

2012 ITU PARATRIATHLON LONG COURSE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Introduction

This 2012 ITU Paratriathlon Long Course World Championship selection criteria (the 'criteria') will be used to determine the prioritization of athletes selected to represent the United States in the International Triathlon Union (ITU) Paratriathlon Long Course World Championship (the 'Team') in Vitoria-Gasteiz, Spain on July 29, 2012 (the 'World Championship').

The number of athletes eligible to compete for the USA at the World Championship is dependent upon ITU entry criteria which will be confirmed prior to final selection decisions.

2. Minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team

- a. Athlete must be eligible under all applicable rules of ITU (www.triathlon.org), the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (www.usada.org), and USA Triathlon.
- b. Athlete must be an annual member in good standing of USA Triathlon.
- c. Athletes must have successfully completed a USAT sanctioned long course triathlon (70.3 distance or greater) between January 1, 2011 and June 1, 2012.
- d. Athletes submit a race resume, including links to results for qualifying performances as well as any other performance data they wish to share, to ituentries@usatriathlon.org by midnight EDT on May 1, 2012
- e. Paratriathlon Category Classification: Each athlete wanting to compete in the World Championship must be Officially Classified and placed in a USA Paratriathlon Category as outlined in USA Triathlon's Competitive Rules. USA Paratriathlon categories shall be instituted and maintained as follows:
 - **TRI 1 Handcycle**: Paraplegic, Quadriplegic, Polio, Double Leg Amputee. Must use long-seat hand-cycle on the bike portion and racing wheelchair on run.
 - **TRI 2 Severe Leg impairment**: Above-knee Amputees. Athlete must ride bicycle and run with above knee (or similar) prosthesis or crutches.
 - **TRI 3 Les Autre**: Includes athletes with Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy, Cerebral Palsy, Double Leg Amputee (runners) or Paralysis in multiple limbs. Must ride a bicycle and run. (May use braces or prosthesis)
 - **TRI 4 Arm impairment**: Including Above and Elbow Amputees or "impairment" in one or both upper limbs. Athletes may use prosthesis, brace or sling on the bike and/or run.
 - **TRI 5 Moderate leg impairment**: Below-knee amputees. Athlete must ride bicycle and run with prosthesis or crutches.
 - **TRI 6 Visual Impairment**: Legally Blind. (20/200 vision with best corrective vision.) A handler of the same sex is mandatory throughout the race. Athlete uses a tandem bicycle. Athletes may be tethered and must wear blackout shades during the run.

3. Selection Procedure

- a. The maximum size for the Team has yet to be determined by the ITU. At a minimum, USA Triathlon expects to be permitted one entry per classification per gender. It is possible a maximum threshold for team size will not be set by the ITU. USA Triathlon will endorse and enter as many athletes as the ITU permits, providing they meet the qualification criteria set forth below.
- Discretionary Process: Any athlete who meets the minimum eligibility requirements in Section 2 may be considered for nomination. The Selection Committee shall rank athletes for nomination to the ITU. USA Triathlon will submit all approved entries for the competition to ITU no less than 35 days prior to the 2012 ITU Paratriathlon World Championships. Athletes will be notified of their selection on or before May 15, 2012.
- c. The Selection Committee will be comprised of one member of the High Performance Staff and two athletes appointed by the Athlete Advisory Council.

4. Removal from the Team

- a. An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by USA Triathlon may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Triathlon:
 - i. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USA Triathlon High Performance Department.
 - ii. Injury or illness as certified by an approved USA Triathlon physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by an approved USA Triathlon physician (or medical staff), his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
 - iii. Violation of the USA Triathlon Code of Conduct. An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USA Triathlon Bylaws Article XV or the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9.

5. Replacements to the Team

a. If for any reason a position on the Team shall become vacant, such vacancy shall roll down to the next qualified athlete, provided that the replacement athlete meets all applicable Selection Criteria requirements, and a replacement is allowed by the ITU. In the event that no athlete meets all of these criteria, or the ITU does not allow replacement, the vacancy shall not be filled.

6. Additional Requirements for Selection

- a. All athletes selected to the Team will be required to comply with all applicable rules and requirements of ITU, WADA, USADA, and USA Triathlon, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - Sign and abide by the USA Triathlon's Code of Conduct, any USA Triathlon or ITU Wavier or Release, and conform to all USA Triathlon policies and protocol regarding Team preparation and participation.
 - ii. Agree not to race any event **longer** than the Olympic triathlon distance (1.5km/40km/10km) between the period beginning four (4) weeks prior to the date of the World Championship if receiving funding from USA Triathlon.

7. International Disclaimer

a. These Selection Criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Triathlon, and on ITU and USA Triathlon rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in ITU or USA Triathlon rules and regulations, or other unforeseen circumstances, will be distributed to the affected athletes promptly, and USA Triathlon reserves the right to revise these Selection criteria in such event.