



Selection Policy for 2020 ITU Continental Cup (“CC”) races

ATHLETES ARE REQUIRED TO NOMINATE TO BTF IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SELECTION TO CC RACES - IT IS THE ATHLETES’ RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE THEY NOMINATE FOR THE RELEVANT RACE BY THE RELEVANT DEADLINE.

OVERVIEW

This Selection Policy (“the Policy”) outlines the process by which the British Triathlon Federation (“BTF”) will determine its individual selections for 2020 CC races.

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 to support the above; AND
- support the achievement of maximum quota slots for Great Britain at the Olympic Games.

Event Decision Making Process in relation to Covid-19

Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, British Triathlon will be applying an additional layer of decision making to the nomination process in the interests of athlete and staff safety.

Below are the three key tests we will apply to each event and the questions we will be asking each event organiser to understand the risk mitigation strategies they have in place to ensure athlete and staff safety:

Key Tests for deciding whether it is safe to attend an event

- For all ITU events where BTF are responsible for nominating athletes to compete, we will apply the following key tests to assess whether it is safe to attend:
 - a. Will our insurers cover us to do so?
 - b. There is no quarantine requirement on arrival or return.
 - c. We are satisfied that the level of risk that we are exposing our athletes to (OR others by virtue of us attending) is sufficiently mitigated.
- Based on the above we will communicate our decision to either enter or not enter athletes within 7 days of the production of the event start lists, athletes should not confirm travel plans until this has been done.
- If an event does not meet all of the above criteria, we will not permit entry of athletes or staff and may withdraw athletes should any of the above tests fail at any point prior to the running of the event.

SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY

- 1.1. To be considered for nomination to the ITU for 2020 CC events, 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 race via email to Kate Shone (Kateshone@britishtriathlon.org) 42 days prior to the first day of competition. Please refer to <https://www.triathlon.org/events> for event start dates;
 - c. Have undergone the required ITU pre-participation examination and submit the BTF fit-to-compete form to Kate Shone by the relevant Nomination Deadline 42 days prior to the first day of competition; AND
 - d. Not be serving a period of ineligibility as a result of an anti-doping rule violation.
- 1.2 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, World Cup or Continental Cup series.
- 1.3 Athletes wishing to enter indoor continental Cups must request nomination to BTF **42 days** before the relevant event is due to take place. Entries for such events will then be considered against the same criteria as standard/sprint outdoor CC's as outlined in Section 2 below.

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 CC event.
- 2.2 The Selection Panel ("the Panel") for each CC event 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/TE ENG Head Coach - Rick Velati.
 - b. Non-voting members:
 - i. Note taker(s) if/as required.
- 2.3 BTF is allocated a maximum of 10 quota places per gender for each CC event. Using the process outlined at paragraph 2.5 below, the Panel will select which athletes to nominate to the ITU - in doing so they may choose to nominate more than the quota allocation of 10. If the event is NOT full, all those athletes nominated to the ITU (regardless of the number nominated per country) will be offered a place on the start-list. If the event IS full, the maximum 10 quota places will be observed and athletes - including any nominated under 2.4 below - will be granted places on the start-list in the order in which they appear on the ITU World Rankings (with no guarantee that all British athletes will be granted a place). Any subsequent athlete withdrawals will then be replaced by the ITU using a roll down process (based on the World Rankings).

2.4 At the Panel's absolute discretion, they may choose to nominate athletes to the ITU for the relevant CC race, who have not nominated themselves, 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 then be **automatically nominated** to the ITU for the relevant CC race if they satisfied any of the following:
 - i. competed in an individual World Triathlon Series ("WTS") race in the 2019 season;
 - ii. achieved an individual top 20 finish in a World Cup race in the 2019 season;
 - iii. achieved an individual top 8 finish in a European Cup race in the 2019 season;
 - iv. achieved an individual top 3 finish in a BTF Super Series Event in the 2019 season;
 - v. achieved an individual top 3 finish in the 2019 World Junior Championships;
 - vi. achieved an individual top 5 finish in the 2019 U23 European Championships;
 - vii. achieved an individual top 15 finish at the 2019 U23 World Championships;
 - viii. achieved an individual top 10 finish at the 2019 Sprint Distance European Championships; OR
 - ix. achieved an individual top 20 finish at the 2019 Standard Distance European Championships.
- b. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic there will be no Gateway Events in 2020, therefore no places will be allocated using this method.
- c. The Panel will then, **at their discretion**, nominate additional eligible athletes to the ITU provided they are considered, by them, to be **capable of delivering the level of performance required to be competitive at a CC event (see below)** AND provided they satisfy at least one of the following:
 - i. are a WCPP athlete;
 - ii. achieved a top 8 finish at the 2019 European Junior Championships; OR
 - iii. achieved a top 15 finish at the 2019 World Junior Championships; OR
 - iv. are ranked inside the top 200 in the Olympic Games Rankings as at the Nomination Deadline
- d. In determining if an athlete is deemed capable of delivering the level of performance required to be competitive at a CC event, the Panel will consider the following:
 - i. Athlete performances at 2019 ITU WTS, World Cup, Continental Cup or Continental Championships (including an assessment of the quality of field in any relevant event);
 - ii. ITU World Rankings;
 - iii. Performances at other previous Championships events (i.e. U20/U23 World/European Championships);
 - iv. The BTF What it Takes to Win Model;
 - v. Athlete development profiles;
 - vi. Current form;
 - vii. Injury/illness history and status; AND

- viii. 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 Given that athletes are placed on race start-lists based on their ITU World Ranking, there may athletes selected by BTF who do not secure themselves a place on the relevant race start-list. The Panel will therefore seek to use the ITU substitution procedure to maximise the number of race starts for British athletes.
- 3.2 For CC races, each National Federation may replace 3 athlete per sex using the ITU substitution procedure.
- 3.3 Where athletes don't receive a place on the relevant race start-list in their own right (i.e. by virtue of their ITU World Ranking), and where substitute places are available (pursuant to the provisions outlined at paragraph 2.4 above) the Panel will substitute athletes into races in the order in which they appear on the ITU World Rankings. However, the Panel may - at their sole discretion - choose to override this order where they believe an athlete is selected (pursuant to the process outlined at section 2 above) who:
 - a. by competing at the relevant race, will enhance GB's chances of securing 3 quota spots at the Games;
 - b. requires the opportunity to score points or gain CC racing experience to allow realistic consideration for nomination to the Games in a pilot role;
 - c. is returning from an enforced period out of competition but has a past history of high level performances in the CC; OR
 - d. has a low or no ITU ranking with an significantly improving performance profile.

Invitations

- 3.4 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.
- 3.5 At their sole discretion, the Panel will determine whether to request such an invitation but will only do so if they believe that the athletes(s) are capable of delivering the level of performance required to be competitive at a CC event.

Conditions

- 3.6 Any automatic nominations (as per paragraph 2.5[a]) will not apply if, in the opinion of the Panel, the results of the race in which an athlete achieved a performance that qualified them for automatic nomination was significantly impacted by:
 - a. a large-scale racing incident (such as a crash);
 - b. environmental conditions/exceptional circumstances which resulted in an altered or reduced race format; OR
 - c. an anomalous incident, usually completely outside of the athletes' control (such as a stray dog/vehicle on the course) - please note, this does NOT include individual mechanical issues.

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).

- 3.7 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.
- 3.8 Nomination for a CC 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. CC event start positions are limited and ranking points earned in CC events are crucial to Great Britain earning a full quota of places at the Olympic 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 a whether medical withdrawal is required;
 - c. An athlete who elects to withdraw from a CC after they have expressed their interest to be considered for nomination, but before the ITU closing date, must inform Kate Shone (kateshone@britishtriathlon.org) immediately so that a replacement athlete can be nominated;
 - d. Athletes must be aware of, and compliant with, ITU CC 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 CC 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 Due to the volume of CC's and the timescales associated with nominating athletes, there shall be no right of appeal against the decisions made by Selection Panel for CC events. However, athletes who feel that they should have been nominated/substituted are encouraged to contact the Panel to discuss their case. In addition, any athlete who wishes to seek independent advice regarding the selection process in general are advised to contact the British Athletes Commission (BAC) at 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.