard event and/or the Open Platform event at the Ontario Provincial Competitions.
- 4) The athlete must have a minimum Quest For Gold Dive Score, as defined below, of not less than 140.
- 5) All Senior age group athletes must compete at both the Winter Senior Nationals and Summer Senior Nationals.
- 6) All eligible athletes must be in good standing with Dive Ontario.

All eligible athletes are automatically considered for an Ontario Card and ranked by the Selection Committee. Athletes who require a Residency Exception and/or a Canada Card Exemption should request these by sending the information outlined above to Dive Ontario prior to March 31, 2020.

Selection Criteria

Each athlete being considered is assigned a combined overall score for their performance in the 2018-2019 competitive season (the "**Quest For Gold Dive Score**"). The Quest For Gold Dive Score is the sum of the three component scores described below, with each score at each step in the calculation process rounded to two decimal places. If an athlete does not have a score for either of component two or component three, the other component scores will still be added together to obtain a Quest For Gold Dive Score. An athlete's results from individual events only, and not synchronized events, are considered in the calculation of the Quest for Gold Dive Score, with the exception of Component Three – International Competitions in which synchronized events will be considered.

1) Component One – Ontario Provincial Competitions

The athlete's two best scores from either the Open 3 Meter Springboard event(s) or the Open Platform event(s) from any of the Ontario Provincial Competitions will each be divided by the Quest For Gold Standard for the applicable event (see the chart below for the Quest For Gold Dive Standard) and multiplied by 100 to get a percentage. These two percentages are then averaged to achieve a final score for Component One. For further clarification, where an athlete competes in both events, the athlete does not have to use two Open 3 Meter Springboard or two Open

Platform scores for their calculation. The best two results will be used.

2) Component Two – National Competitions

For athletes in the A, B or C age group, the athlete’s best single result from 2019 Junior Development Nationals, Junior Elite Nationals, Winter Senior Nationals or Summer Senior Nationals, as applicable, from either of the 3 Meter Springboard event or Platform event, from any of preliminaries, semi-finals or finals, will be divided by the Quest For Gold Dive Standard for the applicable event (see the chart below for the Quest For Gold Dive Standard) and multiplied by 100 to get a percentage. That percentage will be the score for Component two for athletes in the A, B or C age groups.

For athletes in the Senior age group, the athlete’s best two scores from Winter Senior Nationals or Summer Senior Nationals, from either of the 3 Meter Springboard event or Platform event, from any of preliminaries, semi-finals or finals, will each be divided by the Quest For Gold Dive Standard for the applicable event (see the chart below for the Quest For Gold Dive Standard) and multiplied by 100 to get a percentage. These two percentages are then averaged to achieve a final score for Component Two. For further clarification, where an athlete competes in both events, the athlete does not have to use two 3 Meter Springboard or two Platform scores for their calculation. The best two results will be used.

3) Component Three – International Competitions

In the event an athlete qualifies to attend one of the international competitions in the list below (the “**Eligible International Competitions**”), the athlete’s best single result from any Eligible International Competition, from either of the individual 3 meter springboard event or platform event, from any of preliminaries, semi-finals or finals, will be divided by the Quest For Gold Dive Standard for the applicable event (see the chart below for the Quest For Gold Dive Standard) and multiplied by 100 to get a percentage. That percentage will be the score for Component Three.

In the event an athlete competes in a synchronized event at one of the Eligible International Competitions, the athlete will be assigned a score of 100 for Component Three.

Quest For Gold Dive Standards

BOARD	GIRLS	EVENT	BOYS
Group C –3 metre (Prelims)	230*	Group C – 3 metre (Prelims)	230*
Group C – 3 metre (Finals)	260	Group C – 3 metre (Finals)	260
Group C – Platform (Prelims)	257*	Group C – Platform (Prelims)	257*
Group C – Platform (Finals)	220	Group C – Platform (Finals)	220
Group B – 3 metre	315	Group B – 3 metre	315
Group B – Platform	235	Group B – Platform	265
Group A – 3 metre	390	Group A – 3 metre	395
Group A – Platform	300	Group A – Platform	350
Senior Open – 3 metre	208**	Senior Open – 3 metre	280**
Senior Open – Platform	208**	Senior Open – Platform	280**

* The Quest for Gold Standards for the ‘C’ age group preliminary events are intentionally lower than the national

standard (roughly 90% of the Canadian Junior National Qualifying Standard for the 'C' age group) due to the rules, which require that athletes perform a fixed list of dives with prescribed DD's in these events. The purpose of this reduction is to give 'C' age group athletes equal opportunity to achieve high Quest For Gold Scores in preliminary events as compared to the other age groups.

** The Quest For Gold Dive Standards for these events are intentionally lower than the national standard for those events (roughly 85% of the Canadian Senior National Qualifying Standard) in order to give senior national athletes equal opportunity to achieve high Quest For Gold Dive Scores as compared to junior national athletes.

Eligible International Competitions

The following are the list of eligible international competitions for inclusion in component three above:

- FINA Diving Grand Prix events.
- Junior Pan Am Games, Santiago, Chile.
- Dresden Junior International, Dresden, Germany.

Award of Ontario Cards

Males and females are separated and the Quest For Gold Dive Scores are then ranked from highest to lowest. The top five male and top five females are generally nominated for Ontario Cards, provided their Quest For Gold Dive Scores are above 140. Dive Ontario reserves the right not to allocate all of the Ontario Cards where an insufficient number of athletes meet the 140 requirement.

In the event of a tie in overall scores between two athletes, the tie will be broken by looking to the next decimal place before rounding off the scores at each stage in the calculation process.

Athletes nominated for Ontario Cards are required to confirm their acceptance of the Ontario Card with Dive Ontario by **April 9, 2020** and to complete the Ontario Card Athlete Application and Electronic Transfer Funds Transfer Application and submit them to the MHTSCI electronically by **April 16, 2020**. Instructions on how to complete and submit these forms will be sent to all nominated athletes.

Each athlete receiving an Ontario Card is required to complete a training plan for the upcoming competitive season (2019-2020) outlining the following:

- name of coach and/or club;
- hours of training in the pool and in dry land program, as well as components of dry land training;
- goals for the upcoming competitive season and long-term goals;
- current competitive dive list;
- new skills and/or dives to be learned in the upcoming year;
- competitions the athlete plans to attend in the upcoming competitive season;
- competitions the athlete will peak for; and
- other (mental training, cross training, etc.).

The athlete will be required to provide the training plan in one of the following forms: chart, paragraph, or heading and sentence, at his or her election, to Dive Ontario.

Each athlete receiving an Ontario Card is also required to execute an athlete agreement with Dive Ontario (the "**Athlete Agreement**") and submit a signed copy to the Selection Committee by May 24, 2020. In addition, an athlete who previously received an Ontario Card and executed an Athlete Agreement must have complied with the terms of such Athlete Agreement to the satisfaction of the PSO/MSO in order to be considered for an Ontario Card in a subsequent year.

7.0 Breaking a Tie:

In the event of a tie in overall scores between two athletes, the tie will be broken by looking to the next decimal place before rounding off the scores at each stage in the calculation process.

8.0 Dive Ontario has no criteria for ranking an athlete who is unable to meet these requirements as detailed above due to illness, injury or pregnancy.

9.0 **Alternates:** Dive 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:**

Athletes will be automatically considered for selection and there is no application required.

10.1 Any athlete requesting a "Residency Exception" must submit this information by **March 31, 2020** as detailed above to:

Name: Executive Director, Dive Ontario
Email: executivedirector@diveontario.com
Address: Suite 2037 – 875 Morningside Avenue, Toronto, Ontario, M1C 0C7
Phone number: (647) 621-6810

10.2 It is the sole responsibility of the athlete to provide a full and complete application that meets all stated requirements. Dive 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 Dive Ontario will not be considered valid or to have been received by the Dive Ontario deadline.

10.3 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 Dive Ontario will publish or make known a draft list of athletes nominated for Ontario Card status by no later than April 8, 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 **Dive 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 **Dive Ontario** Selection Criteria are not grounds for an appeal and should therefore be discussed directly with the leadership of **Dive Ontario**.

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

If the athlete is not satisfied with the **Dive 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 **Dive Ontario** who will then submit a "**Response**" with MHSTCI by a specified deadline. The Response will outline why **Dive Ontario** believes that the Selection Committee's decision not to nominate the athlete should be upheld by the Appeals Committee. MHSTCI will share the **Dive Ontario** Response with the athlete.

If, after receiving the **Dive Ontario** Response, the athlete believes that **Dive 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 **Dive Ontario**.

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

- 1. Direct **Dive 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 **Dive 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: **Dive 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 20, 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**

The deadline for an athlete to submit an appeal to the Appeals Committee is 12 noon on April 20, 2020. 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.**

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.