

USA TRIATHLON | MULTISPORT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS FESTIVAL

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

2028–2029 HOST OPPORTUNITY

Bring a national championship to your city. Host the nation's top multisport athletes as they race for national titles and spots at the World Championships.

800–1,500	2,000–3,500
UNIQUE ATHLETES	RACE REGISTRATIONS

BIDS DUE January 30, 2027

USA TRIATHLON

RACE MANAGEMENT AND PRODUCTION PROPOSAL

USA Triathlon, in line with USA Triathlon's Strategic Plan, Elevate 2028: Focus Forward, is working to grant new opportunities for race directors to benefit from hosting additional large-scale events and National Championships in partnership with our organization. We are seeking to ensure the best athlete experience coupled with the ability to grant additional opportunities for our USA Triathlon Race Directors. Examples of format could include:

- New event
- Add-on additional race formats to an existing event with new branding specific to USA Triathlon National Championship
- Rebrand an existing race format already including the races outlined below as the USA Triathlon National Championship

USA Triathlon invites race directors and race management companies to bid on hosting the USA Triathlon Multisport National Championships Festival for a multi-year engagement with the opportunity to extend. The comprehensive race management requirements are contained within this document. This event will also qualify athletes for World Triathlon World Championships.

The race management company that is chosen is responsible for overall execution, planning, creating and fostering relationships, completing permits, recruitment of volunteers, and overall management of the event, both operationally and financially. USA Triathlon will partner with the race management company and will provide support in line with the bid opportunity. This event would expect to welcome 800-1500 athletes with expectations of 2000-3500 race registrations, along with several thousand spectators and guests from all 50 states over 2-4 days of racing. The economic impact is significant based on higher average household income of athletes, family, and friends that travel alongside those competing, as well as multiple day racing that yields increased hotel stays.

EVENT OWNERSHIP

The selected race management team shall operate the event, while in partnership and consultation with USA Triathlon. This is to ensure the highest level of production, athlete experience, and safety. USAT will play a key and vital role in establishing, as a baseline, what activations and experiences must be present at the event. The race management team will ultimately own and be responsible for Profit and Loss Statement of the event, as well as the event overall.

RACES

The below races are National Championship races that also have a World Championship event and must be held:

- Aquathlon National Championships (1000m swim, 5km run or 2.5km run, 1000m swim, 2.5km depending on water temperature)
- Draft-Legal Sprint Duathlon National Championships (5km run, 20km bike*, 2.5km run)
- Standard Duathlon National Championships (10km run, 40km bike*, 5km run)
- Standard Aquabike National Championships (1500m swim, 40km bike*)

*Multiple laps are permitted on the bike courses, but should ideally be kept to a maximum of three.

	REGISTRATIONS				
DISCIPLINE	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Aquathlon	312	293	313	229	283
Draft-Legal Duathlon	306	303	265	216	329
Standard Duathlon	310	283	232	160	245
Aquabike	312	366	299	209	289

Additional race options that are not required, but have previously been a part of Multisport Festival that carry the National Championship designation:

- Super Sprint Time Trial Triathlon (250m swim, 5km bike, 1km run)
- Super Sprint Time Trial Duathlon (2.5km run, 5 km bike, 1 km run)
- Mixed Relay Duathlon: Four athletes per team each complete a super sprint duathlon (1km run, 5 km bike, 1km run)

	REGISTRATIONS				
DISCIPLINE	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Super Sprint Time Trial Triathlon	321	444	333	260	187
Super Sprint Time Trial Duathlon	N/A	216	214	171	195
Mixed Relay Duathlon (Teams of 4)	N/A	29	22	18	23

Additional race options that could be added but would not carry a National Championship designation include but are not limited to:

- Open Water Swim Competition (750m)
- 5k Fun Run
- Open Non-Draft Sprint Triathlon
- Open Non-Draft Olympic-Distance Triathlon

– Note that additional races may be added to the schedule
– Race distances should be within 5% of the above recommendations if at all possible

	REGISTRATIONS				
DISCIPLINE	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Open Water Swim Competition	169	246	277	197	138
5k Fun Run	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Open Non-Draft Sprint Triathlon	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Open Non-Draft Olympic-Distance Triathlon	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

SELECTION TIMELINE

At time of selection, Host must sign a legal contract with USA Triathlon.
A timeline of the selection process is as follows:

- Bid Process Open – November 2026
- Application Deadline – January 30, 2027
- Host Selected and Notified – March 1, 2027
- Formal Announcement to follow

LOCATION HISTORY

YEAR	SITE	REGISTRATIONS
2022	Irving, Texas	2,469
2023	Irving, Texas	3,200
2024	Omaha, Nebraska	2,903
2025	Omaha, Nebraska	2,077
2026	South Haven, Michigan	2,178*

**Includes three additional events*

EVENT DATES

Date selection should be considerate of other local events, large national events and World Triathlon Championship dates, where applicable and known – in order to draw the strongest athlete attendance. Event date should be between April and December and cities must have multi-year (2+) availability.

USA Triathlon has a city option, including date, that would be willing to discuss should there be mutual interest. Additionally, USA Triathlon is able to help facilitate these conversations.

SITE + HOST SELECTION CRITERIA

USA Triathlon will use the following guidelines in reviewing submitted bids for the event:

- Event Location and Venue: Adequate space for swim start/finish, transition area, finish line, athlete recovery area, spectator viewing, and race expo. Venue should not be more than a 20-minute drive from primary hotels or lodging options. Approximate space needed is 300,000+ square feet.
- Ideal locations will be near drive markets, and close to convenient domestic airports. Additionally, locations that will appeal based on city, travel ease from all US locations, as well as the course design and event layout will all be strongly considered to ensure the best athlete attendance and experience.
- Weather: Threat of major weather events such as tornadoes, hurricanes, and other severe weather should be minimal.
- Swim: Clean, scenic body of water with minimal-to-no-current with temperatures ranging between 60F and 80F, ideally. Water quality must be safe for swimming based on water quality testing. The testing agency or agency that governs the body of water will make this determination coupled with our USA Triathlon safety recommendations
- Bike: Safe course with roads that are in good condition, with minimal safety concerns, and must be closed/controlled to traffic during all racing.
- Run: Safe course that should be predominately on paved roads, trails, or sidewalks.
- Hotels: Should be able to service thousands of athletes plus staff, friends, family, spectators, and sponsors with ideal pricing between $90 - $200 per night. If USA Triathlon has a preferred lodging or travel partner, that partner must be used or replaced with fee accommodation
- Gathering Space: To service a variety of events such as Rules Briefing (attendance ranging from 200-300) and awards. Can be indoor or outdoor.
- Parking: Ideal parking should be on-site or a short walk to the venue. If not, transportation options should be submitted as part of bid.

- Athlete Accessibility: Proper accessibility must be available to allow paratriathletes to participate in non-draft races, inclusion of Clydesdale and Athena categories, as well as non-binary athletes wishing to compete.
- USA Triathlon brand exposure and representation of a USA Triathlon National Championship: there are specific considerations and expectations of how USA Triathlon will be represented at the race, which will include signage, finish line, awards, backdrops, and other experiential elements. Production and cost responsibility will be dependent on the bid arrangement.
- USA Triathlon Corporate Partners, USAT Foundation, and Age Group Team USA Needs: The selected Race Management team and host must work in partnership with USA Triathlon to support the needs and contractual commitments of USA Triathlon's Corporate Partners, including opportunities for brand exposure, product integration, activation, and utilization of partner products and services throughout the event.

  This includes, but is not limited to, expo presence and activation, athlete apparel and merchandise, finisher medals, swim caps, signage and branding, timing, registration platforms, hydration, recovery, and other relevant race supplies, equipment, and services.

  Where applicable, USA Triathlon Corporate Partners should be given priority consideration and the opportunity to provide products and services within their respective categories, in alignment with existing partnership agreements and event needs. The Race Management team and host will be expected to collaborate with USA Triathlon to identify opportunities to integrate these partners into event operations and the athlete experience, with any exceptions or alternative sourcing discussed and approved by USA Triathlon.

  The ability and willingness to support USA Triathlon's corporate partnership commitments, USAT Foundation initiatives, and Age Group Team USA needs will be important considerations in host selection.

EVENT INVESTMENT BY RACE MANAGEMENT + HOST

Investment by Race Management to USA Triathlon, for the right to host the event, will depend upon on what is put forth in the bid submission. Considerations may include include a percentage of race entry fees and/or a direct bid fee to cover USA Triathlon's hard and soft costs. USA Triathlon will evaluate bids based on the best overall fit across all areas including, but not limited to, date, location, experience, thoroughness of bid, courses, venue, financial package, and more.

EXPECTATIONS OF RACE MANAGEMENT + HOST

Logistics, planning, and associated costs of the event (including, but not limited to, the items below):

City Services

- Police - used for traffic control, road closures and security
- Fire Department (used for EMS, on-water safety, etc.)
- Permits and all costs associated with the permitting process
- Traffic control
- Road closure costs
- Lake/Park/Course maintenance and upkeep for the event

Safety and Medical

- Safety plan, course plan, water quality testing results, traffic control plan, etc. review with USA Triathlon
- Medical Staff, Equipment and Supplies-approximately 15-17 licensed medical professionals, medical director and two ambulances should be on site at all times as well as appropriate medical staffing on race courses
- Lifeguards, kayakers and water safety costs including any needed boat, kayak, and paddleboard rentals and staffing from Police, Fire and/or Coast Guard
- Security

Operational

- USA Triathlon Sanctioned including compliance with sanctioning deadlines and requirements
- Certified USA Triathlon Race Director by end of 2027, if not already certified
- Full set of results submitted to USAT including all categories including age up results for Team USA purposes
- Stairs/ramp for water entrance and/or exit if needed
- Timing (must use USA Triathlon's preferred partner)
- Athlete Race Identification to include swim cap numbering and/or race tattoos, helmet and seat post stickers, bike rack stickers, race bibs, and swim caps
- Staffing and Volunteer support for event
- Rental equipment and infrastructure
- Motorcycles for officials (3 - 4 in total)
- Officials (including travel, lodging, and stipend for 16 - 18 officials)
- Expo space to accommodate 25+ vendors to be a combination of those that the Host secures, as well as current USA Triathlon partners wishing to activate at the event.
- Award ceremony location with podiums, backdrop, and adequate sound
- Meeting and Banquet space, if needed, for Rules Briefing, Expo, Packet Pick Up, Awards Ceremony, etc.
- Branding to include mesh, backdrops, finish line gantry, finish line tape, and more to meet branding requirements to deliver a true National Championship experience

Athlete Deliverables

- Goody bags
- Athlete premium item(s)
- Finisher medals (design requires USA Triathlon approval)
- Place medals as outlined and required by USA Triathlon
- Hydration
- Post-race food

Community Involvement

- Awareness to market and promote the event to the local community
- Inclusion of Sports Commission and/or Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Unique and creative activations to continually generate interest

All other expenses not listed above are the responsibility of race management/host

USA TRIATHLON SUPPORT

- USA Triathlon Event Team consultancy and on-site event support
  - Our team will help consult from planning through execution including:
    - Course layout recommendations for both non-draft and draft-legal
    - Technical guidance
    - Safety best practices and planning
    - Assignment of Officials and enforcement of rules (officials stipends, travel, and lodging costs borne by Race Management)
    - Entry Fee price points
    - Weather and event coordination
    - Local Organizing Committee and Sports Commissions relationship
    - Emergency and Contingency Planning
    - Schedule of events
    - Traffic control
    - On-course medical (land and water)
    - Past logistical recommendations based on athlete feedback
    - Announcer recommendations if needed
- USA Triathlon Marketing and Communications support
  - Leverage of new Salesforce Marketing Cloud technology, accessing targeted communications to USA Triathlon membership
  - Active promotion of National Championships through our USA Triathlon channels – email, social media, press releases, membership communications, and more.
  - Event and Athlete guide templates
  - Athlete education trainings
  - PR and Crisis communications
- USA Triathlon Legal Team support
  - Comprehensive insurance coverage and support from our in-house legal team
  - SafeSport support and trainings
- $2,500 branding stipend to be used for finish gantry and/or other event specific signage
- Physical Equipment and Assets – TBD based on agreement, which may include:
  - Up to two pallets of event materials
  - Supplemental USA Triathlon branding in addition to what race management produces

– Note that the above may be negotiated based on agreed upon financial model

PROPOSAL BID QUESTIONS

The following are the items that should be included with your bid proposal. Please submit your bid proposal following the format below.

1. **Overall Submission Details**
    a. Proposed event date, location, and detailed race schedule
    b. Confirmation of what races will be held
    c. Have you previously hosted events at this location?
    d. Will this be a new event or a rebranding of an existing event?
    e. Staffing plan (pre-planning, planning, execution, and post-event)
    f. Event Investment in addition to what is outline in the Expectations of Race Management + Host section
    g. Please include information as to why the event should be produced by your organization as well as past events you have produced including size and scope of events, and whether they were single or multiple-day events
    h. What sets you apart from other race management organizations?
2. **Venue**
    a. Describe the area's terrain, body of water, conditions of the roads/trails, parking (onsite vs. offsite), and any additional key details.
    b. Swim course – body of water, water flow rate (if applicable), past water quality test results, anticipated water temperature
    c. Bike course (5k, 10k, 20k, and 40k) – 1 loop for 5k, 1-2 loops for 10k, 1- 3 loops preferred for 20k, and 2-3 loops preferred for 40k
        - Please detail and confirm the road closure plan for the event
    d. Run course (1k, 2.5k, 5k and 10k) - 1 loop/lap for 1k, 2.5k, and 5k; 2 loops/laps for 10k
    e. Transition - transition flow is fair, map detailing the transition layout, and transition capacity
    f. Maps - please provide maps for all required races and courses, including transition flow, as well as venue layout
3. **Hotel + Accommodations**
    a. Proximity of hotels to venue (include number of hotels and distance) and number of hotel rooms available, including Host Hotel
    b. Closest airport(s) to venue (include distance and airlines that are available)
4. **City Support + Letters of Commitment + Permitting**
    a. Please confirm that police, fire/EMS, traffic control, and city agencies will support the event
    b. How would you get the community to embrace the event?
    c. Do you have any reservations regarding permits and permit approvals?
    d. Please provide letters of support from the following:
        - Mayor or City Representative
        - Sports Commission and/or Convention and Visitors Bureau
        - Police Representative
5. **Promotions / Media Exposure**
    a. How does your organization plan to promote the event locally and nationally, in addition to USA Triathlon's promotion?
6. **Please include any additional and supplemental materials at your discretion.**

CONTACT INFORMATION

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HOSTING THIS EVENT, PLEASE CONTACT AND SUBMIT BID PROPOSAL TO:

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