2021-2022 USA Cycling Cyclocross Development Program Opportunities

The USA Cycling Cyclocross Development Program is purposed to help the top development athletes in the US gain international racing experience, win at the highest level and progress to professional racing opportunities. Below is an outline of the opportunities offered for the 2021-2022 cyclocross season:

**2021-2022 USA Cycling Cyclocross Development Program Schedule:**

Christmas/New Year’s European racing block

- Dec 26, World Cup #13 Dendermonde, Belgium
- Dec 27, Telenet Superprestige Heusden-Zolder, Belgium
- Dec 29, Telenet Superprestige Diegem, Belgium
- Jan 1, X2O Badkamers Trofee Baal, Belgium
- Jan 2, World Cup #14 Hulst, NL (U23’s only)
- Jan 5, X2O Badkamers Trofee Herentals, Belgium

January pre-World Championship Training Camp

- January 12-26, Fayetteville, AR

*Schedules subject to change

**Application:**

All athletes interested in the Christmas/New Year’s racing trip need to fill out a petition form linked on the USA Cycling website at USACycling.org/Team-USA/Cyclocross#events
Selection Process:

- Selection for the Christmas/New Year’s racing trip will be finalized on November 23rd, 2021.
- Riders will be selected for the Christmas/New Year’s racing trip according to the USA Cycling Discretionary Selection Criteria outlined below.
- Selection will be based on results from the following events in prioritized order:
  - World Cup races before November 22nd, 2021
  - International UCI races before November 22nd, 2021
  - USCX Series races
  - Domestic UCI Races before November 22nd, 2021
- Participation in the January Pre-World Championship Training Camp will be open to all athletes who qualify via Fully-Funded Positions for the 2022 UCI Cyclocross World Championships.

Additional Details:

- The Christmas/New Year’s racing trip will include up to 3 riders in each category (Jr Women, Jr Men, U23 Women, U23 Men) with a maximum of 12 athletes total.
- USA Cycling will cover all expenses (ground transportation, lodging, staff, food etc) once on the ground in Europe. Athletes are responsible for their airfare to and from Brussels, Belgium (BRU).

DISCREIONARY SELECTION

USA Cycling may choose to fill open quota positions through the discretionary selection criteria below.

Discretionary Criteria

If quota positions remain after the automatic criteria above have been applied, the USA Cycling National Team Coach(s) may nominate athletes for discretionary selection according to the criteria below. The USA Cycling Selection Committee will review and approve the nominations. The Selection Committee will also review data from all petitioning athletes when considering the nominations.

The USA Cycling National Team Coaches and 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 the leading cycling nations in the discipline from 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(s) 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 – Validated 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 (primarily the highest level UCI events such as World Cups and World Tour events);
  2. Race results in top domestic competitions;
  3. Head to head competition results or performances between multiple athletes in consideration for a nomination;
  4. Technological data on athlete and/or event which can be validated and is 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**

Discretionary nominations will be made by the USA Cycling national coaching staff. The USA Cycling Selection Committee (see the USA Cycling website for the list of Selection Committee members) will review and approve all athlete nominations following 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 CEO. If such conflict exists, the selection committee member must recuse him/herself from committee discussions and voting. 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.