

PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE MEMBERSHIP & CREDENTIAL POLICY 2025/2026

1. OUTLINE

- 1.1 All Australian athletes wishing to compete in Triathlon, Duathlon, Aquathlon, Cross-Triathlon or any other Multi-Sport event/race with an overall prize purse (male & female combined) of \$10k AUD (exclusive of GST) or above, will be required to hold an active Professional Athlete/Professional Development Athlete Membership Add-On alongside their active Standard or Premium core membership. A Professional Athlete/Professional Development Athlete Membership Add-On is required prior to competing at the event.
- 1.2 To be eligible for a Professional Athlete/Professional Development Athlete Membership Add-On, an athlete must make an application for, and be successful in obtaining, a Professional Athlete Credential.
- 1.3 To be eligible for a Professional Athlete/Professional Development Athlete Membership Add-On athletes must be turning 16 in the year of their initial Professional Athlete Credential application. "Special Circumstances" will be evaluated by the High Performance Team.

2. CATEGORIES

There are two (2) categories of Professional Athlete/Professional Development Athlete Membership Add-On:

- Professional Athlete: For elite athletes, 16 years and older (as of 31 Dec 2025), who compete in Triathlon, Duathlon, Aquathlon, Cross Triathlon or Multisport events with overall prize money (male and female combined) in excess of AUD \$10,000. Athletes will also need to hold a Standard or Premium core membership.
- Professional Development Athlete: For elite (Professional Development) athletes, 15–22 years (as of 31 Dec 2025), who compete in World Triathlon races up to Continental Cup and Continental Championship level as well as any other Triathlon, Duathlon, Aquathlon, Cross Triathlon or Multisport event with prize money (male and female combined) up to but no greater than AUD \$10,000. Athletes need to hold a Standard or Premium core membership and Draft Legal endorsement.

3. UPGRADING MEMBERSHIP

- 3.1 If during the course of the year an athlete "upgrades" their Membership Add-On from Professional Development Athlete to Professional Athlete, athletes will be refunded the original membership and will need to pay the full amount for the new professional membership type.
- 3.2 Memberships Add-Ons are annual starting from 1st July to 30th June. There is no pro-rata rate for Membership Add-Ons if you apply late in the season.

4.1 Approval for a Professional Athlete/Professional Development Athlete Membership Add-On is not considered final until the athlete has acknowledged and fully understands the following AusTriathlon Policies and Conditions;

- The athlete has read, understood and agrees to abide by the Australian National Anti-Doping Policy (available on the Sport Integrity Australia website [here](#)), effective from 1 January 2021, being the anti-doping policy adopted by AusTriathlon and applicable to all participants in Triathlon.
- The athlete has read, understood and agrees to abide by AusTriathlon's National Integrity Framework policies (available [here](#)), effective from 4th May 2022 and applicable to all participants in Triathlon.
- The athlete has read, understood and agrees to abide by AusTriathlon's Athlete Categorisation Policy, ALL Relevant Selection Policies and Appeals Policy, and also agrees to comply with any other policies adopted by AusTriathlon and advised in future (available [here](#)).
- It is the athlete's responsibility to familiarise themselves with these policies, including any updates to the policies and other policies as adopted by AusTriathlon as advised in future.
- A breach of these policies could result in further action being taken, as outlined in the respective policy.

5. EXPIRY

The Membership Add-On expires annually on the **30th of June**. The Professional Athlete Credential itself does not expire-however may be reviewed at the discretion of AusTriathlon High Performance staff and in line with the criteria in Clause 6. There is a yearly fee to hold a Professional Athlete/Professional Development Athlete Membership Add-On.

6. QUALIFYING FOR A PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE CREDENTIAL

There are three (3) categories available to be apply for a Professional Athlete Credential:

- Open (Drafting and Non-Drafting)
- Long Course & Multisport (Non-Drafting)
- U23 Development (Drafting and Non-Drafting)

6.1 The Open (Drafting and Non-Drafting) Credential

6.1.1 The Open (Drafting and Non-Drafting) Credential is for all Australian athletes wishing to compete as a professional athlete in any National Championships, Regional Championships, World Triathlon (WT) Points Races, WT Championship Finals, WT Cups, WT Continental Cups, WT Championship Series, Ironman 70.3 or Ironman, Challenge Triathlon, Duathlon, Aquathlon, Cross Triathlon or any other multisport event with prize money in excess of \$10k AUD (Male and Female combined).

6.1.2 Athletes with this licence can compete in both elite drafting and non-drafting events.

6.1.3 Open (Drafting and Non-Drafting Credential) holders cannot race as Age-Groupers in any event which has a professional or elite category within the same year.

6.1.4 Automatic Qualification can be achieved via the following performance criteria:

Elite/U23/Junior

- a) Selected in the U23 or Junior WT World Championship Team
- b) Selected to compete in a WT Championship Series or WT Cup race
- c) Top 15 in the Elite Oceania Triathlon Championships (Sprint & Standard Distance)
- d) Top 8 in the U23 Oceania Triathlon Championships (Sprint & Standard Distance)
- e) Top 12 in the Australian Elite Triathlon Championships (Sprint & Standard Distance)
- f) Top 10 in an WT Continental Cup Race; within 5% of the winner's time
- g) Top 10 in the Australian Elite Long Distance Championships as long as within 5% of the winner's time;

Age Group

- a) Top five (5) overall Age Group/Open result in the 2024 or 2025 NOOSA Triathlon, as long as within 10% of the overall Elite winner's time. (An athlete without a Professional Licence prior to Noosa, must race Age Group or Open, however, results will be comparable to Professionals, as course is identical and non-drafting for both)
- b) Top three (3) overall Age Group results in the following Australian Age Group events;
 - i. 2025 or 2026 MOOLOOLABA Triathlon
 - ii. 2025 or 2026 IRONMAN Asia Pacific Age Group Championships
 - iii. 2025 or 2026 Australian Long Distance Age Group Triathlon Championships
- c) Top five (5) overall Age Group in the following International Age Group Championships events within 5% of the overall fastest Age Group time;
 - i. 2024 or 2025 WT Championships Sprint Distance
 - ii. 2024 or 2025 WT Long Distance Triathlon Championships
 - iii. 2024 or 2025 IRONMAN World Championships
 - iv. 2024 or 2025 IRONMAN 70.3 World Championships
- d) WIN (1st) overall Age Group results in any of the following events as long as within 5% of the overall Elite/Pro winner's time (where there is no Elite/Pro wave, automatic qualification does not apply for the following events);
 - i. IRONMAN Triathlon
 - ii. IRONMAN 70.3 Triathlon
 - iii. CHALLENGE Triathlon

a. The Long Course & Multisport (Non-Drafting) Credential

- i. The Long Course & Multisport (Non-Drafting) Credential is for all Australian athletes wishing to compete as a professional/elite athlete in the World Championships, National Championships, Regional Championships, Challenge, Ironman 70.3, Ironman, Cross Triathlon, Aquathlon and any other non-drafting Triathlon or multisport event with prize money in excess of \$10k AUD (Male and

Female combined).

- ii. Athletes with this licence can ONLY compete in elite non-drafting and/or multi-sport events.
- iii. Professional/Elite Licence: Long Course & Multi-Sport (Non-Drafting) licence holders cannot race as Age-Groupers in any non-drafting event which has a professional or elite/open category within the same year.
- iv. Automatic Qualification can be achieved via the following performance criteria:

Elite

- a) Top 5 in an IRONMAN and/or IRONMAN 70.3 and/or CHALLENGE Event as long as within 5% of winners time;
- b) Top 5 in the WT Cross Triathlon Championships as long as within 5% of the winners time;
- c) Top 5 in the World X-Terra Championships as long as within 5% of the winners time;
- d) Top 5 in the World Duathlon Championships as long as within 5% of the winners time
- e) Top 3 in the AusTri Cross Triathlon Australian Championships

Age Group

- a) Top five (5) overall Age Group result in the 2024 or 2025 NOOSA Triathlon, within 8% of the winner's time in the Open/Age Group wave – male and female. (An athlete without a Professional Licence prior to Noosa, must race Age Group, however, results will be comparable to Professionals, as course is identical and non-drafting for both)
- b) Top three (3) overall Age Group results (male and female) in the following Australian Age Group events;
 - i. 2025 or 2026 MOOLOOLABA Triathlon
 - ii. 2025 or 2026 IRONMAN Asia Pacific Championships
 - iii. 2024 or 2025 Australian Long Distance Triathlon Championships
 - iv. 2025 or 2026 Australian Cross Triathlon Championships
- c) Top five (5) overall Age Group (male and female) in the following International Age Group Championships events within 5% of the overall fastest Age Group time;
 - i. 202 or 2025 WT Sprint Triathlon Championships
 - ii. 2024 or 2025 WT Long Distance Triathlon Championships
 - iii. 202 or 2025 WT Duathlon Championships

- iv. 202 or 2025 WT Cross Triathlon Championships
 - v. 202 or 2025 IRONMAN World Championships
 - vi. 2024 or 2025 IRONMAN 70.3 World Championships
- d) WIN (1st) overall Age Group results in any of the following events as long as within 5% of the overall Elite/Pro winner's time (where there is no Elite/Pro wave, automatic qualification does not apply for the following events);
- i. IRONMAN Triathlon
 - ii. IRONMAN 70.3 Triathlon
 - iii. CHALLENGE Triathlon

6.3 The U23 Development Credential

6.3.1 The U23 Development Credential is for Australian U23 (aged 15-22 in 2025) athletes wishing to compete as a professional in WT races such as WT Continental Cups, Oceania Championships, and any other Triathlon, Duathlon, Aquathlon, Cross Triathlon or multisport event with prize money up to and including \$10k AUD (male and female combined).

6.3.2 Athletes with this licence can compete in both drafting and non-drafting events.

6.3.3 Automatic Qualification can be achieved via the following criteria:

Junior (16-19yrs)

- a) Selected in the Australian Junior Triathlon Team to compete in WT Junior Championships;
- b) Podium – Top 3 (3) in the 2024 or 2025 Super Sprint Race Weekend (Runaway Bay QLD)
- c) Top ten (10) at 2025 or 2026 Australian & Oceania Junior Championships;

NB: Athletes must be turning 18 in 2025 to be eligible to compete in WT Olympic Distance races.

6.4 Non-Automatic Qualification

6.4.1 Those athletes wishing to apply for a Professional Athlete Credential that do not meet any of the above automatic criteria may apply to the AusTriathlon High Performance Team for discretionary consideration. The onus is on the applicant to supply the AusTriathlon High Performance Team, with all relevant times (including athletes OVERALL place & times and OVERALL race winners times), links to race results, places and race information to assist in the assessment procedure.

Failure to provide all above information including relevant links to results will ensure delays in the application process and/or the application not being assessed at all.

To assist with assessment of application athletes should also provide information on a proposed race calendar if a Professional Athlete Credential application is successful.

Upon assessment, the decision of the AusTriathlon High Performance Team is final. Further or subsequent assessment for discretionary consideration will not be made unless the applicant can provide additional or new performance results.

7. PROCESS TO APPLY

Process to apply for AusTriathlon Professional Athlete Credential is as follows:

- STEP 1:** If you believe you meet the Automatic Criteria or should be considered for a discretionary consideration please [apply online](#) (via AusTri website) noting how you meet the Automatic Criteria or supporting information if seeking an upgrade based on discretion.
- STEP 2:** Please allow 3-4 weeks from the day you submit your application for it to be assessed. You may be contacted within this time should we require any additional information.
- STEP 3:** You will be notified via email if your application has been APPROVED or DECLINED and provided next steps (if required).
- STEP 4:** Once your application is approved, your Professional Athlete Credential will be added to your AusTriathlon JustGo Membership Profile and will allow you to purchase the appropriate Membership Add-On

If you require support or have any questions please contact admin.hp@triathlon.org.au