

## USA Triathlon High Performance

### 2020 Olympic Games Athlete Selection Process Review & Updates

Updated ~~6.1.2021~~ **6.9.2021 - Version 2.0**



The following are details to help athletes and coaches plan, to provide transparency, and to ensure everyone is getting the same information along the way regarding the Olympic athlete selection process. We will update as needed and if additional questions come up, until the Games Qualification process is complete.

#### Quick Review:

- Automatic Selection Event # 1 (**2019 Tokyo ITU World Olympic Qualification**) was completed, the results stand, and one female athlete earned Automatic Selection from that event.
- Automatic Selection Event # 2 (**2021 World Triathlon Championship Series Yokohama**) was completed, and one male and one additional female earned Automatic Selection.
- The Games Athlete Selection Committee (GASC) chose not to execute “early” discretionary nomination on or before May 20, 2021. “Final” Nomination will occur on or before June 18, 2021.
- All events through the end of the Games Selection Period (June 14) are eligible for discretionary evaluation.

#### Final Nomination Process:

- The GASC is scheduled to meet on June 14 & 15 to finalize nomination after receiving the final quota allocation from World Triathlon (expected on June 15).
- The HPGM (as a member of the GASC) will contact all athletes in consideration for nomination before any official announcement is made, likely to be **morning (6-7 a.m. MST) of June 16**.
- Athletes nominated as Replacement Athletes will be informed at that time as well and will be asked if they intend to accept that opportunity.
- Confidentiality will be requested of all athletes during this pre-public announcement period.
- A press **release, Facebook Live event and Media Q&A** is planned for the morning (MST) of June 16 with all nominated Olympic Team athletes. *(details to be finalized)*

#### Nominated Olympic Team athlete expectations:

- Nominated athletes will be requested to participate in the June 16 **Facebook Live event & Media Q&A**, in USA Triathlon attire to be coordinated (*ROKA polo or Descente jacket preferred, 2XU polo/jacket okay if that is all an athlete has available*). **Please plan to be available and ready for on-camera interviews between 9 a.m.-noon MST (likely 10-11:30 a.m. MST, but Caryn is finalizing timeline).**
- Nominated Athletes will receive multiple emails from the Team USA Games Registration Portal and must meet all deadlines in order to participate in the Games.
- Nominated Olympic Team athletes & staff must remain healthy and COVID-19 free throughout the Pre-Games process.
- As per Section 3 of the Selection Procedures, nominated athletes may be replaced before the USOPC submits final entry to Tokyo Organizing Committee for a variety of reasons including injury or illness (including COVID-19). Athletes & staff will be expected to provide a health and wellness report to the HPGM by July 1.

#### Replacement Athlete expectations:

- In addition to the 2-3 Games Team nominations remaining, it is our expectation to nominate 2 men & 2 women to the Athlete Replacement Pool on June 16.
- The procedures discuss the scenarios that could cause a removal of an athlete and replacement, but we want to point out two specific ways replacement athletes can be activated:

- Up until the final submission of entries to Tokyo 2020 (July 5), in case of injury or illness
- As a Late Athlete Replacement for the **Individual and Mixed Relay** event
- **World Triathlon has shared the Late Athlete Replacement plan (LAR), and we are pleased to get confirmation that replacement can be made before the Individual event, and for the Mixed Relay event regardless of how many athletes per gender we have in Tokyo. This provides much more flexibility than was originally presented and helps ensure Nations can start their maximum quota even with illness, injury, or COVID-19 infections or quarantine. Replacement for the Individual event is possible by July 23, and for the Mixed Relay by July 28. Replacement due to COVID-19 may happen by noon the day before each event.**
- It is our intent to have our Athlete Replacement Pool in Tateyama City, Chiba Prefecture arriving **as early as July 21** or July 23 (tbd) and prepared for replacement **immediately if needed for the individual race, and by July 28 for the Mixed Relay**, and to have a Team Leader available for this training environment within a short drive of Tokyo. (travel dates of July 20 or 22, & 31 for the return)
- Replacement Athletes will receive multiple emails from the Team USA Games Registration Portal and must meet all deadlines in order to participate in the Replacement Camp & Games. Nominated Replacement Athletes & staff must remain healthy and COVID-19 free throughout the Pre-Games & Pre-LAR process.
- As per Section 3 of the Selection Procedures, nominated athletes may be replaced before the USOPC submits final entry to Tokyo Organizing Committee for a variety of reasons including injury or illness (including COVID-19). Athletes & staff will be expected to provide a health and wellness report to the HPGM by July 1.

#### **Expected Process timeline:**

- **June 14** - Selection Period closes
- **June 15** - Quotas expected to be distributed to each National Federation. GASC will meet for final nomination process.
- **June 16 – between 6-7 a.m. MST** - HPGM will reach out to all individual athletes on the Long List via phone call about their selection, non-selection, or replacement athlete status (*Final Team to be kept confidential until official announcement*)
- **June 16 – 8 a.m. MST (tentative)** press release announcing nominated Olympic Team
- **June 16 – 10-11:30 a.m. MST (tentative)** **Facebook Live & Media Q&A events** for Games Nominated athletes
- **July 1** – Health & wellness report to HPGM due for all staff, athletes, & replacement athletes.  
*\*more to come on this after nomination is complete*
- **July 5** – Final USOPC entry submission to Tokyo Organizing Committee

#### **Stay COVID-19 Free:**

We are sure you are all 100% on point but we felt it is important to remind you to stay extra vigilant with regard to COVID-19, as getting the virus at this point will surely result in both athletes & staff being excluded from the Games, based on the timeline and the inability to pass all the COVID-19 PCR testing requirements. We are now less than ~~50~~ **40** days out from when athletes & staff will need a 96 hour PCR test before departure for the Games (July 16 is 4 days before July 20<sup>th</sup>).

#### **Updates:**

There is new information all the time, so we will update this document and/or share important updates as needed via email, but as always please reach out if you have questions.