



## 2026 Elite Triathlon Bridge Program

This Bridge Program is designed to help athletes bridge the gap to the Senior National Team and/or the Mallow Development National Team. The following incentives and performance bonuses are available for any USAT Elite Triathlon athletes who do not currently have a funding agreement, who are in good standing with USAT, and who are eligible to represent the USA at the 2028 Olympic games. **Athletes who have qualified for any level of the USAT Elite National Team, past or present, will not be eligible for this incentive plan.** Athletes will only be allowed to participate in this program a total of three times. If they have not achieved a funded team status after six funded race opportunities, then they will not be eligible for this program any longer.

### Athletes race age 26+

Athletes must achieve two (2) results that match the following criteria (Quality of Field standards apply for all races):

1. Win at an Americas, Asia, Oceania, or African Cup Race
2. Top 3 at European Cup
3. World Cup top 10

\*Both results must be within seven months of each other. Results can be two of the same criteria, or two of any combination. Results from different years are eligible as long as they are within seven months of each other, and one of the results is achieved when the athlete is race-age 26+. All results must be achieved after January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026.

\*\*Races are only valid if the QOF meets the following standard: Americas, Asia, Oceania, or African Cup races must have at least three athletes participating who are ranked in the top 125 on the World Triathlon points list; European cups must have at least five athletes ranked in the top 125; and World Cups must have at least 10 athletes ranked in the top 125 on the WT points list (QOF ranking is taken prior to the race starting, not after).

#### Athletes who achieve the above criteria will receive:

- Two (2) World Cups, or mutually agreed upon WTCS races, fully funded, with a bonus structure for World Cups.
  - If an athlete achieves a top 5 at either funded WC, or top 20 at a WTCS (QOF rules apply), they will get an additional WC, or WTCS race, fully funded. This pattern will continue for a maximum of 3 additional world cups / WTCS races.
- Athletes must utilize this funding opportunity within 12 months of hitting the criteria.
- **PLEASE NOTE:** Qualifying for the World Triathlon Race funding does not guarantee a race start.. In order for athletes to utilize their funded races, they must be able to get on to the start list on their own accord.

#### World Cup Bonus Structure

FINISH PLACE	Bonus
1	\$3,000
2	\$2,500
3	\$2,000
4	\$1,800
5	\$1,700
6	\$1,500
7	\$1,250
8	\$1,000



## **U25/Junior/NCAA**

1. Win Women's NCAA D1, Draft Legal National Championships.
2. Win men's Collegiate Club Draft Legal National Championships
3. World Triathlon\* Conti Cup podium
4. World Triathlon\* European Cup top 6
5. Three (3) Wins at Junior Development Series Races

### **Athletes who achieve the above criteria will receive:**

- Two (2) flights to developmentally appropriate World Triathlon continental cup races.
  - If an athlete achieves a podium at either of the funded World Triathlon\* races, they will receive another Continental Cup race fully funded. This pattern will continue for a maximum of 2 races.

\*QOF for World Triathlon races = the 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked athlete must be ranked in the top 125 on the WT points list before the race begins.