

ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL

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 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, ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL and reviewed by MHSTCI staff. Nominated athletes will be required to sign and comply with an Athlete Agreement between the athlete and ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL. 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL a total of 32 Ontario cards (split evenly as 16 male and 16 female Cards).

2.2 As a result, the 32 cards issued to ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL will be allocated as follows:

Category	Number of cards
Indoor Volleyball	24 Full Cards (12 male, 12 female)
Beach Volleyball	8 Full Cards (4 male, 4 female)

An athlete's age will be determined by their year of birth (born in 1998 or later)

ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL is comprised of the following members:

Indoor Selection Committee*:

*Louis-Pierre Mainville – OVA Athlete Development Director and Team Ontario Elite Boys Head Coach
Shannon Winzer – Volleyball Canada Next Gen Coach and Senior Women's National Team Assistant Coach
Dan Lewis – Volleyball Canada Next Gen Coach and Senior Men's National Team Assistant Coach
John Nguyen – Team Ontario Elite girls Head Coach
Matt Harris, Head Coach, Team Canada Youth Boys
Jimmy El-Turk, Assistant Coach, Team Canada Youth girls*

Beach Selection Committee*:

*Louis-Pierre Mainville – OVA High Performance Manager
Angie Shen, OVA Senior Beach Development Coach
Eddie Coleman, Team Ontario Senior Coach
Brad McClure, Team Ontario Black & Fulltime Training Group Coach
Ashley Nixon, Team Ontario Red & Fulltime Training Group Coach
Brett Hagarty, Team Ontario Black & Fulltime Training Group Coach
Jason Marchant, Team Ontario Red & Fulltime Training Group Coach*

*Any substitutions must be approved by the Athlete Development Director

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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL Selection Committee decide who receives funding?

The ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL** 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL by no later than March 25, 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL.

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 25, 2020**); and
2. Adhere to the PSO/MSO-approved competition and training plan throughout the carding cycle.

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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL Selection Committee prior to **March 25, 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL will not obtain this letter from the NSO on the athlete's behalf.

ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL will then contact MHSTCI in writing prior to the submission of the Athlete Nomination Form to seek individual Canada Card Exceptions. ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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

6.0 **ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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 Ontario Volleyball Evaluation Criteria (OVEC) will be used to assess and rank all Quest for Gold Ontario Card eligible athletes. The ranking is compiled through assessments completed by the selection committee to produce a score out of 10 relative to an athlete's potential to compete at the international level. The minimum requirement to be eligible for a nomination is a score of 7 out of 10 for indoor volleyball and 6 out of 10 for beach volleyball. The difference stems from the significantly smaller number of eligible applicants in beach volleyball.

All eligible athletes must submit Quest for Gold Application Package, detailed below, to Louis-Pierre Mainville at lpmainville@ontariovolleyball.org by **March 25, 2020** at 12pm. No applications will be accepted past this date. See "To Apply" section for application package details.

BEACH VOLLEYBALL

The Ontario Volleyball Evaluation Criteria total will be determined by grading eligible beach volleyball athletes in the following areas (see Appendix F):

- I. Individual Skill Assessment = 3 points
- II. Behavioral Assessment = 3 points
- III. International Potential = 2 point
- IV. Physical Assessment = 2 points

The following listed Athlete Development Program(s) over the past competitive season will be used to evaluate the athlete

- *Ontario Fulltime Training Group*
- *Team Ontario Beach Senior*
- *Team Ontario Beach Black*

Athletes who were not part of the above mentioned beach volleyball programs are not eligible to apply and will not be considered for a nomination for a Quest For Gold Ontario Card unless they can demonstrate that they were part of a program that meets similar standards of excellence during the past competitive season. The demonstration that they were part of a program meeting similar standards of excellence is the sole responsibility of the athlete. The athlete must provide to the Ontario Volleyball Selection Committee the following document:

- *Detailed training and competition plan for the past season*
 - *The plan should include objectives for each training session, competition as well as competition results*
- *Physical training log for the past competitive season including the detailed physical training program followed by the athlete as well as the most recent physical testing results of the athlete*
- *Mental performance plan including a summary of the mental performance outcomes achieved during the past season*
- *Evidence that the athlete had at least two (2) meetings with an expert nutritionist*
- *Name, title and contact information of all the sport science and sport medicine experts that followed the athlete during the past competitive season. At minimum, the following experts must be included:*

- Physical trainer
- Mental performance coach
- Nutritionist
- Physical/Athletic Therapist
- Support letter from the athlete's main coach attesting that the training program presented by the athlete accurately represents what was accomplished during the past competitive season.

Individual Skill Assessment, Behavioral Assessment and International Potential will be calculated by the collective assessment of the Beach Volleyball Selection Committee and based in part on the Athlete's Quest For Gold Application Package. **The Physical Assessment** will be calculated objectively by applying physical testing results obtained during 2019 Athlete Development Programs to the Quest for Gold Beach Scoring Matrix.

Only athletes who fall within the eligible age range will be considered.

Beach Volleyball

- Female 1998 and younger
- Male 1998 and younger

The following positional minimums will be respected as long as the athlete's OVEC score is above the minimum threshold for carding and ranks them in the top 6 per gender

Beach Volleyball

- 1 Defender
- 1 Blocker

Each athlete must enter into an athlete agreement with Ontario Volleyball during the time they are a Quest for Gold Ontario Carded athlete. (See Appendix H)

See Appendix G – Indoor & Beach Quest For Gold Grading Process

INDOOR VOLLEYBALL

The Ontario Volleyball Evaluation Criteria total will be determined by grading eligible indoor volleyball athletes in the following areas (see Appendix E):

- I. Individual Skill Assessment = 3 points
- II. International Potential = 5 points
- III. Physical Assessment = 2 points

The following listed Athlete Development Program(s) over the past competitive season will be used to evaluate the athlete

- Team Ontario Black and Team Ontario Elite
- Youth National Team Program
- National Team Selection Camps (Youth/Junior/Senior)

Athletes who were not part of the above mentioned indoor volleyball programs are not eligible to apply and will not be considered for a nomination for a Quest For Gold Ontario Card. Exceptions may be granted to athletes who were not able to participate in the above mentioned programs for force majeure reasons.

It is the sole responsibility of the athlete to demonstrate that they meet one of the above exceptions in their application (See section 8.0 for more details on exceptions related to health reasons).

Regarding the **Individual Skill Assessment and the International Potential**, the Indoor Volleyball Selection Committee will collectively consider the following:

- Athlete's Quest For Gold Application Package
- 2019 OVA and/or Volleyball Canada Athlete Development Programs
- Volleyball Canada Selection Camps and identification process, if applicable
- Analytical (skill) and informative data (tactical and behavioral) from current player's head coach, if needed

The **Physical Assessment** will be calculated objectively by applying physical testing results from previous Team Ontario Program, Team Canada Program and/or current team status.

Only athletes who fall within the eligible age range will be considered.

Indoor Volleyball

- Female 1998 and younger
- Male 1998 and younger

Each athlete must enter into an athlete agreement with Ontario Volleyball during the time they are a Quest for Gold Ontario Carded athlete. (See Appendix H)

See Appendix G – Indoor & Beach Quest For Gold Grading Process

7.0 Breaking a Tie:

If two or more athletes are tied the following criteria will be applied in order until all ties are broken, and all tied athletes ranked. This means that if there is a tie among athletes X, Y & Z and criteria a) is able to determine X as first, Y as second and Z as third, then no further criteria is needed. However, if criteria a) determines X as first (or third) and there is still a tie between Y & Z, then the ranking of the remaining athletes will be determined by proceeding to criteria b) and so on. If necessary, continue through the sequence of criteria and DO NOT start at a) again.

Indoor AND Beach Volleyball Tie Breaking

- *The athlete having the highest score considering the International Potential Assessment criteria.*
- *The athlete having the highest score considering only the Physical Assessment criteria.*
- *The athlete having the highest score considering only the Individual Skill Assessment criteria.*

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 Ontario Volleyball Association, 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.
- The athlete must have been evaluated using 2018-2019 Quest for Gold selection criteria. If the athlete was not evaluated in the prior year, they cannot be considered for carded status.

Force Majeure documentation to be provided to Ontario Volleyball must include but is not limited to:

1. Letter from the athlete's personal physician as well as a letter from the Ontario Volleyball Association's approved physician outlining the extent of injury/illness. Details provided must include but is not limited to:
 - I. Date of onset of injury/illness
 - II. Date of initial physician consultation
 - III. Date and course of treatment prescribed
 - IV. Prognosis and recovery plan
2. Letter from Personal/Team Coach which must include but is not limited to:
 - I. Confirmation of resumption of training
 - II. Athlete's ongoing commitment to training and competition
 - III. Expectations of meeting OAAP commitments
3. Letter from athlete outlining commitment to training and competition

Force majeure documentation must be submitted to Louis-Pierre Mainville, Athlete Development Director, Ontario Volleyball (lpmainville@ontariovolleyball.org) no later than **March 25, 2020**.

- Athletes who apply for OAAP carding consideration under Force Majeure will be ranked based on their score from their 2018-19 Quest For Gold evaluation in the assessment areas that are not possible to evaluate in 2019-2020.

To be considered for carding, a Force Majeure athlete's score must place them in the top half of the 2019-2020 Quest for Gold evaluation ranking list for the available number of cards in their gender. Top six (6) for indoor and top two (2) for beach volleyball.

- 9.0 Alternates:** ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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 eligible Athletes must submit the following Quest For Gold Application Package:

- Request for Consideration Form – See [Appendix A for Beach](#) and [Appendix C for Indoor](#)
- Motivation letter demonstrating commitment to reach the international level
- Volleyball Resume detailing accomplishments and experience
- High Performance Participation Report (NEW this year, **all athletes must complete it**) See [Appendix B for Beach](#) and [Appendix D for Indoor](#)
- 2020-2021 Training and Competition Plan demonstrating effective use of funds
- Other Information as requested

The Quest For Gold Application Package including all required information must be submitted no later than March 25, 2020 by 12pm to:

Louis-Pierre Mainville
lpmainville@ontariovolleyball.org
111 – 60 Scarsdale Road, Toronto, Ontario, M3B 2R7
Phone 416-426-7047

- 10.1** Any athlete requesting a “Residency Exception” must submit this information by **March 25, 2020** as detailed above.
- 10.2 Incomplete applications will not be considered.** It is the sole responsibility of the athlete to provide a full, complete and legible application that meets all stated requirements. ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL will not be considered valid or to have been received by the ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL deadline.
- 10.3** An email will be sent 48 hours after submission, confirming receipt. It is the athlete’s responsibility to contact the Ontario Volleyball Association 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL** 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.
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11.0 Appeals

Athletes who have not been nominated for an Ontario Card by the ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL Selection Criteria are not grounds for an appeal and should therefore be discussed directly with the leadership of ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL.

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

If the athlete is not satisfied with the ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL, who will then submit a **“Response”** with MHSTCI by a specified deadline. The Response will outline why ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL believes that the Selection Committee’s decision not to nominate the athlete should be upheld by the Appeals Committee. MHSTCI will share the ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL Response with the athlete.

If, after receiving the ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL Response, the athlete believes that ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL.

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

1. Direct ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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 ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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: ONTARIO VOLLEYBALL 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

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.

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All information provided to the Appeals Committee will be shared with both the Appellant and the PSO/MSO.



APPENDIX A

Quest for Gold – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program 2019-2020 Request for Consideration - **Beach Volleyball**

Please provide the following information (print letters)*

Applicant Name:	
Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy):	
Current address (for residency criteria)	
Email:	
Phone Number:	
Name of academic institution where the athlete is enrolled on a fulltime basis	
Athlete's Coach Name/NCCP #	

Check one position*: Defender _____ Blocker _____ Universal _____

Have you received Quest For Gold OAAP in the past?* (Y/N) _____ Years _____

Have you received Canada AAP Funding between April 1st, 2019 and March 31st, 2020? (Y/N) _____

If the applicant is under 18 years of age, please provide the following information

Applicants Parent/Guardian Name:	
Email:	
Phone Number:	

To include with your application

- **Motivation Letter**
 - In a one-page letter, please describe your long-term beach volleyball goals and how they relate to the objectives of the Quest for Gold program.
- **2020 Training and Competition Plan demonstrating effective use of funds**
 - Describe your season goals, training plans, partnership, competition plan
- **Volleyball Resume detailing accomplishments and experience**
- **Athlete High Performance Participation Report (Appendix B)**

By applying to be considered for the *Quest For Gold – OAAP* – in the discipline of Beach Volleyball, you acknowledge having read the Athlete Agreement in Appendix H and are aware of the commitment you will have to make if you are nominated for funding. Failure to meet the Athlete Agreement's requirement could result in removal from carding program.

By signing this form, you confirm that the information provided in your application is accurate and reliable.

Applicant's signature (or parent/guardian) _____

Final Submission deadline for this form is March 25, 2020 by 12 pm.

APPENDIX B
Ontario Volleyball
Quest for Gold – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program 2019-2020
High Performance Participation Report– Beach

Applicant Name:	
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Please provide the requested information below demonstrating your participation in high performance beach volleyball for the 2019-20 season.

Requirements	✓	Comment and provide details
You used a personalized competition and training plan from 2019. Please attach detailed plan.	✓	
Participated in minimum of four (4) coach led training sessions per week including a minimum of three (3) training sessions led by a Fulltime Training Centre Coach from May 1 to Aug 31, 2019.	✓	
Participated in all required beach volleyball events: 1. All OVA Grand Slam Events, 2. Both eligible Ontario Championships, 3. National Championships (including senior division 1 if eligible) All above unless competing at a NORCECA or FIVB event.	✓	
Participated in required number of beach volleyball events, see Figure 1, below.	✓	
Had a partner who agreed to the same training and competition plan.	✓	
Attended all eligible National Team Selection Events. This includes but is not limited to U19/ U21 World Championship, NORCECA and FISU Trials as well as the Senior National Team selection camp.	✓	
Prepared and competed in any highlight competition where a berth has been earned to represent Ontario/Canada (World Championships, NORCECA, FISU, etc) (if applicable)	✓	

Figure. 1

Born in (age)	Minimum number of out of province events.	Minimum number of OVA beach tour event events
1997 or 1998	3	5
1999 or 2000	2	5
2001 or after	1	4

APPENDIX C

Ontario Volleyball Quest for Gold – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program 2019-2020 Request for Consideration – **Indoor Volleyball**

Please provide the following information (print letters)*

Applicant Name:	
Date of Birth (dd/mm/yyyy):	
Current address (for residency criteria)	
Email:	
Phone Number:	
Name of academic institution where the athlete is enrolled on a fulltime basis	
Athlete's Coach Name/NCCP #	

Check one position*: Setter _____ Middle _____ Outside Attacker _____ Libero _____

Have you received Quest For Gold OAAP in the past?* (Y/N) _____ Years _____

Have you received Canada AAP Funding between April 1st, 2019 and March 31st, 2020? (Y/N) _____

If the applicant is under 18 years of age, please provide the following information

Applicants Parent/Guardian Name:	
Email:	
Phone Number:	

To include with your application

- **Motivation Letter**
 - In a one-page letter, please describe your long-term indoor volleyball goals
- **2020 Training and Competition Plan demonstrating what you will use the funds for**
- **Volleyball Resume detailing accomplishments and experience**
- **High Performance Participation Report**

By applying to be considered for the *Quest For Gold – OAAP* – in the discipline of Indoor Volleyball, you acknowledge having read the Athlete Agreement in Appendix H and are aware of the commitment you will have to make if you are nominated for funding. Failure to meet the Athlete Agreement's requirement could result in removal from carding program.

By signing this form, you confirm the information provided in your application is accurate and reliable.

Applicant's signature (or parent/guardian) _____

Final Submission deadline for this form is March 25, 2020 by 12 pm.



APPENDIX D
Ontario Volleyball
Quest for Gold – Ontario Athlete Assistance Program 2019-2020
High Performance Participation Report – Indoor Volleyball

Applicant Name:	
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Please provide the requested information about your 2019-20 participation in High Performance programs below. Check the appropriate boxes:

High Performance Programs	Eligible	Attended/ Selected
SELECTION CAMPS		
Youth National Program Identification Camp		
Junior National Team Selection Camp		
Senior or Senior (B) National Team Selection Camp		
TRAINING CAMPS & COMPETITIONS		
Team Ontario Black Boys/Girls		
Team Ontario Elite Boys/Girls		
Youth National Team		
Junior National Team		
Senior B National Team Program		
Senior National Team Program		

Did you follow the training plan you provided with your 2018-19 Quest For Gold Athlete Agreement, if applicable? (Y/N) _____

Use the box below to explain any changes in your training plan or any reasons why you did not attend a camp you were eligible for (attach another page if needed)

APPENDIX E

Indoor Quest for Gold Selection Criteria

Individual Skill Assessment (3 points)

Technical

1. Ability to consistently apply the 6 major skills while limiting errors during competition in training as well as official matches*

*Liberos are scored on the skills of Passing, Defending and Setting only

Tactical

1. Ability to utilize information provided by coaching staff and relate it to individual or team performance
2. Ability to read the play and make proper decisions on court
3. Ability to effectively communicate during matches

International Potential (5 points)

1. Demonstrates potential to develop as shown by current performance level relative to past performance level
2. Demonstrates qualities conducive to individual improvement such as:
 - a. Self-motivated, strong work ethic, responsible, focused and coachable
3. Demonstrates commitment to pursue excellence in volleyball
 - a. Physically attended a provincial or national High Performance program selection camp
4. Participated in a provincial or national High Performance program in the last year:
 - a. Team Ontario
 - b. Youth/Junior National Team
 - c. Senior National Team
5. Has been identified by Volleyball Canada and is on the National Team athlete depth chart

Physical Assessment (2 points)

1. Ability to meet certain standards in the following physical indicators*
 - a. Height
 - b. Vertical Jump
 - c. Spike Jump

*Liberos will be evaluated on Vertical Jump only as an ability demonstrative of athleticism

Total Indoor OVEC Score = 10 points

Glossary

Game Plan (implements and adjusts): Demonstrates the ability to implement and adjust match strategies

Read and Respond: Demonstrates the ability to detect, recognize and respond to cues from the opponent, partner, and environment.

Self-motivated: Demonstrates the willingness and ability to satisfy a desire, expectation, or goal without being influenced or asked to do so by a coach or teammate.

Strong Work Ethic: Demonstrates consistent and concerted effort which is not conditional on the environment, coach or teammates

Responsible: Accepts accountability for ones actions. Demonstrates an ability to self-direct and does not rely on others for support or guidance.

Focused: Demonstrates an ability to remain fully concentrated and is not easily distracted.

Strong Leadership: Demonstrates the ability to inspire confidence and influence their team toward the achievement of collective goals. Athlete leads by example in training, in setup, and in competition.

Positive Attitude: The athlete consistently expects the best possible outcome from any given situation

Effective Communication: Is able to clearly and effectively communicate with teammates during rallies, timeouts, and other necessary situations to promote success.

Coachable: Demonstrates the willingness and ability to communicate with coaches, adapt to new techniques and tactics, receive and understand feedback.



APPENDIX F

Beach Quest for Gold Selection Criteria

Individual Skill Assessment (3 point)

Technical

1. Ability to consistently match execution to intent with desired technique on the 6 major skills while limiting errors during competition in training as well as official matches
 - a. Serving (ability to serve accurate and aggressive)
 - b. Passing (ability to midline & outside body pass)
 - c. Setting (ability to hand and forearm set)
 - d. Attacking (ability to roll and hit hard driven)
 - e. Blocking (ability to take away attackers options)
 - f. Defending (ability to peel dig &/or chase and dig hard driven balls)

Tactical

1. Ability to read and react correctly during rallies
2. Ability to create, implement, and adjust a game strategy
3. Ability to effectively communicate during matches

Behavioural Assessment (3 points)

1. Demonstrates qualities conducive to individual success & improvement such as:
 - a. Self-motivated, strong work ethic, acts with integrity, accountable, responsible, focused and coachable
 - b. Independent, composed, self-aware and proactive
 - c. Committed to training programs and meaningful competitions
 - d. Desire to be on national team and competitively driven
2. Demonstrates qualities conducive to team success & improvement such as:
 - Strong leadership, positive attitude, and supportive
3. Demonstrates appropriate training plan for 2019-20 season based on application (training, competition, partner, etc).

International Potential (2 point)

1. Demonstrates potential to develop as shown by current performance level relative to past performance level and competition finishes
 - a. Willingness to enter international tournaments
 - b. Achievement of respectable finishes in NORCECA trials as appropriate to number of years training in high performance beach volleyball, any quarter final finishes in Age Division FIVB World Championship events, Senior NORCECA, or a main draw berth into a Senior FIVB
2. Demonstrates characteristics conducive to long term future success
 - Ability to plan & manage a competitive schedule/partnership appropriate to development level
 - Demonstrated commitment to beach volleyball and focus on the achievement of goals leading to future competitive success

Physical Assessment (2 points)

1. Ability to meet certain standards in the following physical indicators
 - a. Height
 - b. Approach Jump Touch Above Net – On Sand
 - c. Counter Movement Jump – On Hard Surface
 - d. 8m Run

Please see Beach Scoring Weights & Scoring Matrix for a detailed physical assessment matrix.

Total Beach OVEC Score = 10 points

Glossary

Improvement: Demonstrated increase in the ability to perform the six (6) major volleyball skills (serving, passing, setting, attacking, blocking and defending) within the season.

Effective Communication: Is able to clearly communicate with partner during rallies, timeouts, and other necessary situations to promote success.

Read and React: Demonstrates the ability to detect, recognize and respond to cues from the opponent, partner, and environment.

Game Plan: Demonstrates the ability to create, implement & adjust match strategies to limit an opponent's strengths & exploit an opponent's weaknesses, or maximize own strengths and minimize own weaknesses.

Self-motivated: Demonstrates the willingness and ability to act on achieving an objective due to one's own enthusiasm or interest without needing the pressure or influence of others.

Self-Aware: Demonstrates the awareness of one's own level of skills, character, feelings, motives, desires, and behaviours.

Independent: Demonstrates an ability to self-direct and does not rely on others for support or guidance.

Coachable: Demonstrates the willingness and ability to communicate with coaches, adapt to new techniques and tactics, receive and understand feedback.

Proactive: Demonstrates an ability to take precautions or act in advance in order to deal with expected situations.

Focused: Demonstrates an ability to remain mindful and is not easily distracted.

Competitively Driven: Demonstrates the "will to win", the desire to compete during training and in competition.

Manages Composure: Demonstrates an ability to remain calm and under control. The athlete is not easily agitated or flustered during critical high-pressure competitive situations.

Stress Management: Demonstrates the ability to make effective decisions and perform under pressure, bounce back from a poor competitive result.

Commitment to training programs: Assessment of attendance and tardiness to practice, strength & conditioning, nutrition sessions, mental performance sessions, competitions and camps while involved in Ontario Volleyball and Volleyball Canada high performance beach volleyball training programs.

Commitment to meaningful competitions: Assessment of meaningful competition choices that demonstrate the athlete is creating opportunities for experiences needed on their pathway towards becoming a national team athlete. (Relative to their year of birth expectations.)

Strong leadership: Demonstrates the ability to inspire confidence and influence their team toward the achievement of collective goals. Athlete leads by example in training, in setup, and in competition.

Positive Attitude: The athlete consistently expects the best possible outcome from any given situation

Supportive: Provides encouragement and/or emotional help to their partner/team especially through challenging



APPENDIX G

Indoor & Beach Quest for Gold Grading Process

The objective of the Quest for Gold (Q4G) grading process is to produce an accurate ranking of all eligible athletes for nomination to the Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture Industries to receive athlete assistance.

The following is an explanation of the practical evaluation criterion used during the grading process. The evaluation criterion is broken into four (4) main sections; Individual Skill Assessment, Behavioural Assessment, International Potential Assessment and Physical Assessment. These sections are further separated into subsections for grading.

In order to grade each athlete in the various aspects of the criterion, each athlete will be given a score on the following scale:

10	7	5	3	0
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Regardless of age or experience, athletes are to be graded using the Train to Compete stage of development as a benchmark. Please refer to the Volleyball for Life document for a complete definition of the Train to Compete stage athlete.

- A score of 10 would demonstrate a world-class standard for the Train to Compete athlete within that category.
- A score of 7 would demonstrate the highest National standard for the Train to Compete athlete within that category
- A score of 5 would demonstrate the highest Provincial standard and the minimum required score expected for the Train to Compete athlete within that category

Additionally each individual criterion has been weighted differently to reflect the unique positional and sport specific characteristics.

Due to the fact that much of the criterion is not objective, brief explanations have been given to help guide the selection committee. Rather than leaving it up to each selection committee member to determine what a strong server is, indicators about world-class standards, national standards and provincial standards have been provided. Remember, each player will be compared to top players in the Train to Compete Stage for each given criterion.

This list will be used to determine which athletes are nominated by Ontario Volleyball to the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport for Quest for Gold Athlete Assistance.

Appendix H – DRAFT ATHLETE AGREEMENT



Ontario Volleyball Association/ Quest for Gold 2019/20 Ontario Athlete Assistance Program (OAAP)

AGREEMENT made this _____ day of _____, 2020

BETWEEN

Ontario Volleyball Association (OVA), having its provincial office at 111 – 60 Scarsdale Road, Toronto, ON (hereinafter referred to as the OVA)

AND _____, residing at

_____ (hereinafter referred to as "the Athlete").

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

WHEREAS the OVA is recognized by Volleyball Canada and the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport as the sole Provincial Federation governing the sport of Volleyball in Ontario;

WHEREAS the OVA and _____ recognize the need to clarify the relationship between the OVA and the Athlete by establishing their respective rights and obligations;

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 OVA and the Athlete who applies for assistance under the Ontario AAP;

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

NOW THEREFORE the parties agree to the following:

Ontario Volleyball Association Obligations

1. Ontario Volleyball Association 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 Volleyball at Provincial, National and International 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 the Ontario AAP criteria published by the OVA;
- 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 Volleyball in accordance with the budget of Ontario volleyball;
- e. Assist the Athlete in obtaining quality medical care and advice;
- f. Regularly provide Provincial Team and Ontario AAP information (training and competition) to the Athlete in the form of mailed/emailed correspondence;
- g. Provide a formal review of the Athlete's annual training program;
- h. Provide funding for the Athlete for training camps and competitions in accordance with the budget of Ontario Volleyball;
- i. 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 OVA 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, competitive and if necessary, return to play program mutually agreed to by the following:
 - o the OVA representative responsible for developing and monitoring Provincial Team training and competitive programs (the Provincial Coach or High Performance Director, for example);
 - o the Athlete's personal coach; and
 - o 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 Provincial Coach or his or her designate, by mail sent to the OVA, with an annual training chart and monthly updates of changes to the chart or any other appropriate information that the OVA may request;*
- d. Participate in all mandatory camps and competitions as detailed in **Appendix A**

- e. Notify the OVA 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 OVA within three weeks of the injury;
- f. In case of an injury, agree to provide the OVA a return-to-play plan that will allow the Athlete to safely participate in the events listed in **Appendix A**;
- g. Send the OVA monthly reports on injury status and rehabilitation progress within the Athlete's return-to-play plan;
- h. 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;
- i. 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;
- j. 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;
- k. 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 OVA, Sport Canada, the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) or other authorities designated to do so;
- l. 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;
- m. Participate, if asked by the OVA to do so, in any Doping Control/Education Program developed by the OVA in co-operation with Sport Canada and the CCES;
- n. Avoid participating in any competitions where federal government sport policy has determined that such participation is not permitted;
- o. Participate in sport-related, non-commercial promotional activities on behalf of the Government of Ontario. The OVA 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;
- p. Adhere to and comply with the OVA dispute mechanism procedure in the event of a dispute relating to or arising out of this Agreement;
- q. Actively participate in all Ontario AAP evaluation activities. Athletes will co-operate 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;
- r. Spend the Ontario AAP funding obtained only on the following items:
 - o Normal living costs;
 - o Costs directly associated with training (e.g. coaching, facility fees, other athlete services);
 - o Costs associated with attending training camps and competitions
 - o Sport specific equipment;
 - o 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

The OVA 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 Tourism, Culture and Sport, which the ATHLETE and the OVA hereby authorise for the purpose of administering the Ontario AAP, such information shall only be disclosed to outside parties with the express permission of the OVA and the ATHLETE, unless such disclosure is required by law, is mandated by the policies of the OVA or the Government of Ontario, or is required by virtue of a contractual commitment the OVA 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 the OVA 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 the OVA, is in breach of any of the provisions of this Agreement, the ATHLETE shall notify the OVA 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 the OVA policies pertaining to the resolution of disputes, including the OVA Appeals Policy.

Duration of Agreement

This AGREEMENT comes into force on the date that the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and Sport 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 / OVA 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

Ontario Volleyball representative signature

Date

APPENDIX A

Beach Volleyball Requirements

The athlete shall:

- A. Commit to fulltime beach volleyball training with one of the following programs:
 - a. Team Ontario Beach
 - b. OVA Fulltime Training Group
- B. Create a personalized competition and training plan with their coach and have such plan approved by an OVA Beach Development Coach by May 1, 2020. This training and competition plan must include:
 - a. Identification and commitment to a single partner who has agreed to the same training and competition plan. (A commitment letter from the partner may be requested at any time by the OVA Beach Development Coach)
 - b. Participation in a minimum of four (4) coach led training sessions per week from May 1 to August 31, 2020 with a minimum of three (3) training sessions led by the Ontario FTG
 - c. Participation in all required beach volleyball events as outlined in **Figure 1**.
 - d. Participation in all required beach volleyball events dependent on the athlete's date of birth as outlined in **Figure 2** by December 31, 2020.
 - e. If applicable, attendance at all eligible National Team Selection Events. This includes but is not limited to U19/U21 World Championship, NORCECA and FISU Trials as well as the Senior National Team selection camp.
 - f. Commitment and demonstration to a quality monitored year-round strength and conditioning program by providing monthly strength & conditioning logs designed by an Ontario Volleyball approved strength coach between April 1, 2020 to March 31, 2021.
- C. Prepare & compete in any highlight competition where a berth has been earned to participate and represent Ontario & Canada (Age Division World Championships, NORCECA, FISU, Canada Games)
- D. Participate in all Team Ontario Senior and/or Team Ontario Black Beach camps, workshops, and sport science, sport medicine services as applicable.

Figure. 1

Required Events for All Athletes

- 1) All OVA Grand Slam Events, unless competing at a NORCECA or FIVB event
- 2) Both eligible Ontario Championships, unless competing at a NORCECA or FIVB event
- 3) National Championships (Including Senior Div. 1, if eligible), unless competing at a NORCECA or FIVB event

Figure. 2

Born in (age)	Minimum number of out of province events.	Minimum number of OVA beach tour events in addition to qualifying events for two Ontario Championships
1998 or 1999	3	0
2000 or 2001	2	1
2002 or after	1	2

Quest for Gold Recipient Initial: _____

Indoor Volleyball Requirements

1. If eligible to attend by Ontario Volleyball or Volleyball Canada, the following selection camps are mandatory for 2019-2020 indoor volleyball recipients of Quest for Gold Ontario Card (OAAP) funding.

- Youth National Program Identification Camp
- Junior National Team Selection Camp
- Senior or Senior (B) National Team Selection Camp

2. If selected to attend by Ontario Volleyball or Volleyball Canada, the following training and competition events are mandatory for 2019-2020 indoor volleyball recipients of Quest for Gold Ontario Card (OAAP) funding.

Team Ontario

- Team Ontario Elite training camps including the France Trip
- Team Ontario Black

Team Canada

- Youth National Team Program
- Junior National Team Program
- Senior B National Team Program
- Senior National Team Program
- National Excellence Program

3. The athlete must commit to a monitored year-round strength and conditioning program by providing the following information to the OVA Athlete Development Director:

- Physical training plan for the period of April 1, 2020 and March 31, 2021
- Name, title and contact information of physical trainer in charge of the plan

**The ATHLETE must provide the Provincial Coach or his or her designate, by mail sent to the OVA, with an annual training chart and monthly updates of changes to the chart or any other appropriate information that the OVA may request. Annual training chart must be approved by the Athlete Development Director.

Requests for non-attendance of any listed event must be previously agreed to in writing by Ontario Volleyball **30 days prior the event start date.

Quest for Gold Recipient Initial: _____