



2021 WORLD TRIATHLON JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

Updated 2.20.2021

1. Introduction

This 2021 World Triathlon Junior Championship Team Selection Criteria (the “Criteria”) determines the athletes that will represent the United States at the 2021 World Triathlon Junior Championships (the “Team”) in Bermuda, in October 2021 (the “World Championship”). The selection criteria are designed to provide emerging athletes aged 16 to 19 (as of December 31, 2021) the opportunity to continue their athletic development at the highest levels of international triathlon competition.

Under World Triathlon Championship eligibility guidelines (see www.triathlon.org) the USA may send up to three (3) men and three (3) women to compete in the Junior division of the World Championship. However, such entries are not guaranteed. Entry spots are typically awarded to USA Triathlon (“USAT”) by World Triathlon based on: 1) a quota system; and 2) USA team results at the Americas Triathlon Junior Continental Championship (2021 date tbd).

If there is a Junior Mixed Relay event in 2021, selection will be in accordance with the most current USAT Mixed Relay Event Selection Criteria.

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

- a. Athletes must be a citizen of the United States or be eligible to race for the United States under the applicable World Triathlon rules;
- b. Must be a USA Triathlon member in good standing;
- c. Must abide by all USAT, United States Olympic and Paralympic Committee (“USOPC”), SafeSport, World Triathlon, US Anti-Doping Agency and World Anti-Doping Agency anti-doping policies and procedures and be in good standing with these organizations;
- d. Must comply with World Triathlon Competition Rule 2.4(c) and have physician signed certification form (PPE) on file with USA Triathlon;
- e. Current with SafeSport Training by completing the SafeSport tutorial and updating the tutorial as required by the U.S. Center for SafeSport;

3. Selection Events

- a. **Selection Event #1:** 2021 USAT Junior Elite National Championships, Sprint distance, West Chester, Ohio, expected to be held July 31, 2021 (1- 2 spots).

4. Selection Procedure

- a. **Team Quota:** The maximum team size for the Team is three (3) athletes per gender. If World Triathlon rules allow for additional nominations, then USAT High Performance may request special invitations from World Triathlon. Additional nominations over the three-athletes-per-gender maximum will be made by discretionary selection. USAT will submit all entries to World Triathlon 35 days prior to the World Championship (“Nomination Deadline”).
- b. **Automatic Selection:**
 - i. At **Selection Event #1**, a minimum of one (**1**) position will be awarded to a USA athlete at Selection Event #1 provided they finish in 3rd place or better overall among all participants (including non-USA athletes) and within 5% of the winner’s time. If USA is confirmed with three (3) team slots; up to two (**2**) positions maybe be selection at Selection Event #1

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- c. **Discretionary Selection:** USAT will fill all spots not earned by achieving Automatic Selection per the Discretionary Selection process described below.
- d. **Cancellation or Modification:** In the event of cancellation of any portion of the Automatic Selection event (swim, bike or run), spots will be filled at USAT's discretion. If the distance of any leg of the event or the entire event is shortened by more than 50%, the spots will be filled at USAT's discretion. If the event is cancelled entirely or postponed until after Aug 30, 2021, spots will be filled via the Discretionary Selection process described below.

5. Discretionary Selection

- a. Discretionary Process: Any athlete who meets the minimum eligibility requirements in Section 2 may be considered for nomination. The Selection Committee will prioritize athletes for nomination to World Triathlon per the discretionary criteria outlined below. Athletes must fully understand and agree to their individual strategic roles within the Team before being selected by discretion.
- b. Discretionary criteria: The following criteria shall be used for assessing athletes for discretionary selection. The criteria are listed in no particular order and are not inclusive of all possible factors warranting consideration:
 - i. Performance and results in 2019, 2020, & 2021 Junior Elite and Elite World Triathlon draft-legal events;
 - ii. Performance and results in 2019, 2020, & 2021 Junior Elite Series & other USAT Sanction events,
 - iii. Present and former USAT Junior Elite Ranking, PATCO, or World Triathlon rankings (if any);
 - iv. Performance measures and assessments at the Discretionary Selection Committee's sole discretion.
- c. The Discretionary Selection Committee will be comprised of two (2) members of the High Performance Staff and one (1) elite athlete representative.

6. Removal from the Team

- a. An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by USAT may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by USAT:
 - i. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USAT High Performance General Manager.
 - ii. Injury or illness as certified by an USAT-approved physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by an USAT-approved 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, USAT rules, Safe Sport, or team travel policies. An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USAT Bylaws Article XV or the USOPC's Bylaws, Section 9.

7. Replacements to the Team

- a. If for any reason a position on the Team shall become vacant, such vacancy shall be filled according to the discretionary criteria, provided that the replacement athlete meets all applicable eligibility criteria, and a replacement is allowed by World Triathlon. In the event that no athlete meets all of the eligibility and discretion selection criteria, or World Triathlon does not allow replacement, the vacancy shall not be filled.

8. Additional Requirements for Selection

- a. All athletes selected to the Team will be required to comply with all applicable rules and requirements of World Triathlon, WADA, USADA, and USAT, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - i. Sign and abide by the USAT's Code of Conduct, team travel policies, any USAT or World Triathlon Waiver or Release, and conform to all USAT policies and protocol regarding Team preparation and participation.
 - ii. Agree not to race any event **longer** than the Olympic triathlon distance (1.5km/40km/10km) up to six (6) weeks prior to the date of the World Championship.
 - iii. Agree to stay in lodging as a team for World Championship. Accommodation arrangements will be coordinated by USAT High Performance staff.
 - iv. **All athletes must comply with World Triathlon Competition Rule 2.4(c), requiring an electrocardiogram (ECG) and pre-participation evaluation (PPE) in order to participate in certain World Triathlon officiated events. Satisfaction of these requirements will be a condition of nomination to participate in this championship.**
 - v. Athletes who wish to compete in Junior, U23, Elite, and Paratriathlon categories at World Triathlon events are required to complete and pass the USAT Safe Sport tutorial as well as any follow up refresher courses. More information about how to access the tutorial can be found here. This tutorial or refresher course needs to be completed once every year. Once you have completed the tutorial, please email the completed .pdf certificate to: juniors@usatriathlon.org and retain a copy for your records.

9. Team Support

- a. USAT will provide staff and/or experienced contractors to serve as Team Leader for this event.
- b. USAT will look for opportunities to decrease the total cost of the trip to World Championships for those attending, by subsidizing lodging, transport, and/or competition fees as possible, but will not be offering full funding for any participant in 2021.
- c. USAT will inform qualified athletes their expected costs involved with this World Championship competition trip upon selection.

10. International Disclaimer

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