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USA Triathlon High Performance 2020 Paralympic Games Athlete Selection Procedures – Guiding Principles

~~6.3.2020~~ 2.18.2021

The following are the guiding principles that the USA Triathlon (USAT) Paralympic Games Selection Procedures Committee (the “Committee”) has established in response to the postponement of the Tokyo 2020 Paralympic Games. The International Triathlon Union (“ITU”), has not yet finalized the Paralympic Games “Qualification System,” rather turning critical dates to “TBD” in its latest amendment. This makes it complicated for USAT to finalize its 2020 Paralympic 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 # 2 (2020 Sarasota PATCO Paratriathlon Championships), will no longer be considered valid as “Automatic Selection Event # 2”. (*communicated to National Team athletes and coaches via email on 5.1.2020*)
- Affirmed the intent to identify a replacement for the Automatic Selection Event #2, but further clarified that we will **not** select any potential events in 2020 as our Automatic Selection Event #2. (*communicated to National Team athletes and coaches via email on 5.1.2020*)
- Affirmed the intent to announce a replacement Automatic Selection Event # 2 under the following principles:
 - The event would not occur before March 1, 2021.
 - Preference would be to utilize a potential Sarasota PATCO Paratriathlon Championships in Spring 2021 if it were to occur in time for the TBD nomination deadline and be hosted in the Sarasota, FL area. If the preference race (Sarasota PATCO Paratriathlon Championships in Spring 2021) was not possible, the Committee would consider a different ITU Para event in Spring 2021 if the course & timing were deemed appropriate.
- ~~Affirmed its intent to consider amending amend~~ section 2.2 to allow for additional race results to be considered.
- Affirmed its intent to amend section 2.2 to consider any head-to-head race results; any relevant and verified training data and results within the previous 12 months; as well as consider efforts by athletes to show commitment to racing when possible and progress towards a worlds best standard performance.
- 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 a Paralympic 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 future events that would be identified as “Automatic Selection Event #2” or “Discretionary Evaluation Events.”

Please feel free to provide any feedback by **February 25, 2021** to USAT High Performance via hpgm@usatriathlon.org, or to USAT Selection Procedures Committee athlete representative via paratriathlon@usatriathlon.org

Links to pertinent documents:

[USA Triathlon Paralympic Games Athlete Selection Procedures](#)

[ITU 2020 Tokyo Paralympic Games Qualification Criteria](#)



Member, U.S. Olympic Committee