

Para triathlon Committee Minutes

Meeting: 15 March 2021

Approved

Duration: via Zoom 21:00 CET

Present

- Grant Darby (GD), CAN (C)
- Neil MacLeod (NM), ITA (VC)
- Martin Breedijk (MB), NED
- Christine Palmquist (CP), USA
- Beryl Campbell (BC), RSA
- Masamitsu Tomikawa (MT), JPN (joined late)
- Debbie Alexander (DA), RSA, Executive Board liaison
- Jonathan Goerlach (JG), AUS, Athlete Committee Representative
- Gergely Markus (GM) HUN – World Triathlon Sport Director
- Eric Angstadt (EA), ESP – World Triathlon Staff Liaison

Absent

*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
1	Apologies/absence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Lotfi Labaied (LL), TUN- Ian Howard (IH) (GBR), Executive Board liaison	

2	Discussion on the Qualification period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GD explained the meetings that have been taking place <p>MB had concerns for the situation not being fair for countries like AUS, GBR, NED where athletes are advised not to travel. Overall situation seems very unfair for all.</p> <p>CP agreed it was a very difficult decision, not easy, thinking on the uncertainty and how things are changing every week. Experience within PATCO and inability to travel makes the Not restarting as the most sensible solution. Some certainty is also needed for athletes to plan.</p> <p>NM: Need clear world-wide situation to see if possible, to train and travel. Really need to know what is doable not only in May but also June. If not, decision is clear. Do the principles for restarting still stand? The ability to travel and train should be the main aspects to consider.</p> <p>JG added that as Australian athletes they may not be able to travel before the Games</p> <p>BC: RSA is currently now allowed in some countries, vaccination process is very slow, so as touch as it is, not restarting may be the most optimal solution.</p> <p>GD reminded the group that the Para triathlon Committee's view will only be a recommendation, just like the recommendations made by the coaches committee and para coaches working group.</p>	
3	GM Presentation on feedback summary so far	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GM presented the views and outcomes from the survey that was sent to the NFs about the restarting feasibility, as well as from the other committees consulted. - Training does not seem to be the problem at this moment in time. Travel with quarantine either upon arrival or upon return, currently pose a variety of challenges. - Vaccinations happening at very different levels depending on each country. 	-

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Feedback from athletes in the survey more or less similar to the feedback from the coaches. - Coaches Committee and para coaches working group recommended not to restart nor postpone the decision any further. - The Athlete’s Committee will express their views at the EB meeting. - GM requested the Para triathlon Committee to please send via email the recommendation immediately after the call. - A lot of questioning happening about other sports celebrating various events in the last few weeks. - GM mentioned the decisions are likely to be consistent for both Olympic and Paralympic side. - JG added that from the athlete’s committee mentioned how the % was quite different from what happened from the Olympic side versus the Paralympic side. - GD reiterated the discussion around the pending continental champs that could have a chance to count if such provision is made even if the period would not restart. GM reminded the group that Asia and Africa are on the calendar but not for the America’s region. A clear deadline would need to be set as to until when these events can happen to be considered. Counting retrospectively is not likely to be considered should these events not happen in 2021. - MB agreed that retrospective consideration would be very tricky. The Coaches working group did recommend using those from 2019 if needed. GD suggested looking at alternatives ways to compensate athletes that may miss the cut should those champs not happen. At the same time, taking away achievements/points from athletes that have competed at other continental champs such as OTU or ETU should not be considered either. 	
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NM mentioned the PC's recommendation requires specific wording as per the discussions taking place. - MT expressed via email the need to restart the period to offer as many opportunities as possible. - <i>Many discussions on the exact provisions took place, I am just including the final recommendation:</i> <p>Recommendations from the Para Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Majority of para triathlon committee members support freezing the ranking points (5 support, 1 does not support, 1 absent) due to travel restrictions and the challenge of fair competition. - All in favour of having an exception for the remaining Continental Champs to count, if they take place before the latest possible qualification date (note: 2 of 5 Continental Champs took place in the qualification period). The only additional ranking points that may be added would be from Continental Champs from 2021, these would be counted for the 3 regions that did not have Continental Champs in the qualification period - 3 in favour, 3 against, 1 absent, to use previous Continental Championship results from 2019, for a region that did not have a Continental Championship in the period AND cannot complete a Continental Champs in the 2021 qualification period. There are two concerns, one with regard to the legal issue of using past results, the other the fairness of some Continents not having an opportunity for additional points. - Do not take points away from athletes/regions that were able to host a Continental Champs prior to the frozen period. - Paralympic Selections by Invitation (Bipartite) are clearly stated to be based on performance to ensure the "best of the best". 	
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9	Next Meeting	- Planned for TUE 23 rd March 2021 at 21:00 CET	
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