

# Technical Regulations Update – BMX Racing



# AusCycling Technical Regulations Update – BMX Racing

This is a brief overview of the updates to the 2022 BMX Racing Technical Regulations. This is intended to only provide updates on changes to the BMX Racing Technical Regulations for 2022.

## Introduction

AusCycling Regulations marked with an (A) may be modified by the event organiser in conjunction with the PCP.

**Rationale:** This will allow greater flexible when managing events particularly at a local level which may have requirements that are localised.

1.01.07(A) Novice categories may only be offered at Club and Bronze level events.

**Rationale:** Novice riders are new to the sport and need to experience racing at the Club and Regional levels.

1.02 Race Classes & Event Restrictions. National Cup rounds have been changed to National Series.

**Rationale:** National Cup is the overall title a rider is trying to win. National Series are the rounds within the National Cup.

1.03(A) SANCTIONING MATRIX *\*(A) is applicable only for ST events and below.*

**Rationale:** Based on feedback from States and Territories, the minimum rider number for state events was not always in favour of creating optimal racing categories.

## Riding Up

Except at National Championships, National Cup and State/Territory Championships, competitors may only enter up (ride up) two (2) categories above their racing age or ride the opposite gender category equal to or above (but not below) their own racing age. This includes age-on-day and year of birth racing.

**Rationale:** To ensure the safety of riders by having them race within their physical capabilities.



A competitor in all categories other than participation categories (Novice, Sprockets and Mini Wheelers) may enter up two (2) categories above their racing age up to the pinnacle category. Pinnacle category is the category with a maximum age of 24, categories above the age of 24 shall be combined with the next younger category. Riders aged above 24 may enter down (ride down) to the pinnacle category. E.g. 50+ rider can enter 17-24.

Participation categories are permitted to ride up within their category only. (e.g. Sprockets must stay in Sprockets and Novice must stay in the Novice Category).

**Rationale:** Feedback from riders has been that changing the pinnacle age to 17-24 will make for optimal racing when there are undersubscribed categories.

2.01.05 Riders are ineligible to ride Junior Superclass and Superclass at the same event.

**Rationale:** Junior Superclass is a steppingstone for riders to check their development standards before making the move into Superclass and this shouldn't be done at the same event. Generally, the 2 categories follow each other in the race schedule, which does not make it achievable to compete in both categories.

- Sidehack racing must meet the following regulations:
- All riders must be eligible for the 14+ age category or above
- Swinger (passenger) must be a minimum of 8 years of age and a current member of AusCycling
- 20" wheels are required (swingers' wheel may be smaller)
- Rider and swinger must wear full BMX Race gear including full face helmet.
- During all phases, heats must only consist of six (6) or fewer starters.

**Rationale:** Sidehacks fall under the same umbrella as Retro and are a part of our history within the sport. Sidehacks can be scored or an exhibition category at Bronze and Club events.

## Number Plates

Under 23 grey plate, white numbers

Male and Female 30+ Open Wheel categories must run the plate which matches the colour combination to the bike style chosen.

**Rationale:** Feedback from commissaires was that some riders using a cruiser were racing with a yellow plate.

3.03.06 At all events a competitor must, at all times, ride with the racing number and/or letter combination which has: Been allocated to them through successful competition at any of the immediately preceding Championships; or personally chosen for the event.

**Rationale:** Clubs allocating plates and numbers was a process that most of the country did not follow. There are no regulations which states that a rider must enter an event with the number allocated to them by their club.

This also takes pressure off the club and registrar to distribute and check allocated numbers.

3.03.06 Riders who receive National Cup results (1-8) are now eligible to display that number the following year.



**Rationale:** Feedback from riders and members was that there is not enough reward to strive for a National Cup Title.

3.03.09 State/Territory plates may be run at all AusCycling sanctioned events.

**Rationale:** Adds to the excitement of the event and a spectacle for the spectators when they see 1QLD, 1V and 1A in the same race.

## Advanced Sections

Riders wishing to enter into the Superclass category at AusCycling sanctioned events where an 8m/SX hill or pro straight is available will be required to show a competency certification prior to the commencement of racing.

Junior Superclass will always ride the same straights as the Challenge categories.

3.04.02 Only riders aged 16+ are permitted to Race on 8m/SX hills or pro straights regardless of the Type/Class of event.

**Rationale:** This ensures safer conditions for all participants.

## New age categories

50-54, 55-59, 60+

30+ Open Wheel - Male Under 23 (19-22)

**Rationale:** Under 23 is a new Championship category brought in by the UCI. The extra 50+ categories are based on growing Interest in participation within these age-groups. With the low numbers in Masters, 30+ Open Wheel will replace Masters for State Series, State Championships and National Series.

Masters will still be offered at National Championships and Oceania Championships.