

Seeding Principles for a National Championship

Note: See UCI Track Rules, page 6 for guidance

200m Time Trial Sprint Qualifying:

- Top 8 finishers from last year, if registered, retain the top 8 seeds, with the top seed starting last.
- Results from international or other national level races can be taken into consideration to move riders further down on the start list (i.e. assign a higher seed), if appropriate.
- Remaining riders should be assigned a start position through some random assignment method, taking care to not start two riders from the same team back to back if possible (courtesy to the team's coach).
- Before the start of the event, verify how many riders advance into the first round from the 200m and use the appropriate sprint chart. In a championship sprint, do not deviate from the published sprint chart, even if two team mates are in the same heat.

Individual Pursuit (assuming qualifying round and a final round):

- Top 8 finishers from last year, if registered, should be noted on the entry list prior to completing the heat composition.
- In all heats, the higher seeded rider should be assigned a start position that allows him to FINISH his pursuit on the home straight in front of the grandstands.
- Riders of relatively equal ability should be paired against each other in the qualifying round to prevent one rider catching the other, if possible. (UCI track rules, page 16)
- The 1st seed (last year's champion, usually) will start in the final heat, against either the 3rd or 4th seed, but not against the 2nd seed.
- The 2nd seed will start in the second to the last heat, against either the 3rd or 4th seed, but not against the 1st seed.
- Avoid pairing riders from the same team against each other in the qualifying round, if possible, as a courtesy to coaches and to avoid confusion if one rider should catch another.
- In the final round, the 3rd and 4th place finishers in the qualifying round will ride for 3rd and 4th place (and will be the first heat in the final round), and the 1st and 2nd place finishers in the qualifying round will ride for 1st and 2nd place (and will be the second heat in the final round). The higher seeded rider will finish on the home straight.
- Note in UCI rules, page 6: "For events where there are two opposing teams/riders on the track, Commissaires should no match the two presumed to be the best."

Kilometer/500m Time Trial Final (and other time trials not held in rounds):

- These may be ridden with only one rider on the track at a time or as two-ups.
- The top 10 finishers from the previous year will maintain those seeds, with the national champion riding last in the competition. Guidance in the UCI rulebook states as follows: "The starting order shall be set by commissaires." (page 21). However, in the seeding guidance on page 6, UCI track point standings are used

so as secretary, it is best to use results from last year's national championships (if you are seeding a national championship event) or track cup points, if available.

- As this is a final, if these are ridden as 2-up heats, the final heat will consist of the highest seed finishing on the home straight, and the 2nd highest seed finishing on the back straight. The second to the last heat will have the 3rd highest seed finishing on the home straight and the 4th highest seed on the back straight. The rest of the heats will follow this pattern.
- Results from international or other national level races can be taken into consideration to move riders further down on the start list (i.e. assign a higher seed), if appropriate.
- Remaining riders should be assigned a start position through a random draw, taking care to not start two riders from the same team back to back if possible (courtesy to the team's coach).
- This is a final, so riders do not advance to another round.

Keirin: (See UCI rules pages 25-29 for guidance)

- Determine the format for the keirin based on the number of entrants and the size of the track (generally no more than 6-7 in a heat on a 250m track, and no more than 8 on a track for 333m. track). The UCI has a **format chart** (but not a seeding chart) that must be followed in international events. Be sure to publish the format of the competition in a communique, but don't publish the seeding and charts that you plan to use to move riders through the rounds. If you do, be prepared to defend your "tweaking", as addressed below.
- Seeding the First Round: Take into account all information available on the ability of the entered riders, including last year's results and any other comparable competitions that have taken place within the past year or earlier in the meet (i.e. 200 meter qualifying or kilo/500m TT). Rank riders according to those results.
- Place the highest seeded rider in heat 1, second highest in heat 2, as below.

Example:

<u>Heat 1</u>	<u>Heat 2</u>	<u>Heat 3</u>	<u>Heat 4</u>
1 st seed	2 nd seed	3 rd seed	4 th seed
8 th seed	7 th seed	6 th seed	5 th seed
9 th seed	10 th seed	11 th seed	12 th seed

- Review the heats, considering two principles: the relative competitiveness of each heat; and ensuring that no one heat has more riders from the same team in it than in any other heat (i.e. spread out teammates)! If possible, have someone else look at the heats, too, before publishing. Once published, it is very difficult to change the heats unless a significant number of riders drop out of the keirin before the start of the first round.
- Based on the table provided in the UCI rulebook for keirins, move riders through to the rep round, always checking for overloading of heats with teammates BEFORE publishing the start sheet. Tweak the composition of the heats if

necessary. In determining which rider to move between heats to balance them out, try to switch a rider who finished 3rd in his qualifying heat with another rider who finished 3rd in his qualifying heat. This helps to ensure that the heats are relatively competitive while breaking up teammates where possible.

- The commissaries may also “tweek” the repechage and the second round heats if absolutely necessary, but this should only be done if one heat is significantly unbalanced due to an excess number of teammates, over the other heat.

Scratch Race/Points Race/Madison Qualifying Heats:

- Based on last year’s results and any other relevant information (including races that have taken place earlier in the meet), identify those riders who are most likely to qualify to the final. Spread them out between the two heats, taking care to also divide teammates as equally as possible among the heats. Review the proposed heats to ensure that they are equally competitive.
- Start lists for mass start events should list starters in numerical order according to his/her rider number. This makes life much easier for the other officials during the race itself.
- Madison start lists are also listed in numerical order by team number, accompanied by a team name and the names of both riders on the team. Generally, one rider is assigned the red number and the other the black, and they are listed as such on the start list.

Team Sprint/Team Pursuit:

Note composition of the team, identifying those teams that are most likely to finish highest in the qualifying round OR draw lots for start order.

Team Pursuit qualifying is almost always done with one team on the track at a time (UCI rules, page 17). The higher seeded teams will start last. Both men’s and women’s team sprints are now 4km, ridden with 4 riders, with timing done on the third rider.

Team Sprint qualifying is almost always done with two teams on the track at a time. *P.S. There are no sponges placed on the track for a team sprint.* When pairing teams, use the same principle as those expressed in the Individual Pursuit above, with the higher seed starting and finishing on home straight in front of the grand stands. Remember that men’s team sprint is always 3 laps, regardless of the size of the track, and women’s team sprint is 2 laps with two riders.

For both team pursuit and team sprint, in the final round, the 3rd and 4th placed teams in the qualifying round will ride for 3rd and 4th, and the 1st and 2nd placed teams in the qualifying round will ride for 1st and 2nd.

Omnium (See pages 46-47 in the UCI rulebook, track section)

The omnium is a series of six races with seeding for each race done based on the omnium standings. The events are held in the following order:

The qualifying race for the omnium (if more riders are entered than the track can hold at any one time) is the points race. Seed these points race heats as if you were seeding a qualifying heats for a points race final (as noted above).

If not qualifying is needed, the Flying lap is the first race and (like a 200 meter TT) is one-up. As this is the first event of the omnium, you can seed this event based on last year's omnium results or do it randomly.

The second race is a points race. For the points race, elimination and scratch race, riders are lined up in single file along the railing and in the sprinters lane (with holders when in the sprinters lane) in the order listed on the start sheet, which is based on the current omnium standings.

Example start list for points race:

Riders on the Railing in their start order according to their omnium standings are as follows:

1st, 3rd, 5th, 7th, 9th, 11th, etc.

Riders in the Sprinters lane in their start order according to their omnium standings are as follows: 2nd, 4th, 6th, 8th, 10th, 12th, etc.

While this start order is not as critical for a scratch race or points race, it is VERY critical for an elimination race as your position when the race begins often has a direct impact on the outcome of the race (i.e. who is pulled early, and who is not). Regardless, these three races should all be seeded in the same way.

In the individual pursuit (the fourth race in the omnium), the seeding is completely based off of the omnium results after the first three races. Do not change any of the seeding for this, no matter who is riding against whom. In the final heat, the 1st place in the omnium will ride against the 2nd place in the omnium, with the higher seeding finishing on the home straight.

The final event is a 500m (for women) or kilo (for men). These are always ridden as 2-ups and are seeded based on the omnium rankings after 5 events. Again, do not change the seeding.

Be sure to check the rules to determine how to place riders in the final ranking who didn't start one of the races in the omnium, how to place riders who didn't finish a race in the omnium, and how to place riders who didn't qualify out of the qualifying points races.

Other Notes:

What happens to a rider in any round of a race if they are:

- Relegated?
- Disqualified?
- Suffer a (recognized or unrecognized) mishap?
- Do not participate in a round of an event?
- Withdraw with the approval of the CR/President?