



Australian Government  
Australian Sports Commission

# MEDIA RELEASE



AUSTRALIAN  
INSTITUTE OF SPORT

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## Join the next generation of triathlon superstars!

The Australian Sports Commission is now recruiting the next generation of triathlon superstars following Australia's gold and bronze medal performances at the recent Beijing Olympics.

The Australian Sports Commission's National Talent Identification and Development (NTID) program, Triathlon Australia and the Queensland Academy of Sport have teamed up to identify and develop elite sports men and women aged between 16 and 23 years with a successful background in swimming, running and/or surf life-saving for an assault on the London Olympics in 2012.

Interested people are being encouraged to enter the state Aquathlon Championships at Pandanus Beach, Wynnum Esplanade, Wynnum at 7.00 am on Saturday 25 October.

Reece Heald, 18 of Carina is a perfect example of what the NTID triathlon program can do for aspiring athletes. Reece was a swimmer who transferred to triathlon with the assistance of the NTID program, and has enjoyed numerous benefits including superior coaching and training camps at the Australian Institute of Sport.

Since Reece joined the program he has competed in the National Triathlon Junior series winning the 16-19 year age group at the world famous Noosa Triathlon in 2007. This season hopes to make the Australian junior team (16-19 years) to compete at the Youth Olympics in Sydney (January 2009) and the World Triathlon Championships on the Gold Coast in September 2009.

'I would recommend the NTID triathlon program to any ex-swimmer like myself who would like to have a crack at becoming a professional triathlete. I have learnt so much and been involved in so many great races that I am glad I made the switch to triathlon,' Reece said.

The Brisbane and Sunshine Coast regions have been identified as talent hotspots, and the NTID program is using the Queensland State Aquathlon Championships to discover talented triathletes with the potential to become champions.

For more information about the NTID program, visit [ausport.gov.au/talent](http://ausport.gov.au/talent)

**State Aquathlon Championships:** 2.5km run / 1km swim / 2.5km run

**When:** 7.00am, Saturday 25 October 2008

**Where:** Pandanus Beach, Wynnum Esplanade, Wynnum (near Jetty)

**To register, visit** [triathlonqld.com.au](http://triathlonqld.com.au)

**For interview opportunities please contact:**

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