



SPORT IN
THE OLYMPIC
PROGRAMME



INTERNATIONAL TRIATHLON UNION

Madrid, March 14th, 2020

Dear Friends,

I'm writing to you regarding the situation with the COVID-19 Coronavirus spread around the world. The World Triathlon Executive Board, jointly with all the Continental Federations, is about to announce the immediate suspension of all the competitions in the World Triathlon calendar, courses, camps and other activities, and therefore all the World Rankings, Olympic Qualification Rankings, Paratriathlon Rankings and Paralympic Qualification Rankings will be immediately frozen. The suspension will start on Monday, March 16th and will be extended until April 30th.

This affects directly your event, 2020 Aracaju PATCO Sprint Triathlon Panamerican Cup, which is scheduled to be held within that period.

This is a decision that is hard to take, and you can have my word that we are taking it with the health and safety of athletes, coaches, officials, staff, volunteers and spectators, all the triathlon family, as the top priority. We are taking this decision convinced that we all have to take our part to prevent and stop the spread of the virus. It is our responsibility, as a society. And having our athletes, coaches, officials and staff travelling around the world at this challenging time is not something that we in World Triathlon are willing to risk.

World Triathlon will work with all stakeholders to undertake further actions if needed regarding the Olympic and Paralympic qualification rankings in the next few weeks.

We would like to coordinate with you the announcement of this suspension, so that we all communicate the same message at the same time and avoid conflicting interpretations of this. Please find below also the proposed statement that World Triathlon will communicate on Saturday, 14 March, 10am CET. We recommend that you use this same communication, and that you keep our Director of Sport (Gergely.markus@triathlon.org) and Head of Media and Communications (Olalla.cernuda@triathlon.org) copied in all communications you distribute around this issue.

We will work with you in the following days to find the best solution for the continuity of your event, trying as always to mitigate the negative impact that this decision will have.

Thanks a lot for your cooperation, patience and understanding

Marisol Casado
World Triathlon President and IOC member

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Marisol Casado', with a stylized flourish at the end.



World Triathlon suspends all activities and races until the end of April

In the light of the rapid spread worldwide of COVID-19, the Executive Board of the International Triathlon Union has decided to suspend all activities until the 30th April. The measure includes the suspension of all the competitions in the World Triathlon calendar, courses, camps and other activities, and therefore all the World Ranking, Olympic Qualification Ranking, Paratriathlon Ranking and Paralympic Qualification Rankings will be immediately frozen, from Monday 16th of March 2020.

World Triathlon President and IOC member, Marisol Casado, said: “This is a decision that is hard to take, and you can have my word that we are taking it with the health and safety of athletes, coaches, officials, facilitators, staff, volunteers and spectators, all the triathlon family, as the top priority. We are taking this decision convinced that we all have to take our part to prevent and stop the spread of the virus. It is our responsibility, as a society. And having our athletes, coaches, officials and staff travelling around the world at this challenging time is not something that we in World Triathlon are willing to risk”.

All the events in the World Triathlon and Continental calendars will be immediately postponed until further notice. ITU strongly recommends all the affiliated National Federations to extend the measures as well in their territories, to avoid spreading the virus. All World Triathlon staff will be working from home during these weeks.

World Triathlon will continue working during this time to try to reallocate the events after the 30th Of April when possible and will work with all stakeholders to undertake further actions if needed regarding the Olympic and Paralympic qualification rankings.

World Triathlon will continue evaluating the situation on a daily basis and will announce any further change in the situation as soon as possible to all stakeholders when this happens.