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English Version

Asia Pacific Trail Running Championships 2026: Eligibility Criteria and Key Dates Released



Athletes and federations across the Asia Pacific region receive early guidance on eligibility criteria and entry deadlines.

The International Trail Running Association (ITRA) has published the athlete eligibility framework and entry timeline for the 2026 Asia Pacific Trail Running Championships (APTRC), scheduled to take place from 24 to 28 November 2026 in Wuyishan, Fujian Province, China.

The announcement provides athletes and Recognised Bodies across the Asia Pacific region with early visibility on the selection process, eligibility requirements, and key milestones leading

up to the championships.

The APTRC 2026 programme will include three official championship races:

- Long Trail
- Short Trail
- U23 Trail

These races will bring together leading athletes from across the region to compete for both individual honors and national team results.

Performance-Based Eligibility Criteria

Eligibility for APTRC 2026 will be determined through selection processes based on the **ITRA Performance Index (PI)**. Athletes will be ranked within their country or region using the official ITRA database.

To be considered eligible, athletes must be ranked within their country or region on the official ranking reference date according to the following criteria:

- **Long Trail:** Top 30 athletes per gender based on the General Performance Index
- **Short Trail:** Top 30 athletes per gender based on the General Performance Index
- **U23 Trail:** Top 20 athletes per gender based on the U23, U20 or U18 Performance Index

The official ranking reference date has been confirmed as: **31 May 2026 at 23:59 (UTC)**.

Performance updates recorded after this date will not be considered for eligibility.

Entry Timeline Confirmed

Although registration is not yet open, the following entry periods have been established to guide preparation by Recognised Bodies and eligible athletes:

- **Ranking Reference Date:** 31 May 2026
- **Team Entry Period:** 1 June – 15 August 2026
- **Individual Entry Period:** 16 August – 31 August 2026
- **Letters of Acceptance Issued:** No later than 15 September 2026

Team Entries submitted by Recognised Bodies will form the primary pathway for participation. Individual Entry opportunities may be available following the Team Entry period, subject to remaining capacity and Performance Index ranking.

Wildcard entries may also be requested by Recognised Bodies for athletes demonstrating strong recent performances outside standard eligibility rules.



Preparing for APTRC 2026

With the eligibility framework now published, Recognised Bodies can begin reviewing athletes' ITRA rankings and preparing for the upcoming selection cycle.

Athletes are encouraged to monitor their **Performance Index standings** and remain in contact with their Recognised Bodies regarding selection procedures.

Further operational details, including entry procedures and event information, will be released in the lead-up to the championships.

Access the Full Eligibility Framework

The complete eligibility rules and participation guidelines are available on the ITRA website.

Read the full Eligibility Rules [HERE](#)

Notes to Editors

About ITRA

The International Trail Running Association (ITRA) is a non-profit organisation dedicated to the development, promotion, and ethical governance of trail running worldwide. ITRA works to support athletes, races, and associations while safeguarding the values and spirit of the sport.

About APTRC

The second edition of the Asia Pacific Trail Running Championships (APTRC) will take place in Wuyishan, Fujian Province, China, from 24 to 28 November 2026.

The Championships will bring together top trail runners from across the Asia-Pacific region. Athletes will compete for individual and team titles in three race categories: the Long Trail (approximately 80 km), the Short Trail (approximately 40 km), and the U23 Trail (approximately 15 km).

The APTRC 2026 will be held alongside a public trail running event, offering runners the opportunity to take part in races set in the scenic landscapes of Wuyishan.

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Media Resources

Race photos & logo: [Download here](#)