

Minutes
USA Triathlon Board of Directors
Teleconference
May 5, 2014

Board Members Present:

Barrett Brandon
Susan Haag
Kevin Haas
Dave Kuendig
Jacqueline McCook
Victor Plata
Steven Sexton
Barry Siff, President
Kevin Sullivan
Jack Weiss
Bob Wendling
Mike Wien

Staff: Rob Urbach

Call to order at 8:02 p.m. EST

Sexton joined the meeting at 8:03 p.m. EST

Opening Remarks: Siff discussed the recent Slowtwitch installment report and its prediction of another growth surge, the PATCO Congress in Dallas, and hosting the World in Chicago in June.

Approval of Minutes

Motion (by Weiss and seconded): To approve the 4/4/14 Tempe Meeting Minutes.

Subsidiary Motion (By Sexton and seconded): to amend the Minutes to include Sexton's slide presentation.

Roll Call Vote:

Susan Haag	N
Kevin Haas	A
Dave Kuendig	Y
Jacqueline McCook	N
Victor Plata	Y
Steven Sexton	Y
Kevin Sullivan	N

Jack Weiss	N
Bob Wendling	N
Mike Wien	N

Motion failed Y- 3, N- 6, A - 1

Main motion approved by voice vote.

Treasurer’s Report – Weiss summarized the treasurer’s report circulated before the meeting, including the impact of competition from mud runs, and the decline of youth revenue and membership compared to last year, and decreased sanctions compared to last year.

Office Update – Urbach highlighted that youth sanctioning is up and that youth is growing. Annual membership is at an all-time high which includes total youth participation. 300 Aquabike events. Broadening exposure through media, twitter, he network television show entering production, supersprint, growing sponsorship, increased revenue and operational improvements, Trifecta to drive traffic to WTS event coverage, encouraging coaches, the high performance camp in Scottsdale this Winter and resulting early success this year, staff programing for race production advancement, the Fantasy Camp last weekend for the Foundation Trustees, engaging race directors to encourage annual members, grow membership, maximize revenue, deliver value, and cultivate high performance.

Brandon joined the meeting during the Office Update.

New Business

Strategic Plan – Focus on “Growing Membership” – Siff lead a brief discussion on growing membership.

Region Report – Wien summarized the May 3, 2014 USAT Regional Chair Meeting in Long Beach with the assistance of slides circulated before the meeting focusing on the USAT Mission; USAT Vision, Goals, and Objectives; Regional Best Practices; and Regional requested support.

BoardSource Membership – Wendling discussed USAT’s corporate subscription to BoardSource. It offers some free webinars for individual memberships. That information is located under training and events. The new rate is \$2,500 for a corporate subscription or \$99 per person. Individual membership is a better value for the USAT Board. Interested Board members should contact Sharon Carns to request a membership.

Race Sanctioning – Varied Fees Based on Risk Factors – Sexton initiated a discussion concerning whether USAT insurance rates are based on risks presented, and providing incentives for improved safety.

AAC Report and Recommendations –

Motion (by Plata and seconded): to approve paratriathlon qualification criteria approved by staff and the paratriathlon committee (attached).

Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Plata discussed the Athlete Elections and Appointments changes he circulated just before the meeting commenced.

Motion (Plata and seconded): to approve the proposed changes.

Subsidiary Motion (Plata and seconded) to postpone the vote to an email vote to Governance on Thursday, May 8, 2014. Approved by consensus.

Motion (Wendling and seconded): to approve the three attached Paratriathlon Selection documents. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Unfinished Business

Competitive Rules Changes Resolution (via Rules Harmonization Task Force)

Siff lead a discussion regarding the attached Resolution.

Motion (Siff and seconded): to approve the Article IV changes set forth on the attached Rules Harmonization Resolution and to make the change to 4.10(a) effective January 1, 2015 for Elite athletes and effective January 1, 2016 for non-Elite athletes.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett Brandon	Y
Susan Haag	Y
Kevin Haas	Y
Jacqueline McCook	Y
Victor Plata	A
Steven Sexton	Y
Kevin Sullivan	Y
Jack Weiss	Y
Bob Wendling	Y
Mike Wien	Y

Motion passed Y- 9, N- 0, A - 1

NCAA/Collegiate Advancement Plan –Urbach discussed the Tempe summit, a business presentation to be completed in the next 60 days, and initiating RFPs for various events (i.e. regional events and national championships).

Update on 2015 AGNC/Collegiate Nationals – Urbach discussed the intention to make a presentation at the June meeting concerning the locations being considered.

Legal Opinion Document Discussion – Urbach confirmed that all written legal opinions concerning USAT’s move from California to Colorado have been distributed to Sexton.

Costs Associated with California Litigation – Urbach reported that USAT has incurred \$212,000 in legal fees.

PATCO Congress Budget - Sexton inquired about delegate support expenses within the budget.

Chicago WTS Update – Sexton inquired about race management.

Motion: (by Siff and seconded) to go into Executive Session.

Roll Call Vote:

Barrett Brandon	N
Susan Haag	Y
Kevin Haas	Y
Jacqueline McCook	Y
Victor Plata	N
Steven Sexton	N
Kevin Sullivan	Y
Jack Weiss	Y
Bob Wendling	Y
Mike Wien	Y

Motion passed Y- 7, N- 3

The Board went into Executive Session at 10:53 p.m. EST and returned from Executive Session at 11:10 p.m.

Motion: (by Weiss and seconded) to adjourn. Approved by unanimous voice vote.

Adjourned at 11:11 p.m. EST



2014 Paratriathlon National Championship Qualification Procedures

1. Introduction

The qualification procedures will explain how USA paratriathletes can enter to compete in the USA Paratriathlon National Championship Event. Any athlete that wishes to compete in the National Championship division at the 2014 USA Paratriathlon National Championship must be officially classified and placed in a USA Paratriathlon Category as outlined in USA Triathlon's Competitive Rules. If an athlete does not classify or does not qualify via the time standards, they may choose to race in the PC Open division.

2. Minimum Eligibility Requirements for Consideration

- 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. Paratriathlon Category Classification: Each athlete must be Officially Classified and placed in a USA Paratriathlon Category as outlined in USA Triathlon's Competitive Rules. USA Paratriathlon categories shall be instituted and maintained as follows:

PT1 - Wheelchair users. Includes athletes with comparable activity limitation and an impairment of, but not limited to: muscle power, limb deficiency, hypertonia, ataxia, athetosis that prevent the ability to safely ride a conventional bike and run. Through classification assessment, athletes must have a score of up to 640,0 points. Athletes must use a recumbent handcycle on the bike course and a racing wheelchair on the run segment;

PT2 - Includes athletes with comparable activity limitation and an impairment of, but not limited to, limb deficiency, hypertonia, ataxia and or athetosis, impaired muscle power or range of movement that through classification assessment have a score of up to 454,9 points. In both bike and run segments, amputee athletes may use approved prosthesis or other supportive devices.

PT3 - Includes athletes with comparable activity limitation and an impairment of, but not limited to, limb deficiency, hypertonia, ataxia and or athetosis, impaired muscle power or range of movement that through classification assessment have a score from 455,0 to 494,9 points. In both bike and run segments, the athlete may use approved prosthesis or other supportive devices.

PT4 – Includes athletes with comparable activity limitation and an impairment of, but not limited to, limb deficiency, hypertonia, ataxia and or athetosis, impaired muscle power or range of movement that through classification assessment have a score from 495,0 to 557,0 points included. In both bike and run segments, the athlete may use approved prosthesis or other supportive devices.

PT5 - Total or Partial visual Impairment (IBSA/IPC defined sub-classes B1, B2, and B3): Includes athletes who are totally blind, from no light perception in either eye, to some light perception but unable to recognize the shape of a hand at any distance or in any direction (B1) and partially sighted athletes with a visual acuity of less than 6/60 vision or visual field less than 20 degrees with best corrective vision (B2-B3). One guide is mandatory throughout the race. Must ride a tandem during the bike segment.



3. National Championship Division

The athlete must follow ALL steps (A, B and C) below in order to be eligible to compete in the National Championship division:

- A. Successful completion of a USAT-Sanctioned or ITU-Sanctioned sprint distance triathlon between the following distances:

Swim	Bike	Run
500 meters - 1,000 meters	15 kilometers - 30 kilometers	3 kilometers - 6 kilometers

- B. Within the minimum finishing time noted below:

Gender	General Category	Time
Women	Standing	1:46:56
Women	Seated	1:56:23
Women	Visually Impaired/Blind	1:42:05
Men	Standing	1:31:00
Men	Seated	1:29:28
Men	Visually Impaired/Blind	1:28:55

**Seated means athletes who formally fit into the TRI 1 category or the new PT 1 sport class and live their daily lives in a wheelchair.*

***Standing means athletes who formally fit into the TRI 2, TRI 3, TRI 4, and TRI 5 categories or the new PT 2, PT 3, and PT 4 sport classes and are ambulatory in their daily lives.*

***Visually Impaired/Blind means athletes who formally fit into TRI 6a and TRI 6b category or the new PT 5 sport class and are legally blind.*

- C. The triathlon must be completed in the time frame between May 1, 2013 and August 21, 2014. Registration for the National Championship will close on August 21, 2014.



2014 USA TRIATHLON ITU ELITE PARATRIATHLON WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS SELECTION CRITERIA

Introduction

This document explains how USA Triathlon will prioritize USA athletes for nomination to the International Triathlon Union (ITU) to compete in ITU Elite Paratriathlon World Championships (WCH). It is derived from the current ITU Paratriathlon Events Qualification Criteria and shall be revised by USA Triathlon within seven (7) business days to comply with any material changes by the ITU to the ITU Paratriathlon Events Qualification Criteria. Any changes made by USA Triathlon require approval from the Board of Directors. While USA Triathlon will make changes within seven days, the approval process may take longer.

The ITU determines the qualification criteria for ITU WCH events. Selections to these events are made by the ITU from entries submitted by USA Triathlon. All USA athletes interested in WCH entry are advised to read the ITU Paratriathlon Events Qualification Criteria posted at www.triathlon.org.

Athlete Eligibility

The eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for entry into an ITU WCH Event are as follows:

- Athletes must be a citizen of the United States or be eligible to race for the United States;
- Must hold a current USA Triathlon Annual Membership license through the date of the event;
- Must abide by all USA Triathlon, United States Olympic Committee, ITU, US Anti-Doping Agency and World Anti-Doping Agency anti-doping policies and procedures and be in good standing with these organizations;
- Must have an ITU Review "R", Confirmed "C" classification prior to the USAT deadline
- Must sign the USA Triathlon Nomination Procedure Agreement.

Athlete Nomination Process

All athletes must follow the nomination process set forth by USA Triathlon. No exceptions will be made.

1. Athletes must request entry to a WCH event by written notice to USA Triathlon via paraentries@usatriathlon.org by the USAT entry deadline for that event. No other form of request will be accepted (including email with staff, in person communication, or phone calls).
2. **Deadlines.** USA Triathlon deadlines are 5 pm EST the Wednesday before the ITU deadline. USA Triathlon will continue to enter athletes into the ITU system after the deadline has passed. All nomination requests submitted after the deadline will be handled in the order of which they were received. Please note that after the ITU deadline, the wait list is ordered by date/time of entry to the ITU online system. Entry deadlines for 2014 events are listed on page three (3) of this document.
Note: In the event that the ITU does not post a start list by the 32 day deadline, USAT will continue to enter athletes into the ITU system with no penalty to the athlete.
3. Monday prior to the USA Triathlon deadline, an email reminder about event entries will be sent to athletes who are on the paratriathlon listserv and those who have requested a WPE and/or CCH entry in the current year.
4. USA Triathlon may enter additional athletes as place holders in order to maximize the number of US quota places available. *Place holder is defined as an athlete who has not requested a start to an event by the published USA Triathlon deadline.*
5. Selection to the WCH event will be made by the ITU in accordance with the ITU Paratriathlon Event Qualification Criteria and start lists are expected to be posted 32 days prior to the event.



6. **Substitutions.** Once ITU has created the start list for a WCH event one athlete per sport class may be replaced per the ITU substitution procedure. The purpose of this protocol is to ensure athletes returning from injury, quickly rising up the pipeline, or capable of contributing to a medal performance can be placed on the team to enhance medal opportunities. This substitution process will not be used except in the following cases:
- An athlete who has been placed on the start list as a place holder;
 - An athlete on the start list who is unable to compete due to injury or illness.
- This priority of substitutions will be exercised in the following order:
1. Discretionary nominations in the order of priority identified by the High Performance Department;
 2. Remaining USA athletes based on wait list priority order.
7. **Discretionary Nominations.** In the event substitutions are used, USA Triathlon reserves the right to submit up to one discretionary nomination per sport class for WCH level events. Discretionary nominations will be determined by USA Triathlon High Performance personnel using the Principles of Athlete Selection.
8. **ITU Invitations:** All athletes remaining on the waitlist are eligible for an ITU invitation. The US quota and the sport class maximum quota will not be in consideration in ITU’s awarding of invitations. The ITU invitation panel will decide based on its own discretion. For more about the ITU invitations refer to the ITU Paratriathlon Events Qualification Criteria posted at www.triathlon.org.

Fines and Penalties

USA Triathlon will enforce the nomination and withdrawal policies outlined in this document. If an athlete fails to adhere to these rules they may be penalized according to the fine schedule below. To avoid penalties, athletes must communicate via email (paraentries@usatriathlon.org) their wishes to be removed from the ITU Elite Paratriathlon World Championships consideration list by the USAT deadline dates listed below. Additional penalties may be incurred from the ITU for late withdrawal. Athletes should familiarize themselves with the criteria outlined at www.triathlon.org.

Note: If the race is not fully subscribed (thus not blocking another athlete from gaining a start), and a withdrawal is requested seven days or greater before the WCH, and USA Triathlon does not incur a penalty from the ITU, a fine will not be imposed.

- 1st offense:** \$250 fine
- 2nd offense:** \$500 fine
- 3rd offense:** Ineligible for any ITU event starts for 3 months from race date

ITU and USA Triathlon Entry Deadlines

The ITU is expected to post start lists 32 days prior to the event. The USA Triathlon deadline for all events will be 5pm EST the Wednesday prior to the ITU deadline as noted in the second point of the Athlete Nomination Process above.

*Deadline dates are documented based on the ITU rules and event date. Any deadline date changes will be communicated via the Paratriathlon Monthly Updates.

WCH Event	Event Date	ITU Deadline	USAT Deadline
Edmonton, CAN	August 29	July 28	July 23



2014 USA TRIATHLON ITU WORLD PARATRIATHLON EVENTS AND CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP SELECTION CRITERIA

Introduction

This document explains how USA Triathlon will prioritize USA athletes for nomination to the International Triathlon Union (ITU) to compete in ITU World Paratriathlon Events (WPE) and Continental Championships (CCH). It is derived from the current ITU Paratriathlon Events Qualification Criteria and shall be revised by USA Triathlon within seven (7) business days to comply with any material changes by the ITU to the ITU Paratriathlon Event Qualification Criteria. Any changes made by USA Triathlon require approval from the Board of Directors. While USA Triathlon will make changes within seven days, the approval process may take longer.

The ITU determines the qualification criteria for ITU WPE and CCH events. Selections to these events are made by the ITU from entries submitted by USA Triathlon. All USA athletes interested in WPE and/or CCH entry are advised to read the ITU Paratriathlon Events Qualification Criteria posted at www.triathlon.org.

Athlete Eligibility

Eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for entry into an ITU WPE and/or CCH Event are as follows:

- Athletes must be a citizen of the United States or be eligible to race for the United States;
- Must hold a current USA Triathlon Annual Membership license through the date of the event;
- Must abide by all USA Triathlon, United States Olympic Committee, ITU, US Anti-Doping Agency and World Anti-Doping Agency anti-doping policies and procedures and be in good standing with these organizations;
- Must have a Review "R", Confirmed "C" International Classification status or will have the opportunity to be Internationally Classified by ITU at the event;
- Must sign the USA Triathlon Nomination Procedure Agreement.

Athlete Nomination Process

All athletes must follow the nomination process set forth by USA Triathlon. No exceptions will be made.

1. Athletes must request entry to a WPE or CCH event by written notice to USA Triathlon via paraentries@usatriathlon.org by the USAT entry deadline for that event. No other form of request will be accepted (including email with staff, in person communication, or phone calls)
2. Athletes must have a current performance resume on file with USA Triathlon, sent to paraentries@usatriathlon.org. This performance resume is meant to include relevant performance results and verifiable training data from the prior 12 months.
3. **Deadlines.** USA Triathlon deadlines are 5 pm EST the Wednesday before the ITU deadline. USA Triathlon will continue to enter athletes into the ITU system after the deadline has passed. All nomination requests submitted after the deadline will be handled in the order of which they were received. Please note that after the ITU deadline, the wait list is ordered by date/time of entry to the ITU online system. Entry deadlines for 2014 events are listed on page three (3) of this document.

Note: In the event that the ITU does not post a start list by the 32 day deadline, USAT will continue to enter athletes into the ITU system with no penalty to the athlete.



4. The Monday prior to the USA Triathlon deadline, an email reminder about event entries will be sent to athletes who are on the paratriathlon listserv and those who have requested a WPE entry in the current year.
5. USA Triathlon may enter additional athletes as place holders in order to maximize the number of US quota places available. *Place holder is defined as an athlete who has not requested a start to an event by the published USA Triathlon deadline.*
6. Selection to the WPE and/or CCH event will be made by the ITU in accordance with the ITU Paratriathlon Event Qualification Criteria and start lists are expected to be posted 32 days prior to the event.
7. **Substitutions.** Once ITU has created the start list for a WPE and CCH event one athlete per sport class may be replaced per the ITU substitution procedure. The purpose of this protocol is to ensure athletes returning from injury, quickly rising up the pipeline, or capable of achieving a medal performance can be placed on the team to enhance medal opportunities. This substitution process will not be used except in the following cases:
 - An athlete who has been placed on the start list as a place holder;
 - An athlete on the start list who is unable to compete due to injury or illness.This priority of substitutions will be exercised in the following order:
 1. Discretionary nominations in the order of priority identified by the High Performance Department;
 2. Remaining USA athletes based on wait list priority order
8. **Priority of Nominations.** For elite Paratriathlon ITU events through July 20th, 2014, USA Triathlon will use a discretionary committee to prioritize the USA waitlist. For events after July 20th, 2014, nomination priority to ITU will be in accordance with international Paratriathlon rankings managed by ITU.
 - *Rationale for the use of objective discretion through July 20, 2014:* The announcement of new Paratriathlon categories, a new classification protocol, revised competition rules and a new ranking system have rendered the 2013 ranking criteria obsolete.
 - *Objective discretionary process:* The USAT High Performance Department, in conjunction with and subject to the approval of the Elite Paratriathlon Selection Committee (EPSC), will rank all nominated athletes for each event based on objective performance measures.
 - *Objective discretionary priorities:* The following criteria shall be used for objective discretionary selection. The criteria are listed in no particular order:
 1. Performances at competitive USAT and ITU Paratriathlon events within the prior 12 months;
 2. Current 2014 ITU Paratriathlon Ranking;
 3. Results in competitive USAT-sanctioned sprint-distance triathlons within the past 12 months;
 4. Verifiable individual time trial results in individual disciplines at verified distances similar to those contested in sprint-distance triathlon (750m swim, 20k bike, 5k run)
9. **ITU Invitations:** All athletes remaining on the waitlist are eligible for an ITU invitation. The US quota and the sport class maximum quota will not be in consideration in ITU's awarding of invitations. The ITU invitation panel will decide based on its own discretion. For more about the ITU invitations refer to the ITU Paratriathlon Events Qualification Criteria posted at www.triathlon.org.



Fines and Penalties

USA Triathlon will enforce the nomination and withdrawal policies outlined in this document. If an athlete fails to adhere to these rules they may be penalized according to the fine schedule below. To avoid penalties, athletes must communicate via email (paraentries@usatriathlon.org) their wishes to be removed from the World Paratriathlon Event and or Continental Championship consideration list by the USAT deadline dates listed below. Additional penalties may be incurred from the ITU for late withdrawal. Athletes should familiarize themselves with the criteria outlined at www.triathlon.org.

Note: If the race is not fully subscribed (thus not blocking another athlete from gaining a start), and a withdrawal is requested seven days or greater before the World Paratriathlon event or Continental Championship, and USA Triathlon does not incur a penalty from the ITU, a fine will not be imposed.

- 1st offense:** \$250 fine
- 2nd offense:** \$500 fine
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ITU and USA Triathlon Entry Deadlines

The ITU is expected to post start lists 32 days prior to the event. The USA Triathlon deadline for all events will be 5pm EST the Wednesday prior to the ITU deadline as noted in the second point of the Athlete Nomination Process above.

*Deadline dates are documented based on the ITU rules and event date. Any deadline date changes will be communicated via the Paratriathlon Monthly Updates.

WPE Event	Event Date	ITU Deadline	USAT Deadline
London, UK	May 31	April 29	April 23
Chicago, USA	June 28	May 27	May 21
Iseo-Franciocorta	July 4	June 2	May 28
Magog, CAN	July 19	June 17	June 11
Manaus, BRA	October 11	September 9	September 3

CCH Event	Event Date	ITU Deadline	USAT Deadline
Dallas, USA	June 1	April 29	April 23



USAT PARATRIATHLON PRINCIPLES OF ATHLETE SELECTION

Introduction

USA Triathlon (“USAT”) will be responsible for the nomination and selection of athletes to participate in all high performance events such as the Paralympic Games, Para Pan American Games and International Triathlon Union (“ITU”) Paratriathlon elite events. In fulfilling this obligation, USAT will generally use the principles described in this document. At all times, within the context of the event, USAT will strive to send the best and most prepared team to compete in elite events.

USA Triathlon Elite Paratriathlete Selection Committee

A selection committee will be established by USAT to review and approve discretionary nominations of athletes to ITU Paratriathlon World Events, Continental Championships, World Championships, or other events not including the Paralympics and Para Pan American Games. This committee will be referred to as the Elite Paratriathlete Selection Committee (“EPSC”).

The EPSC will be comprised of three individuals who have expert knowledge of elite paratriathlon. At least one member must be an athlete representative. All EPSC members are required to sign the USAT Conflict of Interest document. EPSC members are also advised to read the USAT Committee Guide which can be found on USAT’s website at <http://www.usatriathlon.org/about-usat/committees.aspx> as well as the principles outlined in this document.

The panel of three members of the EPSC and the Paratriathlon Program Manager, who are void of conflict of interest, shall be convened in a timely manner to review and determine whether to approve a discretionary nomination put forth by the USAT High Performance Department. The nomination will be presented by the Paratriathlon Program Manager.

A decision will be made by majority vote of the committee and a written reasoned decision shall be recorded by USAT and confirmed by the panel.

Conflict of Interest definition: conflict between the private interests and the official responsibilities of a person in a position of trust

Note: The Paratriathlon Program Manager will be an ex-officio/non-voting member of the committee.

Importance of Elite and International Competition

Results in the highest level of ITU competition (i.e. World Championships – “WCH”) will be the benchmark for selection. Whenever possible in the nomination of any athlete to an elite event, performances in WCH events will take precedence over performances in lower level competitions such as WPE or CCH.

USA Triathlon Athlete Selection Criteria

ITU Elite events, Para Pan American Games and Paralympic Games

USAT endeavors to select to ITU Elite Events, ParaPan American Games and Paralympic Games only those athletes who, within the context of the event, are:

1. Medal capable of a top three (podium) result; or
2. Considered to be able medal capable in the near future.

Definitions and Criteria

1. **Medal Capable.** A medal capable athlete is one who has demonstrated the ability to produce a medal winning result by:
 - medal finishes at World Championships within 12 months; with demonstration of continued ability to perform at that level or higher based on performances in recent top level international competition; and/or
 - producing medal capable times under certified conditions within the past 12 months; and/or
 - consistently beating the world's best in recent (past 12 months) international competition with top quality fields; and/or
 - other recent historical performances in international competition that would indicate the athlete is capable of a medal winning performance.

In all cases, the athlete in question must demonstrate that they remain capable of a medal capable performance at the time of selection and the time of the event to which the athlete has been selected.

2. **Future Medal Capability.** A future medal capable athlete is one who:
 - demonstrates a trend of improving performance in international competition that, when extended a reasonable distance into the future, intersects the current international performance standard for the event under consideration; and/or
 - despite being new to the sport or competing for a relatively short time, is within a reasonable percentage, of the international performance standard).
3. **ITU top ranked athletes.** The ITU maintains an individual classification for most ITU triathlon events. An athlete is considered to be top ranked if he or she is among the top three (depending upon the sport class) Americans at the end of the calendar year or at the end of a specified time period.

USA Triathlon Principles of Discretion

Discretionary nominations will be used per the above priorities in the event that positions are available after the application of any automatic criteria.

1. The primary purpose of discretionary athlete nomination is to ensure that:
 - a. In the cases of ITU elite para events and Paralympic Games, USAT has the ability to nominate the best physically, psychologically and technically prepared athlete in order to produce medal winning performances. See definition of "medal capable" above.
 - b. In those cases where the primary importance of the event is subsequent qualification of start positions for Para Pan American or Paralympic Games through the ITU ranking system, to ensure that USAT has the ability to nominate the athlete most likely to be

among the ITU ranked athletes at the end of the calendar year or specified time period that will be used to determine our county ranking.

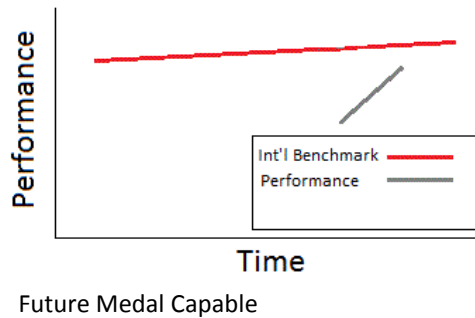
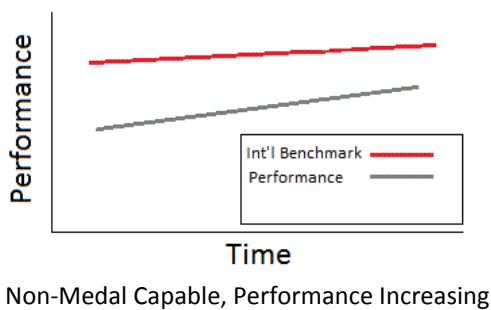
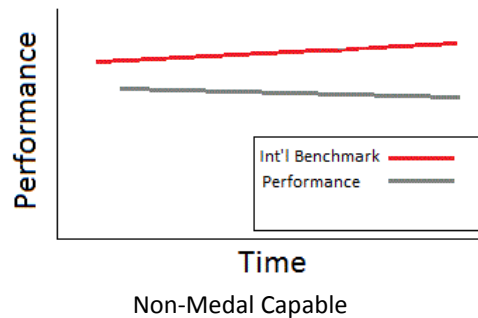
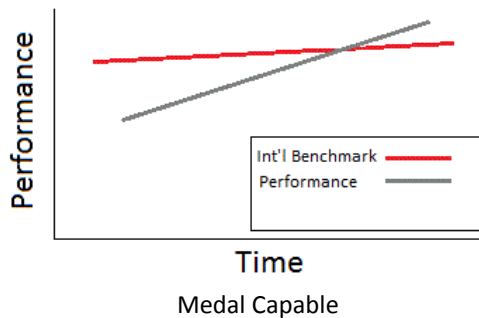
2. The secondary purpose of discretionary athlete nomination is to allow USAT the ability to nominate the best physically, psychologically and technically prepared athlete in order to produce a medal winning performance *in the future* at a given event. See definition of “future medal capability” above, and also continued discussion below.

Discussion of Future Medal Capability

In most situations, athletes who perform consistently at the medal capable level are easily identified. On the other hand, one of the greatest challenges in the talent identification and selection process is discriminating among athletes currently performing below the level of medal capability. Ideally, one would like to identify those athletes who represent an investment in future medal performances over those that do not. In an effort to make such discrimination possible, USA Triathlon has designated performance trends as a key component in the talent identification and selection process. Performance trends are determined by plotting an historical record of a given athlete’s performances on a graph where the x-axis is time (weeks, months, years); and the y-axis is event specific performances (times, place finishes, etc). These graphs can then be used to identify trends in an athlete’s performance in order to predict future performance potential.

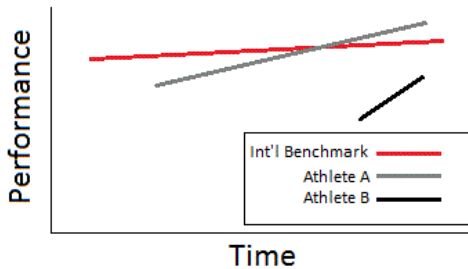
For example, an athlete whose performance is trending up (positive slope) is suggestive of the potential for future improvements in performance. On the other hand, an athlete with a decreasing performance trend (negative slope) or stable trend (zero slop) over time indicates little or no potential for future improvements.

The following graphs illustrate the differences in the performance trends of medal capable and non medal capable athletes:

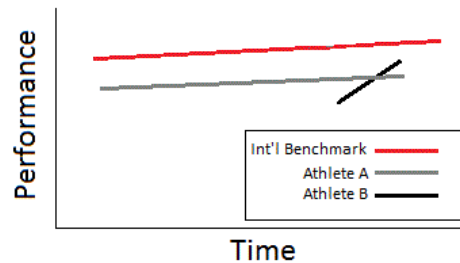


Many factors need to be considered when evaluating athletes with this technique, e.g. length of time over which the trend has been developed, number of years in the sport, slope of the trend, and so on. However, with regard to selection, as stated in the above criteria, it is desirable to preferentially select athletes who demonstrate substantial future ability (positive slope) over those athletes who demonstrate stable or decreasing potential. This is particularly true when extrapolation of the current performance trend over a reasonable period of time (2 to 4 years) indicates the potential to achieve an international medal capable standard.

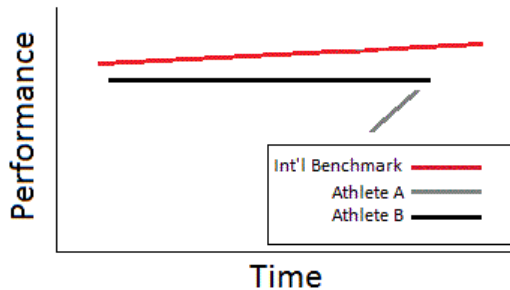
The following graphs illustrate the differences between athletes without future medal capability versus athletes that demonstrate future medal potential:



Athlete A medal capable; Athlete B future medal capable: Select Athlete A



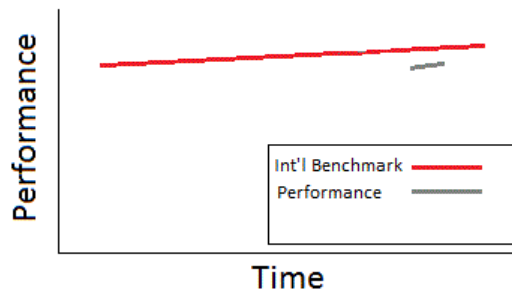
Athlete A not medal capable; Athlete B future medal capable and outperforms A: Select Athlete B



Athlete A not medal capable; Athlete B future medal capable but does not outperform A: Select Athlete B.

Another important consideration in evaluating the future performance potential of an athlete is the relationship of their "time in the sport," i.e., how long have they been competing; their stage of biological development and adaptation; and their current performance level. In the case of an athlete who is new to the sport, there are not enough data points to plot an accurate performance trend. However, if such an athlete is within a reasonable distance of the international benchmark such that when their anticipated physical development and/or their general adaptation response is expected to put them at or over the international medal benchmark, then they may be considered to have future medal capability.

Although the magnitude of the expected improvement in performance is dependent upon many factors, e.g., biological development, body type and etc., it is generally assumed that, without evidence to the contrary, a reasonable performance deficit may be overcome in a reasonable amount of time by an athlete that new to the sport with a greater deficit for an athlete that is biologically immature.



"New" or young athlete; within 5% of international benchmark = future medal capability

This document has been adapted from the USA Cycling Principles of Athlete Selection document that has been so successful in guiding USA Cycling coaching staff in their selection of athletes. Thank you to Jim Miller, Director of Athletics for USA Cycling, for sharing the USAC document and giving permission for this adaptation.

Charter: To review ITU and WTC rules that differ from USAT standard rules, and see whether there is opportunity for "harmonization"

Background: The "Rules Harmonization Task Force" was comprised of Head Officials from USAT and ITU, as well as USAT's Lead ITU Official. In addition, two Elite and two Age Group athletes, with significant USAT, WTC, and ITU race experience were on the Task Force. Meetings were consistently held between November, 2013 and January, 2014.

Financial Impact: None

Relevant & Affected By-Laws and Procedures: 2014 USAT Competitive Rules.

Whereas, the current ITU, USAT, and WTC Competitive Rules contain inconsistencies;

Whereas, a copy of the current USA Triathlon Competitive Rules are attached hereto as Exhibit A;

Whereas, the Board asked this Task Force to investigate potential harmonization changes to USAT's Competitive Rules and to recommend changes to the Board; and

Whereas, the Task Force recommends the following changes to the 2014 USAT Competitive Rules:

Article IV: add:

4.10. Swimwear.

- (a.) Swimwear shall be produced from a woven textile material and shall not contain neoprene.¹
- (b.) Clothing shall not cover any part of the arms below the shoulders and the legs below the knees.²

Any violation of this Section shall result in a variable time penalty.

Article III: At the end of Subsection (n) of Section **3.4 Race Conduct**, after "n. Indecent Exposure. Public nudity at any time during the event is prohibited. Any violation of this Section shall result in a variable time penalty" add:

"Covered torsos are required for male participants at all times while on the course."

Now, therefore, be it:

¹ Effective January 1, 2016

² Effective January 1, 2015

Resolved that USA Triathlon Board vote to accept the above proposed addition of Section 4.10 Swimwear to the 2014 USAT Competitive Rules, and

Resolved that USA Triathlon Board vote to accept the above proposed addition of Subsection (n) of Section **3.4 Race Conduct** to the 2014 USAT Competitive Rules.

Submitted by the Rules Harmonization Task Force
Barry Siff, Chairperson