



## Selection Policy for 2021 World Triathlon World Cup (“WC”) races

**ATHLETES ARE REQUIRED TO NOMINATE TO BTF IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SELECTION TO WC 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 2021 WC races.

This Policy has been structured to support BTF’s Olympic World Class Performance Programme’s (“WCPP”) mission of developing people and delivering excellence to inspire growth. 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;
- support GBR’s campaign to secure maximum quota slots for Great Britain at the Olympic Games; AND
- To provide opportunities for individual athlete selection to the Olympic team as an individual, MTR or reserve athlete.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic there were very limited racing opportunities in 2020 and training and preparation for athletes was severely impacted. As such, all 2020 results will be disregarded for selection purposes. Instead, automatic and discretionary nomination criteria for all races in 2021 will be based on 2019 race results and/or 2021 race results (once racing has resumed).

### SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY

1.1. To be considered for nomination to World Triathlon for 2021 WC 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](mailto:kateshone@britishtriathlon.org)) 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 Kate Shone 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.

Race (race date)	Nomination Deadline
Osaka - 8/9 May	Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> March
Lisbon - 22/23 May	Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> April
Arzachena - 29/30 May	Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> April
Huatulco - 12/13 June	Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May
Karlovy Vary - 11/12 September	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> August
Haeundae - 23 October	Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> September
Tongyeong - 30/31 October	Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> September

*\*if athletes miss the relevant nomination deadline they will only be entered after the World Triathlon 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 Athletes will be selected for nomination to World Triathlon no fewer than 33 days prior to the first competition day of the relevant WC event.
- 2.2 The Selection Panel (“the Panel”) for each WC 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;
    - iv. BTF Olympic Podium Potential Coach- Rick Velati; AND
    - v. 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 WC event. Using the process outlined at paragraph 2.6 below, the Panel will select which athletes to nominate to World Triathlon - in doing so they may choose to nominate more than the quota allocation of 5. If the event is NOT full, all those athletes nominated to World Triathlon (regardless of the number nominated per country) will be offered a place on the start-list. If the event IS full, the maximum 5 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 World Triathlon World Rankings (with no guarantee that all British athletes will be granted a place). Any subsequent athlete withdrawals will then be replaced by World Triathlon 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 World Triathlon for the relevant WC 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 3.4 below).
- 2.5 In this most exceptional of years, where qualification of Olympic quota slots is likely to be adversely affected by the global Coronavirus pandemic, the Panel may, at their absolute discretion, choose to substitute an athlete who has nominated themselves for a WC race and gained a place on the start-list (and therefore wishes to race), with an athlete who has nominated themselves but has not gained a place on the relevant

start-list. This type of substitution will only be used to help secure Olympic qualification slots and/or individual Olympic selection and only if there is no other substitution opportunity available. Please see the criteria relating to substitutions below at paragraphs 3.1 to 3.4 for further details.

## 2.6 World Triathlon nomination process

- a. Subject to the criteria outlined at paragraph 3.6 (relating to exceptional circumstances etc.) and 2.6(b) below (relating to injury/illness) eligible athletes will be **automatically nominated** to World Triathlon for the relevant WC race if they satisfied any of the following:
- i. achieved an individual top 20 finish in a World Triathlon Series (“WTS”) race in 2019 or 2021;
  - ii. achieved an individual top 8 finish in a WC race in 2019 or 2021;
  - iii. achieved an individual top 3 finish in a European Cup race in 2019 or 2021;
  - iv. achieved an individual top 5 finish in the most recent edition of the Sprint Distance European Championships;
  - v. achieved an individual top 8 finish in the most recent edition of the Standard Distance European Championships;
  - vi. achieved an individual top 3 finish in the most recent edition of the U23 European Championships;
  - vii. achieved an individual top 5 finish at the most recent edition of the U23 World Championships.

*(Please familiarise yourself with paragraph 2.5 above and 3.3(a) and (b) below regarding substitutions. If an athlete fulfils the automatic nomination criteria they may, at the Panel’s discretion, be used for a substitution for another athlete in order to help secure Olympic quota slots or individual Olympic selection (if there are no other substitution opportunities available).*

- b. Athletes who have been unable to compete in the 3 months prior to the relevant nomination deadline due to injury/illness will need to satisfy the Panel of their fitness to compete prior to automatic nominations being ratified. The Panel will liaise with any athletes in this scenario and may request training data and/or a follow up conversation/consultation with the athlete/their coaching & support team to determine if any fitness to compete test is required in order to ratify automatic nominations. This is particularly relevant where a potentially unfit athlete may be ‘blocking’ another athlete for competing. For the avoidance of doubt, if the Panel is not satisfied of an athlete’s readiness to perform in a competitive manner due to injury/illness, they reserve the right NOT to nominate that athlete to World Triathlon (which may result in other athlete(s) being promoted to a race start).
- c. World Triathlon’s policy of granting places on the start-list for WC races on the basis of world ranking means that BTF cannot guarantee entry for athletes into WC’s via Gateway Races without compromising the automatic nomination process above. As such, the automatic criteria outlined above has been lowered for 2021 and there will be NO Gateway Race opportunity for entries in 2021 WC races.
- d. The Panel will then, **at their discretion**, nominate additional eligible athletes to World Triathlon provided they are considered, by them, to be **capable of**

- delivering the level of performance required to be competitive at a WC event (see below) AND provided they satisfy at least one of the following:
- i. are a WCPP athlete;
  - ii. achieved a top 3 finish at the most recent edition of the World Junior Championships; OR
  - iii. achieved a top 5 finish at a European Cup in 2019 or 2021;
  - iv. achieved an individual top 10 finish in a WTS race; OR
  - v. medallist at the World 70.3 and/or Ironman World Championships in the last 4 years
- e. In determining if an athlete is deemed capable of delivering the level of performance required to be competitive at a WC event, the Panel will consider the following:
- i. Athlete performances at 2019 and 2021 World Triathlon WTS, World Cup, Continental Cup or Continental Championships (including an assessment of the quality of field in any relevant event);
  - ii. World Triathlon World Rankings;
  - iii. Performances at other previous Championships events (i.e. U20/U23 World/European Championships);
  - iv. The BTF Athlete Mapping Tool;
  - v. Current form;
  - vi. Injury/illness history and status; AND
  - vii. 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 World Triathlon World Ranking, there may be 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 World Triathlon substitution procedure to maximise the number of race starts for eligible British athletes.
- 3.2 For WC races, each National Federation may replace 2 athletes per gender using the World Triathlon 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 World Triathlon World Ranking), the Panel may substitute athletes into races in the order in which they appear on the World Triathlon 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; OR
  - b. is a genuine and realistic medal contender for the Games who requires the opportunity to score points/demonstrate form in order to be considered for nomination to the Games;
  - c. is returning from an enforced period out of competition but has a past history of high level performances in the WTS or World Cups; OR

- d. has a low or no World Triathlon world ranking but has a significantly improving performance profile.
- 3.4 Pursuant to paragraph 2.5 the Panel may, at their absolute discretion, substitute an athlete who has nominated for and gained a place on a start-list of a WC race (and therefore wants to race) for another athlete who has not gained a place on the start-list but who satisfies either 3.3. (a) or (b) above (but NOT [c] or [d]). This scenario will only be used if no other substitution opportunities are available and will only apply to the lowest British ranked athlete on the Olympic qualification rankings who has secured a place on the relevant start-list.

### Invitations

- 3.4 In creating the start-list for a race, if, based on the event entries World Triathlon determines that the 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 athlete(s) are capable of delivering the level of performance required to be competitive at a WC event.

### Conditions

- 3.6 Any automatic nominations (as per paragraph 2.6[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 2.6(c).

- 3.7 World Triathlon rules state that an athlete may only take up one quota place across all World Triathlon 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 World Triathlon substitution clause if they do not wish to compete in any other World Triathlon race on a weekend.
- 3.8 Nomination for a WC 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 World Triathlon 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. WC event start positions are limited and ranking points earned in WC 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 WC after they have expressed their interest to be considered for nomination, but before the World Triathlon closing date, must inform Kate Shone ([kateshone@britishtriathlon.org](mailto:kateshone@britishtriathlon.org)) immediately so that a replacement athlete can be nominated;
- d. Athletes must be aware of, and compliant with, World Triathlon WC rules, including those relating to race uniforms, no-shows and late withdrawals;
- e. Withdrawals within 30 days of the World Triathlon closing date may deny other GB athletes an opportunity to compete and could result in BTF losing quota spots for future WC events. If an athlete withdraws after the closing date set by World Triathlon, 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 World Triathlon 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 World Triathlon 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).