

## 2026 TRIATHLON CANADA U23 WORLD TRIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIP SELECTION POLICY

### Notice of revision:

March 2, 2026: World Triathlon changed the date of the Continental Championships to **July 4-5, 2026**. This document has been updated to reflect the change in date.

### A. INTRODUCTION

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

- 2026 World Triathlon Championships - Pontevedra - U23 Category

Triathlon Canada is committed to selecting the highest performing athletes and teams 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.

- 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.
- World Triathlon determines the maximum number of quota positions and the start list, as per World Triathlon's Qualification Rules, for all the aforementioned events.
- Neither this policy, nor World Triathlon's requires Triathlon Canada to select any or all athletes to the maximum number of allotted quota positions.
- 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.
- The Schedules and Appendices and any other document referred to in this document form part of this Selection Policy.
- 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 (HPD). 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:

- Be 20, 21, 22 or 23 years of age as of December 31, 2026
- Comply with all current World Triathlon Rules regarding citizenship, national representation, and eligibility.
- 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 or have permanent resident status.
- Be members in good standing with a Triathlon Provincial Sport Organization and Triathlon Canada
- Have a current Triathlon Canada International Competition Card (ICC);
- Participate fully with Team Canada as per the Triathlon Canada Athlete Agreement
- If eligible, participate in the 2026 Triathlon Canada National Championships unless an exemption is approved by Triathlon Canada's High Performance Director.
- 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
- All athletes must submit their EOI via the Triathlon Canada EOI form **45 days before race start**. Each EOI submitted will receive an automatic confirmation receipt. If an athlete does not receive a response, they should contact the Triathlon Canada office directly ([hp@triathloncanada.com](mailto:hp@triathloncanada.com)).
- **Please review the Expression of Interest Policy (section G) of this document for specific details on Triathlon Canada's updated EOI policy.**
- All athletes may begin submitting **Expressions of Interest** (EOI) for World Triathlon events as of **December 15, 2025** and completion of their ICC ;

## C. QUOTA AND START LISTS

- In accordance with World Triathlon rules all athlete entries into World Triathlon events are managed by Triathlon Canada.
- Triathlon Canada is allocated a maximum number of quota spots for each event by World Triathlon. Subject to available quota spots, Triathlon Canada will use the below nomination process.

## D. NOMINATION PROCESS

Nomination date: August 2, 2026

Triathlon Canada anticipates a quota of up to two (2) quota spots per gender for the 2026 U23 World Championships. The final number of quotas spots will be communicated to Triathlon Canada prior to the event.

**Subject to available quota spots, eligible U23 athletes will be nominated for the 2026 U23 World Championships in order of the prioritized criteria listed below until all available quota spots are filled.**

Priority 1: Finish Top 25 in a 2026 WTCS race prior to the nomination date.

Priority 2: Finish top 5 in the U23 category at the 2026 U23 Continental Championships (Americas Triathlon Championships Antofagasta, Chile - ~~May 30-31, 2026~~ July 4-5, 2026).

Priority 3: One (1) Top 20 finish in a 2026 World Triathlon Cup prior to the nomination date.

Priority 4: Two (2) Top 8 finishes in 2026 Americas Cup Triathlons held in Canada prior to nomination date.

Priority 5: Any remaining quota spots will be allocated in order of World Triathlon Individual World Ranking as of nomination date provided the athlete is ranked in the top 250.

If multiple athletes meet the same priority criterion, athletes will be ranked by the best single placing achieved within that criterion. If there is a tie on best single placing, the athlete with the higher World Triathlon Individual World Ranking as of the nomination date will be ranked ahead.

Results must be achieved between January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026, and the August 2, 2026 nomination date.

Results at the 2026 Continental Championships must be achieved with a minimum field size of 20 athletes for women and 30 athletes for men. For all other events, results must be achieved with a minimum field size of 30 athletes for women and 40 athletes for men.

Athletes who have been unable to compete in the 3 months prior to the EOI deadline due to injury/illness will need to provide a proof of fitness to compete prior to their automatic nomination being accepted.

### **E. 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.

### **F. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST POLICY (EOI POLICY)**

All athletes must submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) via the Triathlon Canada EOI Form 45 days prior to race start (first event of the race weekend) for all events they wish to compete in – even if the athlete has earned an Automatic Nomination for the event.

If an EOI is late - received after the 45 day deadline - Triathlon Canada reserves the right to determine how best to process the EOI based on consideration of any of the following factors (not listed in priority order):

- Triathlon Canada's Olympic and Paralympic qualification strategy.
- The athlete's Olympic Ranking.
- The athlete's World Triathlon Individual Ranking.
- Selection to a National Team project.
- The date on which the EOI was received.
- An athlete's history of on-time or late EOI submissions in the last 12 months.
- Whether or not the race is full.
- Whether or not the start list for the event has already been generated.
- Whether or not the National Federation quota has already been reached for the event.
- Triathlon Canada's right to not process a late EOI.

Any late EOI that is submitted after the 45 day deadline must be accompanied by a written explanation of why the EOI is late. This must be sent to the High Performance Director and the High Performance Manager.

In the event that a start list for the race has already been generated and Canada's National Federation quota has already been filled, no further EOI's will be accepted for that event.

Each EOI submitted will receive an automatic confirmation receipt. If an athlete does not receive a response, they should contact the Triathlon Canada office directly (hp@triathloncanada.com).

## **G. 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 [HP@triathloncanada.com](mailto:HP@triathloncanada.com) 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 the event an athlete withdraws due to an unforeseen circumstance, a communication of the justification must be sent directly to the High-Performance Director 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 cannot be provided:

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

## **H. 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.

## **I. LANGUAGE**

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

## **J. 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.

## **K. APPEALS**

Triathlon Canada is responsible for all athlete and team decisions. As such, an athlete wishing to appeal a decision regarding the selection must follow the Triathlon Canada Appeals Policy (see Triathlon Canada website). <https://www.triathloncanada.com/wp-content/uploads/Appeal-Policy-EN.pdf>