

USA TRIATHLON
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2016 PARALYMPIC GAMES
February 2, 2015 - Edited October 8, 2015

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team:

1.1.1. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination.

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.2. Minimum International Paralympic Committee (IPC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Paralympic Games must be a national of the country of the National Paralympic Committee (NPC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the IPC Handbook (Section 2, Chapter 3.1)

1.1.3. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation (if any):

At the time of selection an athlete must be internationally classified with either a C-Confirmed sport class status or R-Review sport class status with a review date after December 31, 2016. Current athlete sport class status may be found on the International Triathlon Union (ITU) website at www.triathlon.org.

An athlete must be ranked on the ITU Paralympic Qualification List closing June 30, 2016.

1.1.4. Other requirements (if any):

Athlete must be a member in good standing of USA Triathlon, with a valid Elite Paratriathlete license as of the date of nomination.

1.2. Tryout Events:

- 1.2.1. Provide the event names, dates and locations of all trials, events and camps to be used as part of the selection process.

Selection Event #1- The first selection event will be the ITU Rio de Janeiro World Paratriathlon Event conducted August 1-2, 2015.

~~Selection Event #2-The second selection event will be a sprint-distance, non-draft event to be held between March 1, 2016 and June 30, 2016 (exact dates and location to be determined and posted on the USAT's website at www.usatriathlon.org within 30 days of ITU posting the 2016 Paratriathlon calendar of events).The second selection event will be the CAMTRI Paratriathlon Championships conducted March 12-13, 2016.~~

~~Should force majeure lead to any of the following at CAMTRI Paratriathlon Championships in Sarasota, Florida: cancellation, delay beyond April 4, 2016 or a format change to something other than a swim-bike-run event Selection Event #2 will be: 2016 ITU Yokohama World Paratriathlon Event conducted on May 14-15, 2016.~~

~~If ITU Yokohama World Paratriathlon Event is used as Selection Event #2, then USAT will prioritize athletes to the ITU for the Yokohama event in the same order in which they qualified for the CAMTRI Paratriathlon Championships event.~~

~~If neither CAMTRI Paratriathlon Championships or ITU World Triathlon Yokohama are contested as a swim-bike-run event, there will be no Selection Event #2.~~

Selection Event #3- The third selection event will be the 2015 Chicago ITU World Paratriathlon Elite Event conducted September 15-20, 2015.

- 1.2.2. Provide event names, dates, locations and description of how athletes qualify for the trials, events and camps listed above in 1.2.1. (if any).

Entry to the Selection Events will be made according to one of the following documents: USAT's ITU World Championship Selection Criteria, USAT's ITU World Paratriathlon Event Selection Criteria, or USAT's Paratriathlon National Championship Qualification document.

USAT criteria can be found at www.usaparatriathlon.org.

- 1.3. Provide a comprehensive, step-by-step description of the method that explains how athletes will go through the selection process to become Team nominees (include maximum Team size).

NPC Qualification Slots

- A qualification slot is allocated to the NPC, not to an individual athlete. In the case of Bipartite Commission Invitation the slot is allocated to the individual athlete, not to the NPC.
- An NPC may be allocated a maximum of two (2) qualification slots per medal event for a maximum total of twelve (12) qualification slots. Exceptions may be made via the Bipartite Commission Invitation Allocation method.
- Maximum team size is twelve (12) total athletes with a maximum of six (6) men and six (6) women.

Maximum Entry

- An NPC can enter a maximum of two (2) eligible athletes per medal event.
- Medal events (sport classes) on the Rio 2016 program are as follows:
 - Men: PT1, PT2, PT4
 - Women: PT2, PT4, PT5

Bipartite Commission Invitation Slots

- Bipartite slots are in addition to the NPC Qualification Slots as referenced at the beginning of section 1.3.
- If the IPC/ITU awards a Bipartite slot to the athlete by name, USAT will accept such athlete to the Team provided he or she meets all the eligibility provisions and other requirements set forth in these Procedures. USAT will disclose the name of any athlete named to the Team via Bipartite invitation.

Selection Process

Athletes will be nominated to the team based on the following criteria which are in priority order:

1. The highest placing USA athlete for each respective sport class on the program of the 2016 Rio Games in Selection Event #1 (as defined in section 1.2.1 above) will be nominated to the Team provided the finish is within the top third of race starters in the respective sport class and within 5% of the winner's time in the respective sport class. A maximum of six (6) athletes may be nominated via this criterion.
2. If slots remain following selection criterion number one above, the highest placing USA athlete, not already nominated to the team via criterion one above, for each respective sport class on the program of the 2016 Rio Games in Selection Event #2 (as defined in section 1.2 above) will be nominated to the Team provided the finish is within the top third of race starters in the respective sport class and within 5% of the winner's time in the respective sport class.
3. If slots remain following both selection criteria number one and two above, then the highest placing USA athlete, not already nominated to the Team via criterion one and two above, in Selection Event #3 (as defined in section 1.2.1 above) will be nominated to the Team provided the finish is within the top third of race starters in the respective sport class and within 5% of the winner's time in the respective sport class.
4. If slots remain following selection criteria number one, two, and three above, then the highest placing USA athlete, not already nominated to the Team via criterion one, two, and three above, in the respective sport class in Selection Event #2 (as defined in section 1.2.1 above) will be nominated to the Team.
5. If additional slots remain following the selection criteria implemented above then the highest ranked USA athlete(s), not already nominated to the Team via criterion one, two, three, or four, per sport class, on the program of the 2016 Rio Games, on the ITU Paralympic Qualification List as of June 30, 2016, will be nominated to the Team.
6. In the event of a tie via criterion five above, head to head finishing times will be used to determine the winner of the tiebreaker. The athlete with a finishing time closest to the sport class winner at Selection Event #1 (as defined in section 1.2.1 above) will be nominated to the Team. If both athletes did not race in Selection Event #1 (as defined in section 1.2.1 above) then the athlete with a finish time closest to the sport class winner at Selection Event #2 (as defined in section 1.2.1 above) will be nominated to the Team. If both athletes did not race at Selection Event #2 (as defined in section 1.2.1 above) then the athlete with a finish time

closest to the sport class winner at Selection Event #3 (as defined in section 1.2.1 above) will be nominated to the Team. If both athletes did not race at Selection Event #3 (as defined in section 1.2.1 above) then the athlete with the highest aggregate ITU Paralympic Qualification List point total as of June 30, 2016 will be nominated to the Team. Should more than one athlete be tied in their aggregate point total, the tie will be broken in the following priority order:

- Highest individual event score contributing to the aggregate total above
- Second highest individual event score contributing to the aggregate total above
- Third highest individual event score contributing to the aggregate total above

Guide Athletes: Guide athletes will be selected to the Team utilizing the discretionary criteria for guide athletes as set forth in Section 2.2 below.

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

2.1. Provide rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any):

Guide Athletes

Guide athletes are used for the PT5 sport class (visually impaired). A guide athlete will typically work with one athlete during practice and competition; therefore accreditation allocation is typically provided for one guide athlete per qualified PT5 athlete.

2.2. List the discretionary criteria and explain how they will be used (if any):

The USA Triathlon Discretionary Selection Committee will consider the following performance-related factors (which are not in priority order) in selecting guide athletes to the Team:

- Preference of the qualified visually impaired athlete.
- Ability to positively affect the performance of the visually impaired athlete.
- Demonstrated expertise of the guide athlete.
- Knowledge and understanding of the ITU Competition Rules pertaining to guide athletes.

Guide athletes will be held to the same standards and code of conduct as outlined in these Procedures.

The guide athlete position is contingent on the selection of the visually impaired athlete to be guided. If the visually impaired athlete declines his/her selection or is subsequently removed from the Team following nomination, then the guide athlete will also be removed from the Team.

- 2.3. Provide the name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, along with a complete list of the members' titles currently serving on the committee:

USAT Elite Paratriathlon Selection Committee *

Amanda Duke Boulet	USAT Paratriathlon Program Manager
Tricia Downing	Former Elite Paratriathlete
Joan Murray	Paratriathlon Development Coordinator
David Kyle	Athlete Representative

*any individual who is unable to serve on the committee for whatever reason will be replaced accordingly with an assurance that at least one member remains an Athlete Representative

- 2.3.1. Specify the process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee.

Any member of the Selection Committee who has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. If such conflict exists, the Selection Committee member must recuse him/herself from committee discussions and voting. Further, the committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the nomination process. However, a committee member who recused him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, may, if requested by the Selection Committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the committee member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to acceptance of nominations by the USOC, USA Triathlon has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by USA Triathlon may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Triathlon:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USA Triathlon CEO/Executive Director.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Triathlon. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by USA Triathlon, his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Violation of USA Triathlon's Code of Conduct (Attachment A).
- 3.1.4. Re-classification by the IPC/ITU such that the athlete's qualifying performance would not have qualified him or her for the Team.
- 3.1.5. Removal by the IPC/ITU of the event in which the athlete qualified for the Team from the program of the 2016 Paralympic Games.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per USA Triathlon's Bylaws (Article XV) and the USOC's Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once an athlete nomination is accepted by the USOC, the USOC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable USA Triathlon Code of Conduct, the USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures apply. The USOC's Code of Conduct and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

<http://www.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman/Games-Info>

- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IPC, WADA, ITU, USADA and/or USOC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as applicable.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- 4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:
 - 4.1.1. Prior to submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

The next athlete who qualifies via the procedures outlined in Section 1.3 will be the replacement athlete.

- 4.1.2. After submission of Entries by Name to the Local Organizing Committee, including any applicable group or committee:

The next athlete who qualifies under Section 1.3 will be the replacement athlete.

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

USA Triathlon will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the USOC Code of Conduct, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Paralympic Games and are included as attachments: USAT Elite Athlete Code of Conduct (Attachment A)

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by USA Triathlon in the following locations:

- 7.1. USA Triathlon Web site: These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOC at: www.usatriathlon.org
- 7.2. NGB Official Publication: USA Triathlon Magazine
- 7.3. USA Triathlon's monthly Paratriathlon update e-mail

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

The Nomination of Athletes form, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOC on or before: July 26, 2016.

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

Athletes may be required to attend a pre-Games Camp to be held at a venue to be announced. Written announcement of the pre-Games camp will be posted on the USAT website (www.usatriathlon.org) at least 90 days before the commencement of the camp.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IPC, WADA, ITU, USADA and USOC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IPC, WADA, ITU, USADA and USOC Rules, as applicable.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

USAT Paralympic Games Selection Procedures Committee

Travis Ricks	Athlete Representative
Victor Plata	USAT Board of Directors
Jon Beeson	USA Liaison to the ITU Paratriathlon Committee
Andy Schmitz	USAT High Performance General Manager
Amanda Duke Boulet	USAT Paratriathlon Program Manager

12. NGB/HPMO BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The USA Triathlon Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:
<http://www.usatriathlon.org/about-usat/governance.aspx>

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IPC, as applicable, and/or ITU rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a

change in IPC, as applicable, and/or ITU rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to USA Triathlon. However, the selections are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures will be revised, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOC.

14. ATHLETE OMBUDSMAN

Athletes who have questions regarding their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USA Triathlon may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman by:

- Telephone at (719) 866-5000
- Email at athlete.ombudsman@usoc.org
- <http://www.teamusa.org/For-Athletes/Athlete-Ombudsman.aspx>

15. NGB/HPMO SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by USA Triathlon.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
NGB/HPMO President or CEO/Executive Director	Rob Urbach		11/28/15
Nat. Team Coach, Head Coach, or Nat. Program Director	Amanda Duke Boulet		11/24/15
USOC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Sarah Reinertsen		11/23/15