



**Selection Policy for the 2021 Super-Sprint and Mixed Relay European Championships (SENIOR & U23) - Kitzbuhel (AUT), 18-20 June 2021**

**ATHLETES ARE REQUIRED TO NOMINATE TO BTF IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SELECTION TO CHAMPIONSHIP 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 selections for the 2021 Super-Sprint and Mixed Relay European Championships. For the first time, the Senior and U23 individual race will be combined - this policy therefore details the selection process for BOTH senior and U23 athletes.

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 the 2021 European Super-Sprint and Mixed Relay Championships, 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 to Laura Macey ([lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org](mailto:lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org)) by Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021\*;
  - c. Have undergone the required World Triathlon pre-participation examination and submit the BTF fit-to-compete form to Laura Macey by Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2021; AND
  - d. Not be serving a period of ineligibility as a result of an anti-doping rule violation.
  - e. For U23 athletes only, be born in 2001, 2000, 1999 or 1998.

*\*Given that the seniors and U23's will compete against each other in the same race, the Panel will try and maximise quota allocation across senior and U23 athletes. Should there be senior quota places available after completion of the senior selection process (see paragraph 2.4 and 2.5 below), U23 athletes may be entered into the race as seniors in order to maximise the number of U23 starts. U23's wishing to gain a race start at the European Super-Sprint Championships must compete in Llanelli to secure nomination as an U23 should there be no senior quota spaces available (see paragraph 2.6 below).*

## **SECTION 2: SELECTION PROCESS**

- 2.1 Athletes will be selected for nomination to the World Triathlon no fewer than 33 days prior to the first competition day of the European Championships.
- 2.2 The Selection Panel (“the Panel”) for the European Super-Sprint and Mixed Relay Championships 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 Podium Potential Coach - Rick Velati;
    - iv. BTF Olympic Pathway Manager - Dan Salcedo; AND
    - v. BTF Olympic Camp and Competition Support Coach - Glenn Cook.
  - b. Non-voting members:
    - i. Note taker(s) if/as required.
- 2.3 The Super-Sprint and Mixed Relay European Championships will be run as a combined senior and U23 race. As such, BTF is allocated a maximum of 2 quota places per gender for seniors AND a maximum of 2 quota places per gender for U23 athletes. Using the process outlined at below, the Panel will select how many and which athletes to nominate to European Triathlon.

## **SENIORS**

### **2.4 Discretionary Selections**

- a. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, these championships will now be required to form part of the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games Selection process. As such, the Panel will first - at their absolute discretion - select athletes to the team who:
  - i. are yet to secure their place on the Olympic team for Tokyo but are considered genuine contenders for remaining Games slots (either in one of the remaining quota slots, or as a reserve) and - in the sole opinion of the Panel - would assist the remaining Olympic Games selection process by competing in Kitzbuhel.
  - ii. are already selected to the Olympic team but who would benefit from racing in Kitzbuhel either to enhance their preparations for Tokyo, or to demonstrate form/fitness.
- b. If there are more athletes that satisfy either a or b above than there are quota places available, the Panel will base selection decisions on the evidence they require to complete the Tokyo Olympic Games selection process.
- c. BTF fully recognises that this grants the Panel exceptional powers of subjective discretion for these championships (over and above what is normal in other years). However, given the lack (and uncertainty) of race opportunities prior to the 2020

Tokyo Olympic Games, BTF believes this is an appropriate and proportionate use of discretion in these unprecedented circumstances.

## 2.5 Automatic Selections

- a. Should quota places remain following completion of paragraph 2.4 above, the Panel will then select additional eligible athletes to European Triathlon provided they satisfy at least one of the following:
  - i. Achieved an individual top 20 finish at a World Cup race in 2019 or 2021;
  - ii. Achieved an individual top 10 finish at a European Cup race in 2019 or 2021;
  - iii. Achieved an individual top 3 finish at a British Triathlon Super Series event in 2019 or 2021;
  - iv. Achieved an individual top 3 finish at the Llanelli elite race on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021;
  - v. achieved a top 5 finish at the most recent edition of the European U23 Championships;
  - vi. achieved a top 5 finish at the most recent edition of the European Junior Championships; OR
  - vii. achieved a top 8 finish at the most recent edition of the World Junior Championships.
- b. If there are more athletes that satisfy i to vii above than there are quota places available, athletes will be selected (and as reserves) in order of senior world ranking.

## U23's

## 2.6 Automatic Selections

- a. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic most U23 athletes have not raced since 2019. Given the rapid progression of athletes in this age group, most of the performance data available to the Panel will now be out of date. With this in mind, there will be NO discretionary selection process for U23 athletes in these championships.
- b. Instead, the first two eligible athletes past the post at the Llanelli Super Series race on 16 May 2021 will be selected to the team.
- c. The third and fourth eligible athletes past the post in Llanelli will be selected as reserves.
- d. Due to the early season nature of the Llanelli Super Series race, there is a small risk that the swim portion of the race may be cancelled. As such:
  - i. all U23 athletes aiming for selection for these championships are asked to complete an 800m pool-based time-trial and submit these results on or before 14 May 2021 - to Laura Macey ([lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org](mailto:lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org)).
  - ii. Then, should the Llanelli race change to a duathlon, athletes' 800m time-trial\* result will be added to the finishing times of the duathlon to create an amended race result (only for the purposes of selection for these championships). The fastest two eligible athletes using this calculation will then be selected to the team (with the 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> placed eligible finishers being selected as reserves).

*\*the time-trial must be coach-verified, short-course, non-wetsuit and off a push-start. If short-course is not possible for any athlete, long-course times may be submitted but will be adjusted by the Panel to ensure they are comparable with short-course times.*

### **SECTION 3: SELECTION PROCESS - MIXED RELAY (MR)**

- 3.1 The MR event forms part of BTF's final Olympic selection - and where relevant - preparation process. As such the Panel **reserves the right - should it aid in selections or preparation for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games - to select one or more athlete(s) to the MR team regardless of if they have competed in the individual event or not.**
- 3.2 The Panel may name any combination of senior and/or U23 athletes in the MR team if they wish. However, given that the MR race forms a critical part of the final 2020 Tokyo Olympic selection process, it is unlikely that any U23 athletes will be required.
- 3.3 Selection of the final team to race will be **entirely discretionary** and will be based on a combination of the following, as well as any other criteria that may be deemed relevant by the Panel;
- i. Providing opportunities for athletes to demonstrate selection credentials for the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games;
  - ii. 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;
  - iii. Result in the individual events\*;
  - iv. Athletes' state of recovery and readiness following the individual events (taking into account injury and recovery history prior to the Championships);
  - v. Athletes' race plan; AND
  - vi. Athletes' previous MR experience.

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

### **SECTION 4: CONDITIONS**

- 4.1 Any automatic selections (as per paragraphs 2.5 and 2.6) 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 selection 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.
- 4.2 The scenario of the Llanelli Super Series race being affected by environmental conditions (i.e. the swim portion being removed) is dealt with under paragraph 2.6(d) above. For all other scenarios covered by 4.1 (a-c) above (be that at Llanelli, or any other qualifying race under paragraph 2.5), affected athletes will not be automatically selected, but will instead be considered by the Panel using all relevant Performance data available to them.
- 4.3 Selection for the European Super-Sprint Championships 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 process). 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. Start positions are limited and ranking points earned in World Triathlon events may be crucial to Great Britain earning a full quota of places at the Olympic Games and/or persevering quota places at future editions of these championships. If an athlete is not 100% ready to compete due to injury or illness, they should inform Laura Macey ([lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org](mailto:lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org)) 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 the European Super-Sprint Championships 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 rules, including those relating to race uniforms, no-shows and late withdrawals.

## **SECTION 5: APPEALS**

- 5.1 Athletes may appeal their non-selection 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 6: AMENDMENT**

- 6.1 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).