



## 2013 ITU PARATRIATHLON EVENTS SELECTION CRITERIA

### 1. Introduction

This 2013 ITU Paratriathlon events selection criteria (the 'criteria') will be used to determine the prioritization of athletes selected to represent the United States in International Triathlon Union (ITU) Paratriathlon sanctioned events around the globe including events that are Paralympic Pipeline ITU Paratriathlons and Multisport ITU World Championships. These events include;

#### **Multisport ITU World Championships**

2013 ITU Paraduathlon World Championships,  
2013 ITU Cross Paratriathlon World Championships,  
2013 ITU Long Distance Paratriathlon World Championships.

#### **Paralympic Pipeline ITU Paratriathlons**

2013 PATCO Pan Am Paratriathlon Championships,  
2013 ITU Paratriathlon WTS (excluding the Grand Final),  
2013 ITU Paratriathlon World Cups,  
2013 ITU Paratriathlon Continental Cups.

The number of athletes eligible to compete for the USA at these events is dependent upon ITU entry criteria which will be confirmed prior to final selection decisions.

### 2. Minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team

- a. Athlete must be eligible under all applicable rules of ITU ([www.competitions.com](http://www.competitions.com)), the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency ([www.usada.org](http://www.usada.org)), and USA Triathlon.
- b. Athlete must be an annual member in good standing of USA Triathlon.
- c. Paratriathlon Category Classification: Each athlete wanting to compete in the World Championship must be able to be officially Classified and placed in an ITU Category as outlined in the ITU Classification Rules and Regulations. ITU Classification Categories are as follows:

**TRI 1** - Wheelchair user: Includes Paraplegic, Quadriplegic, Polio, Double Leg Amputee and disabilities that prevent the safe use of a conventional bicycle Must use "hand cycle" on bike course and "racing wheelchair" on the run.

**TRI 2** - Severe leg impairment, including above knee amputees. Must ride bicycle and run with above knee prosthesis or run using crutches.

**TRI 3** - Les Autres: Includes athletes with Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy, Cerebral Palsy, double leg amputee or paralysis in multiple limbs. Must ride a bicycle or tricycle and run. May use braces or prosthesis.

**TRI 4** - Arm impairment: Includes paralysis, above elbow amputees and below elbow amputees, or impairment in both upper limbs. Must ride a bike. May use prosthesis, brace or sling on the bike and/or run.

**TRI 5** - Moderate leg impairment: Includes below-knee amputees. Must ride a bicycle and may run with prosthesis.

**TRI 6** - Visual Impairment: Includes a visual acuity of less than 6/60 vision or visual field less than 40 degrees with best corrective vision. One guide of the same gender is mandatory throughout the race (if required by the ITU).

### 3. Selection Procedures for Multisport ITU World Championships

- a. The maximum size for the Team has yet to be determined by the ITU. At a minimum, USA Triathlon expects to be permitted one entry per classification per gender. It is possible a maximum threshold for team size will not be set by the ITU. USA Triathlon will endorse and enter as many athletes as the ITU permits, providing they meet the qualification criteria set forth.
- b. Qualification Criteria: Athletes submit a race resume, including links to results for top performances at relevant distance/multisport events as well as any other performance data they wish to share, to [amanda.duke@usatriathlon.org](mailto:amanda.duke@usatriathlon.org) by midnight EDT on March 1, 2013.
- c. Discretionary Process: Any athlete who meets the minimum eligibility requirements in Section 2 and 3b may be considered for nomination. The Selection Committee shall rank athletes for nomination to the ITU. USA Triathlon will submit all approved entries for the competition to ITU no less than 35 days prior to the race.
  - i. Selection Rationale: USA Triathlon may select athletes who, in the opinion of the Selection Committee, is likely to win a medal at the ITU event and have proven to be the best in their category from the USA.
  - ii. The Selection Committee will be comprised of two members of the High Performance Staff and one athlete appointed by the Athlete Advisory Council.

### 4. Selection Procedures for Paralympic Pipeline ITU Paratriathlons

- a. The maximum size for the Team has yet to be determined by the ITU. At a minimum, USA Triathlon expects to be permitted one entry per classification per gender. It is possible a maximum threshold for team size will not be set by the ITU. USA Triathlon will endorse and enter as many athletes as the ITU permits, providing they meet the qualification criteria set forth.
- b. Selection Events:
  - i. Selection Event #1: 2013 USA Paratriathlon National Championship, Austin, TX, May 27, 2013
  - ii. Selection Event #2: The event is to be determined by the USAT High Performance team and approved by the AAC and will be posted on the USA Paratriathlon webpage and communicated via email when known.
- c. Automatic Selection:
  - i. The highest placing USA athletes in Selection Event #1 will be eligible for the Team provided they finish 3<sup>rd</sup> place or better. Athletes will qualify by order of finish.
  - ii. If any slots remain following Selection Event #1, the highest placing USA athletes in Selection Event #2 will be eligible for the Team provided they finish within the top 50% of the finishers within their category. Athletes will qualify by order of finish.
- d. Discretionary Selection: Any remaining slots on the Team following the Automatic Selection process may be filled by the discretionary process.
- e. Discretionary Process: Any athlete who meets the minimum eligibility requirements in Section 2 may be considered for nomination to the Team. The Selection Committee shall rank athletes for nomination to the ITU. USA Triathlon will submit all approved entries for the competition to ITU no less than 35 days prior to the race.

- i. Discretionary criteria: The following criteria shall be used for discretionary selection. The criteria are listed in no particular order:
  - a. Finish place in the Selection Events;
  - b. 2012-2013 race resume.
- ii. Selection Rationale: USA Triathlon may select athletes who, in the opinion of the Selection Committee, can win a medal at the ITU event and are proven to be the best in their category from the USA.
- iii. The Selection Committee will be comprised of two members of the High Performance Staff and one athlete appointed by the Athlete Advisory Council.

**5. Removal from the Team**

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by USA Triathlon may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Triathlon:

- i. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USA Triathlon High Performance Department.
- ii. Injury or illness as certified by an approved USA Triathlon physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by an approved USA Triathlon physician (or medical staff), his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- iii. Violation of the USA Triathlon Code of Conduct. An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USA Triathlon Bylaws Article XV or the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9.

**6. Performance Bonus**

A performance bonus may be available at select Paralympic pipeline ITU Paratriathlon events in 2013. This will be clearly communicated before the event, via email, to those who are selected to the team for that event.

**7. Replacements to the Team**

If for any reason a position on the Team shall become vacant, such vacancy shall roll down to the next qualified athlete, provided that the replacement athlete meets all applicable Selection Criteria requirements, and a replacement is allowed by the ITU. In the event that no athlete meets all of these criteria, or the ITU does not allow replacement, the vacancy shall not be filled.

**8. Additional Requirements for Selection**

All athletes selected to the Team will be required to comply with all applicable rules and requirements of ITU, WADA, USADA, and USA Triathlon, including, but not limited to, the following:

- i. Sign and abide by the USA Triathlon's Code of Conduct, any USA Triathlon or ITU Waiver or Release, and conform to all USA Triathlon policies and protocol regarding Team preparation and participation.
- ii. Agree not to race any event **longer** than an Olympic distance between the period beginning four (4) weeks prior to the date of the ITU Paratriathlon event, if receiving funding from USA Triathlon, unless written approval is provided by the Paratriathlon Program Manager.

**9. International Disclaimer**

These Selection Criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Triathlon, and on ITU and USA Triathlon rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in ITU or USA Triathlon rules and regulations, or other unforeseen circumstances, will be distributed to the affected athletes promptly, and USA Triathlon reserves the right to revise these Selection criteria in such event.