

**USA TRIATHLON  
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES  
2014 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES  
Men and Women  
September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2013**

**1. SELECTION SYSTEM**

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team:

1.1.1. Citizenship:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of selection and hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six (6) months after the conclusion of the Youth Olympic Games (YOG).

1.1.2. Minimum International Triathlon Union (ITU) standards for participation:

- All athletes must comply with the provisions of the Olympic Charter currently in force, and only those athletes who have complied with the Olympic Charter may participate in the Youth Olympic Games.
- Athlete must be born between January 1, 1997, and December 31, 1998 (i.e. age 16 or 17 on December 31, 2014).
- Athletes must also be entered by attending the race briefing to one of the following events: 2014 ITU Pan American YOG Qualifying Event, 2013 Continental Championships or 2014 Continental Championships (in case it is held before 8 June 2014).
- Athletes must be entered in qualifying competitions by their National Olympic Committee (NOC), which must have respective National Federations in good standing with the ITU.

1.1.3. Other requirements (if any):

- Athlete must attend for the entire duration of the YOG, unless released early by the IOC, NOC and USA Triathlon (USAT) to prepare for and participate in the 2014 ITU Junior World Triathlon Championships.
- Athlete must participate in the cultural and education program, and mixed team events, as requested.

- Athlete must be a USAT annual member as of the ITU Pan American YOG Qualifying Event and maintained through completion of the YOG.
- Athlete must compete in the mixed team relay event if selected, unless injury or illness precludes participation.

1.2. Tryout Events:

1.2.1. Provide the event names, dates and locations of all trials, events and camps to be used as part of the selection process.

- The first USA male and female finishers at the ITU Pan American YOG Qualifying Event will automatically qualify for nomination to the 2014 Youth Olympic Games, provided their overall finish position earns the United States one (1) of the eight (8) places per gender available within the Americas.
- The ITU Pan American YOG Qualifying Event is expected to take place on or about May 2-4, 2014 in a location to be determined.

1.2.2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for the trials, events and camps listed above in 1.2.1. (if any).

A three-tiered prioritization system based on national rankings and results from the NBP Challenge Triathlon, Sarasota, Florida, scheduled for March 8-9, 2014 (a PATCO Junior Continental Cup, sprint distance, draft-legal triathlon), will be used to determine the athletes earning a slot to compete in the ITU Pan American YOG Qualifying Event. See **USA Triathlon 2014 Youth Olympic Games Pan American Qualifying Event Eligibility Criteria** attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference (Attachment A).

1.3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become Team nominees (include maximum Team size).

A maximum of one (1) male and one (1) female athlete may be nominated by each NOC to the YOG.

- The selection process to become Team nominees will consist of three steps.
  - First, YOG-eligible athletes must earn entry into the ITU Pan American YOG Qualifying Event. This process is outlined in Attachment A.

- Second, the eight (8) athletes per gender who qualify per the criteria outlined in Attachment A will compete at the ITU Pan American YOG Qualifying Event with the objective, collectively, of earning USAT's quota of one (1) male and one (1) female spot for the YOG and, individually, of being the first USA finisher.
- Third, the first USA male and female finishers at the ITU Pan American YOG Qualifying Event will automatically qualify for nomination to the YOG team, provided their overall finish position earns the United States one (1) of the eight (8) places per gender available within the Americas.

**2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)**

2.1. Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

- There is no discretionary selection.

2.2. List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any):

N/A

2.3. Provide the name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members currently serving on the committee and their titles:

N/A

2.3.1. Conflict of Interest

N/A

**3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES**

3.1. Prior to acceptance of nominations by the USOC, USA Triathlon has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

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:

3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to USA Triathlon's Executive Director.

- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by an USA Triathlon approved physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by an USA Triathlon approved physician (or medical staff), his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Violation of USA Triathlon's Athlete Code of Conduct ([Attachment B](#)).
- 3.1.4. Failing to maintain YOG eligibility per the YOG qualification criteria (see 1.1).

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA Triathlon's Constitution and Bylaws, Article XV, (<http://www.usatriathlon.org/about-usat/governance.aspx>) and the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once an athlete nomination is accepted by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to USA Triathlon's Code of Conduct, the USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply.

The USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures can be found at: <http://www2.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman/Games-Information.aspx>.

- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, PASO, IPC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable.

#### **4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES**

- 4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:

- 4.1.1. Prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

Should a vacancy occur, the replacement athlete will be selected by the sequential order of his or her finish at the ITU Pan American YOG Qualifying Event (e.g. should the first finisher withdraw from the team, the vacancy would be filled by the second place finisher, and so on).

- 4.1.2. After submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

Should a vacancy occur, the replacement athlete will be selected by the sequential order of his or her finish at the ITU Pan American YOG Qualifying Event (e.g. should the first finisher withdraw from the team, the vacancy would be filled by the second place finisher, and so on).

## **5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

USA Triathlon will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six (6) months past the date of conclusion of the Games.

## **6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS**

The following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Youth Olympic Games and are included as attachments:

USA Triathlon Athlete Code of Conduct ([Attachment B](#))

## **7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES**

The USOC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USA Triathlon in the following locations:

- 7.1. NGB's Website:

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five (5) business days following notice of approval by the USOC.

[www.usatriathlon.org](http://www.usatriathlon.org)

- 7.2. Other:

N/A

## **8. DATE OF NOMINATION**

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOC on or before:

June 19, 2014

## **9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION**

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

Should any mandatory training be required prior to the YOG, details will be posted at [www.usatriathlon.org](http://www.usatriathlon.org) at least 30 days in advance.

## **10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS**

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, IF, USADA and USOC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, IPC, PASO, WADA, IF, USADA and USOC Rules, as applicable.

## **11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES**

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

YOG Committee, including USA Triathlon High Performance Staff:

- Andy Schmitz - USAT High Performance General Manager
- Steve Kelley - USAT Athlete Development Coordinator
- Barrett Brandon - USAT Board of Directors - Athlete Representative

## **12. NGB BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES**

The USA Triathlon's Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<http://www.usatriathlon.org/about-usat/governance.aspx>

## **13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER**

These procedures are based on IOC and International Triathlon Union (ITU) rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC and ITU rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Triathlon. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOC.

#### **14. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN**

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USA Triathlon may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, John W. Ruger, by:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- Toll-free telephone at (888) ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)
- E-mail at [john.ruger@usoc.org](mailto:john.ruger@usoc.org)
- <http://www2.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman.aspx>

**15. NGB SIGNATURES**

**I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA Triathlon.**

<b>Position</b>	<b>Print Name</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>
NGB President or CEO/Executive Director	Rob Urbach		11/2/12
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Andy Schmitz		
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Sarah Reinertsen		11/8/2013

\* If the USOC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.


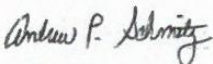
\* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

\* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOC AAC Representative, the NGB must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.



**15. NGB SIGNATURES**

**I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA Triathlon.**

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
NGB President or CEO/Executive Director	Rob Urbach		11/24/13
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Andy Schmitz		11/15/13
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Sarah Reinertsen		

\* If the USOC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

\* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the NGB, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her Sport Performance Team.

\* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOC AAC Representative, the NGB must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.

## ATTACHMENT A

### USA Triathlon 2014 Youth Olympic Games Pan American Qualifying Event Eligibility Criteria



### **2014 YOUTH OLYMPIC GAMES PAN AMERICAN QUALIFYING EVENT ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA**

#### **1. Introduction**

These criteria will be used to determine the order by which USA Triathlon (“USAT”) will nominate eligible U.S. athletes (“Eligible Athletes”) to the International Triathlon Union (“ITU”)/Pan American Triathlon Confederation (“PATCO”) for starting positions allocated to the United States at the 2014 Youth Olympic Games PATCO Pan-American Continental Youth Olympic Games Qualifying Event (“YOG Qualifier”).

The Youth Olympic Games will take place in Nanjing, China, in August 2014. The triathlon event is sprint distance, draft-legal and is limited to 32 athletes per gender, ages 16 or 17 as of December 31, 2014. USAT is limited to a single entrant per gender, provided it earns the spot at the YOG Qualifier. A Mixed Team Relay event also is on the YOG Program. Relay teams are comprised of athletes from each confederation (e.g. Pan-American) and determined based on results achieved in the individual competitions.

The YOG Qualifier, which determines the distribution of spots in the Americas, is scheduled to take place on or about May 2-4, 2014. It is not known at this time how many athletes per National Federation (“NF”) will be eligible to compete in the YOG Qualifier, however, USAT estimates eight (8) spots per gender will be allocated to the U.S.

#### **2. Minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination:**

- a. All athletes must comply with the provisions of the Olympic Charter currently in force (see <http://www.olympic.org/olympic-charter/documents-reports-studies->

[publications](#)), and only those athletes who have complied with the Olympic Charter may participate in the Youth Olympic Games.

- b. Athlete must be born between January 1, 1997, and December 31, 1998 (i.e. age 16 or 17 on December 31, 2014).
- c. Athlete must be eligible under all applicable rules of ITU ([www.triathlon.org](http://www.triathlon.org)), the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency ([www.usada.org](http://www.usada.org)), and USAT.
- d. Athlete must be an annual member in good standing of USAT.

### 3. Nomination Timeline

USAT will establish a list of Eligible Athletes based on Section 4 below. Eligible Athletes will be notified via their email address of record in the USAT annual membership database or event registration database. An Eligible Athlete will have until forty-five (45) days prior to the YOG Qualifier to accept his or her nomination. Failure to respond by the reply date will result to a roll-down to the next Eligible Athlete within each Nomination Priority category.

### 4. Nomination Priority/Events

- a. **Nomination Priority #1:** The top two (2) nationally-ranked sixteen (16) year old athletes as of December 31, 2013, in the USAT Junior Elite National Rankings, with spots rolling down no further than the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) ranked Eligible Athlete, after which spots will be added to Nomination Priority #3.
- b. **Nomination Priority #2:** The top two (2) nationally-ranked fifteen (15) year old athletes as of December 31, 2013, in the USAT Youth Elite National Rankings, with spots rolling down no further than the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) ranked Eligible Athlete, after which spots will be added to Nomination Priority #3.
- c. **Nomination Priority #3:** Finish position at the 2014 ITU Junior Continental Cup in Sarasota, Florida on or about March 8, 2014 (maximum of four (4) nominations, unless additional spots have rolled down from Nomination Priorities #1 and #2). Spots will roll down as necessary until all available spots are filled or the list of Eligible Athletes is exhausted.

### 5. Nomination Procedure

- a. Through ITU's quota system, USAT expects to enter up to eight (8) athletes per gender in the YOG Qualifier. If the ITU allows for additional athletes, then USAT High Performance may, at its discretion, request invitations from the ITU. Additional nominations over the 8-athletes per gender maximum will be made by roll down through finish positions at 2014 ITU Sarasota Junior Continental Cup. USAT will submit all entries for the competition to the ITU no later than 35 days prior to the YOG Qualifier.
- b. Automatic Nomination:
  - i. The two (2) highest ranked USA athletes in Nomination Priority #1 (age 16 as of December 31, 2013) and the two (2) highest ranked USA athletes in Nomination Priority #2 (age 15 as of December 31, 2013) will earn automatic

nomination to the YOG Qualifier, provided each is ranked 15<sup>th</sup> or better in his or her respective ranking group. A maximum of four (4) athletes per gender will be identified through this priority.

- ii. Up to four (4) nominations will be awarded at the 2014 ITU Sarasota Junior Continental Cup. The first four (4) Eligible Athletes at the 2014 ITU Sarasota Junior Continental Cup, who have not already earned automatic nomination via Nomination Priority #1 or Nomination Priority #2, will earn automatic nomination to the YOG Qualifier.
- c. Discretionary Nomination: Any slots otherwise vacant following the Automatic Nomination process or later vacated will be filled by discretionary selection as described in Section 6 below.

**Nominative Process Table:**

**2014 USAT YOG Qualifier Nomination**

<u>PRIORITY/EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>UP TO</u>	<u>Qualifying Criteria</u>
2013 USAT Youth Elite & Junior Elite National Rankings	www.usatriathlon.org	As of December 31, 2013	4 MEN 4 WOMEN	The two (2) highest ranking 15 year olds and the two (2) highest ranking 16 year olds provided they are ranked 15 <sup>th</sup> place or better. Maximum four (4) athletes per gender.
2014 ITU Sarasota Junior Continental Cup*	Sarasota, Florida	March 8, 2014	4 MEN 4 WOMEN	First four (4) athletes not already qualified; must be 16 or 17 years old as of December 31, 2014

\*In the event of cancellation of any portion of the event (swim, bike or run), slots for this event will be awarded based on the discretionary selection criteria.

**6. Discretionary Selection**

- a. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection: By meeting the automatic selection per Section 5 above, athletes will have demonstrated their ability as the best USA athletes in this category. If the maximum number of USA athletes have not earned automatic selection per Section 5 above, then USA Triathlon may select athletes who, in the opinion of the Selection Committee, can win a medal despite not earning automatic nomination, or who can contribute to winning a medal through specific team tactics during the event.
- b. Discretionary Process: Any athlete who meets the minimum eligibility requirements in Section 2 may be considered for discretionary selection. The Selection Committee shall rank athletes for nomination to the ITU. Athletes must fully understand and agree to their individual strategic roles within the team before being nominated. USAT will submit all approved entries for the competition to ITU 35 days prior to the YOG Qualifier. Athletes will be notified of their selection on or before that date.
- c. Discretionary criteria:
  - i. The following criteria shall be used for discretionary selection. The criteria are listed in no particular order:

1. Finish place in 2013 and 2014 Youth Elite or Junior Elite draft-legal events;
2. 2013 or 2014 USAT Youth Elite or Junior Elite National Ranking (if any);
3. a record of competitive swimming results and a record of competitive cycling results and demonstrated knowledge of cycling team tactics; or official swimming and running marks established in 2014.
  - a. For an athlete judged by swimming and running marks, the athlete must meet the “A” standard in the swim or run and the “B” standard of the other discipline from the Swim and Run Benchmarks below. Results submitted on or before March 1st will be considered in the discretionary process.

Junior Swim and Run Benchmarks				
		800yd SC	800m SC	5k
Men	A	8:15	9:05	15:20
Men	B	8:39	9:32	16:00
Women	A	8:40	9:33	17:10
Women	B	9:23	10:32	18:15

- d. The Selection Committee will be comprised of two (2) members of the High Performance Staff and one (1) member of the Athlete Advisory Council.

## 7. Replacements

If for any reason a starting position shall become vacant, such vacancy shall roll down to the next qualified athlete per Sections 4, 5, and 6, provided that the replacement athlete meets all applicable 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.

## 8. Expenses

- a. Athletes selected for the YOG Qualifier will receive the following benefits:
  - i) USA Triathlon will cover the YOG Qualifier race registration fee, room and board, and will provide a base travel grant of \$400 to athlete earning automatic nomination per Section 4(a) and 4(b) and to athletes earning automatic nomination per Section 4(c) who finish with eight percent (8%) of the overall winner’s time. All other expenses are the responsibility of the athlete.
  - ii) USA Triathlon will provide a team uniform. Sponsor logos are permitted uniform, but must comply with ITU specifications and are the responsibility of the athlete.
  - iii) USAT will provide team leadership at the YOG Qualifier.

- iv) Athletes may be eligible for additional travel reimbursement pending performance – a summary of funding opportunities can be found in the Junior Performance Plan.

## **9. International Disclaimer**

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

ATTACHMENT B

USA Triathlon Athlete Code of Conduct

USA Triathlon Code of Conduct

ATHLETE PLEDGE

I pledge to uphold the spirit of the USA Triathlon (USAT) Code of Conduct (the “Code”), which offers a guide to my conduct as an elite member of USAT. I acknowledge that I have a right to a hearing if my opportunity to compete is denied or if I am charged with a violation of this Code.

I have familiarized myself with the Code and understand that acceptance of its provisions is a condition of my elite membership with USAT.

**As an elite member of USAT, I hereby promise and agree that I:**

- will abide by all rules related to USAT;
- have acted and will act in a sportsmanlike manner consistent with the spirit of fair play and responsible conduct;
- will maintain a level of fitness and competitive readiness that will permit my performance to be at the maximum of my abilities;
- will not commit a doping violation as defined by the International Olympic Committee (IOC), World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) or the International Triathlon Union (ITU) rules;
- am not currently serving a suspension because of an anti-doping rule violation and have no pending or unresolved anti-doping rule violation, except as I have informed USAT in writing, and I understand that such suspension, or pending or unresolved anti-doping rule violation may be cause for my not being selected to the Team;
- will not engage in any conduct that is criminal under any laws applicable to me, including, but not limited to laws governing the possession and use of drugs and alcohol and providing of drugs to any person and of alcohol to minors;
- am eligible to compete under the rules of the ITU;

- will refrain from conduct detracting from my ability or that of my fellow athletes to attain peak performance;
- will respect the property of others whether personal or public;
- will respect members of USAT, spectators and officials, and engage in no form of discriminatory behavior or verbal, physical or sexual harassment or abuse;
- am aware that USAT sponsors, suppliers and licensees provide critical support for USAT and, in recognition of this fact, I will wear designated USAT apparel when required as a member of an ITU World Championship Team;
- agree to be filmed and photographed by the official photographer(s) and network(s) of USAT under conditions authorized by USAT and give event organizers and USAT the right to use my name, picture, likeness, and biographical information before, during and after the period of my participation in these activities to promote the activity in which I participate or to promote the success USAT; in no event may USAT or the event organizers use or authorize the use of my name, picture, likeness, voice and biographical information for the purpose of trade, including any use in a manner that would imply an endorsement of any company, product, or service, without my written permission;
- will not use or authorize the use of photographs, films or videos of myself in my USAT apparel or equipment or the use of the USAT logo for the purpose of trade, without the prior written consent of the USAT (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld);
- will act in a way that will bring respect and honor to myself, my fellow athletes, USA Triathlon and the United States; and
- will remember that at all times I am an ambassador for triathlon and the United States.

## ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

I may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman,  
toll free at 888.ATHLETE (888.284.5383) or [John.Ruger@usoc.org](mailto:John.Ruger@usoc.org)  
for further information regarding my rights under this Code  
that are not answered by USAT.



# PARTICIPANTS' AFFIRMATION

I have read and accept this Code of Conduct. I agree to the rules, guidelines, jurisdiction and procedures stated in these documents as a condition of being selected to participate as a member of the Team.

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Signature

Date

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**NGB Name**

**Sport**

<p><b>PARENT/GUARDIAN CERTIFICATION</b> <b>(For Participants Under the Age of 18 as of Date of Signature)</b></p>
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Signature

Date

Relationship (Parent or Guardian)