

2024 TRIATHLON CANADA WORLD TRIATHLON U23 CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS SELECTION POLICY

A. INTRODUCTION

This document establishes the eligibility and selection criteria used by Triathlon Canada for entry into the following events.

- 2024 World Triathlon Championship Final Malaga – U23
- 2024 Americas Triathlon Continental Championships Miami – U23

Triathlon Canada is committed to selecting the highest performing team using clear selection methods, and in accordance with World Triathlon entry criteria. The primary goal is to achieve podium performances at all tiers and levels of competition.

1. Selection according to the terms of this Policy will not qualify an athlete for participation in any World Triathlon event if the athlete is not eligible according to World Triathlon's Eligibility Rules.
2. World Triathlon determines the maximum number of quota positions, as per the World Triathlon's Qualification Rules, for all the aforementioned events.
3. Neither this policy, nor World Triathlon's requires Triathlon Canada to select any or all athletes to the maximum number of allotted quota positions.
4. This policy can be amended at any time by Triathlon Canada if Triathlon Canada is of the opinion, that such an amendment is necessary due to any change in World Triathlon guidelines, or to give effect to the Policy following discovery of a drafting error or oversight, or for any other reason determined to be in the best interests of Triathlon Canada by Triathlon Canada. Triathlon Canada shall not be responsible or liable in any way to any one as a result of any such amendment.
5. The Schedules and Appendices and any other document referred to in this document form part of this Selection Policy.
6. It is the athlete's responsibility to read and understand this Policy (and other supporting documents and/or policies).

In the first instance, for further clarification relating to this Policy, queries should be directed to the High-Performance Director. If an athlete is still unclear about the Policy (and other supporting documents and/or policies) operation or effect, independent legal advice should be sought.

B. ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Only athletes meeting the following terms will be eligible for selection.

1. *World Triathlon Eligibility Criteria*

An athlete must:

- Comply with all current World Triathlon Rules regarding citizenship, national representation, and eligibility;
- Be a Canadian citizen;
- Be born on or before December 31st 2001;
- Complete the World Triathlon medical Pre-Participation Evaluation (PPE) prior to competing

in any World Triathlon event.

If there is any doubt regarding eligibility to compete for Canada, athletes must contact the High-Performance Director or designate of Triathlon Canada for clarification.

2. *Triathlon Canada Specific Eligibility Criteria*

An athlete must:

- Be a Canadian citizen;
- Be members in good standing with a Triathlon Provincial Sport Organization and Triathlon Canada
- Have a current Triathlon Canada International Competition Card (ICC);
- Have submitted all required ratified run/swim times as communicated by Triathlon Canada;
- Be deemed healthy to race as per Triathlon Canada’s Competition Readiness policy (Appendix A)
- Participate fully with Team Canada as per the Triathlon Canada Athlete Agreement
- If eligible, participate in the 2024 Triathlon Canada National Championships
- Have a coach of record that is in good standing with the Coaching Association of Canada and Triathlon Canada OR be in good standing with their respective National Sport Organization/Coaching Association

C. SELECTION PRIORITIES CRITERIA

Selection decisions are at the sole authority of the High-Performance Director.

Subject to available quota spots, Triathlon Canada will use the following selection priorities criteria for World Triathlon U23 Championship Events to select eligible athletes in priority order.

PRIORITY
1. Discretionary Selection
2. WTCS Top 5
3. WTCS Top 12
4. WTCS Top 20
5. World Cup Top 3
6. World Cup Top 8
7. World Cup Top 12
8. World Cup Top 20
9. Elite Continental Cup Top 3
10. Elite Continental Cup Top 5
11. Elite Continental Cup Top 12
12. Elite Continental Cup Top 20
13. World Triathlon World Ranking **

Discretionary selection is at the sole authority of the High-Performance Director with advisement of the

High-Performance Advisory Committee and will be based on, but is not limited to, the following objective and subjective criteria (not in priority order):

- Head-to-head racing results
- Previous World Triathlon draft legal race results in the sprint, super sprint, and standard distances
- Quality of field (QOF) and depth of field (DOF) evaluations of individual race performances
- Athlete potential, trajectory, health status etc.
- Triathlon Canada’s strategic benefit; specifically, the Mixed Relay ranking/Olympic qualification, Individual Olympic Qualification
- World Triathlon Individual Olympic Ranking in relation to the [World Triathlon/IOC Olympic Qualification System](#)
- Submitted ratified times as per Triathlon Canada’s Ratified Times Policy
- Additional Gold Medal Profile data

D. APPLICATION CRITERIA

Subject to available quota spots, eligible athletes are selected in priority order as per the following conditions:

- Criteria for the 2024 World Triathlon Championship Finals Malaga – U23 must be achieved at events in the 2024 World Triathlon season between February 1st 2024 and September 9th 2024
- Criteria for the 2024 Americas Triathlon Continental Championships Miami – U23 must be achieved at events in the 2023/2024 World Triathlon season
- Criteria must be achieved in events with more than 30 athletes on the start list
- For placement onto a World Triathlon waitlist (not including the possible use of substitutions), athletes will be prioritized in the below order. This will also be applied in the event there are more athletes waitlisted than available quota spots.
 - Priority criteria achieved (as per Section C)
 - World Triathlon Olympic Ranking
 - World Triathlon World Ranking

Note: Triathlon Canada is not obligated to fill all available quota spots.

Note: If one discipline of a race is cancelled, the event will not be considered for selection.

2024 World Triathlon Championships Final Malaga – U23

Subject to quota spots, eligible athletes are selected in priority order having met one of **Priority Criteria 1-9** in Section C.

2024 Americas Triathlon Continental Championships Miami – U23

Subject to quota spots, eligible athletes are selected in priority order as per the following criteria;

1. Up to four (4) athletes having met one of **Priority Criteria 1-12** in Section C.
2. World Triathlon World Ranking

E. SUBSTITUTIONS

As per World Triathlon's rules, after the provisional start list for a World Triathlon individual event has been created, the following number of athletes per gender may be replaced via the World Triathlon substitution procedure.

- World Triathlon Championships Finals – U23 – one (1) athlete per gender
- Americas Triathlon Championships – U23 – two (2) athletes per gender (inclusive of Elites)

Substitutions may be used in the following cases but is not limited to:

1. To **prioritize an athlete** with a better World Triathlon Individual Olympic Ranking (for Olympic qualifying events only) over athletes with lower World Triathlon Individual Olympic Ranking
2. To **prioritize an athlete** with a lower World Triathlon WTCS/World Ranking but higher selection priority (as per the attached schedules) on the start list ahead of an athlete with a higher World Triathlon WTCS/World Ranking but lower selection priority;
3. To prioritize an athlete that has achieved the same selection priority but has demonstrated a higher level of performance as defined by the DOF and quality of field (QOF) of their performance (QOF description is in Appendix C);
4. To replace a **placeholder athlete** (i.e., an athlete who has not submitted an Expression of Interest via Smartabase 45 days before the start).
5. To **replace** an athlete that does not meet Triathlon Canada's Competition Readiness Policy (see Appendix A)

For further clarity on the application of substitutions please refer to **Appendix B**

F. TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT (If applicable)

Triathlon Canada will inform athletes of their selection after the EOI deadline and prior to the creation of the World Triathlon Start List.

G. CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES OF ENTRY

1. In accordance with World Triathlon rules all athlete entries into events are managed by Triathlon Canada;
2. All athletes may submit **Expressions of Interest** (EOI) for World Triathlon events as of December 1st, 2023 and completion of their ICC in Smartabase;
3. Any athlete wishing to compete in a World Triathlon event must submit their EOI via Smartabase **45 days before race start**. Each EOI submitted will receive an automatic confirmation receipt. If an athlete does not receive a response, he/she should contact the Triathlon Canada office directly (lauren.nutt@triathloncanada.com). If the race is undersubscribed and Triathlon Canada has not used all their quota spots, athletes may submit an EOI for an event after the 45-day deadline, however, priority for race entry will come on a first serve basis, with those who submitted their EOI prior to the 45-day being given priority entry into the race, regardless of selection priority met.
4. World Triathlon publishes the start list for both the men's and women's races on www.triathlon.org 32 days before the event in question. The athletes are put on the start list by the World Triathlon as per 2024 World Triathlon rules.
5. World Triathlon allows each country to make substitutions following the publication of the Start List as per Section E.
6. Para Triathlon Guides must obtain their own ICC and register their OWN EOI's

H. CONDITIONS AND PROCEDURES OF WITHDRAWALS

An athlete who receives a position on the start list for a World Triathlon Event, or has a high probability of doing so, must notify Triathlon Canada via Smartabase **no later than 14 days** before the race start should they decide to withdraw from the race, unless an injury and/or unforeseen circumstance arises preventing him/her from honoring his/her commitment to race. In the event an athlete withdraws due to injury or illness, a medical certificate must be provided with the withdrawal request in Smartabase. In the event an athlete withdraws due to an unforeseen circumstance, a communication of the justification must be sent directly to the HPD for consideration. As per World Triathlon rules, late withdrawals may remove an athlete from all start and waitlists for 30 days following the withdrawal and may also reduce Triathlon Canada's quota spots for future events. Furthermore, late withdrawals block over quota athletes from the opportunity to race. The following penalties will be applied to all late withdrawals within the stated time frame when sufficient justification can not be provided:

- **1st Offence:** Athlete will receive a formal warning from the HPD
- **2nd Offence:** Athlete is fined \$150 and will receive another warning from the HPD
- **3rd Offence:** Athlete is fined \$300 and will be required to attend a zoom meeting with the HPD.

I. MODIFICATION OF POLICY

Triathlon Canada reserves the right, in extenuating circumstances, to modify this policy as it deems necessary in its sole discretion. Any such exercise of discretion shall be subject to the Canadian administrative law principles of fairness.

In the event that this policy is modified, Triathlon Canada will promptly communicate to its affected athletes and publish the revised document on its web page.

J. LANGUAGE

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

K. EVENT COSTS

All event costs are the responsibility of the athlete unless communicated by Triathlon Canada. If Triathlon Canada, as the National Sport Organization, is managing an event's logistics and costs, all costs that are the responsibility of the athlete will be communicated upon confirmation of available resources and final expenses.

L. 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).

APPENDIX A

COMPETITION READINESS POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this document is to outline the eligibility procedures (the “competition readiness” determinant) that will be used by Triathlon Canada to select athletes who wish to be entered in any international competition.

The objective of the Triathlon Canada Competition Readiness Policy (TCCRP) is to identify and support Canadian athletes who have demonstrated the ability to consistently manage and monitor their health status, adopt a safe and effective training program, communicate clearly and honestly their current health status to Triathlon Canada, and target the appropriate levels of competition; all with the intent of continued progression towards achieving a podium result at the Olympic/Paralympic Games and World Championships. Triathlon Canada will evaluate each athlete’s entry request on a case-by-case basis.

POLICY DETAILS

As per World Triathlon rules and regulations, Triathlon Canada is solely responsible for validating and submitting entry of Canadian athletes into international competition.

Demonstrated competition readiness is only one of many eligibility requirements outlined in Triathlon Canada’s individual event selection criteria documents. Valid and up to date athlete/coaching training logs, Triathlon Canada athlete monitoring programs, validated medical diagnosis/prognosis (through Triathlon Canada’s team physician), and athlete performance analysis will be used to evaluate and determine the competition readiness of an athlete. Triathlon Canada High-Performance Director will have sole discretion to allow or deny entry into an event.

TRIATHLON CANADA’S AUTHORITY FOR DECISIONS

All matters relating to the nomination of athletes for international competition are the sole authority of Triathlon Canada. Competition readiness will be determined based on an athlete meeting all of the following criteria

Criteria 1: Current Athlete Health Status

To be considered competition ready by Triathlon Canada, an athlete must provide or demonstrate the following to Triathlon Canada:

- 1.1 A medical report clearing the athlete for competition from a certificated sport science and sport medicine practitioner or the athlete’s personal physician;
- 1.2 Access to or an up-to-date Triathlon Canada approved training/monitoring log;

Criteria 2: Athlete Daily Monitoring and History

To be considered competition ready, an athlete must provide or demonstrate the following:

- 2.1 80% completion of Triathlon Canada approved daily monitoring tools;
- 2.2 Not miss three (3) consecutive days of daily monitoring;
- 2.3 Full compliance with Triathlon Canada’s Competition Readiness Policy in previous event entry requests;

- 2.4 Adoption and adjustment of training/competition principles in line with best practices for reducing injury as advised by the Triathlon Canada approved SSSM practitioners;
- 2.5 Adherence to return to play protocols during previous injuries as defined and outlined by Triathlon Canada approved SSSM practitioners and as directed by Team Canada's team physician; and
- 2.6 Consistent, clear, and timely communication of athlete training logs and health status as requested by Triathlon Canada.

Criteria 3: Competition Level

To be considered competition ready, an athlete must provide or demonstrate the following:

- 3.1 A commitment to compete at Triathlon Canada National Championships;
- 3.2 Progression of results at each successive level of competition as defined by Triathlon Canada's Podium Pathway;
- 3.3 A potential to achieve a top ten (10) result in the requested event based on performance metrics (previous performances, GMP run and swim times, quality of field); and
- 3.4 A commitment to compete at events in which Triathlon Canada selected an athlete to compete.

APPENDIX B USE OF SUBSTITUTIONS CLARIFICATION

Triathlon Canada is constantly monitoring and evaluating World Triathlon event entry scenarios, taking into consideration Triathlon Canada High-Performance strategy, athlete goals, athlete rankings and overall qualification success. Currently, the data is showing an unusually large number of World Cup and European Continental Cup entries. This is presenting significant race planning challenges as entries are very limited due to quotas, as well as quality and depth of field.

One of the major logistical challenges we, along with all Triathlon National Federations, are facing is the use of substitutions. Triathlon Canada is committed to ensuring that substitutions are used in the most strategic manner possible. Triathlon Canada is also actively balancing the need to support athletes' decisions as they relate to two critical goals:

1. Qualifying quota spots
2. Maximizing World Triathlon World Ranking Points to get on start lists

Both are required to open doors to get our athletes into races offering critical World Triathlon Olympic Ranking Points and World Triathlon World Ranking Points

The realities we are facing.

- In the Olympic Qualifying period, waitlists for World Triathlon, World Cup and Continental Cup events are very competitive and many athletes **will not get on the start list**. A high World Triathlon World Ranking is essential to get on start lists
 - (i.e., recent World Cup minimum start list rankings: approximately 150 for men and 200 for women).
- As a National Federation, we have limited substitutions: 3 for Continental Cups, 2 for World Cups and 1 for World Triathlon Championship Series;
- Some Canadian athletes are ranked too low to make World Cup and World Triathlon Championship Series start lists;
- Ensuring starts for athletes that have met Triathlon Canada priority selections may conflict with the World Triathlon start list generation (World Triathlon World Ranking based);
- Athletes that are strategically targeting podium finishes at the appropriate levels of racing will increase their World Triathlon World Ranking more effectively

To clarify Triathlon Canada's use of substitutions, please be fully aware of the following;

- Substitution is subject to World Triathlon rules and the availability of substitutable athletes (place holders)
- Triathlon Canada will utilize substitutions in the best interest of the national federation's strategic priority - to maximize Olympic qualification.
- The use of substitutions is event specific
- Triathlon Canada is not obligated to utilize substitutions
- Meeting priority selections, as published by Triathlon Canada, will increase the chance of an athlete being substituted but is NOT a guarantee
- Performance is the number one reason for utilizing substitution for an athlete. Demonstration of performance is necessary.

- If an athlete has met priority but does not continue to improve, they may be overlooked for substitution
- Demonstration of performance will be determined by, but not exclusive to, an athlete's most current World Triathlon results, consistency of performances and additional subjective criteria.
- Priority 1 (discretion) is the highest priority and can be utilized for any event at the discretion of the High-Performance Director
- The use of substitution for athletes that have met the SAME priority criteria will be at the full discretion of Triathlon Canada's High-Performance Director
- Priority criteria in conjunction with Triathlon Canada's QOF and DOF evaluations will be used to validate an athlete's performance and overall ranking to be prioritized for event selection.

If substitutions are available, Triathlon Canada will prioritize the use of the substitution(s) as follows;

- Evidence, as determined by the High-Performance Director, of an improving performance trajectory and indication of achieving significant World Triathlon World Ranking/Olympic Ranking points in the event (Priority 1, discretionary selection may be used if the race is over quota) through the use of Triathlon Canada's DOF and QOF evaluation.
- Meeting a priority selection AND continuing to demonstrate a performance trajectory
- World Triathlon World Ranking

What does this mean?

- An athlete with a high World Triathlon World Ranking that has not met an event priority selection may be substituted OUT for a higher prioritized athlete
- An athlete meeting priority selection but NOT having a high enough World Triathlon World Ranking may NOT get on the start list
- An athlete meeting priority selection but NOT having a high enough World Triathlon World Ranking may be substituted into a race OVER another athlete with the same priority but higher World Triathlon World Ranking (based on evidence of continued improvement)
- Increasing your chances of getting on a start list is dependent on the following.
 - Increase your World Triathlon World Ranking (World Triathlon start list based approach), then
 - Increase your World Triathlon Olympic Ranking (proof of eligibility approach), then
 - Meet the highest selection priorities (proof of performance approach)
 - Perform in events with the highest QOF and DOF

To ensure that Triathlon Canada can effectively manage AND utilize substitutions for prioritized athletes. **All athletes must submit their Expressions of Interest (EOI's) for intended events BEFORE THE 45 DAY DEADLINE.** Additionally, athletes must withdraw their intent to race in a timely fashion. By doing so Triathlon Canada can strategically implement "*substitution placeholders*". Triathlon Canada CANNOT manage substitutions effectively if the community of athletes and coaches do not work together.

If an athlete does not submit an EOI by the 45-day deadline for events on the same day, Triathlon Canada will deem them available to be used as a "placeholder". Triathlon Canada will utilize an athlete as a 'placeholder' immediately, if need be.

NOTE: Athletes should begin to submit EOI's for multiple events. In the event that an athlete does not make a start list Triathlon Canada will respect that the athlete may submit an EOI for another event after the 45-day deadline. This will be considered case-by-case.

**APPENDIX C
TRIATHLON CANADA DEPTH OF FIELD AND QUALITY OF FIELD EVALUATION PROCESS**

The purpose of this document is to outline the process that Triathlon Canada will use to determine the Depth of Field (DOF) and Quality of Field (QOF) of an event, as well as how both will be used to evaluate athlete performance. DOF will be used to evaluate an event as a whole, and an athlete’s performance will be evaluated relative to the QOF.

Triathlon Canada is aware that events (especially at the Continental Cup and World Cups) vary greatly in terms of competitiveness. The objective of using DOF and QOF is to ensure that athletes, and their coaches, can objectively assess their performances and progression through Triathlon Canada’s Podium Pathway. In doing so, they can provide the necessary feedback and make the appropriate shifts to their planning to maximize performance.

Additionally, utilizing DOF and QOF, Triathlon Canada can continue to ensure the top performing athletes are prioritized for selection/nomination through objective comparison of performances. This is in alignment with Triathlon Canada’s High-Performance mission.

TRIATHLON CANADA’S AUTHORITY FOR DECISIONS

All matters relating to the selection of athletes for World Triathlon competition are the sole authority of Triathlon Canada.

DEPTH OF FIELD

Depth of field is defined as the overall competitiveness of an event. Triathlon Canada will determine and publish the DOF within the week prior to the event start date. The process is as follows.

- Average WORLD TRIATHLON World Ranking of the Top 8 Women and Top 10 men on the start list of the event

Note: World Triathlon World Ranking points range between women is significantly larger than men. Additionally, the total number of women in World Triathlon races is smaller than men. Therefore, Top 10 will be used for men and Top 8 for women.

Example 1.

Event	Program	DOF (Rank AVG)	Points (AVG)	Rank (Count)	Rank (Range)	Top-3 (Rank Avg)
2019 AJ Bell World Triathlon Leeds	Elite Men	5.5	5171.026	10	9	2
2019 AJ Bell World Triathlon Leeds	Elite Women	5.875	4980.401 25	8	11	2
2019 Huatulco World Triathlon World Cup	Elite Men	38.9	2344.74	10	42	20.3333 333
2019 Huatulco World Triathlon World Cup	Elite Women	33	2755.477 5	8	45	11.6666 667

QUALITY OF FIELD

Quality of field is defined as the relative competitiveness of the participants in an event. Whereas DOF uses the absolute World Triathlon World Ranking, QOF takes into consideration the actual World Triathlon World Ranking Points and the difference between the absolute rankings.

Example 2

Event	Program	DOF (Rank AVG)	QOF (Points AVG)	Rank (Count)	Rank (Range)	Top-3 (Rank Avg)
2019 AJ Bell World Triathlon Leeds	Elite Men	5.5	5171.026	10	9	2
2019 AJ Bell World Triathlon Leeds	Elite Women	5.875	4980.4012	8	11	2
2019 Huatulco World Triathlon World Cup	Elite Men	38.9	2344.74	10	42	20.33333 3
2019 Huatulco World Triathlon World Cup	Elite Women	33	2755.4775	8	45	11.66666 6

For an event such as the Olympic Games or World Triathlon Championship Final, the DOF and QOF are reflective of the most competitive event. This is due to the understanding that the Top 8/10 athletes will be in attendance. Finish positions at those events are an accurate representation of the highest level of competition. However, the competition level of events below the World Triathlon Championship Final and Olympic games is less consistent.

For example, two events can have the same DOF but not necessarily the same QOF. This is where QOF will be one tool to evaluate athlete performance relative to the athlete pool in the event.

EVALUATION OF ATHLETE PERFORMANCE

To further improve the accuracy of assessing athlete performance, DOF and QOF will be utilized in conjunction with Triathlon Canada’s Gold Medal Profile and race analysis.

DOF will be used to determine the competitive level of an event and if an athlete achieving selection criteria meets the performance standards. It can also be used to compare two performances with the same result but in different events.

Example 3: Use of DOF

4th at Huatulco WC vs 4th at Banyoles WC

Event	Program	DOF (Rank AVG)	QOF (Points AVG)	Rank (Count)	Rank (Range)	Top-3 (Rank Avg)
2019 Huatulco World Triathlon World Cup	Elite Men	38.9	2344.74	10	42	20.3333333
2019 Banyoles World Triathlon World Cup	Elite Men	15.3	3917.7	10	28	3.333333

Banyoles WC would be considered the higher-level event and thus the result in Banyoles is prioritized.

QOF will be used in comparing differing athlete results between two or more races.

Example 4: Use of QOF

8th at Banyoles WC vs 6th at Huatulco WC

Event	Program	DOF (Rank AVG)	QOF (Points AVG)	Rank (Count)	Rank (Range)	Top-3 (Rank Avg)
2019 Huatulco World Triathlon World Cup	Elite Men	38.9	2344.74	10	42	20.3333333
2019 Banyoles World Triathlon World Cup	Elite Men	15.3	3917.7	10	28	3.333333

QOF is the average of the Top 10 athletes starting in the event (the final results of the athlete are highlighted)

Rank	Banyoles World Triathlon World Cup World Ranking Points	Huatulco World Triathlon World Cup World Ranking Points
1	6333.16	3513.06
2	6231.99	2765.62
3	4584.55	2663.22
4	4134.84	2431.39
5	3790.55	2181.9
6	3099.76	2160.73
7	2878.81	2093.05
8	2886.09	1966.62
9	2557.97	1842.62
10	2494.64	1829.19

Though the athlete achieved a higher placing in Huatulco (4th), using the World Triathlon World Ranking points as an indicator of athlete performance level, an athlete achieving 8th in Banyoles is in fact performing at a higher level by comparing the relative World Triathlon World Ranking points of the athlete ranked in that position prior to the race. This evaluation can be done for any result.

Triathlon Canada’s event selection policy outlines the priority criteria and achieving a higher priority criterion is still the primary measure of performance.