



USA CYCLING ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA

2018 MOUNTAIN BIKE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

MEN AND WOMEN ELITE DOWNHILL

MEN AND WOMEN JUNIOR DOWNHILL

September 4-9, 2018 – Lenzerheide, Switzerland

AUTOMATIC QUALIFICATION INFORMATION

Below you will find information on how a rider can “automatically” qualify for nomination to the 2018 World Championship 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 procedures. More information regarding USAC discretionary selection procedures can be found in the “General Team Selection Information” document on the USAC website.

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. Information regarding USAC discretionary selection procedures can be found in the “Team Selection Information (<http://www.usacycling.org/forms/selection/principles.pdf>)” document on the USAC website. All athletes should review this document as well as “USAC Process for selecting athletes to protected events.” Both of these documents outline responsibilities and requirements for team selection.

Please note that USAC may NOT fill the teams to the maximum number of athletes if it deems petitioning athletes are not medal capable or future medal capable.

Funding

1. Elite Men Downhill (Maximum of 2 total)
 - a. Level 1 funding for athletes meeting criteria #1 or 2
 - b. Level 2 funding for athletes meeting criteria #3 or 4
2. Elite Women Downhill (Maximum of 2 total)
 - a. Level 1 funding for athletes meeting criteria #1 or 2
 - b. Level 2 funding for athletes meeting criteria #3 or 5
3. Junior Men Downhill (Maximum of 2 total)
 - a. Level 1 funding for athletes meeting criteria #1
 - b. Level 2 funding for athletes meeting criteria #2 or 3

4. Junior Women Downhill (Maximum of 2 total)
 - a. Level 1 funding for athletes meeting criteria #1
 - b. Level 2 funding for athletes meeting criteria #2 or 3

FUNDING LEVELS

Level 1 Full Funded: For athletes qualifying via the specified automatic criteria, USA Cycling will provide one economy class, single destination airfare, which includes two pieces of luggage: One bikes and one suitcase each under 50lbs (excess weight or additional bag charges are responsibility of the athlete). USA Cycling will also provide ground transportation at event location, food, lodging, all mechanical/race support, TravMed Insurance and competition clothing from Monday, September 3, 2018 through Sunday, September 9, 2018. Athletes must confirm their intent to stay with the team no later than August 1, 2018 in order to be guaranteed lodging and support.

Level 2 Ground Funded: For athletes qualifying via the specified automatic criteria, USA Cycling will provide ground transportation at event location, food, lodging, all mechanical/race support, TravMed Insurance and competition clothing from Monday, September 3, 2018 through Sunday, September 9, 2018. Level 2 funded athletes are responsible for their own airfare and excess baggage expenses. Athletes must confirm their intent to stay with the team no later than August 1, 2018 in order to be guaranteed lodging and support.

Level 3 Self-Funded: After the maximum number of funded spots have been exhausted athletes qualifying via automatic criteria or named to the team via 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 \$1250.00. This fee includes: ground transportation at event location, food, lodging, all mechanical/race support, TravMed Insurance and competition clothing from Monday, September 3, 2018 through Sunday, September 9, 2018. Level 3 funded athletes are responsible for their own airfare and excess baggage expenses. Athletes must confirm their intent to stay with the team and pay the team service fee no later than August 15, 2018 in order to be guaranteed lodging and support.

TEAM SERVICE FEE

All USA Team Members who are selected to the team but not funded and choose to use USAC provided services and will be required to pay the associated Team Service Fee. This fee will cover lodging and food, ground transport at event location, race support, competition clothing and TravMed throughout the duration with USA Cycling. All athletes travel will be booked arriving 3 days before the first day of their competition, and returning the following day after their last competition.

PODIUM COMPENSATION

Any ground funded or self-funded athlete that achieves a top three (3) finish at the 2018 Downhill World Championships in which they were selected for 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 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

1. Automatic & Coaches' Discretionary Nominations
 - 1.1. Announcement of Automatic Nominations: July 30, 2018
 - 1.2. Confirmation of intent to participate: August 1, 2018
2. Petition Discretionary Nominations
 - 2.1. Deadline for submission of petitions: July 16, 2018
 - 2.2. Announcement of Discretionary Nominations by Petition: July 30, 2018
 - 2.3. Confirmation of intent to participate: August 1, 2018
 - 2.4. Deadline for submission of **\$1,250.00** deposit: August 15, 2018

Final announcement of the Team: July 30, 2018

NOTE: 2018 UCI World Cup Selection Event Dates Prior to July 16, 2018

April 21-22, 2018	World Cup DH #1	Losinj, Croatia
June 2-3, 2018	World Cup DH #2	Fort William Scotland
June 9-10, 2018	World Cup DH #3	Leogang, Austria
July 6-8, 2018	World Cup DH #4	Val di Sole, Italy
July 13-15, 2018	World Cup DH #5	Vallnord, Andorra

NOTE: 2018 USA Cycling Pro GRT Events Prior to July 16, 2018

March 8-11, 2018	Windrock DH Pro GRT #1	Oak Ridge, TN
April 14-15, 2018	North West Cup DH Pro GRT #2	Port Angeles, WA
May 25-27, 2018	Mountain Creek DH Pro GRT #3	Vernon, NJ
June 23-24, 2018	NW Cup-Tamarack DH Pro GRT #4	Tamarack, ID

CRITERIA FOR AUTOMATIC NOMINATION TO THE TEAM

Elite Downhill –Men and Women

Eligible Participants: USAC International License Holders; Age 19 and over

Maximum Start Positions: 7

Maximum Funded Positions: 2

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 2017 World Championships in the same event and category. In order to maintain their position on the Team, the eligible athlete(s) must continue to demonstrate the ability to finish in the top 3 at the World Championships during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition and current ranking on the appropriate UCI Individual Classification.
2. Any U.S. rider finishing in the top five (5) in a 2018 UCI Downhill World Cup race between the dates of January 1, 2018 and July 16, 2018. Events include World Cup DH #1 thru #5. Up to two (2) athletes will be selected from this criterion. If more than two (2) athletes meet this criterion, only the two (2) athletes with the highest World Cup placing as of July 16, 2018 will be nominated. In the event of a tie, the automatic selection(s) will be filled, in order of priority, by the rider(s) with the highest UCI World Cup Overall ranking as of July 16, 2018.

Level 2 Funding

3. The winner of the 2018 USA Cycling Elite Downhill Mountain Bike Championships provided that race is held in its entirety and run under UCI regulations. This event is currently scheduled for July 17-22, 2018 in Snowshoe, West Virginia.
4. Any male U.S. athletes ranked in the top thirty (30) in the 2018 UCI Elite Men Downhill World Cup Overall rankings, as of July 16, 2018. The positions will be filled, in order of priority, based on the UCI rankings (highest to lowest) until all qualified athletes have been nominated or there are no more start positions available.
5. Any female U.S. athletes ranked in the top ten (10) in the 2018 UCI Elite Women Downhill World Cup Overall rankings, as of July 16, 2018. The positions will be filled, in order of priority, based on the UCI rankings (highest to lowest) until all qualified athletes have been nominated or there are no more start positions available.

Level 3 Funding

6. The highest ranked U.S. eligible athlete in the 2018 USA Cycling Pro GRT overall points' classification as of July 16, 2018 provided the athlete is ranked in the top three (3) overall.
7. If positions remain, then athletes may be selected by the USA Cycling Selection Committee following USA Cycling Principles of Athlete Selection (<http://www.usacycling.org/forms/selection/principles.pdf>)

Junior Downhill –Men and Women

Eligible Participants: USAC International License Holders; Age 17 and 18

Maximum Start Positions: 6 Junior Men & 7 Junior Women

Maximum Funded Positions: Men 2, Women 2

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 2017 World Championships in the same event and category. In order to maintain their position on the Team, the eligible athlete(s) must continue to demonstrate the ability to finish in the top 3 at the World Championships during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition and current ranking on the appropriate UCI Individual Classification.

Level 2 Funding

2. Any U.S. Junior Male athlete finishing in the top five (5) and any U.S. Junior Female athlete finishing in the top three (3) in a 2018 Junior UCI Downhill World Cup race between the dates of January 1, 2018 and July 16, 2018. Events include World Cup DH #1 thru #5. Up to three (3) Male athletes and three (3) Female athletes will be selected from this criterion. If more than three (3) Male athletes and three (3) Female athletes meet this criterion, the three (3) Male athletes and three (3) Female athletes with the highest World Cup placing as of July 16, 2018 will be nominated. In the event of a tie, the automatic selection(s) will be filled, in order of priority, by the rider(s) with the highest UCI Individual World Cup ranking as of July 16, 2018.
3. The Junior Man and Woman athlete with a racing age of 17 or 18 with the fastest finishing time in the Final Run of the Pro/Elite or Category 1 Junior race at the 2018 USA Cycling Downhill Mountain Bike National Championships provided that race is held in its entirety and run under UCI regulations. This event is currently scheduled for July 17-22, 2018 in Snowshoe, West Virginia.

Level 3 Funding

4. The Pro or Category 1 Male athletes with a racing age of 17 or 18 with the fastest finishing time in rounds #1, #2, #3 & #4 of the USA Cycling Pro GRT Downhill Calendar (events listed above) will be placed into a World Championship selection pool. From this World Championship selection pool, the highest placed rider from the 2018 USA Cycling Junior Downhill Mountain Bike Championships will earn the nomination.
5. If positions remain, then athletes may be selected by the USA Cycling Selection Committee following USA Cycling Principles of Athlete Selection (<http://www.usacycling.org/forms/selection/principles.pdf>)