

USA Triathlon High Performance 2020 Paralympic Games Athlete Selection Process Review & Updates

6.14.2021



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 Paralympic athlete selection process. We will update as needed and if additional questions come up, until the Games Qualification process is complete.

Quick Review:

- Selection Event # 1 (**2019 Tokyo ITU Paratriathlon World Cup**) was completed, the swim was cancelled, so the race did not count towards any automatic nomination and any results earned by the participants will be considered as part of Discretionary Selection process.
- One (1) athlete per medal event may, but is not required to, be nominated to the team using the Athlete Discretionary Selection #1 criteria. Discretionary Selection #1 may, but is not required, be utilized by the Paralympic Games Athlete Selection Committee (PGASC) before utilizing selection results from Selection Event #2.
- Selection Event # 2 (**2021 Americas Triathlon Para Championships Pleasant Prairie**) to be completed on June 27, 2021; this objective criteria might not be considered for nomination if there are no slots remaining.
- Selection Event #3 (**2019 ITU Paratriathlon World Championships**) was completed and a few athletes achieved this criteria but pending what happens with Discretionary Selection #1 and Selection Event #2, and expected country quota allocation; this objective criteria might not be considered for nomination if there are no slots remaining.
- For the complete details on how someone can earn a slot on the U.S. Paralympic Triathlon team, please visit <https://www.teamusa.org/USA-Triathlon/Elite/Paralympic-Games/2020-Paralympic-Games>.

Final Nomination Process:

- The PGASC welcomes eligible athletes to send any relevant and verified training data and results within the previous 12 months to paratriathlon@usatriathlon.org as it may be taken into account during the selection process. *This is due by June 28 at 12pm (noon) MT.*
- The PGASC welcomes PTVI athletes in contention of being nominated to the team to provide the name of their preferred PTVI guide for the Games to paratriathlon@usatriathlon.org as this will be taken into account during the discretionary selection process. *This is due by June 28th at 12pm (noon) MT.*
- The PGASC is scheduled to meet on June 28 and June 29 to finalize athlete nomination and bipartite slot submission (if applicable), and PTVI guide nomination.
- Bipartite slots are due to World Triathlon/IPC by June 30th.
- Bipartite slots received as well as country quota allocation is expected to be sent to USA Triathlon on July 5th.
- The Director of Paralympic Program (as a member of the PGASC) will contact all athletes in consideration for nomination before any official announcement is made, likely to be the late afternoon of July 5th.
- Athletes nominated as Replacement Athletes will be notified 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 July 6th with all nominated Paralympic Triathlon Team athletes. *(details to be finalized)*

Nominated Paralympic Team athlete expectations:

- Nominated athletes will be requested to participate in the July 6th 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 Paralympic 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 Paralympic Director by August 1st and will also be required to take several COVID tests as provided and paid for by USAT in the lead up and during the pre-Games camp.

Replacement Athlete expectations:

- In addition to nominating the country quota slots USA receives, we may nominate one athlete per medal event to the replacement athlete list. Refer to Section 4 of the Selection Procedures for the replacement of athletes criteria.
- The Selection Procedures discuss the scenarios that could cause a removal of an athlete and replacement, but we want to point out one specific ways replacement athletes can be activated:
 - Up until the final submission of entries to Tokyo 2020 (August 12), in case of injury or illness
- It is our intent to NOT have any replacement athletes with the team at the pre-camp or in Tokyo with the team at this time. If this changes we will update everyone.
- Replacement Athletes will receive multiple emails from the Team USA Games Registration Portal and must meet all deadlines in order to participate in the Games should you be nominated to the team before the replacement deadline.
- Nominated Replacement 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 Paralympic Director by August 1st and may also be required to take several COVID tests as provided and paid for by USAT.

Expected Process timeline:

- **June 28:** Qualification Period closes
- **June 28- June 29:** PGASC will meet for final nomination process
- **June 30:** Bipartite slots due to IPC/World Triathlon
- **July 5:** - Para Director will reach out to all individual athletes on the Long List via phone call (expected to be between 2pm-4pm MT) about their selection, non-selection, bipartite nomination/selection, or replacement athlete status (*Final Team to be kept confidential until official announcement*)
- **July 5:** Quotas and Bipartite slot awards expected to be distributed to each National Federation
- **July 6** – 9 a.m. MST (tentative) press release announcing Paralympic Team **note we will not be announcing the replacement athletes list*
- **July 6** – 10-11:30 a.m. MST (tentative) Facebook Live & Media Q&A events for Games Nominated athletes
- **August 1** – Health & wellness report to Para Director due for all staff, athletes, & replacement athletes. **more to come on this after nomination is complete*

- **August 12** – Final USOPC entry submission to Tokyo Organizing Committee and final deadline for replacement athletes

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 65 days out from when athletes & staff will need a 96 hour PCR test before departure for the Games.

Updates:

We will update this document and/or share important updates as needed via email, but as always please reach out if you have questions.