

National Coaches Committee [NCC] Minutes

Meeting: Monday 12th April 2021

Approved

Duration: via Zoom 01:22:00

Present

- Thanos Nikopoulos – World Triathlon
- Gergely Markus - World Triathlon
- Rolf Ebeling - World Triathlon
- Leslie Buchanan - World Triathlon
- Kate Murray - RSA
- Claudia Beristain -MEX
- Philippe Fattori - FRA
- Stephen Sheldrake - NZL
- Hideki Yamane - JPN
- Rick Velati - GBR
- Rodrigo Milazzo - BRA

Absent

- Miles Stewart – World Triathlon
- Antonio Arimany - World Triathlon

*For ease of minute taking only first names or initials of the members will be referred to in the minutes. You can see full names above

Item	Discussion Items	Discussion	Actions
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1	Opening remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - KM introduced agenda items; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Asked for rationale behind WT / EB decisions and clarity on several matters; the email questions are listed in 'Discussion Items'. - NOTE; main aim of this meeting was to go through the questions and understand the situation we are all in a bit better so 'actions' are fairly limited!
2	Please could Leslie and Miles explain the reasoning around the board's decision to return to Olympic and World ranking qualification events?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LB explained personal decision-making process in EB meeting. - Balance of athletes having opportunity to race and not having any races. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As stated in the provided document by World Triathlon, <i>Olympic Qualification would be restarted when all potential eligible athletes for the Olympic Games are allowed to travel to any country where events are held.</i> The qualification criteria document that all NFs have received from the IOC states that: <i>To be eligible to participate in the</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RM offered perspective from Brasil regarding travel issues. - PF offered perspective from France regarding travel issues. - Concern over quarantine in 'red-list' countries and finances associated with athletes and countries. - Issues raised about travel restrictions and competition cancellations in countries. This is different for World Triathlon Olympic qualification events which can be put on. The main discussion is that teams can travel to race BUT there is no guarantee of what happens around the race [finances in quarantine, doubts of returning home]. - CB raised possibility of funds from World Triathlon to help finances for countries who cannot afford travel to Olympic qualification purposes. - RE clarified point of Tokyo Olympic Games [5 qualification races] and how sport needs to 'stay alive' to this short-term goal. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Funding needs follow up and 'case by case' clarity GM / AA to follow up. - The discussion highlights the importance of understanding each other's perspective and unique country situation [regards travel, rules, finances, risk etc...]. it is very sensitive and must be respected.

	<p><i>Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, all athletes must meet one of the following requirements - being among the top 140 in the ITU Individual Olympic Qualification Ranking for qualification places.</i></p> <p>There are 17 Men and 17 Women from Latin America among the top 140, and they are experiencing extreme travel restrictions to the upcoming races in Europe. What has been proposed by World Triathlon, with these athletes who are more than 10% of the eligible field?</p>		
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The countries that can't travel to the events; this may stop them from qualifying for Tokyo and significantly affect their ability to keep their world rankings up. Therefore entries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GM clarified why World rankings have to open up with the Olympic ranking. - Complexity of TOKYO qualification process / targets and knock-on longer term selections / qualifications / targets. - Discussed impact onto Paris qualification period starting at 'normal' point of Olympic cycle – which would be mid 2022. - Importance of incentives such as Olympic qualification points to races 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Possibility of closing world ranking window after Tokyo qualification has finished – to pick up next meeting. - Possibility to delay start of Paris qualification window – to pick up next meeting.

	<p>in the future will become more complex. How will World Triathlon allow for this disadvantage that athletes will have in the future?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RV, CB updates on examples from GBR and MEX in terms of funding and costs associated with travel [tests etc] - Looking at regional / continental opportunities to 'rebuild' rankings and easier opportunities for athletes to compete. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What will happen if an athlete (or several athletes) gets sick with Covid-19 when travelling to an event? - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discussed the different bubble situations at races and LOC rules 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - After World Triathlon cancelled the 2020 Sarasota World Cup, then the 2020 Mooloolaba World Cup points were no longer considered. If one of the current events planned in the 2021 qualification period gets cancelled, will the same action be taken to maintain the points as they were when they were suspended at the end of 2019? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Decisions taken last year were also based on recommendations from NCC – the same process would happen again but there is currently no plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In 2020 athletes were already on their way to Abu Dhabi when World Triathlon cancelled the 2020 Abu Dhabi World Triathlon. Flights then had to be rebooked, and at the time, this expense was covered by travel insurance. However, travel insurance companies have since changed their policies, and now the athletes/federations will incur the costs. What will World Triathlon do to support athletes in this situation, or will it be down to the athletes cover the extra costs? - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Last year's decisions were unique and there were no bubbles, social distance rules in place etc so events going ahead are more likely. - Attributed funds can be looked at by WT – but also by athlete, NF etc... 	-
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the internal memo sent out. Regarding the Japanese events. The document 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GM clarified Japanese situation in wanting to absolutely minimise any outbreaks ahead of Tokyo OG – so there are a lot more restrictive measures in place and greater budget. Essentially YOKOHAMA is the 	-

	<p>says: <i>Due to increased travel restrictions imposed by the local authorities, the 2021 World Triathlon Cup Osaka has had to be cancelled.</i> If Osaka was planned for 08-09 MAY and Yokohama is scheduled for 15 MAY, one week later, shouldn't the travel restrictions apply the same way as both races are in the same country?</p> <p>-</p>	<p>more important event and had to be protected and Osaka could not afford or risk Yokohama.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reminded of athlete track and bubble situation in Japan. 	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Regarding athletes going after the new flag slot, will continental events count towards a qualification and what will happen if any continental championships get cancelled? <p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Are National Federations allowed more flexibility on withdrawal and substitution delays? A few years ago, a National Federation could withdraw athletes from any start list up to the Monday before the competition without any penalty. Could the same flexibility be applied for substitutions no matter if there is an event cancellation or postponement? Regarding the document on rules about Covid-19 adjustments. 2.2.b. b.) <i>Non-penalised replacements are allowed at any World Triathlon event in the seven days after the announcement of any event cancellation or postponement.</i> Does this mean that substitutions will be possible during seven 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COVID 19 rule added 2021 for event cancellations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -
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	<p>days following any cancellation?</p> <p>-</p>		
	<p>- Is there any more information regarding conditions to enter the Yokohama bubble?</p> <p>-</p>	<p>- GM referenced athlete track and timelines initiated from LOC / Japanese government</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>- In Leeds, on the LOC document, the bubble will be open from Tuesday the 1st until Monday the 7th. Will the para-triathlon teams leave before the 7th as their race is on the 5th?</p> <p>-</p>	<p>- GM referenced Leeds specific bubble document</p>	<p>-</p>
	<p>-</p> <p>AOB</p>	<p>- Reminder of NCC representative at WTS / WC events after swim familiarisations on site</p> <p>- Continuation of ability to measure run course.</p>	<p>- Next meeting pre-Yokohama 3rd May</p>