



## AGE GROUP WORLD CHAMPS SELECTION POLICY AND CRITERIA

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### **ITU AQUABIKE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS** **Pontevedra. Spain – April 27<sup>th</sup>- May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

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## A. OBJECTIVE

To promote the growth of triathlon and its related disciplines by selecting athletes to represent New Zealand who have demonstrated the ability to finish within the top three quarters of the World Championship age-group field.

## B. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Selections will be made by the Age Group Selection Commission based on the criteria outlined in this policy.
2. To be eligible for selection in a Tri NZ National Age Group Team (“eligible athlete”), you MUST at the time of submitting your Special Circumstances Application:
  - 2.1. Be a citizen of New Zealand, be a permanent resident of New Zealand or have been residing in New Zealand for a minimum of 12 months (subject to 4 below); and
  - 2.2. Be a current member of Tri NZ (TRIBE) and be in good standing with Tri NZ; and
  - 2.3. Be a current member of a Tri NZ Affiliated Club (List of clubs available at [www.triathlon.kiwi](http://www.triathlon.kiwi)) subject to 3. below.
3. If an athlete is not a resident in New Zealand then refer to “F (ii) Athletes Living Overseas” below.
4. International Triathlon Union (ITU) Constitutional rules apply to naturalised persons and those with dual citizenship. If an athlete has represented another nation at an ITU World Championships or if there is any doubt regarding an athlete’s eligibility to compete for New Zealand the athlete should contact the TriNZ for clarification.
5. Age group categorisation will be based on an athlete’s age as at 31 December of the year of the World Championship event. Age groups for male and females will be: 18-19, 20-24, 25-29, 30-34, 35-39, 40-44, 45-49, 50-54, 55-59, 60-64, 65-69, 70-74, 75-79 and older age group competitors will also be considered.
6. The nominated selection event will use an athlete’s age as at 31 December 2019 for selection into the appropriate age group category.
7. Age-Group Teams are self-financed. By submitting a special circumstance application and accepting selection to a National Age-Group Team the athlete acknowledges that he or she will be responsible for funding their own travel, accommodation, race entry, uniform, insurance and administrative costs.
8. Due to the desire to create a great team culture and to enhance team management, selected athletes are encouraged to stay at the nominated team accommodation.
9. A breakdown of fees will be provided to the athletes by the Tri NZ office at the time of selection announcement.
10. It is the responsibility of athletes to ensure that their special circumstance application has been received by Tri NZ within the set-out deadlines.
11. On announcement of the team, each athlete is required to provide Tri NZ physical evidence of 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 as at selection day; to pay a Tri NZ Team Administration Fee (\$275NZD); and complete an athlete agreement to confirm their position in the team.
12. ITU competition rules state that athletes must attain insurance in order to compete at ITU World Championship events. Upon accepting a position on an Age Group team, selected athletes agree to abide by the rules set out by the ITU and Tri NZ regarding insurance. Tri NZ have a nominated insurance provider to administer the requirements of Tri NZ and the ITU. It is a requirement of all athletes selected in the Team to use this nominated provider. Upon selection into the Team athletes will be provided with the respective information of this insurance cover before being asked to commit to the Team.

## C. MAXIMUM NATIONAL AGE GROUP TEAM SIZE

13. The maximum National Age Group Team size is determined by the International Triathlon Union (ITU) Competition Rules. These rules allow Tri NZ to select up to **20 males and 20 females per age group** in each race distance.

**D. SELECTION COMMISSION**

14. The role of assessing athletes against the selection criteria is the responsibility of the Tri NZ Age Group Selection Commission, which is appointed by the Tri NZ Board.

**E. SELECTION CRITERIA - ITU Aquabike World Championships- Pontevedra, Spain – April 27<sup>th</sup>- May 4<sup>th</sup> 2019.**

<b>Selection Channel</b>	<b>ITU slots available per AG</b>
Special circumstances	Maximum of 20

15. Because there is no selection event for the Aquabike this season, selection will be by way of Special Circumstances Applications. The available slots will be determined by selector discretion following the special circumstances procedures set out in F. below.
16. Athletes that podium (1st, 2nd or 3rd) at an official ITU World Championship event (while representing New Zealand) will be granted special circumstance entry into the same team the following year. This is provided they are able to prove on-going dedication and have maintained physical fitness. Athletes who are selected by this method must submit their special circumstance form no later than January 15<sup>th</sup> 2019. If an athlete qualifies by this method, the number of special circumstance slots for the age group will reduce accordingly. For example, if in the women's 40-44 age group, a NZ athlete places third, there will only be 19 special consideration slots available for the following year's selection race in that distance.

**F. SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCE APPLICATIONS/SLOTS**

17. Athletes who claim special circumstances will be required to provide relevant recent race results. Results must be for distances/discipline that the application is being made for or provide clear evidence of relevance to the event. All race results must show the applicants finishing within 20% of first place in their respective age-group of the event (e.g. 35-39) and be no more than 6 months old, unless the athlete lives in the northern hemisphere. In this case results up to 12 months old will be considered. Links should be provided to online race results and relevant contextual information about the event(s) (e.g. size of fields) should be included. This will help the selectors understand the relevance of the race(s) concerned in determining that the athlete concerned has the ability to finish in the top three quarters of the World Championship age-group field.
18. Special Circumstance Applications carry a fee of \$100 + the Active Network service fee (currently \$6), GST inclusive.
19. The Special Application fee of \$100 will be refundable to athletes who show proof of entry into the Aquabike National Championships, held at Challenge Wanaka on 16th February 2019. The Active Network service fee (currently \$6) is not refundable. For more details please refer to section G below. This is the only instance where the fee will be refunded.
20. The Special Circumstance Application fee is to acknowledge the manual review process which is undertaken by the Age Group Selection Commission. This Fee is non-refundable, regardless of the applications outcome unless outlined in clause 19.
21. In certain cases, when granting and allocating special circumstances slots, the selectors may request an athlete to carry out a fitness trial by a certain date to demonstrate fitness and form for the athlete's chosen event.
22. Athletes who wish to make a Special Circumstances Application will need to complete and submit their special circumstance form online no later than 15 January 2019. In no circumstances will late selection applications for Special Circumstances Applications be considered. The special circumstances form must be fully completed and include all the details required in the first instance, as incomplete applications will be declined.
23. Special circumstance applications will only be considered in the following instances:
- 28.1 Athletes who wish to gain selection, but no selection event is appointed.
  - 28.2 Athletes based overseas:

28.2.1 Tri NZ encourages all athletes based overseas to compete in the primary selection event/s, but if an athlete's circumstances prevent the athlete travelling to New Zealand to attend the selection event they may still be considered for special circumstance selection provided they meet the following criteria the athlete must:

28.2.1.2 be a current member of Tri NZ (TRIBE); and

28.2.1.2 be a citizen of New Zealand; and

28.2.1.3 provide written evidence of their overseas address during the NZ selection season upon request from Triathlon NZ.

28.2.2 Membership with an affiliated New Zealand triathlon club is strongly encouraged but is not compulsory.

28.3 Junior / U23 athletes:

28.3.1 Athletes who have raced in Junior Elites or Under 23 selection races but not age group selection races will not receive automatic selection into age group teams. For such athletes, a special circumstance application must be made.

24. A Special Circumstance Application does not guarantee selection. Selection is subject to selector discretion.

#### **G. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AND TRAVEL PRIZE ELIGIBILITY**

25. The Aquabike National Championships are held at Challenge Wanaka on 16th February 2019.

26. Athletes who enter the Aquabike National Championships and wish to gain selection into the Age Group team for Aquabike can have the \$100 special circumstance application fee refunded. To receive their refund the athlete must send their Challenge Wanaka Aquabike entry confirmation to the Community Manager at Triathlon NZ.

27. In addition to the National title, there is an additional travel prize for the male and female winners of The Challenge Wanaka Aquabike National Championship, along with subsidies for accommodation for age group podium athletes. The travel prize/subsidies are for the 2019 Aquabike World Championships (part of the ITU Multisport World Championships Festival) held in Pontevedra, Spain April 27<sup>th</sup> to May 4<sup>th</sup>. Only athletes who have been notified of selection by Triathlon NZ as outlined in clause 28 and 29 will be eligible for the Challenge Wanaka Aquabike World Championship prize offering. For more details on the travel prize offering and athlete eligibility please refer to the Challenge Wanaka website.

#### **H. TEAM ANNOUNCEMENT**

28. Where practicable, Tri NZ will announce the full provisional Age Group Team within 30 days of the Special Circumstances applications closing date. By this time, the athlete will have been required to formally accept their position on the team and have paid their Team Admin Fee (NZD275). The provisional team list will be posted on the Tri NZ website, but official confirmation will be sent by email to each individual member.

#### **I. APPEALS**

29. If an athlete considers they have been unfairly or unreasonably excluded from selection, he or she should contact the Community Manager (Chair of the Selection Commission) within 7 days of the public announcement of the team in question to request a review of their non-selection. The Community Manager will review the selection decision and advise the affected athlete of the outcome of that review.

30. If, following the Community Manager's review an athlete is still not selected and they wish to appeal the decision of the selectors then the athlete may lodge an appeal within 7 days of being advised of the outcome of the Community Manager's review.

31. In respect of any such dispute concerning age group and other athletes (other than Elite Athletes), this shall be determined by a Selection Appeal Panel appointed by the Board as stipulated in the Tri NZ Constitution 'Selection Disputes'. The Selection Appeal Panel shall be constituted by the Board within 14 days of receipt by Tri NZ of a written notice of appeal. The Selection Appeal Panel shall decide which of its members shall act as its Chairperson, shall set its own procedures, and shall hear and determine the appeal. The Selection Appeal Panel shall give all parties a fair hearing and at all times act in accordance with the principles of natural justice. The Selection Appeal Panel's decision shall not be subject to further appeal.