



**Selection Policy for 2019 Senior Mixed Relay events including the MR World Series (“MR WS”), European Championships and Tokyo Test Event.**

**OVERVIEW**

This Selection Policy (“the Policy”) outlines the process by which the British Triathlon Federation (“BTF”) will determine its selections for the 2019 MR WS and European Championships Mixed Relay. The full list of competitions to which this Policy will apply are outlined at 1.1 below.

This Policy has been structured to support BTF’s Olympic World Class Performance Programme’s (“WCPP”) vision of delivering world class success and inspiring the nation. Specifically, this means that all selection policies for BTF Olympic WCPP competitions intend to:

- select the right athletes, to the right race, at the right time;
- provide competition opportunities appropriate to an athlete’s age and stage of development; AND
- support the achievement of maximum quota slots for Great Britain at the Olympic Games.

**SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY**

1.1. To be considered for selection for 2019 senior MR events, athletes must:

- 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;
- Have undergone the required ITU pre-participation examination and submit the BTF fit-to-compete form to Kate Shone by the relevant Nomination Deadline outlined in the table below; AND
- Not be serving a period of ineligibility as a result of an anti-doping rule violation.

Race (race date)	Fit-to-compete form Deadline
Abu Dhabi, UAE (8-9 March 2019)	25 January 2019
European Championships (2 June 2019)	19 April 2019
Nottingham, UK (15 June 2019)	3 May 2019
Hamburg, GER (6-7 July 2019)	24 May 2019
Edmonton, CAN (20-21 July 2019)	7 June 2019
Tokyo Test Event, JPN (15-18 August 2019)	5 July 2019

**SECTION 2: SELECTION PROCESS**

2.1 BTF will enter a MR in each of the events outlined above no fewer than 33 days prior to the first day of competition for the relevant event. This will take place at the same time as nominations for the corresponding individual WTS event/European Championships/Tokyo Test Event races. Please note, with the exception of the

Nottingham MR WS event, all the events above have individual races taking place on the same weekend. For the Nottingham MR WS, the Leeds WTS will act as the corresponding individual event.

- 2.2 The athletes selected to travel to the relevant MR WS event (“the Squad”), and the 4 athletes selected to compete in the race itself (“the Team”) will be determined using the process outlined below.

#### Squad selection process

- 2.3 A BTF Selection Panel (“the Panel”) will convene - via email or conference call - to select the Squad. They may convene at any time prior to the ITU entry deadline, and, in order to provide athletes will as much notice as possible, may provisionally pre-select athletes to a Squad in advance of the entry deadline for the corresponding individual race.

- 2.4 This Panel shall comprise:

- a. Voting members;
  - i. BTF Performance Director (“PD”) - Mike Cavendish;
  - ii. BTF Olympic Head Coach - Ben Bright;
  - iii. BTF Performance Pathway Manager - Dan Salcedo; AND
  - iv. BTF Olympic Camp and Competition Support Coach - Glenn Cook.
- b. Non-voting members:
  - i. Note taker(s) if/as required.

- 2.5 The Panel will **automatically** select to the relevant MR Squad those eligible athletes who have been granted a place on the corresponding individual WTS/European Championships/Tokyo Test event start-lists.

- 2.6 The Panel will also take into account the event schedule and the anticipated environmental conditions to determine whether:

- a. the number/standard/form/fitness of those athletes competing (or, if pre-selecting and based on known competition plans, likely to compete) in the corresponding individual WTS/European Championships/Tokyo Test event start-lists are insufficient to ensure at least a top 5 finish in the relevant MR WS event; OR
- b. the relevant MR WS event provides an ideal opportunity to test race tactics/technical skills in preparation for the Tokyo Olympic Games (“the Games”).

***Note: MR only athletes are not expected to nominate themselves for consideration. Instead, the Olympic Head Coach (or designated individual) will work with appropriate WCPP athletes (and their coaches) to ensure that the relevant MR events are scheduled within their annual plans to enable them to be available for selection should they be required.***

- 2.7 If the Panel determines either of paragraphs 2.6 a or b above to be true, the decision as to which additional athletes to select to the Squad will be based on a consideration of the following factors:

- a. how their specific strengths are likely to compliment those of athletes already selected to the Squad;
- b. how their specific strengths are likely to suit the Individual/relay course layout and profile, and the likely impact on the race outcome and tactics of the course’s specific characteristics;

- c. anticipated environmental factors, their potential impact on the race tactics/outcome, and the resulting requirements of the MR;
- d. their performances in ITU WTS, World Cup, Continental Cup and Continental Championship events;
- e. their previous Mixed Relay performances;
- f. their relationships with athletes already selected and consequent impact on Squad/Team dynamics;
- g. their current form; AND
- h. their injury/illness history and status.

### Team selection process

- 2.8 Following completion of the corresponding individual WTS races/Tokyo Test Event races (and no later than 24 hours prior to the MR WS event start), the PD and BTF Olympic Head Coach will convene to provisionally select the 4 athletes to compete in the MR Team and the two athletes who will be reserves (1 per gender).
- 2.9 In doing so, the PD/Olympic Head Coach will consult other members of the on-the-ground MR WS Coaching Team, as well as a relevant member of the BTF medical team, and will take the following into account:
- a. the impact of the individual male/female races on the form/fitness of athletes in the Squad;
  - b. the specific technical requirements of the course; AND
  - c. pursuant to paragraph 2.6 above, whether the opportunity exists to test race tactics/technical skills in preparation for the Games.
- 2.10 Should any of the 4 athletes provisionally selected to compete in the MR Team subsequently become unavailable up to 1 hour prior to the start of the MR race (due to injury, illness or any other valid reason), they will be replaced by the applicable reserve athlete. Should more than 1 athlete of each gender become unavailable, the PD and the BTF Olympic Head Coach - utilising the criteria and expertise outlined at paragraph 2.9 above - will select to the Team as many additional athletes as necessary from the Squad for the relevant event. Consequently, all athletes in the Squad - regardless of whether they are selected to compete in the final Team or not - will be required to remain in the competition city until completion of the MR race.
- 2.11 Selection for the MR Team is entirely discretionary and as such is not subject to the appeals provisions as outlined at Section 4 of this Policy.

## **SECTION 3: CONDITIONS**

### Conditions

- 3.1 ITU rules state that an athlete may only take up one quota place across all ITU races on a single weekend. Athletes will therefore only be considered for MR who are known not to be pursuing an individual race at a different event on the same weekend.
- 3.2 Nomination for MR WS events are conditional on the following:
- a. Athletes must complete any BTF pre-travel medical questionnaire (if required, at the discretion of the CMO, in addition to the ITU fit-to-compete questionnaire). Athletes must also agree (by signing in advance of travel the EIS Data Processing Consent Form) to their personal and medical details being stored on the EIS Performance Data Management System (PDMS) and shared - where appropriate - with the relevant medical/coaching/management staff; AND

- b. As the name suggests, the MR is a team event with Olympic qualification at stake. As such, any athlete injury/illness will impact on the success of the Team at the relevant MR WS event AND at the Games themselves. Therefore, if an athlete in the Squad is not 100% ready to compete due to injury or illness, they should inform the Head Coach immediately so that a decision may be taken on whether they should be replaced by another British athlete, or if at the event itself, whether medical withdrawal is required.

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

- 4.1 Athletes may appeal their non-selection to the relevant MR WS Squad under this Selection Policy, but only after announcement of the Squad online at the BTF website and only according to the procedure laid out in the “BTF Appeals Policy” (which can also be found on the BTF website). Due to the timelines involved when selecting the final Team to compete in the relevant MR, appeals pertaining to the make-up of the final Team are not subject to appeal. Athletes wishing to seek advice regarding the appeals process (including the validity of any procedure itself) are advised to contact the British Athletes Commission (BAC) at [www.britishathletes.org](http://www.britishathletes.org).

#### **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).