



2015 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 Elite Paratriathlete 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 2015 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. Should USAT use a substitution, they will notify the placeholder and the substitute prior to the substitution via email. 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 and approved by the EPSC in accordance with the Principles of Athlete Selection. This can only occur at maximum of 6 times per event.
 2. Remaining USA athletes based on ITU Ranking
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
Chicago, USA	September 18-20	August 17	August 12