



**USA CYCLING ATHLETE SELECTION CRITERIA
UCI CYCLOCROSS WORLD CUP SELECTION GUIDELINES
2026-2027**

SELECTION AND QUALIFICATION INFORMATION

Below you will find information on how an athlete can be invited to a 2026-2027 UCI Cyclocross World Cup. There are extensive Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI) requirements for entry into the World Cups at the nation, event and individual levels. Those requirements can be found on the UCI website under rules and regulations – World Championships: <https://www.uci.org/inside-uci/constitutions-regulations/regulations/regulations>

ELIGIBILITY

- Elite Men and Women – Aged 19 and over as of December 31st, 2027 (born on or after January 1, 2007)
- U23 Men and Women – Aged 19-22 as of December 31st, 2027 (born in 2004 through 2008)
- Junior Men and Women – Aged 17-18 as of December 31st, 2027 (born in 2009 through 2010)
- All nominees must have a valid UCI International Racing License and meet all eligibility requirements of USA Cycling and the UCI.
- All nominees must be in good standing with USA Cycling, UCI, U.S. Center for SafeSport and the United States Anti-Doping Agency (USADA).

ATHLETE QUOTAS

The UCI Cyclocross World Cup event rider quotas are as follows:

In UCI Cyclocross World Cup events for Elite Men and Elite Women, athletes ranked in the Top 50 of the last UCI Cyclocross ranking published when the registration process starts are pre-qualified. Federations entering less than 8 pre-qualified athletes can expand their selection to a total of 8 entries.

Pre-qualified athletes are eligible for selection at the discretion of the federation of their nationality, with a maximum of 12 athletes per nation and in respect of the 6 following cases:

- A federation having 6 prequalified athletes will select its 6 best ranked athletes and 2 athletes of its choice,
- A federation having 7 prequalified athletes will select its 7 best ranked athletes and 1 athlete of its choice,
- A federation having 8 prequalified athletes will select its 8 best ranked athletes and 1 athlete of its choice,
- A federation having 9 prequalified athletes will select its 8 best ranked athletes and 2 athletes of its choice,

- A federation having 10 prequalified athletes will select its 8 best ranked athletes and 3 athletes of its choice,
- A federation having 11 or more prequalified athletes will select its 8 best ranked athletes and 4 athletes of its choice.

For World Cup events which do not include a U23 Men's race and for all Elite Women's World Cup events, each national federation entering 8 or more riders, may, in addition, enter 2 Under 23 riders.

In UCI cyclo-cross World Cup events for Under 23 Men, Junior Women and Junior Men, each federation may enter 6 riders. The federations concerned may additionally enter the reigning World Champions and (except for the first UCI cyclo-cross World Cup event of the season) the leaders of the last UCI cyclo-cross World Cup ranking published before the closing date for entries.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

- All athletes **must** submit a petition/online entry request for *each* World Cup in which they wish to compete. Athletes must submit an entry request via the petition form: <https://fs8.formsite.com/USAC/alws1imufu/index>
- The deadline for all athletes to submit a petition/online entry request to USA Cycling is **by 3 p.m. Mountain Standard Time on Friday, four weeks before each World Cup.**
- World Cup Pre-qualified athletes will be determined by the latest UCI Individual rankings posted before the registration date (typically on the Tuesday, 12 days before each World Cup event).
- When applying for nomination to a UCI Cyclocross World Cup, only submit a petition/online entry request form for those races you will attend.
- It is the athlete's responsibility to notify the USA Cycling Director of Cyclocross if he/she is withdrawing from a World Cup after having applied for a start position either by pre-qualification, automatic or discretionary nomination.
- If an athlete fails to notify the USA Cycling Director of Cyclocross that they are withdrawing from a World Cup, the athlete will be responsible for all fines and fees levied by the UCI.
- The announcement of each USA Cycling World Cup Roster will be released two Wednesdays prior to each World Cup event (typically eleven days prior).
- USA Cycling will register all qualified athletes for each World Cup.
- Start requests/petitions which do not provide complete information (housing information, phone number, etc.) may not be accepted.
- If a USA Cycling team coach/manager is attending a World Cup event, he/she will attend the manager's meeting and pick up all race numbers, pit passes, and other pertinent materials for athletes not on UCI-registered cyclocross teams.
- Each athlete will be responsible for paying any applicable UCI fine for cancellation or non-participation.

FINANCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

USA Cycling does not assume financial responsibility for athletes or trade teams wishing to race at UCI World Cup events. However, USA Cycling may choose to send a National Team to select World Cup events, providing support for the athletes invited. When a rider competes at a UCI Cyclocross World Cup event with the support of the USA Cycling National Team or Development Program, they are required to wear all USA Cycling National Team clothing and use all USA Cycling provided sponsor materials.

COMPETITION CLOTHING

At UCI World Cups, all U23 Men, Junior Men and Junior Women are required by the UCI to compete in the competition kit of their respective National Teams. If U23 Men race in an Elite Men's World Cup, they are not required by the UCI to wear National Team kit.

Athletes invited to a Junior World Cup block and members of the U23 Resident Program will be provided with a National Team kit by USA Cycling. Other athletes required to wear the National Team uniform at a World Cup may purchase the team kit through the [Team USA Rapha CC](#) store.

IMPORTANT DATES AND DEADLINES

The selection of Elite and U23 riders will be ***made 2 weeks in advance*** of each World Cup.

INVITATION GUIDELINES

ELITE MEN, ELITE WOMEN & U23 WOMEN

Objective Criteria for Invitations – in prioritized order

Maximum start positions: Up to the event maximum will be invited via this process:

1. Any athlete ranked in the top fifty (50) of the last UCI Individual Cyclocross rankings published when the registration process opens for each World Cup round is pre-qualified.
2. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criterion, any athlete ranked in the top one hundred (100) of the last UCI Individual Cyclocross rankings published when the registration process opens for each World Cup round will be invited in order of their UCI Individual Cyclocross rankings published at the time.
2. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, the 2026 UCI Pan-American Continental Champion, provided the race is held in its entirety and run under UCI regulations, will be invited.
3. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, the 2026 USA Cycling National Champion, provided the race is held in its entirety and run under UCI regulations, will be invited.

Subjective Criteria for Invitations

4. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, athletes may be invited by the USA Cycling Cyclocross Manager.

U23 MEN (For World Cups which include a separate U23 Men's race)

Objective Criteria for Invitations – in prioritized order

Maximum start positions: Up to 6 athletes will be selected via this process:

1. Any athlete ranked in the top one hundred (100) of the last UCI Individual Cyclocross rankings published when the registration process opens for each World Cup round will be invited in order of their UCI Individual Cyclocross rankings published at the time.

2. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criterion, the 2026 UCI Pan-American Continental Champion, provided the race is held in its entirety and run under UCI regulations, will be invited.
3. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, the 2026 USA Cycling National Champion, provided the race is held in its entirety and run under UCI regulations, will be invited.

Subjective Criteria for Invitations

4. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, athletes may be invited by the USA Cycling Cyclocross Manager.

JUNIOR MEN AND WOMEN

During the 2026-2027 UCI Cyclocross World Cup season, USA Cycling will field full Junior Men's and Women's teams. The season will include two separate Junior World Cup race blocks, each with its own invitation process.

JUNIOR WORLD CUP RACE BLOCK #1

For Junior World Cup Race Block #1, athlete selection will be based on a designated domestic selection series. Performances in this domestic series will determine which athletes are invited to represent the United States during the first international block of Junior World Cup competition.

Junior World Cup Race Block #1

November 29 Tabor, CZE

Junior World Cup Selection Series for Race Block #1 (US CX Series Events)

September 19 & 20 Rochester

October 3 & 4 Charm City Cross

October 17 & 18 Kings CX

November 7 Pan American Continental Championships

An athlete's top four results in this selection series will count towards the overall standings.

Points Table

Place	Points
1	15
2	14
3	13
4	12
5	11
6	10
7	9

8	8
9	7
10	6
11	5
12	4
13	3
14	2
15	1

Points table can be found at: <https://usacycling.org/team-usa/cyclocross>

Invitation Guidelines for Junior World Cup Race Block #1

Objective Criteria for Invitations – in prioritized order

Maximum start positions: Up to 6 athletes will be invited via this process (in prioritized order):

Team Selection for Junior World Cup Race Block #1 will be made **on November 9, 2026**.

1. The top five (5) ranked athletes in the Junior World Cup Selection Series will be invited.
 - a. If more than one athlete has scored the same number of points, the athlete with the highest finish in a 2026-2027 season C1 Selection Series event will be invited first.
 - b. If more than one athlete has the same finish placing in a 2026-2027 season C1 Selection Series event, the athlete with the most recent result will be invited first, and so on.
2. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criterion, the 2026 UCI Pan-American Continental Champion, provided the race is held in its entirety and run under UCI regulations, will be invited.

Subjective Criteria for Invitations

3. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, athletes may be invited by the USA Cycling Cyclocross Manager.

JUNIOR WORLD CUP RACE BLOCK #2

December 20 Koksidge, BEL

December 29 Besancon, FRA

Invitation Guidelines for Junior World Cup Race Block #2

Objective Criteria for Invitations – in prioritized order

Maximum start positions: Up to 6 athletes will be invited via this process:

Team Selection for **Junior World Cup Race Block #2** will be made on **December 14, 2026**.

1. Any athlete placed in the top ten (10) at a UCI Junior World Cup during Junior World Cup Racing Block #1, will be invited.
 - a. If more than one athlete meets this criterion, athletes will be invited in order of their highest placing(s) in a World Cup event during the qualification period.
 - b. If more than one athlete has the same highest placing, the athlete with the most recent result will be invited first, and so on.
2. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criterion, any athlete placing the top five (5) at a UCI Junior Super Prestige or X20 C1 event between the dates of October 1, 2026, and November 31, 2026, will be invited.
 - a. If more than one athlete meets this criterion, athletes will be invited in order of their highest placing(s) in a UCI Junior Super Prestige or X20 C1 event during the qualification period.
 - b. If more than one athlete has the same highest placing, the athlete with the most recent result will be invited first, and so on.
3. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, the 2026 UCI Pan-American Continental Champion, provided the race is held in its entirety and run under UCI regulations, will be invited.
4. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, the 2026 USA Cycling National Champion, provided the race is held in its entirety and run under UCI regulations, will be invited.

Subjective Criteria for Invitations

5. If quota positions remain after considering the preceding criteria, athletes may be invited by the USA Cycling Cyclocross Manager.

Minimum eligibility Standards for U23 Men and Women in World Cup Competition

2024-2025 Season	Top one hundred fifty (150) Individual UCI Ranking.
2025-2026 Season	Top one hundred twenty-five (125) Individual UCI Ranking.
2026-2027 Season	Top one hundred (100) Individual UCI Ranking.