



**Cycling**CANADA**Cyclisme**

**2016-17 ELITE TRACK SPECIFIC SELECTION CRITERIA**

**FOR SELECTION TO NATIONAL TEAM PROGRAMS**

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### 2016-17 CONTEXT

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For the Canadian team, the 2016-17 Canadian track season represents a transition from the high-performance focus leading into the Rio Olympics to a development focus leading towards the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo.

Among the key considerations that guided the development of these criteria are:

- The importance of team events in athlete development and Olympic qualification
  - Placing the focus on Team Pursuit and Team Sprint
- A new UCI calendar
  - 4 World Cups, grouped into two pairs of back-to-back weekends
  - The lineup of events varies from World Cup to World Cup
- A new world championship qualification system
  - Obligation to participate in Pan Am Championships
  - No obligation to participate in all rounds of the UCI World Cup
  - Points earned at all levels of UCI events now count towards qualification, not just World Cups and Pan Ams
- Athletes leaving the National Team Program, or taking a break after the Olympic Games
  - Need to fill rosters for certain events while remaining competitive in order to secure worlds qualification for targeted athletes.
- New athletes joining the National Team Program
  - Key opportunities for new athletes to taste competition at the world level
- Long-term development considerations for the next quadrennial
  - Targeting performance at the 2020 Olympics
- Financial constraints
  - Main focus this year was Olympics; budget limited for remainder of season

One of the biggest challenges in building the criteria has been the late announcement of the calendar. The dates and locations of the World Cup events were not announced until July, and the dates and location of the Pan Am Championship were announced in mid-September.

As a result, Cycling Canada has been obliged to wait before finalizing these criteria. However, the guiding principles remain the same: to build towards future Olympic medal performances while respecting the considerations listed above.

### PATHWAY TO THE NATIONAL TRACK PROGRAMS

Before being eligible for selection to represent Canada in major international track events, each athlete must progress through the following stages:

1. Talent ID
2. Assessment
3. Committing to the national team program
4. Joining the Performance Pool



## Selection Criteria for 2016-17 National Team Track Programs

### **Talent ID:**

The primary avenue for talent identification in Canada is through the provincial coaches. These coaches are the first ones who will see emerging talent at the club and provincial level, and who will help those athletes develop to the national level.

The Canadian track championships are typically where those athletes can measure themselves against the best riders in Canada, and where they will have their first contact with our national coaches.

Athletes meeting Cycling Canada time standards (found on the Cycling Canada website here: <http://www.cyclingcanada.ca/track/national-team/program-policies/>) or otherwise demonstrating potential may then be invited to be assessed by the national coaches.

### **Assessment:**

Identified athletes may be invited to be assessed by the National Coaches, either individually or as part of a camp. Based on this assessment, the number of athlete positions available and the strategic priorities of the relevant program, the athlete may be invited to either:

- Be “fast tracked” directly into the national program and coached by one of the National Coaches (with input from the Provincial Coach); or
- Continue to work with his or her Provincial Coach in consultation with the relevant National Coach, until the opportunity arises to join the national program.

It is important to note that no athlete is guaranteed a place in the national program based on time standards alone. The athlete must also show that they are able to work effectively with the coaches, fellow athletes and support staff, and they must commit to the national program.

### **Committing to the National Program:**

Cycling Canada has invested heavily in creating an optimal environment in which our athletes can develop towards international podium performances. In order for this investment to pay off, athletes must commit to the national program.

This commitment is different in each of Cycling Canada’s track programs, some of which are 12-month programs and some of which are intermittent, part-time programs. The athletes’ commitment may include some or all of the following requirements depending on the specific needs of the program :

- living full-time near the Mattamy National Cycling Centre in Milton ON;
- attending training camps or competitions, either in Milton or elsewhere;
- contributing to part of the costs of their program.

These requirements will be communicated clearly to each athlete by the National Coach.

### **Joining the Performance Pool:**

When selecting the team for major international events (Pan American Championships, World Cups, World Championships, Olympic Games and other major games), National Coaches choose from among athletes in the Performance Pool.



## Selection Criteria for 2016-17 National Team Track Programs

The Performance Pool is made up of athletes who have committed to the national program and who have met certain performance standards within the 12 months prior to selection.

Athletes can meet these standards either through competition results or by meeting the time standards published on the Cycling Canada website, as follows:

Level of competition team is being selected for	Minimum Performance Standard <i>Athlete must achieve either one of these within 12 months prior to selection</i>	
	Past performance*	Time standard*
UCI Junior World Championships	--	Junior
UCI C1-C3	--	Development
Pan American Championships Commonwealth Games Pan American Games	Top-3 result at this level or higher	National
UCI World Cups UCI World Championships Olympic Games	Top-3 result at this level	International

\* Within the 12 months prior to selection

Joining the Performance Pool is not a guarantee of selection, particularly for team events where the national coach must balance the athletes' individual qualities with their ability to contribute to the team's performance.

In exceptional cases, such as injury, national coaches may request an athlete who has not met the standards be named to the pool if a case can be made for competitiveness based on carefully documented objective performance analysis of the athlete. This request must be approved by the High Performance Director and may, in some circumstances, also require the approval of the Track Advisory Committee. For selection to the Pan American Games, Commonwealth Games or Olympic Games, the request must also be approved by the High Performance Committee.

The list of athletes named to the Performance Pool will be published on the Cycling Canada website and updated as needed.



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## SPECIFIC SELECTION CRITERIA

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### 2016-17 TRACK SEASON

The major events of the 2016-17 track season are:

- The Elite Pan American Track Championships (Oct. 5-9, 2016; Aguascalientes MEX)
- UCI World Cup I (Nov. 4-6, 2016; Glasgow GBR)
- UCI World Cup II (Nov. 9-11, 2016; Apeldoorn NED)
- UCI World Cup III (Feb. 17-19, 2017; Cali COL)
- UCI World Cup IV (Feb. 25-26, 2017; Los Angeles USA)
- UCI Track World Championships (April 12-16, 2017; Hong Kong HKG)

In addition, the UCI Junior World Championships will be held in Shenyang CHI on Aug. 23-27. Selection to this event will be covered in a separate document.

Given the considerations mentioned at the beginning of this document, Cycling Canada is taking a strategic approach to each of the major event in the track season as follows:

Women's Endurance priorities:

- Pan Am Championships: Development focus
- World Cups I & II: Not attending
- World Cups III & IV: World Championships Qualification
- World Championships: Performance focus

Women's Sprint priorities:

- Pan Am Championships: Not attending (exemption requested)
- World Cups I & II: Not attending
- World Cups III & IV: World Championships Qualification
- World Championships: Performance focus

Men's Endurance priorities:

- Pan Am Championships: Performance focus
- World Cups I & II: Performance focus
- World Cups III & IV: Not attending unless needed for worlds qualification
- World Championships: Performance focus

Men's Sprint priorities:

- Pan Am Championships: Development focus
- World Cups I & II: Not attending
- World Cups III & IV: World Championships Qualification
- World Championships: Performance focus

These strategic considerations may change as the season progresses based on changing circumstances.



## Selection Criteria for 2016-17 National Team Track Programs

### **PAN AM CHAMPIONSHIPS**

*Aguascalientes MEX (Oct. 9-15, 2016)*

#### Selection considerations:

- Participation in Pan Ams is mandatory in order to qualify for world championships;
- The Pan Ams are an important points scoring opportunity: they score more points than World Cups;
- There is limited athlete availability in certain disciplines;
- Based on the strategic approach mentioned above, Cycling Canada is sending athletes to compete in the following events:
  - Women's endurance (development focus)
  - Men's endurance (performance focus)
  - Men's sprint (development focus)

#### Performance objectives:

1. Earning World Championship qualification points;
2. Providing development opportunities;
3. Fulfilling UCI attendance obligations.

#### Team size:

- 4 women's endurance
- 5 men's endurance
- 3 men's sprint

Cycling Canada reserves the right to vary the team size or composition based on changing circumstances.

Cycling Canada also reserves the right to enter additional, targeted riders in individual events.

#### Eligible athletes:

All athletes born in 1998 or earlier (UCI rule 3.2.001) who have been named to the Performance Pool and have met the **National** time standard or equivalent performance.

#### Team selection:

Selection to the Team will be based on the recommendations of the national coaches, taking into account the performance objectives, athletes' international performances and Section 10.a of the General Selection Policy. Selection must be approved by the High Performance Director and the Track Advisory Committee.

The selection recommendations will take into account:

- Coaches' assessment of the athletes' ability to meet the performance objectives;
- Other factors as defined in Section 10.a of the General Selection Policy.

Selection to the Start List of each event will be at the discretion of the National Coach, based on Section 13 of the General Selection Policy.



## Selection Criteria for 2016-17 National Team Track Programs

### **WORLD CUPS 1 & 2**

Glasgow GBR (Nov. 4-6, 2016)

Apeldoorn NED (Nov. 9-11, 2016)

#### Selection considerations:

- There is no requirement to participate in all rounds of the UCI World Cup;
- World Championships qualification only takes into account the best 3 World Cup results;
- Not all World Championship events are on the program of all World Cup events;
- There is limited athlete availability in certain disciplines;
- Based on the strategic approach mentioned above, Cycling Canada is sending athletes to compete in the following events:
  - Men's endurance (performance focus)

#### Performance objectives:

1. Earning World Championship qualification points.

#### Team size:

- 5 men's endurance

Cycling Canada reserves the right to vary the team size or composition based on changing circumstances.

Cycling Canada also reserves the right to enter additional, targeted riders in individual events.

#### Eligible athletes:

All athletes born in 1999 or earlier (UCI rule 3.4.004) who have been named to the Performance Pool and have met the **International** time standard or equivalent performance.

For entry in individual events at the World Cup, riders must have earned 250 points in the respective UCI Ranking by the registration deadline (UCI rule 3.4.004).

#### Team selection:

Selection to the Team will be based on the recommendations of the national coaches, taking into account the selection considerations, the performance objectives, athletes' international performances and Section 10.a of the General Selection Policy. Selection must be approved by the High Performance Director and the Track Advisory Committee.

The selection recommendations will take into account:

- Coaches' assessment of the athletes' ability to meet the performance objectives;
- Other factors as defined in Section 10.a of the General Selection Policy.

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## Selection Criteria for 2016-17 National Team Track Programs

### **WORLD CUPS 3 & 4**

Cali COL (Feb. 17-19, 2017)

Los Angeles USA (Feb. 25-26, 2017)

#### Selection considerations:

- There is no requirement to participate in all rounds of the UCI World Cup;
- World Championships qualification only takes into account the best 3 World Cup results;
- Not all World Championship events are on the program of all World Cup events;
- Most of the Olympic athletes should have returned to the National Track Program;
- Based on the strategic approach mentioned above, Cycling Canada is sending athletes to compete in the following events:
  - Women's endurance (performance focus)
  - Women's sprint (performance focus)
  - Men's sprint (performance focus)

#### Performance objectives:

1. Earning World Championship qualification points.

#### Team size:

- 5 women's endurance
- 2 women's sprint
- 3 men's sprint

Cycling Canada reserves the right to vary the team size or composition based on changing circumstances.

Cycling Canada also reserves the right to enter additional, targeted riders in individual events.

#### Eligible athletes:

All athletes born in 1999 or earlier (UCI rule 3.4.004) who have been named to the Performance Pool and have met the **International** time standard or equivalent performance.

For entry in individual events at the World Cup, riders must have earned 250 points in the respective UCI Ranking by the registration deadline (UCI rule 3.4.004).

#### Team selection:

Selection to the Team will be based on the recommendations of the national coaches, taking into account the selection considerations, the performance objectives, athletes' international performances and Section 10.a of the General Selection Policy. Selection must be approved by the High Performance Director and the Track Advisory Committee.

The selection recommendations will take into account:

- Coaches' assessment of the athletes' ability to meet the performance objectives;
- Other factors as defined in Section 10.a of the General Selection Policy.



## Selection Criteria for 2016-17 National Team Track Programs

Selection to the Start List of each event will be at the discretion of the National Coach, based on Section 13 of the General Selection Policy.

### **WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Hong Kong HKG (April 12-16, 2017)

#### Selection considerations:

- Canada can only enter events for which we have qualified;
- The post-Olympic world championships are an opportunity to test new systems and try new athletes in a relatively weak field.

#### Performance objectives:

1. Top-8 results in targeted events
2. Validation of systems
3. Testing new athletes or lineups.

#### Team size (pending the outcome of the UCI qualification process):

- 5 women's endurance
- 2 women's sprint
- 5 men's endurance
- 3 men's sprint

Cycling Canada reserves the right to vary the team size or composition based on changing circumstances.

Cycling Canada also reserves the right to enter additional, targeted riders in individual events.

#### Eligible athletes:

All athletes born in 1999 or earlier (UCI rule 3.2.001) who have been named to the Performance Pool and have met the **International** time standard or equivalent performance.

#### Team selection:

Selection to the Team will be based on the recommendations of the national coaches, taking into account the selection considerations, the performance objectives, athletes' international performances and Section 10.a of the General Selection Policy. Selection must be approved by the High Performance Director and the Track Advisory Committee.

The selection recommendations will take into account:

- Coaches' assessment of the athletes' ability to meet the performance objectives;
- Other factors as defined in Section 10.a of the General Selection Policy.

Selection to the Start List of each event will be at the discretion of the National Coach, based on Section 13 of the General Selection Policy.