

## INTRODUCTION

This policy details the process and criteria by which Triathlon WA (TWA) will select members of the 2020-2021 Development Program (TWADP). The TWADP provides a pathway into high performance training/competition and Australian Youth/Junior/Age Group selection.

## OUR OBJECTIVES

- Assist the athlete with the skills & resources to participate and compete at a competitive/ 'elite' level
- Provide athletes with an avenue to pursue state and national representation
- Provide athletes with education and experience to compete at a state, national or international level
- Provide a team environment built around inclusion and encouragement at all TWADP activities and events.
- Support DTE and coaches to further develop the skills required to reach each athletes full potential.

## OUR AIM

- Talented junior athletes are supported achieve their potential
- Talented athletes have the opportunity to remain in WA to pursue elite performance

## ELIGIBILITY

Athletes must be at least 14 years of age and no older than 23 years of age at **31/12/2021** and thus eligible to race in the following racing categories:

- Youth: 14-15 years of age as at 31/12/2021
- Junior: 16 -19 years of age as at 31/12/2021
- U23: 20 -23 years as at the 31/12/2021

Athletes must be eligible to represent Australia if required.

Athletes must be in good standing with both Triathlon WA and Triathlon Australia.

Athletes must have a coach who is 'accredited' by Triathlon Australia (and hold a current membership).

## PROCEDURE

*detailed dates and timelines are provided separately*

- Athletes are invited to apply via the advertised means.
- All Nominating athletes are invited to time trial sessions arranged by TWA to be assessed against performance times.
- Athletes are assessed against the TWADP selection criteria and recommended to the relevant program tier.
- All athletes are notified of selection outcomes by emailed letter of offer.
- Athletes are required to formally accept the offer and associated paperwork by advertised date.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

The TWADP comprises four (4) tiers to cater for athletes at each level of the pathway. The numbers within each tier are determined by the selection criteria and the available resources, and thus may vary from year to year.

The 4 tiers are described in brief and the selection criteria detailed below.

**ASPIRING MEMBER** - athletes who show a keen interest in developing skills and have a commitment to racing at local events. These athletes are invited to a range of TWA activities and exposed to the training and skill development required at the next level at a 'pay as you go' rate.

**EMERGING SQUAD** - athletes who display skills and athletic ability towards the elite pathway and have commenced draft-legal racing events.

**Qualification Requirements:** athletes must demonstrate a **combination** of the following;

- 2019/20 Triathlete of the Year Age Group Podium (overall season)
- Selection to School Sport WA State Team
- Achievement of the swim and run or combined time trial

**Development Squad** - Athletes with the skills and athletic ability to race draft-legal and commenced racing at national events.

**Qualification Requirements:** athletes must demonstrate a **combination** of the following.

- 11th –18th position in the FINAL STANDINGS from the 2019/20 AYJS/U23 season
- Podium at School Sports National Event
- Achievement of the swim and run or combined time trial

*\*Consideration of 18/19 results due to shortened 19/20 season. Final discretion selection by TWA*

*\*Combination means meeting a minimum of 2 of the listed requirements.*

**Talent Squad** – athletes who display performance skills and have a clear performance mentality.

**Qualification Requirements:** athletes MUST demonstrate the following;

- 1st –10th position in the FINAL STANDINGS from the 2019/20 AYJS/U23 season
- Achievement of the swim and run or combined time trial

*\*Consideration of 18/19 results due to shortened 19/20 season. Final discretion selection by TWA*

**All athletes must hold a current Draft Legal Endorsement for selection into the program.**

## **SQUAD SELECTION DISCRETION AND REVIEW**

Selection and review is the responsibility of the Selection Committee (TWA Executive Director, TWA Athlete Pathway Coordinator, an independent reviewer appointed by TWA at the commencement of the season and a representative from Triathlon Australia HP team) and communicated to the athlete, parents and personal coach in a timely and respectful manner in line with our values. Following the scheduled time trial sessions, the Selection Committee will review all nominations, race results and time trial results and provide their selections in line with the above. The Selection Committee have the ability to make discretionary selections should this be required.

Athletes may move between squads at any point in the season. Movement between the squads is at Selection Committee discretion in line with the selection criteria and any other available information including athlete performances (racing and training) and their fulfilment (or non-fulfilment) of the requirements detailed in the athlete agreement (provided with the selection offer).