USA TRIATHLON AURUM PROJECT

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The goal of the Aurum Project is to bridge the gap between Junior Elite athletes, Collegiate Elite athletes and the National Team Program in the USAT High Performance pipeline. USAT aims to prepare athletes for the advancement through each level of ITU events (Continental Cups, World Cups and World Triathlon Series) and entry to the National Team Program.

ATHLETE ELIGIBILITY

In order to be eligible for the Aurum Project, an athlete must meet the following points:

- Athletes must be a citizen of the United States or be eligible to race for the United States;
- Must hold a current USAT Elite License;
- Must abide by all USAT, USOC, ITU, USADA and WADA anti-doping policies and procedures and be in good standing with these organizations.

PROJECT CRITERIA

- Top 8 finish at a World Cup event and within top 15% of the starting field
- Top 3 finish at a Continental Cup event and within the top 10% of the starting field
- Top 10 finish at the ITU U23 World Championships
- Top 10 at FISU World University Championships
- Top 10 finish at the ITU Junior World Triathlon Championships
- Top 3 finish at the PATCO Junior Pan American Triathlon Championships
- Top 3 finish at the USAT Junior Elite National Championships
- Discretion of the High Performance Department
    - Athletes may be nominated by an HP staff member, Regional Athlete Development Coordinator ("RADC") or Coach.
        - HP may nominate an athlete who has proven performance or who may aid in the performance of others. The Principles of Athlete Selection will be followed in determining discretionary selections.
        - Nominations should be sent via email to the National Team Program Manager and should include at minimum, athlete name, most recent race results, upcoming race and training schedules. It can also include any training metrics (i.e. 200/800 time, etc.) or running and swimming PRs that may add value in the review process.
        - All nominations will be reviewed by the USAT High Performance Department to determine eligibility of the athlete.

ANNUAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Athletes who qualify for the Aurum Project will be required to submit an Annual Development Plan to USAT. Plans will be reviewed by the High Performance Department and discussed with the athlete their coach(es). Athletes will be responsible for submitting monthly updates to USAT in order to continuously monitor progress and development. A template of this plan will be provided by USAT.

FUNDING AND BENEFITS

Based on the submitted plan, a funding model and agreement will be determined and created for the athlete. This may or may not include all requested items and competitions or may cover a certain percentage of the request.

USAT and the Athlete will agree on measurable goals and expectations in order to retain Aurum Project status. If an athlete fails to meet expectations, he or she may be removed from the Aurum Project.

Travel Reimbursement Opportunities Note: *In the event that the figures outlined in the USAT Incentive Plan represent more than what is outlined in an athlete's funded agreement, additional reimbursement may be available at the values listed in that document.*

USAT ORGANIZED CAMPS

Athletes will have opportunities to be in a centralized training environment with a coach and the potential to train alongside National Team Program athletes (depending on location and time of year). Emphasis will be placed on skill building and preparation for events identified as development opportunities.

Athletes attending a camp will receive some financial Support from USAT as outlined below.

- Airfare – Reimbursed at 100% if pre-approved or booked in advance by USAT.
- Baggage Allowance – One (1) checked bag will be reimbursed up to $200. Other checked bag charges will be at the expense of the athlete.
- Accommodations – Arranged and funded in advanced by USAT. No cost to the athlete.
- Food Allowance/Per Diem – Team meals will be provided as often as possible given camp logistics. In the absence of team meals, athletes may be provided with a weekly allowance of $120 USD based on location of camp or a daily meal per diem (domestic: $10/$10/$20; certain international cities: $15/$15/$30). The per diem amounts will be prorated based on the availability of team meals. All meal allowances and per diems will be paid at the conclusion of a camp via the reimbursement process.