



MOUNTAIN BIKE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

JULY 2017 • SNOWSHOE, WV

Updated: 6.15.17

Per the qualification guidelines listed below, cross-country riders in category 1 and 2 will be eligible to race for the national title in one age-group based championship race. Gravity riders in category 1 will be eligible to race for the national title in the championship race. Both cross-country and gravity riders in category 2 and 3 will be able to register for the non-championship races in one age-group based race. Separate categories will NOT be broken out based on category for podium places. These will be age-group based races, with one national championship race and one non-championship race for most age groups. **Please note that racing age groups 6-10 have been removed from cross-country, dual slalom, downhill, and short track national championships.**

The 2017 USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Championships will crown national champions in both endurance and gravity mountain bike events. This document contains qualification requirements for both disciplines of events. Scroll down or [click here for qualification requirements for ENDURANCE EVENTS](#). Scroll down or [click here for qualification requirements for GRAVITY EVENTS](#).

Individuals attempting to pre-ride the course prior to the event or any scheduled practice day may encounter hazards including incomplete course construction or obstructions. The course may also cross private property. Athletes pre-riding the course do so entirely at their own risk.

USA CYCLING MOUNTAIN BIKE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (ENDURANCE EVENTS)

The USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Championships will determine the United States National Champions in juniors age classes, juniors category 1 & 2, category 1 & 2 age classes, masters age classes, U23, and pro in the following disciplines: cross-country (XC), short-track cross-country (STXC) and singlespeed (SS). Non-championship races will be offered for category 2 & 3 athletes in the cross-country (XC) discipline.

DISCIPLINES

Cross-Country (XC)	A mass start competition held on a circuit course comprising forest roads, singletrack, or unpaved dirt or gravel roads.
Short-Track Cross-Country (STXC)	A shortened cross-country style race, designed to be spectator-friendly and easily televised. The course should be 3-4 mins. Per lap. Race times are 10/20 mins + 3 laps.

CATEGORIES AND CLASSES

CROSS-COUNTRY (XC) NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACES

Male

Pro/Elite	Qualification not required
U23 (racing age 19-22, no category restrictions)	Qualification not required
Juniors ages 14 & under (no category restrictions)	Qualification not required
Juniors ages 15-18 (category 1 & 2)	Qualification not required
Masters ages 55+ (no category restrictions)	Qualification not required
Ages 23-54 (category 1 & 2)	Must qualify
Singlespeed	Qualification not required

Female

Pro/Elite	Qualification not required
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U23 (racing age 19-22)	Qualification not required
Juniors ages 14 & under (no category restrictions)	Qualification not required
Juniors ages 15-18 (category 1 & 2)	Qualification not required
Masters ages 50+ (no category restrictions)	Qualification not required
Ages 23-49 (category 1 & 2)	Must qualify
Singlespeed	Qualification not required
CROSS-COUNTRY (XC) NON-CHAMPIONSHIP RACES (CATEGORY 2 & 3 ONLY)	
Qualification not required	
SHORT-TRACK CROSS-COUNTRY (STXC) NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACES	
Qualification not required	
CITIZENSHIP/RESIDENCY/LICENSING REQUIREMENTS	
Championships for UCI Classes (XC)	Category 1 & 2 juniors 17-18, U23, and pro (elite) competitors must be United States citizens with a USA racing nationality.
Domestic Championships (XC, STXC, SS)	Junior competitors 16 years old and younger, seniors (19-29), and masters (30+) competing in the national championship races must be a United States citizen or permanent resident with USA Cycling annual license.
Licensing	All riders must have a current annual USA Cycling license, or license from a recognized National Federation, and be in good standing. Riders competing for national championships must provide a copy of a passport, birth certificate or resident alien card (where appropriate) to verify age and citizenship. This may be done before the race by contacting USA Cycling.
QUALIFICATION PERIOD	
The qualifying period will begin the first Saturday after the 2016 USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Championships and end the last Sunday before the 2017 USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Championships.	
Qualification Start Date: July 23, 2016	Qualification End Date: July 16, 2017
QUALIFYING EVENTS	
<i>Riders wishing to compete in a qualification-required race must do so in one of the following ways:</i>	
USA Cycling Mountain Bike State or Regional Championship	Top 15 riders in each category and age-group (class)
American Mountain Bike Calendar (AMBC)	Top 15 riders in each category and age-group (class)
Pro Mountain Bike XC Tour (ProXCT)	Top 15 riders in each category and age-group (class)
Defending USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Champions	All defending national champions in XC are automatically qualified to register.
USA Cycling Sanctioned Cross Country (XC) Mountain Bike Events	Riders competing in any three (3) USA Cycling sanctioned cross country (XC) mountain bike events will qualify.
QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES AND RULES	
COMPETITION RACING AGE	
Riders will compete in their respective age-group based on their official racing age determined on December 31, 2017.	
U23 RIDER ELIGIBILITY	
Any racer between the racing ages of 19-22 who wishes to race in the U23 race does not need to qualify for that race. The U23 XC race will take place on the pro course and within the designated UCI projected finish times.	
PRO RIDERS – MASTERS AGE GROUPS	
Pro riders who are 30 years old and older (masters), may not ‘race-down’ to category 1 in order to win an age-group title.	
RIDERS QUALIFIED IN MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY IN SAME DISCIPLINE	
Riders who have qualified in more than one category (i.e. qualified in category 2, then upgraded to category 1 and re-qualified), must compete in the highest category they have qualified in.	
MASTERS QUALIFYING IN SAME CATEGORY/DIFFERENT AGE-GROUP	
Masters racers qualifying in a different age group and same ability category will be eligible to compete in their official racing age group and category at the national championships.	
CATEGORY 2 & 3 – UPGRADED BEFORE COMPETITION	
Category 2 and 3 riders who have met the upgrading requirements (as defined in the 2017 USA Cycling Rulebook) may compete in one of these categories at the USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Championships, but may do so for this event only. After the national championships, they must upgrade to at least the next highest category.	
QUALIFIED RIDER LIST	
Qualified rider lists will be posted to the USA Cycling event webpage as they are determined.	
QUALIFIED RIDER LIST – NOTIFICATION EMAIL	
USA Cycling licensed riders who have a current license, active USA Cycling online membership account, and have opted-in to receive emails from USA Cycling, will receive an email notification when they have qualified.	
QUALIFIED RIDER LIST – RACE RESULTS SUBMISSION	

Qualification events are required to submit race results to USA Cycling within seven (7) business days of their event (some within 24-hours of conclusion of qualification event). If results are not submitted to USA Cycling and posted on the USA Cycling website, riders will not appear on the qualified rider list. Please contact the race director if results are not posted to www.usacycling.org.

XC AND STXC CALL-UP PROCEDURES

Category	Total Number & Order of Priority
Pro/Elite	Defending national champion, UCI rankings, ProXCT rankings, USAC rankings
U23 / Cat 1/2 Juniors 17-18	Defending national champion, UCI rankings, ProXCT rankings, USAC rankings
Cat 1/2 15-16, 19-54 men/women	Defending national champion, aged-up national champion, previous year podium, + 15: USAC rankings in age group
Juniors 14 and under	Defending national champion, aged-up national champion, previous year podium, + 15: USAC rankings in age group
Masters 55+ men / 50+ women	Defending national champion, aged-up national champion, previous year podium, + 15: USAC rankings in age group

SINGLE SPEED BIKE RESTRICTIONS

Singlespeed is any type of bicycle possessing **only one rear cog and one front chain ring**. There is no means of altering the gear ratio in any way for the duration of the race. "Blocked out" gears are not allowed at the national championships.

TEAM RELAY COMPOSITION

Team make up can be no more than two senior or master male riders, no more than one pro/elite male, and no more than one pro/elite female. If your team has junior riders we will assign a time bonus to equalize the playing field. Time bonuses will be determined once the course has been finalized.

USA CYCLING MOUNTAIN BIKE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS (GRAVITY EVENTS)

The USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Championships will determine the United States national champions in junior age classes, junior category 1, category 1 age classes, masters age classes, and pro in the following disciplines: downhill (DH), dual slalom (DS) and enduro. Non-championship races will be offered for category 2 & 3 athletes in the downhill (DH) and dual slalom (DS) disciplines.

DISCIPLINES

Downhill (DH)	A gravity time trial competition consisting of riders racing one at a time, against the clock, down a trail, jeep road, or fire road, or a combination of all three. Downhill races are generally technically challenging with courses often featuring a combination of high speeds, jumps, drop-offs, and other technical features.
Dual Slalom (DS)	A gated gravity competition where two competitors race head-to-head down two similar, but separate, courses. Following a qualification round, riders race against each other in an elimination format (heats) to determine a winner. Dual slalom courses often feature bermed corners, jumps, and other technical trail features.
Enduro	An extended timed descent or multiple timed descents in single or multiple stages over one or more days.

CATEGORIES AND CLASSES

DOWNHILL (DH) NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACES

Male

Pro	Qualification not required
Juniors ages 14 & under (no category restrictions)	Qualification not required
Juniors ages 15-18 (category 1)	Qualification not required
Ages 55+ (no category restrictions)	Qualification not required
Ages 19-54 (category 1)	Must qualify

Female

Pro	Qualification not required
Juniors ages 14 & under (no category restrictions)	Qualification not required
Juniors ages 15-18 (category 1)	Qualification not required
Ages 50+ (no category restrictions)	Qualification not required
Ages 19-49 (category 1)	Must qualify

DOWNHILL (DH) NON-CHAMPIONSHIP RACES (CATEGORY 2 & 3 ONLY)	
Qualification not required	
DUAL SLALOM (DS) NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP AND NON-CHAMPIONSHIP RACES	
Qualification not required	
ENDURO NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP RACES	
Qualification not required	
CITIZENSHIP/RESIDENCY/LICENSING REQUIREMENTS	
Championships for UCI Classes (DH)	Category 1 & 2 juniors 17-18, U23, and pro (elite) competitors must be United States citizens with a USA racing nationality.
Domestic Championships (DH, DS, EN)	Junior competitors 16 years old and younger, seniors (19-29), and masters (30+) competing in the national championship races must be a United States citizen or permanent resident with USA Cycling annual license.
Licensing	All riders must have a current annual USA Cycling license, or license from a recognized National Federation, and be in good standing. Riders competing for national championships must provide a copy of a passport, birth certificate or resident alien card (where appropriate) to verify age and citizenship. This may be done before the race by contacting USA Cycling.
QUALIFICATION PERIOD	
The qualifying period will begin the first Saturday after the 2016 USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Championships and end the last Sunday before the 2017 USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Championships.	
Qualification Start Date: July 23, 2016	Qualification End Date: July 16, 2017
QUALIFYING EVENTS	
<i>Riders wishing to compete in a qualification-required race must do so in one of the following ways:</i>	
USA Cycling Mountain Bike State or Regional Championship	Top 15 riders in each category and age-group/class
Pro Mountain Bike Gravity Tour (ProGRT)	Top 15 riders in each category and age-group/class
Defending USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Champions	All defending national champions in DH are automatically qualified to register.
USA Cycling sanctioned Downhill (DH) Mountain Bike Events	Riders competing in any three (3) USA Cycling sanctioned downhill (DH) mountain bike events will qualify.
QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES AND RULES	
COMPETITION RACING AGE	
Riders will compete in their respective age-group based on their official racing age determined on December 31, 2017.	
PRO RIDERS – MASTERS AGE GROUPS	
Pro riders who are 30 years old and older (masters), may not ‘race-down’ to category 1 in order to win an age-group title.	
RIDERS QUALIFIED IN MORE THAN ONE CATEGORY IN SAME DISCIPLINE	
Riders who have qualified in more than one category (i.e. qualified in category 2, then upgraded to category 1 and re-qualified), must compete in the highest category they have qualified in.	
MASTERS QUALIFYING IN SAME CATEGORY/DIFFERENT AGE-GROUP	
Masters racers qualifying in a different age group and same ability category will be eligible to compete in their official racing age group and category at the national championships.	
UPGRADED BEFORE COMPETITION	
Category 2 riders who have met the mandatory upgrading requirements to category 1 (as defined in the 2017 USA Cycling Rulebook), but who have not then qualified as a category 1, may still compete in the category 2 race at the USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Championships, but may do so for this event only. After the national championships, they must upgrade to, and compete as, category 1.	
QUALIFIED RIDER LIST	
Qualified rider lists will be posted to the USA Cycling event webpage as they are determined.	
QUALIFIED RIDER LIST – NOTIFICATION EMAIL	
USA Cycling licensed riders who have a current license, active USA Cycling online membership account, and have opted-in to receive emails from USA Cycling, will receive an email notification when they have qualified.	
QUALIFIED RIDER LIST – RACE RESULTS SUBMISSION	
Qualification events are required to submit race results to USA Cycling within seven (7) business days of their event (some within 24-hours of conclusion of qualification event). If results are not submitted to USA Cycling and posted on the USA Cycling website, riders will not appear on the qualified rider list. Please contact the race director if results are not posted to www.usacycling.org .	
DH SEEDING & FINALS PROCEDURES	

Downhill seeding will run returning national champion, aged up national champion, USA Cycling rankings. Riders must start their run in order to advance to finals. Finals will be run based on slowest to fastest seeding.

Racers who miss their assigned start time through no fault of the officials or organizers will not be allowed to start their run until the last rider of either their own category or the very end of the competition, depending on available time gaps between categories, this is at the discretion of race management and officials. The rider's race clock will have been started at his or her assigned start time and will not be adjusted, and no new start time will be assigned.