



## Selection Policy for the 2021 World Triathlon Championships Series (“WTCS”)

**ATHLETES ARE REQUIRED TO NOMINATE TO BTF IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SELECTION TO WTCS 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 WTCS events.

This Policy has been structured to support BTF’s Olympic World Class Programme’s (“WCP”) mission of developing people and delivering excellence to inspire growth. Specifically, this means that all selection policies for BTF Olympic WCP competitions intend to:

- select the right athletes, to the right race, at the right time;
- provide competition opportunities to support the above;
- to 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 WTCS 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 World Triathlon;
  - b. Request nomination for entry into the relevant 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 World Triathlon pre-participation examination and submit the BTF fit-to-compete form to Laura Macey by the relevant Nomination Deadline outlined in the table below;
  - d. Not be serving a period of ineligibility as a result of an anti-doping rule violation;

Race (race date)	Nomination Deadline*
Yokohama - 17 May	Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> April
Leeds - 05/06 June	Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> April

Montreal - 13/15 August	Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> July
Edmonton [2021 Grand Final] - 17/22 August	Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> July
Hamburg - 18/19 September**	Sunday 8 <sup>th</sup> August
Bermuda [2021 Super-Sprint & Mixed Relay World Championships] - 15-17 October**	Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup> September
Adu Dhabi - 5-6 November**	Sunday 26 <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 waitlist (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 WTCS, World Cup or Continental Cup series.*

*\*\*Points earned here will count towards the 2022 World Championships Series Standings.*

## **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 WTCS event.
- 2.2 The Selection Panel (“the Panel”) for each WTCS 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 WTCS event (apart from Leeds WTCS 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 World Triathlon - 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 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 (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 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 WTCS 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 4.1 to 4.4 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 WTCS 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 4.1 to 4.4 for further details.

## 2.6 World Triathlon nomination process

- a. Subject to the criteria outlined at paragraph 4.6 below (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 WTCS race if they:
- i. achieved a top 8 finish at an individual WTCS event in 2019 or 2021;  
OR
  - ii. achieved a top 3 finish at an individual World Cup event in 2019 or 2021;
  - iii. achieved a podium finish at the senior 2021 European Championships;
  - iv. are a reigning medallist from the European standard distance triathlon Championships in 2019;
  - v. are an athlete that has already been selected to the Olympic Games team (as an individual or reserve athlete);
  - vi. are a reigning Olympic Games medallist;
  - vii. are a reigning U23 World Championships individual medallist; OR
  - viii. are a reigning Commonwealth Games individual medallist.

*(Please familiarise yourself with paragraph 2.5 above and 4.3(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 WTCS races on the basis of world ranking means that BTF cannot guarantee entry for athletes into the WTCS via Gateway Races without compromising the automatic nomination process above. As such, there will be NO Gateway Race opportunity for entries in the 2021 WTCS 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 WTCS event (see below)** AND provided they satisfy at least one of the following:
- i. are ranked inside the top 140 of the World Triathlon Rankings as at the Nomination Deadline;

- ii. for the Leeds WTCS only: are a WCP member OR were a medallist at the World 70.3 and/or Ironman World Championships in the last 4 years; OR
  - iii. for the Hamburg WTCS only:
    - i. are a WCP member;
    - ii. achieved a top 6 finish at the 2021 Senior European Sprint Championships; OR
    - iii. achieved a podium finish at the 2021 European U23 Championships.
  - iv. for the Bermuda WTCS (incorporating the 2021 Super-Sprint & Mixed Relay World Championships) only:
    - i. are a WCP member;
    - ii. achieved a top 12 finish at the 2021 World U23 Championships;
    - iii. achieved a top 6 finish at the 2021 Senior European Sprint Championships; OR
    - iv. achieved a podium finish at the 2021 European U23 Championships.
  - v. for the Abu Dhabi WTCS only:
    - i. are a WCP member;
    - ii. achieved a top 12 finish at the 2021 World U23 Championships;
    - iii. achieved a top 8 finish at the 2021 Senior European Standard Distance Championships;
    - iv. achieved a top 6 finish at the 2021 Senior European Sprint Championships; OR
    - v. achieved a podium finish at the 2021 European U23 Championships.
- e. In determining if an athlete is deemed capable of delivering the level of performance required to be competitive at a WTCS event, the Panel will consider the following:
- i. Athlete performances at 2019 and 2021 WTCS, 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 previous Olympic Games;
  - iv. The BTF Athlete Mapping Tool (as an aid to assessing future performance trajectory);
  - 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: SELECTION PROCESS - MIXED RELAY (MR) EVENTS INCORPORATED INTO WTCS WEEKENDS**

- 3.1 Athletes will be selected for nomination to World Triathlon no fewer than 33 days prior to the first competition day of the relevant WTCS event.
- 3.2 Where a MR race will be staged as part of a WTCS race weekend, the Panel reserves the right to select additional athletes to travel who are not racing in the individual events in order to ensure British Triathlon can enter a team in the MR event OR to provide race exposure to inexperienced/developing athletes who are believed to have potential for Paris and/or LA. Unless they met the relevant individual race criteria

outlined at 2.6 above (and have subsequently already been nominated to World Triathlon for the relevant individual race) such athletes will NOT be granted a place on the start-line for the relevant individual race, even if a slot becomes available on race-weekend. There is no guarantee of such athletes being granted a place in the MR team.

- 3.3 The final selection of the team of four athletes to compete in the relevant MR event will be made jointly by the coaching team at the WTCS weekend and the UK based members of the Panel not in attendance following conclusion of the individual races.
- 3.4 Selection of the team will be entirely discretionary. In selecting the team, BTF have ultimate discretion to balance both short-term (i.e. MR results in that race weekend) and long-term (i.e. Olympic Games MR qualification and/or MR athlete exposure/development towards Paris/LA) performance goals. The focus will be different for each MR race, taking into account which British athletes are in attendance and, the positioning of the race in the calendar and the relative strength of the MR field.
- 3.5 Taking into account 3.4 above, the team of four athletes will be selected based on a combination of the following, as well as any other criteria that may be deemed relevant by the Panel (in no particular order):
  - a. The individual profile of each athlete and how it relates to the course profile, competition and desired race tactics to maximise race outcomes and/or race learning;
  - b. Result in the individual events\*;
  - c. Athletes' state of recovery and readiness following the individual events (taking into account injury and recovery history prior to the race weekend);
  - d. Athletes' race plan;
  - e. Athletes' previous MR experience; AND
  - f. the coaching team/BTF's desire to provide MR race exposure to inexperienced/developing athletes\*\*.

*\*The outcome or result of the individual event will NOT infer any automatic selection to Mixed Relay team*

*\*\*In this early stage of the Paris Olympic cycle, BTF may choose to give opportunities to inexperienced/developing athletes over experienced athletes for whom BTF have significant understanding/data relating to their MR capabilities.*

## **SECTION 4: SUBSTITUTIONS, INVITATIONS & CONDITIONS**

### **Substitutions**

- 4.1 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.
- 4.2 For WTCS races, each National Federation may replace one athlete per gender using the World Triathlon substitution procedure.
- 4.3 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 slots 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 elite level performances in the WTCS; OR
  - d. has a low or no World Triathlon ranking with a significantly improving performance profile.
- 4.4 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 WTCS 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

- 4.5 In creating the start-list for a race, if, based on the event entries World Triathlon 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,
- 4.6 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 2.6 (d) above that the athlete(s) are capable of delivering the level of performance required to be competitive at a WTCS event.

#### Conditions

- 4.7 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(d).

- 4.8 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.

- 4.9 Nomination for a WTCS 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. WTCS event start positions are limited and ranking points earned in WTCS 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 WTCS after they have expressed their interest to be considered for nomination, but before the World Triathlon 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, World Triathlon WTCS 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 WTCS 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).