The following are the guiding principles that the USA Triathlon (USAT) Olympic Games Selection Procedures Committee (the “Committee”) has established in response to the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games.

The International Triathlon Union (“ITU”), has not yet finalized the Olympic Games “Qualification System,” rather turning critical dates to “TBD” in its latest amendment. This makes it very complicated for USAT to finalize its 2020 Olympic Games Athlete Selection Procedures (the “Procedures”), so in the meantime the Committee will share the principles established that will guide any intended amendments to the Procedures moving forward.

The Committee has:

• Affirmed its intent to adhere to the original method of selection as closely as possible.
• Affirmed that Automatic Selection Event # 1 (2019 Tokyo ITU World Olympic Qualification individual event) was conducted, the results stand, and athletes who earned Automatic Selection from that event will maintain their selection standing.
• Affirmed that Automatic Selection Event # 2 (2020 Yokohama ITU World Triathlon Series individual event), will no longer be considered valid as “Automatic Selection Event # 2”. *(communicated to National Team athletes and coaches via email on 3.27.2020)*
• Affirmed the intent to identify a replacement for the Automatic Selection Event #2, but further clarified that even if the ITU is able to schedule and ultimately host World Triathlon Series (WTS) level events in the Fall of 2020, we will not select any of these potential events in 2020 as our Automatic Selection Event #2. *(communicated to National Team athletes and coaches via email on 4.14.2020)*
• Affirmed the intent to announce a replacement Automatic Selection Event # 2 under the following principles:
  o The event would not occur before March 1, 2021.
  o Preference would be to utilize a potential ITU WTS Yokohama event in spring 2021 if it were to occur in time for the TBD nomination deadline.
  o If the preferred race (ITU WTS Yokohama in spring 2021) was not possible, the Committee would consider a different ITU WTS event in spring 2021 if the course & timing were deemed appropriate.
  o Automatic Selection Event #2 would need to be scheduled as a WTS standard Olympic distance event.
• Affirmed that if no additional ITU events occur (that would normally be included as additional Discretionary Evaluation Events or Automatic Selection Events) and USAT is required to nominate an Olympic Team, the Athlete Selection Procedures are sufficient to be able to nominate the best athletes to the Team in time for the expected nomination deadline, which is TBD. *(see below)*
• The Committee’s intention is to give as much notice as possible to athletes before a future events would be identified as “Automatic Selection Event #2”, or “Discretionary Evaluation Events.”
• Affirmed that when the ITU season resumes, on or after September 4, 2020, in keeping with the original Athlete Selection Procedures, all ITU draft-legal or similar format events (section 1.2.1) may be considered as discretionary evaluation events until the date of nomination, TBD.

Please feel free to provide any feedback by June 15, 2020 to USAT High Performance via hpgm@usatriathlon.org, or to USAT Selection Procedures Committee athlete representatives via elite@usatriathlon.org.

Links to pertinent documents: USAT Olympic Games Athlete Selection Procedures
ITU 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games Qualification Criteria