

2026 TRIATHLON CANADA WORLD TRIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES (WTCS) SELECTION POLICY

Notice of revision:

January 6, 2026 – Version 1 published on Triathlon Canada website.

February 19, 2026: Appendix A – Triathlon Canada Performance Analysis Model has been removed from the selection process due to a technical issue with the software.

February 19, 2026: Substitution policy changed (highlighted in blue) to account for removal of Appendix A.

A. INTRODUCTION

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

- 2026 World Triathlon Championship Series events; and
- 2026 World Triathlon Championship Series Final Pontevedra - Elite

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:

- 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 residence 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).
- **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.
- The High-Performance Director reserves the right to substitute an athlete onto the start list as outlined in the substitution policy in section E.

D. NOMINATION PROCESS

1. Automatic Nomination

Subject to available quota spots, eligible athletes will be automatically nominated to WTCS/WTCF events if they have achieved any individual performances outlined below in the 2025/2026 season prior to the race EOI deadline **and** are ranked in the top 80 of the World Triathlon Rankings. These

individual benchmarks are listed in priority order;

- i) One (1) top 20 WTCS/WTCF finish
- ii) One (1) top 5 World Cup finish
- iii) Two (2) top 12 World Cup finishes

Individual performance benchmarks must be achieved in events with more than 25 athletes on the start list.

If more athletes meet the automatic criteria outlined above than there are quota spots, athletes will be nominated in order of their World Triathlon Individual World Ranking as of EOI deadline for the event.

Triathlon Canada reserves the right to use the substitution process (Section E) to nominate a substitute athlete ahead of an athlete who has met the automatic criteria listed above.

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.

2. Discretionary Nomination

The High-Performance Director may nominate additional eligible athletes at their discretion to WTCS events provided they are considered, by them, to be capable of delivering the level of performance required to be competitive at a WTCS event. The following criteria will be used to determine if an athlete is deemed competitive at this level;

- i) Achieved automatic performance benchmarks but World Ranking outside Top 80
- ii) Athlete performances in 2025/2026 WTCS, World Cup and Continental Championship Events
- iii) Trajectory of World Triathlon World Ranking and Triathlon Canada Performance Score in the previous 2 years

In order to secure a place on the start list for a discretionary selected athlete, the High-Performance Director may use the substitution process (Section E).

E. SUBSTITUTIONS

Substitutions may be used at Triathlon Canada's sole discretion in accordance with World Triathlon regulations. Substitutions shall normally be used only for WTCS and World Cup level events and when the substitution benefits Triathlon Canada's Olympic qualification strategy.

Substitutions at the WTCS and WTCF level may be used in the following cases but are not limited to:

- When the substitution advances Triathlon Canada's Olympic qualification strategy.
- 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
- To prioritize an athlete with a lower World Triathlon Individual World Ranking but higher current performance level on the start list ahead of an athlete with a higher World Triathlon Individual World Ranking but lower current performance level. This assessment shall be based on the discretion of the High Performance Director in consultation with the High Performance Advisory considering the following:

- Assessment of head to head race results in WTCS and World Cup events in the last 12 months in comparison to other athlete(s) being considered.
- Trend in the athlete's average % time gap to race winner across all WTCS events completed in the last 12 months in comparison to other athlete(s) being considered.

Substitutions shall not be used for athletes ranked beyond 200th on the World Triathlon Individual Rankings or for athletes requesting a substitution simply to participate at a higher-level event for the purpose of gaining experience.

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. 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).

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 **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

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 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>