



## Questions and Answers Document Ontario Athlete Assistance Program-Q4G 2023-24

### Q 1 What data was used to select athletes being carded this year?

The data set used by The Selection Committee to identify athletes this year included the 2022 Ontario Outdoor Target Archery Championship Results (June 2022) and the Canadian Outdoor Target Championships (held in PEI-July 2022). In some instances, the data from the Canada Cup East (Quebec-June 2022) was also used, since some athletes competed at that event, following the recommendation of their coaches (in lieu of the Ontario Target Championship). Archers/Athletes needed to be within 100 points of top score in their age group/category.

### Q 2 Archery Ontario is looking to rebuild, with a focus on next generation archers and in doing so, aligning age categories with other PSOs, using data from the RBC Training Ground Program. What is RBC Training Ground?

RBC Training Ground is a talent identification and athlete funding program designed to find young athletes with Olympic potential, and provide them with the resources they need to achieve their podium dreams. With the belief that high performance sports should be accessible to all athletes that are talented, qualified and have the will to compete, this program travels the country searching for athletes between the ages of 14 and 25 that will fuel the Canadian Olympic pipeline. **In Archery** this may also apply to athletes competing in World Archery and other international events like Pan Am Games. More information is available here: <https://www.rbctrainingground.ca/>

### Q 3 Why is Archery Ontario shifting it's focus for age categories?

The age range of 14 to 25 years aligns with long-term athlete development stages and the [Canadian Sport for Life program](#). This age range allows to capture those with early and late-stage Olympic potential. **In Archery** this may also apply to athletes competing in World Archery and other international events like Pan Am Games. The probability of identifying an athlete below or above these age ranges is very small. RBC Training Ground has been gathering data since 2016 and there are 12 National Sports Organizations identifying and recruiting talent, in partnership with RBC (i.e., boxing, cycling, rowing, speed skating, triathlon, etc.). More information is available here: <https://www.rbctrainingground.ca/>

#### Q 4 What else is **NEW** for the OAAP-Q4G going forward?

The most significant change to the OAAP-Q4G program will be for the 2024-25 year. Athletes/archers wanting to be carded will have to complete an **Expression of Interest** document, as well as a **Tracking Results Form** and **send them** to the **attention of The Selection Committee** by January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, to be considered for funding. This new direction is based on a paragraph from the funding agreement (per below) and allows for a first round of triage so that carding is directed at athletes planning to train toward the goal of a national team position and High Performance Programs with Archery Canada. The paragraph reads:

***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 participate in this program.***

The Expression of Interest (EOI) document and Tracking Results (TR) form are both available on the Archery Ontario Website and must be submitted together.

***BY implementing an application process, Archery Ontario is following along parallel initiatives of other PSOs. This allows for AO to better plan for tomorrow’s archery by recruiting and investing in next generation athletes.***

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