



CyclingCANADA***Cyclisme***

CYCLING CANADA

2017 NATIONAL TEAM SELECTION POLICY- DRAFT

**SPECIFIC CONDITIONS AND CRITERIA
FOR SELECTION TO NATIONAL TEAM MOUNTAIN BIKE PROGRAMS**

Effective January 9, 2017

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SPECIFIC conditions and criteria for selection to all national team MOUNTAIN BIKE programs

INTRODUCTION

This document lays out the specific selection criteria for eligible Cycling Canada-licensed **mountain bike athletes** to be named to national team campaigns and projects for the **2017 season**.

Unless expressly stated otherwise in this document, these criteria are subject to the general conditions and criteria laid out in the **Cycling Canada General Selection Policy document**.

This document is organized by Schedule as follows:

- **Schedule 1** – Camps and Daily Training Environment Opportunities (DTE)
- **Schedule 2** – World Cups and UCI Events
- **Schedule 3** – World Championships XCO

Selection philosophy and background information:

The selection process is designed to improve the National program's athlete performance level and to continually develop athletes capable of podium performances in World Cup, World Championship and Olympic Games competition. To achieve this, Canada's top international performers and athletes who are progressing on the Podium Pathway are considered for selection to events that are appropriate to the National program's objectives and the athlete's development.

The National program at the Elite and U23 level is focused on international racing. The program selects athletes who perform best in World Cup, World Championship and Olympic competitions and those athletes demonstrating progression toward the podium at those events. Canada Cups and other UCI races, at this level, are used as preparation races where athletes earn race experience and valuable UCI points to improve start positions for international races.

At the beginning of each Olympic quadrennial (4 year cycle), Cycling Canada's high performance programs place greater emphasis on developing Elite and U23 riders who are progressing on the Podium Pathway. When the UCI qualification period for each Olympic Games begins, there is a greater emphasis on riders who can earn Olympic qualification points, and a focus on those with the greatest potential for podium performances at the upcoming Olympics.

The Podium Pathway for MTB (see a simplified version in Appendix A.) was developed using a comprehensive statistical analysis of all World Cup, World Championship and Olympic Games race results since 2008. This data was collected and analyzed through a partnership with the Canadian Tire analytics team and Own the Podium. The detailed Podium Pathway for each rider must be analyzed using the actual Podium Pathway database software and must be combined with a National Coach assessment of each athlete's potential based on the training process, overall progression in training, and performance within each race in order to be comprehensive. Podium Pathway assessment may be included as a criteria within some selections detailed in this document. Cycling Canada anticipates that the use of Podium Pathway assessments will increase throughout this quadrennial.

The overall selection process recognizes the need for some level of athlete continuity in the National program while also creating opportunities for new athletes to earn a position on a project or campaign. Continuity is required so that athletes have the time and support needed to develop their potential within the National program without constantly having to go through selections. At the same time, there is also a need for positive pressure and competition from new/emerging athletes vying for selection to the team. The selection process attempts to

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balance both needs – providing an optimal number of opportunities for athletes to earn or retain a position in the program each year.

The National program uses a team oriented approach to the sport. Considerable time and energy is spent establishing a positive, professional and collaborative environment amongst all athletes and staff. In each selection, riders are evaluated on their performances and results as well as their contribution to the team. It is clear that the chances of a podium performance are greatly enhanced when athletes are surrounded by teammates and staff who work well together. It is important that athletes and coaches read through Clause 10 of the General Selection Policy in order to understand some of the other factors that riders may be evaluated on in a selection.

The National program, at the Junior level, is focused on preparing for the World Championships each year. Success at Worlds requires athletes who have experience racing in Europe, where depth of field and number of starters is significantly greater than in North America. The Junior program provides athletes with a national training camp designed to prepare them for travel to Europe, a spring European racing project where athletes learn how to successfully compete in Europe, and a highly structured and supportive World Championship project each year designed to foster long-term commitment to the sport.

SCHEDULE 1 – Camps and optimized Daily Training Environment Opportunities (DTE)

The National program at the Junior, NextGen and Elite levels include several camps that promote optimized daily training environment (DTE) opportunities throughout the year. The purpose of these initiatives is to help athletes achieve podium performances in international competition. The program provides an opportunity to master skills and tactics, complete challenging workouts and reach new levels of performance by working with others in an athlete centered, coach driven and a sports science and sports medicine practitioner (IST) supported team environment.

All camps offering optimized DTE opportunities are provided on an invitational basis. Invitations are determined based on a National Coach assessment of each rider's progression on the Podium Pathway.

Invitations are sent to athletes at least 6 weeks in advance of each opportunity. All camps are subject to change based on available budget and the needs of the program.

The 2017 National Team camps and DTE opportunities:

Dates	Project	Location	Athletes
Jan 2-16	California Road Camp	Agourra Hills, California	NextGen
Jan 9-23	Hawaii Road Camp	Paia, Hawaii	Elite
Feb 1–Mar 31	Bear Mountain National Cycling Centre	Bear Mountain Resort, CAN	Elite
Feb. 20-Mar 6	National Team Camp	Bear Mountain Resort, CAN	Elite
Feb. 20-Mar 6	National Team Camp	Bear Mountain Resort, CAN	NextGen
Mar. 4-12	Junior National Team Pre-Europe Camp	Bear Mountain Resort, CAN	Junior
April 10-16	Altitude Acclimation Camp	Big Bear, California	Elite
Mid Dec 2017	Road Camp	TBA, California	TBA

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In addition to the National program camps, Cycling Canada also offers a number of Development camps each year to help introduce new athletes to the program. Development camps are open to any cadet or junior who wishes to attend, space permitting. Information on each camp is sent to clubs and provinces at least 6 weeks prior to each development camp. Athletes can contact National Development Coach Ian Hughes at Ian.Hughes@cyclingcanada.ca for more information on development camps and programming.

Dates	Project	Location	Athletes
Mar 6-12	Devo Camp #1 with Provincial Teams	Bear Mountain Resort	Cadet and Junior
May 22-25	Devo Camp #2	Bromont	Cadet and Junior
June 13-14	Devo Camp #3	Hardwood Bike and Ski	Cadet and Junior
July 18-19	Devo Camp #4	Canmore Nordic Centre	Cadet and Junior

SCHEDULE 2 – WORLD CUPS and UCI EVENTS

1. GENERAL

- a. **Events:** This Schedule covers selection for World Cup and Junior Series Project Pools and Teams for the following Events, subject to clauses Clause 12 of the General Selection Policy (right to vary team size or not to enter team):

Dates	Project	Location	Athletes
April 5-17	Junior Series European Races	Austria and Germany	Junior
May 15-29	World Cup #1 and #2	Nove Mesto na Morave, CZE/ Albstadt, GER	U23 and Elite
June 22-July 10	World Cup #3 and #4	Vallnord, AND/ Lenzerheide, SUI	U23 and Elite

- b. **Sanctioned Competition or Authorized Event:** In order to be considered for selection to the World Cup or Junior Series Project, Pools and Teams riders must achieve the Specific Selection Criteria set out in Schedule 2 while participating in a UCI sanctioned competition or a CC authorized event and while using a Mountain Bike that complies with the UCI Cycling Regulations.
- c. **Other Factors:** Any selection to a Pool or Team for any one of the Events is subject to the General Selection Policy (including clause 10 (Other Factors), 11 (Extenuating Circumstances) and 12 (Other Selection Matters).
- d. **Pre-condition:** All riders seeking selection to a World Cup or Junior Series Project must be in a highly competitive state of condition prior to participating in the event. Athletes may be asked to provide evidence that they have met this pre-condition using racing results, performance in Cycling Canada training camps and/or documentation of completed training activities under the guidance of an NCCP certified cycling coach. The CC reserves the right, at the discretion of the HPD and National Head Coach, to deny selection to athletes who lack adequate preparation and/or skill level for world class competition for any event in Schedule 2. Any rider applying for any CC project must provide the National Team Coach with their YTP (Yearly Training Plan) with details indicating their planned preparation for the project.
- e. **Time Period:** Riders must achieve the Specific Selection Criteria set out in this Schedule during the time period commencing Feb. 1, 2017 and for the Pools concluding midnight (EST) prior to the Selection Date, unless stated otherwise.
- f. **Cancellation Policy:** Any athlete who accepts their position on a National Team project and who, for any reason, later cancels or declines to compete will not receive a refund or exemption for any project fees paid or owing. An exception may be made in the event of injury or illness; this will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.
- g. **Riders must have 20 UCI points to enter a World Cup:** As per the 2017 UCI regulations, athletes competing at a World Cup must have at least **20 UCI points prior to the entry deadline** of the event. An exception is granted to Junior athletes who represented Canada at the most recent World

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Championships in XCO who will now race in the U23 category; as well as athletes enrolled in the Cycling Canada NextGen MTB program - both of those groups will use Cycling Canada's World Cup quota positions. Athletes should contact Jennifer Mahoney at Jennifer.mahoney@cyclingcanada.ca to indicate their intent to register at least 2 weeks prior to the event. Athletes must include their current UCI points and results.

2. JUNIOR SERIES RACES – AUSTRIA AND GERMANY (April 5-17)

- a. **Category:** Junior Women and Junior Men
- b. **Objective:** Development: increase race fitness, skill and tactical knowledge at the international level.
- c. **Team Size: 5 riders.** Cycling Canada reserves the right to increase, decrease or reconfigure team size or quotas based on funding limitations, the expert opinion of the National Development Coach and HPD or other factors not under Cycling Canada's control.
- d. **Eligibility:** All athletes aged 17 and 18 as of Dec. 31, 2017.
- e. **Selection Date:** Jan. 8, 2017
- f. **Selection Pool Qualification:** Athletes will be automatically included in the Pool of athletes eligible for selection, upon meeting one of the following criteria.
 - i. Athletes who were selected to the 2016 World Championship team including:
 - a. Any athlete who represented Canada at the 2016 UCI Mountain Bike World Championships in the Junior category.
 - ii. Athletes nominated to the selection pool based on the expert opinion of the National Development Coach and HPD.
- g. **Selection of Team:** In considering the riders to be selected to the Team for this project, the Selection Committee shall take into account performance and results from the 2016 National Championships XCO and 2016 World Championships as well as Clause 10 of the General Selection Policy.
- h. **Funding:** A project fee applies to this event.

3. WORLD CUP #1 and 2 – Nove Mesto na Morave, Czech Republic and Albstadt, Germany (May 15-29, 2017)

- a. **Category: U23 Women and U23 Men (Including Cycling Canada NextGen in this category)**
- b. **Objective:** Development: increase race fitness, skill and tactical knowledge at the international level.
- c. **Team Size: 4 U23 Women, 4 U23 Men.** Cycling Canada reserves the right to increase, decrease or reconfigure team size or quotas based on funding limitations, the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD or other factors not under Cycling Canada's control.
- d. **Eligibility:** All athletes aged 19 to 22 on Dec. 31, 2017.
- e. **Selection Date:** Mar. 10, 2017.
- f. **Selection Pool Qualification:** Athletes will be automatically included in the Pool of athletes eligible for selection, upon meeting one of the following criteria.
 - i. Any athlete enrolled in Cycling Canada's NextGen MTB program.
 - ii. Athletes who were selected to the 2016 World Championship team including:
 - a. Any athlete who represented Canada at the 2016 UCI Mountain Bike World Championships in the U23 category.
 - b. Any athlete who represented Canada at the 2016 UCI Mountain Bike World Championships in the Junior category and is racing in the U23 category for the 2017 season.
 - iii. Athletes nominated to the selection pool based on the expert opinion of the National Head Coach, NextGen Coach and HPD.
- g. **Selection of Team:** In considering the riders to be selected to the Team for this project, the Selection Committee shall take into account performance and results from 2016 World Cup XCO events and the 2016 World Championships XCO as well as Clause 10 of the General Selection Policy.
- h. **Funding:** This project will offer athletes funded, partially funded and self-funded opportunities based on available budget in the National Mountain Bike program. Each athlete's funding level, for this particular project, will be outlined in the invitation for the project.

4. WORLD CUP #1 and 2 – Nove Mesto na Morave, Czech Republic and Albstadt, Germany (May 15-29th, 2017)

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- a. **Category:** Elite Women and Men
- b. **Objective:** Development: increase race fitness, skill and tactical knowledge at the international level.
- c. **Team Size:** 4 Elite Women, 4 Elite Men. Cycling Canada reserves the right to increase, decrease or reconfigure team size or quotas based on funding limitations, the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD or other factors not under Cycling Canada's control.
- d. **Eligibility:** All athletes aged 23 and over as of Dec. 31, 2017.
- e. **Selection Date:** Mar. 10, 2017.
- f. **Selection Pool Qualification:**
 - i. Athletes who were selected to the 2016 World Championship team including:
 - a. Any athlete who represented Canada at the 2016 UCI Mountain Bike World Championships in the Elite category.
 - b. Any athlete who represented Canada at the 2016 UCI Mountain Bike World Championships in the U23 category and is racing in the Elite category for the 2016 season.
 - ii. Athletes nominated to the selection pool based on the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD.
- g. **Selection of Team:** In considering the riders to be selected to the Team for this project, the Selection Committee shall take into account performance and results from 2016 World Cup XCO events and the 2016 World Championships XCO as well as Clause 10 of the General Selection Policy.
- h. **Funding:** This project will offer athletes funded, partially funded and self-funded opportunities based on available budget in the National Mountain Bike program. Each athlete's funding level, for this particular project, will be outlined in the invitation for the project.

5. WORLD CUP #3 and 4 – Vallnord, Andorra and Lenzerheide, Switzerland (June 22-July 11)

- a. **Category:** U23 Women and U23 Men (Including Cycling Canada NextGen in this category)
- b. **Objective:** Development: increase race fitness, skill and tactical knowledge at the international level.
- c. **Team Size:** 4 U23 Women, 4 U23 Men. Cycling Canada reserves the right to increase, decrease or reconfigure team size or quotas based on funding limitations, the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD or other factors not under Cycling Canada's control.
- d. **Eligibility:** All athletes aged 19 to 22 on Dec. 31, 2017.
- e. **Selection Date:** May 30, 2017
- f. **Selection Pool Qualification:** Athletes will be automatically included in the Pool of athletes eligible for selection, upon meeting one of the following criteria.
 - i. Any athlete enrolled in Cycling Canada's NextGen MTB program.
 - ii. Athletes who competed in the U23 category at World Cup #1 and #2 in 2017.
 - iii. Athletes nominated to the selection pool based on the expert opinion of the National Head Coach, NextGen Coach and HPD.
- g. **Selection of Team:** In considering the riders to be selected to the Team for this project, the Selection Committee shall take into account performance and results from the 2017 World Cup #1 and #2 as well as Clause 10 of the General Selection Policy.
- h. **Funding:** This project will offer athletes funded, partially funded and self-funded opportunities based on available budget in the National Mountain Bike program. Each athlete's funding level, for this particular project, will be outlined in the invitation for the project.

6. WORLD CUP #3 and 4 – Vallnord, Andorra and Lenzerheide, Switzerland (June 22-July 11)

- a. **Category:** Elite Women and Men
- b. **Objective:** Development: increase race fitness, skill and tactical knowledge at the international level.
- c. **Team Size:** 4 Elite Women, 4 Elite Men. Cycling Canada reserves the right to increase, decrease or reconfigure team size or quotas based on funding limitations, the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD or other factors not under Cycling Canada's control.
- d. **Eligibility:** Athletes aged 23 and over as of Dec. 31, 2017.
- e. **Selection Date:** May 30, 2017

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f. Selection Pool Qualification:

- i. Athletes who competed in the Elite category at World Cup #1 and #2 in 2017.
- ii. Athletes nominated to the selection pool based on the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD.
- g. Selection of Team:** In considering the riders to be selected to the Team for this project, the Selection Committee shall take into account performance and results from the 2017 World Cup #1 and #2 and Clause 10 of the General Selection Policy.
- h. Funding:** This project will offer athletes funded, partially funded and self-funded opportunities based on available budget in the National Mountain Bike program. Each athlete's funding level, for this particular project, will be outlined in the invitation for the project.

SCHEDULE 3 – WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS XCO

1. GENERAL

- a. Events:** This Schedule covers selection for the International Pools and Teams for the following Events, subject to Clause 12 of the General Selection Policy (right to vary team size or not to enter team):

Dates	Project	Location	Athletes
Aug 31 – Sept 12	XCO World Championships	Cairns, Australia	Junior, U23, Elite

- b. Sanctioned Competition or Authorized Event:** In order to be considered for selection to these Championship Projects, Pools and Teams riders must achieve the Specific Selection Criteria set out in this Schedule while participating in a UCI sanctioned competition or a CC authorized event and while using a Mountain Bike that complies with the UCI Cycling Regulations.
- c. Other Factors:** Any selection to a Team for any one of the Events is subject to this Policy (including clause 10 (Other Factors), 11 (Extenuating Circumstances) and 12 (Other Selection Matters).
- d. Pre-Conditions:** All riders seeking selection to a Championship project must complete a high level competition participation period of at least one (1) month in an approved Team training and racing program prior to the 2017 UCI Mountain Bike World Championships. Riders selected to the World Championship team must have submitted a Yearly Training Plan to the National Coach and be active participants in the National monthly training report program. In the event that a new rider qualifies to the World Championship team, the rider must submit their Yearly Training Plan (YTP) and begin the National monthly training report program upon notification of selection to the World Championships.
- e. Time Period:** Riders must achieve the Specific Selection Criteria set out in this Schedule during the time period commencing Feb. 1, 2017, and for the Pools concluding midnight (EST) prior to the Selection Date, unless stated otherwise.

2. 2017 WORLD XCO CHAMPIONSHIPS INFORMATION

- a.** The purpose of this section is to provide the membership with information on how Cycling Canada (CC) will select its representatives to the 2017 MTB World Championships. The primary objective of the selection process is to choose athletes with the highest potential to win medals at the 2017 Mountain Bike World Championships.
- b.** Selection for the World Championships is open to any athlete possessing a Canadian passport at the time of nomination, an international UCI racing license and who is a member in good standing with the CC, their respective Provincial /Territorial Sport Organization, the Union Cycliste International, (UCI) and the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES).
- c.** The World Championship Team will offer fully funded, partially funded and self-funded positions. Athletes will be notified of the exact costs associated with the project at the time of selection.

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Historically the majority of XCO athletes on this project can anticipate self-funded positions at a cost of approximately \$1200-\$1500 plus the athlete's airfare.

d. Selection Procedure

- i. The selection criteria in each category and discipline are outlined in this document.
- ii. All disputes shall be managed pursuant of the Cycling Canada Appeals Policy.

e. Selection Announcement: Cycling Canada will endeavor to announce athlete selections in a timely manner as outlined below in order to provide the best possible preparation time and to provide partially funded athletes with time to secure funding from their province, teams, sponsors and/or supporters. Cycling Canada reserves the right to change these announcement dates in the event that more time is needed to ensure due process and fairness in selection.

f. Team Size: Cycling Canada reserves the right to increase, decrease or reconfigure team size or quotas based on funding limitations, the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD or other factors not under Cycling Canada's control.

3. Junior Women XCO 2017 World Championship Selection

a. Objective: Top 10 performances.

b. Team Size: 4 athletes. Cycling Canada reserves the right to increase, decrease or reconfigure team size or quotas based on funding limitations, the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD or other factors not under Cycling Canada's control.

c. Eligibility: All female athletes aged 17 and 18 as of Dec. 31, 2017.

d. Selection Date: July 21, 2017

e. Selection Pool Qualification: Athletes will be automatically included in the Pool of athletes eligible for selection, upon meeting one of the following criteria.

- i. Any athlete who placed top 10 in the Junior XCO at the 2016 MTB XCO World Championships, provided that athlete has demonstrated the ability to maintain a similar level of performance during the 2017 season as demonstrated by international performances and ranking.
- ii. Winner of the 2017 Mont Tremblant Canada Cup or next best if the winner is already in the pool.
- iii. Winner of the 2017 National Mountain Bike Championships or next best if the winner is already in the pool.
- iv. Athletes nominated to the selection pool based on the expert opinion of the National Development Coach and HPD.

f. Selection of Team: In considering the riders to be selected to the Team for this project, the Selection Committee shall take into account performances and results from the 2017 Mont Tremblant Canada Cup XCO and the 2017 National Championships XCO as well as Clause 10 of the General Selection Policy.

4. Category: Junior Men XCO 2017 World Championship Selection

a. Objective: Top 10 Performances.

b. Team Size: 4 athletes. Cycling Canada reserves the right to increase, decrease or reconfigure team size or quotas based on funding limitations, the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD or other factors not under Cycling Canada's control.

c. Eligibility: All male athletes aged 17 and 18 as of Dec. 31, 2017.

d. Selection Date: July 21, 2017

e. Selection Pool Qualification: Athletes will be automatically included in the Pool of athletes eligible for selection, upon meeting one of the following criteria.

- i. Any athlete who placed top 10 in the Junior XCO at the 2016 MTB XCO World Championships, provided that athlete has demonstrated the ability to maintain a similar level of performance during the 2017 season as demonstrated by international performances and ranking.

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- ii. Winner of the 2017 Mont Tremblant Canada Cup or next best if the winner is already in the pool.
- iii. Winner of the 2017 National Mountain Bike Championships or next best if the winner is already in the pool.
- iv. Athletes nominated to the selection pool based on the expert opinion of the National Development Coach and HPD.
- f. **Selection of Team:** In considering the riders to be selected to the Team for this project, the Selection Committee shall take into account performance and results from the 2017 Mont Tremblant Canada Cup XCO and the 2017 National Championships XCO as well as Clause 10 of the General Selection Policy.

5. U23 Women XCO 2017 World Championship Selection

- a. **Objective: Medal performances.**
- b. **Team Size: 4 athletes.** Cycling Canada reserves the right to increase, decrease or reconfigure team size or quotas based on funding limitations, the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD or other factors not under Cycling Canada's control.
- c. **Eligibility:** All female athletes aged 19 to 22 as of Dec. 31, 2017.
- d. **Selection Date:** July 21, 2017
- e. **Selection Pool Qualification:** Athletes will be automatically included in the Pool of athletes eligible for selection, upon meeting one of the following criteria.
 - i. Any athlete who placed top 10 in the U23 XCO at the 2016 MTB XCO World Championships, provided that athlete has demonstrated the ability to maintain a similar level of performance during the 2017 season as demonstrated by international performances and ranking.
 - ii. The 2017 XCO National Champion.
 - iii. Athletes who have finished among the top 25 at a 2017 XCO World Cup event outside North America as of selection date.
 - iv. Athletes nominated to the selection pool based on the expert opinion of the National MTB Head Coach and HPD.
- f. **Selection of Team:** In considering the riders to be selected to the Team for this project, the Selection Committee shall take into account performance and results from 2017 World Cup XCO races and the 2017 National Mountain Bike Championships in XCO as well as Clause 10 of the General Selection Policy.

6. U23 Men XCO 2017 World Championship Selection

- a. **Objective: Medal performances.**
- b. **Team Size: 4 athletes.** Cycling Canada reserves the right to increase, decrease or reconfigure team size or quotas based on funding limitations, the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD or other factors not under Cycling Canada's control.
- c. **Eligibility:** All male athletes aged 19 to 22 as of Dec. 31, 2017.
- d. **Selection Date:** July 21, 2017
- e. **Selection Pool Qualification:** Athletes will be automatically included in the Pool of athletes eligible for selection, upon meeting one of the following criteria.
 - i. Any athlete who placed top 10 in the U23 XCO at the 2016 MTB XCO World Championships, provided that athlete has demonstrated the ability to maintain a similar level of performance during the 2017 season as demonstrated by international performances and ranking.
 - ii. The 2017 XCO National Champion.
 - iii. Athletes who have finished among the top 25 at a 2017 XCO World Cup event outside North America as of selection date.
 - iv. Athletes nominated to the selection pool based on the expert opinion of the National MTB Head Coach and HPD.

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- f. **Selection of Team:** In considering the riders to be selected to the Team for this project, the Selection Committee shall take into account performance and results from 2017 World Cup XCO races and the 2017 National Mountain Bike Championships in XCO, as well as Clause 10 of the General Selection Policy.
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7. **Category:** Elite Women XCO 2017 World Championship Selection

- a. **Objective:** Medal performances. To provide international racing experience for Podium Pathway athletes.
- b. **Team Size: 6 athletes.** Cycling Canada reserves the right to increase, decrease or reconfigure team size or quotas based on funding limitations, the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD or other factors not under Cycling Canada's control.
- c. **Eligibility:** All female athletes aged 23 and older as of Dec. 31, 2017.
- d. **Selection Date:** July 21, 2017
- e. **Selection Pool Qualification:** Athletes will be automatically included in the Pool of athletes eligible for selection, upon meeting one of the following criteria.
 - i. Any athlete who placed top 10 in the Elite XCO at the 2016 MTB XCO World Championships, provided that athlete has demonstrated the ability to maintain a similar level of performance during the 2017 season as demonstrated by international performances and ranking.
 - ii. The 2017 XCO National Champion.
 - iii. Athletes who have finished among the top 25 in a 2017 World Cup XCO race prior to the selection date.
 - iv. Athletes nominated to the selection pool based on the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD.
- f. **Selection of Team:** In considering the riders to be selected to the Team for this project, the Selection Committee shall take into account performance and results from 2017 World Cup XCO races and the 2017 National Mountain Bike Championships in XCO as well as Clause 10 of the General Selection Policy.

8. **Category:** Elite Men XCO 2017 World Championship Selection

- a. **Objective:** Medal performances. To provide international racing experience for Podium Pathway athletes.
- b. **Team Size: 6 athletes.** Cycling Canada reserves the right to increase, decrease or reconfigure team size or quotas based on funding limitations, the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD or other factors not under Cycling Canada's control.
- c. **Eligibility:** All male athletes aged 23 and older as of Dec. 31, 2017.
- d. **Selection Date:** July 21, 2017
- e. **Selection Pool Qualification:** Athletes will be automatically included in the Pool of athletes eligible for selection, upon meeting one of the following criteria.
 - i. Any athlete who placed top 10 in the Elite XCO at the 2016 MTB XCO World Championships, provided that athlete has demonstrated the ability to maintain a similar level of performance during the 2017 season as demonstrated by international performances and ranking.
 - ii. The 2017 XCO National Champion.
 - iii. Athletes who have finished among the top 25 in a 2017 World Cup XCO race prior to the selection date.
 - iv. Athletes nominated to the selection pool based on the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD.
- f. **Selection of Team:** In considering the riders to be selected to the Team for this project, the Selection Committee shall take into account only results from 2017 World Cup XCO races and the

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2017 National Mountain Bike Championships in XCO, as well as Clause 10 of the General Selection Policy.

9. Selection of Team Relay and participation in non-XCO events – World Championships

- i. Selection to the team relay will be based solely on the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD.
- ii. Entry into events other than XCO at the World Championships (i.e. XCE or other) will be based solely on the expert opinion of the National Head Coach and HPD.

APPENDIX A. – Simplified Podium Pathway Example

The Simplified Podium Pathway Example below is a basic version of the actual Podium Pathway database (a snapshot). Using the chart below, athletes and coaches can gain a better understanding of where their results may rank in terms of the actual Podium Pathway database.

The detailed Podium Pathway for each rider must be analyzed using the actual Podium Pathway database software; and must be combined with a National Coach assessment of each athlete's potential based on the training process; overall progression in training; and performance within each race in order to be comprehensive.

HOW TO USE THE SIMPLIFIED PODIUM PATHWAY EXAMPLE BELOW:

1. Circle the number of years you have been racing in the category.
2. Circle your best race result from last year in a race with large depth of field (i.e. Worlds or World Cup in Europe)
3. Circle the total number of training hours you completed last year (all training included).
4. Are you on the Podium Pathway? Ahead? Behind?
5. What do you need to stay ahead of the pathway?
6. What is the gap between you and the pathway?
7. What is your plan to mitigate that gap? What support do you need?
8. Remember, it's not how many hours you do, but what you do with those hours that really matters. The training has to be well planned and properly sequenced to be effective. Please consult with your coach and/or the National Team coach to make sure you're training in an optimal manner at each stage of the pathway.

SIMPLIFIED PODIUM PATHWAY - WOMEN

UCI Category	# of Years Competing in Category	Ranking in international events with considerable depth of field (typically euro WC)	1 Standard Deviation From Target Ranking	2 Standard Deviations From Target Ranking	Milestone Events	Estimated training volume in 5% increments per year.
Elite	Year 8	3	4	4	2nd Olympics	
Elite	Year 7	5	6	7		
Elite	Year 6	8	9	11		
Elite	Year 5	11	14	17		
Elite	Year 4	18	22	26	1st Olympics	972
Elite	Year 3	23	27	32		926
Elite	Year 2	35	39	43		882
Elite	Year 1	39	42	45		840
U23	Year 4	10	15	20		800
U23	Year 3	15	20	25		760
U23	Year 2	20	25	30		722
U23	Year 1	25	30	35		686
Junior	Year 2	8	13	18		652
Junior	Year 1	15	20	25		619
Cadet	Year 2	Build skills, aerobic capacity, coachability and accountability early in a fun environment with peers. Develop basic mental performance skills and work ethic needed for the journey to Elite. Cycling can be complimented with other sports that compliment aerobic capacity.				588
Cadet	Year 1					559
Minime	Year 2					531
Minime	Year 1					504

Cycling Canada National Team selection policy

SPECIFIC conditions and criteria for selection to all national team MOUNTAIN BIKE programs

SIMPLIFIED PODIUM PATHWAY - MEN

UCI Category	# of Years Competing in Category	Ranking in international events with considerable depth of field (typically euro WC)	1 Standard Deviation From Target Ranking	2 Standard Deviations From Target Ranking	Milestone Events	Estimated training volume in 5% increments per year.
Elite	Year 8	3	3	4	2nd Olympics	
Elite	Year 7	7	8	10		
Elite	Year 6	12	15	18		
Elite	Year 5	17	22	26		
Elite	Year 4	20	26	31	1st Olympics	972
Elite	Year 3	23	28	34		926
Elite	Year 2	24	31	38		882
Elite	Year 1	32	42	52		840
U23	Year 4	10	15	20		800
U23	Year 3	20	25	30		760
U23	Year 2	30	35	40		722
U23	Year 1	40	45	50		686
Junior	Year 2	10	15	20		652
Junior	Year 1	15	20	25		619
Cadet	Year 2	Build skills, aerobic capacity, coachability and accountability early in a fun environment with peers. Develop basic mental performance skills and work ethic needed for the journey to Elite. Cycling can be complimented with other sports that compliment aerobic capacity.				588
Cadet	Year 1					559
Minime	Year 2					531
Minime	Year 1					504