



**TRIATHLON**  

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**AUSTRALIA**

**SELECTION POLICY**

**ITU WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP  
SERIES EVENTS - 2009**

## **A. INTRODUCTION**

1. This policy details the process and criteria by which Triathlon Australia (**TA**) will select athletes to be nominated to the ITU as part of TA's TEAM to compete at ITU World Championship Series Events (**WCS Events**) during 2009, **excluding** the World Championship Series Grand Final (which is the subject of a separate policy).
2. The ITU determines eligibility criteria and competition rules for ITU WCS Events. Under the current criteria and rules, entry to WCS Events is accepted only through nomination from the National Federation.

Athletes cannot enter ITU WCS Events other than through their NF.

3. This Policy can be amended at any time by TA if TA is of the opinion that such an amendment is necessary for any of the following reasons:
  - as a result of any change in ITU eligibility criteria or rules;
  - as a result of any change in the rules governing a particular race/event;
  - to give effect to the policy following discovery of a drafting error or oversight;
  - to clarify any ambiguity or otherwise give effect to the intended meaning of the Policy;
  - any other reason determined by TA to be in the best interests of TA.

TA shall not be responsible or liable in any way to anyone as a result of any such amendment.

4. In 2009, the World Championship Series being conducted by the ITU will be significantly different from the format used by the ITU previously. As a result, it may be that the ITU is forced to make scheduling and/or eligibility criteria changes at short notice. These changes may require TA to amend this Policy as set out in clause 3 immediately above. In those

circumstances, TA will use its best endeavours to publicise any changes. Athletes and other stakeholders should check the TA High Performance Website ([tahp.org.au](http://tahp.org.au)) and the ITU Website ([www.triathlon.org](http://www.triathlon.org)) on a regular basis for news affecting the Series or this Policy.

### ***Eligibility for Selection under this Policy***

5. Selection according to the terms of this Policy will not qualify an athlete for participation in a WCS Event if the athlete is not eligible according to the summary ITU Eligibility Rules set out at A8 below.
6. The summary ITU Eligibility Rules set out in A8 below are as interpreted by TA, according to the rules as they exist at the date of publication of this Policy.
7. In addition to qualifying according to all of the ITU Eligibility Rules, in order to be eligible for selection according to the terms of this Policy, an athlete must:
  - Be a current TA professional licence holder.
  - Be in good standing with TA.
  - Sign (when requested to do so) by the HPD, and comply with the terms of, The TA High Performance Squad Agreement (2009).

### ***ITU WCS Event Eligibility Rules***

8. At the time of this policy coming into effect applicable ITU competition and eligibility rules in relation to WCS Events can be summarised as follows:
  - 8.1 TA may nominate a maximum of six (6) male and six (6) female athletes to compete at an ITU Triathlon WCS Event.

At the time of drafting this Policy, athletes in the 'Gold Group' are not included in a National Federation's quota. Therefore, if at any relevant time TA has an athlete, or athletes (maximum 2), in the 'Gold Group', TA will be able to nominate additional athletes to the ITU equivalent to the number(s) in the 'Gold Group' for either men or women.

- 8.2 If TA conducts an Australian WCS Event, as “Host” nation, it may nominate 8 male athletes and 8 female athletes (refer also 8.1 above).
- 8.3 The quotas in 8.1 and 8.2, above, may be increased by the ITU if there are less than sixty (60) ITU ranked athletes nominated 30 days prior to the first competition day on the start list.
- 8.4 Athletes withdrawing within the 30 day period to the first competition day as set out in 8.2 and 8.3 immediately above will result in the National Federation incurring quota penalties as set out in 8.11 below.
- 8.5 The ITU only accepts nominations from National Federations (NF) and reviews the nominations against the ITU eligibility criteria.
- 8.6 Field sizes are normally restricted to as close to a maximum of sixty-five (65) as possible. In cases where more nominations are received for positions available the ITU may not accept some of the National Federation nominations.
- 8.7 Athletes identified by the ITU as ‘Gold Group’ athletes will be moved to the start list
- 8.8 The top thirty (30) athletes ranked from the 2009 ITU World Championship rankings, excluding those already on the start list, will be moved to the start list. For the first two WCS Events of 2009, the final 2008 Triathlon World Cup Series ranking will be used.
- 8.9 The top twenty (20) athletes from the current ITU points list, excluding those already on the start list will be moved to the start list. This number will increase to put sixty (60) athletes on the start list.
- 8.10 The remaining athletes on the wait list will be ordered by their position on the current ITU points list.

- 8.11 If a NF withdraws athletes from the start list within 30 days prior to the first competition day, after every second withdrawal the country will be able to enter one less athlete to the following two WCS Events. The maximum quota of the NF will be adjusted accordingly.
- 8.12 Each NF will be allowed to substitute one athlete, per gender, communicating the names of the athletes involved in the substitution to the ITU. Substitutions are only allowed up to 14 days prior to the first competition day. There are no substitutions for athletes in the Gold Group. If the substitute athlete is ranked higher than the worse ranked athlete on the event start list, the substitution doesn't affect the quota.
- 8.13 Athletes who withdraw within the last seven (7) days of the first competition day of a WCS Event will be removed from all start lists and wait lists for events in which the athlete has been entered at the time of the athlete's withdrawal from the event
- 8.14 Athletes who are not personally present at the Athlete's Briefing and have not provided prior notification to the Technical Delegate will be removed from all start lists and wait lists for the events for which they have already been entered at the time of the briefing
- 8.15 Athletes present at the Athlete's Briefing but are forced to withdraw from the competition due to last minute illness or injury, as proven by a certificate from a medical doctor, will remain on future start lists and wait lists of ITU events.
- 8.16 All eligible athletes must also satisfy ITU rules regarding nationality and citizenship, which are based on the conditions laid down in the charter of the International Olympic Committee. In summary, athletes must:
- be a citizen or national of Australia; and
  - not have represented another country in the last three years.

**B. TA SELECTION CRITERIA WCS EVENTS - SOUTH KOREA and  
MADRID**

1. Athletes in the ITU World Championship Gold Group, 40 days prior to the date of the event, will automatically be selected for nomination to the ITU upon receipt of an application for nomination by the due date from that athlete.
2. Athletes who participated in the Beijing Olympic Games as part of Australia's 2008 Olympic TEAM (total of 5 athletes – 3 women, 2 men) will automatically be selected for nomination to the ITU upon receipt of an application for nomination by the due date from that athlete.
3. Athletes with a 2008 ITU World Cup ranking of between one (1) and twenty (25) will automatically be selected for nomination to the ITU upon receipt of an application for nomination by the due date from that athlete. Nominations will be in priority order according to the athlete's ITU World Cup ranking as set out above.
4. **Any remaining nominations for the race will be selected at the absolute discretion of the Triathlon Australia Elite Selection Committee ("TAESC").**

Without in any way limiting its discretion, the TAESC may consider any of the following factors, or any combination of those factors, together with other matter that is, in the opinion of TAESC consistent with the stated philosophy of TA's high performance program<sup>1</sup>:

- ITU World Championship Series Eligibility Criteria.
- Ranking on current ITU Points List.
- Performances in the ITU World Championship and World Cup Races in 2008.
- Current form in races conducted over the Olympic Distance according

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<sup>1</sup> TA's high performance selection philosophy for 2009 can be accessed by the TA high performance website at [ [www.tahp.org.au](http://www.tahp.org.au) ].

to ITU rules.

- History of past performances in World Cup Races and ‘major’ Championship Races such as World Championships, Commonwealth Games and Olympic Games run over the Olympic Distance according to ITU rules.
- Membership of the Australian Institute of Sport Program.

For the purposes of clarity, it is the intended operation of this clause that the TAESC may give whatever ‘weight’ that it considers appropriate to any of the above matters, or any other matter that is in its opinion relevant and consistent with the stated philosophy of TA’s high performance program.

**C. TA SELECTION CRITERIA - ALL REMAINING ITU WCS EVENTS**

1. Athletes in the ITU World Championship Gold Group, 40 days prior to the date of the event, will automatically be selected for nomination to the ITU upon receipt of an application for nomination by the due date from that athlete.
2. Athletes with a 2009 ITU World Championship ranking of between one (1) and twenty-five (25), 40 days prior to the date of the event, will automatically be selected for nomination to the ITU upon receipt of an application for nomination by the due date from that athlete.  
Nominations will be in priority order according to the athlete’s ITU World Championship ranking as set out above.
3. **Any remaining nominations for the race will be selected at the absolute discretion of the TAESC.**

Without in any way limiting its discretion, the TAESC may consider any of the following factors, or any combination of those factors, together with other matter that is, in the opinion of TAESC consistent with the stated

philosophy of TA's high performance program<sup>2</sup>:

- Performances in 2009 ITU World Championship Series Events.
- ITU World Championship Series Eligibility Criteria.
- Ranking on current ITU Points List.
- Performances in the ITU World Championship and World Cup Races in 2008.
- Current form in races conducted over the Olympic Distance according to ITU rules.
- History of past performances in World Cup Races and 'major' Championship Races such as World Championships, Commonwealth Games and Olympic Games run over the Olympic Distance according to ITU rules.
- Membership of the Australian Institute of Sport Program.
- Ability to take directions from the National Performance Director and/or Head Coach for the purpose of achieving the best possible result for TA in the particular event.
- Compatibility with the specific demands of the course for any particular/relevant event.
- Individual strengths that may enhance Australia's medal potential at any relevant/particular WCS Event.
- Overall TEAM balance given the other members selected according to this policy for any relevant/particular WCS Event.

For the purposes of clarity, it is the intended operation of this clause that the TAESC may give whatever 'weight' that it considers appropriate to any of the above matters, or any other matter that is in its opinion relevant and consistent with the stated philosophy of TA's high performance program.

#### **D. NOMINATION PROCEDURES**

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<sup>2</sup> TA's high performance selection philosophy for 2009 can be accessed by the TA high performance website at [www.ta hp.org.au ].

1. Nominations for WCS Events will be requested via email from the National Program Administrator (NPA) between 6-8 weeks prior to race date.
2. Athletes will have 5 days to respond via email to the identified person indicating their desire to start the WCS Event.
3. Athletes are ranked by the HC according to the ITU Eligibility Criteria. Automatic selections are identified by the HC.
4. All remaining positions will be selected by the TAESC according to the terms of clause B (South Korea and Madrid WCS Events) and C (all WCS Events after Madrid) of this Policy **on or about 40 days prior to the first day of competition of the relevant WCS Event.**
5. The 2009 TAESC includes Peter Fitzgerald (TAESC Chairman), Michael Flynn (TA/AIS), Shaun Stephens (TA/AIS), Stephen Moss (QAS) and Jonathan Hall (VIS), unless otherwise agreed upon by the TA Board.
6. The HC will review the Selector's decisions, sign off on same and notify all athletes who had applied for selection of either their selection or non-selection.
7. The NPA is then responsible for entering the selected athletes with the ITU by the required date.

## **E. CONFIRMATION OF SELECTION**

1. Athletes selected for WCS Events in 2009 must confirm with TA their acceptance of the starting position of the relevant WCS Event within 72 hours of notification according to the terms of this policy. This needs to be done via email to the TA NPA.

Failure to do so, may, at the discretion of the NPD, result in the relevant athlete's starting position being forfeited in favour of the next eligible athlete selected according to the terms of this policy.

2. Any athlete withdrawing from a WCS Event once nominated to the ITU 30

days prior to the event must contact the NPD directly and provide legitimate health or musculo-skeletal injury reasoning. The NPD reserves the right to request supporting evidence from Medical Practitioner to support an athlete's health or musculo-skeletal issue.

Athletes should note that according to current ITU rules, withdrawal from an ITU World Championship Series Event within the 30 days prior to the event will attract penalties both on the athlete withdrawing and Triathlon Australia. The penalties are ineligibility for the athlete for the next two World Championship Series Events and a loss of a quota position (if it is the second withdrawal by TA athlete within the 30 day period) for the next two World Championship Series Events.

Any withdrawal by an athlete within the 30 day period of a World Championship Series Event may, at the discretion of TAESC, as sanctioned by the TA Board, result in a penalty to the athlete including ineligibility for additional World Championship Series Events (including World Championship Series Grand Final) in addition to any ineligibility imposed by the ITU on that athlete. In exercising its discretion in relation to penalty, the TAESC will consider written submissions made by the athlete as to any such withdrawal, and the implications following from the withdrawal including loss of any future quota positions by Triathlon Australia.

## **F. APPEALS**

The appeal process applicable to selection for ITU WCS Events (this Policy) is to be found on TA High Performance Website at [www.tahp.org.au](http://www.tahp.org.au).

Triathlon Australia

March, 2009