



USA CYCLING ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA

2019 PAN AMERICAN CONTINENTAL DOWNHILL MTB CHAMPIONSHIPS ELITE MEN AND WOMEN AND JUNIOR MEN

April 12-14, 2019

Villa la Angostura Neuquen, Argentina

QUALIFICATION INFORMATION

Below you will find information on how a rider can automatically qualify for nomination to the 2019 Pan American Continental Championship DH MTB Team. In cases where there are still available start positions after the automatic qualification process, those positions may be filled via discretionary nominations according to the USAC discretionary selection criteria below.

ELIGIBILITY

Elite Men and Women: USA Cycling International License Holders; 2019 racing age 23 and over

Junior Men and Women: USA Cycling International License Holders; 2019 racing age from 17 to 18

FUNDING LEVELS

Level 1: Funded

For athletes qualifying for the team via automatic selection criteria USA Cycling will provide one economy class, single destination airfare, which includes two pieces of luggage: One bike and one suitcase each under 50lbs (excess weight or additional bag charges are responsibility of the athlete). USA Cycling will also provide competition and casual clothing, lodging/food, ground transportation at event location, all mechanical/race support, and TravMed insurance throughout duration of the event with USA Cycling.

Level 2: Self-Funded

Athletes who do not meet the automatic qualification criteria but are selected to the team via USA Cycling Selection Committee discretionary nomination will be responsible for a "Team Service Fee" payable on or before the date outlined in this document. The Service Fee for this event and this level is \$1,000.00. This fee includes: competition and casual clothing, lodging/food, ground transportation at event location, all mechanical/race support, and TravMed Insurance throughout duration of the event with USA Cycling. Level 2 funded athletes are responsible for their airfare and excess baggage expenses.

COMPETITION AND CASUAL CLOTHING

As a member of the USA National Team, representing USA Cycling and the United States of America, you will be provided with competition clothing which you will be required to wear during all training sessions and competitions. Additionally you will be provided casual clothing that you will be required to wear at official team functions and while participating as a member of the team. Failure to comply with team clothing rules can lead to disciplinary actions including removal from the team.

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

- Deadline for submission of petitions: March 1, 2019
- Selection of Discretionary Nominations: March 7, 2019
- Confirmation of intent to participate: March 7, 2019
- Final announcement of the Team: March 11, 2019
- Deadline for submission of Team Service Fee: March 20, 2019

EVENT SELECTION CRITERIA

Elite Men Downhill

Maximum Start Positions: 4

Level 1 Funding

1. Any athlete placing in the top three (3) at the 2018 World Championships in the same event and category will be named to the 2019 Pan American Championship DH MTB Team.

Level 2 Funding

2. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criteria, then petitioning athletes may be nominated to the 2019 Downhill MTB Pan American Championships Team by the USA Cycling National Team coach and approved by the USA Cycling Selection Committee, following the discretionary criteria described below. Athletes may petition using the Discretionary Petition form on the USA Cycling website.

Elite Women Downhill

Maximum Start Positions: 4

Level 1 Funding

1. Any athlete placing in the top three (3) at the 2018 World Championships in the same event and category will be named to the 2019 Pan American Championship DH MTB Team..

Level 2 Funding

2. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criteria, then petitioning athletes may be nominated to the 2019 Downhill MTB Pan American Championships Team by the USA Cycling National Team coach and approved by the USA Cycling Selection Committee, following the discretionary criteria described below. Athletes may petition using the Discretionary Petition form on the USA Cycling website.

Junior Men's Downhill

Maximum Start Positions: 1

Level 1 Funding

1. Any athlete placing in the top three (3) at the 2018 World Championships in the same event and category will be named to the 2019 Pan American Championship DH MTB Team..

Level 2 Funding

2. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criteria, then petitioning athletes may be nominated to the 2019 Downhill MTB Pan American Championships Team by the USA Cycling National Team coach and approved by the USA Cycling Selection Committee, following the discretionary criteria described below. Athletes may petition using the Discretionary Petition form on the USA Cycling website.

Junior Women's Downhill

Maximum Start Positions: 1

Athletes may receive automatic nominations to the team based on the following *prioritized* criteria:

Level 1 Funding

1. Any athlete placing in the top three (3) at the 2018 World Championships in the same event and category will be named to the 2019 Pan American Championship DH MTB Team..

Level 2 Funding

2. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criteria, then petitioning athletes may be nominated to the 2019 Downhill MTB Pan American Championships Team by the USA Cycling National Team coach and approved by the USA Cycling Selection Committee, following the discretionary criteria described below. Athletes may petition using the Discretionary Petition form on the USA Cycling website.

DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

USA Cycling may choose to fill quota slots through the discretionary selection criteria below in order to select athletes with medal capability or those that will achieve the best predicted finish for USA Cycling.

Discretionary Criteria

If quota slots remain after the automatic criteria number 1. above has been applied, the USA Cycling National Team coach will recommend athletes, according to the criteria below, to the USA Cycling Selection Committee for selection to the World Championship Team through discretionary selection. The Selection Committee will review data on all petitioning athletes when considering the recommendations. The USA Cycling Selection Committee will consider the following criteria in priority order A through C:

- A. Medal Capable Athlete– A medal capable athlete is one who has clearly demonstrated the ability to produce a medal winning result in the competition for which the athlete is being selected for by achieving one of the following criteria:
- Winning a medal (top 3 finish) within the last 24 months at a UCI World Cup or World Championships and demonstrating the continuing ability to perform at that level or higher based on performances in International Competition in the last 12 months or
 - Beating previous year’s Worlds or Olympic medalists or current top UCI world ranked athletes in International Competition on multiple occasions in the past 12 months;
- B. Future Medal Capable Athletes– An athlete who is future medal capable is one who has the potential to produce a medal winning result within two to three years at a World Championship or Olympic Games by:
- Demonstrating a trend of improving performance in International Competition that, when logically extended out two to three years, in consideration of the athlete’s development path, intersects the future World Championship or Olympic standard for the event under consideration; or
 - Winning medals at Junior or U23 World Championships in the last 24 months with ongoing additional supporting results in International Competitions competitive with the top ranked athletes in their division.
- C. Best Predicted Finish- If positions for the Team remain open after the application of all Automatic Selection and Discretionary Selection principles A. and B. above, the USA Cycling Selection Committee may choose the athlete or athletes who are most likely to finish the highest in the event based on the data below in the “Data to Support Discretionary Selections” section.

Importance of International Competition

As used herein, “International Competition” includes any competition in which the field of athletes is sufficiently strong that performances in that competition are indicative of how an athlete can perform in the World Championships. International Competitions need not occur outside the United States, as “international” refers to the competitiveness of the field (i.e., includes many of the best riders from leading MTB cycling nations around the world), not the location of the event.

Data to Support Discretionary Selections

When petitioning athletes are eligible for discretionary selection, due to the availability of quota slots after automatic selection, petitioning athletes and the National Team coach will be given the opportunity to submit data to the Selection Committee for consideration in the discretionary selection.

In addition to performances in International Competition or competitions specified in the Athlete Selection Procedures, the Selection Committee may consider for discretionary selections, as appropriate to the discipline, the following:

- For all selections – Validatable and credible performance data such as times on courses (or portions of courses) of similar length or course profile and/or in similar environmental conditions to the event being selected for.
- For choosing between two athletes within a selection category (medal capable, future medal capable, or best predicted finish) – Data may include any or all of the following in no specific order of priority. The inclusion and order of priority for any data set may be determined by the USA Cycling Coaching staff and USA Cycling Selection Committee.
 1. Race results in top international competitions;
 2. Race results in top domestic competitions;
 3. Head to head competition results or performances between multiple athletes in consideration for a discretionary position;
 4. Technological data on athlete and or event which is validatable and credible. By way of example this could include, but is not limited to: times on the same courses in the same events or event demand data.

USA Cycling Selection Committee

Recommendations for discretionary nominations will be made by the USA Cycling National coaching staff. However, the USA Cycling Selection Committee (see the USA Cycling website for the list of Selection Committee members) will review and approve ALL athlete nominations using the criteria outlined above.

Conflict of Interest

Any member of the selection committee that has a possible conflict of interest must disclose it. Another member of the Selection Committee may also raise a potential conflict of interest of another member. For any conflict raised, the remainder of the selection committee will decide if the conflict is material by vote. In the case of a tie, the tie will be broken by the USA Cycling Vice President of Elite Athletics. If such conflict exists, the selection committee member must recuse him/herself from committee discussions and voting. Further, the committee member should not otherwise influence other members of the committee in the nomination process. However, a committee member who recused him/herself, but who has relevant and necessary information with respect to athlete performance, may, if requested by the selection committee, provide such information to the committee so long as such information is provided in a fair and unbiased manner and the committee member who declared the conflict of interest does not vote toward the final decision.