



USA CYCLING ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA
2023 WORLD GRAVEL CHAMPIONSHIPS
Elite Men and Women
October 7-8, 2023
Vento, Italy

SELECTION AND QUALIFICATION INFORMATION

Below you will find information on how an athlete can automatically qualify for nomination to the 2023 UCI Elite Gravel World Championship Team ("Team"). In cases where there are available start positions after the automatic qualification process, any available positions **may** be filled via discretionary nominations according to the USA Cycling Discretionary Selection Procedures:

<https://usacycling.org/team-usa/protected-event-selection>

There are extensive UCI requirements for entry into the World Championships at the nation, event and individual levels. Those requirements can be found on the UCI website:

<https://ucigravelworldseries.com/en/regulations/>

ELIGIBILITY

- Elite Men – UCI World Tour and Continental -registered team members: Racing age 19 and over
- Elite Women - UCI World Tour and Continental -registered team members: Racing age 19 and over
- Athlete must be eligible to represent the United States in a UCI competition at the time of nomination.
- All nominees must have a valid UCI International Racing License and meet all eligibility requirements of USA Cycling and the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) at the time of nomination.
- All nominees must be in good standing with USAC, UCI, U.S. Center for SafeSport and the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA) at the time of nomination.
- Riders who are a member of a UCI registered team (Road, MTB, Track, or Cyclocross) are required to compete in the open category, not the age group World Championships.
- Riders who qualified or received a wildcard from the national federation but do not belong to a UCI registered team are required to compete in the age group categories (19- 34, 35-39, 40-44, ...etc.). Age groups are defined by riders' age on December 31st of the year of the World Championships.

- Athletes will only be allowed to submit data through TrainingPeaks. USA Cycling will provide a TrainingPeaks account for athletes who do not have one. Guidance on how to create the athlete account is outlined in the petition form.

TEAM SIZE AND EVENT SELECTION PRIORITY

USA Cycling will determine Team size prior to the Championship based on event goals and strategy, available resources and available athletes. USA Cycling may not fill all available quota positions for all events.

EVENT SELECTION STRATEGY

USA Cycling's primary objective for the 2023 World Championships is to select a highly cohesive medal-capable team. The second objective is to choose future medal-capable athletes and provide them with the necessary experience to further their development.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

FUNDING LEVELS

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 travel insurance throughout duration of the event with USA Cycling.

Level 2: Partially-Funded

Athletes will be responsible for paying a service fee of \$1000.00 on or before the date outlined in this document ("Fee"). This fee includes: competition and casual clothing, lodging/food, ground transportation at the event location, all mechanical/race support, and travel insurance throughout the duration of the event with USA Cycling. Athletes are responsible for their airfare and baggage expenses.

Level 3: Self-Funded

Athletes who receive automatic invitations from the UCI or are nominated by the USA Cycling Athlete Discretionary Selection procedures are responsible for the full expense associated with this event.

COMPETITION AND CASUAL CLOTHING

Elite: Professional athletes competing in the open categories are required by the UCI to wear the official uniform of the National Team. That uniform is a Cuore Jersey, Cuore Short, and Cuore Sock. The National Team Cuore uniform is available for purchase through the Team USA Cuore store at: <https://shop.cuore.ch/category/usa-cycling> or by emailing GCross@usacycling.org.

Age Group: The UCI permits Age Group athletes competing in the age group categories to wear a less restrictive jersey of their nationality, provided the jersey uses the same colors and design as the National Team uniform. Age Group athletes are also able to purchase the National Team uniform through the Team USA Cuore store at: <https://teamshop.cuore.ch/usa-cycling-fan-store>. Failure to comply with the UCI team clothing rules can lead to disciplinary actions that may include warnings to fines levied by the UCI against an athlete.

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

Deadline for Submission of Petitions:	September 1, 2023
Selection of Discretionary Nominations:	September 11, 2023
Confirmation of Intent to Participate:	September 15, 2023
Final Announcement of the Team:	September 15, 2023
Submission of Fee:	September 15, 2023

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION TO THE TEAM

Elite Women and Men

Maximum Quota Positions: No maximum limits.

Level 1 Funding

1. Any athlete placing in the top three (3) at the prior year's World Championships in the same event and category will be nominated to the Team.
 - a. In order to maintain their position on the Team, the athlete(s) must continue to demonstrate the ability to finish in the top three (3) at the World Championships during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from Top Level Competition ¹ and the current ranking on the appropriate UCI Individual Classification.
2. The winner of the 2023 USA Cycling Gravel National Championships, provided that race is held in its entirety and run under USAC regulations, will be nominated to the Team.

Level 2 Funding

3. After considering the preceding criteria, both the second and third place finishers of the 2023 USA Cycling Gravel National Championships, provided that race is held in its entirety and run under USAC regulations, will be nominated to the Team.

Level 3 Funding

4. Qualification through the UCI Gravel World Series – As per the official qualification system for the 2023 UCI Gravel World Championships; each Trek UCI Gravel World Series event grants qualification rights for the UCI Gravel World Championships for those riders finishing in the first 25% of their age group.

¹ A Top Level Competition is one that includes participation by many of the best riders in the world (e.g., as indicated by recent World Championship results, World Cup results and/or current UCI rankings).

- a. 25% is calculated based on the number of starters in each age group, and not on the number of riders having finished the race. Qualification is always per age group and based on age group results, not on overall results.
 - b. In addition, the first three riders of each official age category will qualify directly for the World Championships, independently of the number of starters in that age group. Riders must finish the race to gain qualification.
- 5. If an athlete has not qualified through the preceding criteria, eligible athletes may be nominated to the Team in accordance with USA Cycling's Discretionary Athlete Selection Procedures.
 - a. National Federation – Each National Federation can enter up to 20 quotas in total for all categories across both genders.
 - b. Wild cards - Wild cards can be given at the discretion of the UCI only.