USA CYCLING ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

2020-2021 UCI CYCLOCROSS WORLD CUP QUALIFICATION CRITERIA

2020-2021 UCI Cyclocross World Cup Schedule:
(Subject to change)

November 1, 2020 Overijse, Belgium
November 15, 2020 Tabor, Czech Republic (M&W MU23, Junior races)
November 22, 2020 Koksijde, Belgium
November 29, 2020 Besançon, France (M&W MU23, Junior races)
December 6, 2020 Dendermonde, Belgium
December 13, 2020 Zonhoven, Belgium
December 20, 2020 Namur, Belgium (M&W Junior races)
December 27, 2020 Diegem, Belgium
January 3, 2021 Hulst, Netherlands
January 17, 2021 Villars, Switzerland
January 24, 2021 Hoogerheide, Netherlands (M&W Junior races)

Below you will find information on how a rider can qualify for 2019-2020 UCI Cyclocross World Cup events.

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

- World Cup Pre-qualified riders will be determined by the UCI Individual rankings on the dates listed in the World Cup registration document on UCI.org at the time of registration for each World Cup.
- Pre-qualified riders must confirm their intent to start an event no later than 3PM MT three weeks prior to the relevant World Cup event date.
- Riders who have earned an Automatic nomination must confirm their intent to start an event no later than 3PM MT three weeks prior to the relevant World Cup event date.
- Petitions for discretionary selections to World Cup events are due no later than 3PM MT three weeks prior to the relevant World Cup event date.
• All athletes are required to submit a confirmation/petition form for each round of the World Cup they wish to be entered in or considered for discretionary selection.
• Final announcement of the USA Cycling World Cup Teams will be released Tuesday before the specific World Cup event.

ATHLETE QUOTAS

The UCI Cyclocross World Cup event rider quotas are as follows:

In UCI cyclo-cross world cup events for Elite Men and Elite Women, riders ranked in the top 50 of the last UCI cyclo-cross ranking published when the registration process starts are pre-qualified. Federations entering less than 8 pre-qualified riders can expand their selection to a total of 8 entries.

Pre-qualified riders are eligible for selection at the discretion of the federation of their nationality, with a maximum of 12 riders per nation and in respect of the 6 following cases:
- A federation having 6 prequalified riders will select its 6 best ranked riders and 2 riders of its choice,
- A federation having 7 prequalified riders will select its 7 best ranked riders and 1 riders of its choice,
- A federation having 8 prequalified riders will select its 8 best ranked riders and 1 rider of its choice,
- A federation having 9 prequalified riders will select its 8 best ranked riders and 2 riders of its choice,
- A federation having 10 prequalified riders will select its 8 best ranked riders and 3 riders of its choice,
- A federation having 11 or more prequalified riders will select its 8 best ranked riders and 4 riders of its choice.

For the Elite Women races, each national federation entering 8 or more riders, may, in addition, enter 2 women Under 23/Junior riders.

In UCI cyclo-cross world cup events for Under 23 Men, Junior Women and Junior Men, each federation may enter 6 riders. The federations concerned may additionally enter the reigning world champions and (except for the first UCI cyclo-cross world cup event of the season) the leaders of the last UCI cyclo-cross world cup ranking published before the closing date for entries.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

USA Cycling does not assume financial responsibility for athletes or trade teams who wish to race in UCI World Cup events. USA Cycling may choose to send a National Team to select World Cup events. In that case, USA Cycling may provide support for riders selected to compete in these events. In any case where a rider is racing at a UCI Cyclocross World Cup event with the support of the USA Cycling National Team or Development Program, the rider
will wear all USA Cycling National Team clothing and use all USA Cycling provided sponsor materials.

COMPETITION CLOTHING

All U23 Men (when racing in the U23 Men’s races), Junior Men and Junior Women (when racing in the Junior Women’s races) are required by the UCI to compete in the competition kit of their respective National Teams. USA Cycling will make National Team kit available to these athletes for a reasonable fee. If U23 Men race in an Elite Men’s World Cup, or Junior Women in an Elite Women’s World Cup, they are not required by the UCI to wear National Team kit.

ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA

ELITE MEN

Quota Positions: 8, to a possible maximum of 12

Eligible Participants: USA Cycling International License Holders; Ages 19 and over

Athletes will receive World Cup nominations based on the following prioritized criteria:

1. All eligible athletes ranked in the top 50 of the UCI Individual rankings on the designated ranking date for pre-qualification per each individual round of the World Cup listed above will be nominated to the team.

2. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criterion, any eligible athlete placing in the top ten (10) at the prior year’s World Championships in the U23 Men’s or Elite Men’s category will be nominated to the team. If more athletes meet this criterion than remaining quota positions the highest placings will be nominated first.

3. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, any eligible athlete finishing in the top ten (10) in an Elite Men’s UCI World Cup race in the previous twelve (12) months will be nominated to the team. If more athletes meet this criterion than quota positions available the highest placings will be nominated first. If there are equal placings athletes will be nominated in order of the current World Cup ranking at the time of selection.

4. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, the current USA Cycling Elite Men’s National Cyclocross Champion will be nominated to the team.

5. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria eligible athletes may be selected following the USAC Discretionary Selection criteria listed below. If the round of the World Cup in consideration does not include a separate Men’s U23 event, up to two U23 athletes may be nominated by the USA Cycling coaching staff as development prospects.

6. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria eligible athletes will be nominated to the team in the order of the current UCI Individual ranking at the time of selection with priority going to the highest ranked athletes first.
U23 MEN (For World Cups which include a separate U23 Men’s race)

Eligible Participants: USAC International License Holders; Ages 19-22.

Maximum Quota Positions: 6

Athletes will receive World Cup nominations based on the following prioritized criteria:

1. Any eligible athlete placing in the top ten (10) at the prior year’s World Championships in the U23 Men’s or Junior Men’s categories will be nominated to the team. If more athletes meet this criterion than remaining quota positions the highest placings will be nominated first.

2. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criterion, any eligible athlete finishing in the top ten (10) in a UCI World Cup race in the previous twelve (12) months in the U23 Men’s or Junior Men’s category will be nominated to the team. If more Athletes meet this criterion than quota positions available the highest placings will be nominated first. If there are equal placings athletes will be nominated in order of the current UCI World Cup ranking at time of selection.

3. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, the current USA Cycling U23 Men’s National Cyclocross Champion will be nominated to the team provided he is racing in the same age category.

4. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, eligible athletes may be selected following the USAC Discretionary Selection criteria listed below.

5. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, eligible athletes will be nominated to the team in the order of the current UCI Individual ranking at the time of selection with priority going to the highest ranked athletes first.

JUNIOR MEN (For World Cups which include a Men’s Junior race)

Eligible Participants: Male USA Cycling International License Holders; Ages 17-18.

Maximum Quota Positions: 6

Athletes will receive World Cup nominations based on the following prioritized criteria:

1. Any eligible athlete placing in the top ten (10) at the prior year’s World Championships in the same category will be nominated to the team. If more athletes meet this criterion than remaining quota positions the highest placings will be nominated first.

2. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criterion, any eligible athlete finishing in the top ten (10) in a UCI World Cup race in the previous twelve (12) months in the same category will be nominated to the team. If more athletes meet this criterion
than remaining quota positions the highest placings will be nominated first. If there are equal placings athletes will be nominated in order of the current UCI World Cup ranking at time of selection.

3. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, the current USA Cycling Junior Men’s Cyclocross National Champion will be nominated to the team provided he is racing in the same age category.

4. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, eligible athletes may be nominated following the USAC Discretionary Selection criteria listed below.

5. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, eligible athletes will be nominated in order of the current UCI Individual rankings at the time of selection with priority going to the highest ranked athletes first.

ELITE, U23 AND JUNIOR WOMEN (Junior Women are included with Elite and U23 Women at World Cup Events in which the Junior Women category is not offered)

Quota Positions: 8, to a possible maximum of 12, plus 2 additional U23/Jr athletes.

Eligible Participants: USAC International License Holders; Ages 17 and over.

Athletes will receive World Cup nominations based on the following prioritized criteria:

1. All eligible athletes ranked in the top 50 of the UCI Individual rankings on the designated ranking date for pre-qualification per each individual round of the World Cup listed above will be nominated to the team.

2. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criterion, any eligible athlete placing in the top ten (10) at the prior year’s World Championships in the Elite Women’s or U23 Women’s category will be nominated to the team. If more athletes meet this criterion than remaining quota positions the highest placings will be nominated first.

3. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, any eligible athlete finishing in the top ten (10) in an Elite Women’s UCI World Cup race in the previous twelve (12) months will be nominated to the team. If more athletes meet this criterion than remaining quota positions the highest placings will be nominated first. If there are equal placings athletes will be nominated in order of the current UCI World Cup ranking at time of selection.

4. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, the current USA Cycling Elite Women’s National Cyclocross Champion will be nominated to the team.

5. The additional two (2) U23/Junior Women quota positions may be nominated following the USAC Discretionary Selection criteria below.

6. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, then Elite, U23 or Junior athletes may be nominated following the USAC Discretionary Selection criteria listed below.
7. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, athletes will be nominated in order of the current UCI Individual rankings at the time of selection for the relevant World Cup event.

**JUNIOR WOMEN (For World Cups which include a separate Junior Women’s race)**

Eligible Participants: Female USA Cycling International License Holders; Ages 17-18.

Maximum Quota Slots: 6

Athletes will receive World Cup nominations based on the following prioritized criteria:

1. Any eligible athlete placing in the top ten (10) at the prior year’s World Championships in the same category will be nominated to the team. If more athletes meet this criterion than quota positions available the highest placings will be nominated first.
2. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, any eligible athlete finishing in the top ten (10) in a Junior Women’s UCI World Cup race in the previous twelve (12) months will be nominated to the team. If more athletes meet this criterion than remaining quota positions the highest placings will be nominated first. If there are equal placings athletes will be nominated in order of the current UCI World Cup ranking at time of selection.
3. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criterion, the current USA Cycling Junior Women’s Cyclocross National Champion will be nominated to the team provided she is racing in the same age category.
4. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria eligible athletes may be selected following the USAC Discretionary Selection criteria listed below.
5. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria eligible athletes will be nominated to the team in the order of the current UCI Individual ranking at the time of selection with priority going to the highest ranked athletes first.

**USA CYCLING QUOTA SLOT START PETITION INSTRUCTIONS FOR UCI CYCLOCROSS WORLD CUP EVENTS**

1. **All riders must submit an online entry request for each specific World Cup they would like to be entered into for a start.** Athletes must submit an entry request via the form found on USA Cycling’s website found at USACycling.org following the link for: Team USA>International Events>Cyclocross Selection.
2. The deadline for athletes to submit their entries to USA Cycling is by 3 p.m. MT no later three weeks prior to the date of each UCI World Cup.
3. If a USA Cycling team coach/manager is attending a World Cup event, they will attend the manager’s meeting and pick up all of the race numbers, pit passes and other pertinent materials. Each rider is responsible to contact the USA Cycling team manager/coach to
make arrangements to pick up their individual race numbers, pit passes and other pertinent materials for each World Cup event. If a USA Cycling team coach/manager is not present at the World Cup event, each rider is responsible for delegating a representative to attend the manager’s meeting and pick up their race numbers, pit passes and other pertinent materials.

4. When applying for nomination to a UCI Cyclocross World Cup, only submit entry for those races that you will definitely be attending. It is the athlete’s responsibility to notify the USA Cycling Cyclocross Manager or Cyclocross Performance Director if he/she is withdrawing from a World Cup after having applied for a start position either by pre-qualification, automatic or discretionary nomination. Each athlete will be responsible to pay any UCI fine for cancellation or non-participation.

**DISCRETIONARY SELECTION**

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

USA Cycling has established automatic criteria by which athletes, through extraordinary achievement, have demonstrated very clear evidence of high potential for winning medals. USA Cycling will use a discretionary selection process to select all athletes who have not qualified automatically.

**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 the priority order A., B. and C. when making selections.

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 the most recent 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 medalists or current top UCI world ranked athletes in International Competition on courses similar to the event for
which the athlete is being selected on multiple occasions in the past 12 months; or

- A top three finish on a course with similar profile and against similar competition to those expected for the event for which the athlete is being selected within the last 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 Elite athletes.

C. Best Predicted Finish - If quota positions remain available after the application of all Automatic Selection and Discretionary Selection principles A. and B. above, USA Cycling coaches may nominate athletes for discretionary selection who are most likely to finish the highest in the event.

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

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 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 – 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.

• 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. The USA Cycling Selection Committee (see the USA Cycling website for the list of Selection Committee members) will review and approve ALL athlete nominations using 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 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.