

Based on the 2021 cross country competition in the male 15-16 and 17-18 fields, we will again hold qualification races if registration exceeds 120 riders. Information regarding heat procedure and final races is below.

We will be looking at all options to remove qualifying heats at National Championships in 2023 and beyond. We will communicate these changes by the end of 2022.

## 15-16 and 17-18 Men's XC Heat Procedure

If any of the races' final registration is over 120 riders, all riders will be required to compete in qualifying heat races on July 21.

The riders will be separated into two qualifying heats based on whether they would have an odd or even call up within a full field call up. Number of riders qualifying from each heat will be determined based on the final registration number, with the goal of a 120 rider final on July 22.

## **Call Up Procedure**

The call up procedure for the 15-16 male's qualifier heats will be as follows:

National Champion, aged-up National Champion, previous year podium (2-5), USAC ranking, then random for riders without any rankings.

The call up procedure for the 15-16 male's final race will be as follows:

Finisher 1 in qualifying heat 1, finisher 1 in qualifying heat 2, finisher 2 in qualifying heat 1, finisher 2 in qualifying heat 2, and so on.

The call up procedure for the 17-18 male's qualifier heats will be as follows:

National Champion, UCI XCO ranking, USAC ranking, then random for riders without any other rankings.

The call up procedure for the 17-18 male's final race will be as follows:

Finisher 1 in qualifying heat 1, finisher 1 in qualifying heat 2, finisher 2 in qualifying heat 1, finisher 2 in qualifying heat 2, and so on. Riders with UCI XCO points who do not finish within the top 50 of the qualifying heats will move on to the final race as protected riders. These riders must finish the qualifying race in order to maintain a protected status. Protected riders will be called up based on their UCI XCO points, after the 100 riders who qualified top 50 per heat. The remainder of the 120 call up will be based on the next finishers in qualifying heat 1 and 2; 51, 51, 52, 52, 53, 53, and so on.

Qualifying races will be run on the Blue XC course and the total number of laps will be two.

## If qualifying heats are not used the following call up procedures will be in place for the final races:

The call up procedure for the 15-16 males:

National Champion, aged-up National Champion, previous year podium (2-5), USAC ranking, then random for riders without any rankings.

The call up procedure for the 17-18 males:



National Champion, UCI XCO ranking, USAC ranking, then random for riders without any other rankings.