



Selection Policy for the 2023 World Triathlon Championship Series (“WTCS”) and Paris Test Event

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 2023 WTCS events. This policy will also be used to determine selections for the Paris Olympic Games Test Event – all references to WTCS in this policy can therefore also be substituted for the Test Event.

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 2023 WTCS events/Paris Test event, 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 competitions under the rules of World Triathlon;
- b. Request nomination for entry into the relevant race via email to (eliteentries@britishtriathlon.org) as per the relevant Nomination Deadline outlined in the table below (except for athletes nominated at the sole discretion of the Panel via the discretionary process outlined at paragraph 2.8 [c]);
- c. Have undergone the required World Triathlon pre-participation examination and submit the BTF fit-to-compete form to (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;
- e. In respect of nomination for female events (and as a competitor in one of the two female places in a Mixed Relay) were registered as a female at birth. See the BTF Transgender Policy at <https://www.britishtriathlon.org/about-us/governance/equality-diversity-inclusion/statements-and-policies> for more information.

Race (race date)	Nomination Deadline*
Abu Dhabi – 03/04 March	Sunday 22 nd January
Yokohama – 13/14 May	Sunday 2 nd April
Hamburg – 13-16 July	Sunday 4 th June
Sunderland – 29/30 July	Sunday 18 th June
Paris Test Event - 17-20 August –	Sunday 9 th July
Pontevedra – 22–24 September	Sunday 13 th August

* 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/Paris Test event.
- 2.2 The Selection Panel (“the Panel”) for each WTCS/Paris Test 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 Head of Performance Operations – 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 sex for each WTCS/Paris Test event (apart from Sunderland 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 Sunderland). 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 Sunderland) 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/Paris test event 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 4.6 below).
- 2.5 World Triathlon will hold back 5 quota places on each WTCS/Paris test event 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 ALL nominations will be subject to an assessment of fitness before any selection is confirmed. 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 any 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, regardless of whether they otherwise satisfy automatic or discretionary criteria. This may then result in other athlete(s) being promoted to a race start.
- 2.7 It is athletes' responsibility to inform BTF immediately if any changes occur to the information that has been provided on their fit-to-compete form (see paragraph 1.1[c]) after it has been submitted. If information disclosed by the fit-to-compete form suggests increased risk of racing, or if the Panel are made aware of any potentially significant medical conditions that were not disclosed by the athlete, the Panel reserves the right not to nominate the athlete to the relevant WTCS or withdraw them from any start list that they are on.

2.8 World Triathlon nomination process

a. Round One – Automatic Nomination

Subject to the criteria outlined at paragraph 2.6 and 2.7 above relating to injury/illness and paragraph 4.7 (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 2022 and/or 2023 season (listed in priority order for the purposes of substitutions – see 2.8(b) and 4.1 to 4.6 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 top 15's in a WTCS race.
- b. Should more athletes meet the automatic criteria outlined at 2.8 (a) i-xii 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 4.6 below for further detail on how the substitution process will work.

c. Round Two – Discretionary Nominations

The Panel may, **at their absolute discretion**, nominate additional eligible athletes to World Triathlon if they believe that:

- i. by competing at the relevant race, the athlete will enhance GB’s chances of securing 3 individual quota slots at the Games (either as an athlete in their own right or as a Pilot); OR
 - ii. is returning from an enforced period out of competition but has a past history of elite level performances in the WTCS (and the race is considered a key part of their return); OR
 - iii. has a low or no World Triathlon ranking with a significantly improving performance profile that suggests accelerating their international race exposure would be beneficial to their overall development.
- d. In determining if an athlete is deemed capable of delivering the level of performance required to be competitive at a WTCS/Paris test event, the Panel will consider the following:
- i. Athlete performances at 2022 and 2023 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/European 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 (see paragraphs 2.6 and 2.7 above); 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.
- e. 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 section 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/PARIS TEST EVENT

- 3.1 Where a MR race will be staged as part of a WTCS race/Paris test event 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 2.8 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/Paris test event 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 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.
- 4.2 For WTCS races, each National Federation may replace one athlete per sex 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 allocated at the absolute discretion of the Panel to an athlete who fulfils one of the criteria detailed below:

- a. An athlete who has been selected via the discretionary process outlined at paragraph 2.8.c.i-iii; OR
 - b. An athlete that has fulfilled the automatic selection criteria at points 2.8.a.i-xii who has not secured a race start via their World ranking but whom the Panel believe demonstrates greater current form and/or there exists exceptional circumstances which they believe warrants securing them a race start.
- 4.5 If no discretionary substitutions have been made via paragraph 4.4, 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 2.8 (a) i-xii – who hasn't secured a race start via world ranking.
- 4.6 At paragraphs 4.4 and 4.5, 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 who has secured themselves a start and therefore wishes to race, will make way. As per paragraph 2.8(e) above, the Panel will use this power sparingly and only where they deem it absolutely necessary to achieve the overall aims of the policy.

Conditions

- 4.7 Any automatic nominations (as per paragraph 2.8[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 2.8(c & 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 (see 4.1 to 4.6 above).
- 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/Physio, 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 eliteentries@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 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) immediately;
- 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 28 days of the World Triathlon WTCS race 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 deadline 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.

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.