The goal of the USA Paratriathlon Development Team Program is to identify and develop athletes who show the greatest potential to rise up the athlete development pipeline towards the 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games. This team is composed of athletes with a proven performance capability at the 2017 USA Paratriathlon National Championships and 2017 ITU Paratriathlon World Cups. This program is intended to serve as the first step in the development pathway.

Athletes who have qualified for the Development Team (DT) will be eligible to receive benefits from USA Triathlon (USAT). Upon making the DT, each athlete will receive an application to fill out that includes performance goals, competition calendar, bio information, and coach information. Once these are received by USAT, a conference call will be scheduled to outline expectations and goals in order for an athlete to retain their DT status.

Results achieved at the 2017 USA Paratriathlon National Championships, as outlined below, will be used to determine the DT and will be valid pending results at the 2017 ITU Alanya Paratriathlon World Cup and/or the 2017 ITU Sarasota Paratriathlon World Cup. The tenure on the DT will be until the 2018 USA Paratriathlon National Championships.

To receive any and all benefits available through this program, an athlete must be a current USAT Elite paratriathlete license holder, be internationally or nationally classified according to the national masterlist, be 2020 Paralympic Games eligible and be currently training and competing in sprint distance triathlons exclusively with an objective to qualify for the 2020 Paralympic Games. Commitment to sprint distance triathlons and desire to qualify for the Paralympic Games will be evaluated by USAT as athletes qualify for the team. Travel funding opportunities may be available to DT program athletes throughout the year including, but not limited to, USAT-supported camps and the USAT Elite Athlete Incentive Plan which is available to all paratriathletes and published on the USAT website. USAT benefits are not guaranteed and may not be equally distributed among all athletes.

Team size is limited to 12 athletes at any given time. Each member of the team must sign and abide by the USAT athlete code of conduct.

Athletes currently part of the National Team A, B, and Emerging teams are not eligible for the DT program.

Benefits

**Apparel:** Each member of the DT will receive free USA Paratriathlon apparel. Amount and type is based on available inventory.

**Website Bio Recognition:** Each member of the DT will have their bio and photo appear on the USAT website and be listed as an official member of the USA Paratriathlon Development Team.
Camp Opportunities: Each member of the DT will be considered for high performance and development camps being held at various locations throughout the year.

USAT Coach Stipend: For coaches to be eligible for this stipend, they must be a current USAT certified coach who are developing paratriathletes and facilitating an in-person training environment. An in-person training environment means the coach has face-to-face contact and training sessions with the athlete at least once a month. If an athlete is operating under a remote coaching scenario (i.e. sees the athlete face-to-face less than once per month), USAT will review the situation and decide if this is a good fit for the athlete and what the appropriate stipend amount should be.

International Disclaimer
This criteria is based on International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Paralympic Committee (IPC), Pan American Triathlon Confederation (PATCO), as applicable, and/or International Triathlon Union (ITU) rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the criteria caused by a change in IOC, IPC, PATCO, as applicable, and/or ITU rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Triathlon.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection event listed in this document, the criteria may be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to USAT.

Qualification Criteria
Athletes can achieve a spot on the DT at the 2017 USA Paratriathlon National Championships via the following:

- Be the highest placing USA athlete, not already on the National A, B, or Emerging teams, in each sport class – provided the finish is within 5% of the winner’s time in the respective sport class and the sport class has a minimum of three (3) starters*.
  *For a sport class with less than three starters, discretion by the USAT High Performance Department may be used to nominate someone to the team.

Retaining Development Team Tenure
Once an athlete has achieved the qualification criteria set above, an athlete needs to retain their eligibility on the DT through the 2018 USA Paratriathlon National Championships. This can be done by achieving a performance metric. One (1) metric must to be achieved out of the following:

- Top 5 finish in the ITU Alanya Paratriathlon World Cup - provided the finish was within 5% of the winners result in the sport class and the top 50% of the starting field in the sport class

- Top 5 finish in the ITU Sarasota Paratriathlon World Cup - provided the finish was within 5% of the winners result in the sport class and the top 50% of the starting field in the sport class