



USA CYCLING ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA

2018 MOUNTAIN BIKE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS
MEN AND WOMEN ELITE, U23 AND JUNIOR XCO & XCR
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.

1. Elite Men & Women Cross-Country (Maximum of 2 men total & 2 women total)
 - a. Level 1 funding for athletes meeting criteria #1, 2 or 3
 - b. Level 2 funding for athletes meeting criteria #4
2. U23 Men & Women Cross-Country (Maximum of 2 men total & 2 women total)
 - a. Level 1 funding for athletes meeting criteria #1, 2 or 3
 - b. Level 2 funding for athletes meeting criteria #4 or 5
3. Junior Men & Women Cross-Country (Maximum of 2 men total & 2 woman total)
 - a. Level 1 funding for athletes meeting criteria #1, 2 or 3
 - b. Level 2 funding for athletes meeting criteria #4 or 5

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 World MTB XCO 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

March 10, 2018	World Cup XCO #1	Stellenbosch, South Africa
May 18-20, 2018	World Cup XCO #2	Albstadt, Germany
May 25-27, 2018	World Cup XCO #3	Nove Mesto, Czech Republic
July 6-8, 2018	World Cup XCO #4	Val di Sole, Italy
July 13-15, 2018	World Cup XCO #5	Vallnord, Andorra

NOTE: 2018 USA Cycling UCI Pro XCT Selection Events (and *Jr Series events) Prior to July 16, 2018

April 7, 2018	*Fontana Pro XCT #1 (Jr. Series)	Fontana, CA
April 14, 2018	*Bonelli Park Pro XCT #2 (Jr. Series)	San Dimas, CA
April 21-22, 2018	Sea Otter Classic Pro XCT #3	Monterey, CA
May 5-6, 2018	*Soldier Hollow Pro XCT #4 (Jr. Series)	Midway, UT
June 9, 2018	*Missoula Pro XCT #5 (Jr. Series)	Missoula, MT

NOTE: 2018 European UCI Junior Series Events Prior to July 16, 2018

March 23-25, 2018	Coupe de France #1	Marseille, France
April 15, 2018	Internazionali d'Italia Series	Nalles, Italy
April 29, 2018	Heubach MTB Fest	Heubach, Germany
May 13, 2018	Dachstein Salzkammergut MTB	Obertraun, Austria
June 3, 2018	Swiss Cup #4	Granichen, Switzerland

NOTE: 2017 Canadian UCI Junior Series Events Prior to August 8, 2017

March 31, 2018	Bear Mtn. Canada Cup	Victoria, BC, Canada
May 20, 2018	Baie Saint Paul Canada Cup	Baie-Saint-Paul, QC, Canada
May 26, 2018	Mont-Tremblant Canada Cup	Mont-Tremblant, QC, Canada
June 17, 2018	Trek Store Canada Cup	Oro Station, ON, Canada

CRITERIA FOR AUTOMATIC NOMINATION TO THE TEAM

Elite Men Cross Country

Eligible Participants: USAC International License Holders; Racing Age 23 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 U.S. eligible 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 10 at the World Championships during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition and ranking on the appropriate UCI Individual Classification.
2. Any U.S. eligible athletes ranked in the top twenty (20) in the 2018 UCI Individual World Cup Overall XCO rankings as of July 16, 2018.
3. Any U.S. eligible athletes with a top-ten (10) finish in a 2018 UCI World Cup XCO race between the dates of January 1, 2018 and July 16, 2018. Events include World Cup XCO #1 thru #5. If more than two (2) athletes meet this criterion, the two (2) athletes with the highest UCI Individual World Cup ranking as of July 16, 2018 will be nominated.

Level 2 Funding

4. The winner of the 2018 USA Cycling Elite National Mountain Bike Cross Country 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

5. The highest ranked U.S. eligible athlete in the 2017 USA Cycling Pro XCT overall classification on July 16, 2018 provided the athlete is ranked in the top three (3) overall.

6. Any U.S eligible athlete ranked in the top fifty (50) in the UCI Individual World Rankings as of July 16, 2018.
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>)

Elite Women Cross Country

Eligible Participants: USAC International License Holders; Racing Age 23 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 U.S. eligible athletes 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 10 at the World Championships during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition and ranking on the appropriate UCI Individual Classification.
2. Any eligible U.S. athletes ranked in the top ten (10) in the 2018 UCI Individual World Cup Overall XCO rankings as of July 16, 2018.
3. Any U.S. eligible athletes with a top-ten (10) finish in a 2018 UCI World Cup XCO race between the dates of January 1, 2018 and July 16, 2018. Events include World Cup XCO #1 thru #5. If more than two (2) athletes meet this criterion, the two (2) athletes with the highest UCI Individual World Cup ranking as of July 16, 2018 will be nominated.

Level 2 Funding

4. The winner of the 2018 USA Cycling Elite National Mountain Bike Cross Country 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

5. The highest ranked U.S. eligible athlete in the 2018 USA Cycling Pro XCT overall classification on July 16, 2018 provided the athlete is ranked in the top three (3) overall.
6. Any U.S eligible athletes ranked in the top thirty (30) in the UCI Individual World Rankings as of July 16, 2018.

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>)

U23 Cross Country –Men and Women

Eligible Participants: USAC International License Holders; Racing Age 19-22 years old.

Maximum Start Positions: 7 U23 Men & 7 U23 Women

Maximum Funded Positions: 2 Men, 2 Women

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

Level 1 Funding

1. Any U.S. eligible U23 athletes 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 10 at the World Championships during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition and ranking on the appropriate UCI Individual Classification.
2. Any U.S. eligible U23 athletes placing among the top ten (10) in a U23 2018 UCI World Cup cross-country race between the dates of January 1, 2018 and July 16, 2018. Events include World Cup XCO #1 thru #5. Up to two (2) athletes will be selected from this criterion. If more than two (2) athletes meet this criterion, 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 athlete(s) with the highest UCI Individual World Cup Overall ranking as of July 16, 2018.
3. Any eligible U.S. athletes ranked in the top ten (10) in the U23 2018 UCI Individual World Cup Overall XCO rankings as of July 16, 2018.

Level 2 Funding

4. Any U.S. eligible U23 athletes finishing in the top three (3) in the professional category of a 2018 USA Cycling Pro XCT Olympic Format UCI Cross-Country (XCO) event by July 16, 2018. If more athletes meet this criterion than there are positions available, the athlete with the highest overall Pro XCT ranking on July 16, 2018 will be nominated first, followed by the second, and so on.
5. The winner of the 2018 USA Cycling U23 National Mountain Bike Cross Country 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

6. 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 Cross Country –Men and Women

Eligible Participants: USAC International License Holders; Racing 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 U.S. eligible athlete placing in the top three (3) at the 2017 Junior 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 10 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. eligible Junior athletes placing among the top five (5) of a European round of the 2018 UCI Junior Series cross-country race between the dates of January 1, 2018 and July 16, 2018. If more than two (2) athletes meet this criterion, the two (2) athletes with the highest UCI ranking as of July 16, 2018 will be nominated.
3. The winner of the 2018 USA Cycling Junior 17-18 (Cat.1) National Mountain Bike Cross Country 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 2 Funding

4. The U.S. eligible Junior athlete with the most accumulated UCI Junior ranking points from the U.S. UCI Junior Series cross-country race events between the dates of January 1, 2018 and July 16, 2018.
5. Any U.S. eligible Junior athletes who wins a Canadian round of the 2018 UCI Junior Series cross-country race between the dates of January 1, 2018 and July 16, 2018. If more than three (3) athletes meet this criterion, the three (3) athletes with the highest UCI ranking as of July 16, 2018 will be nominated.

Level 3 Funding

6. 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>)