



## Selection Policy for the 2022 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 2022 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
- provide opportunities to qualify, test and prepare the Mixed Relay team for the next Olympic Games.

### SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY

1.1. To be considered for nomination to World Triathlon for 2022 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 ([eliteentries@britishtriathlon.org](mailto:eliteentries@britishtriathlon.org)) as per the relevant Nomination Deadline outlined in the table below (except for athletes nominated by the Panel on a discretionary basis at paragraph 2.6 [d]);
- c. Have undergone the required World Triathlon pre-participation examination and submit the BTF fit-to-compete form to ([eliteentries@britishtriathlon.org](mailto:eliteentries@britishtriathlon.org)) 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 - 14/15 May	Sunday 27 <sup>th</sup> March
Leeds - 11/12 June	Sunday 1 <sup>st</sup> May
Montreal - 22-26 June	Sunday 15 <sup>th</sup> May
Hamburg - 09/10 July	Sunday 29 <sup>th</sup> May
Chengdu - 22/23 October	Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> September
Abu Dhabi Grand Final - 2-5 November	Sunday 25 <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.*

## **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;
    - i. BTF National Coach(es);
    - ii. BTF Olympic Pathway Manager - Dan Salcedo;
    - iii. BTF Olympic Camp and Competition Support Coach - Glenn Cook
    - iv. BTF Operations and Logistics Manager - Laura Macey
  - 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 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 (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 will be granted places on the start-list in the order in which they appear on the World Triathlon 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 The Panel reserves the right 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 (pursuant to the substitution process outlined at paragraph 4.1 to 4.4 below).
- 2.5 World Triathlon will hold back 5 quota places on each WTCS start list to allow National Federations to apply for invitations for athletes that have a low or no World Triathlon ranking. At their sole discretion, the panel will decide whether to apply for such an invitation for an athlete that has not gained a place on the relevant start list.
- 2.6 World Triathlon nomination process
- a. **Round One - Automatic Nomination**

Subject to the criteria outlined at paragraph 2.6(c) below relating to injury/illness and paragraph 4.5 (relating to exceptional circumstances etc.) eligible athletes will be automatically nominated to World Triathlon for the relevant WTCS race if they achieved any individual performances outlined below in the 2021 and/or 2022 season

(listed in priority order for the purposes of substitutions - see 2.6(b) and 4.1 to 4.4 below):

- i. A podium at the Tokyo Olympic Games; OR
  - ii. A podium at the WTCS Grand Final; OR
  - iii. Multiple WTCS podiums; OR
  - iv. A podium at the Birmingham Commonwealth Games; OR
  - v. A top 5 at the Tokyo Olympic Games; OR
  - vi. A podium in a WTCS race; OR
  - vii. A top 5 in a WTCS race; OR
  - viii. Multiple podiums at European Standard Distance Championship / World U23 Championship / WC races; OR
  - ix. A top 8 in a WTCS race; OR
  - x. A podium in the European Standard Distance Championship / World U23 Championship / a WC race; OR
  - xi. A top 5 in the European Standard Distance Championship / World U23 Championship / a WC race; OR
  - xii. Multiple podiums at European Sprint Championship / European U23 Championship / World Junior Championship / European Cup races; OR
  - xiii. A top 20 in a WTCS race.
- b. Should more athletes meet the automatic criteria outlined at 2.6 (a) i-xiii than there are quota slots available then current world rankings will be used to determine the order in which athletes are granted places on the start list for the relevant WTCS race (as per World Triathlon protocol). However, unless first required for discretionary nominations below, the substitution process will be used to secure a start for the athlete who has achieved the highest level of performance as per the priority list above who has NOT secured themselves a place on the relevant start list via world ranking. Please see paragraphs 4.1 to 4.4 below for further detail on how the substitution process will work.
- c. 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 from 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).

**d. Round Two - Discretionary Nominations**

The Panel may, **at their absolute discretion**, nominate additional eligible athletes (regardless of whether they have nominated themselves for the relevant race AND/OR whether they have also satisfied automatic nomination criteria) to World Triathlon to act as a pilot OR 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** who:

- i. By competing at the relevant race, will enhance GB's chances of securing 3 individual quota slots at the Games; OR

- ii. is returning from an enforced period out of competition but has a past history of elite level performances in the WTCS; OR
  - iii. has a low or no World Triathlon ranking with a significantly improving performance profile.
- 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 2021 and 2022 WTCS, World Cup and Continental Cups (including an assessment of the quality of field in any relevant event);
  - ii. Performances at previous championships (including World/European championships and Commonwealth/Olympic Games);
  - iii. World Triathlon World Rankings;
  - 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.
- f. In order to secure such athletes a place on the start list for the relevant race, the Panel may use the substitution process which includes the ability to replace the lowest ranked British athlete on the start list with an athlete nominated via this discretionary round (see 4.4 below). The Panel will use this power sparingly and only where they deem it absolutely necessary to achieve the overall aims of the policy. In addition, if they think it is likely to be granted, the Panel may also request an invite from World Triathlon (as per paragraph 2.5 above).

### **SECTION 3: SELECTION PROCESS - MIXED RELAY (MR) EVENTS INCORPORATED INTO WTCS WEEKENDS**

- 3.1 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 have been nominated to World Triathlon for an individual race start as per 2.6 above, 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 also no guarantee of such athletes being granted a place in the final MR team.
- 3.2 An Indication of the likely final 4 starters for the relevant MR may be given in advance of the race weekend to aid planning and manage expectations. However, 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.
- 3.3 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.

- 3.4 Taking into account 3.3 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 & CONDITIONS**

### **Substitutions**

- 4.1 Given that athletes secure race starts based on their World Triathlon world ranking, there may be athletes nominated 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 AND to ensure athletes who have delivered the highest quality performances are prioritised for race starts (as per 2.6 [b] above).
- 4.2 For WTCS races, each National Federation may replace one athlete per gender using the World Triathlon substitution procedure.
- 4.3 Wherever possible, BTF will nominate athletes to World Triathlon for the relevant WTCS race - who have not nominated themselves and therefore don't wish to race - in order to secure a place on the start-list for a lower ranked athlete.
- 4.4 Substitutions will first be used to secure a race start for any athletes nominated on a discretionary basis (as per paragraph 2.6[d] above). Then, the Panel will use the substitution to provide a start for the athlete with the highest quality performance - as per the priority order outlined at 2.6(a) i-xiii above - who hasn't secured a race start via world ranking. In either scenario, if there are no substitutions available using athletes who DO NOT wish to compete in the relevant race (as per 4.3 above) the lowest ranked athlete on the world ranking (excluding any athlete that has been nominated via the discretionary criteria 2.6 (d)) who HAS secured themselves a start will make way.

### **Conditions**

- 4.5 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 & e).

4.6 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 (see 4.1 to 4.4 above).

4.7 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 ([eliteentries@britishtriathlon.org](mailto:eliteentries@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 5: APPEALS**

- 4.1 Due to the volume of WT races and the timescales associated with nominating athletes, there shall be no right of appeal against the decisions made by the Selection Panel for WTCS 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](http://www.britishathletes.org).

## **SECTION 6: 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).