

Version 1 | November 2025

INDEPENDENT ATHLETE ENTRY CRITERION

FEDERATION ENTRY CRITERION

2026 UCI DOWNHILL INDIVIDUAL (DHI) WORLD CUP

1. PREAMBLE

Please note important changes to these criteria from previous years are marked in red.

This criterion should be read in conjunction with the **Privateer and Independent Athlete Policy**. The policy provides general information on eligibility, extenuating circumstances, and clothing requirements.

AusCycling administers entries for DHI World Cup events for Australian riders not on UCI World Series Teams. This includes riders that have qualified for independent entry under UCI regulations. Riders that have not qualified must apply for a Federation entry. Riders on UCI World Series Teams are entered by their team. **See Table 1 for full information on qualifying and Federation entry quotas.**

Federation entries are provided by the UCI to National Federations and are the equivalent of National Team entries, similar to World Championships. As a result, there is a selection process, and specific mandatory requirements that must be met to be eligible. Federation entries are limited and demand for entries often exceeds the number of places available. All riders are advised to carefully read and understand all the information below.

1. MANDATORY EVENT REQUIREMENTS (Federation Entries Only):

To be eligible for a federation entry applicants **MUST** compete in the following events **or apply for exemption for extenuating circumstances as outlined in Privateer and Independent Athlete Policy.**

1.1. Elite Men and Women DHI

- a. 2026 AusCycling DHI National Championships (Elite category) **AND**
- b. A 2026 Continental Series DHI event **OR** the 2026 Oceania DHI Championships (Elite category)

1.2. Junior Men and Women DHI

- a. 2026 AusCycling DHI National Championships (Junior category) **AND**
- b. A 2026 Continental Series DHI event **OR** the 2026 Oceania DHI Championships (Junior category)

2. FEDERATION ENTRY SELECTION PROCESS:

Entry allocation will be made using the following process and criteria:

2.1. Elite Men and Women DHI

- a. **Les Gets - 21 to 23 August** – Any rider selected for the Elite DHI World Championships team requiring a federation entry in UCI ranking order. If quota places remain, entries will be allocated from applications received to eligible riders in order of UCI ranking
- b. For all other rounds, entries will be allocated on the dates listed in table 2 below from applications received to eligible riders in order of UCI ranking at each of the respective allocation dates.

2.2. Junior Men and Women DHI

- a. **Les Gets - 21 to 23 August** – Any rider selected for the Junior DHI World Championships team requiring a federation entry in UCI ranking order. If quota places remain, entries will be allocated from applications received to eligible riders in order of UCI ranking
 - b. For all other rounds, entries will be allocated on the dates listed in table 2 below from applications received to eligible riders in order of UCI ranking at each of the respective allocation dates.
- 2.3. Any federation entries remaining after each allocation date will be allocated on a first come first serve basis during the season. Applications must be received at least 2 weeks prior to the entry closing date (see table 2).
- 2.4. **If the number of applicants exceeds the number of federation entries available for a given category and allocation block, any applicant that has Golden Tickets from Continental Series events must use those Golden Tickets in the first instance.**
- 2.5. AusCycling reserves the right to allocate federation entries to riders who were granted exemption from attending mandatory events in extraordinary circumstances.
- 2.6. Riders who are allocated federations entries who subsequently cannot race due to injury, illness, changed travel plans or any other circumstance **MUST** notify AusCycling's Operations Manager MTB and Non-Olympic immediately so entries can be allocated to the next rider in line. Failure to do so may result in the cancellation of any other federation entries allocated and inability to apply again in the future.

3. INDEPENDENT ATHLETE ENTRIES:

Athletes that have qualified for entry through the UCI system (see table below for details) can request entry processing using the application form in clause 4.

4. APPLICATIONS:

Applications for Federation entry allocation and requests for qualified independent athlete entries can be made via the form [HERE](#).

All enquiries to AusCycling's MTB and Non-Olympic Operations Manager – Evan James evan.james@auscycling.org.au

Table 1: Summary of the UCI requirements for UCI DHI World Cup entry (changes for 2026 in red)

UCI rankings and points can be found at <https://www.uci.org/mountain-bike/rankings>

Category	UCI Qualification for Independent Entry	National Federation Entry Allocation per round
DHI - Elite Men and Women	• Top 50 UCI DHI ranking at entry ranking date (see table 2) • Top three riders of any round of a Continental Series - limited to 1 round of the current UCI MTB World Cup (Golden Ticket - valid for 52 weeks) • Top five riders from the final standings of any 2025 Continental Series, Elite category • Top five riders from the final standings of any 2025 Continental Series, Junior (if progressing into Elite category) • Current UCI World Champion, Continental Champion, National Champion (where applicable)	3 Men + 3 Women
DHI – U19 Men and Women	• Top 100 UCI DHI ranking at entry ranking date (see table 2) • Top three riders of any round of a Continental Series - limited to 1 round of the current UCI MTB World Cup (Golden Ticket - valid for 52 weeks) • Top five riders from the final standings of any 2025 Continental Series, Junior category • Top five riders from the final standings of any 2025 Continental Series, U17 category (if progressing into Junior category) • Current UCI World Champion, Continental Champion, National Champion (where applicable)	4 Men + 4 Women

Table 2: DHI World Cup Federation Application, Entry Allocation and Entry Closing Dates

Entry ranking and closing dates will be updated when released by the UCI.

Event Date	Event Venue	Country	Entry Ranking Date	Entry Closing Date	Federation Entry Application Close	Federation Entry Allocation Date	Allocation Block
1 - 3 May	Yong Pyong	KOR	TBC	TBC	24.03.2025	26.03.2025	Block 1
28 - 31 May	Loudenvielle	FRA	TBC	TBC			
11 - 14 June	Leogang	AUT	TBC	TBC			
19 - 21 June	Lenzerheide	SWI	TBC	TBC			
3 - 5 July	La Thuile	ITA	TBC	TBC	14.04.2025	16.04.2025	Block 2
9 - 12 July	Pal Arinsal	AND	TBC	TBC			
21 - 23 August	Haute-Savoie, Les Gets	FRA	TBC	TBC	14.07.2025	16.07.2025	Block 3
25 - 27 September	Whistler	CAN	TBC	TBC			
3 - 5 October	Mt Van Hoevenberg - Lake Placid	USA	TBC	TBC			