

Para triathlon Committee Minutes

Meeting: 23 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
- Masamitsu Tomikawa (MT), JPN
- Lotfi Labaied (LL), TUN
- Beryl Campbell (BC), RSA
- Debbie Alexander (DA), RSA, Executive Board liaison
- Ian Howard (IH) (GBR), Executive Board liaison
- Jonathan Goerlach (JG), AUS, Athlete Committee Representative
- 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		
2	Approval of minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EA updated the PC on the process to approve/confirm minutes once circulated. 	Minutes will be posted under https://www.triathlon.org/about/committees/paratriathlon_committee

3	Quality field discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GD and EA gave a brief background on how the calculation in para triathlon came to be - IH: There will be a trend in competitiveness that will be observable in the next 5-10 years. Being able to identify and reflect disparities between continents through a suitable quality of field factor for both able body and para athletes will be essential. The current size of para fields is so much smaller, that a lot more thought needs to be given to this process. - GD: Survey from the coaches working group is inconclusive and some of the points awarded through the rankings in the different level of racing have changed in the last years. Sub-group from the PC to analyse current values and come up with a proposal. - NM mentioned they use a coefficient inside Italy that seems to be working well, but consultation with other continents should take place. - DA reminded the need to ensure there is a spread of participation for the Paralympic Games, participating continents, number of nations, etc. DA mentioned as an example the two top RSA athletes in able body and how they can be potentially penalised by being in the African continent yet being fully competitive world-wide. - Maybe the increase of continental races would provide the needed starts that seem to be lacking in para triathlon. 	<p>Meeting from working group to take place to understand how it currently works and devise if there is any way forward in the near future.</p> <p>The full PC were happy to take part in the discussion of the quality of field factor. Date tbd.</p>
4	EB Meeting discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GD expressed gratitude towards the EB and the difficult decision they had to take the week prior regarding the resuming or not of the qualification period. - IH explained how the decision was basically unanimous despite the difficulty of the world-wide pandemic. All the pros and cons were discussed in detail to come to a decision. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - GD expressed once again the PC fully respected the decision the EB had made. - DA reminded that as Executive Board members, they were representing the global triathlon community and not their own countries or continents, that the main responsibility is to ensure the sport grows globally by setting international standards and excellence in sport. The EB takes into account the existing goals in the strategic plan, and given the current situation in the world, they viewed as a disservice to the athletes not to offer further opportunities. 	
5	IPC Updates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EA: awaiting decision from Paris for the Medal Event programme and about VI classification opportunities as well as potential opportunities for PI to cover exceptional needs prior to Tokyo 2020. - CAG members will be discussed as interests are still being collected. - BC asked about expanding the pool of classifiers to continents like Africa. EA explained this would be one of the priorities as soon as the new course materials are developed. In the past, engagement of smaller nations through the NPCs has been attempted but not successful so we need to devise a proper strategy. 	
6	MIC Survey status	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EA: extended the window as we have not reached 50% of the expected feedback from the proposed participants. New deadline: 9th April 2021. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EA to contact the pending ones individually to ensure they proceed.

7	Classification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - EA mentioned a general meeting for all senior classifiers would be taking place this week to ensure there is some engagement for them and ongoing discussions on relevant matters that affect the current status of para triathlon classification. 	
8	AOB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - JG asked about Milan and any updates around the WCH event. Further information was to come back from FITRI and a call will take place in 2 days to provide full update on this matter. 	
9	Next Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planned for TUE 27th April 2021 at 21:00 CET (19:00 GMT). Potential meeting for discussing the QF Factor on THU May 6th and time tbd. 	