



USA CYCLING ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA

2021 UCI MOUNTAIN BIKE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS ELITE MEN AND WOMEN Eliminator May 2, 2021 Graz, Austria

2021 World Championships Selection Criteria

The USA Cycling organization has been significantly affected by the COVID pandemic. Travel remains restricted and very challenging. The domestic and international competition calendar has undergone many changes, amendments and cancelations. As a result, USA Cycling has adopted the following guiding principles when creating or amending selection criteria.

The USA Cycling guiding principles are:

1. Selections that have a strong probability of producing a World Championship medal.
2. Selections that are critical in supporting the team execution required to win World Championship medals.
3. Selections that are in alignment with USAC organizational policy, goals and resources.

ELIGIBILITY

Elite Men and Women: UCI International License Holders with USA citizenship; 2021 Racing Age 19 and over

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

All athletes selected to the 2021 USA Cycling Eliminator World Championship Team will be responsible for organizing and paying for all travel, food and lodging costs associated with the event. USA Cycling will not assume financial responsibility for any athletes selected. In addition, all athletes will be responsible for payment of a Team Service Fee of \$300.00 which

will cover competition clothing, TravMed Abroad coverage for official training days and the day of the event, as well as rider registration fee.

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

- Deadline for submission of petitions: March 29, 2021
- Selection of Discretionary Nominations: April 8, 2021
- Confirmation of intent to participate: April 9, 2021
- Final announcement of the Team: April 13, 2021
- Deadline for submission of Team Service Fee: April 12, 2021

PETITION INFORMATION

All athletes interested in being considered for a position on the team are required to submit an online petition. Athletes can find the online petition link on the USA Cycling company website under "Team USA, For Athletes, MTB, Major Events". Riders should follow this link to complete and submit the online petition survey.

CRITERIA FOR TEAM SELECTION

Elite Men & Women MTB Eliminator

Maximum Start Positions: Elite Men 4, Elite Women 4

1. Any athlete placing in the top three (3) at the 2020 MTB Eliminator World Championships in the same event and category will be nominated to the team.
2. Any athlete placing in the top three (3) in the final round of a 2020 or 2021 UCI MTB Eliminator event between the dates of January 01, 2020 and March 29, 2021 will be nominated to the team. If more athletes meet this criterion than available quota positions the athletes will be nominated in the order of their UCI Cross-Country Individual Ranking as of March 29, 2021.
3. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria eligible athletes may be nominated to the team following the USAC Discretionary Selection process.

DISCRETIONARY SELECTION PROCESS

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

Due to the nature of sport of cycling, whereby strategy, tactics and teamwork often dictate results, USA Cycling has determined that the use of discretionary selection is essential to maximize Team USA's medal chances overall. While it has established automatic criteria by which athletes, through extraordinary achievement, have demonstrated very clear evidence of high potential for winning a World Championship medal, USA Cycling will use a discretionary selection process to select athletes who have not qualified automatically.

Discretionary Selection Criteria

If quota positions remain after the automatic criteria have been applied, the USA Cycling National Team Coaching staff 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 Coaching Staff and Selection Committee will consider the following criteria in priority order A. through D. when making selections for team-based events. When making selections for individual events, only A., B. and D. will be considered in that order.

- A. Medal Capable Athletes- 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. Athletes Who Maximize Team Performance- These selections are essential for team based events where the USA Cycling National Team coaching staff have devised a race strategy that may designate one or more athletes as team leaders, and another athlete’s contribution may assist a team leader in achieving a top performance. For example, even though the Road Race event is scored individually, athletes who sacrifice their own individual result to execute a team strategy for the designated team leaders can have a profound impact on the ability of a team leader to achieve a top performance. These selections are also essential in assembling a team that will likely produce the best possible performance in team events such as Team Pursuit, Team Sprint and the Madison on the track.

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.

- D. Best Predicted Finish- If positions for the Team remain open athletes may be selected based on 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 coaching staff 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 following may be considered for discretionary selections, as appropriate to the discipline:

- 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; athlete power data; or aerodynamic drag data (if relevant); 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 course profile, 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

Discretionary nominations will be made by the USA Cycling National Team 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 Chief of Sport Performance. 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.

USA CYCLING ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

2019 UCI MOUNTAIN BIKE ELIMINATOR WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

November 8-10, 2019

Chengdu, China

QUALIFICATION INFORMATION

Below you will find information on how an athlete can automatically qualify for nomination to the 2019 UCI MTB Eliminator World Championship MTB Team. In cases where there are still available start positions after the automatic qualification process, any available positions may be filled via discretionary nominations according to the discretionary selection criteria below.

ELIGIBILITY

Elite Men and Women: UCI International License Holders; 2019 Racing Age 19 and over

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

All athletes selected to the 2019 UCI MTB Eliminator World Championship Team will be responsible for organizing and paying for all travel, food and lodging costs associated with the event. USA Cycling will not assume financial responsibility for any athletes selected to the MTB Eliminator World Championship team. In addition, all athletes will be responsible for payment of a Team Service Fee of \$200.00 which will cover competition clothing and TravMed Abroad coverage throughout the duration of the event, as well as team registration expenses. Any athlete that achieves a top three (3) placing at the 2019 MTB Eliminator World Championships will have their Team Service Fee of \$200.00 reimbursed.

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

- Deadline for submission of petitions: September 20, 2019
- Selection of Discretionary Nominations: September 26, 2019
- Confirmation of intent to participate: September 26, 2019
- Final announcement of the Team: September 30, 2019
- Deadline for submission of Team Service Fee: October 16, 2019

EVENT SELECTION CRITERIA

Elite Men & Women Eliminator

Maximum Start Positions: Elite Men 4, Elite Women 4

4. Any athlete placing in the top three (3) at the 2018 MTB Eliminator World Championships in the same event and category will be named to the 2019 World Championships Team.
5. Any athlete placing in the top three (3) in the final round of a 2019 UCI MTB Eliminator event between the dates of January 01, 2019 and September 23, 2019 will be named to the World Championship Team. If more athletes than available quota slots meet this criterion, the athletes with the highest UCI Cross-Country Individual Ranking as of September 23, 2019 who meet this criterion will be named to the World Championship Team.
6. If quota slots remain after considering the preceding criteria, then petitioning athletes may be nominated to the 2019 UCI MTB Eliminator World Championships Team by the USA Cycling National Team coach and approved by the USA Cycling Selection Committee, following the discretionary criteria described below. Athletes may petition using the Discretionary Petition form on the USA Cycling website.

DISCRETIONARY SELECTION

USA Cycling may choose to fill quota slots through the discretionary selection criteria below in order to select athletes with medal capability or those that will achieve the best predicted finish for USA Cycling.

Discretionary Criteria

If quota slots remain after the automatic criteria number 1. above has been applied, the USA Cycling National Team coach will recommend athletes, according to the criteria below, to the USA Cycling Selection Committee for selection to the World Championship Team through discretionary selection. The Selection Committee will review data on all petitioning athletes when considering the recommendations. The USA Cycling Selection Committee will consider the following criteria in priority order A through C:

- E. 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;
- F. 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.
- G. 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 leading MTB 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.
- 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;
 2. Race results in top domestic competitions;
 3. Head to head competition results or performances between multiple athletes in consideration for a discretionary position;
 4. Technological data on athlete and or event which is validatable 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

Recommendations for discretionary nominations will be made by the USA Cycling National coaching staff. However, 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.

