



## Selection Policy for the 2020 World Triathlon Series (“WTS”)

**ATHLETES ARE REQUIRED TO NOMINATE TO BTF IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SELECTION TO WTS EVENTS - 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 WTS events.

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.

This policy has been amended following impact of the COVID-19 crisis on the 2020 competition calendar. The impacts of COVID-19 may prevent BTF from fielding a team for the WTS races that remain in the calendar for 2020 - a final decision on this will be made on the final entry deadline for each of the WTS races (Hamburg - 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> September, Montreal - 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> October).

### 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 so advise athletes to 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 WTS 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 Laura Macey ([lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org](mailto:lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org)) 42 days prior to the first day of competition.
  - c. Have undergone the required ITU pre-participation examination and submit the BTF fit-to-compete form to Laura Macey by the Nomination Deadline of 42 days prior to the first day of competition. Please refer to <https://www.triathlon.org/events> for event start dates; 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.

## **SECTION 2: SELECTION PROCESS**

- 2.1.1 Athletes will be selected for nomination to the ITU no fewer than 33 days prior to the first competition day of the relevant WTS event.
- 2.2 The Selection Panel (“the Panel”) for each WTS 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 Olympic Camp and Competition Support Coach - Glenn Cook.
  - 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 WTS event (apart from Leeds WTS which has a maximum of 7 for GB athletes). 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 5 (7 for Leeds). 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 5 (7 for Leeds) 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 WTS 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 be automatically nominated to the ITU for the relevant WTS race if they:
  - i. achieved a top 8 finish at an individual ITU WTS event in 2019; OR
  - ii. achieved a top 3 finish at an individual ITU World Cup event in 2019 ; OR
  - iii. are a reigning Olympic Games medallist; OR
  - iv. are a 2019 U23 World Championships individual medallist;  
OR
  - v. are a reigning Commonwealth Games individual medallist.
  
- a. The ITU's policy of granting places on the start-list for WTS races on the basis of world ranking means that BTF cannot guarantee entry for athletes into the WTS via Gateway Races without compromising the automatic nomination process above. As such, there will be NO Gateway Race opportunity for entries in the 2020 WTS.
- b. The Panel will then, at their discretion, nominate additional eligible athletes to the ITU provided they:
  - i. are ranked inside the top 200 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.
  
- c. In making this decision the Panel will consider on a range of factors, including, but not limited to (listed in no priority order):
  - 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 previous Olympic Games;
  - 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 eligible British athletes.

- 3.2 For WTS races, each National Federation may replace one athlete per gender 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 may 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 has nominated themselves for the relevant race (who may or may not satisfy any of the automatic or discretionary selection criteria 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 WTS 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 elite level performances in the WTS; 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, 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

- 3.6 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 WTS 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 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 (but not 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).