



USA CYCLING ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES

2020 UCI DOWNHILL MTB WORLD
CHAMPIONSHIPS ELITE AND JUNIOR MEN
AND WOMEN October 5 -11, 2020
Leogang, Austria

2020 World Championships Selection Criteria Amendment

USA Cycling has made significant revisions to previously posted world championship selection criteria due to the Covid-19 pandemic. As the result of an amended cycling calendar and the USA Cycling organization being significantly affected by the pandemic, we have adopted the following guiding principles when revising 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 goals and resources.

QUALIFICATION INFORMATION

Below you will find information on how a rider can automatically qualify for nomination to the 2020 UCI World Championship DOWNHILL 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; 2020 Racing Age 19 and over
Junior Men and Women: UCI International License Holders; 2020 Racing Age 17-18

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

USAC will assume financial responsibility for all athletes who are selected for the World Championship Team according to the criteria below.

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 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 will 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.

COMPETITION AND CASUAL CLOTHING

As a member of the USA Cycling UCI World Championship MTB Team, representing USA Cycling and the United States of America, athletes will be provided competition clothing which will be required during all training sessions and competitions. Additionally athletes will be provided casual clothing that will be required 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: September 7, 2020
- Selection of Discretionary Nominations: September 15, 2020
- Confirmation of intent to participate: September 16, 2020
- Final announcement of the Team: September 17, 2020
- Deadline for submission of Team Service Fee: September 18, 2020

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION TO THE TEAM

Elite Downhill -Men and Women

Maximum Start Positions: Elite Men 7 & Elite Women 7

Level 1: Funded

1. Any eligible athlete placing in the top three (3) at the 2019 World Championships in the same event and category. In order to maintain their position on the Team, the eligible athlete(s) must continue to demonstrate the ability to finish in the top 3 at the World Championships during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition and current ranking on the appropriate UCI Individual Classification.

Level 2: Self-Funded

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

2. Any eligible athlete finishing in the top three (3) in the Downhill Final in a 2020 UCI Downhill World Cup race between the dates of January 1, 2020 and September 13, 2020. Up to two (2) athletes may be nominated from this criterion. If more than two (2) athletes meet this criterion, only the two (2) athletes with the highest World Cup placing as of September 14, 2020 will be nominated. In the event of equal placings the nomination will be made in order of priority, by the rider(s) with the highest UCI World Cup Overall ranking as of September 14, 2020.
3. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria the top two (2) male and top two (2) female eligible athletes if ranked in the top ten (10) in the 2020 UCI Individual World Cup Overall Elite Downhill rankings as of September 14, 2020 will be nominated to the team. If more athletes meet this criterion than available quota positions, then the highest placed athlete will be selected first, the second highest placed athlete will be selected second.
4. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria the top two (2) male and top two (2) female U.S. athletes in the 2020 UCI Elite Downhill World Overall rankings, as of September 14, 2020 if ranked in the top fifty (50). The positions will be filled, in order of priority, based on the UCI rankings (highest to lowest).
5. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria eligible athletes **may** be selected to the team following the USAC Discretionary Selection process.

Junior Downhill –Men and Women

Maximum Start Positions: 6 Junior Men & 7 Junior Women

Level 1: Funded

1. Any eligible athlete placing in the top three (3) at the 2019 World Championships in the same event and category. In order to maintain their position on the Team, the eligible athlete(s) must continue to demonstrate the ability to finish in the top 3 at the World Championships during the current racing season. This evaluation will be based on results from major international competition and current ranking on the appropriate UCI Individual Classification.

Level 2: Self-Funded

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

2. Any eligible athlete finishing in the top three (3) in the Downhill Final in a 2020 UCI Jr Downhill World Cup race between the dates of January 1, 2020 and September 13, 2020. Up to two (2) athletes may be nominated from this criterion. If more than two (2) athletes meet this criterion, only the two (2) athletes with the highest World Cup placing as of September 14, 2020 will be nominated. In the event of equal placings the nomination will be made in order of priority, by the rider(s) with the highest UCI World Cup Overall ranking as of September 14, 2020.
3. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria the top two (2) male and top two (2) female eligible athletes if ranked in the top ten (10) in the 2020 UCI Individual World Cup Overall Jr Downhill rankings as of September 14, 2020 will be nominated to the team.
4. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria eligible athletes **may** be selected to the team following the USAC Discretionary Selection process.

DISCRETIONARY 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 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(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 – 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 (primarily 2019 UCI Jr and Elite World Cups);
 2. Race results in top domestic competitions (primarily 2019 USA Cycling Jr and Elite Downhill MTB National Championships);
 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

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.