



BRITISH TRIATHLON FEDERATION 2012 ITU WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY PROCESS

Note: the 2012 ITU World Championships Series Qualification Criteria has not yet been published so this policy may need to be amended once the 2012 criteria is confirmed by the ITU.

Introduction

This policy details the process and priorities by which British Triathlon will allocate GBR quota places to athletes to compete in ITU World Championship Series events (WCS) including the WCS Grand Final.

The ITU determines the eligibility criteria and competition rules for ITU WCS events online entry system.

The ITU only accepts athletes entered onto the wait list for each WCS event by National Federations (NF) using the ITU online entry system.

The ITU World Championship Series events are reserved for the highest calibre athletes currently competing at the most competitive level of standard distance draft legal triathlon.

Athletes who have not yet reached this level must begin by racing at ITU Continental Cups, and eventually ITU World Cups, to gain both experience and ranking points in order to demonstrate readiness for WCS event competition. There is a limited ability to fast track athletes to WCS competition via ITU invitations and NF substitutions.

The ITU WCS events, along with ITU World Cups and ITU Continental Championships, are the races by which National Federations earn starting slots for the Olympic Games.

A key objective of British Triathlon is to maximise its potential to secure three male and three female Olympic places. To this end, the intention is to use all WCS places available to British athletes whenever feasible.

Alongside its Olympic objectives, British Triathlon also recognises that Triathlon is an individual professional sport and that striving to compete at the highest level is important to all athletes. The ITU race entry system is complicated, and there are a number of inter-dependent factors which impact on both how many, and which, GBR athletes are able to start each ITU WCS, ITU World Cup and ITU Continental Cup race.



BRITISH TRIATHLON FEDERATION 2012 ITU WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY PROCESS

BTF Procedure for obtaining and allocating GBR quota places:

1. Athletes (including ITU Gold Group athletes) wishing to be considered for a WCS Event should email Laura Macey lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org on or before the BTF advertised WCS Entry Deadline Entry Dates (See 2012 BTF WCS Entry Deadlines at the end of this policy).

Note - Applications need to be from the athlete and in writing.

2. British Triathlon will enter all eligible athletes, who wish to be considered, onto the ITU wait list via the ITU online entry system no fewer than 33 days before the first competition day.
3. British Triathlon may enter additional athletes into the wait list of each race to maximise the number of GBR quota places available. (see note 1 in Appendix 1 for conditions).
4. Selection to the WCS start list will be made by the ITU in accordance with the ITU WCS Qualification Criteria.
5. Once the ITU has created and published the start list for a WCS event, there are three ways in which athletes remaining on the wait list may subsequently be moved to the start list:
 - 5.1. By replacing a GBR athlete already on the start list via the ITU substitution procedure;
 - 5.2. By being awarded an invitation from the ITU following an application from British Triathlon;
 - 5.3. By the ITU's roll down process, in order of ranking on the wait list, if athletes from any nation withdraw and there are GB quota places available.
6. **Substitutions** Once the ITU has created the start list for a WCS event, each National Federation may replace one athlete per gender using the ITU substitution procedure. British Triathlon may use the ITU substitution clause to secure a starting place for Olympic medal zone athletes returning from injury, for potential Olympic medal zone athletes on a rapidly rising performance curve and those capable of performing at a level which can contribute to Great Britain winning an Olympic medal. It may also be used to maximise the number of GBR athletes competing in each WCS.
7. The order of using the substitution clause will be determined as follows:
 - 7.1. An athlete who does not wish to compete but is entered at point 3 above for the sole purpose of being substituted;
 - 7.2. An athlete on the start list who is unable to compete due to illness or injury;



BRITISH TRIATHLON FEDERATION 2012 ITU WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY PROCESS

- 7.3. The lowest ranked GBR athlete determined on the entry closing date for the event who is on the start list 13 days before the event. This athlete will be informed of the proposal to replace them within 48 hours of the start list being published or as soon as they are moved from the wait list to the start list by the ITU. However, the actual substitution will not be made until the latest possible date (12 days before the race). This ensures all illness, injury or voluntary withdrawals can be taken into account before a final decision is made;
8. Substitutions will be at the discretion of the Elite Standard Distance Selection Committee, subject to the following conditions:
- 8.1. **Sydney WCS:** All entries will be based on current rankings at the time of the ITU closing date, no substitution will be made except under clauses 7.1 and 7.2 above, in which case the highest ranked GBR athletes on the wait list will replace the withdrawing athlete;
- 8.2. **San Diego WCS:** All entries will be based on current rankings at the time of the ITU closing date, no substitution will be made except under clauses 7.1 and 7.2 above, in which case the Elite Standard Distance Selection Committee will select the athlete to replace the withdrawing athlete. Selection will be discretionary and for the purpose of enhancing British Triathlon's Olympic medal potential;
- 8.3. **Madrid WCS:** An athlete who has achieved a top three finish in either the 2012 Sydney WCS or 2012 San Diego WCS race, or who has been pre selected for nomination to the 2012 GBR Olympic Team, has earned protected status for this event and cannot be withdrawn under Clause 7.3. Clause 7.3 may be extended to "any athlete who has not achieved protected status for the event who is on the start list 13 days before the event." The Elite Standard Distance Selection Committee will use its discretion to select both the athlete to be withdrawn and the athlete to be replaced for the purpose of enhancing British Triathlon's Olympic medal potential;
- 8.4. **Kitzbühel and Hamburg WCS:** Clause 7.3 may be extended to "the lowest ranked GBR athlete determined on the entry closing date for the event who is on the start list 13 days before the event and who is not an Olympic team member or identified reserve" in order that a 2012 Olympic Team member or an identified reserve can gain a starting place;
- 8.5. **Lausanne and Yokohama WCS:** All entries will be based on current rankings at the time of the closing date, no substitution will be made except under clauses 7.1 and 7.2 above in which case the highest ranked GBR athletes on the wait list will replace the withdrawing athlete;
- 8.6. **Auckland WCS Grand Final:** No substitution will be made except under clauses 7.1 and 7.2 above. Substitutions will only be considered from athletes on the wait list who, in the opinion



BRITISH TRIATHLON FEDERATION
2012 ITU WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY PROCESS
of the selection committee, have demonstrated through race results in 2012 the ability to finish in the top 15 of the WCS Final.

9. When there is still a GBR substitution place available after applying points 6 to 8 above, the place will be allocated to the highest ranked GBR athlete(s) on the wait list;
10. **Kitzbühel and Hamburg:** If, after making a substitution, there are Olympic team members or identified reserves still on the wait list due to GBR having filled its quota places, the Elite Standard Distance Selection Committee may withdraw any athlete from the start list in order that an Olympic team member or identified reserve can gain a starting place;
11. **ITU Invitations:** Once the ITU has created the start list for a WCS event, National Federations may apply for invitations if they have not used their full quota of starting places. If there are quota places available and the Elite Standard Distance Selection Committee considers that a GBR athlete on the wait list is likely to be awarded an invitation, they will nominate them to the ITU. For Sydney and San Diego any nominations to the ITU for invitations will be in order of ranking on the wait list and all athletes on the wait list will be nominated.

BTF WCS Entry Deadline Dates

Date	Venue	BTF Entry Deadline Date	ITU Closing Date
14 th & 15 th April	Sydney	Monday 16 th January	Tuesday 13 th March
12 th & 13 th May	San Diego	Monday 16 th January	Tuesday 10 th April
26 th & 27 th May	Madrid	Friday 13 th April	Tuesday 24 th April
23 rd & 24 th June	Kitzbühel	Friday 11 th May	Tuesday 22 nd May
21 st & 22 nd July	Hamburg	Friday 8 th June	Tuesday 19 th June
25 th August	Lausanne	Friday 13 th July	Tuesday 24 th July
29 th & 30 th September	Yokohama	Friday 17 th August	Tuesday 28 th August
20 th & 21 st October	Auckland	Friday 14 th September	Tuesday 25 th September

APPENDIX 1 - Notes

Note 1 – ITU rules state that an athlete may only take up one quota place across all ITU races on a single weekend. i.e. it is not possible for an athlete to take up their place in one race and also to be entered and subsequently replaced in another race to enable another GBR athlete to gain a race start. An athlete will only be entered and replaced by another athlete using the ITU substitution clause if they do not wish to compete in any other ITU race on a weekend.



BRITISH TRIATHLON FEDERATION 2012 ITU WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY PROCESS

Note 2 - Entry into the wait list for a WCS event is dependent on the following:

- a) Athletes must be eligible to represent Great Britain under ITU rules and must be members in good standing with a Home Nation Triathlon Association, which is a member of the British Triathlon Federation (BTF);
- b) Athletes must be compliant with British Triathlon's anti-doping policy and hence be available for out-of-competition testing at all times. If required to do so by UKAD or the ITU, they must maintain a record of their whereabouts using the ADAMS system;
- c) WCS event start positions are limited and ranking points earned in WCS events are crucial to Great Britain earning a full quota of places at the Olympic Games. If an athlete is not 100% ready to compete due to injury or illness, they should inform the respective men's or women's Olympic team coach immediately so that a decision may be taken on whether they should be replaced by another British athlete or a whether medical withdrawal is required;
- d) An athlete who elects to withdraw from a WCS after they have expressed their interest to be considered for nomination, but before the ITU closing date, must inform Laura Macey (BTF Operations and Logistics Manager) immediately so that a replacement athlete can be nominated. This communication should be done in person or in writing by the athlete;
- e) Athletes must be aware of, and compliant with, ITU WCS rules, including those relating to race uniforms, no-shows and late withdrawals;
- f) Withdrawals after the ITU closing date will deny other GB athletes an opportunity to compete and could jeopardize Great Britain's Olympic preparation. If an athlete does not withdraw before the closing date set by the ITU when their reason for withdrawal is not medical (or circumstances beyond reasonable control) this will be referred to a BTF disciplinary process set up by the BTF and may result in the athlete being withdrawn from current start lists and/or not entered in future ITU races for a period which the disciplinary process will determine. Medical withdrawals will need to be endorsed by the BTF Chief Medical Officer or his/her delegate;
- g) Competing athletes are invited but not obliged to attend the following activities at each WCS event:



BRITISH TRIATHLON FEDERATION

2012 ITU WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY PROCESS

- i) A Team Meeting for athletes and BTF staff only following the elite athlete briefing;
- ii) A Team Dinner for athletes and BTF staff only following the team meeting. Partners and personal coaches may also attend as long the appointed BTF staff member is informed prior to the dinner;

- h) Team accommodation will be provided for every GB athlete at the Sydney, San Diego and Madrid WCS races and the Auckland WCS Grand Final races. Accommodation costs at other WCS races are currently under review and will be confirmed by 31st January 2012. Athletes are responsible for any other costs associated with taking part in any WCS event unless specifically offered by British Triathlon as a separate agreement;

- i) British Triathlon will use its quota of unexpected last minute withdrawals after 13:00 GMT on the Monday prior to a race which do not result in the athlete being removed from all start lists and wait lists of any ITU event for the next 30 days, to limit the impact on its Olympic medal winning potential. The use of this quota will be at the discretion of the Olympic Performance Manager, and British Triathlon is under no obligation to allow an athlete to be reinstated even if the full quota has not been used up

- j) The Auckland WCS Grand Final is a GE GB Team Championship event and an addendum to this policy will be published by 31st January 2012 outlining any additional terms and conditions that will apply to this race.

Failure to comply with any of the above requirements may result in the athlete not being nominated for further WCS events.

A selection committee will be established comprising a minimum of three and a maximum of five members, including the BTF Board Director of Performance who will chair, members of the Olympic Performance Group and others who have expert knowledge of international drafting triathlon. The composition of the selection committee will be reviewed and agreed by the BTF Board.

Additional experts may be asked to provide advice to the committee at the request of the Chair

Athletes have the right to appeal selection decisions through British Triathlon's Selection Review Process. A copy of the policy outlining this process is available on the BTF website.

<http://www.britishtriathlon.org/about/page.php?article=&category=/about/&folder=policydocuments/>

ENDS

December 5th 2011