



TRIATHLON

AUSTRALIA

SELECTION POLICY

- **ITU CONTINENTAL CUPS**
 - **ITU WORLD CUPS**
- **ITU WORLD SERIES EVENTS**
- **ITU WORLD SERIES GRAND FINAL – AUCKLAND,
NEW ZEALAND (20-22 OCTOBER, 2012)**

A. INTRODUCTION

1. This policy details the process and criteria by which Triathlon Australia (TA) will select athletes as part of its TEAM to compete at:
 - ITU Continental Cups 2012 (**CCs**); including Oceania Championships
 - ITU World Cups 2012 (**WCs**)
 - ITU World Series Events 2012 (**WS Events**)
2. The ITU determines eligibility criteria and competition rules for CC, WC, WS Events and WS Grand Final. Under the current criteria and rules, entry to CCs WCs, WS Events and WS Grand Final is accepted only through nomination from the National Federation (TA in Australia).

Athletes cannot enter CCs, WCs, WS Events and WS Grand Final other than through TA.

3. This Policy can be amended at any time by TA if TA is of the opinion that such an amendment is necessary for any of the following reasons:
 - as a result of any change in ITU eligibility criteria or rules;
 - as a result of any change in the rules governing a particular race/event;
 - to give effect to the policy following discovery of a drafting error or oversight;
 - to clarify any ambiguity or otherwise give effect to the intended meaning of the Policy; or
 - any other reason determined by TA to be in the best interests of TA.

TA shall not be responsible or liable in any way to anyone as a result of any such amendment.

Eligibility for Selection under this Policy - General Provisions

4. The Schedules and any other document referred to in this document form part of the Selection Policy/Criteria.

5. Selection according to the terms of this Policy will not qualify an athlete for participation in a CC, WC, a WS Event or the WS Grand Final if the athlete is not eligible according to the ITU Eligibility Rules applicable to CC, WC, WS and WS Grand Final.
6. The Eligibility Rules, including quota positions, for all Events covered by this Policy can be accessed through the ITU website at www.triathlon.org.
7. It is each individual athlete's responsibility to understand the Eligibility Rules applicable to the events covered by this Policy. Any queries in relation to eligibility should be directed to the TA National Performance Director (**NPD**).
8. In addition to qualifying according to all of the ITU Eligibility Rules, in order to be eligible for selection for any of the events covered by this Policy an athlete **must**:
 - a) Be a current TA professional licence holder.
 - b) Be in good standing with TA and his/her State or Territory Triathlon Association.
 - c) When requested to do so by the NPD, sign and comply with the terms of the TA High Performance Squad Agreement (2012).
9. In order to be eligible for selection for any WC, WS and WS Grand Final covered by this Policy an athlete must also submit their proposed competition program for 2012 (2012 Competition Schedule) for the approval of NPD by 17 February, 2012.

Each athlete's 2012 Competition Schedule must include all proposed competitions for the calendar year, not only those covered by this Policy, and **must** be approved and signed off by the NPD. Approval of a 2012 Competition Schedule may be by consultation with the athlete and/or his/her personal coach and the NPD. If agreement cannot be reached, the final decision will be made by the NPD at his absolute discretion. Once approved, 2012 Competition Schedules may not be amended unless with the express written approval of the NPD.

For the avoidance of doubt, athletes whose 2012 Competition Schedule is not approved by the NPD by 24 February 2012 (or such later date with the express written permission of the NPD) are ineligible for selection under this Policy unless they have obtained written consent from the NPD.

Eligibility for Nomination under this Policy (WC and WS Events only)

10. To be eligible to nominate for consideration of selection in a WC or WS Event athletes must have achieved the following criteria 40 days prior to the relevant event:

- a) WS Events: Top 75 on the ITU Points Ranking; or minimum of one podium finish in a WC race within the last 12 months.
- b) WC: Top 125 on the ITU Points Ranking; or minimum of one podium finish in a Continental Cup race within the last 12 months.

At times, the TA Elite Selection Committee (TAESC) may 'invite' athletes that do not fulfil the above criteria to nominate for a particular race. These invitations will be made at the discretion of the TAESC.

For the avoidance of doubt, nominations from athletes who do not fulfil the above criteria or have not been invited to nominate will not be accepted.

B. TA SELECTION CRITERIA ITU CC EVENTS

- 1. The top seven (7) ranked athletes as per ITU Points List as of 40 days prior to the first day of competition of the relevant CC, will receive automatic nomination.
- 2. Following allocation of automatic selections according to clause B1 above, the next three (3) positions will be selected at the discretion of the TAESC. This discretion is absolute and need not be exercised.
- 3. For all remaining positions that have been allocated by the ITU, the TAESC will select athletes according to their ranking on the ITU Points List as of 40 days prior to the first day of competition of the relevant CC.

C. TA SELECTION CRITERIA ITU WCs AND WS EVENTS

- 1. For the purposes of selection for WCs and WS Events athletes will be classified as follows:
 - a) "Tier 1 athletes", being the holders of 2012 Tier 1 AIS scholarships or athletes classified as National Level Tier 1 athletes by the TAESC.
 - b) "Tier 2 athletes", being the holders of 2012 Tier 2 AIS scholarships or athletes

classified as National Level Tier 2 athletes by the TAESC.

- c) "Tier 3 athletes", being the holders of 2012 Tier 3 AIS scholarships or athletes classified as National Level Tier 3 athletes by the TAESC.
 - d) "Pool athletes"- being all athletes who are eligible to nominate according to Clause A10 of this Policy and have nominated for a particular event covered by this Policy that are not Tier 1, Tier 2 or Tier 3 athletes.
2. Announcement of 2012 Squads will be in February 2012 and will be reviewed in the week starting 30 April 2012.

Automatic Selection

3. Tier 1 athletes will be automatically selected in all WS Events, and up to a maximum of two (2) WCs¹, provided those events (both WC and WS Events) are part of the athlete's 2012 Competition Schedule approved according to clause A9. This selection is subject to the athlete satisfying the requirements of form and fitness as set out in clause K and complying with the ongoing obligations of the terms of the TA High Performance Squad Agreement (2012).
4. Tier 2 athletes will be automatically selected in the first two (2) WS Events and first three (3) WCs of the year, provided that the WS Events and WCs are included in the 2012 Competition Schedule as approved according to clause A9. This selection is subject to the athlete satisfying the requirements of form and fitness as set out in clause K, meeting the ITU eligibility requirements, and complying with the ongoing obligations of the terms of the TA High Performance Squad Agreement (2012).
5. Tier 3 athletes who are eligible according to ITU entry criteria will be automatically selected in the first (1) WS events and first three (3) WCs of the year, provided that the WS Events and WCs are included in the 2012 Competition Schedule as approved according to clause A9. This selection is subject to the athlete satisfying the requirements of form and fitness as set out in clause K, meeting the ITU eligibility requirements, and complying with the ongoing obligations of the terms of the TA High Performance Squad Agreement (2012).

¹ If Tier 1 athletes nominate more than two (2) proposed WC they must indicate which two (2) of those WCs are their priority for automatic selection by operation of B3.

6. Athletes who apply for events outside of the criteria listed in clauses C3, C4 or C5 will be placed in the "Pool" for those events and selected according to the operation of clause C9 below.
7. If for any particular WS Event or WC there are more athletes with automatic selection rights by operation of C3, C4 and C5 above than there are places in that event according to ITU Eligibility Rules, then only Tier 1 athletes will retain their automatic selection rights for that event. Tier 2 and Tier 3 athletes who have nominated for that event will, for the purposes of that event only, be regarded as "Pool athletes" and the selection of any Tier 2 or Tier 3 athlete for that event will be by operation of clause C9 (at the discretion of TAESC).
8. Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 athletes who alter their 2012 Competition Schedule after 17 February 2012 to include additional events (either WCs or WS Events) will have no right of automatic selection in relation to the additional or new events. For the additional or new events, Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 athletes will be subject to the nomination procedure set out in clause C9 and for those additional or new events, they will be regarded as "Pool athletes" as set out in clause C1.

Selection at the Discretion of TAESC

9. Any remaining places in a WC or WS Event after the allocation of automatic selections according to the operation of clauses C3, C4 or C5 above will be made at the discretion of TAESC. This discretion is absolute and it need not be exercised, and applies to nominations from athletes of all Tiers.
10. The TAESC reserves the right to use the ITU WS Event or WC substitution rules in order to maximise the potential of any athlete selected gaining a starting position in a relevant event by nominating the highest ranked Australian athlete not selected for that event and making the substitution according to the rules.
11. The TAESC reserves the right to select the Triathlon Australia team for the ITU Teams World Championships from any athlete that has been selected for any ITU WC or WS event. This team will be announced before the 22nd August, 2012.

D. PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATION TO TA FOR SELECTION IN ITU CCs

1. Each athlete will be responsible to nominate to TA at a minimum 45 days prior to the CC. TA will NOT be responsible for requesting nominations from athletes.
2. All positions will be selected by TAESC according to the terms of clause B on or about 40 days prior to the first day of competition of the relevant CC.
3. The NPD is then responsible for entering the selected athletes with the ITU by the required date.

E. PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATION TO TA FOR SELECTION IN ITU WCs AND WS EVENTS

1. Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 athletes who have received automatic selection and had their 2012 Competition Schedule approved by NPD according to the operation of clause A9 are not required to nominate for WCs and WS Events, provided that those Events are set out in the 2012 Competition Schedule. They are required to confirm their nomination when requested.
2. Nominations from eligible "Pool athletes" for WCs and WS Events will be requested via email from Triathlon Australia between 6-8 weeks prior to race date.
3. Athletes will have five (5) days to respond via email to the identified person indicating their desire to start the WC or WS Event.
4. Athletes will be ranked by the NPD according to ITU Eligibility Criteria and the Selection Criteria set out in this Policy. Automatic selections according to the operation of clauses C3, C4 and C5 will be identified by the NPD.
5. All remaining positions are selected by TAESC according to the terms of clause C9 on or about 40 days prior to the first day of competition of the relevant WC or WS Event.
6. The NPD is then responsible for entering the selected athletes with the ITU by the required date.

F. CONFIRMATION OF SELECTION IN CC, WCs and WS EVENTS

1. Athletes selected for CC, WC or WS Events in 2012, **including those automatically selected by operation of C3, C4 or C5**, must confirm with TA their acceptance of the starting position of the relevant CC, WC or Event within 72 hours of notification according to the terms of this

policy. This needs to be done via email to the NPD or his delegate.

Failure to do so, may, at the discretion of the NPD, result in the relevant athlete's starting position being forfeited in favour of the next eligible athlete selected according to the terms of this Policy.

Penalty for Withdrawal from CC, WCs or WS Events after Confirmation of Selection

2. Any athlete withdrawing from a CC, WC or WS Event once nominated to the ITU 30 days prior to the event must contact the NPD directly and provide legitimate health or musculo-skeletal injury reasoning. The NPD reserves the right to request supporting evidence from a medical practitioner to support an athlete's health or musculo-skeletal issue.

Athletes should note that according to current ITU rules, withdrawal from an ITU WS Event within the 30 days prior to the event will attract penalties both on the athlete withdrawing and TA. The penalties are ineligibility for the athlete for the next two WS Events and a loss of a quota position (if it is the second withdrawal by TA athlete within the 30 day period) for the next two WS Events.

Any athlete who has confirmed their selection in a particular event as set out in this Policy and subsequently withdraws from that event for a reason that is not justified in the reasonably held opinion of the NPD will be subject to a fine to be determined by TA.

Both the fine and any expenses to be repaid to TA as set out above must be made within 30 days of written communication to the athlete by the NPD. Failure to pay any fine and/or expenses by the required time may result in the athlete facing further disciplinary proceedings at the discretion of TA.

G. TA SELECTION CRITERIA - WS GRAND FINAL - AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND (20-22 OCTOBER 2012)

1. Athletes who have gained the following performances in WS Events in the 2012 season will be given automatic nomination to the WS Grand Final:
 - a) One (1) Top 3 Result;
 - b) Two (2) Top 10 Results; or
 - c) Three (3) Top 25 Results.

2. This selection is subject to the athlete satisfying the requirements of form and fitness as set out in clause K and complying with the ongoing obligations of the terms of the TA High Performance Squad Agreement (2012).
3. All other positions in TA's TEAM for the WS Grand Final will be selected at the discretion of TAESC. This discretion is absolute and need not be exercised. Without in any way limiting the discretion of the TAESC, the TAESC will consider the following matters in relation to any athlete under consideration for selection:
 - a) History of performances in World Series (WS) and World Cup (WC) Races.
 - b) Current form in races over the Olympic Distance run according to ITU rules.
 - c) Compatibility with the specific demands of the 2012 WS Grand Final course in Auckland, New Zealand. Those specific elements being:
 - i. Cold conditions (including wetsuit swim); and
 - ii. Hilly and technically challenging bike leg.
 - d) Ability to take directions from the Head Coach and NPD for the purpose of achieving the best possible result for the TEAM.
 - e) An athlete's individual strengths that may enhance Australia's medal potential.
 - f) Any matter that in the opinion of the TAESC is relevant to achieving the objectives of the High Performance Program.
4. The TAESC reserves the right to use the ITU WS Grand Final substitution rules in order to maximum the potential of any athletes selected in the WS Grand Final by nominating the highest ranked Australian athlete not selected for that event and making the substitution according to the rules.
5. The TAESC will make its recommendations in relation to WS Grand Final TEAM members to the TA Board. The TA Board may:
 - a) Accept the recommendations of the TAESC; or
 - b) Request that the TAESC reconsider its recommendations and provide them again to the TA Board, providing reasons for this request to the TAESC.

Responsibility for final selection of the WS Grand Final TEAM rests with the TA Board.

H. PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATION TO TA FOR SELECTION IN WS GRAND FINAL

1. Nominations from all athletes for selection in TA's TEAM to the ITU WS Grand Final will be requested by email from TA between 6-8 weeks prior to each Event.

2. Athletes will have 5 days to respond via email to the identified person indicating their desire to be selected in TA's TEAM.

I. CONFIRMATION OF SELECTION IN TA's TEAM FOR ITU WS GRAND FINAL

1. Athletes selected for ITU WS Grand Final for 2012 must confirm with TA their acceptance of the starting position within 72 hours of notification according to the terms of this policy. This needs to be done via email to the NPD or his delegate.

Failure to do so, may, at the discretion of the NPD, result in the relevant athlete's starting position being forfeited in favour of the next eligible athlete selected according to the terms of this Policy.

2. Any athlete withdrawing from the WS Grand Final once nominated to the ITU according to the event participation rules is subject to the same penalties from TA as set out in clause F2.

J. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE TEAMS – ITU WS GRAND FINAL

1. TA's Team to WS Grand Final will be announced on or about the week beginning 3 September 2012.

K. SELECTION CONDITIONAL - CONTINUING FORM, FITNESS AND MEDICAL ASSESSMENT OBLIGATIONS

1. All athletes given automatic selection into WS Events, WCs, CCs, or WS Grand Final TEAM according to the terms of this Policy are selected subject to TA's continuing form, fitness and medical assessment obligations which are set out on the TA High Performance website at www.taahp.org.au under the tab "Selection" sub-tab "TA Standard Event/TEAM Representation Continuing Form Fitness and Medical Assessment Obligations".
2. Any athlete selected in aTEAM who fails to meet any of the obligations set out in "TA's Standard Event/Team Representation Continuing Form, Fitness and Medical Assessment Obligations" may at the discretion of the NPD be removed from the TEAM.

L. APPEALS

The appeal process applicable to selection for ITU CCs, WCs, WS Events and WS Grand Final (covered by this Policy) is to be found on TA High Performance Website at www.taahp.org.au under the heading "Selection - Appeals".

Triathlon Australia

1st February 2012