

Collegiate Policy Document

Collegiate Varsity Teams

Varsity Teams are USA Cycling Collegiate Teams that have fulfilled the varsity cycling requirements, have submitted the appropriate varsity application which is approved and are in good standing with USA Cycling. Varsity Teams are split into two Divisions, with the guidelines shown below.

Varsity Divisions

Division II

- a. Program is supported and designated as a varsity program through the athletic department and/or major university initiative.
- b. Program is headed by a team director or coach with SafeSport training and a background check on file with USA Cycling.
- c. Major funding source for the program is through the university budget.
- d. Athletic scholarships or grants may be awarded, but no more than one full scholarship (defined as cost of tuition plus room/board) per national championship participated in is allowed, with a maximum of five full scholarships. Scholarships may be split among multiple students.
- e. At least one full-time coach is on staff for the team and is paid by the University.
 - i. Emerging programs may apply for a waiver to be exempted from this requirement.
- f. Participates in at least one national championship a year, with waivers available for emerging programs.
- g. Program pays for the entry fees of collegiate races.

Division I

Teams shall follow all of the Division II requirements as well as the following:

- a. Minimum of one full athletic scholarship or grant given to the team (may be split amongst multiple riders).
- b. Each school will be allowed to award two full scholarships as a base, plus two full scholarships per national championship participated in, with a maximum of 12 if doing all five disciplines.

Transfer and Signing Policies for Varsity Athletes

- a. Upon signing with a Collegiate Varsity Team, the athlete agrees to cease communications with other coaches regarding attendance at other varsity cycling schools. Coaches are also held to this standard and agree to cease communications with the signed athlete.

- b. Upon signing with a Varsity Cycling Team, the athlete will sign the USA Cycling Varsity Transfer Policies Explanation form. Both the coach and athlete will retain copies of this form.
- c. At the beginning of each school year the athlete will sign Part I of the USA Cycling Varsity Transfer Form.
- d. In the event that an athlete (current or signed) wishes to discuss transfer options with another cycling team, they will sign Part II of the USA Cycling Transfer Form and discuss with their coach.
- e. The coach may not refuse to sign the transfer form or threaten any adverse action on the athlete for signing. In the event the athlete is uncomfortable or feels they are being treated unfairly they may advise USA Cycling.
- f. Coaches will confirm the transfer form has been signed before beginning communication with any current varsity athlete or signed athlete.
- g. If a transfer is completed, the athlete and team representatives from both teams will complete the transfer form.
- h. Both the athlete and the school should retain copies of this form and the transfer form. Upon transfer of an athlete or a violation of the Transfer Policies Explanation form and the Transfer Form are to be sent to USA Cycling and the athlete's new school.
- i. Athletes and signed athletes completing transfers between October 2nd and June 1st are eligible to race for their new teams starting with the subsequent fall seasons and those completing transfers between June 2nd and October 1st are eligible for the subsequent spring seasons.
- j. Violation to the transfer and signing policies may result in penalties of national rankings points or loss of national championship eligibility both on the part of individual riders and/or teams.

Varsity Eligibility Limitations

Riders may not participate for more than six academic years on varsity teams. These need not be consecutive (tracking begins fall of 2015 with prior years grandfathered in with years before 2015 not counting).

Collegiate Club Teams

Club Teams are USA Cycling Collegiate member clubs which have submitted the appropriate application to USA Cycling and are in good standing. Club Teams do not meet the scholarship

and coaching requirements of Varsity Teams, and are not recognized as varsity programs by their school.

Club Divisions

In the event that club programs are separated into divisions for the purposes of omniums at the conference or national level they will be organized as such:

Division I

Any team at a school or campus with a full time enrollment of more than 15,000 must compete in Division I.

Division II

Any team at a school or campus with a full time enrollment of less than 15,000 must compete in Division II.