

DC TRI CLUB ELITE TEAM APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in the DC Triathlon Club's Elite Team Program (ETP). The Club strives to provide opportunities for athletes of all abilities by offering a suite of training programs that encompass every aspect of the sport of triathlon. The journey begins with the New Triathlete Program (NTP) and culminates with the Elite Team.

Mission

The mission of the ETP is to give the fastest triathletes in the DC Metropolitan area the opportunity to train and race together as a team. By doing so, we provide these athletes with the support structure and resources necessary to reach the highest levels of competition.

Leading by example, these athletes foster competitive drive throughout the club and inspire others to follow in their footsteps.

Qualifications

- While the application process is open to all, this is an elite-level Team and we expect athletes to consistently place at the top of their age group AND overall categories, hold a high USAT Overall/Women's Overall Score (typically around an 90 or higher), and race competitively on all levels (local, national, and global)
- You do not have to be a member of the DCTriClub to apply for the Team; however, if selected, you must become an active member of DCTC in good standing for the duration of tenure (December 2021 - December 2022).
- You should be a USAT member in good standing.

About the Team

The Elite Team is a small group of elite-level triathletes that represents the DC Triathlon Club and all our sponsors. Applicants (and selected members) are expected to regularly place at or near the top of their Age Group; as well as, at or near the top of the overall field. Members must re-apply for the Team every year and being on the Team does not guarantee re-acceptance in the subsequent year.

Members of the Team are a mix of short and long course racers. Short course racers are expected to be qualified to race in the Open/Elite waves of a race if that option is available, and Long Course racers are expected to be competitive enough to place on or near the top of their Age Group, or near the top of the Overall field. However, members do not have to stick with just one course style of racing and are encouraged to challenge themselves to go long or to go faster in short courses!

Expectations during Membership

While we do not have a specific set of races that team members are required to do, we do try to represent the larger DC Triathlon Club at many of their featured races.

We are a sponsored amateur elite team, with the DC Triathlon Club as our largest supporter, so we expect the Team members to give back to the Club in appreciation of that support. The Club has a plethora of ways that members can give back, one of which is through volunteering as a co-leader in Club Programs (New Triathlete, Half IM, etc). These programs typically offer two Clinic Days in the spring that members are required to help at (two Sundays typically for 4-5 hours each day). There are many other events (Club Training weekends, Club Races, Community Support) where we encourage Team members to volunteer and give back to the Club. Triathletes tend to take a lot from the community, so we like to see our Team members give back in some way.

Being a sponsored elite team that means we have sponsor obligations. This tends to require social media support (hash-tagging, promoting, etc) so a social media presence is needed. The sponsors give the Team members benefits so we, in turn, need to show them a return on their investment as best that we can. This typically entails providing a set number of social media tags per month, social media engagement, and some in-person activities. Please be aware that sponsor obligations are a requirement while a member of the Team.

Team Benefits

The camaraderie of being with a bunch of like-minded, elite-level athletes with the goal to win Age Groups, divisions, and races! Having said that, we are a team of varied distance racers who are not all doing the same goal races, so we are not a team that can always train together due to varied individual training needs. We do a lot more social events together, but we also try to join up for group runs and group rides when we can. The supportive environment, no matter the speed or distance is what keeps our team encouraging each other, challenging each other, and training together whenever we can.

- **From the Club**, you will receive training and racing gear including cycling kits, running kits, and a triathlon racing kit, along with other accessories.
- **From sponsors**, you may receive support in the form of gear, nutrition, and/or discounts on merchandise and services they provide.

Finally, every Spring we host a Team Training Camp where we go out of town for a long weekend for some team building; as well as fun (but intense) training. We bring out a professional photographer for team photos, portraits, and of course a few silly candids. This is an opportunity to really connect with teammates, learn from each other to improve skills, and the opportunity to push yourself to get stronger.

Athlete Responsibilities

- Train and race exclusively in DC Tri Club Elite Team gear.
- Provide team manager(s) with race results, reports, and pictures.
- Promote the team and its sponsors on social media
- Training / racing blogs are encouraged but not required.
- Join scheduled team workouts and training camps.
- Volunteer for club events, clinics, and forums each year (club happy hours do not count).
- Prioritize local DC metro area races, club target races, and club championships.

- Contribute to the DC Triathlon Club forum in response to questions and posts from DC Triathlon Club members.
- Positively represent DC Tri Club and its sponsors at all times and abide by the Team's Code of Conduct.

Selection Process

Candidates will submit a completed application by 11:59 p.m. on October 31st, 2021. The application should be taken seriously, as it will showcase your attributes in both competition and for the multisport community. Being fast is one great aspect to being a team member but making a better triathlon community and giving back is also of utmost importance and not to be overlooked.

A selection committee will review all applications and select finalists based on the following metrics: race results, involvement in the sport/ties to community, and enthusiasm to be a part of a team. If any DCTC board member has applied, they will not be permitted to participate in any part of the selection process.

Team members will be notified of the committee's decision in mid November and the Team will be announced at the DC Triathlon Club annual meeting. Newly selected team members must attend.

If, at any time during the season, a member of the Team is not fulfilling their obligations, the athlete in question may be removed from the Team at the discretion of Team Leadership.