



GRAN FONDO NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

JULY 2021 • ASHEVILLE, NC

The 2021 USA Cycling Gran Fondo National Championship will crown national champions in the Gran Route event. This document contains qualification requirements for the National Championship Gran Route event.

Individuals attempting to pre-ride the course prior to the event or scheduled practice day(s) or times, if any, may encounter hazards including incomplete course construction or obstructions. The course may also cross private property. **Athletes pre-riding the course do so entirely at their own risk.**

LICENSING/CITIZENSHIP/RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS	
<p>ALL NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP PARTICIPANTS MUST HAVE A CURRENT USA CYCLING ANNUAL LICENSE OR VALID UCI FOREIGN FEDERATION LICENSE AS DEFINED BELOW. In 2021 USA Cycling is pleased to offer 18 and under riders with a free domestic annual license. 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.</p>	
<p>All riders</p>	<p>Must be a United States citizen and have a current:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USA Cycling International License with a USA racing nationality indicated or • A foreign International License with a USA racing nationality and a UCI ID* or • USA Cycling Domestic Annual License with a UCI ID* <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 with a UCI ID*
<p>*UCI ID: To compete in a USA Cycling National Championship, riders must have their date of birth, gender and citizenship or permanent resident status verified. Having verified this information, a free UCI ID is issued. If a UCI ID is not currently displayed on your license, log into your USA Cycling My Account and look for this in your Profile link. If these items are not listed or are incorrect, please do the following to update your account:</p>	

Create a copy of your birth certificate or passport and Permanent Resident Status (Green Card) as it applies, and mail, email or fax (719-434-4300) it to USA Cycling.

A UCI ID is your lifelong, internationally unique, identity number to confirm your racing status and maintain your privacy in internationally published registration and results documents.

YOU DO NOT NEED TO REPRINT OR PURCHASE A NEW LICENSE ONCE YOUR ACCOUNT IS UPDATED

QUALIFICATION PERIOD

To compete for the USA Cycling Gran Fondo National Championship, riders must first qualify for a starting slot. Qualifications slots will be awarded based on rider's placement in official Gran Fondo National Series® (GFNS) events over the previous 18 months prior to the USA Cycling Gran Fondo National Championships or as listed below:

Qualification Start Date: January 18, 2020	Qualification End Date: July 12, 2021
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QUALIFYING EVENTS/QUALIFICATION STANDARDS

2020 Qualified Riders	Riders who qualified for the 2020 USA Cycling Gran Fondo National Championship will be automatically qualified.
GFNS Events	Top 25% finish in a Gran Route, ~100 miles, at any GFNS event, based on the number of starters in that age group, top 3 finish in age group category in a Gran Route, ~100 miles, at any GFNS event regardless of the number of starters, complete two (2) or more Gran Route events at GFNS events.
GFNS E-Fondo Events	Top 25% finish in an age group category at any GFNS E-Fondo Event, based on the number of starters in that age group, top 3 finish in an age group category in GFNS E-Fondo Event, regardless of the number of starters, or complete two (2) or more GFNS E-Fondo Events.
Current National Champions	All current USA Cycling Amateur, Masters, or Elite (if eligible as defined below) National Champions in Road or Criterium.
UCI Gran Fondo Races	Top 25% finish in age group category at 2021 UCI Gran Fondo World Series. Top 25% finish in age group category at the previous UCI Gran Fondo World Championship, based on the number of starters.

QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES AND RULES

COMPETITION RACING AGE

Riders will compete in their respective age-group based on their official racing age determined on December 31, 2021.

RACING AGE GROUPS

14-22
23-34
35-44
45-54
55-64
65-74
75 and over

Awards shall consist of a first-place championship jersey and medals to five places to both female and male age groups listed above. Championship jerseys and medals will be awarded for any age group represented.

PRO/ELITE RIDERS

Pro/Elite riders are not eligible to compete at the Gran Fondo National Championships. Pro/Elite riders are defined as any rider who has been a member of a team registered with the UCI during the current year, any rider who has taken part in an Elite event at any of the following events during the current year: World Championships, the Olympic Games, Continental Games, Regional Games, the Commonwealth Games, or a World Cup, any rider who has points in the [UCI World Ranking](#)[®] as of January 1, 2020. (Consideration may be made on a case by case basis for retired riders, any rider who has been a member of a team registered with the UCI during the current year, any rider who has taken part in an Elite event at any of the following events during the current year: World Championships, the Olympic Games, Continental Games, Regional Games, the Commonwealth Games, or a World Cup, or any rider who has points in the [UCI World Ranking](#)[®] at time of event. Consideration may be made on a case by case basis for retired riders.

EQUIPMENT REGULATIONS

Standard road bicycles with a double diamond frame, wheels of the same diameter (550-700 mm), are required. Bicycles must be propelled solely by the rider's legs (no e-bikes) and have 3 points of support; saddle, pedals and handlebars, with the following characteristics:

- Dimensions- bicycles may be no more than 185 cm long and 50 cm wide
- No protective shield, fairing, or other device on any part of the bicycle, which has the sole purpose reducing air resistance. No disc wheels allowed.
- Handlebars shall be standard road form, ends shall be solidly plugged, and without any additional arm supports or aero extensions.
- Brakes- all bicycles must have an independent, functional brake on each wheel.
- No recumbents, tricycles or tandems are allowed in the National Championship event.

CONDUCT

By entering the event, the participant agrees to respect the regulations and policies of USA Cycling, Gran Fondo National Series and the particular regulations of the event:

- The participant agrees to accept the directions of the event organizers and all public authorities and emergency service personnel.
- Participants must demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times.
- Participants must behave in a way that respects the environment. Littering or any similar behavior will not be tolerated.
- All participants registered for the event, having received their numbers, are eligible to be selected for anti-doping tests under [USA Cycling's Policy II. Anti-Doping](#)
- Helmets must be worn at all times during the event. Riders must wear a securely fastened helmet that meets the laboratory testing standards of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) standard for bicycle helmets.
- Cyclists must wear all numbers and timing equipment issued.
- Participants must respect the relevant traffic laws at all times.
- Stopping for all stop signs and traffic lights unless waived through by a marshal or police officer.

- You must never cross the center line, if you do you may be disqualified and asked to leave the course
- You must stay to the right-hand side of the lane at all times unless passing
- You must have a device to carry water with you while riding
- You are recommended to carry spare tire equipment and means of inflation.
- During the entire event cooperation between any rider or group of riders is allowed, regardless of gender, age group or event they may be participating in.

TIMING AND RESULTS

Results are based on participant's combined time through four (4) designated timed sections. Timed section details and locations are published before event. Start and finish locations for timed sections will be clearly marked by flags and lines on the road.

- A rider's start-to-finish time is not calculated/measured for placement.
- Times are taken at the crossing of each timing point.
- The winner is determined by the best combined time of the four timed sections.
 - Ties will be broken by the fastest last section time.
- To be eligible for a National Championship title, you must enter and exit timed sections during the posted and published times.
 - All timed sections are open for specific durations. You must enter and exit each timed section within the specified open time scheduled for each section.
 - For timed sections to be counted, riders must complete the full course distance and cross the official finish line by completing timed sections in sequential order and maintain an average progression speed of at least 10mph. Note: this is not average ride speed, this is average progression speed and includes all stopped time, i.e., total time.