



## 2011 U23 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

### 1. Introduction

This 2011 U23 ITU World Championship Team Selection Criteria (the "Criteria") will be used to determine the athletes aged under 23 (as of December 31, 2011) that will represent the United States in the International Triathlon Union (ITU) U23 World Championship (the "Team") in Beijing, China on September 10-11<sup>th</sup> 2011 (the "World Championship").

Under ITU World Championship eligibility guidelines (posted on the ITU web site [www.triathlon.org](http://www.triathlon.org)), the USA may send a maximum of three (3) men and three (3) women to compete in the U23 division of the 2011 ITU Triathlon World Championship event. However, start positions may be limited to two in a gender category should the US not place at least two athletes in the top 25 in that gender at the 2010 ITU U23 Triathlon World Championship.

### 2. Minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for nomination to the Team:

- a. Athlete must be eligible under all applicable rules of ITU ([www.triathlon.org](http://www.triathlon.org)), the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency ([www.usada.org](http://www.usada.org)), and USA Triathlon.
- b. Athlete must be an annual member in good standing of USA Triathlon.

### 3. Selection Events

- a. **Selection Event #1:** 2010 ITU U23 World Championship, Budapest, Hungary; September 11, 2010
- b. **Selection Event #2:** 2011 Monroe ITU Triathlon Pan American Cup; June 25, 2011
- c. **Selection Event #3:** 2011 San Francisco ITU Triathlon Pan American Cup; July 9, 2011  
*\*Entry to the Selection Events #2 and #3 will be made according to the 2011 USA Triathlon Selection Criteria for that event.*

### 4. Selection Procedure

- a. The maximum team size for the Team is 3 athletes per gender. If the ITU allows for additional athletes, then the USAT High Performance Director may apply for additional invitations from the ITU. Additional nominations over the 3-athletes per gender maximum will to be made by discretionary selection. USAT will submit all entries for the competition to the ITU 35 days prior to the World Championship.
- b. **Automatic Selection:**
  - i. The highest placing U23 USA athletes in Selection Event #1 will automatically qualify for the Team provided they finish in 10<sup>th</sup> place or better. Athletes will qualify by order of finish. Athletes who qualify by this standard must also demonstrate their fitness by meeting one of the following standards in 2011:
    1. Placing in the top-5 of an ITU Continental Cup on or before the date of Selection Event #3 in 2011; or
    2. Athlete must meet swimming and running benchmarks. Athlete must meet the "A" standard in the swim or run, and the "B" standard of the other discipline from the "U23 Swim and Run Benchmarks" table below.
  - ii. If any slots remain following Selection Event #1, then the first U23 USA athlete at Selection Event #2, who did not already qualify for the Team, will automatically qualify for the Team provided he/she finishes within five percent of the winner's time, and within the top 1/3 of finishers.

- iii. If any slots remain following Selection Event #2, then the first U23 USA athlete at Selection Event #3, who did not already qualify for the Team at previous Selection Events, will automatically qualify for the Team provided he/she finishes within five percent of the winner’s time, and within the top 1/3 of finishers.
- c. **Discretionary Selection:** If there are any remaining slots on the Team following the Automatic Selection process, the remaining slots will be filled by discretionary selection.

**Selection Event Table:**

**2011 USAT U23 World Championships Selection Criteria**

Selection Event	Location	Date	Qualification Criteria
2010 ITU U23 Triathlon World Championship	Budapest, Hungary	September 11, 2010	The highest placing U23 USA athletes provided they finish in 10 <sup>th</sup> place or better. Athletes will qualify by order of finish, and must demonstrate fitness in 2011
2011 Monroe ITU Triathlon Pan American Cup	Monroe, WA	June 25, 2011	First USA U23 finisher not yet automatically qualified; provided finish time within 5% of winner top 1/3 of finishers.
2011 San Francisco ITU Triathlon Pan American Cup	San Francisco, CA	July 9, 2011	First USA U23 finisher not yet automatically qualified; provided finish time within 5% of winner top 1/3 of finishers.

**5. Discretionary Selection**

- a. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection: By meeting the automatic selection standards, athletes will have demonstrated their ability as the best USA athletes in this category. If the maximum number of USA athletes have not met the standards, then USA Triathlon may select athletes who, in the opinion of the Selection Committee, can win a medal despite not performing to the standard at the selection event or who can contribute to winning a medal through specific team tactics during the event.
- b. Discretionary Process: Any athlete who meets the minimum eligibility requirements in Section 2 may be considered for nomination. The Selection Committee shall rank athletes for nomination to the ITU. Athletes must fully understand and agree to their individual strategic roles within the team before being nominated to the Team by discretionary selection. USAT will submit all approved entries for the competition to ITU 35 days prior to the 2011 ITU U23 World Championships. Athletes will be notified of their nomination on or before that date.
- c. Discretionary criteria:
  - i. The following criteria shall be used for discretionary selection. The criteria are listed in no particular order:
    1. Finish place in the Selection Events;
    2. ITU ranking points (if any);
    3. a record of superior competitive swimming results and a record of superior competitive cycling results and demonstrated knowledge of cycling team tactics; or official swimming and running marks established in 2011.

- a. For an athlete judged by swimming and running marks, the athlete must meet the “A” standard in the swim or run and the “B” standard of the other discipline from the Swim and Run Benchmarks below:

Under-23 Swim and Run Benchmarks				
		1500m LC	1650yd SC	10k
Men	A	17:26	16:31	32:00
Men	B	18:48	18:09	33:30
Women	A	18:45	18:17	36:15
Women	B	20:16	19:46	38:20

- d. The Selection Committee will be comprised of two members of the High Performance Staff and one member of the Athlete Advisory Council.

**6. Removal from the Team**

- a. An athlete who is to be nominated to the Team by USA Triathlon may be removed as a nominee for any of the following reasons, as determined by USA Triathlon:
  - i. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the USA Triathlon High Performance Director.
  - ii. Injury or illness as certified by an approved USA Triathlon physician (or medical staff). If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by an approved USA Triathlon physician (or medical staff), his/her injury will be assumed to be disabling and he/she may be removed.
  - iii. Violation of the USA Triathlon Code of Conduct. An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the USA Triathlon Bylaws Article XV or the USOC’s Bylaws, Section 9.
  - iv. Failure to meet the fitness requirement of Section 4(b)(i) of this document.

**7. Replacements to the Team**

- a. If for any reason a position on the Team shall become vacant, such vacancy shall roll down to the next qualified athlete, provided that the replacement athlete meets all applicable Selection Criteria requirements, and a replacement is allowed by the ITU. In the event that there is no athlete that meets all of these criteria, or the ITU does not allow replacement, the vacancy shall not be filled.

**8. Additional Requirements for Selection**

- a. All athletes selected to the Team will be required to comply with all applicable rules and requirements of ITU, WADA, USADA, and USAT, including, but not limited to, the following:
  - i. Sign and abide by the USAT’s Code of Conduct, any USAT or ITU Wavier or Release, and conform to all USAT policies and protocol regarding Team preparation and participation.
  - ii. Agree not to race any event **longer** than a Olympic triathlon distance (1.5km/40km/10km) between the period beginning six (6) weeks prior to the date of the World Championship (July 31st, 2011) through the date of the World Championship (September 10-11<sup>th</sup>, 2011).
  - iii. Agree to stay in lodging as a team for the World Championship. All travel and accommodation arrangements will be coordinated by the High Performance staff.

**9. Team Athlete Benefits**

- a. USA Triathlon will pay all of Athlete's reasonable travel expenses to the World Championships.
- b. Athletes are eligible bonus payments as outlined in the 2011 High Performance Incentive Plan

**10. Preparation Training Camp**

- a. All athletes selected to the Team may be required to attend a Preparation Training Camp (the "Camp") at a date and location to be determined. Transportation, lodging, meals, and training venues will be provided at no cost to the Team by USAT. Written announcement of the pre-Games camp will be posted on the USAT website ([www.usatriathlon.org](http://www.usatriathlon.org)) 90 days before the commencement of the camp.

**11. International Disclaimer**

- a. These Selection Criteria are based on the latest information available to USAT, and on ITU and USAT rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in ITU or USAT rules and regulations, or other unforeseen circumstances, will be distributed to the affected athletes promptly, and USAT reserves the right to revise these Selection Criteria in such event.