

Purpose

The SASSA High Performance Committee along with SASSA's Provincial Coach and Executive Director are responsible for creating the policies found on this document and is intended to compliment and support the goals of SASSA's four year High Performance Planning Initiative. The **2021 HP Bulletin #9 – is for the Skating year of June 1st, 2021 to May 31st, 2022 only.**

As a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic, the 2021-2022 Provincial and Development Teams will initially consist of all actively skating members of the 2020-2021 Provincial and Development Teams. However, since the cancellation of all competitions during the 2020-2021 season did not provide all athletes with an equal opportunity to earn a spot on the teams, those who have not qualified for either team will be given an opportunity to qualify at competitions in fall of 2021. Details are provided below.

The Development Team will feature T2T athletes and athletes in their last year of L2T during the 2020-21 season. The Provincial Team will include Junior + Neo Senior athletes and athletes in their last year of T2T during the 2020-21 season.

HPPI: The long term goal of SASSA is to prepare our skaters for the National Training Centre in either short track or long track. We believe that we can prepare them so that, in addition to years of work at a higher level they can represent our province and country in Junior Worlds, World Cups and Olympic Games.

Saskatchewan Development Team

- **T2T athletes and athletes in their last year of L2T (2020-21 season), in Province**
- **Any athlete who meets the qualification criteria in their respective discipline at a Speed Skating Canada sanctioned competition by December 31, 2021.**
- **Main Competitions: Canada West Short Track, Western Elite ST and Canadian Age Class Long Track.**
- **How to qualify:**
 - Athletes must be actively skating during the 2021-22 season to maintain their spot on the team.
 - LT/ST will use 2019-20 season's best times, from 2 distances (1 sprint + 1 distance) for ranking and times must be within 115 % of SASSA T2T records.
 - A skater can be named to both LT/ST teams, but can only receive Out of Province financial assistance from one identified discipline.
 - Short Track Distances used will be 200m, 400m, 1500m and 3000m.
 - Long Track Distances used will be 300m, 500m, 1500m and 3000m.
 - One sprint and one long distance race will be used for the ranking. For ST the 200m or 400m + the 1500m or 3000m will be used. For LT the 300m or 500m + the 1500m or 3000m will be used.
- **Financial Support:**
 - Athletes can purchase the Team Saskatchewan skin suit at their own cost.
 - Coaching support at National Competitions.
 - FIF camp registration fees covered by SASSA. Can Am reduced camp fees.
 - Each Skater will be eligible for \$100.00 dollars of financial assistance for attending two Out-of-Province competitions.
 - If there are less than 32 individuals on the Development Team, the rest of the available funds will be divided up amongst the eligible skaters up to a maximum of \$200.00 dollars per skater. This funding will be awarded following proof of attendance and submission of receipts.
 - **If Out of Province Competitions are not run due to the Global Pandemic, team members will be reimbursed for approved training equipment up to the maximum value of the Out of Province Competition support they would have received. Funding will be issued on a reimbursement basis: athletes must submit receipts for approval prior to payment.**

- **Qualifying athletes will be on the Development Team for the 2021-22 season (1 year term). Athletes must qualify each year for a spot on the team.**

Saskatchewan Provincial Team

- **Junior + Neo Senior athletes and athletes in their last year of T2T (2020-21 season), in Province**
- **Any athlete who meets the qualifying criteria in their respective discipline at a Speed Skating Canada sanctioned competition by December 31, 2021.**
- **Main Competitions: Canada Cups, Canadian Junior Short Track and Western Elite Short Track Championships.**
- **How to Qualify:**
 - Athletes must be actively skating during the 2021-22 season to maintain their spot on the team.
 - Any athletes that have times that meet the time standards to qualify for National Competitions will be on the Provincial Team, up to 16 skaters (4 Short Track, 4 Long Track -male and female). Long Track athletes must meet at least 1 Canada Cup time standard to qualify. Short Track athletes must meet the 500m + 1500m minimum standard of 3:39.00 for females and 3:21.00 for males to qualify for funding.
 - The High Performance Committee reserves the right to change the make-up of the team according to how many skaters qualify in Long Track or Short Track in an effort to fill the team. If necessary, a ranking for these athletes will be based off the skaters top four times compared to Canadian Records.
 - The athlete's primary residence must be in Saskatchewan.
- **Financial Support:**
 - Athletes can purchase the Team Saskatchewan suit at their own cost.
 - Coaching support at National competitions and camps.
 - FiF camp registration fees covered by SASSA. Can Am reduced camp fees.
 - There will be 16 shares of \$500 dollars available to athletes on the team. If there are less than 16 athletes that qualify, the rest of the available funds will be divided up amongst the eligible skaters up to a maximum share of \$1,000 dollars per skater. To receive funding skaters must compete at two Out of Province Competitions. Examples: *Short Track*- ST Junior Championship/Western Elite Circuit + 1 Out-of-Province competition, *Long Track*- Canada Cups. This funding will be awarded following proof of attendance and submission of receipts.
 - **If Out of Province Competitions are not run due to the Global Pandemic, team members will be reimbursed for approved training equipment up to the maximum value of the Out of Province Competition support they would have received. Funding will be issued on a reimbursable basis: Athletes must submit receipts for approval prior to payment.**

Qualifying athletes will be on the Provincial Team for the 2021-22 season (1 year terms). Athletes must qualify each year for a spot on the team.

Athletes Training -Out of Province

- Funded according to the blue book policies.
- If competing at a National Level, athletes can purchase a Team Saskatchewan Suit at their own cost.

The SASSA HP Committee reserves the right to modify or change the enclosed policies in the event that exceptional circumstances arise and that any such changes are, as the SASSA –High Performance Committee solely determines, clearly in the best interest of the high performance program. In these situations all athletes and coaches will be advised of any changes as soon as they are confirmed by the SASSA High Performance Committee.