

Selection Policy for UCI World Championships

Olympic and Paralympic Cycling Sports



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AusCycling (AC) is the national body responsible for the sport of cycling in Australia as recognised by the International Cycling Union (UCI), the Australian Government through the Australian Sports Commission (ASC), the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS), the Australian Olympic Committee (AOC), Commonwealth Games Australia (CGA) and Paralympics Australia (PA).

The UCI recognises AC as the sole body responsible for Cycling in Australia. AC holds all rights and is responsible for all UCI World Championship Teams (WCT).

This Selection Policy applies to all athletes who are potentially eligible to be considered for selection in the WCT for Olympic and Paralympic Cycling Sports. Please refer to the Discipline Specific Selection Criteria for specific event information.

1. OBJECTIVES [U23 AND ELITE]

The respective National Selection Panel (Panel) for each Under 23 and Elite discipline will select athletes who they consider in their absolute discretion will have the best chance of meeting one or more of the following objectives, with the Panel having absolute discretion as to the weighting given to the three objectives:

- 1.1 athletes capable of achieving medal winning results at UCI World Championships in Olympic or Paralympic events; and/or
- 1.2 combinations of athletes capable of achieving medal winning results at UCI World Championships; and/or
- 1.3 athletes considered to be on an elite medal trajectory at World Championship, Commonwealth Games, Olympic or Paralympic events in the next 4-6 years.

For the avoidance of doubt, the fact that an athlete meets multiple of the abovementioned objectives will not necessarily mean they will be preferred over athletes who meet only one of the above objectives.

2. OBJECTIVES [JUNIORS]

The respective National Selection Panel (Panel) for each Junior discipline will select athletes who they consider in their absolute discretion will have the best chance of meeting one or more of the following objectives, with the Panel having absolute discretion as to the weighting given to the four objectives:

- 2.1 athletes capable of achieving medal winning results at UCI World Championships; and/or

- 2.2 combinations of athletes capable of achieving medal winning results at UCI World Championships; and/or
- 2.3 athletes that display the skills and attributes to race competitively at Junior international level or display the potential to achieve future elite international performances.

For the avoidance of doubt, the fact that an athlete meets multiple of the abovementioned objectives will not necessarily mean they will be preferred over athletes who meet only one of the above objectives.

3. ELIGIBILITY AND SELECTION CRITERIA

3.1 General Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for consideration for selection in the WCT, athletes in Junior, U23 and Elite disciplines, must:

- 3.1.1 Be an Australian citizen.
- 3.1.2 Have a current racing licence issued by AC or another federation affiliated with the UCI with Sporting Country of 'AUS'.
- 3.1.3 Have read, signed and returned the execution page of the current AC Team Agreement.
- 3.1.4 Be compliant and remain compliant, with all of AusCycling's policies including the settlement of, or a payment plan in place, for all past levies.
- 3.1.5 Agree to participate in and meet all competition, camps, training and participation requirements as determined by the AC Executive General Manager-Performance (EGM-P) and/or National Head Coach/ National Discipline Coach/Technical Director.
- 3.1.6 Be available for sample collection and have provided accurate and up-to-date whereabouts information on a regular basis as directed by UCI and/or Sport Integrity Australia (SIA), under any relevant recognised Anti-Doping Policies including those of the UCI and AC, and the World Anti-Doping Code.
- 3.1.7 Have not breached AC's Anti-Doping Policy as amended by AC from time to time (unless the Athlete has already been sanctioned for the breach and completed the sanction imposed).
- 3.1.8 Have not, to AC's knowledge, used or administered any substance which, if it had been detected as being present in the Athlete's body tissue or fluids, would have constituted doping or used any prohibited method or committed any other doping offence as defined in AC's Anti-Doping Policy (unless the athlete has already been sanctioned for the breach and has completed the sanction imposed).



- 3.1.9 Have completed SIA Anti-Doping Education: To be eligible for consideration for selection, all athletes must be up to date and fully compliant with Sport Integrity Australia (SIA) e-learning, and therefore have completed, and be current at the end of the discipline nomination period, with all online updates. Please refer to: <https://www.sportintegrity.gov.au/what-we-do/education> for more information.
- 3.1.10 Not currently be suspended from the sport for any reason.
- 3.1.11 Not currently be under investigation as a result of any indictable criminal charge (even where such charge has been or is proposed to be heard summarily) having been brought against them, nor be currently serving a penalty issued by a Court as a result of an indictable criminal charge being proven, unless he/she is able to satisfy the AC Board (at its sole discretion) that exceptional circumstances (in the context of the charge and/or penalty) apply. Where the Board is satisfied that exceptional circumstances apply, the athlete may be considered for selection in a WCT in accordance with this Selection Policy. Any request for the Board to consider an athlete's particular circumstances must be submitted to the Board in writing. The Board is not obliged to consider any request made under this clause.

3.2 Junior Specific Eligibility Criteria

In addition to meeting the General Eligibility Criteria at 3.1, the following further criteria apply to Junior (U19) athletes:

- 3.2.1 **Dual World Championship Selection:** Junior (U19) athletes available for selection in more than one discipline, within the same calendar year, will be considered for each discipline's World Championship Teams.
- 3.2.2 **Education:** Selection for Junior (U19) athletes will be based on the principle that Junior (U19) athletes should be in formal education or training and remain engaged in that education or training course to completion throughout the World Championships selection and competition periods. This principle will be given weight by the Panel but will not be mandatory. Education requirements may include but are not limited to:
- a. Secondary School certificate of Education (i.e. SACE, VCE, International Baccalaureate (IB);

- b. TAFE and/or Vocation Education Training (VET) (i.e. Traineeship, Apprenticeship);
- c. Tertiary Study. i.e. Undergraduate degree

Athletes who are unable to satisfy the education or training requirements of clause 3.2.2 will need to provide reasons to the Panel as to why this is the case.

The rationale for the inclusion of this clause is that AusCycling does not believe it is generally in the best interests of junior athletes to focus solely on cycling at this point in their development. Correspondence is to be directed to the Panel Chair via the AusCycling Contact as per clause 7.2.

- 3.2.3 **Expression of Interest:** [Only applicable if expressly required by the Discipline Specific Selection Criteria for the discipline in which selection is being sought] Junior (U19) athletes must have submitted an expression of interest by the closing date listed in the relevant Discipline Specific Selection Criteria.
- a. Athletes that do not submit an expression of interest will not be considered by the Panel, regardless of meeting any other eligibility criteria or minimum performance standards.
 - b. The expression of interest form will be located on the AusCycling Selection Policies website from the published open date.
 - c. The submission of an expression of interest is solely the responsibility of the athlete seeking selection.
- 3.2.4 **Participation:** If selected, Junior athletes must participate in the full AusCycling World Championships campaign unless they apply for and receive prior approval from the AusCycling contact listed in the relevant specific discipline criteria for non-attendance.

3.3 GENERAL PERFORMANCE SELECTION CRITERIA [ALL DISCIPLINES]

Performance criteria that may be considered by the Panel in athlete selection include:

- 3.3.1 Podium performance history at relevant international benchmark competitions (UCI World Championships, Olympics, Paralympics).
- 3.3.2 Athlete's performance trajectory relative to podium athlete trends.
- 3.3.3 If applicable, the National Discipline Coach/ Technical Director's assessment of the athlete's ambition and demonstrated



commitment to their performance plan and objectives.

- 3.3.4 If applicable, the athlete's potential to contribute to Olympic/Paralympic qualifying places leading into the next Olympic/Paralympic Games.
- 3.3.5 The athlete's performance at trials and testing as directed by the National Discipline Coach/Technical Director.
- 3.3.6 The athlete's technical and tactical execution in training and competition.
- 3.3.7 If applicable, the athlete's consistency in training and performance against agreed objectives and/or benchmarks.
- 3.3.8 The athlete's conduct and behaviours on and off the bike, including their attitude and commitment to attendance and their demonstration of AusCycling's values by collaborating respectfully (Stronger Together), competing with integrity (Win Well), prioritising wellbeing and diversity (People-First), and showing pride, resilience, and accountability (Be Bold) : their conduct consistently reflects professionalism and brings credit to themselves, teammates, and AusCycling.
- 3.3.9 Priorities of cycling events as set out in the AC Performance Pillar Strategic Plan.

These criteria are not listed in any order of priority or importance and the Panel may ascribe to each criterion such weight, if any, as they in their absolute discretion determine. The purpose of the General Performance Selection Criteria is to assist the Panel in reaching a view about which athletes have the best chance of meeting one or more of the Objectives in clause 1 or 2 of this Policy (as applicable). The Panel is not obliged to consider all or any of the General Performance Selection Criteria and may choose to do so in relation to their consideration of some athletes, no athletes or all athletes.

3.4 Discipline Specific Selection Criteria

- 3.4.1 Discipline Specific Selection Criteria may be published by AusCycling for particular disciplines.
- 3.4.2 The Discipline Specific Selection Criteria (if any) applicable to the discipline(s) in which an athlete is seeking selection must be taken into account by the Panel when making selection decisions under this Policy.
- 3.4.3 If performance time periods apply these will be set out in any relevant Discipline Specific Selection Criteria

3.5 Amendment to Selection Criteria

- 3.5.1 This Selection Policy and any Discipline Specific Selection Criteria may be amended or supplemented, particularly where matters arise which have not been provided for in these criteria. All amendments must be approved by the High Performance Sub Committee. If approved, the AC Chief Executive Officer (AC CEO) will use their best endeavours to notify all relevant parties in writing, of the criteria amendment or supplement, with as much notice as possible.

4. NATIONAL SELECTION PANEL (PANEL)

4.1 Panel members

- 4.1.1 The Panel for the WCT for BMX Race, BMX Freestyle, MTB XCO, Paracycling (Road and Track), Road and Track will be appointed by the AC CEO and consist of the Panel Chair (determined by the AC CEO), the Director of Operations, the Team Operations Manager, the National Head Coach and/or National Technical Director (or their representatives), and an independent person (endorsed by the AC Board or its authorised nominee) that has experience and understanding of cycling or high-performance sport and with suitable skills for membership of the Panel.
- 4.1.2 For U19 Olympic disciplines, the AC CEO will choose to appoint a Panel that will consist of the Panel Chair (determined by the AC CEO), Head Coach High Performance Network, a High Performance Network Representative, the Team Operations Manager, or their representatives, and an independent person (endorsed by the AC Board or its authorised nominee) that has experience and understanding of cycling or high-performance sport and with suitable skills for membership of the Panel.

4.2. Role of the Panel

- 4.2.1 Each Panel (for each discipline) is responsible for considering athletes for selection in accordance with this Selection Policy, including the objectives in clauses 1 and 2 (as applicable) and any applicable Discipline Specific Selection Criteria.
- 4.2.2 Each Panel member will consider and vote on athlete selection in good faith, without bias and otherwise in accordance with this Selection Policy. If the Panel cannot agree, the Panel Chair (and/or representative) will have the final selection decision.



- 4.2.3 The Panel Chair (and/or representative) shall perform the role of convener of each Panel. The Panel Chair shall be responsible for facilitating and monitoring procedures in accordance with this Selection Policy and directing the administration of the processes of endorsement and advice to athletes.
- 4.2.4 The Panel may, at its sole discretion, weight selection events according to the level of competition, depth of field, the quality, difficulty and relevance of the course in relation to the World Championship Course.
- 4.2.5 The Panel may add or remove athletes from a WCT at their sole discretion, subject to the athlete's performances and obligations in accordance with these selection criteria.
- 4.2.6 The Panel may, at its discretion, reconvene or act by circular resolution, to consider the inclusion of an athlete in the WCT if, at the completion of the selection process, all team quotas have not been filled, or a quota place becomes vacant due to a selected athlete becoming unavailable or being removed in accordance with clause 4.3.3. This clause 4.2.6 applies to athletes who achieve a podium performance at a World Cup, Nations Cup, Tour de l'Avenir, or Junior World Series for Mountain Bike XCO after the performance time period has ended and before the event registration period for a World Championships closes. To be considered, the athlete must meet all eligibility criteria outlined in clauses 3.1 and (if applicable) 3.2. For the avoidance of doubt, nothing in this clause requires the Panel to fill all quota places.

4.3 Size of WCT

- 4.3.1 The maximum WCT size is subject to UCI allocated quotas and AC budget capability. Maximum spots from a budget perspective will be communicated a minimum of 6 months in advance. AC reserves the right to not fill any WCT quota. Unless otherwise determined by the AC Board, the Panel Chair may exercise the right of AC under this clause to not fill all UCI quotas. Where athletes exceed qualified quotas, the Panel in its sole discretion will determine which athletes are to be selected in accordance with this Selection Policy.

Reserves

- 4.3.2 Reserves may be identified for any event. Where a reserve has been identified for an event and an athlete selected to the WCT for that event subsequently becomes unable to

compete, the reserve may be substituted by the Panel.

Replacement of Athletes

- 4.3.3 The Panel may, by circular resolution, or in person, at any time between selection and competition, replace or remove a previously selected athlete (Replaced Athlete) for reasons which may include failure to maintain performance at the level which earned selection, or for non-compliance with the AC Team Agreement. If the Panel decides to exercise its rights under this clause and a reserve has previously been identified by the Panel for the event in which the Replaced Athlete was to compete, the Panel must consider:
- whether the athlete (if any) selected to replace the Replaced Athlete should be the previously identified reserve, or another athlete; and
 - if the Replaced Athlete is to be replaced by the previously identified reserve, whether another reserve should thereafter be identified.

5. EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES

- 5.1 In considering athletes' performances under this Selection Policy, the Panel Chair may consider and approve "extenuating circumstances".
- 5.2 For the purposes of clause 5.1 above, extenuating circumstances means an inability to compete, attend training camps or perform at an optimum level arising from:
- Injury or illness.
 - Travel delays.
 - Equipment failure.
 - Bereavement or personal misfortune.
 - A direction from the National Head Coach or Discipline Coach/Technical Director that the athlete does not compete at or attend one or more training camps or events to ensure optimal management of the athlete's overall competition load, where such direction is approved by the Panel Chair.
 - Any other factors reasonably considered by the Panel Chair to constitute extenuating circumstances.
- 5.3 Athletes unable to compete, attend training camps or perform at an optimum level must advise and seek approval from the Panel Chair of this fact and



the reasons for the inability, with as much advance notice as possible (ideally at least seven days) prior to the commencement of the competition, training camp or other performance that may be required for consideration under this Selection Policy.

- 5.4 All extenuating circumstances correspondence must be directed to the Panel Chair via the AusCycling Contact as per clause 7.2 below.
- 5.5 In the case of injury or illness, athletes must undergo a medical examination by a doctor or doctors nominated by the Panel Chair.
- 5.6 A decision in each case of advised, possible extenuating circumstances may be made by the Panel Chair on an individual basis. The Panel Chair is not obliged to consider any notification by an athlete under this clause 5. There is no appeal right available to athletes against any decision made in respect of extenuating circumstances.
- 5.7 In the case of extenuating circumstances being approved under this clause 5 the Panel may, in its absolute discretion, consider the athlete's results in the 6 months prior to the performance time period.

6. SCHEDULE FOR SELECTION PROCESS

- 6.1 The timeframe for the process for consideration for selection to a WCT will be advised to all relevant parties as soon as it is determined.

7. COMMUNICATION

- 7.1 It is the responsibility of each athlete who has indicated his or her wish to be considered for selection to ensure that their full contact details have been provided to the National Head Coach. This information is crucial to enable the monitoring of an athlete's progress, to be able to communicate important information to an athlete, and for an athlete to ensure compliance with the obligations of providing whereabouts information in accordance with the AC Anti-Doping Policy and the World Anti-Doping Code.
- 7.2 All correspondence, including requests for consideration of Extenuating Circumstances, should be forwarded to the AusCycling contact referenced in the relevant specific discipline criteria.
- 7.3 It is also the ultimate responsibility of the athlete to communicate with the AusCycling contact referenced at clause 7.2, as to the progress of their training and competition program and to provide a record of current results and performances achieved, particularly those that may be relevant to this Selection Policy.

8. APPEALS

- 8.1 An eligible athlete may appeal against non-selection in a WCT. The process for such an appeal is contained within the [*AusCycling Selection Appeals Policy for UCI World Championships*](#).

