Introduction

This policy details the process by which British Triathlon will allocate GB quota places to athletes to compete in ETU Triathlon Junior Cup events.

ETU Junior cups are the first tier of international junior drafting races. They are held across Europe and can provide good experiential development opportunities for athletes of an appropriate standard.

Allocation Process

As with other Junior Selection Policies there is a four stage process for allocation of places to ETU Junior Cups:

1. Eligibility Process - There are number of essential components that support this process to ensure athletes are eligible for selection.

2. Qualification Process - the athlete through their performance(s) have met the specific performance criteria and automatically qualifies for the event; their performance(s) are not evaluated by the selection committee.

3. Selection Process - the athlete has not met the specific performance criteria for automatic qualification and their performance(s) are evaluated by a selection committee in order to determine selection.

4. Appeals Process - in the event of illness/injury/accident/mechanical failure and/or any other factor that impacts performance negatively in a selection event, an athlete can lodge an appeal.
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Supported and Non-Supported ETU Junior Cups

ETU Junior Cup events will vary in quality of field and British Triathlon will normally choose to support some of the key races for the learning and development opportunities they provide - this could be because of race location, date, course specifics and/or anticipated quality of field.

For 2018, ETU Junior Cup events will be identified in two groups:

1. **British Triathlon supported ETU Junior Cups** - these races serve as specific opportunities for development athletes.
   a. **Quarteira - March 24th** - an established early season event that often attracts a strong field both Junior and Senior. Normally with a choppy sea swim (a first experience for most GB athletes) and relatively technical bike course with a short climb, plus the chance to watch the seniors race it provides some valuable learning opportunities.
   b. **Kitzbuhel - June 17th** - in the Austrian alpine region of Tyrol has an undulating bike course and very changeable weather that requires adaptability. Its central European location and established reputation generally results in a strong field.
   c. **Holten - June 30th** - a very long running key European Senior and Junior event that is close to home. It serves as a good mid-season opportunity and has a split transition, a new experience for most GB athletes.
   d. **Riga - August 12th** - a new event for British Triathlon. Sitting between the World Qualifier in London and the World Champs and Under 20’s it supports athlete preparation into either. For 2018 this will be a ‘Team Delivery’ event. Team delivery is used at senior level at key events each year, and especially at the Olympics, with the goal of maximizing the overall success of the GB team. Exposing young athletes to team racing and allowing them to explore this in a supported environment is key for their development as well as that of British Triathlon.

2. **All other ETU Junior Cups** - these events are not identified for specific purposes and are likely to be unsupported. Providing athletes have met the minimum performance criteria for nomination, athletes will be entered in line with the ETU Junior Cup policy.
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Process of Quota Place Allocation to all ETU Junior Cups

1. Eligibility Process

1.1. Athletes wishing to be considered for a Junior cup event should email Sophie Lewis (sophielewis@britishtriathlon.org) before the BTF advertised Junior cup entry deadline date (generally 12 days before the ITU closing date for the event, which is 32 days before the first day of competition); Communication from parents or coaches will NOT be accepted. Please see Procedure for obtaining and allocating GB places - point 2.

1.2. Athletes must be eligible to represent Great Britain under ITU rules and must be members in good standing with a Home Nation Triathlon Association, which is a member of the British Triathlon Federation (BTF);

1.3. Athletes must be compliant with British Triathlon’s anti-doping policy and be available for in competition testing at ETU Junior Cups;

1.4. Athletes must have completed the required ITU Pre-Participation Examination (PPE) and sent the BTF Fit to Compete form to Sophie Lewis by the notification deadline. Please see Appendix Note 3, Point 1.

2. Qualification Process

The order of finish at the relevant Gateway event to within 5.0% of the winner is used to create the roll-down list.

2.1. Quarteira (2018) will operate from the Summer Gateway 2017 roll-down list;

2.2. All other 2018 ETU Junior Cups (up to 5 weeks post the U20’s) will use the May Gateway 2018 roll-down list;

2.3. All 2019 ETU Junior Cups (up to 5 weeks post the May Gateway 2019) will use the Summer Gateway (2018) roll-down list;

Due to the standard of racing required, athletes finishing outside the 5.0% criteria are not considered developmentally ready to compete in ETU Junior Cup events.

Any athletes who compete at the World Junior Championships and miss the Summer Gateway 2018 as a result will be added to the top of the 2018 Summer Gateway roll-down list.
3. **Selection Process**

Any athlete finishing within 5% of the (junior) winner at Blenheim, Cardiff, Eton or London may be added to the roll-down list if the selectors believe their performance and the quality of field to be comparable to the relevant Gateway event.

4. **Appeals Process**

Any athletes who are ill/injured (DNS) or have reasons outside their control that affect their result (DNF) may appeal to the selection committee

   a. Appeals must be sent to Sophie Lewis (sophielewis@britishtriathlon.org) within 24hrs of the relevant Gateway event;
   b. Detail and evidence of reason for DNS or DNF must be clearly stated and include:
      i. Medical note for illness/injury;
      ii. Clear explanation of circumstances with supporting evidence (note only factors outside of the athletes control will be considered here);
   c. Evidence of a clear performance standard;
      i. This will normally be membership of a Junior Championship Team or results at an ETU Junior Cup with sufficient Quality of Field;

Athletes whose appeals are not upheld will be directed to prove their performance standard at an event linked to the selection process.

**Obtaining and Ordering GBR Nominations**

1. Please refer to the ITU website for the entry deadlines for Junior Cups;
2. Applications need to be from the athlete and in writing; we will not accept applications from parents or coaches (see Appendix Note1 Point1);
3. The athlete should indicate the relevant Gateway result (qualification) or relevant other result (selection) or extenuating circumstances (appeal) which give them eligibility to be considered for selection;
4. British Triathlon will order athletes as follows;
   4.1. Order of finish at the relevant Gateway event up to 5.0% of the winners’ time
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4.2. If athletes at the top of the list do not want to take their place entries will roll-down the list until the event is full or we have reached our National quota (10 places);

4.3. Athletes who have met the selection standard or who have had a successful appeal upheld will be entered into the roll down list at a point that the selection committee feels is indicative of their performance;

4.4. If standards are similar between qualifiers and athletes who have achieved selection and/or have had a successful appeal priority will go to the qualified athlete. If comparing standards between a successful appeal and a selected athlete priority will go to the selected athlete;

4.5. Any athlete with an ETU ranking will be placed on a start list ahead of athletes without rank, irrespective of the order British Triathlon enters them in.

5. Once the ETU has created and published the start list for an event, GB athletes still wanting to race may subsequently be moved to the start list if places in the race are still available;

6. Substitution - up to 3 per gender - this allows us to get athletes without ranking onto start lists. In races that are likely to be over-subscribed we will use substitutions. To do this we will place the highest-ranking athletes not racing onto the start list to withdraw them nearer the start date to substitute them with a lower ranked athlete in line with Order of Entry criteria detailed above;

   a. To do this we reserve the right to use any high-ranked athlete not racing to later substitute them off the start list athletes into any event. In so doing we will contact such athletes to ensure they are fully aware of their being used as a substitute.

APPENDIX

Note 1: BTF Notification Process

1. Entry for all ITU international events requires each nation to first nominate the athletes who wish to race. From these nominations start lists are drawn up by the ITU. Any British athlete wanting to race internationally must therefore notify British Triathlon of this desire ahead of the ITU nomination deadline for that event. Expecting athletes to do this for each championship supports them in better understanding this process and how the sport works internationally. This also aligns to the Learning to Lead pillar of the Athlete Development Framework;

The notification process is a serious one. On the understanding that developing athletes will sometimes get things both right and wrong we operate a ‘one strike’ policy in this regard with Junior athletes. Thereafter athletes should understand that British Triathlon will adhere to this process and not select athletes who haven’t nominated;
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To maintain safeguarding best practice parents must be cc’d into all communication from and between athletes and British Triathlon.

Note 2: Nomination for a Junior Cup is dependent on the following

1. If an athlete is not 100% ready to compete due to injury or illness, they should email Sophie Lewis (sophielewis@britishtriathlon.org) immediately, so that a decision may be taken on whether another British athlete should replace them. Failure to do this could result in being temporarily suspended from being nominated for entry to future events.

2. An athlete, who elects to withdraw from a junior cup after they have expressed their interest to be considered for nomination, but before the ITU closing date, must inform Sophie Lewis (sophielewis@britishtriathlon.org) immediately, so that a replacement athlete can be nominated. This communication should be done in person or writing by the athlete; failure to do this could result in being temporarily suspended from being nominated for entry to future events.

3. Withdrawals are allowed for a further 48 hours after the start list for the ETU Junior Cup in question has been drawn up. Further withdrawals after this deadline may deny other GB athletes an opportunity to compete and could result in the BTF losing quota spots for future ETU Junior Cup events. If an athlete withdraws after the 48hr deadline for reasons that are not medical or for circumstances beyond reasonable control, they will be referred to a BTF set up disciplinary process. This may result in the athlete being withdrawn from all current start lists and/or not being entered in future ITU/ETU races for a period which the disciplinary process will determine. Medical withdrawals will need to be signed off by a Doctor and approved by the Performance Pathway Manager;

4. Athletes must be aware of, and compliant with, the BTF Code of Ethics and ITU rules, including those relating to race uniforms, no-shows and late withdrawals;

5. Failure to comply with any of the above requirements may result in the athlete not being nominated for further ETU Junior Cup events.

Note 3: ITU Pre-Participation Evaluation/BTF Fit to Compete Form

1. The International Triathlon Union (ITU) require a compulsory Pre-Participation Evaluation (PPE) screening for all athletes entered into any ITU races, the necessary information required and permissions are signed off in the BTF ‘Fit To Compete’ form. Athletes cannot be added to a start list without this documentation regardless of having met a selection policy and without exception.
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The main purpose of the screening is to identify athletes at risk of sudden cardiac death due to an electrical or structural heart abnormality. Details of how to complete this screening can be found on the Selection Policies page of the BTF website, under World Class Performance Programme policies (click on Pre Participation Evaluation(PPE) Criteria’).

Note 3: Gateway Event Cancellation
1. Should the Gateway Event be cancelled or changed to a duathlon due to adverse weather conditions/act of God we will use the following events for selection:
   1.1.1. Performance at Performance Assessments 2018 to within 5% of the winner
   1.1.2. Performance at Summer Gateway Event 2017
   1.1.3. Quality of Field assessed performance 2017

Note 4: Selection Committee
1. The Junior Cup Selection Committee will comprise of five to seven of the following members:
   1.1.1. Dan Salcedo (Performance Pathway Manager – British Triathlon) (Chair)
   1.1.2. Fiona Lothian (Head of Performance - Triathlon Scotland)
   1.1.3. Bex Milnes (Performance Coach - Triathlon Scotland)
   1.1.4. Louis Richards (Welsh Pathway Manager – Welsh Triathlon)
   1.1.5. Luke Watson (Performance Coach - Welsh Triathlon)
   1.1.6. Matt Divall (England Pathway Manager - Triathlon England)
   1.1.7. Rick Velati (England Talent Squad Head Coach - Triathlon England)

2. Additional experts may be asked to provide advice to the committee at the request of the Chair;

Note 5: Appeals
1. Athletes have the right to appeal selection decisions through British Triathlon’s Selection Review Process. A copy of the policy outlining this process is available on the BTF website, https://www.britishtriathlon.org/britain/documents/about/policy-documents/general-policies/btf_selection_review_policy_2014_nb.pdf

ENDS 20/01/2018