

National Junior Travel Program 2020

The MTBA National Cup, National Championship, and Oceania Championship races form a fundamental part of MTBA's junior development programs for riders ranging from intermediate through to elite level. They are also an integral part of the selection process for development squads and junior World Championship teams. MTBA recognises that attending some or all of these races can be a significant time and financial burden on families. In response MTBA has developed a program that gives the opportunity for U17, U19 and U23 riders to attend selected events without requiring parent/guardian accompaniment and under the supervision of experienced and accredited coaches and staff. Athletes are met at the destination airport and are under the care of MTBA staff until they are on their returning flight at the end of the camp.

Important Information Regarding Injury Management

All staff running the National Junior Travel Program have first aid training and all events included in the program are serviced by professional medical support. In rare instances athletes may sustain an injury or illness that prevents them from travelling home within the scheduled program timeframe. This may include, but is not limited to, being admitted to hospital and/or injuries that prevent an athlete from flying. While MTBA will take all reasonable steps to facilitate the athletes return home, where the athlete is unable to travel home through the normal program logistics the athlete becomes the responsibility of the parent or guardian. MTBA strongly recommends the use of travel insurance to facilitate the cancellation or rebooking of flights.

Eligible Participants

The program is targeted at athletes aged 15 to 22 (at Dec 31st 2020) who would otherwise have logistical difficulty in attending National Cup events / National Championships. To be eligible athletes must be –

- **XCO and CX** - eligible and competing in U17, U19 or U23 category (where there is no separate U23 category event athletes aged elites aged 22 or younger at Dec 31st 2020 are still eligible).
- **DHI and GE** - eligible and competing in U17 or U19 categories or elites aged 22 or younger at Dec 31st 2020.

Staff

The program will be staffed from MTBA's network of accredited and highly experienced part-time and contract coaches and staff. As far as possible MTBA accredited coaches local to the event region will be utilised to maximise local knowledge and limit staff travel expenses.

Inclusions

- All ground transport at the destination.
- Accommodation.
- All meals / food (excluding race food – gels etc).
- Supervised/coached practice laps (XCO-CX-GE) and/or track walk (DHI).
- Basic mechanical support.
- Feed zone / techzone assistance (XCO-CX).
- Nutritional, race prep and warmup advice.

Non-Inclusions

- All race entries.
- Flight bookings (or transport to a pickup point if local to the event).
- Race food (gels, sports drinks etc)

Cost

Cost will vary from camp to camp depending on the duration. Camps are subsidised by MTBA as part of the MTBA junior development framework

Flights

Flight bookings are the responsibility of the athlete / parent. **Please check the registration page carefully for the dates and times flights you need to book for.** The times vary from camp to camp and must be adhered to. MTBA recommends booking transferrable fares and/or using travel insurance.

Registration

Links to registration can be found on the Junior Development page of the MTBA website [HERE](#). Registration generally close up to 4 weeks before the event to allow for logistics planning. There are minimum numbers required so please register early to avoid disappointment.

Code of Conduct

All athletes and staff will be required to adhere to the MTBA Code of Conduct. The code is available on the MTBA website [HERE](#). All program events will be completely alcohol free regardless of athlete age.

Schedule

Detailed schedules will be communicated to registered participants in the lead up.

Cancellations

In the case of minimum numbers for a particular camp not being reached MTBA may elect to cancel. That decision will be made when registrations close and any registered participants will be refunded in full.

In the event an athlete is forced to withdraw through injury or sickness refunds will be available (minus an administration fee) with the presentation of a doctor's certificate. Refunds for reasons other than documented illness or injury will be at MTBA's discretion.

In the event that a program camp does not attract minimum numbers (generally 3 or more) MTBA may, at its absolute discretion, provide registered athletes with a direct monetary grant in lieu of running a travel program camp. This will only apply to junior U19 and U23 athletes at events which are mandatory for World Championship team selection eligibility.

For further enquiries please contact MTBA Sport Manager – Evan James evan.james@mtba.org.au