

## Triathlon Canada Age Group World Championship Team Selection Policy

### A. INTRODUCTION

This document establishes the Eligibility and Selection Criteria for entry of age group athletes in **ONLY** the ITU Multisport World Championships Festival (MWCF) or the ITU Age Group World Triathlon Championships (TWC) hosted as part of the ITU World Triathlon Grand Final.

Triathlon Canada is committed to selecting an Age Group World Championship Team using clear selection methods. The goal of the Age Group World Championships Qualification Program is to develop a strong domestic calendar of high caliber events that provides an opportunity for Canadian age group athletes to progress to the highest level of competition in age group racing.

This selection policy applies to all categories and events at the two (2) designated Age Group World Championship events (Multisport and Triathlon).

### B. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- a. Must be a Canadian citizen or Permanent Resident of Canada;
- b. Must be a member in good standing with a Triathlon Provincial Sport Organization;
- c. Must be a member in good standing with Triathlon Canada (*part of provincial membership*);
- d. Must pay the Triathlon Canada Team Management Fee in order to claim a spot;
- e. Must agree and comply with all Team Canada core policies, including the Code of Conduct;
- f. Must purchase an ITU legal Triathlon Canada race suit and parade kit for the competition year;
- g. **Must submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) PRIOR to each Qualification Event.**
  - *ONLY athletes who have completed an Expression of Interest (EOI) in a qualifying spot PRIOR to the event will be included in the results submitted to Triathlon Canada. Any athlete without an EOI will be deemed to have declined their spot should they receive a result within the allocated number of qualifying spots.*

### C. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

All athletes looking to compete for a spot must submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) prior to each qualification event for each discipline they wish to qualify. An EOI page will be set up specific to each province with the list of qualification events and disciplines. The form will collect the following data:

- Qualifying Race
- Qualifying Discipline
- Athlete Name
- Athlete Email
- Gender
- Birthdate
- Province
- Age Adjusted Category
- Provincial Membership

Athletes will not be able to complete the EOI without a valid annual provincial membership. This is to ensure that everyone to be included in the final results has met the full eligibility criteria outlined above.

Athletes will be charged \$20 to submit their EOI. The \$20 will be treated as a deposit for those who are successful in obtaining a spot and will be deducted from their Race Entry Fee. The \$20 fee will be non-refundable. However, it may be applied to a charity entry instead.

#### **D. SELECTION CRITERIA**

Subject to the quotas per gender, age category and event outlined as follows:

- International World Championship Events: Twenty (20) age group quota spots
- Domestic World Championship Events: Twenty-five (25) age group quota spots

eligible athletes will be selected in priority order as per the following criteria:

##### **Priority 1. Direct Qualification**

Athletes who race in domestic Age Group World Championship Qualifying Events, meet the eligibility criteria outlined in section B, and place within the allocated number of qualifying spots specific to each race discipline. Priority 1 selection will be based on results submitted from each qualification event.

##### **Priority 2. Primary Roll Down Qualification**

Athletes who race in domestic Age Group World Championship Qualifying Events and place within the top 8 in their gender/age category are eligible to receive a roll-down spot. Priority 2 selection will be used to facilitate primary roll-down of qualification spots, meaning that if athletes who place within the results to be eligible for a priority 1 spot choose to decline, the spot may roll down to the next eligible athlete. Roll-down will be based on the following criteria:

- Must meet the eligibility criteria outlined above in section B;
- Must have placed within the top 8 in a gender/age category to be eligible.

##### **Priority 3. Charity Entry Qualification**

Athletes who apply for a Charity Entry. Priority 3 selection will be dependent on the following objective criteria:

- Must meet the eligibility criteria outlined above in section B;
- Must apply through a Charity Program Expression of Interest (EOI);
- Must complete the designated fundraising minimum by no later than 6 weeks prior to the World Championship event.

Charity Entry spots will be made up of unclaimed spots remaining at the end of the qualification event season. Triathlon Canada will have discretion on how many charity entry spots are made available for each World Championship year. Confirmation to the team will be on a first-come, first-served basis upon confirmed availability of a spot in the requested age category. *NOTE: age categories are determined as of December 31<sup>st</sup> of the World Championship event year, not the qualification year. Qualifying through a Charity Entry as a Priority 3 renders an athlete ineligible to receive a Priority 5 selection (details below).*

##### **Priority 4. Secondary Roll Down Qualification**

Athletes who race in domestic Age Group World Championship Qualifying events and place within the top 8 in their gender/age category and meet the eligibility criteria outlined in section B are eligible to receive a secondary roll-down spot. Secondary Roll Down will be made up of any remaining unclaimed spots once priority 1-3 allocation has been completed. Spots are limited to availability in each age/gender category and are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

### **Priority 5. Discretionary Selection (*medical*)**

Priority 5 selection will be used to address cases where athletes are unable to race and qualify a spot due to injury, sickness or pregnancy throughout the duration of the qualification season. Priority 5 selection is DISCRETIONARY, meaning that Triathlon Canada retains the right to determine eligibility for selection based on review of the submitted supporting documents outlined below. Selection will be dependent on the following objective criteria:

- Must meet the eligibility criteria outlined above in section B;
- Must submit a letter from a medical doctor substantiating inability to qualify due to injury, sickness or pregnancy AND the timeline for return to full health and competition readiness;
- Must submit race results from the previous season showing an ability to qualify and compete at the international level in the relevant discipline and age/gender category.

Discretionary spots will be made up of any unclaimed spots remaining once priority 1-4 allocation has been completed. Assessment of Priority 5 submissions will be completed by Triathlon Canada under the advisement of a designated medical professional pending availability in the requested gender/age category.

### **Priority 6. Discretionary Selection (*out of country athletes*)**

Priority 6 selection will be used to address cases where athletes are unable to race and qualify for a spot due to residing outside of Canada and being unable to return to the country during the qualification season. Priority 6 selection is DISCRETIONARY, meaning that Triathlon Canada retains the right to determine eligibility for selection based on review of the submitted supporting documents outlined below. Selection will be dependent on the following objective criteria:

- Pay the \$160 out-of-country qualification fee (average domestic race entry and the mandatory \$20 EOI fee)
- Proof of out of country residence for duration of the qualifying period (foreign address)
- Submission of verifiable race results in an equivalent qualifying distance - athletes must place top-8 in their age group in the same calendar year as the Canadian qualification period (May to November)

Discretionary spots will be made up of any unclaimed spots remaining once priority 1-5 allocation has been completed. Assessment of Priority 5 submissions will be completed by Triathlon Canada pending availability in the requested gender/age category.

### **E. TIE BREAKER**

In the event that two or more athletes meet the same priority, selection will be determined by a “first-achieved, first-served” approach. For example, athlete(s) achieving the same criteria first will be prioritized until all quota spots are exhausted.

### **F. TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

Triathlon Canada will announce the team in October/November of the qualification year.

#### **G. CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES OF ENTRY**

1. In accordance with ITU rules all athlete entries into events are managed by Triathlon Canada;
2. All athletes must pay their Team Management Fee and purchase the mandatory race suit and parade gear to be confirmed to the team by the published deadline;
3. Entry fees will be collected based on discipline as outlined by the ITU and the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) approximately 6 weeks prior to the Event;
4. All athletes MUST purchase the Triathlon Canada race insurance as part of their entry fees, as per the ITU rules.

#### **H. TEAM EXPECTATIONS**

1. All athletes are expected to be accessible electronically via email pre- and post-event, and remain current on team communications and information;
2. All athletes are expected to travel with a phone/laptop and data package to the World Championship Events to ensure communication capability;
  - a. All athletes are expected to be accessible electronically via Team Canada established platforms such as Slack on-site at World Championship Events;
3. All athletes are responsible for making their own travel arrangements and bookings, including airfare, ground and bike transportation and hotel reservations;
  - a. Triathlon Canada will provide team travel and accommodation information only.

#### **I. MODIFICATION OF POLICY**

Triathlon Canada reserves the right, in extenuating circumstances, to modify this policy as it deems necessary in its sole discretion. In the event that this policy is modified, Triathlon Canada will promptly post an announcement on its website announcing the changes.

#### **J. LANGUAGE**

Where there is a difference in interpretation between the French and English versions of this document, the English shall prevail.

#### **K. APPEALS**

Triathlon Canada is responsible for all Team decisions. As such, an athlete wishing to appeal a decision regarding the Team selection must follow the Triathlon Canada Appeals Policy (see Triathlon Canada website).