

SECTION B1

2020 UCI Mountain Bike World Championships – Cross-Country Olympic (XCO)

REVISED 27-5-2020

IMPORTANT INFORMATION: The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted the international racing calendar, and individual countries' lockdown measures have severely limited travel opportunities. While the UCI has scheduled a revised World Cup series and a Mountain Bike World Championships, it cannot be guaranteed (as of 27-5-2020) that these events will proceed. Many European countries are planning limited border reopenings in mid-June however some countries require a 14-day self-isolation period or a health certificate, and do not include international travellers. Any increase in the rate of COVID-19 cases may quickly reverse these measures at any time. In addition, athletes considering applying and planning for participation in the rescheduled 2020 World Championships should carefully consider the following.

- International travel from AUS is currently banned with no date for recommencement scheduled.
- It will be virtually impossible to obtain travel insurance to cover you for COVID or any COVID related illness or travel disruptions. If you are overseas and get sick it will be exceptionally expensive to be treated and you will be personally liable.
- You may have to go into 14-day isolation in a government organised facility when returning to AUS, potentially at your own expense.
- There may be considerable logistical limitations to travel and accommodation.

In keeping with the UCI's plan of running a 2020 MTB World Championships if the required easing of COVID-19 specific lockdown restrictions occurs, MTBA will select a team, and facilitate participation in the World Championships for any selected athlete willing and able to travel to the event.

Given the risks and logistical challenges at this point in time (27-5-2020) MTBA cannot commit to the provision and sending of any Australian based support staff for the assistance of riders who do choose to travel. The pandemic situation is constantly changing and it is impossible to predict the situation in 4 months' time. All athletes selected should consider themselves as essentially self-supported and be prepared to accept all responsibilities. MTBA will continue to monitor the situation and should this position change, will provide updates as required.

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1. The purpose of the B1 - XCO selection criteria is to nominate athletes to the National Team pursuant to the following objectives:
 - 1.1.1. Athletes capable of achieving a top 20 result at 2020 UCI World Championships.
 - 1.1.2. Athletes who have demonstrated through international performances and results the potential to progress toward a top 20 result at the UCI MTB World Championships within 2 years, and are capable of finishing on the lead lap at the 2020 UCI MTB World Championships.
 - 1.1.3. Junior athletes who have demonstrated potential to progress towards a top 20 result at future World Championships, and are capable of finishing on the lead lap at the 2020 UCI MTB World Championships.
 - 1.1.4. Athletes who have the potential to be one of the top three ranked Australians on the UCI XCO individual rankings at the end of 2020 such that their performance at World Championships may assist Australia's overall nation ranking.

2. TEAM SIZE

- 2.1. The maximum number of athletes in each category is equal to the relevant UCI quota.
- 2.2. MTBA reserves the right to not fill quotas.
- 2.3. ~~If quotas are filled the Selectors may list reserves in case athletes decline, are injured, withdraw or are removed from the team. Reserves must meet all eligibility requirements, minimum performance standards and meet the objectives stated in Section A part 1.~~

3. PERFORMANCE TIME PERIOD AND SELECTION EVENTS

- 3.1. **Performance Time Period:** In addition to performances at the 2019 XCO World Championships, the performance period for the purposes of selections is 1st December 2019 to 5th April 2020. In the case of extenuating circumstances being approved under the criteria in Section A part 4, the Selectors may consider an athlete's results in the 12 months prior to the performance time period.
- 3.2. **Selection Events:** For the purposes of nominations the selectors will consider performances achieved in the following events.
- 3.2.1. **Elite Men and Women, U23 Men and Women:** Results from XCO events at:
- 2019 UCI MTB World Championships.
 - 2020 Oceania MTB Championships.
 - 2020 MTBA MTB National Championships.
 - Other international results during the performance period. International results are defined as performances in UCI listed XCO events and may include events in Australia.
 - MTBA National Cup Tier 1 and higher XCO events during the performance period.
- 3.2.2. **Junior Men and Women:** Results from XCO events at the:
- 2019 UCI MTB World Championships.
 - 2020 Oceania MTB Championships.
 - 2020 MTBA MTB National Championships.
 - UCI Junior World Series races during the performance period.
 - National Cup Tier 1 and higher level XCO events during the performance period.

4. MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR ELIGIBILITY (in addition to Section A)

- 4.1. To be eligible for nomination to the team all riders must compete in the following events. In the case of extenuating circumstances being approved under the criteria in Section A part 4, the MTBA Sport Manager may grant exemptions.
- 4.1.1. **Elite and U23 Men and Women:**
- 2020 XCO National Championships.
- 4.1.2. **Junior Men and Women:**
- 2020 XCO National Championships.
 - ~~MTBA National Cup Tier 1/Junior World Series – Mt Stromlo 4/5th April 2020~~
- ~~4.2. All junior athletes once selected must participate in the full MTBA AUS team program immediately prior to World Championships and stay with the team during World Championships unless they are a member of a UCI listed MTB trade team or have applied for and received prior approval from the MTBA Sport Manager. Details of the program will be available on the MTBA website prior to applications closing.~~

5. MINIMUM PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

- 5.1. To be eligible for nomination to the team all riders must meet minimum performance standards. This includes automatic and non-automatic nominations.
- 5.1.1. **Elite Men and Women:**
- Have a total race time within 105% of the winning race time at any of the mandatory events listed in 4.1.1 in their respective elite category.
 - OR finish on the lead lap and have a race time within 107% (men) and 110% (women) of the winning race time at a UCI listed Hors or C1 XCO event during the performance period in their respective Elite category.
- 5.1.2. **U23 Men and Women:**
- Have a total race time within 105% of the winning race time at any of the mandatory events listed in 4.1.1 in their respective U23 category or elite category if approval to ride up has been granted.
 - OR finish on the lead lap and have a race time within 107% (men) and 110% (women) of the winning race time at a UCI listed Hors or C1 XCO event during the performance period in their respective U23 or Elite category.

5.1.3. Junior Men and Women:

- a) Have a total race time within 105% of the winning race time at any of the mandatory events listed in 4.1.2 in their respective junior category.
- b) OR have a total race time within 104% of the winning race time at an MTBA National Cup Tier 1 or above XCO race (excluding state championships and stage races) during the performance period in their respective junior category.

6. SELECTION PROCESS

- 6.1. Criteria are listed in priority order, (i.e. all athletes achieving the first criteria will be nominated). If positions still remain after the first criteria has been considered, then the second criteria will be considered etc. until team size is achieved in accordance with Section A part 1.
- 6.2. If multiple athletes meet a specific criteria such that selecting both athletes would exceed the max UCI quota, then the athlete with the highest result will take precedence. If their best results are the same, then a count back system based on next best result against the same criteria will be used.

7. AUTOMATIC SELECTION CRITERIA

7.1. Elite Men

- 7.1.1. 2020 XCO Elite Oceania Champion.
- 7.1.2. A top 10 finish at 2019 Elite XCO World Championships.
- 7.1.3. A top 20 result in the Elite category at a UCI listed HC or C1 XCO event in Europe during the performance period. For a result to be considered the rider must finish on the lead lap.
- 7.1.4. A top 10 result in the Elite category at a UCI listed HC or C1 XCO event in the United States, Canada or South Africa during the performance period. For a result to be considered the rider must finish on the lead lap.
- 7.1.5. 2020 XCO Elite National Champion.
- 7.1.6. Any unselected rider ranked in the first 3 of all Australians (including U23) in UCI Elite XCO rankings at the end of the performance period.

7.2. Elite Women

- 7.2.1. 2020 XCO Elite Oceania Champion.
- 7.2.2. A top 10 finish at 2019 Elite XCO World Championships.
- 7.2.3. A top 15 result in the Elite category at a UCI listed HC or C1 XCO event in Europe during the performance period. For a result to be considered the rider must finish on the lead lap.
- 7.2.4. A top 8 result in the Elite category at a UCI listed HC or C1 XCO event in the United States, Canada or South Africa during the performance period. For a result to be considered the rider must finish on the lead lap.
- 7.2.5. 2020 XCO Elite National Champion.
- 7.2.6. Any unselected rider ranked in the first 3 of all Australians (including U23) in UCI Elite XCO rankings at the end of the performance period.

7.3. U23 Men

- 7.3.1. 2020 XCO U23 Oceania Champion.
- 7.3.2. A top 10 result at the 2019 U23 XCO World Championships.
- 7.3.3. A top 20 result in the U23 or Elite category at a UCI listed HC or C1 XCO event in Europe during the performance period. For a result to be considered the rider must finish on the lead lap.
- 7.3.4. A top 10 result in the U23 or Elite category at a UCI listed HC or C1 XCO event in the United States, Canada or South Africa during the performance period. For a result to be considered the rider must finish on the lead lap.
- 7.3.5. 2020 XCO U23 National Champion.
- 7.3.6. Any unselected rider ranked in the first 5 of all Australians (including elite) in UCI Elite XCO rankings at the end of the performance period.

7.4. U23 Women

- 7.4.1. 2020 XCO U23 Oceania Champion.
- 7.4.2. A top 10 result at the 2019 U23 XCO World Championships.
- 7.4.3. A top 10 result in the U23 or Elite category at a UCI listed HC or C1 XCO event in Europe during the performance period. For a result to be considered the rider must finish on the lead lap.
- 7.4.4. A top 6 result in the U23 or Elite category at a UCI listed HC or C1 XCO event in the United States, Canada or South Africa during the performance period. For a result to be considered the rider must finish on the lead lap.
- 7.4.5. 2020 XCO U23 National Champion.
- 7.4.6. Any unselected rider ranked in the first 5 of all Australians (including elite) in UCI Elite XCO rankings at the end of the performance period.

7.5. Junior Men

- 7.5.1. 2020 XCO Junior Oceania Champion.
- 7.5.2. A top 10 result at the 2019 Junior XCO World Championships.
- 7.5.3. 2020 MTBA National Champion.
- 7.5.4. Best placed unselected rider at the MTBA National Cup Tier 1/Junior World Series – Mt Stromlo 4/5th April 2020.
- 7.5.5. The next best unselected Australian athlete on the UCI junior XCO ranking list at the end of the performance period.

7.6. Junior Women

- 7.6.1. 2020 XCO Junior Oceania Champion.
- 7.6.2. A top 10 result at the 2019 Junior XCO World Championships.
- 7.6.3. 2020 MTBA National Champion.
- 7.6.4. Best placed unselected rider at the MTBA National Cup Tier 1/Junior World Series – Mt Stromlo 4/5th April 2020.
- 7.6.5. The next best unselected Australian athlete on the UCI junior XCO ranking list at the end of the performance period.

8. NON-AUTOMATIC SELECTION CRITERIA

- 8.1. If quota places remain after all automatic selections have been made the Selectors, at their absolute discretion, may nominate additional athletes that meet the objectives stated in part 1. All non-automatic nominations must meet eligibility criteria, minimum performance standards, and be endorsed by the MTBA CEO before they become selections to the team.

9. TEAM RELAY

- 9.1. Athletes who are a member of the 2020 Australian World Championships Team in XCO are eligible for selection in the team relay and may be selected at the discretion of the National Team Manager.

10. ATHLETE SUPPORT

- 10.1. MTBA will provide team uniform to athletes selected in the National Team.
- 10.2. MTBA will provide a team manager to facilitate all entry requirements. Further updates regarding support will be made closer to the event.
- ~~10.3. MTBA will provide staff at the World Championships event to assist with rider registration, coaching and mechanical support.~~
- ~~10.4. MTBA will provide ground transport, accommodation and meals on a cost recovery basis for all athletes choosing to stay within the Australian team program. Note: Junior athletes must stay with the team unless they are a member of a UCI listed MTB trade team or have applied for and received prior approval from the MTBA Sport Manager.~~
- ~~10.5. All selected riders will be eligible for the MTBA Elite Athlete reward Program. More details on the program can be found on the International Representation page of the MTBA website.~~

11. SCHEDULE FOR AUSTRALIAN XCO NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION

Action	Date
Applications CLOSE .	28 th June 2020
Submission of all applications to the selection panel.	6 th July 2020
Submission of nominations to the MTBA CEO.	8 th July 2020
Notification of selection outcome to all applicants.	9 th July 2020
Appeal period OPEN	12pm – 13 th July 2020
Appeal period CLOSED	12pm – 15 th July 2020
Commencement of appeals hearing (if required)	20 th July 2020
Public announcement of team	TBC following close of appeal period or appeal proceedings.

12. CHANGES TO SCHEDULE

- 12.1. MTBA reserves the right to change these announcement dates in the event that more time is needed to ensure due process and fairness in selection, subject to section A, article 2.4 and compliance with UCI entry dates.
- 12.2. Additional athletes may be nominated to a National Team after the selection dates at the discretion of the Selectors.
- 12.3. Any competition results after the announcement of the team will only be considered if places are available on the team

13. APPLICATIONS AND FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information and all documents visit the International Representation page of the MTBA website.

Contact: MTBA Sport Manager: Evan James evan.james@mtba.org.au