



2012 FISU WORLD UNIVERSITY CHAMPIONSHIP - TEAM SELECTION CRITERIA

1. Introduction

This 2012 FISU World University Championships Team Selection Criteria (the “Criteria”) will be used to determine the athletes that will represent the United States in the 2012 FISU World University Championships in Yilan County, Chinese Taipei, on June 29-30, 2012 (the “World Championship”). The selection criteria are designed to provide eligible collegiate elite athletes the opportunity to continue their athletic development by demonstrating their abilities at the highest levels of international triathlon competition, while selecting a team capable of earning multiple podium finishes.

The FISU World University Championship triathlon consists of a 1.5k swim, 40k **draft-legal** bike, and a 10k run. Both individual and team classifications are scored. The event is recognized and co-officiated by the International Triathlon Union (ITU), but ITU points are not awarded. In addition to the selection criteria set forth herein, athletes must meet the FISU eligibility requirements outlined below and described more fully in the FISU regulations (<http://www.fisu.net/en/Accueil-950.html>). USA Triathlon (“USAT”), as the national governing body for triathlon in the United States, is empowered to select and administer nominations to the World Championship team. As the national governing body for triathlon recognized by FISU, USAT may nominate a team of six (6) men and six (6) women for the 2012 FISU World University Championship. Should funding not be available to field a team of twelve (12) athletes, USAT will facilitate athletes who have earned automatic nominations to attend on a self-funded basis.

2. Automatic Nominations

2.1. Selection Events

Subject to the eligibility requirements set forth herein: **(a)** three (3) male and three (3) female automatic nomination to the 2012 World Championship will be awarded to the first three (3) male and first three (3) female U.S. FISU-eligible finishers at the **2011 USA Triathlon Elite/U23 National Championship** (Buffalo, New York), provided the athletes finish within 5% of the overall male and female winners’ finishing times; **(b)** two (2) male and two (2) female automatic nomination to the 2012 World Championship will be awarded to the first two (2) male and first two (2) female U.S. FISU-eligible finishers (not already qualified) at the **2011 USA Triathlon Elite Race Series Finale** (Myrtle Beach, South Carolina), provided the athletes finish within 5% of the overall male and female winners’ finishing times; and, **(c)** one (1) male and one (1) female automatic nomination to the 2012 World Championship will be awarded to the first male and first female U.S. FISU-eligible finishers (not already qualified) at the **2012 USAT Collegiate National Championships** (Tuscaloosa, Alabama) (hereinafter, said events are collectively referred to as the “Selection Events”). In the event that there are no FISU WUC-eligible finishers at one or all Selection Events, or if any of the Selection Events is contested as a duathlon or run-only event, USAT may award any unfilled slots pursuant to Section 3 below.

Selection Event Location Date Slots Awarded

2012 USAT World University Championship Team Selection Criteria

<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>UP TO</u>	<u>Qualifying Criteria</u>
2011 USAT Elite/U23 National Championship	Buffalo, NY	September 24	3 MEN 3 WOMEN	Must finish within 5% of the winner's time
USAT Elite National Series Finale	Myrtle Beach, SC	October 9	2 MEN 2 WOMEN	Must finish within 5% of winner's time; first finishers not already qualified
USAT Collegiate National Championship	Tuscaloosa, AL	April 2012	1 MAN 1 WOMAN	Men – 1 st Finisher Women – 1 st Finisher

3. Discretionary Selection

- a. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection: By meeting the automatic selection standards set forth in Section 2.1 above, 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 contained herein may be considered for nomination. The Selection Committee shall rank athletes for nomination to FISU. Athletes must fully understand and agree to their individual strategic roles within the team before being nominated to the Team by discretionary selection.
- 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 or 2012.
 - 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:

Swim and Run Benchmarks				
		1500 m 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 (AAC) or member of the elite athlete pool designated by the AAC.

4. Selection Eligibility

To be eligible for the World Championships Team, each athlete must be eligible under all applicable rules of, FISU, ITU, the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency (USADA), and USAT. In addition, each athlete must be a member of USAT in good standing.

At the time of the World Championships, the athlete must demonstrate a level of fitness appropriate to compete at a high level at the World Championships, as determined by the High Performance Director and the chair of the USAT Medical Committee.

Furthermore, an athlete earning an automatic or discretionary nomination to the World Championship Team must be a United States citizen and current passport holder, or be able to obtain a U.S. passport prior to the deadline for submitting individual nominative entries, must have been born between January 1, 1984, and December 31, 1994 (i.e. be at least 18 and less than 28 years of age on January 1st in the year of the event), and be a student who is currently officially registered as proceeding towards a degree or diploma at a university or similar institute whose status is recognized by the appropriate national academic authority in the United States or a former student of an aforementioned university or similar institute who obtained their academic degree or diploma in 2011.

5. Additional Requirements for Selection

All athletes selected to the World Championships Team will be required to comply with all applicable rules and requirements of FISU, ITU, WADA, USADA, and USAT; namely, and without limitation, each athlete selected to the World Championship Team shall:

- 5.1.** Sign and abide by the USAT Code of Conduct, any USAT, FISU or ITU Waiver or Release, and conform to all USAT policies and protocol regarding World Championship Team preparation and participation;
- 5.2.** Agree not to race any event longer than a standard triathlon distance (1.5km/40km/10km) between the period beginning six (6) weeks prior to the date of the World Championships through the date of the World Championships, unless otherwise approved by the High Performance Director;
- 5.3.** Agree to stay in lodging as a team for the World Championships. All travel and accommodation arrangements will be coordinated by the FISU World University Championship Team Leader. Athletes must wear team apparel approved and/or provided by USAT.

6. World Championships Team Final Selection

Following the final Selection Event, all World Championships Team nominations will be reviewed by the Selection Committee to ensure compliance with all requirements set forth herein. USAT may withhold a nomination, after a hearing, if the Selection Committee finds that an athlete has not satisfied the requirements, including timely submission of FISU accreditation materials.

7. Submission of Entries

USAT will submit all entries for the competition to FISU in accordance with its registration and accreditation timeline.

8. Dismissal from World Championships Team

Any athlete may be dismissed from the World Championship Team at any time following an appropriate hearing in compliance with the Ted Stevens Olympic and Amateur Sports and USOC Bylaws if: (i) the athlete violates any of the applicable FISU, ITU, USAT, or other rules and regulations applicable to the World Championship Team or its members, including without limitation applicable Codes of Conduct; (ii) injury or illness as certified by a USAT Medical Committee member in consultation with USAT (High Performance Director, the athlete's coach, and the FISU World Championship Team Leader), which prevents the athlete from high level participation in and/or preparation for the World Championship; or, (iii) the High Performance Director, in consultation with the athlete's coach and the FISU World Championship Team Leader, determines that the athlete is unable or unwilling to maintain a training regimen that is necessary for peak performance in the World Championship. Athletes who have questions about their opportunity to compete that are not answered by USA Triathlon may contact the USOC Athlete Ombudsman, John Ruger, by:

Toll Free telephone: 1-888-ATHLETE (1-888-284-5383)

Email at: john.ruger@usoc.org

9. Replacements to World Championship Team

If, for any reason, a position on the World Championship Team shall become vacant, such vacancy shall filled by discretionary selection in accordance with Section 3 above. In the event that there is no athlete that meets all of these criteria, or FISU does not allow replacement, the vacancy shall not be filled.

10. International Disclaimer

These Selection Criteria are based on the latest information available to USAT and are based on FISU and USAT rules and regulations, and available Selection Events, as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in FISU 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.