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**Welsh Triathlon Inter Regional Championship Team**

**Selection Policy 2019**

**Introduction**

The Inter Regional Championships (IRC’s) provides an opportunity for TriStar athletes to gain both multisport experience and championship Triathlon experience to support their developmental journey within the sport.

The 2019 Inter Regional Championships will take place at Mallory Park Leicestershire on the weekend of the 7th & 8th September.

Occurring every year the IRC’s are open to athletes who fall within the TriStar 2 and TriStar 3 categories. Selection for the IRC’s will involve racing at least two or out of the three Welsh Triathlon IRC Selection events.

Gear restrictions will apply at the Welsh Triathlon IRC Selection races, however each race within the Welsh TriStar series may be gear restricted at the individual event organisers’ discretion.

Welsh Triathlon will be entering a team in the IRC's and the following places are available:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Category** | **Age** | **Boys Selected** | **Girls Selected** |
| Tri Star 2 | 11-12 | 3 athletes | 3 athletes |
| Tri Star 3 | 13-14 | 3 athletes | 3 athletes |

One non-travelling reserve athlete for each category and gender will also be selected by the Selection Committee.

**Four Stage Process**

For selection for the individual TriStar IRC’s event, Welsh Triathlon operates a four-stage selection process outlined below:

1. **Eligibility Process** – There are number of essential components that support this process to ensure athletes are eligible for selection.
2. **Qualification Process** – the athlete(s) through their performance(s) have met the specific performance criteria and automatically qualify for the team; their performance(s) are not evaluated by the selection committee.
3. **Selection Process** – the athlete has not met the specific performance criteria for automatic qualification and their performance(s) are evaluated by a selection committee in order to be selected to the team
4. **Appeals Process** – in the event of illness/injury/accident/mechanical failure and/or any other factor that impacts performance negatively in a selection event an athlete can lodge an appeal.
5. **Eligibility Process**
   1. Be a Welsh Triathlon member, who EITHER
      1. lives within the Wales region, OR
      2. is an active member of a Welsh Triathlon affiliated club within Wales. Athletes may only represent one region in any one year.
6. **Qualification Process**

The THREE highest scoring athletes from the Welsh Triathlon IRC Selection Races in each age and gender category will automatically qualify for the Welsh Triathlon IRCs team.

Athletes TWO highest scores from the three events will be counted, with the third score disregarded.

*Selection Races*

1. Llanelli Open Water Triathlon - 12th May 2019
2. Bala Open Water Triathlon - 29th June 2019
3. Parc Bryn Bach Open Water Triathlon - 3rd August 2019

*Points Scoring System*

Each IRC Selection race will have a maximum points score of 1200. The winner of each race will receive 1200 points with subsequent results calculated by dividing the winning time by the recorded time for all other athletes and multiplying the result by total points, e.g.

* Winner finishes in 18min 00sec – receives 1200pts
* Second place finishes in 18min 36sec – receives (18:00/18:36)\*1200 = 1133pts

This scoring system rewards an athletes performance as well as finishing position.

1. **Selection Process**

To select a non-travelling reserve, the Selection Committee will consider athletes performances from the three Selection Races:

* + 1. Llanelli Open Water Triathlon
    2. Bala Open Water Triathlon
    3. Parc Bryn Bach Open Water Triathlon

Selection at this point will be at the absolute discretion of the Selection Committee.

1. **Appeals Process**
   1. If an athlete does not contest or complete a Welsh Triathlon IRC Selection Race for medical reasons these must be supported before the race or within a further 24 hours, if they do not complete the race with a Medical Doctor’s report. In the latter case the Welsh Pathway Manager must be notified within 30 minutes of the last competitor finishing the relevant race;
   2. In the event of an accident during the race, a written report may be filed with the Welsh Pathway Manager by, or on behalf of, the athlete within 30 minutes of the last competitor finishing the relevant race, explaining mitigating circumstances and including previous results. Appropriate grounds for consideration will usually be those deemed to be outside of the athlete’s own control;
   3. Upon validation by the Appeals Committee the Selection Committee will consider those athletes with validated accident or medical reasons by means of a projected result. In such cases the Selection Committee, using its expertise, will determine whether, in all circumstances, the appealing athlete would have met the selection standards. In such cases the decision of selection committee would be final.

Except for in unforeseen circumstances athletes will be notified of their selection by 5pm on Monday 12th August 2019,

Selected athletes or their representatives must confirm receipt of their selection email and accept their place on the team by 5pm Tuesday 13th August. Similarly, any appeals should be made in writing within this same window and sent to admin@welshtriathlon.org.

Appeals may only be made in the event that the outlined process has not been followed, and are not permitted against the discretionary decisions of the selection committee.

**Race Arrangements**

Welsh Triathlon will provide race entry, racing & training kit and support through a Team Manager for the IRC Championship event in Mallory. It is expected that this will be a part and not fully funded and therefore athlete contributions may be required.

**Note 1: Event Cancellation - Welsh Triathlon IRC Selection Races**

1. Should one or more of the IRC Selection races be cancelled or changed to a duathlon, or any other multisport format, for any reason, the following will be used for selection:
   * Any previous/remaining IRC Selection Races that were run in the standard triathlon format

The Selection Committee will then use the following process when allocating places to the Welsh IRC Team:

* + The age group/gender winner in each unaffected IRC Selection Race will automatically qualify a spot on the team.
  + Remaining places will be allocated based on athletes’ results & performances in all of the unaffected IRC Selection Races.

**Note 2: Selection Committee**

1. The IRC Selection Committee will consist of:
   1. Louis Richards (Welsh Triathlon Pathways Manager) - Chair
   2. Luke Watson (Welsh Triathlon Performance Coach)
   3. Vicky Johnston (Welsh Development Academy Coach)
   4. Gareth Edwards (Welsh Triathlon Events Officer), independent non-voting

In the case of a conflict of interest declared by the Pathways Manager, Performance Coach or Development Academy coaches, the Welsh Triathlon Events Officer will replace the affected member as a voting member of the panel.

1. Additional experts may be asked to provide advice to the committee at the request of the Chair

**Information and queries**

In the run up to the Welsh Triathlon IRC Selection Races, any queries or requests for further information can be sent to Louis Richards, Welsh Pathways Manager at [louisrichards@welshtriathlon.org](mailto:louisrichards@welshtriathlon.org).

**Appendix One: Guiding Principles and Conditions of Selection**

The goal of the team is to provide an appropriate development opportunity for the best young athletes in the region, to perform to the best possible level at the IRCs, and to compete in a manner that aligns with the values and philosophies of Welsh Triathlon.

1. Athletes must be members in good standing with Welsh Triathlon, with Wales declared as their region on their membership.
2. Athletes must be compliant with BTF’s anti-doping policy.
3. In the event of injury, selected athletes must be cleared by the IRC Team Manager (To Be Appointed) to confirm that they remain able to compete to the standard that earned them selection.
4. **Athletes and parents/guardians are reminded that in the process of registering for the Welsh TriStar Race Series and IRC Qualification process are required to abide by the TriStars code of conduct and the British Triathlon Code of Conduct at all times in relation to this process. Any breach of this code will result in the withdrawal of the offer of selection.**
5. The selection panel will not enter into any further correspondence or justification of discretionary selection decisions. By registering interest in selection for the team, it is accepted that the decision of the selection panel is objective, final and may not be subject to appeal at any level.
6. To comply with Welsh Triathlon’s safeguarding policy, athletes under the age of 18 should ensure that they copy a parent in when emailing. Like-wise the panel will follow the same procedure.