

## **TSA SELECTION CRITERIA (Effective October 2007)**

### INTRODUCTION

Triathlon South Africa will select teams to compete in the African Triathlon Championships, ITU World Championships in Triathlon, Duathlon, Aquathlon and Long Distance Triathlon and Duathlon and other events as necessary. Teams will be selected on merit but the TSA Affirmative Action Policy will be applied in the selection of all teams. This criteria must be considered in conjunction with the TSA Elite Status; Criteria and Procedure.

The teams will be selected by the following TSA Selection Committees:

### FOR TRIATHLON

Commonwealth Games	Commonwealth Selection Committee upon the recommendation of the Elite Selection Committee (subject to ITU allocation)
Olympic Games	SASCOC Selection Committee upon the recommendation of the Elite Selection Committee (subject to ITU allocation)
Elite, U/23 and Junior Elite	Elite Selection committee
Age Groups	Triathlon Selection committee

### FOR DUATHLON

Elite, U/23 and Junior Elite	Elite Selection committee
Age Groups	Duathlon Selection committee

### FOR AQUATHLON

Elite, U/23 and Junior Elite	Elite Selection committee
Age Groups	Aquathlon Selection committee

### TSA SELECTION POLICY

#### A ELIGIBILITY

Applicable to all selections at all times, including selection to Commonwealth- and Olympic teams.

1. Athletes must be registered with Triathlon South Africa through one of the Member provinces.
2. The athlete's name must appear on the current TSA database.

3. It is the responsibility of athletes to ensure that their contact details are updated (TSA database on [www.triathlonsa.co.za](http://www.triathlonsa.co.za) )
4. Athletes must be in possession of a valid South African passport.
5. Elite, U/23 and Junior Elite athletes must have qualified for an Elite license.
6. To compete in ITU World Championships, athletes must also qualify according to the ITU's Eligibility Rules (B.2 ITU Competition Rules) and the criteria of SASCOC.
7. Prior to selection, the athlete must have competed at the immediate past South African Championships. (Unless the President of TSA grants an athlete exemption.)
8. After selection and should the selected event follow the South African Championships, the athlete must compete at the South African Championships, failing which such athlete will forfeit selection. (Unless the President of TSA grants an athlete exemption.)

#### AGE OF COMPETITOR

The age of any athlete will be taken as at 31 December in the year of competition.

Elite athletes may not be younger than 16 years of age.

#### B. TRIATHLON

##### B1. ELITE ATHLETES

##### For African Continental Championships

- The first four male and four females at the SA Championships to be selected to represent South Africa. If a U/23 elite athlete places in the first four, such athlete will be considered for both Elite and U/23 selection. The final decision will be with the Elite selection committee. Any other Elite athlete in good standing with TSA may request participation in the event.

##### For World Championships

- Subject to ITU allocation, the first three males and three females from the Africa Region at the regional championship (All Africa Championships) secure positions to the ITU World Championships. If a selected athlete does not take up his/her position, the position may be offered on a roll down basis (based on the All Africa Championship results) to the next athlete that fulfils the ITU criteria for racing in the World Championships.
- ITU ranking according to the ITU requirements (top 50 ranking in the month preceding the World Championships) If an athlete is ranked in the top 50 he/she will be selected for the World Championship. If that athlete is one of the top three at the regional championship (All Africa Championship), the position will roll down to the next athlete that fulfils the ITU requirements.
- The African Championships is the sole selection event for the elite category at the World Championships. The race is open to all registered elite and U/23 elites.

## B2. UNDER 23 ELITE ATHLETES

### For the African Regional Championships

- The first four placed male or female athletes at the South African Championships (excluding those that may have been selected in the Elite team.) may be selected to represent South Africa. Any other U/23 Elite athlete in good standing with TSA may request participation in the event.

### For the World Championships

- Based on the performance of the team at the previous World Championships, the ITU will allocate a quota to each country.
- The top finishers according to the quota described above at the African Championships (excluding those that may have qualified for an elite position.)
- Performance in both the SA Championships and the African Regional Championships will be considered. The races are weighted equally in terms of selection. Athletes are encouraged to compete in both events to give themselves the best chance of selection.

## B3. JUNIOR ELITE ATHLETE

### For the African Regional Championships

- The first four males and females will be selected in both the 16-17 and 18-19 categories. In terms of TSA Policy a fifth slot for both male and female, will be available to a previously disadvantaged athlete or an athlete of a rural community
- Selectors will consider including athletes that race in the U/23 category at SA Champs , but still in the age category 16 – 19
- It is the responsibility of the selectors to select the team that will be able to return the best results for TSA.
- All selected athletes will race in one category (16-19) at African Champs however awards will be made in both 16-17 and 18-19 categories.
- Any Junior Elite athlete in good standing with TSA may request participation in the event.

### For the World Triathlon Championships

The first four placed finishers at the African Regional Championships will automatically qualify for a slot, subject to three slots per national federation. Based on the performance of the team at World Champs for the previous year, ITU will allocate a quota.

- Selectors will consider including athletes that race in the U/23 category, but still in the age category 16 – 19 at both South African Triathlon Champs and the African Championships. Both races are weighted equally.
- It will be the responsibility of the selectors to select a team that will be able to return the best possible results for TSA.

### C. LD TRIATHLON, DUATHLON, LD DUATHLON AND AQUATHLON

#### ELITE, U/23 AND JUNIOR ELITE - DUATHLON

The same principles pertaining to Triathlon apply.

#### AQUATHLON, LD TRIATHLON and LD DUATHLON

##### Selection for World Champs

The South African Championships – LD Triathlon, Duathlon, LD Duathlon and Aquathlon will be the selection races for World Championships.

No juniors may race in the World LD Championships

Only Elites and U/23 will race in the World Aquathlon Championships

- Top finishers at the SA Duathlon Championships in the Elite, U/23 and Junior Elite category. The selectors may decide on the size of the team up to the quota or number as determined by the ITU.
- The top finishers in the LD Triathlon and Duathlon Championships in the Elite category. The selectors may decide on the size of the team up to the quota or number as determined by the ITU.
- The top four male or female finishers at the SA Aquathlon Championships will be selected to race in the Elite or U/23 category of the World Aquathlon Championships.
- Elite Tri athletes who qualified to race in the World Triathlon Championships could race in the World Aquathlon Championships on invitation by the ITU.

### D. AGE GROUP ATHLETES

#### Selection for World Championships (Triathlon, LD Triathlon, Duathlon, LD Duathlon and Aquathlon)

The South African Championships will be the sole selection race for the Age Group World Championships.

- Finish in the top eight of each age category at the SA Championships;
- The selectors will select a further two athletes that could not compete at the SA Championships (due to a duly certified medical condition) or could not complete the race (due to a bona fide mechanical problem or bona fide medical condition). In the event of any of the above eight places not taken up, these two nominated athletes will take those places on a roll down basis.
- A further two previously disadvantaged athletes will be selected making up a team of ten in each category

- No wild cards will be available. South African athletes living abroad will not be considered for selection, unless such athletes comply with the Eligibility rules and competed at the SA Championships.
- An athlete holding an International Elite licence, if not selected in the Elite category for the Triathlon World Championships, will automatically qualify for a slot to compete at the ITU World Triathlon Championships (Age Group).
- An athlete holding a Continental Elite licence will automatically qualify for a slot to compete at the ITU World Triathlon Championships (Age Group).

#### E. EQUALITY AND AFFRIRMATIVE ACTION POLICY

- Equal team sizes for men and women
- 20% of the places in each category will be available for previously disadvantaged athletes
- At least one extra position in the Junior categories must go to a previously disadvantaged athlete or an athlete of a rural community
- Athletes in the AWAD category will also have to comply with the above criteria, including participation at the SA Championships.
- Make contact with SASCOG and the ITU Physically Challenged Athletes Commission to provide opportunities for physically challenged athletes.