

SWIM BIKE RUN



2027 Major Event Bid Document

Introduction

Triathlon Ireland's Major Events celebrate the very best of our sport, bringing together performance, participation, and community.

These races go beyond competition: they create memorable experiences for athletes of all abilities, engage local communities, and inspire the next generation.

Each Major Event plays a vital role in showcasing triathlon at its highest standard while contributing to the long-term growth of the sport in Ireland.

This document provides clear guidance for organisers on the bidding process, selection considerations and benefits of hosting

Our goal is to ensure that applications are transparent, fair, and accessible for all interested organisers.



Why Host an Age Group Major Event?

Increased Participation & Competitive Fields

Major Events attract Ireland's most dedicated athletes, from ambitious age groupers to clubs chasing team success. Bigger fields create a vibrant, high-energy atmosphere that elevates the race day experience for everyone.

Economic & Community Benefits

Hosting a Major Event delivers lasting value to the local area through:

- Boosted bookings for accommodation, food and tourism.
- Engagement of local volunteers and other sports and community clubs.
- A legacy of fitness, wellbeing and community pride.

National Recognition and Standards

Your event becomes a benchmark of best practice, meeting Triathlon Ireland's high standards for safety, delivery, and athlete experience. This recognition builds your reputation and keeps participants coming back year after year.

Branding , Sponsorship & Storytelling

Event hosts unlock access to Triathlon Ireland's marketing, media and sponsor network, including:

- Branding and signage support
- Co-branded content opportunities
- Sponsor engagement toolkits (if requested)
- When possible, photo and video event coverage will be provided through Triathlon Ireland's social channels to showcase your race and community.

Visibility and Promotion

Your event will be featured across Triathlon Ireland's most influential channels, reaching the widest triathlon audience in the country.

- Email newsletter: Monthly email to 35k subscribers
- Facebook: 35k+ followers
- Instagram: 22k+ followers
- TikTok: 1.5k followers, 18.5k likes

Inspiring Future Athletes

A Major Event is more than a competition - it sparks participation, sets new standards and positions your Event as a landmark in Triathlon on the island of Ireland.

"Hosting a Triathlon Ireland Major Event puts your race at the heart of Irish triathlon, giving your local event national prestige, increased participation, and a chance to make a lasting impact on your community."

Darren Coombes, CEO Triathlon Ireland

Major Events Athlete Ranking

Integration with My Tri Ranking

Through the integration of My Tri Ranking, Major Events also benefit from increased visibility across Triathlon Ireland's digital platforms.

Rankings, race previews, national highlights, and promotional campaigns all showcase your event to a wider audience, driving engagement and participation



What Age Group National Events are available?

National Series Events

Duathlon National Series

A competitive platform for both experienced and emerging athletes. Rankings are based on the best two results plus the Duathlon National Championships.



Youth Series, supported by AIG

Aligned with our 2021–2028 Strategic Plan, the Youth Series, supported by AIG aims to grow youth participation by offering fun, accessible, and development-focused racing. Following World Triathlon guidance, the focus is on experience, enjoyment, and progression building towards competitive readiness and long-term engagement. Includes race categories for athletes aged 11 – 17.



Triathlon National Series

Ireland's largest triathlon competition with nearly 10,000 entries annually. Athletes compete across Sprint, Standard, and Middle Distance events. Rankings are based on an athlete's top four results, including at least one Sprint and one Standard race, within five-year age bands.



Club Series

National Series results also count toward the Club Championships (Male, Female, Mixed). Each category is made up of the top six athletes from a club. Mixed scores are based on three male and three female athletes.

What Age Group National Events are available?

Mixed Team Relay

The Mixed Relay is fast-paced, inclusive, and highly engaging. Teams of four (two men, two women) race a super-sprint course: 300m swim, 5km bike, 1.5km run. The format is fixed (Female–Male–Female–Male). All team members must be part of the same Triathlon Ireland affiliated club and at least 16 years old. The first team to finish wins simple, exciting, and one of the most enjoyable formats in triathlon.

Draft Legal Events

Draft legal races are the highest standard of domestic competition and a key development pathway for future high performance athletes. They replicate international race formats, offering a fast, tactical racing environment that prepares athletes for global competition. These events aren't just exciting to watch, they're a cornerstone for nurturing talent and raising the standard of triathlon in Ireland.



Major Events Summary

Below is a summary of the major events available for 2027. Distances and formats should follow Triathlon Ireland and World Triathlon guidelines. Multi-Year Championship Allocation: For 2027, organisers applying to host selected Multisport National Championships may also express an interest in a two-year allocation covering 2027 and 2028. Any second-year appointment will be subject to satisfactory delivery of the 2027 event, Technical Official feedback, continued suitability of the event and completion of the annual Triathlon Ireland sanctioning process.

Triathlon Championships

Event	Min. Capacity
Draft Legal Sprint Distance Championship (Includes Age Group NC & Junior NC 16-19)	450
National Standard Distance Championship	350
National Middle Distance Championship	300
National Long Distance Championship	50
National Para Sprint Championship	15

Multisport and Other Championships

Event	Min. Capacity
Mixed Team Relay Club Championship	100
Cross Triathlon Championship	80
Aquathlon Championship	100
Aquabike Championship	100
Duathlon Championship (optional draft legal)	100

Series Events

Event	Min. Capacity
Triathlon National Series	200
Duathlon National Series Event	100
Youth Series Event (per age group 11-12/13-14/15-16 & 17)	40

Youth and Schools Events

Event	Min. Capacity
Youth Triathlon National Championship (selection race eligible, ideally draft legal)	50
National Post Primary Schools Championship (Sept-May)	50
Children's National Festival (age 11 & under, participation only)	No set minimum

Applying for Major Event Bidding and Deadline



2027 Major Event Bid Application

How to Apply

If you're ready to elevate your event and partner with Triathlon Ireland, we'd love to hear from you.

Applications for the 2027 Major Events programme will open on Friday, 9th October 2026 and must be submitted electronically using the Major Events Bidding Form.

Organisers may apply for more than one Major Event designation. Where more than one designation is requested, applicants should clearly identify their primary bid.

Applications close: Friday, 30th October 2026 at 11.59pm.

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by Friday, 20th November 2026.

If you have any questions during the process, please contact events@triathlonireland.com.

What to include in your bid

Strong applications should give Triathlon Ireland a clear understanding of the event, its delivery capability and its suitability for the Major Event designation requested.

Event and Course

Provide a short overview of the event, venue and course, including the type of race experience athletes can expect.

Previous Delivery

Where applicable, provide information on previous editions of the event, including participation numbers and relevant event experience.

Event Capacity

Confirm the maximum event capacity and expected participant numbers.

Marketing and Promotion

Outline how the event is promoted and how you engage with athletes, clubs and the local community.

Athlete Experience

Highlight the key elements that contribute to the race-day experience, including venue, facilities, atmosphere and accessibility.

Under-18 Participation

Where under-18 athletes are eligible to participate, organisers must meet all Triathlon Ireland safeguarding requirements.

Support Required

Please identify any areas where you may require additional support or guidance from Triathlon Ireland.

Long-Term Development

For organisers applying for a multi-year Multisport National Championship allocation, briefly outline how a two-year appointment would support the development of the event.

Major Event Selection Considerations



Major Event applications will be reviewed internally by Triathlon Ireland following the closing date.

In considering applications, Triathlon Ireland will draw on both the information submitted through the bidding process and our experience of events and organisers throughout the season.

This may include:

- proposed event date and fit within the national calendar;
- geographic spread;
- previous event delivery;
- Technical Official feedback;
- engagement with the sanctioning and Event Management Plan process;
- course and venue suitability;
- event capacity;
- athlete experience;
- communication and organiser engagement;
- Youth and Junior opportunities;
- alignment with relevant Triathlon Ireland priorities.

Extra consideration will be given to events able to host a Youth Series race alongside the Major Event.

The overall Major Events calendar will also be considered collectively to achieve an appropriate balance of dates, locations, disciplines and race opportunities across the season.

Successful applications



Notification

All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application by 20 November 2026.

Major Events Host Agreement

All selected events will receive a 2027 Major Events Host Agreement outlining the responsibilities and requirements associated with hosting a Triathlon Ireland Major Event. The agreement must be reviewed, signed and returned before the appointment is formally confirmed.

Race Request Form

All selected Major Events must also complete the standard Triathlon Ireland Race Request and Sanctioning process.

Major Event Fee

The applicable Major Event fee and race sanctioning fee must be paid before the event is confirmed on the Triathlon Ireland calendar.

Triathlon Ireland Entry Allocation

Hosts of Triathlon National Series and/or National Championship events will be required to make available up to 15 complimentary event entries to Triathlon Ireland for allocation at its discretion. Any unused allocation will be released back to the organiser by an agreed date prior to the event.

2027 Major Event Fees

- Duathlon National Series: Free
- Youth Series: Free
- Triathlon National Series: €250
- Multisport National Championships: €200
- Triathlon National Championships: €275

Major Event fees are payable in addition to the applicable Triathlon Ireland race sanctioning fee.

Frequently asked questions



How do we work with Technical Officials?

For age-group Major Events, the appointment of the Technical Delegate is managed separately by Triathlon Ireland. If your event is selected, a suitably qualified Technical Delegate will be assigned to work with you and your team.

What marketing support will be provided?

Hosts receive event management guidance, marketing support and when possible event coverage on the day of their event.

How are Event bids assessed?

Applications are reviewed internally by Triathlon Ireland using the information provided in the bid alongside our experience of the event and organiser throughout the season. This may include Technical Official feedback, previous delivery, sanctioning engagement, course suitability, event capacity, athlete experience and fit within the wider national calendar.

Where can I find out more information?

Successful applicants will receive the 2027 Major Events Host Agreement following selection. The agreement will outline the full requirements and responsibilities associated with hosting a Triathlon Ireland Major Event. Contact events@triathlonireland.com for any queries.

Are there any dates to avoid when planning a Major Event?

Triathlon Ireland will make every effort to avoid scheduling clashes with other Major Events, but this may not always be possible. Event organisers are strongly advised to review known World Triathlon and Europe Triathlon Championship dates and, where possible, select alternative dates. Avoiding these clashes helps maximise athlete participation and engagement from the triathlon community.

Please provide us with at least one alternative date for your event, so that during the selection process we can map the season with as few overlaps as possible.

What if our Major Event bid is not successful?

While not every application can be selected, Triathlon Ireland can provide feedback to help organisers strengthen future Major Event applications.

Be part of the legacy

Hosting a Triathlon Ireland Major Event is your chance to bring world-class sport to your community, inspire athletes of all levels and showcase your club on a national stage. Triathlon Ireland are here to help you create an unforgettable event and a legacy that lasts well beyond race day.



