



## Selection Policy for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games 2019 Assessment Races

### OVERVIEW

This Selection Policy (“the Policy”) outlines the process by which the British Triathlon Federation (“BTF”) will determine its individual selections for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games (“the Games”), 2019 Assessment Races.

Assessment Races are those events at which athletes who achieve podium level performances may secure automatic nomination to Team GB at the Games. The Assessment Races are:

- 2019 Yokohama World Triathlon Series (“WTS”) event; AND
- 2019 Tokyo Olympic Games Test Event (“the Test Event”).

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 nomination to either of the Assessment Races, athletes must:

- a. 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;
- b. Request nomination for entry into the relevant Assessment Race via email to Laura Macey ([lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org.uk](mailto:lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org.uk)) as per the relevant Nomination Deadline outlined in the table below;
- c. Have undergone the required ITU pre-participation examination and submit the BTF fit-to-compete form to Laura Macey by the relevant Nomination Deadline outlined in the table below; AND
- d. Not be serving a period of ineligibility as a result of an anti-doping rule violation.

Assessment Race (race date)	Nomination Deadline*
Yokohama (18/19 May 2019)	5 April 2019
Test Event (15-18 August 2019)	5 July 2019

*\*if athletes miss the relevant nomination deadline they will only be entered after the ITU start lists have been published, therefore being placed at the bottom of the wait-list (and only then if they meet the automatic or discretionary selection criteria below). In exceptional circumstances, the Selection Panel may choose to override this condition, but any decision to do so is at their absolute discretion. In addition, where athletes continually miss nomination deadlines, the Selection Panel (at their absolute discretion) reserves the right not to enter athletes at all for one or more editions of the WTS.*

## **SECTION 2: SELECTION PROCESS**

- 2.1 Athletes will be selected for nomination to the ITU no fewer than 33 days prior to the first competition day of the relevant Assessment Race.
- 2.2 The Selection Panel (“the Panel”) for each Assessment Race will convene either via email or conference call in advance of this deadline and 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 Cooke.
  - b. Non-voting members:
    - i. Note taker(s) if/as required.
- 2.3 BTF is allocated a maximum of 5 quota places per gender for each Assessment Race. However, subject to the substitution process outlined at section 3.2 below, athletes will only be granted places on the relevant start-list if they are ranked high enough on the ITU World Rankings. BTF may also nominate a reserve in the event that fields are not full and they can secure an additional place on the start-line for a sixth British athlete.
- 2.4 At the Panel’s absolute discretion, they may choose to nominate athletes to the ITU for the relevant Assessment Race in order to secure a place on the start-list for a lower ranked athlete (pursuant to the substitution process outlined at paragraph 3.1 to 3.3 below).
- 2.5 ITU nomination process
  - a. Subject to the criteria outlined at paragraph 3.6 below (relating to exceptional circumstances etc.) eligible athletes will be **automatically nominated** to the ITU for the relevant Assessment Race if:
    - i. **For Yokohama WTS** - they achieved an individual top 3 finish at a 2018 WTS event.
    - ii. **For the Test Event** - they achieved an individual top 3 finish at a 2018 WTS event **AND** achieve an individual top 10 finish at the Yokohama WTS.
  - b. The following opportunities are then available for athletes to gain nomination for the relevant Assessment Race via a **Gateway Race**:
    - i. **For Yokohama WTS** - eligible athletes who finish in the top 3 of the ETU Continental Cup in Huelva, 24 March 2019, will be nominated to the ITU for entry into Yokohama. Where more athletes finish in the top 3 than there are quota places remaining at the Yokohama WTS event (following completion of the automatic nomination process outlined at 2.5[a] above), athletes will be nominated in the order in which they finished in Huelva (until no places remain).
    - ii. **For the Test Event** - no Gateway Race will be offered.

- c. Should quota places remain for either Assessment Race following completion of the automatic and Gateway nomination process above, the Panel will then, **at their discretion**, nominate additional athletes to the ITU for the relevant Assessment Race provided they:
  - i. either competed in Yokohama WTS race or are ranked inside the top 80 in the Olympic Games Rankings as at the Nomination Deadline; AND
  - ii. are considered to be capable of delivering the level of performance required to be competitive at a WTS event. In making this decision the Panel will consider on a range of factors, including, but not limited to (listed in no priority order):
    - a. Athlete performances at 2018 and 2019 ITU WTS, World Cup, Continental Cup or Continental Championships (including an assessment of the quality of field in any relevant event);
    - b. ITU World Rankings;
    - c. Performances at previous Olympic Games;
    - d. The BTF What it Takes to Win Model;
    - e. Athlete development profiles;
    - f. Current form;
    - g. Injury/illness history and status; AND
    - h. Subjective assessments relating to athletes' ability to perform under pressure and deliver performances aligning to the "one day, once race" philosophy of BTF.

### **SECTION 3: SUBSTITUTIONS, INVITATIONS & CONDITIONS**

#### **Substitutions**

- 3.1 Once the ITU has created the start-list for the relevant Assessment Race, each National Federation may replace one athlete per gender using the ITU substitution procedure.
- 3.2 Process for the Yokohama Gateway Race:
  - a. Where BTF is able to maximise the 5 or more available quota places in Yokohama the Panel will guarantee the winner of the Gateway Race a place on the start-list by substituting them in for any non-automatically nominated athlete.
  - b. Where BTF is NOT able to maximise the 5 or more available quota places in Yokohama, the Panel will NOT substitute the winner of the Gateway in for an athlete who has otherwise achieved a place on the start-list by virtue of a higher world ranking.
- 3.3 If no substitutions are required via the process at 3.2 above, the Panel will then consider substituting athletes out of a race only under the following circumstances:
  - c. An athlete who does not wish to compete but is entered, pursuant to paragraph 2.4 above, for the sole purpose of being substituted; OR
  - d. An athlete on the start-list who is unable to compete due to illness or injury.
- 3.4 The Panel will consider substituting athletes into a race using a wide range of performance factors that they believe indicate whether an athlete is capable of delivering the level of performance required at a WTS event. The criteria considered will be (listed in no specific order):
  - a. An athlete who, by competing at the relevant event, will enhance GB's chances of securing 3 quota spots at the Games;
  - b. An athlete returning from an enforced period out of competition that has a past history of elite level performances in the WTS; OR

- c. An athlete with a low or no ITU ranking with an improving performance profile;
- d. An athlete that requires the opportunity to score points or gain WTS (including the Test Event) racing experience to allow consideration for nomination to the Games in a pilot role.

### Invitations

- 3.5 In creating the start-list for a race, if, based on the event entries the ITU determines that race will be full, they will hold back 5 places for potential athlete invitations who have not gained a place on the start-list due to a low/non-existent world ranking. National Federations may apply for such an invitation provided they have not used all their quota places,
- 3.6 At their sole discretion, the Panel will determine whether to request such an invitation but will only do so if they believe that, using the criteria outlined at paragraph 2.5 (c[ii]) above that the athlete(s) are capable of delivering the level of performance required to be competitive at a WTS event.

### Conditions

- 3.7 The Panel reserves the right NOT to ratify nominations from the Gateway Race, should the Gateway Race, as determined solely by the Panel, have been significantly impacted by:
  - a. a large-scale racing incident (such as a crash); OR
  - b. environmental conditions/exceptional circumstances which resulted in an altered or reduced race format (such as removal of the swim portion of the race).Where this is the case, affected athletes will not be automatically nominated, but will instead be considered using the discretionary selection outlined at paragraph 2.5(c).
- 3.8 ITU rules state that an athlete may only take up one quota place across all ITU races on a single weekend. i.e. it is not possible for an athlete to take up their place in one race and also to be entered and subsequently replaced in another race to enable another GB athlete to gain a race start. An athlete will only be entered and replaced by another athlete using the ITU substitution clause if they do not wish to compete in any other ITU race on a weekend.
- 3.9 Nomination for a WTS event (and the Test Event) is 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;
  - b. WTS event start positions are limited and ranking points earned in WTS events are crucial to Great Britain earning a full quota of places at the Games. If an athlete 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 whether medical withdrawal is required;
  - c. An athlete who elects to withdraw from a WTS event/the Test Event after they have expressed their interest to be considered for nomination, but before the ITU closing date, must inform Laura Macey ([lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org](mailto:lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org)) immediately so that a replacement athlete can be nominated.

- d. Athletes must be aware of, and compliant with, ITU WTS rules, including those relating to race uniforms, no-shows and late withdrawals;
- e. Withdrawals within 30 days of the ITU closing date may deny other GB athletes an opportunity to compete and could result in BTF losing quota spots for future WTS events. If an athlete withdraws after the closing date set by the ITU, when their reason for withdrawal is not medical or circumstances beyond reasonable control, they will be referred to a BTF disciplinary process. This may result in the athlete being withdrawn from current start-lists and/or not entered in future ITU races for a period to be determined by BTF. Medical withdrawals will need to be endorsed by a BTF Medical Officer as approved by the Performance Director; AND
- f. BTF is given a limited number of 'athlete reprieves' per year. These may be used when an athlete withdraws from the event after 13:00 BST on the Monday prior to the event. This would normally result in the athlete being removed from all ITU events for the next 30 days. The use of this quota will be at the discretion of the Panel, and BTF is under no obligation to allow an athlete to be reinstated even if the full quota has not been used up.

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

- 4.1 Athletes may appeal their non-nomination (including substitution [or non-substitution]) under this Selection Policy, but only after provision of written confirmation of the relevant decision and only according to the procedure laid out in the "BTF Appeals Policy" which can be found on the BTF website. 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).