# Athlete Categorisation Standards and Process

**Olympic Cycling Disciplines** 





# Athlete Categorisation Standards and Process

# Olympic Cycling Disciplines

Version 7.2 | November 2025

### 1. Purpose

Athlete Categorisation is used to identify, track, and prioritise athletes at each stage of the Performance Pathway, developing a pipeline of athletes to support Australian Cycling Teams in consistently winning medals at major international events: namely Olympic, Paralympic, World Championships and Commonwealth Games. The AusCycling athlete categorisation and standard process is aligned with the Australian Sports Commission (ASC) National Athlete Categorisation Framework (NACF). The ASC has reviewed and approved this process.

### 1.1 How categorisation is implemented

AusCycling Performance has implemented a NACF driven by the ASC. Categorisation is the process by which National Sport Organisations (NSO's) identify, track, and prioritise athletes in Olympic and Paralympic disciplines.

At AusCycling Performance, categorisation is based on two sport specific measures:

- 1. Sport specific evidence-based metrics to assess the athlete's current performance combined with a combination of objective and subjective assessments of the athlete's headroom\*.
- 2. Performance trends are included in the assessment for athletes considered for Podium Ready and Podium categories.

When we combine these two factors, it provides an indication of the potential and podium trajectory each athlete is on. Our talent identification and development systems work in unison with the AusCycling Performance Strategy.

### 1.2 How the National Athlete Categorisation Framework is designed

All Australian NSO's use the ASC National Performance Pathway Categorisation table (over page) to define a Sport Specific Framework. At AusCycling, we categorise athletes through five stages, from Emerging to on route to Olympic, Paralympic, Commonwealth Games and World Championship podium performances. The AusCycling "What it takes to win" (WITTW) guidelines, and AusCycling Athlete Roadmaps (ADF) are considered in the establishment of standards across all disciplines within this framework.

The athlete journey is viewed as progressing upwards, with the only allowance for downward movement being between Podium and Podium Ready categorisations.

 Extenuating circumstances for downward movement of categorisation may be considered on a case-by-case basis at the discretion of the Director of Pathways and Executive General Manager
 Performance, for submission to the ASC (refer clause 3.2).

<sup>\*</sup>Headroom refers to the support, resources, and education that an athlete has had access to which has contributed to their development to date; and their potential to improve performances in the future.



### Table 1 - ASC National Performance Pathway Categorisation Framework

National Athlete Categorisation Framework (NACF)

The National Athlete Categorisation Framework (NACF) provides a generic guide for NSOs to establish sport specific criteria to categorise individual athletes at differing stages of the performance pathway. Generally, athletes will be identified as:

Performance Pathway Athletes

	CURRENT CYCLE ATHLETES								
PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES	PODIUM: Performance Confirmation Medaled at pinnacle event or has been the World #1 or medaled at a World Championship event (in current cycle pinnacle event/discipling) in the past 24 moths and demonstrates a past 24 mo	PODIUM READY: Performance Ready Displays performance capability aligned with WITTW, demonstrating a trajectory capable of wirming a medial at current cycle print to the NSO athiete performance matrix.	PODIUM POTENTIAL: Performance Potential Displays performance capability to qualify and compete in current cycle pinnacle event, contributing to inspiration and wellbeing outcomes. AND performance capability is understood to be considered to the control of the c						

	FUTURE CYCLE ATHLETES						
DEVELOPMENT CATEGORIES	DEVELOPING: Athlete Development Verification Displays performance potential aligned with WITTW and demonstrates a trajectory capable of contributing to future (next) cycle outcomes as referenced in the MSO athlete performance matrix.	EMERGING: Athlete Development Confirmation Displays performance progression informed by the sport specific athlete development framework as ir relates to WITTW for future cycle outcomes as referenced in the MSO athlete performance matrix.					

\* Meeting the criteria of the NACF and being identified through an NSO Athlete Categorisation Performance Matrix does not guarantee access to services or support from the NIN. The use of these tools enables the prioritisation of support to the right athletes at the right time. As a general guide, resource and service prioritisation will be given to Podium, Podium Ready, Podium Potential, Developing and Emerging athletes respectively.

### Other Recognised Athletes



\* Some sports may choose to recognise athletes in a Representative category. The NIN will target and prioritise Podium, Podium Ready, Podium Potential, Developing and Emerging athletes respectively. Any support from the NIN will be dependent on available resources and agreement with NSO's, after having targeted the Performance Pathway athletes identified in the NACF.

Building on this framework, the AusCycling Performance Team has designed its own cycling specific processes and standards related to Olympic events, for Action and Acceleration (Track Sprint, BMX Freestyle, BMX Race), Endurance (Track Endurance, MTB XCO, Road), and Para-cycling (Road and Track) disciplines; including graduation steps from one category to another, which are within the cycling specific appendices of this document.

NSO's also have the option to recognise athletes who have been identified as having the potential to be selected to represent Australia for the current cycle Pinnacle Event as Representative Athletes. The AusCycling Categorisation Panel, using its discretion, may identify athletes for Representative categorisation who contribute to Podium or Podium Ready performances, particularly in, but not restricted to, team events. (Refer Appendix 7)

### 1.3 How is the Categorisation Framework reviewed and updated?

The Framework Performance Standards (refer Appendices) are reviewed on an annual basis for each discipline. The review is the responsibility of the Director of Pathways who will consult with the National Head Coaches of Endurance and/or Acceleration and Action; a discipline specific representative from the HPN; and a representative from the ASC.



# 2. What do we include in our cycling specific Athlete Categorisation process

### **2.1** Current Performance

- 1. Current performance is measured based on competition performances first, and objective approved additional factors identified for consideration second. The **performance time period** considered by the panel is:
  - For Podium level categorisation, results from the previous 24 months may be considered.
  - All other categorisation levels: results from the previous 12 months may be considered.
- 2. For each cycling discipline, National Categorisation Standards are published and can be found in the appendices of this document. For most standards, a minimum and a preferred score is listed.
- 3. The scores for timed events are calculated and set based on retrospective data of athletes that have won medals at World Championships and/or Olympic Games including the past two Olympic cycles.
- 4. The percentage time behind the winner of all these athletes at every age starting at U19 and upwards has been analysed to create the time standards.
- 5. The lowest ranking result achieved by any of those medalists at any given age has been used as the minimum standard and the average percentage behind the winner at any age has been used as the preferred time.
- 6. This provides an evidence base supporting how far behind an athlete can be at a given age and still make it to Podium as an elite at the World Championships or Olympic/Paralympic Games. This notion will henceforth be referred to as maintaining a "bridgeable gap". The percentages remain stable but the actual times for the standards are recalculated annually based on the winning time at the benchmark event per specific age category.
- 7. The physiological standards are based on the required progressions as identified in our athlete roadmaps tracking Emerging to Podium.
- 8. In an Olympic year, the Benchmark Event will be referred to as the Pinnacle event. By exception, an alternative Benchmark Event (i.e. World Championships) may be considered in a Pinnacle event year for approval, however performances at the alternative Benchmark Event will be compared to those at the Pinnacle event.
- 9. Commonwealth Games results in Olympic events may be considered in the year a Commonwealth Games is approved as a Benchmark Event by the ASC.
- 10. If an athlete is in a team event (Track) for a Benchmark Event and they compete in a preliminary heat, but not the final, they will receive the same categorisation outcome as those athletes who competed in the final.
- 11. If an athlete is a travelling reserve in a team event (Track) for a Benchmark Event and does not compete in any team event rounds, their categorisation will be subject to meeting the identified criteria in the framework (Refer Appendices 5 and 6)

### 2.2 Headroom

Athlete headroom refers to the estimated and realistic "room for improvement" potentially achievable by an Emerging or Developing athlete through means such as additional training, service provision, developmental trends, experience etc. Factors taken into consideration include:

- 1. 5-years to Top 5.
- 2. Age and experience related factors.
- 3. Training and race factors.
- 4. Technological factors.
- 5. Service provision factors.



The Athlete Categorisation Panel will consider the following **headroom factors** in the Emerging and Developing categorisation process:

### 1. 5-years to Top 5

- a. There is very strong evidence that medal winning (at World Championships) athletes make it to top five in the world within 5-years out of U19 or entry to the sport.
- b. We structure our categorisation in such a way that athletes have a 5-year time horizon to progress post U19 to Podium Ready category (just outside the medals).
- c. Emerging categorisation primarily relates to U19 athletes. For this reason, athletes in the U19 category will not be categorised at Podium Potential.
- d. Developing is generally viewed as a 2-year window from when an athlete moves up from Emerging.
- e. Podium Potential is generally viewed as a 3-year window from when an athlete moves up from Developing.
- f. **Exclusions:** Road Racing, Track Sprint, are cycling sports for which this rule does not hold up and an exemption may be applied to these disciplines at the discretion of the panel.
- 2. Age and experience factors include adjustments based on age differences within the same age category (U19 Year-1, U19 Year-2) which includes the following:
  - a. Cycling experience is considered in the headroom discussion.
    - i. We consider the duration of which the athlete has been involved in both:
      - a. Cycling training in general.
      - b. The specific cycling discipline for which the categorisation submission has been made
- 3. Training and race factors include:
  - a. The total accumulated race days for the year.
  - b. The level of racing the athlete has participated in.
  - c. The overall training volume that the athlete has been exposed to.
  - d. Subjective assessment of athletes performance and behaviours in the daily training and competition environments.
- 4. Technological factors that can have a large impact on performance in cycling disciplines are:
  - a. Type of bike.
  - b. Type of wheels that the athlete used whilst racing.
  - c. Types of clothing and related technology.
  - d. Access to aerodynamic measurement and expertise.
- 5. The types of specialist support the athlete has had to access to, including:
  - a. Coaching.
  - b. Strength and conditioning coaching.
  - c. Nutritionist services.
  - d. Mental performance coaches.
  - e. Exercise physiologists.
  - f. Physiotherapists.



# 3. Categorisation submission process

- 1. Athlete categorisations must be submitted to AusCycling Performance by a High-Performance Network (HPN) Coach (State Institute) or the AusCycling National Coach using the approved AusCycling Performance categorisation data submission sheet.
  - a. Athletes (or their coaches) who are not part of a High-Performance Network or National program must contact their State Institute Coach to enquire about their categorisation eligibility and the application process (https://auscycling.org.au/about/high-performance/categorisation).
  - b. For timed events, submissions will only be accepted by the HPN Coach if the athlete has met the performance standards for their discipline, as referenced in the discipline specific Appendices.
  - c. Before contacting a HPN Coach, athletes and coaches are to refer to the performance standards provided in the Appendices of this document. HPN coaches will only consider nominating athletes for categorisation who can clearly demonstrate the performance standards have been met.

### 3.1 Athlete Categorisation Panel Role

- 1. The Athlete Categorisation Panel will be chaired by the Director of Pathways or the Executive General Manager Performance, or by an alternative person nominated by Director of Pathways
- 2. The Panel will consist of the following members:

### **Podium Potential – Podium Panels Membership**

Chair (Panel Member)	Voting Member	Director of Pathways, AusCycling
Panel Member	Voting Member	Executive General Manager – Performance, AusCycling
Panel Member	Voting Member/s	National Head Coach and/or Technical Director and/or National Sports Director, AusCycling
Technical Expert	Non-voting Members	National Discipline Coach or Coaches, AusCycling
Observer (Optional)	Non-voting Member	Athlete Transition and Lifestyle Manager, AusCycling
Observer (Optional)	Non-voting Member	High Performance Network Coach
Observer	Non-voting Members	Australian Sports Commission

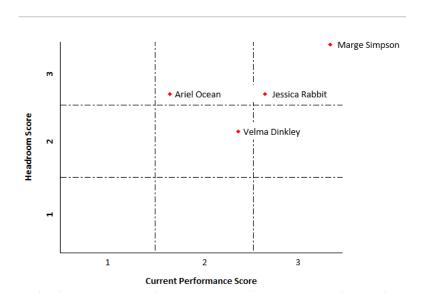


**Emerging – Developing Panel Membership** 

Chair (Panel Member)	Voting Member	Director of Pathways, AusCycling
Panel Member	Voting Member/s	High Performance Network Head Coach AND EITHER
		National Discipline Coach OR Technical Director,
		AusCycling
Panel Member	Voting Member	High Performance Network Coach
Observer	Non-voting	Australian Sports Commission
	Members	

- 3. A technical expert and observer/s may be present on every panel.
- 4. Voting Panel Members (for each discipline) are responsible for considering athletes for categorisation in accordance with these categorisation standards. For Emerging and Developing athletes only, Panel Members will independently score athletes in line with the Categorisation Matrix at Table 2.
- 5. Voting Panel Members will consider and vote on athlete categorisation in good faith, without bias and otherwise in accordance with these categorisation standards. If the Panel cannot agree, the Chair (and/or representative) will have the final categorisation decision.
- 6. Based on the assessment, and at the discretion of the Categorisation Panel, available spots might be deliberately left open where there is consensus that there aren't enough athletes deemed to have shown the potential for future medal performances at Benchmark Events (BME).

Table 2. Categorisation Matrix (Emerging and Developing only)





### 3.2 Extenuating Circumstances

Extenuating circumstances means an inability to compete, attend training camps or perform at an optimum level arising from:

- a. Medical conditions, injury or illness;
- b. Classification changes;
- c. Availability of Pilots and/or Stokers (must provide evidence of person, availability, and performance level);
- d. Agreed dual sport commitments;
- e. Travel delays;
- f. Equipment failure;
- g. Bereavement or personal misfortune;
- h. A direction from the Head Coach Endurance or Head Coach Action and Acceleration 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 Director of Pathways; and/or
- i. Any other factors reasonably considered by the Director of Pathways to constitute extenuating circumstances

All extenuating circumstances correspondence must be submitted to the Director of Pathways by the athlete and/or coach in writing 14-days prior to the panel meeting. The Director of Pathways will notify the athlete and/or coach 7-days prior to the Panel meeting if the extenuating circumstances are approved to be considered by the Panel.

The athlete and/or coach must include with their submission substantiating evidence such as:

- An Individual Athlete Performance Plan; and/or
- Return to Sport Plan; and/or
- Supporting medical documentation from a suitably qualified sports doctor or medical practitioner that substantiates the request (mandatory for Medical conditions, injury or illness).

A decision in each case of advised, possible extenuating circumstances may be made by the Director of Pathways on an individual basis. The Director of Pathways is not obliged to consider any notification by an athlete under this clause 3.2. There is no appeal against any decision made in respect of extenuating circumstances.

### 3.3 Appeals

The Athlete Categorisation and Standards process identifies, tracks, and prioritises athletes at each stage of the Performance Journey. Athlete Categorisation will be used to determine an athlete's NACF level, as well as to inform planning and to prioritise support.

Categorisation does not contribute to and cannot be used for AusCycling's athlete selection or nomination processes for National Team representation.

All decisions made by the AusCycling Athlete Categorisation Panel are final. **No appeals process is available.** 



### 3.4 Athlete Transition

AusCycling has developed principles and processes for recognising athletes who are identified as contributing to

the performance outcomes of the sport at the next pinnacle event where one of the following may apply:

- a) An athlete is recovering from a major injury or illness;
- b) An athlete is taking time away from competition;
- c) An athlete is transitioning into a sport from another;
- d) An athlete is pregnant; or
- e) An athlete is retiring from sport, or their categorisation is not continuing.

Refer to *AusCycling dAIS and Transition Support Guidelines* located at: <a href="https://auscycling.org.au/about/high-performance/categorisation">https://auscycling.org.au/about/high-performance/categorisation</a>

### 4. Expectations of categorised athletes

There are several key processes that need to be upheld for categorisation to take place or be maintained:

- 1. **Monitoring Endurance**. Categorised athletes in endurance-based disciplines (MTB, Road, Track Endurance) and their coaches must use the national performance tracking platform, Training Peaks. It will be a requirement of Categorisation for athletes and their coaches to use this platform as part of a national monitoring and training prescription system.
- 2. **Monitoring Sprint.** It is recommended that categorised athletes in the track sprint discipline and their coaches, use the national performance tracking platform, Training Peaks as well as the monitoring dashboard and processing software provided by AusCycling.
- 3. **Testing**. Categorised athletes and those seeking categorisation, are expected to do lab testing as per the *AusCycling Physiology Endurance Testing Guidelines* [available at <a href="https://auscycling.org.au/about/high-performance/categorisation">https://auscycling.org.au/about/high-performance/categorisation</a>] against the standards listed in the cycling specific frameworks detailed in the Appendices of this document.

# 5. Roles, responsibilities, and timelines

The timing roles and responsibilities for those involved in the categorisation process are outlined in the table below.

Roles	Responsibilities	
Coaches	Advocating on behalf of athletes /	Submit application via datasheet
	providing information that aligns	
	with the categorisation criteria	
Panel Members	Assessors and Selectors	Assessing applications
		Granting and dismissing categorisation
		applications
		Transitions (AW&E)
AusCycling	Govern the sport, inclusive of	Set and publish categorisation process
	High - Performance Programs	Appoint Panel members
	which include categorised	Communicate with the ASC
	athletes	Communicate with Athletes, Coaches and
		SIS/SAS



In summary, the below flowchart depicts the sequence of events in the categorisation process:

AusCycling Performance	e Categorisation Process						
Step 1 - Su	Step 1 - Submissions						
Emerging and Developing Categorisation Panels held Apr/May each year	Podium Potential – Podium Categorisation Panels held Oct/Nov each year						
Athletes and/ or their Coaches contact High Performance Network Coach regarding consideration for categorisation.  High Performance Network Coach nominates new and existing athletes to be considered for categorisation and prepares and submits categorisation data.	High Performance Network Coach contacts National Coach to discuss athletes to be considered for categorisation.  National Coach nominates new and existing athletes to be considered for categorisation.  AusCycling Performance Scientist/s prepare the data and results for the nominated athletes.						
	•						
Headroom Scores apply to Em Performance trends based on lab t Physiological Data	tion Panel Assesses erging and Developing Olympic test and race results (primary data) a (secondary data) stances (if required)						
·	decision communication						
	ted to ASC for Approval clines Categorisation						
High Performance Network notified							
	Athletes notified in writing						
Public Announcement							

# **6. Amendments to Categorisation and Performance Standards**

AusCycling may amend the secondary and physiological standards of this Categorisation and Performance Standards Process to represent current performance levels. Amendments generally take place after the finalisation of Benchmark Events. For Podium levels, Benchmark Events will be communicated on the AusCycling Categorisation website by the end of Q1 each year.

### Amendments will be communicated:

- on the AusCycling Categorisation website [https://auscycling.org.au/about/high-performance/categorisation]
- By email to:
  - i. all current categorised athletes
  - ii. AusCycling Performance and Pathway Staff
  - iii. AusCycling Development Academy Leads
  - iv. AusCycling State Operations Managers
  - v. High Performance Network Coaches



# Appendix 1: BMX Freestyle

		Male		Female
	Amateur category	Elite category	Amateur category	Elite category
Podium	N/A	Medal result at BME in previous 24-months AND deemed capable of medaling at the next Olympic Games	N/A	Medal result at BME in previous 24-months and deemed capable of medaling at the next Olympic Games
Podium Ready	N/A	Has completed ONE of the following in last 12 months: 4th - 8th @ BME) or agreed equivalent OR (2 (+) 4th- 8th @ World Cup Events AND deemed capable to progress to PODIUM level, targeting a medal at the next Olympic Games)	N/A	Has completed ONE of the following in last 12 months:  4th - 8th @ BME or agreed equivalent  OR  (2 (+) 4th- 8th @ World Cup  Events  AND  deemed capable to progress to PODIUM level, targeting a medal at the next Olympic Games)
Podium Potential	N/A	Has completed ONE of the following in the last 12 months: 9-18 <sup>th</sup> at BME OR 2 (+) 9-18 <sup>th</sup> at World Cup events in the last 12-months (Elite)	N/A	Has completed ONE of the following in the last 12 months: 9-12 <sup>th</sup> at BME OR 2 (+) 9-12 <sup>th</sup> at World Cup events in the last 12-months (Elite)
Developing*	N/A	The panel will take into consideration the following results, scores and scoring gap in the last 12-months:  International: Top 32 at World Championships OR Top 32 at 2 (+) World Cups OR Domestic: Top 6 at 2 (+) at any event listed below.  1. Oceanias 2. UCI HC 3. Nationals 4. UCI C1 Whilst <21 years of age	N/A	The panel will take into consideration the following results, scores and scoring gap in the last 12-months:  International: Top 18 at World Championships OR Top 18 at 2 (+) World Cups OR Domestic: Top 3 at 2 (+) at any event listed below.  1. Oceanias 2. UCI HC 3. Nationals 4. UCI C1 Whilst <21 years of age
Emerging*	The panel will take into consideration results, scores and scoring gap for Top 3 results at National Championshi ps while <19 years old	The panel will take into consideration the following results, scores and scoring gap from the last 12-months:  Top 10 at 2 (+) domestic events listed below  1. Oceanias 2. UCI HC 3. Nationals 4. UCI C1 while <19 years old	The panel will take into consideration results, scores and scoring gap for Top 2 results at National Championship s while <15 years old	The panel will take into consideration the following results, scores and scoring gap from the last 12-months:  Top 4 at 2 (+) domestic events listed below  1. Oceanias 2. UCI HC 3. Nationals 4. UCI C1 while <19 years old

<sup>\*</sup>For BMX Freestyle competition performances, the following will be considered:

- a. Results at AusCycling or UCI sanctioned competitions in the performance period
- b. The standard of the competition
- c. The standard of the course
- d. Performances and scores in ALL runs of an event
- e. Level of tricks performed and composition of all runs of an event.



# **Appendix 2: BMX Race**

Athlete	Competition Performances	Performance standards to be taken into consideration but not					
Category	The panel will take into consideration	ranked as highly as competition results.  Percentages are applied against track record times on the day of					
0,	standout competition results, including time						
	behind winner, level, and depth of	competition at	World Cups and	World Champion	nships or against		
	competition.	<u>benchmar</u>	k record times fo	or Sleeman SX sh	own below.		
			SLEEMEN B	ENCHMARKS			
Podium	Medal result at BME in previous 24-months	MA	ALE	FEN	MALE		
	AND deemed capable of medaling at the	Gate	Lap	Gate	Lap		
	next Olympic Games	2.307s	33.781s	2.448s	37.086s		
Podium	Has completed ONE of the following in last	% = 1.2	% =1.8	% = 1.9	% = 3.4		
Ready	12 months: 4th - 8th @ BME) OR	Min. = 2.335s	Min. = 34.389s	Min. = 2.495s	Min. = 38.347s		
	(2 (+) 4th- 8th @ World Cup events (Elite) AND are deemed capable to progress to PODIUM level, targeting a medal at the next Olympic Games)						
Podium	Has completed ONE of the following in last	% = 1.8	% = 2.6	% = 3.1	% = 5.5		
Potential	12 months: 9 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> @ BME (Elite) 2 (+) 9 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> @ Elite World Cup events	Min. = 2.349s	Min. = 34.659s	Min. = 2.524s	Min. = 39.126s		
	Podium @ U23 World Championships 2 (+) Podium @ U23 World Cup events						
Developin	Has completed ONE of the following in last	% = 2.3	% = 3.6	% = 3.6	% = 7.5		
g	12 months: Top 8 @ U23 World Championships 2 (+) Top 8 @ U23 World Cup events Podium @ U23 Oceania Championships while <22 years old	Min. = 2.360s	Min. = 34.997s	Min. = 2.537s	Min. =39.868s		
	Podium @ U23 National Championships while < 22 years old						
Emerging	Has completed 1 of the following in last 12	% = 3.3	% = 5.6	% = 4.1	% = 8.0		
	months: Top 8 @ Junior World Championships 2 (+) 9 <sup>th</sup> – 16 <sup>th</sup> @ U23 World Cup events Podium @ Junior Oceania Championships while < 19 years old	Min. = 2.384s	Min. = 35.673s	Min. = 2.549s	Min. = 40.052s		
	Podium @Junior National Championships while <19 years old						

### Consideration will be given in the following areas:

- Times achieved in competition at World Cups and World Championships. In this circumstance, the track
  record time referenced for calculations will be the fastest time set on that day of competition by gender and
  the percentage difference from that record will be compared against the Performance Standards shown
  above.
- Competent and confident in executing skills required for SX (8m gate) tracks.

The percentages shown in the BMX Race Appendices are based on data from international performances and time progressions of Podium level athletes, with the percentages above providing a solid progression funnel and indicating the progression required to maintain a bridgeable gap to future podium performances.



## **Appendix 3: Mountain Bike XCO**

Competition Performances will be given precedence over Physiological capabilities.

Athlete	Men and Women	Physiolo	gical Capabiliti	es	
Category	XCO Competition Performances				
PODIUM	Medal result at BME in previous 24-months AND deemed capable of medaling at the next Olympic Games	Athletes should demonstrate the following Physiological capabilities who fully peaked to perform.			
PODIUM	Has completed 1 of the following in last 12 months:	Power & Physique			
READY	4th- 8th @ BME	Measure	Men Min/Pref	Women Min/Pref	
	Exceptions 2 (+) Elite World Cup Top 5 OR Top 8 Elite World Cup Overall Standings AND are deemed capable to progress to PODIUM level, targeting a medal at the next Olympic Games	Threshold Power (W/ W.kg <sup>-1</sup> ) Work Capacity (kJ) 5 sec Peak Power (W/ W.kg <sup>-1</sup> ) Age (y)	>400/6.0 >22.0 >1150/18 23-34	>27.55.5 >20.0 >900/16 23-34	
PODIUM POTENTIAL	Has completed 1 of the following in last 12 months:				
	9th - 15th @ BME Top 15 Elite World Cup Overall Standings Top 15 in an Elite World Cup Top 10 U23 World Championships 2 (+) Top 10 U23 World Cup % of time behind winner* (World Cup or World Championships 106-110%)				
DEVELOPING	The panel will take into consideration standout results, in the context of time behind winner (refer Table 1 next page) and		eaked to perform.	ogical capabilities when	
	depth of competition and nature of course, for the following events:		ver & Physique		
	UCL secrets to a 40 in U22 World Come to a 5	Measure	Men	Women	
	UCI events, top 10 in U23 World Cups, top 5 in HC or C1 events; and/or	Threshold Power (W/ W.kg <sup>-1</sup> ) Work Capacity (kJ)	Min/Pref >350/5.5 >21.0	Min/Pref >260/5.0 >18.0	
	1st U23 Oceania Championships 1st U23 National Championships 1st x 2 National Series events	5 sec Peak Power (W/ W.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	>1100/18	>850/15	
EMERGING	Athletes should demonstrate potential for elite Podium performance within 6-8 years.	Athletes should demonstrate the following Physiological capabilities who peaked to perform.			
	The panel will take into consideration standout results, in the context of time behind winner (refer Table 1 next page) and	Pov	ver & Physique		
	depth of competition, and nature of course, for the following events:	Measure	Men Min/Pref	Women <u>Min/Pref</u>	
	Standout results at UCI U19 events; Top 10 in UCI Junior Series (European) event and/or:	Threshold Power (W/ W.kg <sup>-1</sup> ) Work Capacity (kJ) 5 sec Peak Power (W/ W.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	>330/5.0 >20.0 >1050/17	>240/4.5 >16.0 >800/13	
	1st U19 Oceania Championships Top 3 U19 National Championships				

### \*Calculated bridgeable gap of Athletes – XCO

Based on race result data at deep field XCO world cups and world championships from the UCI (2010-2020), time behind the winner at any age for all that have won at least one world cup has been analysed and converted to a percentage (winning time being 100%). The largest gap at a given age has been used as the minimum % behind the winner, and the average has been used as the preferred time behind the winner. Athletes seeking categorisation at Podium Potential or above will have to meet the minimum standard at either:

- a) World Championships in their respective age category or
- b) Two European World cup events in their respective age category



# Table 1 - Average speed results World Championships (comparative reference for Emerging and Developing athletes)

The speed of the winning Elite Men is set as 100%, with speeds for winners in other categories expressed as a percentage of this baseline. This percentage-based comparison provides a consistent measure across different course conditions (e.g., wet/dry, hilly/flat). However, notable exceptions, such as Tom Pidcock's exceptional U23 result in 2020, can occur and will be considered.

Year	2024	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	Average	Average %
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	Outlier removed
Elite Men	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%	
Elite Women	83.53%	85.96%	84.76%	83.23%	83.25%	84.48%	84.34%	
U23 Men	97.34%	97.99%	98.62%	98.99%	101.50%	94.02%	98.23%	98.54%
U23 Women	81.75%	81.97%	81.53%	85.27%	81.74%	82.33%	82.57%	81.90%
U19 Men	93.91%	92.25%	92.37%	95.17%	83.42%	93.37%	91.32%	92.66%
U19 Women	75.84%	78.25%	77.84%	79.97%	68.19%	78.43%	76.54%	78.62%



Appendix 4: Road

Competition Performances will be given precedence over Physiological capabilities.

Athlete	Competition Performances	Physiolo	gical Capabili	ties		
Category						
PODIUM	Medal result at most recent approved BME in previous 24-months AND deemed capable of a medal result at the next Olympic Games.	Athletes should demonstrate the following physiological capabilities (depending on a rider's specialty: climber, sprinter, time trialist) when fully peaked to perform.  Power & Physique				
				14/		
		Measure	Men Min	Women Min		
		Threshold Power (W/ W.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	>420 / 5.8	>300/ 5.3		
		Work Capacity (kJ) 5 sec Peak Power (W)	>24.0 >1300	>20.0 >950		
		Age (y)	23-34	23		
PODIUM	Has completed 1 of the following in last 12	Athletes should demonstrat		- '		
READY	months AND are deemed capable to progress to PODIUM level, targeting a medal	(depending on a rider's specialt pea	y: climber, sprinter, ked to perform.	time trialist) when fully		
	at the next Olympic Games.	Pov	wer & Physique			
	4th- 8th @ Elite World Championships					
	4th - 8th @ Olympics	Measure	Men Min	Women <u>Min</u>		
	Exception	Threshold Power (W/ W.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	>400 / 5.5	>280/ 5.0		
	Top 5 @ Elite World Tour 1 day event AND	Work Capacity (kJ)	>24.0	>20.0		
	are deemed capable to progress to PODIUM level, targeting a medal at the next Olympic	5 sec Peak Power (W) Age (y)	>1300 23-34	>950 23-34		
	Games	76c (y)	25 54	25 54		
PODIUM	Has completed 1 of the following in last 12					
<b>POTENTIAL</b>	months:					
	9th -15th @ Elite World Championships					
	9th -15th @ Olympics					
	6th-10th Elite World Tour 1 day event Top 5 @ U23 World Championships					
	*Discretion for TT results within Tours (minimum 10 km F/15 km M in line with Worlds selections)					
DEVELOPING	The panel will take into consideration	Athletes should demonstrat	e the following phys	siological capabilities		
	standout results, including depth of field and race distances for the following events:	(depending on a rider's specialty: climber, sprinter, time trialist) when full peaked to perform.				
	Men and Women: UCI events; 1st in 1.1/2.1 or higher; AND/OR	Power & Physique				
	1 of the following in last 12 months:	Measure	Men	Women		
	1 <sup>st</sup> U23 Oceania Championships	Threshold Power (W/ W.kg <sup>-1</sup> )	Min/Pref >380 / 5.3	Min/Pref >260 / 4.5		
	1 <sup>st</sup> National U23 Championships	Work Capacity (kJ)	>22.0	>18.0		
	1st x 2 stages in Pro-Velo League (PVL)	5 sec Peak Power (W)	>1200	>900		
	Tours (criteriums not included)  1st in PVL one-day event					
EMERGING	Athletes demonstrate potential for elite	Athletes should demonstrat	e the following phys	siological capabilities		
	Podium performance within 6-8 years.	(depending on the rider's specia				
	The panel will take into consideration the					
	following standout results within the last 12 months, including time behind winner,	Pov	wer & Physique			
	depth of competition, and race distances,		,			
	for the following events:	Measure	Men	Women		
	Men and Women:	Threshold Power (W/ W.kg <sup>-1</sup> ) Work Capacity (kJ)	>360 / 5.0 >20.0	>240 / 4.0 >15.0		
	UCI U19 events; top 10 in NC or 1.1/2.1 or	5 sec Peak Power (W)	>1100	>850		
	higher; and/or					
	1st U19 Oceania Championships					
	Top 3 U19 National Championships					



# **Appendix 5: Track Endurance (Olympic Events)**

All timed performances must be normalised using the *Trial (Able and Para) Recording and Environmental Standardisation Protocol [Version June 2025]*, available at: <a href="https://www.auscycling.org.au/australian-cycling-team/page/selection.">https://www.auscycling.org.au/australian-cycling-team/page/selection.</a>

Competition Performances will be given precedence over Physiological Capabilities.

Athlete Category	Com	petition Perfo	ormances	Physiologi	cal Capabil	ities
PODIUM		BME in previous 2- e of a medal result		Athletes should demonstrate the following Physiological characteristics when fully peaked to perform.		
	Orympic dames	•		Power & Physique		
				Measure	Men	Women
				Threshold Power (W)	>425	>290
				Work Capacity (kJ)	>28.5	>24.0
				Threshold Power (W.kg <sup>0.32</sup> )	>95	>75
				5 sec Peak Power (W)	>1500	>1100
				Sprint Power Reserve (W)	>1000	>750
PODIUM	Has completed	the following in las	st 12 months:	Athletes should demonstrate the characteristics when fully peake	_	ysiological
READY	4th - 8th perform	ances at most rece	ent approved BME	, .	•	
	AND record an I	P time (env. correct	ed) of:	Power & Physique		
				Measure	Men	Women
	Measure	Men	Women	Threshold Power (W)	>400	>280
	IP	Min/pref <4:10/4:08	Min/pref <4:37.5/4:35*	Work Capacity (kJ)	>28.0	>22.0
	l ir	<4.10/4.06	<4.57.5/4.55	Threshold Power (W.kg <sup>0.32</sup> )	>95	>75
	AND			5 sec Peak Power (W)	>1400	>1000
			t also be deemed vel targeting a medal	Sprint Power Reserve (W)	>950	>700
	OR					
	current World ( levels to most r	or more podium p Cup Rounds compa ecent BME, and co nysiological capabil P time.	ring performance ensideration of			
PODIUM POTENTIAL	Consistent top six results at UCI Category and/or Nation Cup Rounds in the last 12 months. Significant contributing role in a Team Pursuit (TP) with the			Athletes should demonstrate th capabilities when fully peaked t	_	ysiological
		e in a Team Pursui rmance times (Env	` '	Power & Physique		
		o be given to positi	,	Measure	Men	Women
	starter).			Threshold Power (W)	>380	>270
				Work Capacity (kJ)	>26.0	>20.0
	Track Endurance			Threshold Power (W.kg <sup>0.32</sup> )	>93	>70
	Measure	Men	Women	5 sec Peak Power (W)	>1300	>950
		Min/pref	Min/pref	Sprint Power Reserve (W)	>900	>650
	TP IP	<3:55/3:53	<4:15	Sprint rower reserve (vv)	/300	~0J0
	Kilo	<4:17.5/4:15 <1:03	<4:42.5/4:40* <1:10			
	1					



Athlete Category	Competition Performances	Physiological Capabilities
DEVELOPING	Results in the last 12 months at Elite UCI Category, Oceania Championships and/or National Championsh that demonstrate a potential for elite Podium performance within 6 years. Significant contributing r in a Team Pursuit with the following performance tim (Env. Corr.). For TP, consideration to be given to posit in team (i.e., starter).  Track Endurance Event Times  Measure  Men  Min/pref  TP  4:02/3:59  4:31/4:28  IP  4:22.5/4:20  4:47.5/4.45  Kilo  1:06  For Omnium, consideration to be given to the following results:  Top 2 at National Championships, OR  Top 3 at both National Championships and Oceania Championships	capabilities when fully peaked to perform.
EMERGING	Results in the last 12 months at most recent Oceania Championships and/or National Championships that demonstrate a potential for Podium performance within 8 years. Meets or exceeds the following corrected performance times.  Track Endurance Event Times Measure Men Women Min/pref Min/pref U19 IP yr2 3:17.5/3:15 3:37.5/3:35* U19 IP yr1 3:20/3:17.5 3:40/3:37.5*  For Omnium, consideration to be given to the following results:  Top 2 at U19 National Championships, OR Top 3 at both U19 National Championships and U19 Oceania Championships	Athletes should demonstrate the following Physiological capabilities when fully peaked to perform.  Power & Physique  Measure Men Women  Threshold Power (W) >350 >240  Work Capacity (kI) >23 >15.0  Threshold Power (W.kg <sup>0.32</sup> ) >85 >60  5 sec Peak Power (W) >1100 >850  Sprint Power Reserve (W) >800 >550



# **Appendix 6: Track Sprint (Olympic Events)**

All timed performances must be normalised using the *Trial (Able and Para) Recording and Environmental Standardisation Protocol*, available at: <a href="https://www.auscycling.org.au/australian-cycling-team/page/selection">https://www.auscycling.org.au/australian-cycling-team/page/selection</a>

Athlete Category		Competition Performances					
PODIUM	Medal result at recent approved BME in previous 24-months AND deemed capable of a medal result at the next Olympic Games						
PODIUM READY	Has completed 1 of the following in last 12 months:						
NEAD!	4th — 8th performances at most recent approved BME OR by exception, 2 or more podium performances at current Nation Cup Rounds comparing performance levels to most recent approved BME, and consideration of Podium level physiological capabilities						
	To be PR athletes must also be deemed capable to progress to PODIUM level targeting a medal at the next Olympic Games.						
PODIUM POTENTIAL	Has completed one of the following in the last 12 months:  Top 16 result in individual events at the most recent approved BME, OR by exception, attainment of 2 of the following performance standards (Env. corr):  Top 10 individual result in a UCI Nations Cup  Top four finish in team events at most recent approved BME or UCI Nations Cup  Consistent top four finishes in individual events (Sprint/Keirin) at the most recent Oceania Championships.						
	-	Event Times (sec)	Man	Caara	Managa	Coore	
	Year^ Yr. 6 *For 200TT I	Event  200TT (sec)* S125 (Gate) S250 (Gate) S125 (Blue) range of gears used	Men   <9.81   <10.71   <17.45   <11.10   must be identified wit.	Gears  = / >92"  = / >92"  > 110"  h each performan	\times \text{Women} \\ <10.84 \\ <11.68 \\ <19.30 \\ <12.05 \\ ce time submitted	Gears = / >92" = / >92" > 106"	
DEVELOPING	Has completed one of the following in the last 12 months: Consistent results at Oceania Championships and/or National Championships that demonstrate a potential for PODIUM performance within 5 years.  Athlete must demonstrate ability through attainment of at least 2 performance standards, e.g 200TT & S250.						
	Track Sprint Year^	Event Times (sec) Event	Men	Gears	Women	Gears	
	*For 200TT I	200TT (sec)* S125 S250 (Gate) range of gears used	9.81 - <10.21 10.71 - <11.15 17.46 - <18.35 must be identified wit	= / >92" = / >92" h each performan	10.9 - <11.30 11.6 - <12.35 19.31 - <19.9 ce time submitted	= / >92" = / >92"	
EMERGING	Track Sprint Event Times (sec)  Athlete must demonstrate, in the last 12 months, ability through attainment of at least 2 performance standards, e.g 200TT & \$5250.						
	Year^	Event	Men	Gears	Women	Gears	
	Yr. 1 - 2	200TT (sec)*	10.21 - <11.3		11.31 - <11.94		
		S125 (Gate)	11.15 – <11.55	=/>90"	12.35 - <13.05	=/>90"	
		S250 (Gate)	18.36 - <19.15	=/>90"	19.91 - <21.5	= / >90"	
	* For 200TT range of gears used must be identified with each performance time submitted						

<sup>\*</sup>Year — evidence suggests the pathway consists of a 6-year journey from final year U19 to Podium (world medalist) in Track Sprint, demonstrated through consistent results and positive performance progression.



# **Appendix 7: Representative Category**

Athlete Category	Competition Performances
REPRESENTATIVE	The category of Representative may be given to an elite athlete who contributes to a Podium or Podium Ready performance at the most recent approved benchmark event in Olympic cycling sports OR achieves an inspirational performance at an international competition in Olympic cycling sport. Athletes who are categorised as Representative are not eligible to access dAIS funding.  (Sports = Track, Road, Mountain Bike XCO, BMX Race, BMX Freestyle

# **Version Control**

Date	Version Number	Update
08/2025	7.0	Standards approved by AIS.
30/10/2025	7.1	Minor Amendment to BMX Freestyle Podium Ready standard. Error identified – Exception standard changed from BME to World Cup.
24/11/2025	7.2	Update to BMX Race including competitions standards for Emerging & Developing. Update to Track Endurance (IP standards (rationale attached) and addition of Omnium competition standards). Slight variation to process for submitting extenuating conditions