

# Team OTU

Applications are invited for athletes with the potential to compete in Junior Continental & World Championship events, plus Continental Cup and eventually World Cup events to become a part of a new concept in development for the region. This development project will be called Team OTU.

## Goal of project

In recent times we have seen a development of triathlon within the Pacific Region but a disparate in development among the nations has deepened. Specifically we are seeing the larger OTU member nations of Australia and New Zealand continuing along the development path, with the smaller Pacific Island Nations not appearing to move forward and into the ITU Elite category.

**The primary objective of this team is to provide support, resources and expertise to athletes from emerging/developing National Federations within the Oceania Region with the potential to compete at a Continental Cup level and possibly the World Cup level.**

**At the same time, it is our goal to increase the number of coaches from emerging/developing National Federations to gain experience in the preparation and support of athletes competing at this level.**

## Project Outline

Athletes and coaches from Emerging/Developing National Federations with the OTU are invited to submit applications for places within the team

There will eight (8) total vacancies for athletes. Break up to be determined by Selection Panel.

Three (3) events will be named as Team OTU events and selections for places in the travelling team will be made prior to each event based on current fitness level and commitment to training. At each of these events a support team will be on hand for the athletes selected.

The group will be accommodated as a team and supported as such pre, during and post event.

OTU reserve the right to select athletes to each Team event based around current level of fitness and dedication / commitment to the sport. The full team of 8 athletes may or may not be filled to capacity, at the discretion of the selection panel.

## **Target Group**

The target group will be athletes from emerging/developing National Federations who have already shown a high level of competence in National events.

## **Qualification Criteria**

Athletes must be registered with their National Federations and have shown the potential to race at a high level.

The athletes nominated should be committed to competing in the long term and have the Olympic Games as an ultimate objective.

Athletes will be selected for the event at the discretion of OTU Development Selection Panel, and in some cases not all the slots will be filled.

## **Applications and Timeline**

Applications must be submitted on the application form found on the OTU Website under the "Development" tab.

Each application shall be accompanied by a covering letter from the National Federation introducing the athlete.

Each application shall also be accompanied by a letter to be completed by the athlete supporting their application. It shall describe what the athlete is hoping to get out of being a member of the Team. Also what their commitment is to the sport including their goals.

Applications shall be submitted via the National Federations. Applications submitted direct by the athletes will not be accepted.

A National Federation may nominate no more than three (3) male and three (3) females.

**Deadline for submission of applications will be 5pm, 8th March, 2015**  
**Send applications to Peter Clifford on [peter@highperformancetri.com](mailto:peter@highperformancetri.com)**

## **Budget**

All athletes selected will be funded as follows:

- Hotel accommodation (on a shared basis) for a maximum of 5 days
- Meals – 3 per day (or a meal stipend),
- Athlete support services
- Coaching support
- Travel allowance (to be determined by Team Management)

## **Evaluation**

The athletes selected will be tracked over the year to determine their progress and feedback sheets will be completed by all of the participants post each event. A monthly report on the current fitness / racing level of each athlete shall be submitted to the Team Head Coach by the National Federation.

## **Definition and Explanation of National Federation Status:**

For the purpose of the OTU/ITU Development (Athlete and Coaching) we have categorized National Federations into three (3) categories:

Olympic NF's are those NF's who had representation at the London Olympic Games through the standard qualification system (excluding universality slots).

Emerging NF's are those NF's who had no competitors at the London Olympic Games but have had representation at the World Triathlon Grand Final in the Elite, U23 or Junior Categories in the past two years.

Developing NF's are those NF's with no representation at the World Triathlon Grand Final in the Elite, U23 and Junior Categories in the past two years.

The OTU and ITU Athlete and Coaching Development Programme specifically targets Emerging and Developing NF's.