



USA CYCLING ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA 2021 TRACK NATIONS CUP

2021 UCI Track Nations Cup Schedule
22 - 25 April, 2021 Newport, Great Brittan
13 - 16 May Hong Kong
3-6 June 2021 Cali, Columbia

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

ELIGIBILITY

Athlete must be eligible to represent the United States in a UCI competition at the time of nomination. All nominees must have a valid USA Cycling International Racing License and meet all eligibility requirements of USA Cycling and the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) at the time of nomination. All athletes must be in good standing with USA Cycling, the UCI, and the United States Anti- Doping Agency (USADA) at the time of nomination.

- Elite Men and Women- Age 19 and over

UCI REQUIREMENTS PER EVENT

Athletes should review the UCI qualification rules for disciplines. All UCI rules are posted on their website at: https://www.uci.org/docs/default-source/rules-and-regulations/3-pis-e_english.pdf

The competitions shall be for national selections and qualified UCI track teams. Riders shall be aged 18 and over. In a specific event, Top 4 Junior riders at the latest Junior World Championships can participate in the Nations Cup of the same season.

The participation in the individual events and in Madison shall be restricted to riders with at least 250 points in the respective UCI Track Ranking. To be eligible, each rider must have the minimum amount of points required either six weeks before the first leg of the Nations Cup, or in the latest update of the respective UCI Track Ranking. This does not apply to riders entering Individual Pursuit and Kilometer/500m Time Trial.

COMPETITION AND CASUAL CLOTHING

As a member of the USA Cycling Nations Cup Team, representing USA Cycling and the United States of America, each athlete will be provided with competition clothing which they will be required to wear during all training sessions and competitions. Additionally, athletes will be provided casual clothing that they 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

- Deadline for submission of petitions: April 1, 2021
- Selection of Discretionary Nominations: April 8, 2021
- Confirmation of intent to participate: April 9, 2021
- Announcement of the Team: April 13, 2021
- Deadline for submission of Team Service Fee: April 13, 2021

FUNDING LEVELS

Level 1: Funded

Level 1: Funded USA Cycling will provide one economy class, single destination airfare, which includes up to 3 pieces of luggage: Up to two bikes or one bike and one

wheel case, plus one suitcase each under 50lbs (excess weight or additional bag charges are the responsibility of the athlete). USA Cycling will also provide competition and casual clothing, lodging/food, ground transportation at event location, all mechanical/race support, and TravMed insurance throughout duration of the event with USA Cycling.

Level 2: Self-Funded

Athletes who are selected to the Team and do not receive level 1 funding will be responsible for self-funding through a “Team Service Fee” payable on or before the date outlined in this document. The Service Fee for this event and this level is \$750.00. This fee includes: competition and casual clothing, lodging/food, ground transportation at event location, all mechanical/race support, and TravMed Insurance throughout duration of the event with USA Cycling. Level 2 self-funded athletes are responsible for their airfare and excess baggage expenses. All athletes travel should be booked arriving 5 days before the first day of their competition, and returning the following day after their last competition.

High Performance travel grants may be available to assist selected athletes who are self-funded.

USA CYCLING NATIONS CUP TEAM

In accordance with the guiding principles listed at the beginning of this document USA Cycling will prioritize its selections for the UCI Nations Cups as follows:

Level 1: Funded

1. Olympic events where the USA has earned a start position for Tokyo 2020.
 - a. Women’s Team Pursuit
 - b. Women’s Omnium
 - c. Women’s Madison
 - d. Women’s Sprint
 - e. Women’s Keirin
 - f. Men’s Omnium
 - g. Men’s Madison

Level 2: Self Funded

2. Non-Olympic qualified events where an athlete or team is medal capable.

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION TO THE TEAM

1. Elite Men's and Women's Team Pursuit – Long Team

Athletes will be nominated to the Long Team based upon the following criteria:

1. Any eligible athlete who is a member of a Team Pursuit team placing in the top three (3) at the 2020 World Championships. In order to maintain their position on the Team, the eligible athlete(s) must continue to demonstrate the ability to be medal capable during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition, and time standards where applicable.
2. Any eligible athlete who is a member of a Team Pursuit team which earns a top-three (3) result at a UCI World Cup during the 2019/2020 UCI World Cup Track season.
3. Additional athletes may be nominated to the Long Team by the USA Cycling Coaching staff following the USA Cycling Discretionary Selection Process.

Elite Men's and Women's Team Pursuit –Final Team

Athletes will be nominated to the Team Pursuit- Final Team based upon the following criteria:

1. Should USA Cycling choose to enter a team in the event, all final nominees will come from the previously nominated Long Team.
2. Positions on the final team will all be nominated by the USA Cycling coaching staff based solely on the "Athletes Ability to Enhance Team Performance" as described in the USA Cycling Discretionary Selection Process below.

2. Elite Men's and Women's Madison – Long Team

Athletes will be nominated to the Madison Long Team based on the following criteria:

1. Any eligible athlete who is a member of a Madison team placing in the top three (3) at the 2020 UCI World Championships. In order to maintain their position on the Team, the athlete(s) must continue to demonstrate the ability to be medal

capable during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition, and time standards where applicable.

2. Any eligible athlete who is a member of a Madison team who earns a top-three (3) result at UCI World Cups during the 2019/2020 UCI World Cup Track season.
3. Additional athletes may be nominated to the Long Team by the USA Cycling Coaching staff following the USA Cycling Discretionary Selection Process.

Elite Men's and Women's Madison - Final Team

Athletes will be nominated to ride the Madison based upon the following criteria:

1. Should USA Cycling choose to enter a team in the event, all final nominees will come from the previously nominated Long Team.
2. Positions on the final team will all be nominated by the USA Cycling coaching staff based solely on the "Athletes Ability to Enhance Team Performance" as described in the USA Cycling Discretionary Selection Process.

3. Elite Men's and Women's Omnium

Athletes will be nominated based on the following prioritized criteria:

1. Any eligible athlete placing in the top three (3) at the 2020 UCI World Championships shall be nominated for a minimum of one Nations Cup start. In order to maintain their position on the Team, the athlete must continue to demonstrate the ability to be medal capable during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition, and time standards where applicable.
2. If positions remain after considering the preceding criterion, any eligible athlete not already nominated for a Nations Cup Omnium start who earns a top-three (3) results at a UCI World Cup during the 2019/2020 UCI World Cup Track season shall be nominated for a minimum of one Nations Cup start. If more than one athlete meets this criterion in the event, the athlete with the highest placing will be nominated first. If there are equal placings the athlete with the highest UCI ranking shall be nominated first.
3. If positions remain after considering the preceding criteria additional athletes may be nominated by the USA Cycling Coaching staff following the USA Cycling Discretionary Selection Process.

4. Elite Men's and Women's Team Sprint -Long Team

Athletes will be nominated to the Team Sprint Long Team based on the following criteria:

1. Any eligible athlete who is a member of a Team Sprint team placing in the top three (3) at the 2020 UCI World Championships. In order to maintain their position on the Team, the eligible athlete(s) must continue to demonstrate the ability to be medal capable during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition, and time standards where applicable.
2. Any eligible athlete who is a member of a Team Sprint team (Teams made up of International athletes are excluded) that earns a top-three (3) result at UCI World Cups during the 2019/2020 UCI World Cup Track season.
3. Additional athletes may be nominated to the Long Team by the USA Cycling Coaching staff following the USA Cycling Discretionary Selection Process.

Elite Men's and Women's Team Sprint -Final Team

Athletes will be nominated to ride the Team Sprint based upon the following criteria:

1. Should USA Cycling choose to enter a team in the event, all final nominees will come from the previously nominated Long Team.
2. Positions on the final team will all be nominated by the USA Cycling coaching staff based solely on the "Athletes Ability to Enhance Team Performance" as described in the USA Cycling Discretionary Selection Process.

5. Elite Men's and Women's Keirin

Athletes will be nominated to ride the Keirin based on the following prioritized criteria:

1. Any eligible athlete who earns a top three (3) placing at the 2020 UCI World Championships. In order to maintain their position on the Team, the eligible athlete(s) must continue to demonstrate the ability to be medal capable during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition, and time standards where applicable.
2. If positions remain after considering the preceding criterion, any athlete who earns a top 3 result at a UCI World Cup during the 2019/2020 UCI World Cup Track season. If more than one athlete meets this criterion the athlete with the highest placing will be nominated first. If there are equal placings the athlete with the highest UCI ranking shall be nominated first.

3. If positions remain after considering the preceding criteria the USA Cycling coaching staff may nominate an athlete following the USA Cycling Discretionary Selection Process.

6. Elite Men's and Women's Match Sprint

Athletes will be nominated to ride individual events based on the following prioritized criteria:

1. Any eligible athlete placing in the top three (3) at the 2019 UCI World Championships in each event and category. In order to maintain their position on the Team, the eligible athlete(s) must continue to demonstrate the ability to be medal during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition and time standards where applicable.
2. If positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, any eligible athlete who earns a top 3 result at a UCI World Cup during the 2019/2020 UCI World Cup Track season. If more than one athlete meets this criterion the athlete with the highest placing will be nominated first. If there are equal placings the athlete with the highest UCI ranking shall be nominated first.
3. If positions remain after considering the preceding criteria the USA Cycling coaching staff may nominate an athlete following the USA Cycling Discretionary Selection Process.

7. Elite Men's and Women's Individual Non-Olympic events- Points Race, Elimination, Scratch Race, Individual Pursuit; Men's 1k TT; Women's 500m TT

Athletes will be nominated to ride individual events based on the following prioritized criteria:

1. Any athlete placing in the top three (3) at the 2020 UCI World Championships in each event and category. In order to maintain their position on the Team, the eligible athlete(s) must continue to demonstrate the ability to be medal capable during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition and time standards where applicable.
2. If positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, any athlete who earns a top-three (3) result at a UCI World Cup in an event during the 2018/2019 UCI World Cup Track season. If more than one athlete meets this criterion, the athlete with the highest final placing will be nominated. If there

are athletes with equal placings the nomination will be earned by the athlete who produced the result in a European World Cup. If the athletes remain with equal placings after the preceding criteria the athlete with the highest placing in that event at the USA Elite National Championships will earn the nomination.

3. If positions remain after considering the preceding criteria the USA Cycling coaching staff may nominate an athlete following the USA Cycling Discretionary Selection Process.

DISCRETIONARY SELECTION PROCESS

USA Cycling may choose to fill open quota positions through the discretionary 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 nominate athletes who have not qualified automatically.

Discretionary 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. 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.