

UNDERSTANDING AND MAXIMIZING THE TRI WORLD RANKING CRITERIA

This document summarizes critical concepts of the World Triathlon (TRI) World Ranking System to help coaches understand and navigate the TRI World Ranking Criteria. Additionally, this document will assist coaches in planning their athletes' competition schedules. It is prudent that all coaches remain informed and current on the complete [TRI Rules](#) and [Ranking Criteria](#).

How does TRI World Ranking Affect Event Start Lists?

- Triathlon Canada places athletes on an event's **wait list** as determined by [the internal selection criteria](#)
- TRI moves athletes to an event's **start list** based on each athlete's TRI World Ranking
 - Higher ranking increases the likelihood of being placed on a start list

What are the Substitution Criteria?

- Triathlon Canada can substitute a maximum number of athletes into an event as follows:
 - 1 per gender for World Triathlon Championship Series events
 - 2 per gender for World Cup events
 - 3 per gender for Continental Cup events
- Athletes are NOT eligible to substitute if they are racing on the same day or are waitlisted in the same event

How is TRI World Ranking Determined?

- TRI World Ranking is an **accumulated points total** from the current week based on:
 - Top 6 results within the past 52 weeks (*"current period"*)
 - Top 6 results between 53 and 104 weeks (*"previous period"*)
 - An athlete's TRI World Ranking is published every **Monday**
- The accumulated points total is weighted for each period as follows:
 - Within 52 weeks: 100%
 - Within 53 and 104 weeks: 33.3%
- Points are accumulated based on the following criteria:
 - Athletes must finish within 8% of the event winner's overall time
 - Points are based on a **7.5% reduction per placing**, with 1st place points allotted as in Table 1 below
- Sprint distance events are considered at 75% of the total points of the same level event
 - World Triathlon Junior Championships and Continental Triathlon Junior Championships are not effected by these reductions
- Semi-final/final or eliminator format events will have a value of 87.5% of the total points of the same level event

How is TRI World Ranking Important?

- The TRI World Ranking Criteria rewards performances that are:
 - **Consistent**
 - **Frequent**, and
 - **Recent**
- Athletes with single or sporadic performances will not accumulate enough ranking points
- Injured or non-racing athletes will lose points as time extends

Table 1. 1st place point allocation by event type

Events	Points for the Winner	Quality of Field Factor
World Triathlon Championship Finals	1250	No
Olympic Games	1000	No
Olympic Test Event	1000	No
World Triathlon Championship Series	1000	No
World Triathlon Cup	500	No
Arena Games Triathlon Championship Finals	500	No
Continental Triathlon Elite Championships	400	Yes
Continental Triathlon Cup	250	Yes
World Triathlon U23 Championships	250	No
FISU World Championships	250	No
Arena Games Triathlon Championship Series	250	No
World Triathlon Junior Championships	200	No
Continental Triathlon U23 Championships	150	Yes
Triathlon Regional Championships	150	No
Triathlon Development Regional Cup	125	No
Continental Triathlon Junior Championships	100	Yes
National Triathlon Championships	50	No

PRACTICAL EXAMPLES

Scenario 1 - Consistent and Frequent Performer (World Ranking 3)

- **Key Learning:** This is the winning style of play
- Note the consistent accumulation of points with a full 12 results for both periods.

Scoring Breakdown

Date	Event	Position	Time	Period	Points
2018-09-12	2018 ITU World Triathlon Grand Final Gold Coast	1	01:52:00	current	1250.00
2018-05-12	2018 ITU World Triathlon Yokohama	4	01:55:04	current	791.45
2018-07-27	2018 ITU World Triathlon Edmonton	2	00:57:02	current	740.00
2019-03-16	2019 Mooloolaba ITU Triathlon World Cup	1	00:58:15	current	400.00
2019-03-08	2019 Daman World Triathlon Abu Dhabi	10	00:56:57	current	396.61
2018-08-25	2018 ITU World Triathlon Montreal	13	02:03:15	current	392.37
2017-08-05	2017 ITU World Triathlon Montréal	1	01:59:04	previous	300.00
2017-07-15	2017 ITU World Triathlon Hamburg	2	00:59:31	previous	277.50
2017-04-08	2017 ITU World Triathlon Gold Coast	2	00:58:07	previous	277.50
2017-09-14	2017 ITU World Triathlon Grand Final Rotterdam	6	02:02:00	previous	270.87
2017-08-26	2017 ITU World Triathlon Stockholm	3	02:01:42	previous	252.41
2017-05-13	2017 ITU World Triathlon Yokohama	6	01:58:57	previous	203.16
2017-06-10	2017 ITU World Triathlon Leeds	8	02:01:40	previous	165.13
2018-03-02	2018 ITU World Triathlon Abu Dhabi	13	01:02:07	previous	104.63

Scenario 2 - Consistent and Infrequent Performer (World Ranking 206)

- **Key Learning:** Peaking YTP's can be effective but only if there are enough events AND top performances to accumulate points.
- This athlete is a high performer with very infrequent points accumulation, which translates into a high risk of not making start lists. This could be due to injury or several other reasons.

Scoring Breakdown

Date	Event	Position	Time	Period	Points
2018-08-09	2018 Glasgow ETU Triathlon European Championships	4	01:48:12	current	411.56
2017-06-10	2017 ITU World Triathlon Leeds	1	01:46:51	previous	300.00

Scenario 3 - Inconsistent and Frequent Performer (World Ranking 76)

- **Key Learning:** racing frequently can result in higher rankings but only if an athlete can perform adequately.
- Note that this athlete is accumulating points through frequency of events.

Scoring Breakdown

Date	Event	Position	Time	Period	Points
2018-04-28	2018 ITU World Triathlon Bermuda	16	02:08:46	current	310.55
2018-07-19	2018 Tartu ETU Triathlon European Championships	13	01:00:20	current	163.23
2019-03-08	2019 Daman World Triathlon Abu Dhabi	22	00:57:58	current	155.62
2018-09-12	2018 ITU World Triathlon Grand Final Gold Coast	28	01:56:39	current	152.31
2018-06-30	2018 Holten ETU Sprint Triathlon Premium European Cup	7	01:03:38	current	150.34
2018-11-10	2018 Miyazaki ITU Triathlon World Cup	19	02:06:14	current	122.89
2017-06-10	2017 ITU World Triathlon Leeds	14	02:02:47	previous	103.44
2017-04-15	2017 Rabat ATU Sprint Triathlon African Cup	2	01:03:55	previous	92.50
2018-07-14	2018 ITU World Triathlon Hamburg	29	01:00:41	current	90.17
2019-02-09	2019 Discovery Triathlon World Cup Cape Town	21	00:59:28	current	84.12
2017-03-26	2017 Gran Canaria ETU Triathlon European Cup	12	02:07:10	previous	43.27
2017-07-15	2017 ITU World Triathlon Hamburg	27	01:01:46	previous	39.52
2017-05-28	2017 Madrid ITU Triathlon World Cup	21	02:13:32	previous	35.75
2017-06-24	2017 Düsseldorf ETU Sprint Triathlon European Championships	22	01:06:14	previous	29.57
2018-03-02	2018 ITU World Triathlon Abu Dhabi	32	01:05:10	previous	23.79

COACHING TIPS AND STRATEGY

1. **Be aware of start list trends** by reviewing recent event start lists. This will provide an understanding of what ranking is required to make a start list.
 - For example, 2019 WTCS Abu Dhabi required a WT World Ranking of ~ 60 for Men and ~80 for Women to make the start list. This would indicate that athletes having a ranking lower than those numbers would have no chance to make the start list in WTCS events.
2. Ensure athletes are racing in events in which they can **earn optimum points. RACE APPROPRIATELY.**
3. **An athlete must finish within 8% of the winner in total time to earn points. This is important for coaches to understand in terms of athlete development.**
4. **Frequency of racing** is a winning style of play and is reflective of the demands of elite racing.
5. An athlete's ranking is organic - a few months of poor performances or injury can drastically affect ranking.
6. The PATCO Continental Cups are the entry point for athletes in North America to begin accruing TRI World Ranking points.
7. **Performing (Top 8 placing) is ultimately the best way to increase ranking AND to progress through Triathlon Canada's Podium Pathway.**