

ACHIEVEMENT



ENJOYMENT



Paratriathlon

All of Sport Paratriathlon Framework

RESPECT



BELONGING



HEALTH



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1. PURPOSE

Providing opportunities for people with disabilities at all levels in the sport is of utmost importance to Triathlon Australia (TA) and to our State and Territory Triathlon Associations.

The purpose of the All of Sport Paratriathlon Framework is to guide and inform all Triathlon Australia and State and Territory Triathlon Associations Strategic and Operational Plans. This will ensure sustainable, well-resourced outcomes that encourage and facilitate integrated participation by people with disabilities, provide quality development pathways and the delivery of high performance targets.

2. SUMMARY OF THE FRAMEWORK

At the centre of the framework are Triathlon Australia's core brand values: Respect – Health – Enjoyment – Belonging – Achievement. These values should be used to inform the practical implementation of the framework.

The framework has three distinct pillars:

- a) Participation – participation by any person with disabilities in any event from entry level to Iron Man
- b) Paratriathlon - Triathlon Australia sanctioned National Qualifying Events (Paratriathlon) and ITU sanctioned International Paratriathlon Events
- c) Paralympic Games

Each pillar requires the application of different principles.

- a) Participation
 - Triathlon is inclusive of all individuals and all levels of participation, from entry level to Iron Man.
 - The safety of all participants and officials is paramount.
 - Acknowledges the complexity and difficulty of achieving inclusion for everyone – it will not be possible for every individual in all events.
 - Supports cooperation to identify alternative ways of achieving inclusion and/or alternative opportunities if inclusion is not initially achievable.
 - The participant and the race organiser share responsibility to communicate with each other to find individual solutions if needed and where possible.
- b) Paratriathlon - Triathlon Australia sanctioned National Qualifying Events (Paratriathlon) and ITU sanctioned International Paratriathlon Events
 - Full implementation of ITU Rules and Regulations, including for classification and equipment – this will exclude some individuals.
 - Pinnacle competition is the ITU World Paratriathlon Championships
 - Forms a significant component of the Paralympic pathway.
 - Has many similarities to ITU Age Group competition.
- c) Paralympic/High Performance
 - Only for the events/classes identified for Paralympic Games competition.
 - Medal winning and potential medal winning (within 2 cycles) athletes only.
 - Dependant on the final definition from the ITU may include the ITU Elite Paratriathlon World Championships.

3. BACKGROUND

Triathlon is a multidisciplinary endurance sport that challenges athletes to a continuous race over three disciplines. The sport is designed to embrace as many athletes as possible, while testing a variety of key skills.

People with disabilities currently participate in all forms of triathlon, from full ironman to mini and taster events. The ITU Paratriathlon event, conducted at the World Championships and included in the Paralympic Games from 2016 comprises 750m of swimming, followed by 20km of cycling and 5km of running. Depending on the disability, an athlete may use a handcycle, tandem bicycle or bicycle on the bike course, while wheelchairs are permitted for some on the run.

Formal classification is required for people with disabilities to participate in identified national calendar events and ITU competitions. Classification is NOT required for any other form of participation.

The ITU is developing a new and evidence-based classification system for ITU Paratriathlon competition from 2014 on. (Note once confirmed the new classes will be included here).

4. INCLUSION INTO THE PARALYMPIC GAMES

In 2010 the International Paralympic Committee agreed to the inclusion of paratriathlon into the Paralympic Sport Program. Paratriathlon will make its first appearance at the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games.

In July 2013, the IPC announced that Paratriathlon has been awarded six (6) medal events and a total of 60 quota positions for athletes for the 2016 Rio Paralympic Games. The ITU are currently working through a process to determine the events within the quota allocation and the qualifying criteria. This is anticipated to be considered for approval by the IPC in November 2013.

5. TRIATHLON AUSTRALIA VALUES

Triathlon has five simple values which inform and underpin all programs:

Health:

All members of our triathlon community, beginners, age groupers and elite, including people with disabilities; are able to compete in the sport in a manner which promotes health and wellbeing

Enjoyment:

All members of our triathlon community are able to be involved in the sport in a manner which provides enjoyment and is free from discrimination.

Belonging:

All members of our triathlon community are able to experience a sense of belonging in a sport which is inclusive, welcoming and supportive of lifelong involvement.

Achievement:

All members of our triathlon community have the opportunity to achieve to whatever level they aspire within the sport as a competitor, support personnel, volunteer or administrator.

Respect:

All members of our triathlon community treat each other with respect, acknowledging differences of ability and encouraging differences of opinions.

6. GOVERNANCE

The Board of Triathlon Australia are responsible for the development, maintenance and implementation of this framework and its constituent programs and policies.

The Framework will be managed from an operational perspective by the Chief Executive Officer and implemented by the following staff members:

- National Manager, Participation and Membership
- National Manager, Paratriathlon
- National Manager, Events and Technical
- National Manager, Coaching
- National Performance Director,

Specific responsibilities relevant to the participation of people with disabilities in triathlon events will be included in the Operational Plans assigned to the staff members.

The TA Paratriathlon Committee appointed by the board of TA is responsible for monitoring the implementation of the Framework.

The currency and relevance of the Framework will be ensured by maintaining close relationships and information sharing with partner organisations including:

- The Australian Paralympic Committee
- The Australian Institute of Sport
- The Australian Sports Commission
- The State Institute of Sport and State Academies of Sport Network
- State and Territory Triathlon Associations
- The International Triathlon Union

7. ITU COMMITMENT

The ITU has supported the development of paratriathlon for over 15 years and is committed to the continuing development of paratriathlon through the establishment of the ITU Paratriathlon Committee. The goals of the ITU Paratriathlon Committee are:

- To oversee the development of paratriathlon within the triathlon community by growing participation at all levels, building a pathway to, developing, elite performance, evolving events and building profile.
- To upholding ethical principles and fair play at all times including moving towards evidence based assessment of Classification.
- To work with the IPC in preparation for the debut of Paratriathlon in the Paralympic Games in Rio de Janeiro in 2016, and to foster the growth of Paratriathlon as it becomes an integral and contributing part of the Paralympic movement.

3. STRATEGIES AND OUTCOMES

The framework will provide strategic direction to TA and the STTAs to achieve the following outcomes.

Key Objective 1

To grow participation in the sport of triathlon by people with disabilities through leadership and the provision of increased opportunities.

Strategy	Outcome
<p>1. Provide leadership through the role of National Manager Paratriathlon, with the support of the Paratriathlon Advisory Committee</p> <p>2. Provide leadership through the development of quality national initiatives and resources which provide current best practice solutions and processes for the optimal integration of people with disabilities at all levels of the sport</p>	<p>Clear communication and oversight of national strategies</p> <p>All programs and initiatives are developed and continually reviewed to include considerations for people with disabilities. Examples would include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TryStars • Try-A-Tri • Coach and official education • Skills development programs • Technical Rules • High Performance Plan

Key Objective 2

To ensure that opportunities exist for people with disabilities at all levels to compete in events of the highest quality through leadership and collaboration.

Strategy	Outcome
<p>1. Provide support for Race Directors, Technical officials and volunteers to develop high level expertise and experience in events that include people with disabilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education programs and opportunities are provided for technical officials, volunteers and Race Directors to develop operators experienced in the inclusion of people with disabilities, establishing and ensuring quality standards. • Management of ITU Classification Processes, including the training and registration of classifiers. • A promotional and marketing strategy is developed that educates and engages the triathlon community including the media, athletes and key stakeholders. • Clubs are educated, supported and encouraged to collaborate to ensure if one event is not suitable for a person with disabilities an alternative is identified. • The effective conduct of and promotion of a series of National Qualifying Events (Paratriathlon) for the ITU World Championships. The series to comprise a minimum of 4 and preferably 6 events, including a National Paratriathlon Championships. • To successfully bid for and conduct at least 2 of the 3 available ITU International Sanctioned events for Paratriathlon. This includes the Oceania Paratriathlon Championships.

Key Objective 3

Sustained International success through the provision of an effective and efficient elite athlete and elite coach pathway.

Notes:

- International success is defined as medal winning performances at identified benchmark events, including the Paralympic Games and ITU Paratriathlon World Championships.
- Specific medal targets will not be set until confirmation of classification system and events for benchmark events.

Strategy	Outcome
<p>1. Collection and analysis of existing performance data to produce models of elite performance now and into the future.</p> <p>2. Strong and effective partnerships with the National Institute Network and other potential collaborators in the provision of daily performance environments.</p> <p>3. Identification and development of talented coaches to support the high performance athletes</p> <p>4. Strong and effective partnerships with domestic and international competition providers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A clearly defined athlete pathway within high performance.• Evidence based performance data informs the allocation of resources and all selection processes, from talent identification through to Paralympic selection.• Clear expectations clearly communicated to athletes, coaches and support staff within the high performance program. • Provision of quality daily performance environments to identified athletes within the high performance pathway. This includes facilities, equipment and support services. • World Best coaching available to all athletes within the high performance pathway. • Opportunity to compete at high quality events both domestically and internationally.