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2025 MOUNTAIN BIKE XCO SELECTION POLICY

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*Reviewed by the Cycling Canada Athletes' Council
and the High Performance Committee*

All programming subject to change.



GENERAL INFORMATION

This document lays out the criteria to be used for selection to the Canadian team for 2025 MTB XCO projects.

The criteria are organized by Section as follows:

- Section A – PROGRAM CALENDAR
- Section B – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
- Section C – EVENTS CONSIDERED FOR SELECTION
- Section D – SPECIFIC SELECTION CRITERIA

Athletes must meet the Eligibility Criteria in Section B to be considered for selection.

Selection decisions are based on the Specific Criteria in Section D.

Unless expressly stated in the Specific Selection Criteria, selections are subject the General Selection Criteria found on the Cycling Canada website.

SECTION A – 2025 MOUNTAIN BIKE XCO PROGRAM CALENDAR

Project Dates	Category	Project	Location	Application deadline
April 21-28	Junior, U23, Elite	Pan American Championships	Finca La Lucha CRC	Feb. 23
May 14-26	Junior, U23	Junior and U23 Project	Heubach GER Nové Město CZE	March 22
July 20-28	U17, Junior	Junior and U17 camp	Victoria BC	June 15
Sept. 5-15	Junior, U23, Elite	World Championships	Crans Montana SUI	July 21
January 2026 (TBC)	Junior, U23	Winter Camp	Location TBD	Oct. 15

SECTION B – ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Athletes must complete [the application form](#) by the deadline above to be considered for selection to a project. This is to help ensure no interested and eligible athletes are overlooked, and to improve the timeliness of selection decisions by minimizing the number of athletes who decline a project after being selected.

Cycling Canada will only consider additional athletes once all applicants who have met the selection criteria have been considered.

To be eligible for selection to the Canadian team, an athlete must:

- Be a Canadian citizen.
- Have competed in the most recent Canadian XCO Championships, or have a valid exemption (see National Championships Attendance Policy on the CC website)
- Have a valid Canadian passport that does not expire before the date required by the consular authorities of the country in which the event is being held.
- Comply with all relevant CC and UCI requirements for eligibility.
- Hold a valid UCI license indicating nationality as Canadian.
- Sign, submit and comply with the CC National Team Agreement.
- Have completed all relevant UCI, WADA and CCES anti-doping requirements and have a valid TUE for any medication that requires one.
- Have signed the consent form agreeing to be bound by the Universal Code of Conduct to prevent and address Maltreatment in Sport (UCCMS).



- Minors must have parental permission to participate in training programs and competitions.

Additional eligibility requirements may be detailed in the Specific Selection Criteria below.

SECTION C – EVENTS CONSIDERED FOR SELECTION

Selection decisions will only consider result from events on the UCI calendar unless otherwise specified in the criteria. For the purposes of this policy, the Canadian Championship is not considered a UCI event, and results will only be considered when specified.

All results must be top half of the field unless otherwise specified. Field size is calculated based on the number of entrants in the official results on the UCI website, including athletes listed as DNS, DNF and DSQ.

At the sole discretion of the Coach Panel, equivalent results in UCI events in other disciplines may be considered for selection, providing the athlete has previously demonstrated the appropriate level of skill to compete safely in the event being selected for.

The following table gives general guidelines for what events are considered equivalent; any selections based on these events would be adjusted appropriately for depth of field. Selections that use results from events not listed here will be considered on a case-by-case basis and must be accompanied by a full rationale and approved by the CSO, DHPS and High Performance Committee.

Road	Track	Mountain Bike	Cyclo-Cross
Elite WCh RR or ITT	Elite WCh OM	Elite WCh XCO	Elite WCh
U23 WCh RR or ITT	Elite WCh OM, SR, ER, MA	U23 WCh XCO	U23 WCh
Junior WCh RR or ITT	Junior WCh OM	Junior WCh XCO	Junior WCh
.1 or higher events in Europe	NCup OM	Elite WC XCO	Elite WC
.U or higher events	NCup OM	U23 WC XCO	U23 WC
Junior UCI events in Europe	Junior WCh OM, SR, ER, MA	Junior WCh XCO	Junior WCh; or Junior WC

WCh = World Championship

WC = World Cup

NCup = Nations Cup



SECTION D – SPECIFIC SELECTION CRITERIA

Project		Pan American Championships	
Project dates:	April 21-28		
Competition dates and locations:	April 23-27 – Finca La Lucha CRC		
Category:	Junior, U23, Elite		
Max. team size:	12 athletes, as follows:	Women	Men
	Junior (born 2007-2008)	2	2
	U23 (born 2003-2006)	2	2
	Elite (born 2002 and earlier)	2	2
	Cycling Canada reserves the right to modify the team size per Clause 5 of the General Selection Policy.		
Selection dates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feb. 25 – Coach Panel submits recommendations to CSO and DHPS, or delegates • Feb. 27 – Selection decision finalized; athletes informed; appeal period starts* • March 7 – Appeal deadline <p>* Anyone not named in the selection decision must appeal by the deadline or they lose their right to appeal.</p>		
Selection panel:	Nominations recommended by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling Canada Coach Panel (see CC website) Selections approved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO or delegate • DHPS or delegate 		
Prerequisites for selection:	<p>To be considered for this project, athletes must complete the application form found on the Cycling Canada website no later than Feb. 23.</p> <p>Athletes must have a skill level suitable to the demands of the course. E.g. athletes should be able to consistently ride all features at the most challenging Canada Cup courses. Athletes who do not possess the appropriate skills may not be considered for selection. If needed, this determination will be made by the National Coach in consultation with the athlete and their personal coach.</p>		
Selection criteria:	<p>Selections will be made in the following order of priority until the quota is filled or there are no more eligible athletes. All results must be top half of the field:</p> <p>Junior Women and Junior Men:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 1: Riders born in 2007 who finished top 24 in the Junior XCO at the 2024 World Championships. • Priority 2: Riders born in 2007 who finished top 3 in the Junior XCO at the 2024 Canadian Championships. • Priority 3: The top finisher born in 2008 in the U17 XCO at the 2024 Canadian Championships, providing they finished among the top 3. • Priority 4: Coach discretion based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy. <p>U23 Women and U23 Men:</p>		



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 1: Riders who finished top 16 in the U23 XCO at the 2024 World Championships or a U23 XCO World Cup in the 12 months prior to the selection date. • Priority 2: Riders born in 2006 who finished top 8 in the Junior XCO at the 2024 World Championships. • Priority 3: Riders born in 2003-2005 who finished Top 24 (women) or top 32 (men) in the U23 XCO at the 2024 World Championships or a U23 XCO World Cup in the 12 months prior to the selection date. • Priority 4: Coach discretion based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy. <p>Elite Women and Elite Men:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 1: Riders who finished top 24 in an Elite XCO at the 2024 World Championships or an Elite XCO World Cup in the 12 months prior to the selection date. • Priority 2: Riders who finished top 8 in the U23 XCO at the 2024 World Championships or a U23 XCO World Cup in the 12 months prior to the selection date. • Priority 3: Riders ranked among the top 3 Canadians in the UCI Cross-Country Ranking on the selection date. • Priority 4: Riders who finished top 32 in an Elite XCO at the 2024 World Championships or an Elite XCO World Cup in the 12 months prior to the selection date. • Priority 5: Coach discretion based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy. <p>Any ties will be broken by best placing. If there is still a tie, it will be broken by the rider’s number of UCI points. If there is still a tie, it will be broken at the discretion of the Coach Panel based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy.</p> <p>If fewer athletes meet the selection criteria than quota spots available in each category, or if a rider declines selection, Cycling Canada reserves the right to strategically reallocate the quota spot to another category to support development or Performance.</p> <p><i>As selection criteria for this event relies on performances from 2024, riders must be in communication with National Team coach regarding current health and fitness.</i></p> <p>One or more alternates per category may be named using the same criteria.</p>
Self-funding:	<p>Athletes are responsible for the following costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flights and baggage fees • Meals during project • \$300 Project Fee (\$50/day)* <p>* Project fees are based on Cycling Canada’s Athlete Fees policy and are subject to change should the number of project days be altered. Project fees must be paid two weeks prior to the beginning of the project.</p>

Project	Junior and U23 Project
Project dates:	May 14-26



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Competition dates and locations:	May 17-18 – Heubach HC/UCI Junior Series GER May 23-24 – Nové Město World Cup/UCI Junior Series CZE		
Category:	Junior, U23		
Max. team size:	8 athletes, as follows:	Women	Men
	Junior (born 2007-2008)	2	2
	U23 (born 2003-2006)	2	2
	Cycling Canada reserves the right to modify the team size per Clause 5 of the General Selection Policy.		
Selection dates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • April 1 – Coach Panel submits recommendations to CSO and DHPS, or delegates • April 3 – Selection decision finalized; athletes informed; appeal period starts* • April 11 – Appeal deadline <p>* Anyone not named in the selection decision must appeal by the deadline or they lose their right to appeal.</p>		
Selection panel:	Nominations recommended by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling Canada Coach Panel (see CC website) Selections approved by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO or delegate • DHPS or delegate 		
Prerequisites for selection:	<p>To be considered for this project, athletes must complete the application form found on the Cycling Canada website no later than March 22.</p> <p>Athletes must have a skill level suitable to the demands of the course. E.g. athletes should be able to consistently ride all features at the most challenging Canada Cup courses. Athletes who do not possess the appropriate skills may not be considered for selection. If needed, this determination will be made by the National Coach in consultation with the athlete and their personal coach.</p>		
Selection criteria:	<p>Selections will be made in the following order of priority until the quota is filled or there are no more eligible athletes. All results must be top half of the field:</p> <p>Junior Women and Junior men:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 1: Riders finishing top 24 in the Junior XCO at the 2024 World Championships. • Priority 2: Riders born in 2007 who finished top 3 in the Junior XCO at the 2024 Canadian Championships. • Priority 3: The top finisher born in 2008 in the U17 XCO at the 2024 Canadian Championships, providing they finished among the top 3. • Priority 4: Coach discretion based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy. <p>U23 Women and U23 Men:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 1: Riders finishing top 24 in the U23 XCO at the 2024 World Championships or in a U23 XCO World Cup in the 12 months prior to the selection date. • Priority 2: Riders born in 2006 who finished top 8 in the Junior XCO at the 2024 World Championships. • Priority 3: The top Canadian finishers born 2003-2006 and not already selected in the following events providing they finish among the top 8 U23 athletes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UCI US Pro Cup in Fayetteville USA on March 19, 2025 (TBC) 		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ UCI US Pro Cup in Fayetteville USA on March 22, 2025 (TBC) ● Priority 4: Coach discretion based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy. <p>Any ties will be broken by best placing. If there is still a tie, it will be broken by the rider's number of UCI points. If there is still a tie, it will be broken at the discretion of the Coach Panel based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy.</p> <p>If fewer athletes meet the selection criteria than quota spots available in each category, or if a rider declines selection, Cycling Canada reserves the right to strategically reallocate the quota spot to another category to support development or Performance.</p> <p><i>As selection criteria for this event relies on performances from 2024, riders must be in communication with National Team coach regarding current health and fitness.</i></p> <p>One or more alternates per category may be named using the same criteria.</p>
Self-funding:	<p>Athletes are responsible for the following costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Flights and baggage fees ● Meals during project ● \$900 Project Fee (\$75/day)* <p>* Project fees are based on Cycling Canada's Athlete Fees policy and are subject to change should the number of project days be altered. Project fees must be paid two weeks prior to the beginning of the project.</p>

Project	Junior and U17 Camp
Project dates:	July 20-28
Category:	Junior (born 2007-2008)
Max. team size:	<p>12 athletes (6 women, 6 men)</p> <p>Cycling Canada reserves the right to modify the team size per Clause 5 of the General Selection Policy.</p>
Selection dates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● June 16 – Coach Panel submits recommendations to CSO and DHPS, or delegates ● June 18 – Selection decision finalized; athletes informed; appeal period starts* ● June 26 – Appeal deadline <p>* Anyone not named in the selection decision must appeal by the deadline or they lose their right to appeal.</p>
Selection panel:	<p>Nominations recommended by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cycling Canada Coach Panel (see CC website) <p>Selections approved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CSO or delegate ● DHPS or delegate
Prerequisites for selection:	To be considered for this project, athletes must complete the application form found on the Cycling Canada website no later than June 22.
Selection criteria:	<p>Selections will be made in the following order of priority until the quota is filled or there are no more eligible athletes. All results must be top half of the field:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Priority 1: Riders finishing top 3 in the Junior XCO at Canada Cup in 2025.



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 2: Riders winning a U17 Canada Cup XCO in 2025. • Priority 3: Coach discretion based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy. <p>Any ties will be broken by best placing. If there is still a tie, it will be broken at the discretion of the Coach Panel based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy.</p> <p>One or more alternates per category may be named using the same criteria.</p>
Self-funding:	<p>Athletes are responsible for the following costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flights and baggage fees • Meals during project • \$400 Project Fee (\$50/day)* <p>* Project fees are based on Cycling Canada’s Athlete Fees policy and are subject to change should the number of project days be altered. Project fees must be paid two weeks prior to the beginning of the project.</p>

Project	World Championships		
Project dates:	Sept. 5-15		
Competition dates and locations:	Sept. 9-14 – Crans Montana SUI		
Category:	Junior, U23, Elite		
Max. team size:	24 athletes, as follows:	Women	Men
	Junior (born 2007-2008)	4	4
	U23 (born 2003-2006)	4	4
	Elite (born 2002 and earlier)	4	4
	<p>Per UCI rule 9.2.009, the 2024 World XCO Champion and the 2025 Continental XCO Champion in each category qualify by name to the World Championships in addition to Canada’s quota.</p> <p>Cycling Canada reserves the right to modify the team size per Clause 5 of the General Selection Policy.</p>		
Selection dates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • July 22 – Coach Panel submits recommendations to CSO and DHPS, or delegates • July 22 – Selection recommendations submitted to HPC • July 24 – Selection decision finalized; athletes informed; appeal period starts* • Aug. 1 – Appeal deadline <p>* Anyone not named in the selection decision must appeal by the deadline or they lose their right to appeal.</p>		
Selection panel:	<p>Nominations recommended by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling Canada Coach Panel (see CC website) <p>Selections approved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO or delegate • DHPS or delegate 		
Prerequisites for selection:	To be considered for this project, athletes must complete the application form found on the Cycling Canada website no later than July 21, 2025.		



	<p>Elite athletes must have achieved one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Be among the top 3 Canadians on the UCI ranking on the selection date; or• Have a top 50 finish in the Elite XCO at a UCI World Cup between May 1, 2025, and the selection date. The result must be in the top half of the field. <p>Meeting these prerequisites does not guarantee selection.</p> <p>Athletes must have a skill level suitable to the demands of the course. E.g. athletes should be able to consistently ride all features at the most challenging Canada Cup courses. Athletes who do not possess the appropriate skills may not be considered for selection. If needed, this determination will be made by the National Coach in consultation with the athlete and their personal coach.</p>
<p>Selection criteria:</p>	<p>Selections will be made in the following order of priority until the quota is filled or there are no more eligible athletes. All results must be top half of the field:</p> <p>Junior Women and Junior Men:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Priority 1: Riders finishing top 3 in the Junior XCO at the 2024 World Championships.• Priority 2: The top Canadian finisher in the Junior XCO at the Baie-Saint-Paul UCI Junior series Canada Cup (June 8, 2025).• Priority 3: The top Canadian finisher in the Junior XCO at the Canmore UCI Junior Series Canada Cup (June 14, 2025) or next best if already selected.• Priority 4: The top 3 finishers in the Junior XCO at the 2025 Canadian Championships (July 19, 2025) or next best if already selected.• Priority 5: Coach discretion based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy. <p>U23 Women and U23 Men:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Priority 1: Riders finishing top 3 in the U23 XCO at the 2024 World Championships or a U23 XCO World Cup in the 12 months prior to the selection date.• Priority 2: Riders finishing top 8 in a U23 XCO World Cup between April 1, 2025, and the selection date.• Priority 3: Riders finishing top 24 in a U23 XCO World Cup between May 1, 2025, and the selection date.• Priority 4: The top Canadian finisher in the U23 XCO at the 2025 Pan American Championships, or next best if already selected, providing they finish among the top 10.• Priority 5: The top finisher in the U23 XCO at the 2025 Canadian Championships not already selected, providing they finish among the top 5.• Priority 6: Riders finishing top 40 in the U23 XCO or U23 riders finishing Top 50 in the Elite XCO * at a 2025 World cup between May 1, 2025, and the selection date.• Priority 7: Coach discretion based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy. <p>Elite Women and Elite Men:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Priority 1: Riders finishing top 3 in the Elite XCO at the 2024 World Championships.• Priority 2: Riders finishing top 16 in an Elite XCO World Cup in the 12 months prior to the selection date.



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 3: Riders finishing top 32 in an Elite XCO World Cup between May 1, 2025, and the selection date. • Priority 4: Riders ranked among the top 3 Canadians in the UCI Cross-Country ranking on the selection date. • Priority 5: Coach discretion based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy. <p>Any ties will be broken by best placing. If there is still a tie, it will be broken by the rider’s number of UCI points. If there is still a tie, it will be broken at the discretion of the Coach Panel based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy.</p> <p>If fewer athletes meet the selection criteria than quota spots available in each category, or if a rider declines selection, Cycling Canada reserves the right to strategically reallocate the quota spot to another category to support development or Performance.</p> <p>One or more alternates per category may be named using the same criteria.</p> <p><i>* Where a U23 rider is eligible to race Elite, Coach discretion will be used to prioritize order of selection.</i></p>
Self-funding:	<p>Athletes are responsible for the following costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flights and baggage fees • Meals during project • \$750 Project Fee (\$75/day)* <p>* Project fees are based on Cycling Canada’s Athlete Fees policy and are subject to change should the number of project days be altered. Project fees must be paid two weeks prior to the beginning of the project.</p>

Project Winter Camp	
Project dates and location:	January 2026 (TBC) – Location TBD
Category:	Junior (born 2007-2008) U23 (born 2003-2006)
Max. team size:	8-12 athletes Cycling Canada reserves the right to modify the team size per Clause 5 of the General Selection Policy.
Selection dates:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oct. 25 – Coach Panel submits recommendations to CSO and DHPS, or delegates • Oct. 27 – Selection decision finalized; athletes informed; appeal period starts* • Nov. 4 – Appeal deadline <p>* Anyone not named in the selection decision must appeal by the deadline or they lose their right to appeal.</p>
Selection panel:	<p>Nominations recommended by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling Canada Coach Panel (see CC website) <p>Selections approved by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSO or delegate • DHPS or delegate



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Selection criteria:	<p>Selections will be made in the following order of priority until the quota is filled or there are no more eligible athletes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Priority 1: Riders finishing top 5 in the Junior XCO or U23 XCO at the 2025 Canadian Championships;• Priority 2: Coach discretion based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy. <p>Any ties will be broken by best placing. If there is still a tie, it will be broken at the discretion of the Coach Panel based on Section B, Clause 3 of the General Selection Policy.</p> <p>One or more alternates per category may be named using the same criteria.</p>
Self-funding:	<p>Athletes are responsible for the following costs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flights and baggage fees• Meals during project• \$TBD Project Fee (\$50/day)* <p>* Project fees are based on Cycling Canada's Athlete Fees policy and are subject to change should the number of project days be altered. Project fees must be paid two weeks prior to the beginning of the project.</p>