



## Selection Policy for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games Tokyo, JPN

### OVERVIEW

This Selection Policy (“the Policy”) outlines the process by which the British Triathlon Federation (“BTF”) will determine its nominations for ParalympicsGB at the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games (“the Games”). In all cases, selection by the BTF represents a nomination to the British Paralympic Association (“BPA”) for their ratification and will be conditional on athletes and guides signing and adhering to the BPA Team Members’ Agreement (“TMA”). The final decision regarding selection for the Games therefore lies with the BPA.

The BTF intend to nominate athletes (and - where relevant - guides) to race in all sport-classes included in the Games programme, provided they demonstrate the ability to win a medal at either the Games or the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games.

For the purposes of this policy, the term ‘Games sport-class’ will refer only to the medal events which will be staged at the Games. These will be:

| Men  | Women |
|------|-------|
| PTWC | PTWC  |
| PTS4 | PTS2  |
| PTS5 | PTS5  |
| PTVI | PTVI  |

Consequently, at the Games there is not a medal event for each classification recognised by the ITU. In light of this, the ITU has adopted the following rule:

- Men’s sport-classes PTS2 and PTS3 will score ranking points for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Qualification Rankings of the Men’s PTS4 Medal Event, making them potentially eligible to compete in that medal event at the Games;
- Women’s sport-classes PTS3 and PTS4 will score ranking points for the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Qualification Rankings of the Women’s PTS5 Medal Event, making them potentially eligible to compete in that medal event at the Games.

The BTF will follow the above rule when considering selection decisions under this Policy. Therefore, for the avoidance of doubt, for male athletes in sport-classes PTS2/3 seeking selection, their performances will all be evaluated against athletes in sport-class PTS4 and for women athletes in classes PTS3/4, their performances will all be evaluated against athletes in sport-class PTS5.

For the purposes of this Policy it is also assumed that the medal event programme for the Paris Games will mirror that of the Tokyo Games and, as such, all decisions on medal potential for 2024 will be made on this basis.

## **SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY**

1.1 To be eligible for nomination, athletes must satisfy the following:

- a. Meet the BPA, International Triathlon Union (“ITU”) and International Paralympic Committee’s (“IPC”) eligibility requirements to compete for ParalympicsGB at the Games (including holding a full British Passport valid until at least 31 December 2020 and satisfying all relevant requirements outlined in the BPA’s Games Qualification & Eligibility Handbook);
- b. Be internationally classified with either a ‘Confirmed’ sport-class status, or a ‘Review’ / ‘Fixed Review’ sport-class status (with a review date after 31 December 2020);
- c. Be able to provide Medical Evidence (to the satisfaction of BOTH the IPC and the BTF Chief Medical Officer [“CMO”]) that you have one of the IPC’s 10 Eligible Impairments for Paralympic Sport;
- d. Be a member in good standing of a Home Nation Triathlon Association which is a member of the BTF and eligible to represent Great Britain in international championships under the rules of the ITU;
- e. Be ranked on the ITU Paralympic Qualification Ranking as of 29 June 2020; AND
- f. Not be serving a period of ineligibility as a result of an anti-doping rule violation.

## **SECTION 2: SELECTION PROCESS**

### **General provisions**

2.1 Athlete nominations will take place at two selection meetings as follows:

- a. 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 - phases 1 and 2; AND
- b. 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020 - phases 3 and 4.

*NOTE: If the 2020 Competition Calendar dictates that phases 3 and 4 can be brought forward, the BTF will update this policy with a revised meeting date.*

2.2 Guide nominations will usually be made at the same time as the PTVI athletes nominated during the meetings outlined above. However, where there is insufficient race/training evidence (due, for example, to injury/illness to the athlete/guide) to make a decision on guide nomination for any PTVI athlete during the first selection meeting (i.e. athletes nominated at phases 1 or 2), the Panel may nominate one or more PTVI athletes without also nominating their guide, and will then hold a separate guide selection meeting in the spring of 2020.

2.3 Any athlete/guide nominations made at phases 1 or 2 will be subject to confirmation of quota places. As such, no public announcement may be made at this stage. Instead all currently eligible athletes will be confidentially informed in writing of any nominations made. Athletes will then be entitled to appeal any such decisions (pursuant to section 4 of this Policy).

2.4 Once final quota places have been confirmed, and subject to appeals against nominations made in June 2020, subject to athletes signing the TMA and ratification from the BPA, the final team will be announced in July 2020.

2.5 Athlete attendance at the 2020 BTF preparation camp in Miyazaki, JPN, on dates stipulated by BTF, will be a condition of selection (whether or not also a term of the TMA). Guides and reserve guides will also be expected to attend this camp AND remain

in Tokyo until after the competition dates. Failure to attend the preparation camp (without prior agreement from the Paralympic Head Coach) will result in the athlete being deselected.

- 2.6 The Selection Panel (“the Panel”) for each meeting shall comprise:
- a. Voting members;
    - i. BTF PD;
    - ii. BTF Paralympic Head Coach; AND
    - iii. BTF Paralympic Talent Manager
  - b. Non-voting members:
    - i. BTF CEO;
    - ii. BPA observer;
    - iii. Independent Observer;
    - iv. BTF lawyer; AND
    - v. Note-taker(s) and other observers (such as BTF Media rep) as required.
- 2.7 Subject to any additional Bipartite Commission Invitations, British Triathlon has the opportunity to qualify up to two athletes in each sport-class for the Games (none of these quota places are guaranteed at the date this Policy has been adopted). Only athletes who are deemed, by the Panel, to have demonstrated the ability to win a medal at the 2020 Tokyo or 2024 Paris Paralympic Games will be nominated to fill available quota places. This will take place in three distinct phases between October 2019 and June 2020 (as outlined below). In addition, athletes may be nominated for Bipartite Invitations at phase 4 of this Policy.
- 2.8 Quota places are allocated to the BPA and not the athletes who secured them. If the Panel deem that there are no athletes who meet the nomination criteria where a quota place is available then that place may be returned to the ITU. For more information on how the quota places can be achieved, please visit the [IPC Qualification Document](#).
- 2.9 Where more athletes are eligible for nomination at any of the phases outlined below than there are quota places available, reserve athletes will be nominated. Where relevant/possible, reserve guides will also be named (pursuant to 2.15 below) - please note, as per BPA policy, reserve guides will only be formally nominated to the BPA (and therefore be a full part of the ParalympicsGB team) at the point they are required to replace a de-selected guide.

#### Athlete nominations

- 2.10 In the case of athletes looking to “compete up”, the Panel will base their decision on the absolute fastest results (without any adjustment between the sport-classes).
- 2.11 Phase 1 - 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 - automatic nominations:
- a. Subject to paragraphs 2.11 b and c below, one athlete per sport-class will be automatically nominated to ParalympicsGB for the Games if they:
    - i. Finish in the top 3 of their respective Games sport-class at the 2019 Tokyo Test Event; AND
    - ii. Finish in the top 3 of their respective Games sport-class at either the 2019 ITU World Championships or 2019 Montreal World Series.

***NOTE:** Should more than one athlete in any Games sport-class meet the automatic criteria listed above, their finishing positions at the 2019 Tokyo Test Event will*

*dictate who is automatically nominated. Any other athlete(s) who meets the criteria will then be considered for nomination using the discretionary criteria outlined at phases 2 or 3 below.*

- b. For each of the nomination races outlined above, there must be at least four athletes in each Games sport-class (including any athletes competing up) for the results to be recognised for the purposes of automatic nomination. If this is not the case, affected athletes will be evaluated against the discretionary nomination criteria at phases 2 or 3.
- c. The above automatic nominations will not apply if, in the opinion of the Panel, the results of any of the Tokyo Test Event, World Championships or 2019 Montreal World Series are significantly impacted by:
  - i. a large-scale racing incident (such as a crash); OR
  - ii. environmental conditions/exceptional circumstances which result in substantial alteration to the race format.

#### 2.12 Phase 2 - 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 - discretionary nominations:

- a. Should quota places remain in any given Games sport-class following completion of phase 1, athletes may be nominated for the Games at this time if their performances at the competitions outlined at 2.12(b) below indicate to the Panel (as assessed against the BTF What it Takes to Win Model) an ability to deliver a medal winning performance at the Tokyo 2020 Games. Specifically, this must include a demonstrated ability to:
  - i. Perform in hot and humid conditions; AND
  - ii. Perform in a non-wetsuit swim.
- b. The 2019 competitions considered by the Panel to determine which, if any, athletes to nominate at this phase 2 will be:
  - i. 2019 Tokyo Test Event;
  - ii. 2019 ITU World Championships;
  - iii. 2019 ITU Montreal World Series; AND
  - iv. 2019 ETU European Championships.

*NOTE: Athletes seeking selection who do not have a copy of the WITTW numbers may access them by contacting: [paratriathlon@britishtriathlon.org](mailto:paratriathlon@britishtriathlon.org)*

- c. If a decision is very close between athletes who each demonstrate medal winning potential at this stage the Panel may choose to delay this decision until Phase 3 when they will have further race evidence upon which to make a decision.

#### 2.13 Phase 3 - 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020 - additional discretionary nominations:

- a. Should quota places remain following completion of phase 2, athletes may be nominated for the Games at this time if their performances at the competitions outlined at 2.13(b) below indicate to the Panel (as assessed against the BTF What it Takes to Win Model) an ability to deliver a medal winning performance at EITHER the Tokyo 2020 OR Paris 2024 Games. Specifically, this must include a demonstrated ability to:
  - i. Perform in hot and humid conditions; AND
  - ii. Perform in a non-wetsuit swim.

- b. The 2019/2020 competitions considered by the Panel to determine which, if any, athletes to nominate at this phase 3 will be:
  - i. 2019 Tokyo Test Event;
  - ii. 2020 ITU World Championships (*assuming this event happens in advance of the nomination meeting*);
  - iii. 2019 ITU World Championships;
  - iv. 2019 & 2020 ITU World Series performances;
  - v. 2019 ETU European Championships;
  - vi. 2020 ETU European Championships (*assuming this event happens in advance of the nomination meeting*);
  - vii. 2019 & 2020 ITU World Cup events (excluding Test Event); AND
  - viii. 2020 National events.
- c. During the off-season as the event calendar becomes available the Panel may request that athletes race in specific events in 2020 in advance of the closing of the qualification window in order to gain greater nomination clarity in particular sport-classes. Choosing not to compete in these events may harm an athlete's chances of being selected.

#### 2.14 Phase 4 - 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020 - Bipartite invitations

- a. Bipartite invitations are a method by which National Paralympic Committee's (NPC's) may attain additional places for named athletes in any given sport-class at the Games. For information on the IPC's principles that underpin their Bipartite invitation process, please see [Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games Qualification Regulations](#) (p9).
- b. Such invitations are offered by the IPC following consultation with the ITU. NPC's (i.e. the BPA) may submit requests to the ITU for Bipartite nominations, but the final decision as to whether to extend any invitations rests solely with the ITU and the IPC.
- c. The BTF will therefore consider submitting a request to the BPA, and subsequently to the ITU, for Bipartite invitations where:
  - i. the Panel have nominated a reserve athlete pursuant to either phase 2 or 3 above;
  - ii. a newly identified athlete possessing a steeply rising profile (indicating realistic medal potential for Paris 2024) has been unable to gain a place through the quota system; OR
  - iii. a realistic Tokyo 2020 medal potential athlete has been unable to secure a quota place due to injury, illness or any other exceptional medical condition.

#### 2.15 Guide/reserve guide nominations

- a. The primary factor in nominating a guide will be their ability to support the PTVI athlete to produce the best possible performance at the Games. To determine this, the Panel will consider the following racing and training performance and team dynamics criteria:
  - i. Ability to guide an athlete to their best possible triathlon performance and the following will help indicate this:
    - a. ability to guide the athlete to deliver maximum swim performance;

- b. ability to support best possible tandem delivery between guide and athlete;
- c. ability to guide the athlete to deliver maximum run performance;
- ii. ability to perform effectively in hot and humid conditions;
- iii. ability to perform effectively in a non-wetsuit swim;
- iv. their ability to create an environment that best prepares their PTVI athlete for a medal winning performance at the Games; AND
- v. their ability to be positively contribute to the wider Paratriathlon team at the Games.

### **SECTION 3: DE-SELECTION AND REPLACEMENTS**

- 3.1 The process by which an athlete or guide may be de-selected from ParalympicsGB depends on the timing of both the Athlete Entry Deadline and the Delegation Registration Meeting (“DRM”) - i.e. the date on which ParalympicsGB is formally entered into the Games. The Athlete Entry Deadline is currently set for 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2020, and the DRM set for 15<sup>th</sup> August 2020 (both dates TBC).
- 3.2 At any time prior to the Athlete Entry Deadline (and with agreement from the BPA, between Athlete Entry Deadline and DRM), the BTF reserves the right to withdraw an athlete or guide’s nomination should they:
- a. in the reasonable opinion of the Panel, experience a significant drop in form which suggests that they may not be able to deliver (or, in the case of a guide, support their PTVI athlete to deliver) performances at the Games at least equivalent to the performances which gained them nomination at the date of the meeting at which they were nominated;
  - b. in the reasonable opinion of the BTF Chief Medical Officer (“CMO”) (and/or BPA CMO if appropriate) and Head Coach - in consultation with relevant external specialists (where appropriate and practical) - be affected by injury/illness (including mental health challenges) which impacts on their potential to deliver (or, in the case of a guide, support their PTVI athlete to deliver) performances at the Games at least equivalent to the performances which gained them nomination at the date of the meeting at which they were nominated;
  - c. commit a serious breach of the TMA or fail to attend the BTF preparation camp in accordance with 2.5 above (or if a reserve guide, fail to remain available in Tokyo in accordance with 2.5 above); and
  - d. in the case of guides and reserve guides behave in a manner which the Panel believe would be detrimental to their PTVI athlete producing his or her best result at the Games.
- 3.3 In the event of the withdrawal of an athlete nomination pursuant to 3.2 the BTF may, but will not be obliged, to nominate the reserve athlete from the same sport-class.
- 3.4 In the case of withdrawal of any guide the Panel would then look to nominate the relevant reserve guide to race with the affected PTVI athlete at the Games
- 3.5 Following the DRM, rules regarding athlete de-selections and replacements at the Paralympic Games are outlined in the IPC’s “Late Athlete Replacement Policy”, which is reviewed for each Paralympic Games. At the time of writing, the BTF understands that for Paratriathlon at Tokyo 2020, no athlete replacements will be permitted after the DRM.
- 3.6 The BTF understands that guide replacements will be permitted following DRM. Guides may be de-selected at this stage and replaced by another guide, with the permission

of the IPC/ITU due to the guide no-longer being eligible, or due to injury/illness. Under the terms of this Policy if in the opinion of the Head Coach - in consultation with the BTF CMO and/or BPA CMO and external specialist opinion where necessary - the injury/illness will impact upon a guide's ability to support their athlete to deliver the level of performance expected of them at the point of nomination he or she may be replaced.

- 3.7 Due to the timing associated with making such a decision, the de-selection and replacement of a guide following DRM is entirely at the discretion of the Head Coach, acting reasonably and taking account of all relevant factors.
- 3.8 The processes outlined above will be reviewed (and amended where required) following publication of the IPC's Late Athlete Replacement Policy. This is expected to be published late 2019.

#### **SECTION 4: APPEALS**

- 4.1 Athletes and guides may appeal any pre-DRM decision under this Policy that affects them under the "BTF Appeals Policy" which can be found on the BTF website. The appeal will proceed directly to Sport Resolutions UK under the 'Second Appeals' process set out at paragraph 4 of the BTF Appeals Policy. Athletes wishing to seek advice regarding the appeals process are advised to contact the British Athletes Commission (BAC) at [www.britishathletes.org](http://www.britishathletes.org).
- 4.2 In the event that the BPA refuses to ratify a nomination by the BTF Panel, or in the case of guide de-selections that take place after DRM, the athlete (or guide) may appeal that decision under the BPA's Appeals Policy, which will be provided upon request.

#### **SECTION 5: AMENDMENT**

- 5.1 In the event that any unforeseen circumstance makes any provision of this Policy unworkable or ineffective to promote the aims of the Policy, the BTF will be entitled to amend this Policy so that the aims can be secured. Any amended version will be made available at [www.britishtriathlon.org](http://www.britishtriathlon.org).