USA CYCLING ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA
2019/20 TRACK CYCLING WORLD CUP

2019/20 UCI TRACK WORLD CUP SCHEDULE
November 1-3, 2019 – Minsk, Belarus
November 8-10, 2019 – Glasgow, Great Britain
November 20-December 1, 2019 – Hong Kong
December 6-8, 2019 - Cambridge, New Zealand
December 13-15, 2019 – Brisbane, Australia
January 24-26, 2020 – Milton, Ontario, Canada

TEAM SELECTION PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA

Athletes may be selected to the USA Cycling Track Cycling World Cup Team by meeting certain automatic selection criteria for these events. If all positions on the Team are not filled through automatic selection, athletes may also be selected to the USA Cycling Team through a discretionary selection process administered by the USA Cycling Selection Committee according to the Discretionary Selection criteria described herein. Athletes seeking discretionary selection must 1. Submit a Discretionary Nomination Form by the deadline in the Important Dates and Deadlines section below or 2. Receive a discretionary nomination from the USA Cycling coaching staff. It is the athlete’s responsibility to submit a Discretionary Nomination Form on time. Late submissions will not be considered.

USA CYCLING SELECTION STRATEGY FOR UCI TRACK CYCLING WORLD CUPS

For the 2019/2020 UCI Track Cycling World Cups, USA Cycling aims to obtain the best results possible in order to maximize Team USA start quotas for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games. Secondarily, USA Cycling will look to provide athletes with valuable experience against world class fields to develop their skills and tactics for future success.

USA Cycling will prioritize its selection of the 2019/2020 UCI World Cup teams as follows:

1. Olympic Events – Team Events where the USA is on a trajectory to qualify positions for Tokyo 2020.
2. Olympic Events – Individual Events where the USA is on a trajectory to qualify positions for Tokyo 2020.
3. Non-Olympic Events – Individual Events qualified by previous year’s World Championship medal.
4. Olympic or non-Olympic Individual events nominated by discretionary selection.
**ELIGIBILITY**

Athletes must be eligible to represent the United States in a UCI competition at the time of nomination. All nominees must have a valid UCI 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. Athletes must have been born on or before Dec. 31, 2002.

**USA Cycling National Quotas Per Event**

In those disciplines that require qualification to the World Cups, points are earned through World Championships, World Cups, UCI Class (C1, C2 & C3) races, Continental Championships, and National Championships. The UCI Eligibility ranking ([http://www.uci.ch/track/ranking/](http://www.uci.ch/track/ranking/)) represents those points earned. USA Cycling must first earn enough points to qualify a World Cup position in a given event.

Furthermore the participation in the individual events shall be restricted to athletes with at least 250 points in the respective UCI Track Ranking. To be eligible, each athlete must have the minimum amount of points required either on the opening date of the online registration of the first leg of the World Cup, or in the latest update of the respective UCI Track Ranking prior to the registration deadline for an event.

Athletes should review the UCI qualification rules for disciplines. All UCI rules are posted on their website at: [http://www.uci.ch](http://www.uci.ch).

**FUNDING LEVELS**

USAC will provide funding for athletes selected to the team as follows:

**Level 1: Funded**

For athletes qualifying for the team via Automatic Selection criteria, and at USA Cycling’s option for Discretionary 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.

**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 Selection criteria 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. USA Cycling may, completely at its own discretion, provide Level 1 funding to an athlete who is not an Automatic Qualifier.

PODIUM COMPENSATION

Any Level 2: Self-funded athlete that achieves a top three (3) finish at that 2019/2020 UCI Track Cycling World Cup will be refunded the Team Service Fee (if applicable) as well as a fair market value for an economy class round-trip airfare to the event (if applicable; all excess baggage costs are the responsibility of the athlete).

COMPETITION AND CASUAL CLOTHING

As a member of the USA Cycling World Cup Team, representing USA Cycling and the United States of America, athletes will be provided 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. 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 athlete petitions: September 27, 2019
- Confirmation of intent to participate of Automatic Nominations: October 1, 2019
- Selection of Discretionary Nominations and Final Selections: October 3, 2019
- Confirmation of intent to participate of Discretionary Nominations: October 4, 2019
- Deadline for submission of Service Fee for Self-Funded riders: October 7, 2019
- Final announcement of the Team: October 7, 2019

MANDATORY TRAINING

If an athlete accepts a nomination to the World Cup Team they will be required to participate in all USA Cycling training camps and race programs as prescribed by the USA Cycling Coaching staff prior to each World Cup event unless excused in advance, in writing from the USA Cycling V.P. of Elite Athletics.

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION TO THE TEAM

Team Events- Team Pursuit, Team Sprint, Madison

Selection to the Men’s or Women’s Long Team-

1. Any athlete placing in the top three (3) at the previous year’s World Championships in the event will be named to the Long Team for that event.

2. According to the UCI Ranking on September 27, 2019- The top two (2) athletes for Madison and Women’s Team Sprint, top three (3) athletes In UCI Rankings for Men’s Team Sprint, or top four (4) athletes in UCI Ranking’s for Team Pursuit will be named to the Long Team for that event.
3. Any eligible athletes who are members of the winning team in the Team Pursuit, Team Sprint or Madison at the 2019 US Elite National Championships will be named to the Long Team for that event.

4. Additional athletes may be selected for nomination to the Long Team by the USA Cycling Selection Committee following the Discretionary Selection criteria below.

**Men’s and Women’s Team Events – Final Team Discretionary Selection**

1. If USA Cycling chooses to start a Men’s or Women’s Team Event at any leg of the UCI Track Cycling World Cups, all final nominees for the USA Cycling Men’s or Women’s Team Event Teams will come from the previously nominated Long Team.

2. Final coaching nomination for Team Events will be based solely on the “Athletes Ability to Enhance Team Performance” section of the Discretionary Selection criteria below. The Team Events teams will be not be comprised of the best individual athletes, but rather the athletes that comprise and make up the best teams as determined by the USA Cycling Selection Committee.

**Men’s and Women’s Individual Olympic Events- Omnium, Sprint, Keirin.**

**Automatic Selection**

1. An individual athlete may only qualify for a total of one (1) World Cup start spot through the automatic criteria outlined here.

2. Any athlete placing in the top three (3) at the previous year’s (2019) World Championship will earn one (1) World Cup start in that same event where USA Cycling is supporting and sending a team. Should multiple athletes medal (Sprint or Keirin) at the World Championships, priority order will be determined by finish place.

3. Any athlete who has not already qualified for an automatic start in a specific event through the previous criterion, who placed in the top three (3) in any World Cup event from the 2018/2019 season will earn one (1) World Cup start in that same event in the 2019/2020 season where USA Cycling is supporting and sending a team. Should multiple athletes have earned top three (3) places in the same event in the previous season’s World Cups only the top placing athlete will qualify. If athletes have the same top placing, the athlete who earned the most recent result will qualify.

4. Any athlete who has not already qualified for an automatic start in a specific event through the previous criteria, who wins the USA Elite National Championship in the current season, will earn one (1) World Cup start in that same event where USA Cycling is supporting and sending a team.
Discretionary Selection

1. If positions on the team remain for an Individual Olympic Event after considering the automatic selection criteria above, and USA Cycling decides to fill that position, athletes may petition and may receive a discretionary nomination from the USA Cycling Selection Committee. The USA Cycling Selection Committee may consider nominations made by athletes themselves and the USA Cycling coaching staff. All discretionary selections will be made in accordance with the Discretionary Selection criteria as outlined below.

Men’s and Women’s Individual Non-Olympic Events- Scratch Race, Points Race, Individual Pursuit, TT

Automatic Selection

1. An individual athlete may only qualify for a total of one (1) World Cup start spot through the automatic criteria outlined here.

2. Any athlete placing in the top three (3) at the previous year’s World Championship will earn one (1) World Cup start in that same event where USA Cycling is supporting and sending a team. Should multiple athletes medal at the World Championships (Individual Pursuit, TT), priority order will be determined by finish place.

3. Any athlete who has not already qualified for an automatic start in a specific event through the previous criterion, who placed in the top three (3) in any World Cup event from the 2018/2019 season will earn one (1) World Cup start in that same event in the 2019/2020 season where USA Cycling is supporting and sending a team. Should multiple athletes have earned top three (3) places in the previous season’s World Cups only the top placing athlete will qualify. If athletes have the same top placing, the athlete who earned the most recent result will qualify.

Discretionary Selection

1. If positions on the team remain for an Individual Non-Olympic Event after considering the automatic selection criteria above, and USA Cycling decides to fill that position, athletes may petition and may receive a discretionary nomination from the USA Cycling Selection Committee. The USA Cycling Selection Committee may consider nominations made by athletes themselves and the USA Cycling coaching staff. All discretionary selections will be made in accordance with the Discretionary Selection criteria as outlined below.


**DISCRETIONARY SELECTION**

Entering an athlete/team to any event where an athlete has not automatically qualified is at the sole discretion of the USA Cycling. There is no guarantee any athletes who petition or who have met one of the criteria for the Long Team will be selected for the final team.

Athletes may be selected to the Final Team by the USA Cycling Selection Committee through discretionary selection. When making selections for individual events (Omnium, Individual Sprint, Keirin, Individual Pursuit, Time Trial, Points Race, and Scratch Race), only principles A., B., and C. will be considered, in that order. The USA Cycling Selection Committee will consider only principle D. when making selections for team-based events (Team Pursuit, Madison, and Team Sprint).

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 Jr. 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 Jr. Worlds medalists in International Competition in the event for which the athlete is being selected on multiple occasions in the past 12 months; or

- Producing a certified Jr. World Championship capable time within the past 12 months (applies only to timed track cycling events); or

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 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; or

- Performing within five percent (5%) of the World Championship time standard, despite competing a relatively short time in the sport or being biologically immature compared to World Championship medalists. (This criteria applies only to timed track cycling events).

C. **Best Predicted Finish**- If positions for the Team remain open after the application of all other Discretionary Selection principles, the USA Cycling Selection Committee may choose the athlete or athletes who are most likely to finish the highest in the event.
D. **Athletes Who Maximize Team Performance.** These selections are essential for team events (Team Pursuit, Team Sprint, and Madison) where the team members must work together as a single unit.

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.

For the Team Pursuit, athletes selected will have the capability to perform the following. Data observed will be pull timing splits, delivery speed (final ¼ lap pull splits) and video footage:

- Standing start and ability to get on the wheel at targeted first lap pace
- Ability to recover from start and maintain targeted race pace
- Ability to recover from pull efforts and maintain targeted race pace
- Technically proficient at proper exchange
- Smooth formation riding at speed

Additionally, due to limitations of athlete quota spots, priority will be given to athletes that are competitive in multiple events.

For the Madison, athletes selected will have the capability to perform the following:

- Ability to maintain lead lap pacing (ability to stay on lead lap)
- Ability to score points in sprints
- Ability to gain lap(s) on field
- Technically proficient in Madison exchanges
- Ability to read race, time exchanges and execute race strategy

Additionally, due to limitations of athlete quota spots, priority will be given to athletes that are competitive in multiple events.

For the Team Sprint, athletes selected will have the capability to perform the following. Data observed will be pull timing splits, delivery speed (final ¼ lap pull splits) and video footage:

- Standing start and ability to get on the wheel
- Ability to maintain or increase drop off speed
- Smooth formation riding at sprinting speed
- Technically proficient at proper exchange

This criterion does not apply to the individual events of Omnium, Individual Sprint, Keirin, Individual Pursuit, Time Trial, Points Race, and Scratch Race.
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 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
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 total or split times in events (or portions of events) and/or in similar environmental conditions to the event being selected for; athlete power data; aerodynamic drag data (if relevant); strength and size of the field; or event and specific role demand data.

- For “Athletes Who Maximize Team Performance” selections – Documentation of successful execution of relevant race tactics and/or evidence of being able to meet the physical requirements of the event being selected for when considering key factors like event demands, environmental conditions, and levels of competition.

- For choosing between two athletes in a selection category – 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 different from event to event as determined by the USA Cycling Coaching staff and USA Cycling Selection Committee.
  1. Race results in top international competitions;
  2. Race results in top national level competitions;
  3. Head to head competition results or performances between multiple athletes in consideration for a discretionary position;

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 USA Cycling website for names) will review data on all athletes in the Long Team and approve ALL athlete nominations using the discretionary criteria described 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.