



**AUSCYCLING**

***PRIVATEER and INDEPENDENT ATHLETE  
POLICY***

***2024/25 UCI CX World Cup Entry***

***2025 UCI MTB World Cup Entry XCO | DH | EDR***

***2025 EDR World Championships Elite and U19 Qualifiers***

***2025 Gravel World Championships Elite Qualifiers***

***VERSION 1 | December 2024***



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## PRIVATEER AND INDEPENDENT ATHLETE POLICY

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### 1. PREAMBLE

The purpose of this policy is to outline the general information and eligibility requirements for athletes representing Australia as Privateer or Independent athletes.

Within this policy, athletes are referred to in Appendix 1 as either **Privateer or Individual athletes**, depending on whether National team competition clothing is required for a specified event.

- **Independent Athletes** qualify themselves through the UCI qualification system relevant to their specific discipline and **are not** required to wear National Team competition clothing but **do require** AusCycling administration support to be registered for a given event.
- **Privateer Athletes** **are** required to wear National Team competition clothing but are not part of an officially selected Australian Cycling Team.

Various international competitions across multiple cycling disciplines allow athletes to participate **without** being a member of the UCI or an Australian Cycling Team, but those athletes are required by the UCI regulations to abide by some or all of the following:

- Wear official National Team competition clothing
- Be allocated a Federation entry by their National Federation
- Be entered by their National Federation

More detailed information on the **Privateer or Individual athlete entry or direct qualifier process** for specific disciplines is in the respective Discipline Specific Criterion. All Selection Criteria can be found at the following link: <https://auscycling.org.au/about/high-performance/selection>

If you require assistance with understanding the Privateer or Individual athlete entry or direct qualifier process, please contact Evan James, MTB Operations Manager, [evan.james@auscycling.org.au](mailto:evan.james@auscycling.org.au).

The information in this document is accurate at the time of publishing. However, changes to UCI regulations and the release of specific information from the UCI during 2025 may require updates to this policy in which case a new version will be released.

## 2. ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

2.1. To be eligible for consideration as a **Privateer** for entry to, and/or selection for a federation entry, athletes must:

- a) Be an Australian citizen; or
- b) An Australian resident not including visitors to Australia on work permits, student visas or visitor visas – providing they have not ridden for another country in that national team and have not contested the National Championships of another National Federation in the preceding two years.
- c) Have a current racing membership issued by AC or hold a license of another UCI National Federation with an 'AUS' designation. Once selected riders will be required to have a UCI License.
- d) Have read and signed the execution page of the current Team Agreement.
- e) Not have breached the Anti-Doping Policies of the UCI or AusCycling nor have had a sanction imposed which has not been completed. For considering eligibility for selection, a breach of an Anti-Doping Policy may include:
  - An athlete currently under investigation for an Anti-Doping Rule Violation (ADRV) where an infraction notice has been issued or the athlete has been stood down under UCI and/or AusCycling Anti-Doping Policies.
  - Or a failure to comply with an athlete's obligations under either UCI or AusCycling Anti-Doping Policy, even if such a breach does not result in an ADRV.
- g) Have completed SIA Anti-Doping Education: To be eligible to compete, all athletes must be up to date and fully compliant with Sports Integrity Australia Anti-Doping Fundamentals.
- h) Not currently suspended by AusCycling for any reason.
- i) Not have served a period of suspension of two years or more for having been found guilty of an ADRV; or any other rule breach.
- j) Not currently be under investigation as a result of any indictable criminal charge (even where such charge has been 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 AusCycling 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 accordance with these selection criteria. Any request for the Board to consider an athlete's particular circumstances must be submitted to the AusCycling CEO in writing at least 3 weeks prior to selection. The Board is not obliged to consider any request made under this clause.

## 3. CLOTHING

3.1. Independent athletes must compete in their own clothing.

3.2. Privateer athletes must compete in the current design of the official Australian Cycling Team competition clothing.

- a) To verify if clothing in your possession is current and/or to purchase clothing, contact the AusCycling Operations Manager MTB & CX – Evan James [evan.james@auscycling.org.au](mailto:evan.james@auscycling.org.au).

- b) Please allow a minimum of 3 weeks for the clothing to be sourced and delivered. Delivery outside of Australia will require longer lead times and significant freight costs.

#### **4. EXTENUATING CIRCUMSTANCES**

- 4.1. Extenuating circumstances only apply to Privateer athletes.
- 4.2. In considering a Privateer athletes' performances and participation in mandatory events under the discipline specific criteria, the Operations Manager MTB & CX may consider and approve extenuating circumstances.
- 4.3. For the purposes of clause 4.2 above, extenuating circumstances means an inability to compete or perform at an optimum level arising from:
  - a) Injury or illness
  - b) Travel delays
  - c) Equipment failure
  - d) Bereavement or personal misfortune
  - e) Education requirements
  - f) Any other factors reasonably considered by the Operations Manager MTB & CX to constitute extenuating circumstances.
- 4.4. Athletes unable to compete and/or perform at an optimum level must advise and seek approval from the Operations Manager MTB & CX 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.
- 4.5. All extenuating circumstances applications and correspondence must be directed to the Operations Manager MTB & CX – Evan James [evan.james@auscycling.org.au](mailto:evan.james@auscycling.org.au)
- 4.6. In the case of injury or illness, athletes must provide a medical certificate or report and may be required to undergo a medical examination by a doctor or doctors nominated by the Operations Manager MTB & CX.

**Appendix 1 – Events Covered by this Policy**

<b>Discipline</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>National Team Clothing</b>	<b>Registration by AC</b>	<b>Quota Limit</b>	<b>Athlete Definition</b>
Cyclo-Cross	Elite	World Cups (not a member of a UCI Team)	No	Yes	Yes	Independent
Cyclo-Cross	U23, Junior	World Cups (not a member of a UCI Team)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Privateer
Gravel	Elite	World Championships (automatic qualifiers through Gravel World Series)	Yes	No	No	Privateer
MTB	Elite, U19	Enduro World Championships (automatic qualifiers through EDR World Cup)	Yes	Yes	No	Privateer
MTB	Elite, U19	Enduro World Cup – federation entry	Yes	Yes	Yes	Privateer
MTB	Elite	Marathon World Championships (automatic qualifiers through XCM World Cup)	Yes	Yes	No	Privateer
MTB	Elite	Marathon World Cups	No	Yes	No	Independent
MTB	Elite, U23	XCO World Cups (non-UCI Team athletes without required ranking – federation entry)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Privateer
MTB	Elite, U23	XCO World Cups (non-UCI Team athletes with required ranking for individual entry)	No	Yes	No	Independent
MTB	Elite, Junior	DHI World Cups (non-UCI Team athletes without required ranking – federation entry)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Privateer
MTB	Elite, Junior	DHI World Cups (non-UCI Team athletes with required ranking for individual entry)	No	Yes	No	Independent