

DC TRI CLUB ELITE TEAM APPLICATION GUIDELINES

Introduction

Thank you for your interest in the DC Triathlon Club's Elite Team (Elite Team). The Elite Team's primary focus is to enable club members to flourish at the elite level while continuing to represent the DC Triathlon Club. Those selected for the Elite Team will be supported by the Club to better their racing pursuits, but will be expected to also give back to the Club and community through service. While our team strives for success at the highest levels in multisport, we place equal value on giving back to the sports community.

Those applying are encouraged to read carefully below about what to expect from the Elite Team, but also what is expected from the athletes themselves.

Mission

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

Leading by example, these athletes not only foster competitive drive throughout the Club and inspire others to follow in their footsteps, but also stay closely involved with the Club to impart their knowledge and experience to anyone who aims to cross the finish line.

Qualifications

While the application process is open to all, this is an elite-level team and its athletes are expected to consistently place at the top of their age group AND overall categories, hold a high USAT Overall/Women's Overall Score, and race competitively on all levels (local, national, and global).

Applicants do not have to be a member of DC Tri Club to apply for the Team however, if selected, must purchase a membership and become an active member of the Club in good standing for the duration of tenure.

Applicants are required to be a USAT member in good standing.

About the Team

The Elite Team is a small group of elite-level triathletes that represent the DC Triathlon Club as well as all of its sponsors. Members of the Team are expected to regularly place at or near the top of their Age Group and at or near the top of the overall field.

Members of the Elite Team are a mix of short and long course athletes. Most short course racers should be qualified to race in the Open/Elite waves of a race, where applicable, and Long Course racers are expected to be competitive enough to place at or near the top of their Age Group, or near the top of the Overall field. However, members of the Elite Team should not feel siloed to a particular distance and are encouraged to race any and all distances.

Current Members are required to re-apply for the Team each year. Being on the Team does not guarantee re-acceptance in the subsequent year.

Expectations during Membership

While the Elite Team does not have specific races that team members are required to do, it does strive to represent the larger DC Triathlon Club at many of their featured races.

The Team is sponsored and supported by the DC Triathlon Club, and is expected to give back to the Club through service. The Club has a litany of ways in which members can give back. One of the Elite Team's biggest contributions is the volunteer work done to support Club Programs. Programs such as the New Triathlete Program, Half Ironman, and Full Ironman training programs are examples of these. These programs offer two Clinic Days in the spring at which Elite Team members are strongly encouraged to volunteer. Traditionally the clinics take place during two Sundays for about 4-5 hours each day. There are many other events (Club Training weekends, Club Races, other local races) where Elite Team members are strongly encouraged to give back. Members are required to engage in volunteering to the DC Triathlon/Multisport Community beyond clinic day participation.

Additionally, as a sponsored team, there may be additional sponsor obligations outside of the DC Triathlon Club. Athletes on the team may receive benefits from sponsors of the team (i.e. products, discounts, services), for which the Athletes may be asked to provide social media engagement and potentially some in-person activities. Please be aware that sponsor obligations are a requirement while a member of the Team and are subject to change throughout the year.

Team Benefits

One of the greatest benefits of being on the Elite Team is the camaraderie of being with a bunch of like-minded, elite-level athletes with the goal to win Age Groups, divisions, and races. The Elite Team is composed of varied distance racers who are not all doing the same goal races and while not all training can be done together due to varied individual training needs, the Elite Team strives to train together when schedules and plans allow. The Elite Team also hosts several social events for team bonding. The supportive environment, no matter the speed or distance, is what keeps Elite Team members supporting each other, challenging each other, and training together whenever possible.

The Elite Team hosts an annual Spring Elite Team Training Camp. Training camp enables the Elite Team to train outside of our traditional training grounds, for a long weekend. Camp provides us ample opportunities for team building and bonding; as well as fun (and potentially intense) training. We leverage our sponsor and professional photographer Justin Durner for team photos, portraits, and of course a few silly candids. This is an opportunity to really connect with teammates, learn from each other, and have the opportunity to push yourself to get stronger.

From the Club, members receive training and racing gear including: cycling kits, running kits, and a triathlon racing kit, along with other various accessories.

Elite Team members may receive support in the form of gear, nutrition, hydration, and discounts on merchandise and services provided by other sponsors, of which are subject to change

Athlete Responsibilities

Outlined below are responsibilities that are assumed once an athlete becomes a part of the Elite team:

- Train and race exclusively in DC Tri Club Elite Team gear
- Provide team manager(s) with race results, reports, and pictures via Discord and Team

spreadsheet

- 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
- Race DMV area races, Club program and featured races, and strive to race on a national and international level
- Contribute to the DC Triathlon Club social medias 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 are to submit a completed application by 11:59 p.m. on October 31st, 2024. 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 equal 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.

Selected applicants will be notified of the committee's decision in early November and the 2025 Elite Team will be announced at the DC Triathlon Club annual meeting on December 8, 2024. All selected team members must attend. Extenuating circumstances are taken into consideration.

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.