

TRI NZ PRO ENDORSEMENT POLICY

FOR NON-WORLD TRIATHLON RACES



1. Purpose

The purpose of this document is to provide clear guidance for athletes who wish to enter non-World Triathlon races (ie Ironman, Xterra, Challenge, PTO, etc) in the elite category, representing New Zealand.

As the governing body for triathlon, duathlon, aquathlon and other disciplines in the 'triathlon' family, Triathlon New Zealand (Tri NZ) is required to adjudge athletes' capability to race in elite and/or pro fields, for external bodies such as Challenge, Ironman, World Triathlon, Xterra, etc.

While not operating a 'professional license' scheme as such, Tri NZ believes it has a responsibility to ensure that athletes racing in such fields are of credible standard.

This policy applies to all athletes seeking endorsement to race in elite and/or pro categories, including all distances and formats, whether drafting or non-drafting.

While this policy applies to PTO events, it does not relate to other World Triathlon events of any distance (including middle/long distance). Further policies applies for entry in the various tiers of World Triathlon events - which should be read in conjunction with this policy (see the [Tri NZ – Entry Process and Eligibility Requirements for World Triathlon Races](#) document).

All enquiries regarding race entry and eligibility should be directed to
Peter Kadar, HP Operations Manager at evententry@triathlon.kiwi or +64 27 687 5385

2. Eligibility

Athletes who wish to represent New Zealand must be eligible at the time of race entry and on the date of the relevant event. To be an eligible athlete, you must:

- a) 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*.
- b) complete a **Pre-Participation Medical Evaluation Assessment** and meet the eligibility requirements for the relevant event.
- c) be a current member of Tri NZ (TRIBE) and be in good standing with Tri NZ.
- d) have completed an anti-doping education through World Triathlon or the Sport Integrity Commission.
- e) have not used or administered any substance, or used any prohibited method or committed any other doping offence as defined in the WADA Code, Tri NZ's, World Triathlon's or NZOC's Integrity Regulation.
- f) have the insurance which is compliant with the relevant event organiser's rules and regulations relating to insurance.
- g) have not received a recommendation from the Tri NZ appointed Medical Director not to race
- h) agree to the [Tri NZ Athlete Code of Conduct](#);

- i) If a TAPS athlete, or competing as an Athlete at a World Championships, have completed an Athlete Agreement.
- j) maintain an appropriate level of fitness, and training.
- k) comply with any reasonable instructions given by Tri NZ, including but not limited to travel, health & safety, and media.

**World Triathlon Constitutional rules apply to naturalised persons and those with dual citizenship. If an athlete has represented another nation at a World Triathlon event or if there is any doubt regarding an athlete's eligibility to compete for New Zealand, the athlete should contact Tri NZ for clarification.*

The Tri NZ General Manager of Performance holds discretion to override the selection criteria below to allow for fast emerging athletes, and athletes with a proven track record returning from injury or pregnancy.

3. Credible Standard

Athletes will automatically meet this the pro endorsement criteria if they are a current or former (within three years) member of the Tri NZ High Performance Programme.

In general, we expect elite and/or pro athletes to finish ahead of the best Age-Groupers of their gender. Research into long distance events indicates this is at a time gap of 10% from the gender winner. Therefore the criteria for demonstrating credible standard is to finish within 10% of the Elite and/or Pro gender winner's time in a race recognised by an international accrediting body (e.g. World Triathlon, Challenge, Ironman, Xterra, etc). For athletes wishing to race in middle- and long-distance events, we ask that the above criteria is met at a middle- or long-distance event.

4. Duration

Pro endorsement is in conjunction with an athletes yearly Tri NZ membership (start 1 Nov) and is based on results from the current or previous year (i.e. endorsement applied for 2024 can be based on results from 2023). In exceptional circumstances, endorsement can be applied for based on older results, but this would typically require previous podium success as an elite or pro athlete.

In supporting mothers to return to the sport, current and previous female pro endorsement holders who take a break from the sport due to childbirth will be automatically granted a new endorsement until the child turns two, subject to the eligibility section of this policy.

5. Endorsement Process

- a) Email evententry@triathlon.kiwi with your request at least 6 weeks prior to the race.
- b) Upon recipient of entry request and meeting the above criteria, we will send you a pro endorsement letter. This letter will act as the 'pro license' for organisers when eligible athletes enter a race in a pro / elite category.

6. Maintaining a Standard

In being endorsed, the athlete will be representing Tri NZ on the world stage. Endorsement can therefore be revoked at any time, should the athlete:

- a) Fail to maintain good standing as a member of Tri NZ;
- b) Act in a manner to bring the athlete, the sport, Tri NZ or triathlon in general into public disrepute;

- c) To Tri NZ's knowledge use or administer any substance or any prohibited method or committed any other doping offence as defined in the WADA Code, Tri NZ's, World Triathlon's or NZOC's Integrity Regulation.