

BUCS TRIATHLON 2025-26

BID INFORMATION

STATUS

Annually, the Triathlon programme within BUCS consists of three separate events:

- Duathlon
- Sprint Distance Triathlon and Mixed Relay Event
- Standard Triathlon

Triathlon is one of the fastest growing sports within the BUCS programme, and in previous years has attracted over 1,500 competitors across the three events.

The first event in the BUCS calendar is the Duathlon Championships in Term 1, which has been a long-standing feature within BUCS programme, featuring officially since 2008. Competitor numbers have risen from 65 in 2008 to nearly 600 last year.

The Sprint Distance Triathlon first featured in the BUCS programme back in 2007, and since its inauguration, competitor numbers have risen significantly from 75 to over 500.

The Mixed Relay Event was introduced in the 2022-23 season to increase participation and mirror the Olympic provision. It has successfully been held on the same day as the Sprint Triathlon since and would ideally be run similarly this year. Competitors would ideally be able to compete in both the Sprint Triathlon and the Mixed Relay so the schedule would need to accommodate this.

The Standard Distance Triathlon joined the BUCS programme in 2008 and continues to see over 200 competitors challenge themselves year on year.

The events attract a wide range of competitors. Athletes competing for podium positions are of a high calibre, with many on GB performance programmes and regularly competing for international medals at under 23 level and senior level. The growth of the events and the popularity of triathlon events as a motivator for students to keep fit and challenge themselves has also resulted in an increase in participation at a lower competitor level. In addition, with an increased focus from BUCS to ensure our competitive programme is inclusive to all, it is imperative that our chosen partner provides a competition opportunity that is appropriate and enjoyable for all, taking into consideration the infrastructure for people with a disability.

We are seeking partners to manage and deliver the BUCS Sprint Distance Triathlon & Mixed Relay . This tender is for the 2025-26 season, with an option to extend by a further two years at the end of the season.

A preferred hosting window for the event has been outlined below. The dates must be compatible with the academic year, public holidays and other events within the triathlon calendar.

Championship	Preferred Dates
Sprint Distance Championships	18 April – 10 May 2026

FORMAT

The events must follow the formats detailed below, as detailed in British Triathlon Rules and Regulations:

- Sprint Distance Championships
 - 400m Swim (pool swim preferred)/20km Bike/5km Run including Mixed Relay Event
 - Approximately a third of the Sprint Distance. We understand there may be some challenges due to routes and site set up.

Event Organisers are expected to:

- Deliver a fair and safe event in line with BUCS Rules & Regulations and British Triathlon Competition Rules
- Permit the event through British Triathlon Federation (BTF)
- Provide chip timing
- Offer an entry fee that represents value for money for students
- Consider an appropriate geographical location of the event for BUCS members
- Have the capacity to host the number of competitors detailed below

For more information on the host venue responsibilities, including specific facility requirements, please refer to the Bid Questionnaire.

Successful bids will receive the following from BUCS:

- A dedicated BUCS staff member who acts as a key contact for the Championships
- An online entry system for the Championships (BUCS Play)
- Media & Marketing:
 - Pre & Post Event Email to competitors
 - Promotion of the event to Institutions via email marketing
 - Promotion of the event on BUCS social media channels
- Event Branding, including barrier scrim and flags
- Championship medals for Top 3 Individual Open & Female categories, Top 3 Individual Para Open & Female, and Top 3 Open & Female Teams.

COMPETITOR NUMBERS

To give an indication to Event Organisers of the number of competitors expected at the events, the entry numbers from the previous few seasons are outlined below:

	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21*	2019-20	2019-18	2018-17
Duathlon Championships	596	567	623	570	130	650	650	795
Sprint Distance Championships	400	534	496	490	230	n/a cancelled	162**	580
Standard Distance Championships	250	226	211	230	120	n/a cancelled	275	275

ENTRY FEES

	2024-25	2023-24	2022-23	2021-22	2020-21	2019-20	2019-18	2018-17
Duathlon Championships	£55 (+£2 for Non-BTF Members)	£50	£44	£45	£42.75	£40	£39	£37
Sprint Distance Championships	Sprint Triathlon - £55 (+£2 for Non-BTF Members) Mixed Relay Team - £80	Sprint Triathlon - £62 Mixed Relay Team - £100	Sprint Triathlon - £55 Mixed Relay Team - £80	£55	£62	£53*	£49.25	£49.50
Standard Distance Championships	£85 (+£2 for Non-BTF Members)	£80 (+£2 for Non-BTF Members)	£75	£73.25	£73.25	£62*	£73.15	£59

*2020-21 was impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic; therefore, these numbers are not reflective of a typical season due to national travel restrictions & lockdowns.

**In 2019-18 the venue & geographical location for Sprint Triathlon changed.

TIMETABLE

Bid Questionnaires are now available to complete.

27 June 2025	Sprint & Standard Questionnaires available to complete
17:00 – 29 Aug 2025	Sprint Deadline for submission of Bid Questionnaire
Mid September	Host venues announced

CONTACT

If you have any questions or queries in relation to the bidding process, then please contact joseph.gallimore@bucs.org.uk