

AUGUST 2020



ATHLETE ASSISTANCE SCHEME

THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO ELITE ATHLETES WILL HENCEFORTH BE KNOWN AS THE ATHLETE ASSISTANCE SCHEME (AAS) INSTEAD OF THE HIGH-LEVEL SUPPORT ASSISTANCE AND IT WILL BE MANAGED BY THE HIGH-LEVEL SPORTS UNIT (HLSU).

MINISTRY OF YOUTH EMPOWERMENT, SPORTS AND RECREATION
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INTRODUCTION

The financial support to elite athletes will henceforth be known as the Athlete Assistance Scheme (AAS) instead of the High-Level Support Assistance and it will be managed by the High-Level Sports Unit (HLSU).

The Scheme has been reviewed in line with recommendations made in the National Sport and Physical Activity Policy and the vision statement for Elite Sport to inspire Mauritians to pursue excellence on the world stage.

The four-level Scheme provides for a monthly allowance to both elite Senior and Youth athletes to motivate them to achieve a higher level of performance at major international competitions.

The main feature of the AAS will be the categorisation of athletes based on the projected performance and past achievements.

This Scheme will take effect as from 1 July 2020.

1. CONDITIONS FOR ASSISTANCE

- (i) The Scheme applies to Youth (U20 – from 14 to 19 years) and Senior athletes only.
- (ii) It is not a reward or cash prize granted for a good result or performance.
- (iii) It is not a salary.
- (iv) It applies to individual sports only.
- (v) It concerns mainly Olympic, Paralympic and Deaflympic events and Olympic styles only. The Scheme will consider only those styles of non-Olympic sports as specified by the relevant National Sports Federation (NSF).
- (vi) Participation or selection based on “wild cards”, geographical/zonal representations and participation by invitation are not considered under this Scheme.

- (vii) In cases where minima apply, the athlete is required to achieve the minima at least once during the sports season.
- (viii) Ranking alone does not qualify an athlete for assistance. Similarly, ranking based on points partially accrued from the physical presence of an athlete in an international competition would not be considered under this Scheme.
- (ix) Assistance would neither be renewed nor reviewed unless the concerned NSF submits a quarterly technical report duly endorsed jointly by itself and the national coach together with a monthly return of attendance. The report should include the following information:
- name of the athlete;
 - category in which the athlete is listed;
 - record of performance (for the last 3 months) stating:
 - name, date and lieu of competition and event;
 - performance level (e.g. 1st round, quarter-final, semi-final, etc.);
 - medal obtained; and
 - number of participating countries and athletes/teams in the event.
 - target set for the coming three months;
 - ultimate target for the sports season;
 - number of training sessions attended by the athlete and training hours; and
 - recommendation of the NSF.
- (x) For beneficiaries training abroad, assistance would not be renewed unless their respective coach submits a quarterly report through the concerned NSF. Reports sent directly to the HLSU without endorsement of the NSF would not be considered.
- (xi) Any beneficiary who refuses to participate in a benchmarked competition shall justify his non-participation. The HLSU reserves the right to review the assistance of the athlete in such cases.

2. TECHNICAL CRITERIA FOR ASSISTANCE

The main criteria that will be taken into consideration for granting of assistance are:

- (i) projected performance;
- (ii) achievements/medal/results obtained and recorded by the athlete;
- (iii) minima standards recorded by the athlete in sports discipline where they are applicable (Athletics, Archery, Swimming, Triathlon and Weightlifting);
- (iv) number of participating countries and participants recorded in the event in which the athlete participated;
- (v) world ranking; and
- (vi) training requirements as follows:
 - Category A:** training twice daily with a minimum of 10 sessions per week cumulating at least 20 hours as determined by the National Coach.
 - Category B:** training twice daily with a minimum of 8 sessions per week cumulating at least 16 hours as determined by the National Coach.
 - Category C:** training daily with a minimum of 5 sessions per week cumulating at least 10 hours as determined by the National Coach.
 - Category D:** training daily with a minimum of 4 sessions per week cumulating at least 8 hours as determined by the National Coach.

3. EVALUATION PROCEDURES

Evaluation and monitoring of performance of each beneficiary are carried out on a quarterly basis. However, monitoring of attendance is carried out on a monthly basis and all absences shall be reported immediately to the secretariat of the HLSU.

The technical report of the coach, attendance at training sessions, the margin of progression, and the results recorded determine whether a beneficiary should be promoted, relegated or removed from the list of the HLSU.

4. INJURIES

All cases of injuries must be reported immediately to the secretariat of the HLSU and supported by an appropriate medical certificate. For all prolonged period of injuries, the following measures would apply:

- (i) injuries up to 3 months: full assistance if supported by the technical report of the respective National Sports Federation and accompanied by a medical certificate;
- (ii) injuries beyond 3 months and up to 6 months: half the amount of assistance provided and depending on appropriate recommendations from the Federation and accompanied by a medical certificate;
- (iii) injuries beyond 6 months: suspension of assistance.

However, special consideration would be given to exceptional cases.

5. DURATION/REVIEW OF ASSISTANCE

The duration of the assistance will be reviewed for each category as follows:

- Category A : 6 months
- Categories B, C & D : 3 months

Assistance is granted to an athlete according to the target fixed by the latter. At the end of each sports season, the assistance would be reviewed based on the established criteria to determine whether it should be maintained or terminated.

In cases of severe misconduct, doping, absence from training, and severe drop in performance, the assistance shall be terminated at any time of the year.

6. CATEGORIES OF BENEFICIARIES AND QUANTUM OF ASSISTANCE

The exact quantum of assistance within a category is determined by the medal won, results recorded, minima achieved, number of participating countries, number of participants, training requirements, and ranking.

Athletes eliminated in the first round of a competition might be relegated or removed from the list of beneficiaries as deemed appropriate. The AAS indicates the quantum of assistance for both elite Senior and Youth categories at paragraph 9.

7. MEDAL PROSPECT

An athlete may be considered as a potential medallist in a major event by the HLSU where:

- (i) his margin of progression has been constant over a reasonable period;
- (ii) he has achieved good performance at the continental/international level or world level;
and
- (iii) where he is undergoing intensive regular training in respect of a specific target fixed by him in the context of the Scheme.

8. GENERAL REVIEW OF THE LIST OF BENEFICIARIES

The list of beneficiaries shall be reviewed after the Olympic Games and/or as and when required.

9. CATEGORISATION OF ATHLETES

A: Athletes who are eligible for the Olympic and Paralympic/ Deaflympic Games and are assessed as likely to qualify for these events or their relevant World Championships.		
CATEGORY – ELITE SENIOR		
A1 (Rs 45,000 – Rs 50,000)	A2 (Rs 40,000 – Rs 44,000)	A3 (Rs 35,000 – Rs 39,000)
Medal prospect at 2024 Olympic or Paralympic Games or Deaflympic Games or World Championships.	Final / Top 10 prospect at 2024 Olympic or Paralympic Games or Deaflympic Games or World Championships.	Qualification prospect at 2024 Olympic or Paralympic Games or Deaflympic Games or World Championships.
MAIN CRITERIA		
Won at least 1 medal at one of the past two Olympic or Paralympic Games or Deaflympic Games or most recent World Championships.	Reached the Final / Top 10 at one of the past two Olympic or Paralympic Games or Deaflympic Games or most recent World Championships.	Qualified for one of the past two Olympic or Paralympic Games or Deaflympic Games or most recent World Championships.
SUB CRITERIA		
Has consistently produced performances in the last 12 months that demonstrates potential to medal at 2024 Olympics Games or next World Championships by achieving one of the following:	Has consistently produced a performance in the last 12 months that demonstrates potential to reach the Final / Top 10 at 2024 Olympic Games or next World Championships by achieving one of the following:	Has consistently produced a performance in the last 12 months that demonstrates potential to qualify at 2024 Olympic Games or next World Championships by achieving one of the following:
<i>(I) Several minima / performances that would have won a medal at previous Championships/Games;</i>	<i>(I) Minima / performance that would have reached the Final / Top 10 at previous Championships/Games;</i>	<i>(I) Minima / performance that would have qualified at previous Championships/Games;</i>
<i>(II) Reached the Final / Top 10 at one of the past two Olympic Games or Paralympic or Deaflympic Games or most recent World Championships;</i>	<i>(II) Qualified at one of the past two Olympic or Paralympic or Deaflympic Games or most recent World Championships;</i>	<i>(II) Will be able to produce minima / performance described in (I) by time of next competition of same nature;</i>
<i>(III) Have consistently beaten athletes who medalled at the previous Olympic or Paralympic or Deaflympic Games or most recent World Championships;</i>	<i>(III) Have consistently beaten athletes who made the Final / Top 10 at the previous Olympic or Paralympic or Deaflympic Games or most recent World Championships;</i>	<i>(III) Have consistently beaten athletes who qualified at the previous Olympic or Paralympic Games or Deaflympic or most recent World Championships;</i>
<i>(IV) Top 10 ranked in the World for the previous calendar year.</i>	<i>(IV) Top 20 ranked in the World for the previous calendar year.</i>	<i>(IV) Top 30 ranked in the World for the previous calendar year.</i>

9. CATEGORISATION OF ATHLETES (Cont.)

<p>B (i): Athletes who are eligible for the Olympic and Paralympic/ Deaflympic Games and are assessed as unlikely to perform for these events or their relevant World Championships without significant improvement. Athletes who are likely to perform for the Commonwealth Games.</p>	
<p>CATEGORY – ELITE SENIOR</p>	
<p>B (i) 1 (Rs 30,000 – Rs 34,000)</p>	<p>B (i) 2 (Rs 25,000 – Rs 29,000)</p>
<p>Medal prospect at 2022 and 2026 Commonwealth Games.</p>	<p>Final / Top 10 prospect at 2022 and 2026 Commonwealth Games.</p>
<p>MAIN CRITERIA</p>	
<p>Won at least 1 medal at one of the past two Commonwealth Games.</p>	<p>Reached the Final / Top 10 at one of the past two Commonwealth Games.</p>
<p>SUB CRITERIA</p>	
<p>Has consistently produced performances in the last 12 months that demonstrates potential to medal at 2022 or 2026 Commonwealth Games by achieving one of the following:</p>	<p>Has consistently produced a performance in the last 12 months that demonstrates potential to reach the Final / Top 10 at 2022 or 2026 Commonwealth Games by achieving one of the following:</p>
<p><i>(I) Several minima / performances that would have won a medal at previous Games;</i></p>	<p><i>(I) Minima / performances that would have reached the Final / Top 10 at previous Games;</i></p>
<p><i>(II) Reached the Final / Top 10 at one of the past two Commonwealth Games;</i></p>	<p><i>(II) Qualified at one of the past two Commonwealth Games;</i></p>
<p><i>(III) Have consistently beaten athletes who medalled at the previous Commonwealth Games;</i></p>	<p><i>(III) Have consistently beaten athletes who medalled at the previous Commonwealth Games;</i></p>
<p><i>(IV) Top 50 ranked in the World for the previous calendar year.</i></p>	<p><i>(IV) Top 70 ranked in the World for the previous calendar year.</i></p>

9. CATEGORISATION OF ATHLETES (Cont.)

B (ii): Athletes who are eligible for the Olympic and Paralympic/ Deaflympic Games and are assessed as unlikely to perform for these events or their relevant World Championships without significant improvement.

Athletes who are likely to perform for the Francophone Games, African Games and African Championships.

CATEGORY – ELITE SENIOR		
B (ii) 1 (Rs 20,000 – Rs 24,000)	B (ii) 2 (Rs 15,000 – Rs 19,000)	B (ii) 3 (Rs 10,000 – Rs 14,000)
Medal prospect at upcoming Francophone or African Games/ Championships.	Final / Top 10 prospect at upcoming Francophone or African Games or African Championships.	Participation / qualification prospect at upcoming Francophone or African Games or African Championships.
MAIN CRITERIA		
Won at least 1 medal at one of the past two Francophone or African Games/ Championships.	Reached the Final / Top 10 at one of the past two Francophone or African Games/ Championships.	Qualified for one of the past two Francophone or African Games/ Championships.
SUB CRITERIA		
Has consistently produced performances in the last 12 months that demonstrates potential to medal at next Francophone or African Games/ Championships by achieving one of the following:	Has consistently produced a performance in the last 12 months that demonstrates potential to reach the Final / Top 10 at next Francophone or African Games/ Championships by achieving one of the following:	Has consistently produced a performance in the last 12 months that demonstrates potential to qualify at next Francophone or African Games/ Championships by achieving one of the following:
<i>(I) Several minima / performances that would have won a medal at previous Games/ Championships;</i>	<i>(I) Several minima / performances that would have reached the Final / Top 10 at previous Games/ Championships;</i>	<i>(I) Several minima / performances that would have qualified at previous Games/ Championships;</i>
<i>(II) Reached the Final / Top 10 at one of the most recent Francophone or African Games/ Championships;</i>	<i>(II) Qualified at one of the past two Francophone or African Games/ Championships;</i>	<i>(II) Will be able to produce minima / performance described in (I) by time of next competition of same nature;</i>
<i>(III) Have consistently beaten athletes who medalled at the previous Francophone or African Games/ Championships;</i>	<i>(III) Have consistently beaten athletes who made the Final / Top 10 at the previous Francophone or African Games/ Championships;</i>	<i>(III) Have consistently beaten athletes who qualified at the previous Francophone or African Games/ Championships;</i>
<i>(IV) Top 100 ranked in the World for the previous calendar year.</i>	<i>(IV) Top 130 ranked in the World for the previous calendar year.</i>	<i>(IV) Top 160 ranked in the World for the previous calendar year.</i>

9. CATEGORISATION OF ATHLETES (Cont.)

C: Athletes who are ineligible for the Olympic, Paralympic and Commonwealth Games (non-Olympic sports).		
CATEGORY – ELITE SENIOR		
C1 (Rs 30,000 – Rs 35,000)	C2 (Rs 25,000 – Rs 29,000)	C3 (Rs 20,000 – Rs 24,000)
Medal prospect at World Championships / Games.	Final / Top 10 prospect at World Championships / Games or medal prospect at the African Games or African Championships.	Qualification / participation prospect at World Championships/Games or African Games or African Championships.
MAIN CRITERIA		
Won at least 1 medal at the most recent World Championships / Games.	Reached the Final / Top 10 at one of the most recent World Championships or won a medal at the recent African Games or African Championships.	Participated at one of the most recent World Championships/ Games or African Games or African Championships.
SUB CRITERIA		
Has consistently produced performances in the last 12 months that demonstrates potential to medal at one of the next two World Championships/Games by achieving one of the following:	Has consistently produced a performance in the last 12 months that demonstrates potential to reach the Final / Top 10 at one of the next two World Championships/Games or won a medal at the recent African Games or African Championships by achieving one of the following:	Has consistently produced a performance in the last 12 months that demonstrates potential to qualify at next World Championships/Games by achieving one of the following:
<i>(I) Several minima / performances that would have won a medal at previous Championships/Games;</i>	<i>(I) Minima / performance that would have reached the Final / Top 10 at previous World Championships/Games or won a medal at the recent African Games or African Championships;</i>	<i>(I) Minima / performance that would have qualified at previous Championships/ Games;</i>
<i>(II) Reached the Final / Top 10 at one of the past two World Championships/Games;</i>	<i>(II) Qualified at one of the past two World Championships/Games and will be able to produce minima / performance described in (I) by time of next competition of same nature;</i>	<i>(II) Will be able to produce minima / performance described in (I) by time of next competition of same nature;</i>
<i>(III) Have consistently beaten athletes who medalled at the previous World Championships/Games;</i>	<i>(III) Have consistently beaten athletes who made the Final / Top 10 at the previous World Championships/Games or medalled at the previous African Games or African Championships;</i>	<i>(III) Have consistently beaten athletes who qualified at the most recent World Championships/Games;</i>
<i>(IV) Top 3 ranked in the World for the previous calendar year.</i>	<i>(IV) Top 5 ranked in the World for the previous calendar year.</i>	<i>(IV) Top 10 ranked in the World for the previous calendar year.</i>

9. CATEGORISATION OF ATHLETES (Cont.)

D: Athletes who are eligible for the Youth Olympic Games and World / Intercontinental / Continental Youth Games or Championships and are assessed as likely to qualify for these events or their relevant Championships. (Olympic and Non-Olympic Sports)	
CATEGORY – YOUTH (U 20)	
D1 (Rs 15,000 – Rs 20,000)	D2 (Rs 10,000 – Rs 14,000)
Medal prospect and Final / Top 10 prospect at the Youth Olympic Games 2026 or World Youth Games / Championships.	Medal prospect and Final / Top 10 prospect at Youth Commonwealth Games 2021 or African Youth Games / Championships.
MAIN CRITERIA	
Won at least 1 medal at one of the recent Youth Olympic Games or World Youth Games / Championships or reached the Final / Top 10 position.	Won at least 1 medal at one of the recent Youth Commonwealth Games or African Youth Games / Championships.
SUB CRITERIA	
Has consistently produced performances in the last 12 months that demonstrates potential to medal at next Youth Olympic Games or next World Youth Games / Championships by achieving one of the following:	Has consistently produced a performance in the last 12 months that demonstrates potential to reach the Final / Top 10 position at next Youth Commonwealth Games or African Youth Games / Championships by achieving one of the following:
<i>(I) Several minima / performances that would have won a medal at previous Games / Championships;</i>	<i>(I) Minima / performance that would have reached the Final / Top 10 at previous Games / Championships;</i>
<i>(II) Will be able to produce minima / performance described in (I) by time of next competition of same nature;</i>	<i>(II) Will be able to produce minima / performance described in (I) by time of next competition of same nature;</i>
<i>(III) Have consistently beaten athletes who medalled at the previous Youth Olympic Games or most recent World Youth Championships;</i>	<i>(III) Have consistently beaten athletes who made the Final / Top 10 at the previous Youth Commonwealth Games or African Youth Games / Championships;</i>
<i>(IV) Top 16 ranked in the World for their age for the previous calendar year.</i>	<i>(IV) Top 64 ranked in the World / Top 20 African for their age for the previous calendar year.</i>