

2020 ITU Junior Continental Cup U.S. Athlete Nomination Criteria

1. Introduction

This protocol determines the order by which USA Triathlon (“USAT”) nominates eligible U.S. athletes (“Eligible Athletes”) for starting positions in International Triathlon Union (ITU) Junior Continental Cups, which includes PATCO Junior Panamerican Cups and ETU Junior European Cups (“event”).

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

- a. Athlete must be eligible under all applicable rules of ITU (www.triathlon.org), the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (www.usada.org), and USA Triathlon.
- b. Athlete must be an annual member in good standing of USA Triathlon.
- c. Athlete must meet the age requirement of event (age 16 to 19 as of December 31, 2020).

3. Nomination Timeline

Athlete must submit his or her name for nomination to ituentries@usatriathlon.org prior to the nomination deadline for the event (typically 35 days). Athletes are encouraged to cc juniors@usatriathlon.org. ITU publishes the start list on or about 32 days prior to the event.

4. Nomination Priorities

- a. Most current ITU World Ranking at the nomination deadline; then,
- b. Most current USAT Junior Elite National Ranking at the nomination deadline.
- c. Notwithstanding 4 (a) and (b) above, for the PATCO Sarasota Junior Pan American Cup, USAT will invite the top 15 age-eligible Junior Elites and the top 15 age-eligible Youth Elites from the 2019 rankings to nominate and will prioritize these athletes ahead of self-nominated athletes holding lower 2019 rankings. Invited athletes must nominate by December 20, 2019 at 11:59pm to receive priority.

USAT High Performance may at its discretion opt not to prioritize its nominations to ITU, whereby the creation of the start list will be per ITU’s rules and discretion.

5. Responsibility for Expenses

Athletes are responsible for ALL expenses associated with their participation in the event, including the cost of an ITU-compliant race uniform. USAT may, at its discretion, provide expense reimbursement based on performance per the USAT Junior Performance Incentives. Athletes are required to adhere to all ITU uniform and equipment rules for this event.

6. Compliance

Athletes are required to comply with all applicable rules and requirements of ITU, WADA, USADA, and USAT, including, but not limited to signing USAT’s Code of Conduct, Safe Sport agreements, and any USAT or ITU Waiver or Release. **Junior athletes must comply with ITU Competition Rule 2.4(c), requiring an electrocardiogram (ECG) and pre-participation evaluation (PPE) in order to participate in certain ITU officiated events. Satisfaction of these requirements is a condition of nomination to participate in the event.**

7. Declared Competition-Training Trips

USAT High Performance may declare an event for use as a competition-training trip. In this instance, athletes selected by USAT High Performance will be prioritized for nomination to ITU before those listed under section 4 above. Declared events for 2020 include, but are not limited to, ETU Kitzbuhel, ETU Tiszaujvaros, and ETU Riga.

8. Withdrawal Penalties

- a. *Withdrawal deadlines*: the ITU withdrawal deadline is 30 days prior to the first competition day in the event program; **the USA Triathlon withdrawal deadline is 31 days prior to the first competition day in the event program (this is the day after the start list is produced)**. If an athlete fails to remove himself or herself from an event by the USA Triathlon withdrawal deadline a penalty will apply.
- b. *Penalties*: If a withdrawal is requested within 31 days of the event (the day after the start list is produced), USA Triathlon will impose the penalties outlined below. In exceptional circumstances (e.g., a new and verified medical impairment or verified extenuating circumstance) penalties may be waived. For this to occur, an athlete must submit a written explanation of their situation with relevant supporting documentation to ituentries@usatriathlon.org. A discretionary panel, with at least 20% athlete representation, will be formed to review the materials and determine if the situation warrants a waiver of the penalty.
 - a. **1st offense**: \$250 fine
 - b. **2nd offense**: \$500 fine
 - c. **3rd offense**: \$1000 fine and ineligible for any ITU event starts for 3 months from the corresponding event date

9. Safe Sport

Athletes who wish to compete in Junior, U23, Elite, and Paratriathlon categories at ITU events are required to complete a Safe Sport tutorial. Information is available at <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Triathlon/USAT-for-Me/Athlete-Resources/SafeSport>

10. Links

USA Triathlon Junior Elite Rankings:
www.usatjuniors.org

ITU Rankings:
<http://www.triathlon.org/rankings>