



XCC Qualifying Heats

Due to course capacity limits, the short track cross-country (XCC) competition will hold qualification races if registration exceeds 50 riders. These qualifying races will take place on the morning of July 17, with finals held later that same day.

For Junior 15-16 and Junior 17-18, there will be three heats, and the top 16 riders from each heat will advance to the final. For U23, there will be two heats, with the top 24 riders moving on. The target is a 48-rider final for each category.

Heat assignments will follow the call-up order, see below for more information. If there are two heats, odd call-ups will race in Heat 1 and even call-ups in Heat 2. If there are three heats, riders will be split in sequence: Heat 1 will include riders in positions 1, 4, 7, 10, and so on; Heat 2 will include 2, 5, 8, 11, etc.; and Heat 3 will include 3, 6, 9, 12, and so forth.

15-16 XCC Heat Procedure

The call-up procedure for the 15-16 men's qualifier heats will be as follows:

1. Defending 15-16 National Champion
2. Aged-up National Champion 11-14
3. Previous year podium 15-16 (2-5)
4. USAC XC ranking
5. Random for riders without any rankings

Riders who finished in the top 20 at the 2024 USA Cycling Mountain Bike National Championship 15-16 men's short track cross-country race who do not finish within the qualifying positions of their qualifying heat will move on to the final race as protected riders. These riders must finish the qualifying race to maintain a protected status (pulled at 80% counts as a finish). Protected riders will be called up based on their 2024 National Championship (XCC) finish after the 48 riders who qualified top 16 per heat. In the event there are no protected riders, only 48 riders will start the final.

The call up procedure for the 15-16 men's final race will be as follows:

1. Finisher 1 in qualifying heat 1
2. Finisher 1 in qualifying heat 2
3. Finisher 1 in qualifying heat 3
4. Finisher 2 in qualifying heat 1
5. Finisher 2 in qualifying heat 2
6. Finisher 1 in qualifying heat 3
7. So on through rider 48 (top 16/heat)
8. Protected rider 1

9. Protected rider 2
10. So on through protected riders.

17-18 Men's Heat Procedure

The call up procedure for the 17-18 men's qualifier heats will be as follows:

1. Defending 17-18 National Champion
2. Aged-up 15-16 National Champion
3. Previous year podium 17-18 (2-3)
4. UCI XCO ranking
5. USAC XC ranking
6. Random for riders without any other rankings

Riders ranked in the top 100 of the most recent UCI Junior rankings who do not finish within the top 16 of their qualifying heats will move on to the final race as protected riders. These riders must finish the qualifying race in order to maintain a protected status. Protected riders will be called up based on their UCI XCO points after the 48 riders who qualified top 16 per heat. In the event there are no protected riders, only 48 riders will start the final.

The call up procedure for the 17-18 men's final race will be as follows:

1. Finisher 1 in qualifying heat 1
2. Finisher 1 in qualifying heat 2
3. Finisher 1 in qualifying heat 3
4. Finisher 2 in qualifying heat 1
5. Finisher 2 in qualifying heat 2
6. Finisher 1 in qualifying heat 3
7. So on through rider 48 (top 16/heat)
8. Protected rider 1
9. Protected rider 2
10. So on through protected riders.

U23 Men's Heat Procedure

The call up procedure for the U23 men's qualifier heats will be as follows:

1. Defending U23 National Champion
2. Aged-up 17-18 National Champion
3. Previous year podium U23 (2-3)
4. UCI XCO ranking
5. USAC XC ranking
6. Random for riders without any other rankings

Riders ranked in the top 400 of the most recent UCI Elite rankings who do not finish within the top 24 of their qualifying heats will move on to the final race as protected riders. These riders must finish the qualifying race in order to maintain a protected status. Protected riders will be called up based on their

UCI XCO points after the 48 riders who qualified top 24 per heat. In the event there are no protected riders, only 48 riders will start the final.

The call up procedure for the U23 men's final race will be as follows:

1. Finisher 1 in qualifying heat 1
2. Finisher 1 in qualifying heat 2
3. Finisher 2 in qualifying heat 1
4. Finisher 2 in qualifying heat 2
5. So on through rider 48 (top 24/heat)
6. Protected rider 1
7. Protected rider 2
8. So on through protected riders.

If qualifying heats are not used the following call up procedures will be in place for the final races:

The call up procedure for the U23 men:

1. Defending U23 National Champion
2. Aged-up 17-18 National Champion
3. Previous year podium U23 (2-3)
4. UCI XCO ranking
5. USAC XC ranking
6. Random for riders without any other rankings

***If a rider who has qualified does not appear at the start, the race will proceed with one fewer rider. No substitutes or alternates will be allowed.**

**** Qualifying races will be run on the same course and the race time will be approximately 10-12 minutes.**