

2021 Age Group World Championship Team Qualification Program – Fast Facts for Athletes

This document is a reference guide for athletes hoping to join Age Group Team Canada. This program has been changing over the past two years as we work to improve it, so there is lots of new information captured here – please read carefully!

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Which events does the 2020 program qualify for?

The 2020 Age Group World Championship Qualification events will qualify athletes to the 2021 Age Group World Championship Teams for the following events:

- 2021 ITU World Triathlon Grand Final – Hamilton, Bermuda
 - Sprint Triathlon / Standard Triathlon
- 2021 ITU Multisport World Championships Festival – Townsville, Australia
 - Sprint Duathlon / Standard Duathlon
 - Long Distance Triathlon / Cross Triathlon / Aquabike / Aquathlon

Where can I find a full list of qualification events?

The full calendar organized by event and province is posted to the Triathlon Canada website here: <https://www.triathloncanada.com/publications/#calendars>

Who is eligible for a spot on Age Group Team Canada?

In order to be eligible to claim a spot, you must meet the following basic criteria:

- a. Be a Canadian citizen or Permanent Resident of Canada;
 - **Make sure you register for the event with your CANADIAN address!**
- b. Be a member in good standing with a Triathlon Provincial Sport Organization (PSO);
- c. Be a member in good standing with Triathlon Canada (*included in annual provincial membership*);
- d. Must submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) **PRIOR to each** Qualification Event.

For the full team selection policy see: <https://www.triathloncanada.com/publications/#teamselection>

How do I claim and confirm my entry once I have qualified?

An athlete is not officially confirmed to the World Championship team until the following criteria are met:

- a. Must pay the Triathlon Canada Team Management Fee;
- b. Must agree and comply with all Team Canada policies;
- c. Must have an ITU-legal Triathlon Canada race suit and parade kit for the competition year, as dictated by the ITU for all World Championship events.

What are my options if I am a dual citizen?

Canadians with dual citizenship are eligible to represent Age Group Team Canada at ITU world championship events, provided that they have not previously represented another country. These athletes just follow the standard registration and eligibility criteria.

Once an athlete is affiliated with Triathlon Canada, they are no longer eligible to represent any other country in the eyes of the ITU. This is also the case for athletes who have represented another country – they are NOT eligible to join Age Group Team Canada.

If you wish to change your affiliation to a National Federation (NF), you must file a change of representation with the ITU and both NFs. There will be a period of ineligibility of between one and three years when you will be unable to represent either country and will be required to race under the ITU flag. If you wish to discuss further, please contact the [Triathlon Canada office](#) and we can take you through the process.

What is an Expression of Interest (EOI), and how do I submit one?

An Expression of Interest (EOI) is the mechanism by which athletes confirm their intent to race for and accept an Age Group World Championship spot should they qualify. By expressing intent, results can be matched against a final list of those athletes who want to attend the World Championships, and spots can be “rolled-down”. The EOI application will open 3 weeks prior to each race and will close the day prior to the event.

All athletes looking to compete for a spot must submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) prior to each qualification event. An EOI page will be available specific to each event and discipline(s) hosted. The form will collect the following data:

- Qualifying Race Name / Discipline
- Athlete Name / Email
- Gender / Birthdate
- Province of Residence
- Age Adjusted Category
- Confirmation of valid Provincial / National Membership

There will be a \$20 fee to complete the EOI to encourage only athletes serious about claiming a spot to apply. The \$20 will be treated as a deposit for those who are successful in obtaining a spot and will come off their Race Entry Fee. The \$20 fee will be non-refundable for athletes who are unsuccessful in obtaining a spot. However, it may be applied to a charity entry instead.

[CLICK HERE TO SUBMIT AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST.](#)

What is “Roll-Down” and how does it work?

The 2018 pilot of the qualification-only model for the Age Group World Championship Team clearly established the need for a consistent roll-down procedure nation-wide. “Roll-Down” ensures that if an athlete who qualifies a spot, but does not want to CLAIM that spot, it will go to the next eligible person on the list.

With nearly 60 qualification events nation-wide for 2020, the Expression of Interest (EOI) procedure has been developed to allow total event results to be matched against a consolidated list of athletes who are racing for a world championship spot – and, more importantly, will accept it if a spot is offered.

The EOI window has been set at 3 weeks prior to each event. This is to try to prevent athletes from completing an EOI in a discipline they have already qualified at another event and thereby “blocking” a spot from going to someone else.

Standard Roll-Down Criteria:

1. Spots will be rolled down no more than 8 spots within an age/gender category
2. All athletes MUST submit an Expression of Interest to be considered for an Age Group World Championship Spot prior to each qualification event.
 - a. All athletes MUST be a provincial member PRIOR to the event to be eligible to claim a spot on the team through automatic qualification OR roll-down

How are the results submitted and athletes notified for each qualifying event?

All Provincial Sport Organizations (PSOs) are responsible for collecting and verifying results from their host Local Organizing Committees (LOCs) and submitting the vetted results to Triathlon Canada within 30 days of each event.

Triathlon Canada is responsible for notifying each athlete of their qualification for Age Group Team Canada and facilitating the registration process for all athletes joining the team.

Notification will be done via EMAIL. It is the athlete’s responsibility to check their email and remain informed on team logistics and instructions.

Results Submissions:

The LOC must submit results to the PSO in the following format:

1. Age Adjusted to December 31st, 2021
 - a. “Age adjusted results” include each athlete’s age as of December 31st of the EVENT year, not the QUALIFICATION year. So, for a 2020 event qualifying for a 2021 Age Group World Championship event, the athletes’ ages will be adjusted to be as of December 31st, 2021.
2. Top 8 Canadian athletes in each age/gender category

What are “age-adjusted results”, and how does this affect me?

Qualification events for Age Group World Championships are held during the competition season prior to the World Championship events. This means that the qualifying events and the World Championships events do not fall within the same calendar year. Athletes are qualifying for the age category they will represent at the World Championships, so results from the qualifying events are adjusted forward by one year. For example; for a 2020 qualification event, each athlete’s age is adjusted to represent how old they will be as of December 31st, 2021.

The important impact of this is that the race-day results at a qualifying event will not necessarily match the qualifying results submitted. An athlete may “age-up” and affect the ranking both in

the age category they are leaving, and the new category they are joining. This could result in “bumping” an athlete from a spot.

If an athlete is first in the race-day results but is bumped to second in the age-adjusted results, that athlete does NOT automatically qualify for a spot if there is only one spot available at the qualifying event. It is important to wait for the final age-adjusted results!

How many qualifying spots does Canada get?

Canada is allocated 20 spots (*per age group, per gender*) for all international Age Group World Championship events, and 25 spots if the Age Group World Championship event is held domestically. Bermuda will be the host city for the 2021 ITU World Triathlon Grand Final – meaning that Canada will receive 20 spots in the Sprint and Standard triathlon events for the 2020 qualification year.

How are spots allocated across Canada?

Each province is automatically allocated one (1) spot. From there, spots are allocated to the provinces based on each province’s percentage of the national total of adult (16+) annual members. Any unclaimed spots are made available to provinces interested in hosting additional spots in the second round of allocation. One “spot” is the equivalent of one spot per age group, per gender for the host event (*ie. first place athlete in every age group for each gender is eligible to claim a spot*).

Triathlon Canada retains the right to allocate spots to National Championship events, and to the Age Group Charity Entry Program.

2020 Spot Allocation Breakdown by Province

| PROVINCE | Sprint Triathlon | Standard Triathlon | Multisport (all disciplines) | Total Spots Allocated |
|----------------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| British Columbia | 3 | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| Alberta | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Saskatchewan | 2 | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Manitoba | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Ontario | 3 | 3 | 4 | 10 |
| Quebec (NC)* | 6 | 6 | 3 | 15 |
| Nova Scotia | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| New Brunswick | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Prince Edward Island | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Newfoundland | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| TOTAL | 20 | 20 | 20 | 60 |

*3 Standard Triathlon spots are automatically allocated to the designated National Triathlon Championships (NC), which will be held in QC in 2020. These spots are on top of the host province’s base allocation.

Multisport Allocation

Purchase of a single multisport spot includes 1 spot per age group, per gender in all multisport disciplines (outlined below). The multisport events have been packaged in order to increase hosting. All disciplines do not need to be hosted by the same event. The PSO may distribute the spots across events as they see fit, and the fee for the spot can be divided up based on which events will see the greatest return - which varies from province to province.

“Multisport” includes the following disciplines:

- Aquabike / Aquathlon / Cross Triathlon / Long Distance Triathlon
- Sprint Duathlon (Draft-legal) / Standard Duathlon

How are the spots distributed out to host events?

The Provincial Sport Organizations (PSOs) are responsible for distributing spots purchased for their region to their provincial events. Ideally these spots should first be allocated to Provincial Championship events. Next priority should be given to events that host multiple disciplines. Triathlon Canada maintains the right to approve the final calendar and remove any events that conflict with National Championships, or that are not in good standing.

Obligations:

1. The PSOs are responsible for working with the Local Organizing Committees (LOCs) to ensure that the selected races are run safely and have an appropriate Technical Officials program; all host events MUST be provincially sanctioned.
2. The PSOs must ensure that results are submitted to Triathlon Canada within 30 days of the qualification event.
3. The PSOs MUST facilitate the roll-down procedure as outlined below and ensure that the host LOC has the necessary information to ensure that the results submission and the roll-down processes are completed in a timely manner.
4. There is to be NO MARK UP of price for spots charged to the LOCs.

What are the ITU Age Group World Championship Events - Format, Distances & Age Restrictions?

| | Distances | | | Min. Age |
|------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| TRIATHLON | Swim | Bike | Run | |
| Sprint Distance (DL)* | Up to 750m | Up to 20km | Up to 5km | 16 |
| Standard Distance | 1500m | 40km | 10km | 18 |
| MULTISPORT | | | | |
| TRIATHLON | Swim | Bike | Run | |
| Long Distance | 1000 to 4000m | 100 to 200km | 10 to 42.2km | 18 |
| DUATHLON | Run | Bike | Run | |
| Sprint Distance (DL)* | 5km | 20km | 2.5km | 16 |
| Standard Distance | 5 to 10km | 30 to 40km | 5km | 18 |
| AQUATHLON | Run | Swim | Run | |
| Standard Distance | 2.5km | 1000m | 2.5km | 16 |
| Standard (Cold Water) | | 1000m | 5km | 16 |
| CROSS TRIATHLON | Swim | Mountain Bike | X-Country Run | |
| Standard Distance | 1000m to 1500m | 20 to 30km | 6 to 10km | 18 |
| AQUABIKE | Swim | Bike | | |
| Long Distance | 1000 to 4000m | 100 to 200km | | 18 |

**Sprint Triathlon and Sprint Duathlon are both draft-legal (DL) events at the World Championships. Ideally all qualification events will be held in the same format. However, due the limited number of races*

available and the additional costs associated with hosting draft-legal events – it is acceptable for qualification events to be hosted in the non-drafting format.

Please note that qualification events may not always strictly adhere to the distances outlined above. As much as possible the Provincial Sport Organizations will be working with their event organizers to match qualification events with the format athletes will experience at the World Championships. However, this is not always possible due to a wide variety of factors including the limitations of the host venues.