



**Selection Policy for the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games**  
**Paris, FRA**

**POLICY UPDATED FOLLOWING CHANGE TO RACE FORMATS AT THE 2023 PARIS PARALYMPIC GAMES TEST EVENT**

**OVERVIEW**

This Selection Policy (“the Policy”) outlines the process by which the British Triathlon Federation (“BTF”) will determine its nominations for ParalympicsGB at the Paris 2024 Paralympic Games (“the Games”).

In all cases, selection by the BTF represents a nomination to the British Paralympic Association (“BPA”) for their ratification and will be conditional on athletes signing and adhering to the BPA Team Members’ Agreement (“TMA”). The final decision regarding selection for the Games therefore lies with the BPA.

The BTF intend to nominate athletes (and, where relevant, guides) to race in all sport-classes included in the Games programme. As such, the aims of this Policy are as follows

- Primary aim – to maximise medal success in Paris; AND
- Secondary aim – to maximise long-term medal success in Los Angeles 2028 and beyond.

For the purposes of this policy, the term ‘Games sport-class’ will refer only to the medal events included in the Games programme. These will be:

<b>Men</b>	<b>Women</b>
PTWC	PTWC
PTS2	PTS2
PTS3	PTS4
PTS4	PTS5
PTS5	PTVI
PTVI	

Consequently, there is no medal event for women in the PTS3 class. However, female PTS3 athletes can ‘compete up’ within the PTS4 class. The top five (5) ranked PTS3 athletes (in the PTS3 ranking) – adjusting for one per nation – will secure a quota place in the PTS4 race in Paris. Should a British PTS3 athlete secure one of these quota slots for the PTS4 race, they will be considered in the same way as all other athletes via the process outlined below, but in doing so, will be assessed for medal potential (either for Paris or LA) in the PTS4 class.

For the purposes of this Policy it is also assumed that the medal event programme for the 2028 Los Angeles Paralympic Games will follow that of the Paris Games and, as such, all decisions on medal potential for 2028 will be made on this basis.

## **SECTION 1: ELIGIBILITY**

- 1.1 To be eligible for nomination, athletes must satisfy the following:
- a. Meet the BPA, World Triathlon (“WT”) and International Paralympic Committee’s (“IPC”) eligibility requirements to compete for ParalympicsGB at the Games (including holding a full British Passport valid until at least 31 December 2024 and satisfying all relevant requirements outlined in the BPA’s Games Qualification & Eligibility Handbook);
  - b. Be internationally classified with either a ‘Confirmed’ sport-class status, or a ‘Review’/‘Fixed Review’ sport-class status (with a review date after 31 December 2024);
  - c. Be able to provide Medical Evidence (to the satisfaction of BOTH the IPC and the BTF Chief Medical Officer [“CMO”]) that you have one of the IPC’s 10 Eligible Impairments for Paralympic Sport;
  - d. Be ranked on the WT Paralympic Qualification Ranking as of 1 July 2024;
  - e. Be a member in good standing of a Home Nation Triathlon Association which is a member of the BTF and eligible to represent Great Britain in international championships under the rules of the WT;
  - f. Not be serving a period of ineligibility as a result of an anti-doping rule violation or any BTF (including Home Nation) BPA, WT or IPC disciplinary process; AND
  - g. In respect of nomination (including guides and reserves) for any of the female Games sport-classes, were registered as a female at birth. See the BTF Transgender Policy at <https://www.britishtriathlon.org/about-us/governance/equality-diversity-inclusion/statements-and-policies> for more information.

## **SECTION 2: SELECTION PROCESS AND CONDITIONS**

- 2.1 Subject to any additional Bipartite Commission Invitations, the BTF has the opportunity to qualify up to two athletes in each sport-class for the Games (except the women’s PTS4 class where BTF may qualify up to three athletes – two PTS4 and one PTS3). None of these quota places are guaranteed at the date this Policy has been adopted.
- 2.2 **Quota places are allocated to the BPA and not to the athletes who secured them. Consequently, only athletes who are deemed by the Selection Panel (“the Panel”) to possess realistic medal potential at the Paris 2024 or LA 2028 Paralympic Games will be nominated to fill available quota places.** Where a quota place is secured but no athlete is deemed to possess realistic medal potential for either Paris or LA, that quota slot will remain unfilled.
- 2.3 Subject to the provisions outlined at paragraphs 2.10 and 2.11 below regarding reserves, the process to fill available quota places will take place over two separate selection meetings:
- a. 31 October 2023 – phases 1 and 2; AND
  - b. June/July 2024 (exact date TBC following publication of the 2024 competition calendar) – phases 3 and 4.
- 2.4 The Selection Panel (“the Panel”) for each meeting shall comprise:
- a. Voting members;
    - i. BTF Head of Paratriathlon (casting vote) – Tom Hodgkinson;
    - ii. BTF Performance Director – Mike Cavendish; and
    - iii. BTF (EIS) Para Triathlon Physiologist & Performance Support Lead – Ben Stephenson.

- b. Non-voting members:
- i. Additional members of the BTF Paratriathlon coaching team;
  - ii. BTF CEO – Andy Salmon;
  - iii. BPA observer;
  - iv. BTF lawyer;
  - v. BTF medical representative (only required if relevant medical/health issues to be discussed);
  - vi. Independent observer (the identity of which may be different for each meeting);
  - vii. BTF media representative; and
  - viii. Note-taker(s) as required.
- 2.5 If phases 1 and 2 are completed prior to confirmation of quota places, any athlete/guide nominations made at this time will be subject to confirmation of quota places. No public team announcement(s) will be possible until quota spots are confirmed. Instead, all currently eligible athletes and guides will be confidentially informed in writing of any nominations made and athletes/guides will then be entitled to appeal any such decisions (pursuant to section 4 of this Policy).
- 2.6 Once final quota places have been confirmed, and subject to appeals against final nominations made at phases 3 and 4 in June/July 2024, athletes signing the TMA and ratification from the BPA, the final team will be announced in July 2024.
- 2.7 Attendance at the BTF preparation camp in Libourne, FRA, on dates stipulated by BTF, will be a condition of selection for all nominated athletes and guides. Requests to employ an alternative preparation strategy should be discussed with the BTF Head of Paratriathlon immediately following nomination and will only be considered in exceptional circumstances. Attendance of reserve athletes and/or reserve guides at the BTF preparation camp will not be mandatory but will be facilitated if deemed mutually beneficial by both the reserve athlete(s) and team staff. Where reserve athletes/guides do not attend the camp in Libourne, they will be expected to make themselves available for travel to France up until the first Paratriathlon competition day at the Games.

### Guides

- 2.8 Guide nominations will usually be made at the same time as the relevant PTVI athlete is nominated. However, where there is insufficient race/training evidence (due, for example, to injury/illness to the athlete/guide) to make a decision on guide nomination for any PTVI athlete during the first selection meeting (i.e. phases 1 and 2) the Panel may choose to nominate PTVI athletes without also nominating their guide. In this case the Panel will then nominate guides in the second selection meeting.
- 2.9 Guides – and, where the Panel chooses to do so, reserve guides – will be nominated based on their ability to support the PTVI athlete to produce the best possible performance at the Games. To determine this, the Panel will consider the following racing/training performance and team dynamics criteria (as well as any other relevant information not outlined below):
- a. Ability to guide an athlete to their best possible paratriathlon performance (assessed based on their impact across the swim, bike and run disciplines), specifically:
    - i. their ability to create/support an environment that best prepares their PTVI athlete for a medal winning performance at the Games; AND
    - ii. their ability to positively contribute to the wider Paratriathlon team at the Games.

### Reserves

2.10 Where more athletes are deemed to satisfy the criteria for nomination at phases 1-4 below than there are quota places available, reserve athletes may be selected (though reserves will not be nominated to the BPA until such time as a quota place becomes available, either due to deselection or allocation of additional quota places by WT). The timing of reserve selections will be at the absolute discretion of the Panel.

2.11 The Panel may also choose to identify reserve guides (though reserve guides will not be nominated to the BPA until such time as a guide is formally deselected). The timing of reserve guide selections will be at the absolute discretion of the Panel.

2.12 Phase 1 – 31 October 2023 – automatic nominations *(note, this phase has been amended following the change to duathlon format of the men's and women's races at the 2023 Paris Paralympic Games Test Event):*

- a. Subject to paragraphs 2.12 b and c below, one athlete per sport-class will be automatically nominated to ParalympicsGB for the Games if they finish in the top three of their respective Games sport-class at the 2023 World Paratriathlon Championships (Pontevedra, 22-24 September 2023) **AND** have also achieved an individual World Triathlon Para Series (“WTPS”) podium – in triathlon format only – in either 2022 or 2023:

*NOTE: Should more than one athlete in any Games sport-class meet the automatic criteria listed above, their finishing positions at the World Championships will dictate who is automatically nominated. Any other athlete(s) who meets the criteria will then be considered for nomination using the discretionary criteria outlined at phases 2 or 3 below.*

- b. For each of the nomination races outlined above, there must be at least four athletes in each Games sport-class (including any PTS3 athletes competing up in the Women's PTS4 class) for the results to be recognised for the purposes of automatic nomination. If this is not the case, affected athletes will be evaluated against the discretionary nomination criteria at phases 2 or 3.
- c. Notwithstanding the changes already made to paragraph 2.12 a above following the Paris Test Event change to a duathlon, the above automatic nominations will not apply if, in the opinion of the Panel, the results of any race used for automatic nomination purposes are/is significantly impacted by:
- i. a large-scale racing incident (such as a crash); OR
  - ii. environmental conditions/exceptional circumstances which result in substantial alteration to the race format.

2.13 Phase 2 – 31 October 2023 – discretionary nominations:

- a. Should quota places remain in any given Games sport-class following completion of phase 1, athletes may be nominated for the Games at this time if their performances at the competitions outlined at 2.13(c) below indicate to the Panel an ability to deliver a medal winning performance at the Paris 2024 Games.
- b. To help determine whether performances delivered at the races outlined at 2.13(c) below indicate an ability to deliver a medal winning performance at the Paris 2024 Games, the Panel will consider:
- i. Quality of field at the relevant race(s);
  - ii. Course profile at the relevant race(s);
  - iii. Environmental conditions at the relevant race(s);
  - iv. Athlete performance/development profile;
  - v. Impact of injury/illness (where applicable); and

- vi. Previous major championships performances.
- c. The 2023 competitions considered by the Panel to determine which, if any, athletes to nominate at this phase 2 will be:
  - i. 2023 Paris Test Event;
  - ii. 2023 WT Paratriathlon World Championships; and
  - iii. 2023 WTPS races.
- d. If a decision is very close between athletes who each demonstrate medal winning potential at this stage the Panel may choose to delay this decision until Phase 3 when they will have further race evidence upon which to make a decision.

#### 2.14 Phase 3 – June/July 2024 – additional discretionary nominations:

- a. Should quota places remain following completion of phase 2, athletes may be nominated for the Games at this time if their performances at the competitions outlined at 2.14(c) below indicate to the Panel an ability to deliver a medal winning performance at EITHER the Paris 2024 Games OR the LA 2028 Games.
- b. To help determine whether performances delivered at the races outlined at 2.14(c) below indicate an ability to deliver a medal winning performance at the Paris 2024 OR LA 2028 Games, the Panel will consider:
  - i. Quality of field at the relevant race(s);
  - ii. Course profile at the relevant race(s);
  - iii. Environmental conditions at the relevant race(s);
  - iv. Athlete performance/development profile;
  - v. Impact of injury/illness (where applicable); and
  - vi. Previous major championships performances.
- c. The 2023/2024 competitions considered by the Panel to determine which, if any, athletes to nominate at this phase 3 will be:
  - i. 2023 Paris Test Event;
  - ii. 2023 WT Paratriathlon World Championships;
  - iii. 2023 WTPS races;
  - iv. 2023 PTWC races;
  - v. 2024 WT Paratriathlon World Championships;
  - vi. 2024 WTPS races;
  - vii. 2024 PTWC races.
- d. During the 2023/24 off-season, as the event calendar becomes available, the Panel may request that athletes race in specific events in 2024 in advance of the closing of the qualification window in order to gain greater nomination clarity in particular sport-classes. Choosing not to compete in these events may harm an athlete's chances of being selected.

#### 2.15 Phase 4 – June/July 2024 – Bipartite invitations

- a. Bipartite invitations are a method by which National Paralympic Committees (NPC's) may attain additional places for named athletes in any given sport-class at the Games.
- b. Such invitations are offered by the IPC following consultation with WT. NPC's (i.e. the BPA) may submit requests to WT for Bipartite nominations, but the final decision as to whether to extend any invitations rests solely with WT and the IPC.
- c. The BTF will therefore consider submitting a request to the BPA, and subsequently to WT, for Bipartite invitations where:
  - i. the Panel have selected a reserve athlete in a single Games sport-class pursuant to either phase 2 or 3 above;
  - ii. a newly identified athlete possessing a steeply rising profile (indicating realistic medal potential for Paris 2024) has been unable to gain a place through the quota system; OR

- iii. a realistic Paris 2024 medal potential athlete – determined via assessment of the races outlined at paragraph 2.14 above – has been unable to secure a quota place due to injury, illness or any other exceptional medical condition (provided that injury/illness is deemed by the Panel to no longer impact on medal potential in Paris).

### **SECTION 3: DE-SELECTION AND REPLACEMENTS**

- 3.1 The process by which an athlete or guide may be de-selected from ParalympicsGB depends on the timing of both the Athlete Entry Deadline and the Delegation Registration Meeting (“DRM”) – i.e. the date on which ParalympicsGB is formally entered into the Games. The Athlete Entry Deadline is currently set for 5 August 2024, and the DRM set for 15 August 2024.
- 3.2 At any time prior to the Athlete Entry Deadline (and with agreement from the BPA, between Athlete Entry Deadline and DRM), the BTF reserves the right to withdraw an athlete or guide’s nomination should they:
  - a. in the reasonable opinion of the Panel – taking into account the athlete(s)’ preparation and tapering plans for the Games – experience a significant drop in form which suggests that they may not be able to deliver (or, if available, a reserve athlete/guide may now be better equipped to deliver) performances at the Games equivalent to those which secured their nomination (either via an automatic or discretionary phase);
  - b. in the reasonable opinion of the BTF Chief Medical Officer (“CMO”) (and/or BPA CMO if appropriate) and Head of Paratriathlon be affected by injury/illness (including mental health challenges) which impacts on their potential to deliver (or, if available, a reserve athlete/guide may now be better equipped to deliver) performances at the Games at least equivalent to those which secured their nomination (either via an automatic or discretionary phase);
  - c. fail to attend the BTF preparation camp, or, if a reserve athlete/guide, fail to remain available for the Games; OR
  - d. commit a serious breach of the TMA; OR
  - e. in the case of guides and reserve guides behave in a manner which the Panel believe would be detrimental to their PTVI athlete producing his or her best result at the Games.
- 3.3 In the event of the withdrawal of an athlete nomination pursuant to 3.2 the BTF may, but will not be obliged, to nominate a reserve athlete from the same sport-class.
- 3.4 In the case of withdrawal of any guide the Panel would then look to nominate the relevant reserve guide to race with the affected PTVI athlete at the Games.
- 3.5 Following the DRM, rules regarding athlete de-selections and replacements at the Paralympic Games are outlined in the IPC’s “Late Athlete Replacement Policy” (“the LARP”), which is reviewed for each Paralympic Games. At the time of writing, the BTF understands that for Paratriathlon at Paris 2024, no athlete replacements will be permitted after the DRM.
- 3.6 The BTF understands that guide replacements WILL be permitted following the DRM. Guides may be de-selected at this stage and replaced by another guide, with the permission of the IPC/WT due to the guide no-longer being eligible, or due to injury/illness. Under the terms of this Policy if in the opinion of the Head of Paratriathlon – in consultation with the BTF CMO and/or BPA CMO and external specialist opinion where necessary – the injury/illness will impact upon a guide’s ability to support their

athlete to deliver the level of performance expected of them at the point of nomination he or she may be replaced.

- 3.7 Due to the timing associated with making such a decision, the de-selection and replacement of a guide following DRM is entirely at the discretion of the Head of Paratriathlon (in liaison with the Chef de Mission), acting reasonably and taking account of all relevant factors.
- 3.8 The processes outlined above will be reviewed (and amended where required) following publication of the IPC's Late Athlete Replacement Policy. This is expected to be published late 2023.

#### **SECTION 4: APPEALS**

- 4.1 Athletes may appeal any pre-DRM decision under this Policy that affects them under the "BTF Appeals Policy" which can be found on the [BTF website](#). The appeal will proceed directly to Sport Resolutions UK under the 'Second Appeals' process set out at paragraph 4 of the BTF Appeals Policy. Athletes wishing to seek advice regarding the appeals process are advised to contact the British Elite Athletes' Association (BEAA) at <https://britisheliteathletes.org/>.
- 4.2 In the event that the BPA refuses to ratify a nomination by the BTF Panel, or in the case of de-selections that take place after DRM, the BTF may appeal that decision under the BPA's Appeals Policy, which will be provided upon request.

#### **SECTION 5: AMENDMENT**

- 5.1 In the event that any unforeseen circumstance makes any provision of this Policy unworkable or ineffective to promote the aims of the Policy, the BTF will be entitled to amend this Policy so that the aims can be secured. Any amended version will be made available at [www.britishtriathlon.org](http://www.britishtriathlon.org).