



Updated: August 24, 2025

LICENSING/CITIZENSHIP/RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS

ALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP PARTICIPANTS MUST HAVE A CURRENT USA CYCLING ANNUAL LICENSE OR VALID UCI FOREIGN FEDERATION LICENSE AS DEFINED BELOW. Riders must also be licensed for the category in which they are attempting to register. If you do not have a current and valid USA Cycling annual license, the easiest way to obtain one is via the USA Cycling website at www.usacycling.org. You may purchase, renew and/or request a category upgrade online on your [My USA Cycling](#) page.

Elite U23 Junior 17-18	<p>Must be a United States citizen with a USA Sporting Nationality and have a current UCI/international license issued by USA Cycling or a recognized foreign federation.</p> <p><i>Riders who do not have a current UCI/international license may upgrade their existing USAC domestic license by logging on to their USA Cycling "My Account" and going to the "license" tab and click the red box for 'Upgrade Your Membership.'. Please note, if your license is due to expire soon you will not be able to upgrade your license and will have to purchase a new international license. If you have any issues, please email membership@usacycling.org for assistance.</i></p>
Juniors 11-16 Masters Single Speed Non-binary	<p>Must be a United States citizen and have a current:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USA Cycling International License or • A foreign International License or • USA Cycling Domestic Annual License <p style="text-align: center;">OR</p> <p>Must be a Permanent Resident (verified) and have a current:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USA Cycling International License or • USA Cycling Domestic Annual License
Junior 10 & under	<p>Must be a United States Citizen and have a current</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USA Cycling license or • Purchase a one-day license
Collegiate	<p>Must have a current USA Cycling Collegiate annual license.</p>
Non-Championship Relay	<p>Must have either a current USA Cycling annual license, a valid UCI Foreign Federation license, or purchase a one-day license at race registration.</p>

UPGRADE PROCEDURE

Each license allows for promotion to higher categories according to certain guidelines. Please see [Policy VIII Race Category Upgrading and Downgrading](#) for information.

If you would like to request an upgrade, please see [upgrade instructions here](#).

ELIGIBILITY & QUALIFICATION RESTRICTIONS
ELITE
The Elite categories are open to riders with a race age of 19 or older. Category restrictions will apply as listed below in the Category and Field Size section.
U23
The U23 classes are open to riders with a race age of 19-22. Category restrictions will apply as listed below in the Category and Field Size section.
<i>Riders in this age group are eligible to enter either the U23 OR the Elite categories (not both).</i>
JUNIOR 17-18
The Junior 17-18 classes are open to riders with a race age of 17-18. Category restrictions will apply as listed below in the Category and Field Size section.
JUNIOR 16 & under
There are no restrictions other than race age for Junior 16 & under .
MASTERS
The Masters classes are restricted by race age, and any category restrictions as listed below in the Category and Field Size section.
Entry into the Elite race at Nationals does not prohibit riders from competing in the Masters events. <i>However, riders meeting one or more of the following criteria must enter the Elite categories:</i>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has a racing age of 30 years or older and has been a member of any UCI Registered Team at any time in the current cyclocross season, or 2. Has a racing age of 30 years or older and has competed in any elite UCI World Cups, World Championships, Pan American Championship, Pan American or Olympic Games within the current calendar year, or 3. Has a racing age of 30 years or older and has 100 or more points in the UCI individual cyclocross ranking published after the first World Cup of the current season.
SINGLESPEED
All riders are eligible to enter Singlespeed, regardless of age or category. <i>Costumes are encouraged and welcome!</i>
NON-BINARY
At non-elite competition levels, a member may self-select non-binary through the registration process if the gender on their USA Cycling account is listed as non-binary. If a question should arise about a member's eligibility to participate in a manner consistent with their chosen gender, any member may lodge a protest with the Chief Referee up to fifteen (15) minutes after the completion of the event. In such a situation, USA Cycling may use the following criteria to determine a member's eligibility to enter a chosen gender based on evidence of one or more of the following:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the member's gender in their "everyday life" match their registered USAC gender for the year they are racing at Nationals? • Has the member registered and completed a race as a non-binary person during the past year at a race where a non-binary category was offered? • Attestation of non-gender identity by a personal or professional reference.
If USA Cycling determines a violation has occurred, disciplinary actions may be taken as noted in Policy III .
COLLEGIATE QUALIFICATION

To register for the event, each rider's [conference director](#) must confirm the rider has met the minimum race requirements, if applicable. All registered riders/teams must turn this form in upon registering: [USA Cycling Collegiate National Championship eligibility verification form](#). Forms must be emailed to vdummond@usacycling.org.

Teams may enter a total of 8 men and 8 women at the national championship.

Teams may enter up to 4 riders for the team relay. See the Collegiate Team Relay section below for details on team composition.

CATEGORY REQUIREMENTS AND FIELD LIMITS

At registration, all participants competing in the USA Cycling Cyclocross National Championships MUST hold the minimum required cyclocross category for their respective races as noted below. **Riders will compete in their respective age-group based on their official racing age determined on December 31, 2026.** "Racing up or down" per 1H4(c) is not allowed in this event.

If age groups are scheduled on course at the same time, field limits will be the combined number of riders on course.

Each license allows for promotion to higher categories according to certain guidelines. Please see [Policy VIII Race Category Upgrading and Downgrading](#) for information.

If you would like to request an upgrade, please see [upgrade instructions here](#).

ELITE			
Men		Categories 1-2	Field Limit: 150
Women		Categories 1-3	Field Limit: 150
U23			
Men		Categories 1-3	Field Limit: 150
Women		Categories 1-3	Field Limit: 150
MASTERS			
Men	30-54	Categories 1-3	Field Limit: 150
Men	55+	All categories	Field Limit: 150
Women	30-44	All Categories	Field Limit: 150
Women	45+	All categories	Field Limit: 150
JUNIORS			
Men	17-18	Categories 1-3	Field Limit: 100
Women	17-18	All categories	Field Limit: 100
Men	15-16	All categories	Field Limit: 100
Women	15-16	All categories	Field Limit: 100
Men	13-14	All categories	Field Limit: 100
Women	13-14	All categories	Field Limit: 100
Men	11-12	All categories	Field Limit: 100
Women	11-12	All categories	Field Limit: 100
Men	10 & under	All categories	Field Limit: 100
Women	10 & under	All categories	Field Limit: 100
COLLEGIATE			
Men/Women		All Categories	Field Limit: 150
SINGLESPEED			
Men/Women		All categories	Field Limit: 150 per gender
NON-BINARY			
Non-Binary		All categories	Field Limit: 150

CALL-UP PROCEDURES

When rankings are used in the call-procedures, the following dates will be used:

- UCI Rankings as of publication – Tuesday, December 9, 2025
- USAC Rankings** as of 8:00 AM CT – Tuesday, December 9, 2025

***Riders must pre-register by the initial close of BikeReg online registration to be included in the Call-up procedures. Any riders not meeting this criteria will be call up as a group at the end.*

Any questions about call-ups should be directed to the Race Secretary on-site, located at registration.

Elite U23 Junior 17-18	<p>Pre-registered riders will be called to the start line in the following order:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defending national champion 2. UCI rankings 3. USAC rankings 4. Unranked riders in random order <p><i>Riders without UCI rankings, who register after pre-registration closes on BikeReg will be called up at the end.</i></p>
Junior 11-16 Masters Singlespeed Non-Binary	<p>Pre-registered riders will be called to the start line in the following order:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defending national champion 2. Aged-up national champion 3. Previous year's podium for the age group (2nd-5th) 4. USAC rankings 5. Unranked riders in random order <p><i>Riders who register after pre-registration closes on BikeReg will be called up at the end.</i></p>
Junior 10 and under	<p>All pre-registered rider will be called to the start line in the order of registration and start as one group.</p>
Collegiate	<p>Pre-registered riders will be called to the start line in the following order:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Defending national champion for the race. 2. Conference omnium champion or conference champion as determined by each conference director, in a random order. In the event a team has the previous event national champion and the current conference champion, that team's conference champion will be called up last in the wave of other conference champions. 3. One rider per team, called one team at a time in the order of the previous event's team omnium from the national championship in question. Any team with a rider called up in section 1 or 2, will be skipped in the first round. If a team has a rider in both sections 1 & 2, they will be skipped, once again in the second round. Teams that did not attend the previous event shall be called up after all other teams have been called up in a random order in the same order each round. 4. Step 3 is repeated until all riders have been staged. <p>Any protests or questions about collegiate call-ups can be directed to Vanessa Drummond – vdummond@usacycling.org.</p>

PIT BOX ALLOCATIONS

ELITE, U23, and JUNIOR 17-18

Pit box allocations will be randomly assigned by the commissaires. Consideration will be given for shared mechanics and rides on the same team, based on information provided at the time of pre-registration.

PULLING OF RIDERS	
Elite, U23, Junior 17-18,	The UCI 80% rule will be applied during these races.
Masters, Singlespeed, Non-binary, Junior 11-16	<p>To respect the competitive efforts of participants for their National Championship titles, fields with more than 75 starters will implement the 80% USA Cycling regulation 4H1(c), whereas riders who are predicted to be lapped by the leaders in their next lap will be pulled and placed according to their position at the pull point.</p> <p>Fields with 75 or less starters will implement the Target Finish Bell allowing riders to stay on course as long as possible, and finish within the time allocated for the race. See USA Cycling regulation 4H1(d) for further clarification.</p> <p>Both methods above assure an accurate placing for any rider pulled or finished early while allowing riders in contention for the National Championship titles to race without the potential disturbance of passing lapped riders.</p>
Junior 10 & under	Riders will be allowed to be lapped and will finish on the same lap as the race leader and placed appropriately.

EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS	
Elite, U23, Junior 17-18	UCI rules will be in effect.
Master, Non-binary, Collegiate	USA Cycling regulations. Double triangle frame construction, traditional CX bike with maximum 38mm tire width and pass the tire width check prior to staging. No flat bars. No spiked or studded tires.
Singlespeed	USA Cycling regulations. Double triangle frame construction, traditional CX bike with maximum 38mm tire width and pass the tire width check prior to staging. No spiked or studded tires. Riders must have a free wheel, one cog, a single front chainring and drop bars. No blocked gears.
Junior 11-16, Junior 10 & under	USA Cycling regulations. No forward pointing handlebars or bar ends. No spiked or studded tires. No other bike restrictions.

TEAM RELAY REGULATIONS	
COLLEGIATE TEAM RELAY	
<p>The team format for the Team Relay will vary based on whether the team is a Club or Varsity team.</p> <p>Club: The relay team must consist of 2-4 riders, of which one must be a female, and one must be male. Team compositions may be FM, FMM, FFM, or FFMM.</p> <p>Varsity: The relay team must consist of 4 riders, two females and two males. Team composition must be FFMM.</p> <p>One representative of each team starts the race and at the end of each lap, there is an exchange to another rider. The race will be 4 laps long and riders may not do consecutive laps, so exchanges are mandatory for each lap, even if a team has fewer than four riders.</p> <p>Two laps must be completed by women.</p>	

The exchange area is just before the S/F, with the course divided into two lanes. Riders finishing their lap will funnel into one lane, and from the other lane, riders waiting to start their lap may exit their exchange box once their teammate has drawn event with them.

The finishing rider must cross the finish line before the rider starting their lap.

The event counts toward the team omnium only.

All riders for a team must wear similar team jerseys with the school's name displayed. Shorts must be of their team or blank. For podium presentations, riders must wear team or school clothing or jerseys. Penalties can vary from a fine to a disqualification.

NON-CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM RELAY

Teams of two to four riders will complete four laps on a shortened course. Team make-up is restricted to, and may include the following:

- No more than 1 Men Elite
- No more than 1 Women Elite rider
- No more than 2 Master Men riders

If your team has a Junior Men/Women 9-12, Junior Men/Women 13-14, Junior Women 15-18, or Masters Women a time bonus will be given.

If your team has an Elite rider (man or woman) a time penalty will be given. These bonuses and penalties are to equalize the playing field and encourage Women and young athletes. Time bonuses will be determined once the course has been finalized.

One representative of each team starts the race and at the end of each lap, there is an exchange to another rider. The race will be 4 laps long and riders may not do consecutive laps, so exchanges are mandatory for each lap, even if a team has fewer than four riders.

The exchange area is just before the S/F, with the course divided into two lanes. Riders finishing their lap will funnel into one lane, and from the other lane, riders waiting to start their lap may exit their exchange box once their teammate has drawn event with them.

There will be a field limit of 40 teams for the team relay, and it will be run up to 20 at a time in two heats. Final placings will be determined by the team's finish time in their heat.