



## BRITISH TRIATHLON FEDERATION 2011 ITU WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES ELIGIBILITY and ENTRY PROCESS

### **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 waitlist 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 not at 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.

### **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](mailto:lauramacey@britishtriathlon.org) on or before the BTF advertised WCS Entry Deadline Entry Dates (generally 12 days before the ITU closing date for the event. See 2011 BTF WCS Entry Deadlines at end of policy).



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

2. British Triathlon will enter all eligible athletes wishing 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 waitlist 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 Eligibility and Entry 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 waitlist 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 waitlist, 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 for the following purposes: to ensure Olympic medal zone athletes returning from injury, 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 Olympic medals can obtain a starting place; and to maximise the number of GBR athletes competing in each WCS.
7. An athlete with a WCS ranking in the top 40\*\* or ITU Points ranking in the top 55\*\* at the ITU race entry closing date is **protected** from replacement by substitution at a WCS event and can only be replaced if they have not asked to start the event or subsequently withdraw voluntarily:

**\*\* The previous year's ITU WCS and ITU points rankings will be used for the first two ITU World Championships Series events in each calendar year due to the early closing date for entry to these races.**
8. The order of using the substitution clause will be determined as follows:
  - 8.1. An athlete entered at point 3 above for the sole purpose of being substituted;
  - 8.2. An athlete on the start list who is unable to compete due to illness or injury;



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- 8.3. 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 and who is not “Protected” if a significantly higher performing athlete is ready to perform in the event and has not qualified by their own ranking. 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 waitlist 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 insures all illness, injury or voluntary withdrawals can be taken into account before a final decision is made;
9. Substitutions will be at the discretion of the Elite Standard Distance Selection Committee, and will be from athletes on the waitlist who have achieved:
- 9.1. An ITU WCS top 5 in the current or previous calendar year;
  - 9.2. A World or European Under 23 Championship podium in the current or previous calendar year, an ITU World Cup top 6, an ITU WCS top 12 or an ITU Continental Cup top 3 within 0.5% of the winner performance in the previous 12 months up to the ITU closing date for the event
  - 9.3. significant current performance success in World Cup or Continental Cup competition such that current form is evidenced;
- except for the Beijing WCS Final when substitutions will only be considered from athletes on the waitlist who, in the opinion of the selection committee, have demonstrated through race results in 2011 the ability to finish in the top 8 of the WCS Final.
10. such substitution will only be used once in a season per athlete unless there are exceptional circumstances which warrant a second substitution;
11. When there is still a GBR substitution place available after applying points 7 to 9 above, the Elite Standard Distance Selection Committee will use its discretion to allocate the place to an athlete who has not met the criteria in point 9;
12. **London WCS** All entries for the London WCS will be based on current rankings at the time of the closing date, no substitution will be made except in the case where an athlete withdraws from the race in which case the highest ranked GBR athletes on the wait list will replace the withdrawing athlete;



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**13. 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 waitlist is likely to be awarded an invitation they will nominate them to the ITU.

**BTF WCS Entry Deadline Dates**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>BTF Entry Deadline Date</b>	<b>ITU Closing Date</b>
9 <sup>th</sup> & 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Sydney	Thursday 25 <sup>th</sup> February	Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> March
14 <sup>th</sup> & 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Yokohama	Thursday 31 <sup>th</sup> March	Tuesday 12 <sup>th</sup> April
4 <sup>th</sup> & 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Madrid	Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Tuesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May
18 <sup>th</sup> & 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Kitzbühel	Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> May
16 <sup>th</sup> & 17 <sup>th</sup> July	Hamburg	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> June
6 <sup>th</sup> & 7 <sup>th</sup> August	London	Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> June	Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> July
20 <sup>th</sup> August	Lausanne	Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> July
10 <sup>th</sup> & 11 <sup>th</sup> September	Beijing	Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> August
19 <sup>th</sup> September	Yokohama	Saturday 6 <sup>th</sup> August TBC	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> August TBC

**APPENDIX 1 - Notes**

Note 1 - 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 ITU race on a weekend in which they have a protected quota place.

Note 2 - Entry into the waitlist 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);



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- 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) Athletes should understand that 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 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 ability to qualify the maximum number of quota places at the Olympic Games. If an athlete does not withdraw before the closing date set by the ITU when their reason for withdrawal is not medical, a penalty fee (see below) will be levied. Medical withdrawals will need to be endorsed by the BTF Chief Medical Officer or his/her delegate. Out of respect for fellow athletes penalties will be imposed and the fine will be paid to the athlete negatively impacted as follows:
    - i. 1st offence: £500 fine;
    - ii. 2nd offence £1000 fine;
- \*Above payments must be received within 31 days of the event date. Failure to pay may mean that the offending athlete will be assumed to be not in good standing with the federation.
- g) Personal Coaches or athletes are asked to communicate their competition goals and race week schedule to the appointed BTF member of staff for the event one week prior to their arrival at race venue;



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- h) (see separate note (k) below regarding Beijing WCS Final) Competing athletes are invited to attend the following activities at each WCS event all unless otherwise notified by the appointed BTF staff member for the event:
- 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;
- i) WCS nomination in no way obliges British Triathlon to provide funding or pay any costs associated with taking part in any WCS event, unless specifically offered as a separate agreement;
- j) 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 waitlists 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.
- k) The Beijing WCS Final is a GE GB Team Championship event which means:
- i. travel and half board accommodation will be funded by British Triathlon;
  - ii. all athletes selected to the Team will be required to arrive at the Championships by 7th September and to stay in the Team accommodation in Beijing from the 7th to 12th September;
  - iii. athletes must not race in the 15 days prior to the respective Championship, unless otherwise approved by the Olympic Performance Manager;
  - iv. athletes will be required to sign a Team Members' Agreement to accept their place on each team. The Agreement will include a code of conduct and a commitment to to adhere to specified travel dates, to adhere to the BTF sponsorship guidelines and to wear appropriate apparel.

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



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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

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