



Selection Policy for 2023 World Triathlon Para Series Races

OVERVIEW

This Selection Policy (“the Policy”) outlines the process by which the British Triathlon Federation (“BTF”) will determine its individual selections for 2023 World Triathlon Para Series (WPS) races.

This Policy has been structured to support BTF’s Paralympic 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 Paralympic international competitions aim 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 quota places for Great Britain at the Paralympic Games.

SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY

- 1.1. To be considered for nomination to World Triathlon for 2023 WPS 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 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 eliteentries@britishtriathlon.org 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;
 - e. In respect of nomination for female events 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
Devonport, Australia – 18 March	Sunday 05 February
Yokohama, Japan – 13 May	Sunday 02 April
Montreal, Canada – 09 July	Sunday 28 May
Swansea, UK – 15 July	Sunday 04 June

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 WPS event.
- 2.2 The Selection Panel (“the Panel”) for each WPS event will convene either via email or conference call in advance of this deadline and shall comprise:
- a. Voting members;
 - i. BTF Performance Director – Mike Cavendish;
 - ii. BTF Head of Paratriathlon – Tom Hodgkinson;
 - iii. Para Triathlon Performance Support Lead – Ben Stephenson;
 - iv. BTF Paralympic Pathway Manager – TBC.
 - b. Non-voting members:
 - i. Note taker(s) if/as required.
- 2.3 BTF is allocated a maximum of 2 quota places per category per sex for the 2023 WPS. Using the process outlined in paragraph 2.9 below, the Panel will select which athletes to nominate to World Triathlon. 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 2 quota places will be observed and athletes will be granted places on the start-list in the order in which they appear on 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 discretion, they may choose to nominate athletes to World Triathlon for the relevant WPS 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 3.5 below).
- 2.5 The Panel reserves the right to substitute an athlete who has nominated themselves for a WPS race (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 3.1 to 3.5 below).
- 2.6 World Triathlon will hold back 10 quota places across all categories at each WPS event 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.
- 2.7 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.

- 2.8 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 WPS or withdraw them from any start list that they are on.

2.9 World Triathlon nomination process

Round one: Automatic Nominations

- a. Subject to the criteria outlined at paragraphs 2.7 and 2.8 above relating to injury/illness and paragraph 3.6 (relating to exceptional circumstances etc.) eligible athletes will be automatically nominated to World Triathlon for the relevant WPS race if they achieved any individual performances outlined below (listed in priority order for the purpose of substitutions – see 2.9(b) and 3.1 to 3.5 below):
- i. Top 5 in the Tokyo Paralympic Games;
 - ii. Podium at the 2022 World Championships;
 - iii. Podium at a 2022 or 2023 WPS race;
 - iv. Top 5 in a 2023 WPS race;
 - v. Podium at the 2023 European Championships;
 - vi. Top 7 in the Tokyo Paralympic Games;
 - vii. Top 5 in the 2022 World Championships
 - viii. Top 5 in a 2022 WPS race;
 - ix. Podium at the 2022 European Championships;
 - x. Podium at a 2022 or 2023 WPC race.
- b. Should more athletes meet the automatic criteria outlined at 2.9 (a) i-x above 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 WPS race (as per World Triathlon protocol). However, the substitution process may be used to secure a start for an athlete who has fulfilled the automatic nomination criteria or been selected via the discretionary process but who has not secured themselves a place on the relevant start list AND there is a substitution available in the required category. Please see paragraphs 3.1 to 3.5 below for further detail on how the substitution process will work.

Round Two: Discretionary Nominations

- c. The Panel may, **at their absolute 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 WPS event (see below)** AND who:
- i. By competing at the relevant race, will enhance GB's chances of securing quota places at the Paralympic Games; OR
 - ii. Where an athlete is required to compete in an international event as part of their classification process; OR
 - iii. is returning from an enforced period out of competition but has a past history of elite level performances in the WPS races; OR

- iv. has a low or no World Triathlon ranking with a significantly improving performance profile.
- d. In determining if an athlete is deemed capable of delivering the level of performance required to be competitive at a WPS event, the Panel will consider the following:
- i. Performances at previous WPS, WPC and WPCC races;
 - ii. Performances at previous Championship races;
 - iii. Performances at previous British Para Championship & domestic races;
 - iv. World Triathlon World rankings;
 - v. Athlete performance profile (as an aid to assessing future performance trajectory)
 - vi. Current form; AND
 - vii. Illness/injury history and status.
- e. In order to secure such athletes a place on the start list for the relevant race, the Panel may use the substitution process detailed at points 3.1 to 3.5, if there is one available in the category that an athlete has been selected for.

SECTION 3: SUBSTITUTIONS, INVITATIONS & CONDITIONS

Substitutions

- 3.1 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.
- 3.2 For WPS races, each National Federation may replace only one athlete per sex using the World Triathlon substitution process. Such substitutions can only be made within the same race category. For the avoidance of doubt, this means only two athletes in total (one male, one female) across each WPS event.
- 3.3 Wherever possible, BTF will nominate athletes to World Triathlon for the relevant WPS 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. In this instance the athlete being entered for the substitution will need to be ranked high enough to gain a place on the start list for the substitution to take place.
- 3.4 Due to the very limited substitution capacity, subs will be allocated at the **absolute discretion of the Panel** and will be used to satisfy the overall aims of the policy (as outlined in the overview). In determining who a substitution will be allocated to, the Panel will consider the following;
- i. The category(ies) for which there is a substitution available;
 - ii. The priority order of race performances listed in Round One; Automatic nominations at point 2.9.a.i-x; and
 - iii. Any athlete that has been nominated via the discretionary process at point 2.9.c.i-iv.

- 3.5 If there are no substitutions available using athletes who DO NOT wish to compete in the relevant race (as per 3.3 above) the Panel may, **at their absolute discretion**, choose to substitute an athlete out of the race who has a lower priority race performance for an athlete who has a higher priority race performance (as outlined at point 2.9.a.i-x) OR an athlete selected via the discretionary process (outlined at point 2.9.c and d).

Conditions

- 3.6 Any automatic nominations (as per paragraph 2.9[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 had only 3 (or less) athletes finishing the race OR where the race 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 2.9 (c & d).

- 3.7 Nomination for a WPS 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 completing 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. WPS event start positions are limited and ranking points earned in WPS events are crucial to Great Britain earning quota places at the Paralympic Games. If an athlete is not 100% ready to compete due to injury or illness, they should inform the 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 WPS after they have expressed their interest to be considered for nomination, but before the World Triathlon closing date, must inform eliteentries@britishtriathlon.org immediately so that a replacement athlete may be nominated;
 - d. Athletes must be aware of, and compliant with, World Triathlon WPS rules, including those relating to race uniforms, no-shows and late withdrawals;
 - e. Withdrawals within 28 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 World Triathlon 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.

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.