



2019 Pro Road Tour (PRT) Requirements and Procedures

Welcome to the 2019 PRT- a collection of the top professional stage races, omniums, criteriums and one-day road races that America has to offer. The following is a summary of rules and procedures applicable to PRT races in 2019.

Goals

The Pro Road Tour has the following objectives:

- Showcase the domestic-based UCI Team and Domestic Elite teams and promote their riders and sponsors
- Serve as a stepping stone for large UCI races such as the Amgen Tour of California
- Recognize the best organized races in the United States
- Provide a framework for ranking individual riders and teams
- Establish an overall victor for Men's and Women's UCI and Domestic Elite Teams, as well as UCI and Elite individuals in both genders
- Ensure a consistent marketing theme through the season supported by USA Cycling

Support

USA Cycling will support Pro Road Tour events in the following manner:

- Provide an overall media message before and after each race as outlined below
- Assign and pay fees and travel for the Chief Referee
- Provide snow fence for the events
- Coordinate the race calendar by working with Race Directors
- Calculate overall rankings and standings
- Comp of event permit fee (insurance and other charges still apply)

Event Types

- 1) UCI races at the .HC, .1 and .2 level will automatically be added to the calendar.
- 2) Non-UCI Stage races- multi-day events (maximum 7 days) consisting of races that are scored on time and added together to create a general classification based on time. In Stage Races, riders must complete each individual race to be eligible to start the next race or be placed in the general classification. Stage races can include criteriums, but criteriums cannot make up more than half of the racing days. For example, if you have a four day event no more than two of those stages can be criteriums with a circuit under 5k.
- 3) Mixed Omniums- multi-day events (maximum 5 days) with concurrent days (no "off" or "rest" days). Scoring is based on points collected in each race and added together to create an

overall omnium standing. Riders do not have to compete in all events to appear in the overall omnium standings. Events in a mixed omnium must be some combination of road races, time trials and criteriums. Criteriums cannot make up more than half of the days of racing.

- 4) Road races- a standalone single-day event that does not belong to an omnium or stage race. This is either a point-to-point race or a circuit race with circuits at least 10k long.
- 5) Single day criteriums- a stand-alone criterium with a circuit of no longer than 5k.
- 6) Criterium omniums- a multi-day event (maximum 4 days) with concurrent days (no “off” or “rest” days) that are on the same event permit and run by the same race director or club. Scoring is based on points collected in each race and added together to create an overall omnium standing. Riders do not have to compete in all events to appear in the overall omnium standings. All circuits must be a maximum of 5k.

Event Requirements

In order to be accepted on the Pro Road Tour, a committee chosen by USA Cycling will examine the following criteria:

- Event history
- Sporting aspects (courses and other competition factors)
- Overall calendar flow and event dates
- Prize money
- Event production value
- Marketing and PR (including live TV/web streaming)
- Adherence to USAC/UCI regulations and policies

Road Race/Stage Race Prize Lists

- 1) UCI races must adhere to UCI prize list minimums
- 2) Non UCI prize list for the Pro/1 Men’s and/or Cat 1/2 Women’s categories are as follows:
 - a. Minimum of \$15,000 for one day events with one gender (men’s or women’s races with PRT status).
 - b. Minimum of \$22,500 for one day events with both men’s and women’s races.
 - c. Minimum of \$25,000 for multi-day events with one gender.
 - d. Minimum of \$35,000 for multi-day events with both men’s and women’s races.
- 3) If your event will be offering both Men’s and Women’s categories, there must be equal prize purses for men and women.
- 4) If there is a change in prize money totals or structure of your event after your event has been accepted, USA Cycling must be notified immediately. USA Cycling reserves the right to remove events that lower their posted prize list or change their event after being accepted on the PRT.

Criterion Prize Lists

- 1) Prize list for the Pro/1 Men’s and Cat 1/2 Women’s categories are as follows:
 - a. Minimum of \$12,000 for single day events for men and women (\$12k each). There must be equal prize purses for men and women.
 - b. For omniums, minimum increases by \$10,000 per additional day equally split between men and women (\$5k added for men and \$5k added for women).

- 2) Prize lists for omniums can be distributed as the Race Director sees fit between stage purses and overall omnium purses.
- 3) If there is a change in prize money totals or structure of your event after your event has been accepted, USA Cycling must be notified immediately. USA Cycling reserves the right to remove events that lower their posted prize list or change their event after being accepted on the PRT.

Riders and Teams

Selection of Riders and Teams

- 1) PRT races are invitational races by nature. The race director can select the teams and/or riders to be invited within USA Cycling and UCI rules. Types of teams invited must adhere to UCI and USAC regulations. Any exceptions to that rule will have to be granted by the UCI with a request made through USA Cycling.
- 2) All PRT races must invite all USA Cycling-registered UCI Continental teams and UCI Women's teams in good standing to enter their race. Only in extreme circumstances will USA Cycling allow a PRT event to exclude such a UCI Continental team that registers before the deadline, assuming that the race has not reached the field limit. Please contact USA Cycling if you feel the need to exclude a team.

Rider Categories

Riders eligible to compete in PRT races include UCI Pro Continental teams, UCI Continental teams, UCI Women's teams, Category 1 amateur men, and Category 1 and 2 amateur women. UCI WorldTeams may compete if allowed by USAC and UCI regulations. Please note—PRT events DO NOT allow Category 2 men or Category 3 women to compete in the pro race! Any exceptions must be granted in advance by USA Cycling.

Team Composition

- 1) All PRT races are "team limited" races. The team limit is a default maximum of 8 riders, but a race director may enforce a lower limit. Criteriums on the PRT are limited to 6 riders per team. No team or club may enter more than one team in a PRT race. In case of dispute, the determination of whether two teams are separate or not is made by USA Cycling per rule 1H4.
- 2) USA based professional teams often have part of their roster designated as their "domestic riders" or as a development team. These riders do not appear on the UCI rider list, but for the purposes of non-UCI PRT races, they may race as part of the professional team and wear the UCI team jersey, still respecting the total team limit.
- 3) A team may have "guest riders" subject to other USA Cycling and UCI rules. Note that guest riders score no team points as described below.
- 4) If a team has entered, none of its riders may enter as guest riders for other teams.

Team Scoring

The top three riders of each team in each event score points for their team. For any given day of racing, the total team points for a given day will be the sum of the individual points for the top three scoring riders. For stage race general classifications and criterium omniums, the total team points for a given race will be the sum of the individual points for the top three riders in the overall standings. Only the officially registered riders of a team may score points for the team Pro Road Tour rankings. If a team has a guest rider who would have scored points as one of the top three riders, that rider will score no points, but the next best placed scoring rider will be counted. Only teams officially registered with USA Cycling may compete for Pro Road Tour team rankings. These teams will comprise:

1. UCI teams registered through USA Cycling
2. UCI teams registered through another federation that have also registered with USA Cycling for the purpose of competing in Pro Road Tour races
3. USA Cycling Domestic Elite teams that register with USA Cycling for the purpose of competing in Pro Road Tour races

Officials

- 1) The Chief Referee(s) for all PRT races will be assigned by USA Cycling or the UCI, and will be at least a National Commissaire. USA Cycling will cover the fees, per diem, and travel expenses of the Chief Referee(s) assigned by USA Cycling. The race organizer will cover housing of the Chief Referee(s) and the fees and expenses of the other officials. In a situation where a stage race is PRT status for both men and women, USA Cycling will assign both the men's Chief Referee (CR) and the women's Chief Referee (CR) and cover fees and travel for both.
- 2) When the race is both a PRT race and UCI race, USA Cycling will assign the entire crew. The Chief Referee will usually be assigned and paid by the UCI.
- 3) USA Cycling will assign the Chief Judge (CJ) for all PRT stage races and omniums, and this person will be at least a level A official except in unavoidable circumstances. These fees are the responsibility of the race organizer.
- 4) USA Cycling must approve the rest of the officials' crew prior to the final assignment of officials, which will be made according to the system in place in the local association of the event. The USA Cycling Technical Director will work with the race organizer to oversee this process. For more info contact rshafer@usacycling.org
- 5) For stage races, if both the men's race and women's race is on the PRT, a separate CR and CJ must be assigned to handle the women's event, with the same minimum rank of officials for those two positions. If the race includes a series of local categories as well, enough extra officials must be assigned to allow the PRT crews to concentrate on the PRT race(s). Omniums and single day road races may also have to follow this guideline depending on the nature of the event.
- 6) Officials assigned by USA Cycling are paid according to the schedule of fees for UCI/National Championship races. All other officials are paid according to the schedule of fees for top tier calendar races.
- 7) Any overtime fees of the Chief Referee(s) due to working any non-PRT events on the schedule will be the responsibility of the race director.
- 8) For travel expenses of the Chief Referee, USA Cycling will cover airfare and baggage fees if (s)he is flying, or mileage to the event if (s)he is driving. Once at the airport of the venue, transportation around the event is the responsibility of the race director.

Technical Services

- 1) All PRT races must use a high-quality photo finish camera run by a professional operator. For time trials, electronic timing must be used. Results should be made available to participants and media within 30 minutes of the last finisher in the race and the race director should have the results posted to USA Cycling's website that evening in the proper format. All riders who have registered for the event should be scored a place (or a DNF/DNS)
- 2) For road events, at least two neutral service vehicles per race must be provided and operated by qualified drivers and mechanics.

3) All races must adhere to USA Cycling rule 3A7 which is below:

The Race Director shall do the following in Category A events. (a) Provide a precise course map indicating distances to be covered. (b) Provide a finish area that includes the following: a finish line that meets the championship specification, fencing on each side of the finish line, and a banner above the finish line bearing the word "Finish". (c) Provide a covered podium for the officials and a public address system at the finish line. (d) Provide photo-finish equipment at the finish line that supplies continuous, frameless finish order for massed start events or an electronic timing system for time trials. (e) Provide a results room in a quiet location near the finish area for use by the officials. (f) Provide at least two body numbers for competitors in massed-start events; frame numbers are recommended.

4) UCI races must adhere to UCI regulations.

Road Closures

- 1) All criteriums must be run on completely closed courses (no coned off lanes). If a course is using a single road for two way traffic, it must be hard fenced in between the two sides of the course.
- 2) All road races must be run on either a completely closed course or utilizing a rolling enclosure effected by sufficient law enforcement officers who have been trained in the operation of such a rolling enclosure (i.e. no centerline rule for PRT races).
- 3) All time trials must be on courses closed to all vehicles except race-related traffic.

Marketing

- 1) The current PRT and the USA Cycling logo must be included on all collateral materials used to promote the event. All USA Cycling guidelines and standards must be adhered to.
- 2) The USA Cycling logo must be represented on the start/finish truss (upper right OR left corner), fence signage (USAC supplied banners on or very near the start/finish line), and awards backdrop (one USAC PRT logo in each square meter or a single large logo on the podium blocks) for all PRT events.
- 3) The USA Cycling PRT logo must be included on all PRT event web pages and must include a link to USA Cycling's web page. www.usacycling.org
- 4) Announcements must be made on-site over the PA declaring your event's participation in the USA Cycling PRT.
- 5) The top five riders in the PRT standings as of the Tuesday before the PRT event must be called to the start line before the remainder of the field is allowed to roll up. If any of the top 5 riders are not present, the 5 top-ranked PRT riders who are at the event *may* be called to the start line, at the race director's discretion.
- 6) Pre-event: USA Cycling will provide no less than one (1) FB and Twtr post promoting the event the week prior to the event to our social media audience of +200K. (IG is optional due to lack of immediately actionable links). Posts will promote event webcast, hashtag, social media handles and/or URL information IF provided by the event in a timely fashion. While webcasts or Facebook Live experiences are optimal, we would encourage events to have dedicated personal providing real-time race updates for the extended event social media audience across the US. For events with planned webcasts or FB Live productions, USA Cycling reserves the right to invest paid-social media or other enhanced efforts to extend the event's audience.

- 7) Post-event: USA Cycling will write a recap of the weekend's calendar racing and distribute the week following the event to our endemic media list, post on our website (+150K unique views per month) and share with our +200K social media following on FB and Twtr (IG is optional due to lack of immediately actionable links). Results, select photos and brief race highlights provided by the event will be critical to creating and distributing meaningful content.

Results and Standings

- 1) Results must be submitted to USA Cycling in the USAC standard electronic format for each day of competition. Results from all PRT races are due in their entirety no later than midnight the day of the race.

Media

- 1) Photos: One photo that USA Cycling may use MUST be submitted to the USA Cycling Communications Department the evening of the competition's conclusion, along with race highlights. This information will be used to send a press release to update the PRT rankings and recap the weekend of racing.
- 2) Pre-event releases/race info: Submit pre-event press release/race information.
- 3) TV/Broadcast Info: Submit any television/web broadcast info so we can help advertise.
- 4) Social Media: Submit social media info including twitter handle and Facebook page link, link to USA Cycling, and participate in social media.

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/usacycling>

Twitter: @usacycling