



## **USA CYCLING ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA**

2019 WORLD ROAD CHAMPIONSHIPS – U23 MEN

September 22-29, 2019 – Yorkshire, England

### **AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION INFORMATION**

Below you will find information on how a rider can “automatically” qualify for nomination to the 2019 World Championship U23 Road 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 procedures outlined in the Discretionary Selection section of this document.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Athlete must be eligible to represent the United States in a UCI competition at the time of nomination. All nominees must have a valid USAC International Racing License and meet all eligibility requirements of USA Cycling and the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) at the time of nomination. All athletes must be in good standing with USAC, UCI, and the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) at the time of nomination.

- USAC International License Holders; Age 19-22 years old (men born in 1997-2000).
- Under 23 riders who have participated in the Men’s Elite individual road race or time trial at a previous World Championships may not ride the individual road race or time trial for Under 23 riders.

### **FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

USAC will assume financial responsibility for athletes in the teams listed, provided ATHLETES MEET THE AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION STANDARDS BELOW. USAC will fund automatic qualifiers up to the maximum number indicated. USAC may also fund those athletes who are chosen via selection committee discretionary selection.

### **FUNDING LEVELS**

#### **Level 1: Funded Athletes**

For athletes qualifying via automatic criteria for 2019 World Championships, 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**

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 self-funding through 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 self-funded athletes are responsible for their airfare and excess baggage expenses as well. All athletes travel will be booked arriving 5 days before the first day of their competition, and returning the following day after their last competition

## **PODIUM COMPENSATION**

If any member of the Road Race team achieves a top three (3) finish in the U23 World Championship Road Race, USA Cycling will refund the Team Service Fee and pay the fair market value of an economy class round trip airfare ticket to the event (excluding excess baggage costs) to all Self-funded athletes who are members of the Road Race team. If any Self-funded athlete achieves a top three (3) finish in the U23 World Championship Individual Time Trial, USA Cycling will refund the Team Service Fee and pay the fair market value of an economy class round trip airfare ticket to the event (excluding excess baggage costs) to such Level 2 funded athlete.

## **COMPETITION AND CASUAL CLOTHING**

As a member of the USA Cycling World Championship Team, representing USA Cycling and the United States of America, athletes will be provided with competition clothing which will be required during all training sessions and competitions. Additionally athletes will be provided casual clothing that will be required 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**

1. Automatic Nominations
  - a. Notification of Automatic Nominations and confirmation of intent to participate: Sept 5, 2019
2. Petition Discretionary Nominations
  - a. Deadline for submission of petitions: August 30, 2019
  - b. Notification of Discretionary Selections and confirmation of intent to participate: Sept 5, 2019
  - c. Deadline for submission of **\$1,000.00** deposit: Sept 10, 2019
3. Final announcement of the Team: Sept 10, 2019.

## **CRITERIA FOR AUTOMATIC NOMINATION TO THE TEAM**

### **U23 Men Road Race**

#### **Maximum Start Positions: 5**

1. Up to one (1) athlete placing in the top ten (10) at the prior year's World Championships in the same event and category will be nominated to the Team. If more than one rider meets this criterion, then the highest placing athlete in the prior year's World Championships will be nominated.
2. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criterion, any athlete who finishes in the top three (3) of a 1.UWT, European 1.HC or European 1.1 event between the dates of January 1, 2019 and August 26, 2019 will be nominated to the Team. If more than one athlete meets this criterion, such athletes will be ranked based on the recency of the event in which the athlete achieved the qualifying result.
3. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criterion, any athlete who wins a European 1.2U, European 1.Ncup or European 1.2 event between the dates of January 1, 2019 and August 26, 2019 will be nominated to the Team. If more than one athlete meets this criterion, such athletes will be ranked based on the recency of the event in which the athlete achieved the qualifying result.
4. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criterion, any athlete who finishes top three (3) in the final general classification of a 2UWT, European 2.HC, European 2.1, European 2.2U, European 2.2, European 2.NCup or America Tour 2.HC, between the dates of January 1, 2019 and August 26, 2019 will be nominated to the Team. If more than one athlete meets this criterion, such athletes will be ranked based on the recency of the event in which the athlete achieved the qualifying result.
5. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criterion, the highest placing U23 athlete, placing in the top five (5) overall, at the 2019 USA Cycling Professional Road Race National Championships provided the race is held in its entirety and run under UCI regulations will be nominated to the Team.
6. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criterion, the top ranked athlete from the UCI America Tour rankings, as of August 26, 2019, provided that athlete has scored a minimum of 100 points, will be nominated to the Team.
7. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criterion, the winner of the U23 road race at the 2019 USA Cycling U23 Road Race National Championships provided that race is held in its entirety and run under UCI regulations, will be nominated to the Team.

### **U23 Men Time Trial**

#### **Maximum Start Positions: 2**

1. Up to one (1) athlete placing in the top five (5) at the prior year's World Championships in the same event and category will be nominated to the Team. If more than one rider meets this criterion, then the highest placing athlete in the prior year's World Championships will be nominated.

2. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criterion, the top placing U23 athlete, placing in the top five (5) overall, at the 2019 USA Cycling Professional Time Trial National Championships provided the race is held in its entirety and run under UCI regulations will be nominated to the Team.
3. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criterion, any athlete who finishes in the top three (3) of an individual time trial stage at a 2UWT, European 2.HC, European 2.1, European 2.2U, European 2.2, European 2NCup or America Tour 2.HC, provided that time trial is greater than 20 kilometers in length, between the dates of January 01, 2019 and August 26, 2019 will be nominated to the Team. If more than one athlete meets this criterion, such athletes will be ranked based on the recency of the event in which the athlete achieved the qualifying result.
4. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criterion, the winner of the U23 time trial race at the 2019 USA Cycling U23 Time Trial Race National Championships provided that race is held in its entirety and run under UCI regulations, will be nominated to the Team.

#### **DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)**

USA Cycling may choose to fill quota slots through the selection criteria in order to select athletes with medal capability in the Time Trial or Road Race; athletes who can contribute to medal winning efforts in the Road Race; or athletes who can achieve the best result for Team USA in the Time Trial or the Road Race.

Due to the nature of the sport of cycling, whereby tactics or happenstance often dictate results, and the competitive structure of U23 World Championship cycling, whereby selection of athletes to one event can be related to the selection of another event, USA Cycling has determined that the use of discretionary selection is essential to maximize Team USA's medal chances overall. While it has established automatic criteria by which athletes, through extraordinary achievement, have demonstrated very clear evidence of high potential for winning a U23 World Championship medal, USA Cycling will use a discretionary selection process to select all athletes who have not qualified automatically.

If positions remain after the automatic criteria above have 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 U23 World Championship Team through discretionary selection. The Selection Committee will review data on all nominated athletes when considering the recommendations. The USA Cycling Selection Committee will consider the following criteria in any order when making selections for team-based events (Road Race). When making selections for individual events (Time Trial), only A., B., and C. may be considered in that order.

- 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) at the most recent U23 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 U23 Worlds medalists in International Competition in the event for which the athlete is being selected 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 at the U23 or Elite World Championships or Olympic Games by:
- Demonstrating a trend of improving performance that, when logically extended out 2-5 years, in consideration of the athlete's development path, intersects the future medal standard for the event under consideration.
- C. Best Predicted Finish - USA Cycling's Selection Committee may choose the athlete or athletes who are most likely to finish with the highest placing in the event.
- D. Athletes Who Maximize Team Performance - These selections are essential for the Road Race where the team director has devised a race strategy that designates one or more athletes as team leaders, and another athlete's contribution may assist a team leader in achieving a top performance. For example, even though the Road Race event is scored individually, athletes who sacrifice their own individual result to execute a team strategy for the designated team leaders can have a profound impact on the ability of a team leader to achieve a top performance.

An athlete who can maximize team performance is one who, based on her or his experience, tactical proficiency, physical abilities, and willingness to work selflessly for the team objective, is expected to contribute to the performance of a medal capable team or designated team strategy. An athlete who can maximize team performance must have the right combination of physical ability, skill, knowledge and attitude. Athletes will be selected to play specific roles within the team based on their demonstrated physical capacities, skillset and experience fulfilling their roles. The coaches' judgement supported as much as possible by objective data, described below, will be used to differentiate between athletes being selected for team event roles.

This criterion does not apply to the individual event of the Time Trial.

#### Importance of International Competition in Discretionary Selections

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 competition that the discretionary selection is for. 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 cycling nations around the world), not the location of the event.

#### Data to Support Discretionary Selections

When athletes on the Long Team are eligible for discretionary selection, due to the availability of quota slots after automatic selection, Long Team 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:

1. All selection categories – 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; athlete power data; or aerodynamic drag data (if relevant); or event and specific role demand data.
2. Athletes Who Maximize Team Performance Only – Demonstration of successful execution of relevant team tactics and evidence of being able to meet the physical requirements of the event being selected for when considering key factors like course profile, environmental conditions, and levels of competition. Specifically, single day road races similar in length and topography to the U23 World Championship Road Race will be most strongly considered.
3. Choosing between multiple athletes in a selection category (Medal Capable, Best Predicted Finish, Athletes Who Maximize Team Performance) – In addition to the data described in 1 and 2 above, data may also include any or all of the following in no specific order of priority:
  - Race results in top international competitions;
  - Race results in top national level competitions;
  - Head to head competition results or performances between multiple athletes in consideration for a discretionary position.

The inclusion and order of priority for any data set may be different from event to event as determined by the USA Cycling Coaching staff and USA Cycling Selection Committee.

### **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 member names) will review data on all petitioning athletes and approve ALL athlete nominations using the discretionary criteria described above.

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.