



**Cycling South Africa
Mountain Bike Commission**

**2023
Selection Criteria
for
South African MTB & Off-Road Cycling Teams
including
XCO – DHI – XCM – Gravel – Enduro**

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Mountain Bike Team Selection Criteria 2023 – V01
Disciplines included: XCO – DHI – XCM – Gravel - Enduro

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1.0 Introduction and Purpose

- 1.01** To enable riders to prepare, train and schedule for the upcoming 2023 racing season, and for their potential selection to national teams, it is essential that clear guidelines and targets are set out for them to work to. This is the main purpose of this document.
- 1.02** The Team Selection Criteria will be used to select the teams to represent South Africa at:
- 1.02.01 UCI World Championships 2023, in one or more of the off-road cycling disciplines
 - 1.02.02 Host nation RSA Team for any World Cup that may be held in South Africa
 - 1.02.03 Other events, if held, where selection of an RSA team is required; e.g., African Continental Championships
 - 1.02.04 In collaboration with SASCOC guidelines and any applicable quotas, to nominate riders to compete at the Commonwealth Games in the years when they are held. Any agreement between SASCOC and CyclingSA regarding qualification criteria will also be applied.
- 1.02.05 Rider Long Lists:** To encourage ongoing achievement and to facilitate early talent identification, riders at various levels of development in their cycling careers will be allocated to 1 of 3 levels on the Rider Long Lists [see Addendum 2]
- 1.03** It is very important to understand at this stage that, by a rider meeting the performance criteria set out later in this document, he/she will not automatically qualify for inclusion in ANY RSA Team. **In addition, a selection process and panel approval will also be required.**
- 1.04 Criteria outside the ambit of the Selection Policy**
For purposes of clarity, to avoid misunderstandings and to be fair to all contenders, it must be noted that selection performance criteria, and selection races, are strictly limited to those detailed and listed in this document. Any aspect outside of the ambit of this policy will not be considered in determining selection. Such aspects would include, but are not limited to:
- 1.04.01 Races outside the time periods listed in this document, including any past performances at selection races incorporated in earlier policies
 - 1.04.02 Events not listed as selection races, unless otherwise specified
 - 1.04.03 Performance levels outside of those specified in this policy
 - 1.04.04 Contributions & commitment to the sport in general, in whatever way, outside of qualifying criteria & performances. While such contributions are highly appreciated, they are recognized separately from SA Team Selection.
- 1.05 Merit Selection: SA Teams to World Championships & Olympic Games**
- 1.05.01 The selection of riders to the SA Team for World Championships & Olympic Games, is strategic in that the aim is to send riders with the realistic potential to achieve the targets set out below.
 - 1.05.02 The purpose is thus also to recognize the achievements of riders at the highest level, and to enhance, maintain and protect the status of merit-based SA Team Selection over time
 - 1.05.03 What this means in practice, is that riders are not sent to the World Championships and Olympic Games to gain experience.
 - 1.05.04 International experience needs to be gained with participation in UCI-categorized races in Africa, Asia, Europe, The Americas & Oceania, such as World Cups, and various international Cat 1 & 2 national series.
 - 1.05.05 This also means that only riders who meet the targets set out below will be eligible for selection, and quotas will not simply be filled if riders have not qualified on the criteria.

1.06 Extenuating Circumstances – Applicable to ALL Disciplines

In considering the performances and results of riders at events or other attendances required under this Policy, the selection committee may, at its discretion, give weight to extenuating circumstances. For the purposes of this Policy, extenuating circumstances means an inability to compete or perform at an optimum level arising from any one or more of the following:

- 1.06.01 Injury or illness (documented, and reported to the Convenor of Selectors, at the time the incident occurred and accompanied by a certified medical explanation).
- 1.06.02 Pregnancy.
- 1.06.03 Travel restrictions or delays outside the athlete's control.
- 1.06.04 In the case of injury or illness, riders are required to provide a doctor's certificate and letter addressed to the Convenor of Selectors outlining the nature of the case.
- 1.06.05 The determination of an extenuating circumstance will be made on a case-by-case basis.
- 1.06.06 Such determination will be made by the selection panel and documented appropriately.
- 1.06.07 The acceptance of an extenuating circumstance is not a guarantee of selection.

2.0 Selection Panel

As part of the process to ensure that the selection panel operates in a fair, objective and transparent manner, the following principles will apply for the appointment and participation of panel members:

2.01 Eligibility:

- 2.01.01 Panel members should not be directly involved with contending riders in one or more of the following roles: Parent, coach, sponsor or manager
- 2.01.02 If any panel member in such a role is co-opted or appointed due to expertise and-or specialist knowledge, they will be expected to recuse themselves from any discussion relating to their riders

2.02 Panel members should be appointed on the basis of proven competence in at least one or more of:

- 2.02.01 Depth of knowledge and understanding of selection principles and policy
- 2.02.02 Ability to apply selection criteria fairly, objectively and consistently
- 2.02.03 Specific discipline expertise, in one or more of XCO, DHI and XCM
- 2.02.04 Specialist sports scientific knowledge and expertise, preferably related to cycling and MTB
- 2.02.05 Direct observation and assessment of rider performances at selection events

2.03 Selection Panel 2023:

To retain institutional knowledge and promote continuity, panel members should serve for at least 2 years. The Panel should strive not to replace more than 3 members in any one year. The appointed panel members are:

- 2.03.01 Convenor of Selectors: Grevile Ruddock
- 2.03.02 High Performance: tbc
- 2.03.03 XCO Specialist: Ian Smith
- 2.03.04 DHI Specialist: Nigel Hicks
- 2.03.05 XCM specialist: Greg Stedman
- 2.03.06 PDI Representative: Siphon Madolo
- 2.03.07 Women Representative: Paola Damilano
- 2.03.08 Additional Selectors, as required to ensure a full complement of at least 5

2.04 A Chief Selector may be elected by the full Panel, but cannot be the Convenor.

2.05 The role of the Convenor will generally be to:

- 2.05.01 Convene and guide the selection process, and Chair meetings of the Selection Panel
- 2.05.02 Gather and compile the performance data required by the selectors

- 2.05.03 Ensure that the selectors apply the criteria fairly and objectively
- 2.05.04 Report to CyclingSA on the findings of the Selection Panel
- 2.05.05 Communicate regularly with riders in contention, and provide them with data and guidance

2.06 Additional members may be co-opted to the selection panel, to provide further inputs and observations

3.0 Minimum rider requirements for eligibility:

To be in contention for selection, all riders must:

- 3.01 Be a South African Citizen
- 3.02 Meet the UCI requirements in terms of citizenship, particularly in cases where dual citizenship comes into question.
- 3.03 Riders may only enter & race as a South African citizen, in all races during the season.
- 3.04 Have a “full racing” Cycling SA license or UCI International Licence, with nationality recorded as RSA, by the start of the season, or first selection race if earlier
- 3.05 Never bring the sport into disrepute
- 3.06 Participate in the 2023 SA National Championships in the specific discipline.
- 3.06.01 If a rider is unable to compete in the SA National Championships they can apply for exemption under the following regulations. However, the rest of the minimum requirements here will still apply:
 - 3.06.02 Extenuating circumstances (See Clause 1.06)
 - 3.06.03 If a rider is racing internationally at the time of the event they can apply for a concession. This concession is however not automatic, and the rider must still achieve the other relevant criteria for selection based on the performance criteria set for the specific discipline.
 - 3.06.04 If the rider is considered a realistic Top 5 contender at the World Championships an application does not need to be lodged with the Convenor of Selectors.
- 3.07 Participate in at least 3 Selection Races as listed below for each specific discipline.
- 3.08 Familiarize themselves with-, and comply with-, all the rules of the UCI and CyclingSA
- 3.09 Meet the performance criteria detailed below
- 3.10 Note that team selection is not automatic on meeting the performance criteria only. The ability of riders to meet the targets in the relevant international competitions will also be assessed
- 3.11 Note that if no riders in any specific category or group meet the criteria, then no riders will be selected for that Category or group

4.0 Team Squad sizes, PDI Representation and Budget constraints

- 4.01 Since the transformation and development plans and implementation of CyclingSA-MTB are behind that of many other sports in South Africa, we will apply a quota system to ensure we afford PDI mountain bikers the best possible opportunity to develop into world-class mountain bikers

- 4.02 While meeting selection & performance criteria will determine final squad sizes, the target will be to achieve a **25% PDI** representation in teams. However, such PDI riders also need to meet PDI selection criteria. In effect, this means that where more than 1 rider has equal qualification data, then any PDI rider will have preference.
- 4.03 Within the targets set at 4.02 above, those PDI riders achieving the best overall results in selection races across all categories will be considered for selection.
- 4.04 Overall, however, team squad sizes will be limited as set out below at Clause 14.0.
- 4.05 Should there therefore be more riders who qualify through the performance criteria set out below, only the very best riders will be selected, based on the results they achieve in terms of the specific selection criteria. Please also see the tables of maximum team sizes below in this document.

5.0 Mountain Bike Disciplines and Age Categories recognized

- 5.01 Team selection will focus on XCO [Cross Country], DHI [Downhill Individual], XCM [Marathon Cross Country], END [Enduro] and Gravel Biking
- 5.02 It is important to note that XCM, END and Gravel only applies to riders of 19 years and older, and only for the full distances as per the UCI rules
- 5.03 While Youth riders may not be selected to the team, this age group is considered the entry point for talent identification. Consequently, performance data may be gathered and assessed for Youth riders
- 5.04 Only riders turning 17 years and older in 2023 will be considered for selection
- 5.05 Any rider of 30 years and older in 2023, and who wants to be considered for selection as an Elite, will be required to have an Elite Racing Licence at the start of the 2023 season
- 5.06 This implies that riders aiming for team selection will need to decide to obtain an Elite licence prior to the season commencing, and must then race Elite for the full season

6.0 Applicable Age Categories:

- 6.01 XCO and DHI:> Junior, Under-23 and Elite racing categories only
- 6.02 XCM – END – Gravel:> 19 years and older

7.0 Performance Criteria - XCO

7.01 Targets achieved at international selection races:

In all cases below, where finish positions are taken into account, results where riders do not finish on the same number of laps as the winner, will not be considered. **In addition, riders must also meet the performance criteria shown. Performance levels are based on the race category winner's time [i.e. Men assessed against Men; Women against Women]**

7.01.01 UCI 2023 World Cups – All

Elite Men & Women:	Men 110%	Women 110%
U-23 Men & Women:	Men 110%	Women 110%

7.01.02 UCI 2023 Cat 1 & HC Races in Europe, USA and Oceania:

Elite Men & Women	Men 105%	Women 105%
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7.01.03 UCI Cat 1 & HC Races in Southern Africa: NAM – LES – BOT – SWA – ZIM

Elite Men & Women:	Men 103%	Women 103%
U-23 Men & Women:	Men 103%	Women 103%
Junior Men & Women:	Men 103%	Women 103%

7.01.04 World Junior Series Races:
South Africa Junior Men: 103% **Junior Women: 103%**
International Junior Men & Women: 110%

7.02 SA Series Performance Selection:

7.02.01 SA National Cup Series: Final standings, subject to achieving the following:
Categories: Applies to the combined Elite+U-23 group and to Junior
Positions: Top 3 Men and Top 3 women overall in the Series
Performance: Must be within 5% of the race winner on at least 75% of the series races within the Performance Period
Basis: The measure to assess performance will be **Average Lap Times**

7.03 UCI World Rankings and UCI Junior World Series

7.03.01 Any rider who is in the Top 10 of the UCI World Rankings at the time of selection, will be exempt from the requirements for performance criteria.

7.03.02 However, the minimum requirements at 3.0 above will still apply.

7.03.03 **Qualifying riders can apply for exemption from riding the SA Championships, but this will only be accepted if the rider is considered a realistic Top 5 contender at the World Championships. This concession is not automatic, and must be approved first**

7.04 Further competitive assessment:

If further assessment is required where riders are very close on performances achieved in terms of 7.01 through 7.03, the Selection Panel will also be required to assess performance in terms of results achieved, in the priority order shown, as to:

7.04.01 **1st Head-to-Head:** Where positions are tallied, with the lowest total being the best result

7.04.02 **2nd Podiums:** Top 3 positions achieved in selection races, with points 1st = 3; 2nd = 2; 3rd = 1

7.04.03 **3rd Ranking:** UCI World ranking followed by RSA ranking

8.0 Performance Criteria – DHI

8.01 Purpose

The purpose of the DHI selection criteria is to nominate athletes to the National Team pursuant to the following objectives:

8.01.01 Athletes capable of achieving the following results at the 2023 UCI World Championships.

Elite Men – Top 15

Elite Women – Top 10

Junior Men – Top 20

Junior Women – Top 8

8.01.02 Athletes who have demonstrated through international performances and results the potential to progress toward a result as listed in 8.01.01 at the UCI MTB World Championships within 2 years.

8.01.03 Junior athletes who have demonstrated potential to progress towards a result as listed in 8.01.01 at future World Championships.

8.01.04 Athletes who have the potential to be one of the top three ranked South Africans on the UCI DHI individual rankings at the end of 2023 such that their performance at World Championships may assist South Africa's overall nation ranking.

8.02 Mandatory Eligibility Requirements (in addition to clause 3.0)

8.02.01 2023 DHI National Championships.

A rider who is in the Top 10 of the UCI World Rankings at the time of selection, will

be exempt from the requirements for performance criteria. However, the minimum requirements at 3.0 above will still apply. Qualifying riders can apply for exemption from riding the SA Championships, but this will only be accepted if the rider is considered a realistic Top 5 contender at the World Championships. This concession is not automatic, and must be approved first.

8.03 Performance Time Period

8.03.01 The performance period for the purposes of selections is **29th July 2022 to 31st May 2023**. In the case of extenuating circumstances [Clause 1.06] being approved, the Panel may consider an athlete's results in the 12 months prior to the performance time period.

8.04 Selection Events:

For the purposes of nominations, the selectors will consider performances achieved in the following events.

8.04.01 2022 CSA National DHI Championships.

8.04.02 CSA National Cup Series DHI events during the performance period.

8.04.03 2022 UCI DHI World Championships

8.04.04 2022 UCI DHI World Cups rounds 6 to 8

8.04.05 UCI Categorized Races: Cat 1 and Cat 2 during the performance period.

8.05 Selection Criteria

Riders are required to qualify with a minimum of three (3) points. Subject to all the above requirements, riders can qualify for points towards selection in the following ways:

8.05.01 SA DHI Championship 2023 - (1st place = 2 Points; 2nd and 3rd = 1 point)

Men's categories – must be a minimum of five participants per category.

Women's categories – must be a minimum of three participants per category.

8.05.02 If insufficient numbers occur in the Elite or Junior Women categories – the overall Women winner (if competing within the above categories, and finishing within 120% of the respective Male category winner) will be awarded 1 point.

8.05.03 SA National Cup Series: Final standings – (2 Points)

To be eligible for this point's criteria, riders must participate in at least 75% of the SA Cup Series events held prior to the closure of the performance period on 31st May 2023

Elite Men:

(a) Any athlete with a Top 2 overall position in the series as of 31st May 2023.

(b) Performance: Must be within 103% of the race winner on at least 3 series races

(c) Basis: Only Final Run results will be assessed

Elite Women:

(a) Any athlete with a Top 1 overall position in the series as of 31st May 2023

(b) Performance: Must be within 105% of the race winner on applicable races

(c) Basis: Only Final Run results will be assessed

Junior Men:

(a) Any athlete with a Top 2 overall position in the series as of 31st May 2023

(b) Performance: Must be within 103% of the race winner on applicable races

(c) Basis: Only Final Run results will be assessed

Junior Women:

(a) Any athlete with a Top 1 overall position in the series as of 31st May 2023

(b) Performance: Must be within 105% of the race winner on applicable races

(c) Basis: Only Final Run results will be assessed

8.05.04 African Continental Champion [only if held in 2023] - (2 Points)

There must be a minimum of 5 South African riders (3 in the Women's category)

present per elite/junior category for this to apply. This number is automatically reduced in accordance with the numbers selected if less than five per category.

- 8.05.05 2022 World Championships - (2 Points)**
Any rider finishing in the top 25% of the respective category starting field at the previous MTB World Championships. Junior results are subject to the rider still being eligible for the Junior category and cannot be transferred to the Elite Category.
- 8.05.06 UCI World Cup Qualifying Run: - (1 Point)**
Any rider who qualifies for a World Cup final within the performance time period (2022 UCI DHI World Cup rounds 6, 7, 8 and 2023 UCI World Cup rounds 1 & 2) will receive a point.
- 8.05.07 UCI World Cup Final Run: - (1 point)**
Elite Men: (a) Have a race time within 105% of the winning race time
Elite Women: (a) Have a race time within 110% of the winning race time
Junior Men: (a) Have a race time within 105% of the winning race time
Junior Women: (a) Have a race time within 110% of the winning race time
- 8.05.08 UCI World Cup Rankings as on the Selection Date 31st May 2023 – (1 Point)**
Elite Men: Any rider in the top 50 UCI Elite Men's Rankings.
Elite Women: Any rider in the top 10 UCI Elite Women's Rankings.
Junior Men: Any rider in the top 50 UCI Junior Men's Rankings.
Junior Women: Any rider in the top 10 UCI Junior Women's Rankings.
- 8.05.09 UCI Categorized Races: Cat 1 and Cat 2 (EG: IXS Cup events) - (1 Point)**
Elite Men: (a) Have a race time within 105% of the winning race time
Elite Women: (a) Have a race time within 110% of the winning race time
Junior Men: (a) Have a race time within 110% of the Elite Men's winning race time
Junior Women: (a) Have a race time within 120% of the Elite Women's winning race time
- 8.05.10 IXS Cup Rankings – (1 Point)**
Any rider who ranked within the Top 3 of EITHER the IXS European Cup OR IXS Downhill Cup Rankings as of the selection date on 31st May 2023.
- 8.06 Further competitive assessment:**
After the assessments in 8.05, if further assessment is required where riders are very close in terms of performances achieved, the Selection Panel will also be required to assess performance in terms of results achieved, in the priority order shown, as to:
- 8.06.01 Head-to-Head:** Where positions are tallied, with the lowest total being the best result
8.06.02 Podiums: Top 3 positions achieved in selection races, with points 1st=3; 2nd =2; 3rd=1
8.06.03 Ranking: UCI World ranking followed by RSA ranking

9.0 Performance Criteria – XCM

9.01 The criteria for XCM only applies to Elite Men and Women 19+

9.02 Automatic Selection in addition to meeting performance criteria

Subject to all the above requirements, riders can qualify for selection in **one-, or more-**, of the following ways, **on condition that they also meet the performance criteria in each case:**

9.02.01 SA Champion 2023

There must be a minimum of ten South African riders present per elite category for this automatic selection criteria to apply in addition to at least three of the top five South African UCI world ranked riders being present per category

- 9.02.02 **African Continental Champion** [only if held in 2023]
There must be a minimum of five South African riders present per elite category for this automatic selection criteria to apply in addition to at least three of the top five South African UCI world ranked riders being present per category
- 9.02.03 **UCI World Marathon Series**
Elite Men & Women: Top 10
- 9.02.04 **Series Performance Selection:**
If a **SA National Marathon Series** is implemented, the selection races will consist of the races listed below at 12.0.
- 9.02.05 In addition, if not part of the 2023 SA National Marathon Series:
Attakwas Extreme 2023 21st January 2023
Trailseeker Series 1st Jan to 31st May 2023
SA National XCM Championships 3rd & 4th March 2023
- 9.02.06 **UCI World Marathon Series 15th Jan to 31st May 2023**
- 9.03 Categories: Elite Men and Women**
- 9.03.01 Rankings: Ranking points will be assigned to the first 10 South African men and first 10 South African women overall in each race. The Standard National Series points table will apply
- 9.03.02 Positions: Top 5 men and top 4 women for the overall Series Performance must be within 5% of the race winner on at least 3 series races
- 9.03.03 Basis: The measure used to assess performance will be against the respective winners of the Elite Men [for men] & Elite Women [for women]
- 9.04 UCI World Rankings – Elite Men and Women only:**
- 9.04.01 Any rider who is in the Top 10 of the UCI World Marathon Rankings at the time of selection, will be exempt from the requirements for both automatic selection and any further performance criteria.
- 9.04.02 However, the minimum requirements at 3.0 above will still apply
- 9.05 Further competitive assessment:**
- 9.05.01 If further assessment is required where riders are very close in terms of performances achieved in terms of 9.01 through 9.04, the Selection Panel will also be required to assess performance in terms of results achieved, in the priority order shown, as to:
- 9.05.02 **Head-to-Head:** Positions are tallied, with the lowest total being the best result
- 9.05.03 **Podiums:** Top 3 positions achieved in selection races, with points 1st = 3; 2nd = 2; 3rd = 1
- 9.05.04 **Ranking:** UCI World ranking followed by RSA ranking

10.0 Performance Criteria - Gravel

Qualification System for the UCI Gravel World Championships

The UCI Management Committee approves the qualification system each year.

This document sets out the qualification system for the UCI Gravel World Championships, as determined by the UCI Management Committee.

Riders taking part in the UCI Gravel World Championships must hold a valid licence issued by their respective national federation (day licences being excluded), must hold a UCI ID and must be adequately insured against accidents and civil responsibility in the country in which the UCI Gravel World Championships are held as per article 15.6.013.1

10.01 Qualification through the UCI Gravel World Series

Each UCI Gravel World Series event grants qualification rights for the UCI Gravel World Championships. This is only related to one day UCI Gravel World Series events, multi day races part of the UCI Gravel World Series will not grant qualification rights for the UCI Gravel World Championships. Based on the results of each race, the first 25% of athletes in each age group will be qualified for the UCI Gravel World Championships. The 25% is calculated based on the number of starters in each age group, and not on the number of riders having finished the race.²

In addition, the first three riders of each official age category will qualify directly for the World Championships, independently of the number of starters in that age group. Riders must finish the race to gain qualification.

As per article 15.6.016 of the UCI Regulations, the age categories of the UCI Gravel World Championships are:

- 19 – 34
- 35 – 39
- 40 – 44
- 45 – 49
- 50 – 54
- 55 – 59
- 60 – 64
- 65 – 69
- 70 – 74
- 75 – 79

The 25% may be reviewed by the UCI Management Committee on a yearly basis, taking into consideration the participation in the UCI Gravel World Championships, the number of events in the UCI Gravel World Series calendar and the evolution of the UCI Gravel World Series.

Age groups are defined by riders' age on December 31st of the year of the World Championships. At the UCI Gravel World Championships, medals and titles will be awarded for men and/or women as soon as 1 rider is registered in the respective 5-year age category.

N.B: The names of riders having gained qualification through the UCI Gravel World Series will be communicated on the UCI Gravel World Series website and will receive an official email from the UCI inviting them to register for the UCI Gravel World Championships via the dedicated online registration portal.

10.02 Outgoing UCI Gravel World Champions

The outgoing UCI World Champions may take part in the first UCI Gravel World Championships following their title

10.03 Gravel National Champions

All Gravel National Champions from the current year may enter the UCI Gravel World Championships without qualification via the UCI Gravel World Series.

10.04 National Federation – Quotas

Each National Federation can enter 20 quotas in total for all categories across both genders.

10.05 Host Nation of the UCI Gravel World Championships – Quotas

The National Federation of the country of the UCI Gravel World Championships, can enter 40 quotas in total for all categories across both genders.

10.06 Wild cards

Wild cards can be given at the discretion of the UCI only for the riders in the Men Elite and Women Elite categories – members of UCI registered teams or benefiting from a wild card from their National Federation

11.0 Enduro Performance Criteria [to be added later]

12.0 Selection Races

12.01 It is the personal responsibility of contending riders to establish the dates and venues of the races and series listed as selection races

12.02 XCO Selection Races for XCO

Event and-or Series	Weight	Dates	Venue	Class	Country
SA National XCO Cup Series 2023	100%	04 Feb 2023	W-Cape	UCI C 2	RSA
		27 May 2023	Gauteng	UCI C 1	RSA
SA National Champs 2023	100%	16 Apr 2023	Gauteng	CN	RSA
2022 UCI World Cup #5	30%	08 – 10 Jul 2022	Lenzerheide	CDM	SUI
2022 UCI World Cup #6	50%	15 – 17 Jul 2022	Valnord	CDM	AND
2022 UCI World Cup #9	75%	02 – 04 Sep 2022	Val di Sole	CDM	ITA
2023 UCI World Cup #1	100%	05 – 06 May 2023	Valkenberg	CDM	NED
2023 UCI World Cup #2	100%	12 – 13 May 2023	Nove Mesto	CDM	CZE
2023 UCI World Cup #3	100%	09 – 10 Jun 2023	Lenzerheide	CDM	SUI
African Continental Championships	75%	If held in 2023	Tbc	Tbc	Tbc
UCI Cat 1 & HC Races in Europe – Asia - Oceania North & South America	75%	1 Jan – 31 st May 2023	Various	C1 & HC	Var
UCI Cat 1 & HC Races in Southern Africa: RSA - NAM BOT – SWZ – LES – ZIM	100%	1 Jan – 31 st May 2023	Various – if held in 2023	C1 & HC	Var

12.03 Selection Races for XCM: As at 9.0 above

12.04 Selection Races for DHI: As at 8.04 above, and as stated in 8.0 overall above

13.0 SA Team Selection: World Championships [Junior, U-23 and Elite]

13.01 Only riders who comply with all the requirements as set out in this document will be eligible for selection to represent South Africa at the World Mountain Bike Championships, and any other events requiring SA Team selection.

13.02 The only exceptions to this would be **Elite, Under-23 & Junior** South African riders who find themselves in the top 10 ranking (as per UCI) in the World at the time of selection.

13.03 Riders qualifying in terms of Clause 12.02 above, can apply for exemption from riding the SA Championships, but this will only be considered if the rider is considered a realistic Top 5 contender at the World Championships. This is not automatic, and must be approved first

13.04 To keep riders informed of their performances in terms of selection criteria, after each SA National Series event a summary performance assessment will be issued. This will serve as early warning of possible selection to the SA Team, and can also be used to produce a Long List of potential contenders

13.05 A **Final Rider Notification** will be issued between the 6th & 10th June 2023, which will inform riders who have met all qualification and performance criteria, and who are included in the **Provisional Team**. However, this will not be the final team selection, but rather the point at which these nominated riders will be required to indicate their availability for final selection, ability to meet the financial requirements and acceptance of the CSA Code of Conduct. The following process will be followed for riders on the Provisional Team in a **Rider Acceptance Letter** to be emailed to each rider and to which they must respond by latest 25th June 2023:

13.05.01 Accept Selection to the SA Team in the specific discipline

13.05.02 If applicable, release from any individual team or sponsor commitments

13.05.03 Acknowledge the personal financial commitment required in terms of the budget

13.05.04 Acceptance of the CyclingSA Code of Conduct

13.05.05 Any other specific acceptance or acknowledgement that may be required by CyclingSA

13.06 Preliminary Selection & Appeals

After the submission of the Rider Acceptance Letters, and before the Final Team Selection and announcement, riders will be informed of their **Preliminary Team Selection**. At this point, riders need to immediately submit any **Appeals against selection**. Once all appeals have been resolved, the **Final Team Selection** will be made and announced

14.0 Team Sizes

14.01 The best riders in each category will be chosen based on the selection races listed above, subject to the maximum team size as per the table below.

14.02 In all cases, and for XCO, DHI, XCM, END and Gravel the primary determining factor for team selection will be meeting the specific selection criteria.

14.03 **Filling the available team quota is thus not a factor in determining the minimum or maximum team size.**

14.04 **Maximum Team size** – The quantity of Riders may not be more than the UCI quota, and will be determined by that quota as set by the UCI from year to year for each specific discipline

15.0 Other MTB Disciplines not listed

15.01 Enduro, 4X, MTB Trials, e-Bike events and any other off-road discipline not listed in this document, are not yet recognized in South Africa as official RSA Team selection disciplines.

15.02 However, if a rider participates in one of the disciplines in 14.01 above, and is able to validate and motivate why they could or should be considered to represent such discipline at the specific World Championships, they will need to apply in writing to the specific discipline head of CyclingSA to represent South Africa.

16.0 Rider Responsibilities

- 16.01 **Race Reports:** Other than for selection races within South Africa, all contending riders are required to submit race reports on every selection race that they participate in. This is a compulsory requirement for results to be considered for selection. Results must only be submitted in the format as in **Clause 17.05 below**.
- 16.02 The onus is on the rider who believe themselves to be eligible for selection for the 2023 World Championships team to provide the selectors with reasons for a DNS or DNF at selection races.
- 16.03 Reasons to be provided in writing within 48 hours of the selection race.
- 16.04 The only allowable reasons for a DNS and-or DNF will be illness or mechanical breakdown.
- 16.05 Once a rider has started the race, illness cannot be used as a reason for poor performance
- 16.06 **Long-term layoff due to injury or illness:** Where a rider suffers an injury or illness which requires more than 3-months recuperation, they can be excused from selection races during their recovery period. Results prior to the injury-illness and after the recovery will be considered, on condition that the rider was in the Top 3 in their category, and also met the Performance Criteria both before and after the layoff period. Such riders will be allowed 1 less qualifying performance than required above for any discipline. [**See also 1.06 above:** Extenuating Circumstances]
- 16.07 Mechanical problems can only be used as a reason once during the season
- 16.08 All correspondence to be addressed to grevile@iafrica.com and/or dellah@cyclingsa.com

17.0 Riders participating internationally

- 17.01 ALL riders who want to be considered for selection to the RSA Team for World MTB Champs, must participate in the 2023 SA National Championships, and must also meet the required performance criteria
- 17.02 Any rider who, for whatever reason, is unable to attend any national series event, must submit their reasons to the Selection Panel at least 10 days before the specific event. The selectors will have the discretion to decide as to whether the motivation submitted is valid, and to approve the absence. In such cases, proven performance within the required parameters for 2023 can be taken into account.
- 17.03 Where international results are considered, the UCI-rating of the event will also be taken into account, as well as the quality and world ranking of other riders participating in the same race. As these criteria are designed to select RSA riders who can achieve the targets as set out above, those targets will be applied to assess the level of competition at any specific race.
- 17.04 For example, the iXS Downhill Series in Europe: The results of contending RSA riders, will be assessed against the world ranking of participating riders in each UCI-rated event. This may mean that they would need to meet- or exceed times achieved by riders who are ranked in the world top 30 at the same event.
- 17.05 These riders are required to submit their results within 10 days after a race, and providing the Following information to the MTB Convenor of Selectors on grevile@iafrica.com or via dellah@cyclingsa.com :

- 17.05.01 Name, date, venue and UCI Class of the event
 - 17.05.02 Number of laps, if XCO; qualifier and final if DHI
 - 17.05.03 Race winners name, nation, time and current world ranking
 - 17.05.04 Riders own finish position and time
 - 17.05.05 Ascent per lap in metres
 - 17.05.06 Additional information on any mechanical failures, illness or unforeseen challenges
- 17.06 If riders do not submit results for any particular race, those results may be excluded from being assessed
- 17.07 The selection panel may also source results of races, in addition to those submitted by riders, to enable them to evaluate performances

18.0 Continental Champs – World Cups – Commonwealth Games

18.01 Host Nation Team Selection for any MTB World Cup that may be held in SA

- 18.01.01 Riders with UCI Points: Those riders who have sufficient UCI points to qualify in terms of UCI rules, will automatically be able to participate. The onus is on these riders to inform CSA-MTB of their intention to participate at least 1 month before the World Cup
- 18.01.02 Riders with insufficient UCI points and first-time Juniors [who were Youth in 2021]:
As host nation, SA is allowed to enter teams in addition to riders who qualify automatically:
XCO: Elite and Under-23: 6 riders
DHI: Elite and Junior combined: 6 riders

18.02 African Continental Championships 2023

- 18.02.01 If no quota is applied, there will not be selection criteria for the African Continental Championships in 2023, and all licensed riders may participate
- 18.02.02 Participation in any African Continental Championship will be on a self-funded basis, unless adequate funding is available, in which case the criteria as for World Champs will apply

18.03 Any other situation requiring host nation team selection in 2023

- 18.03.01 The same criteria as for the World Champs above will apply, but in addition- Any further series points earned prior to the event for which selection is required

19.0 Commonwealth Games [CWG]

- 19.01 The primary selection criteria, and number of male and female riders, will be determined by the specific criteria as laid down by SASCOC and in any agreements between SASCOC and CyclingSA
- 19.02 In terms of the cycling discipline types and quotas of the Commonwealth Games Association, only XCO will be contested at the CWG. Quotas are restricted to a maximum of 3 Women and 3 Men, and only to riders of 19 years and older.
- 19.03 Only current Under-23 and Elite riders will be considered for selection. This means that riders who are current Juniors will not be considered for CWG selection.
- 19.04 To be considered for selection, riders will need to be ranked within the Top 10 in the Commonwealth [CW] countries as based on the UCI World Rankings as they stand on [tbc]
- 19.05 In addition, in terms of performance, and in competition against riders from other CW countries, riders need to achieve average lap times within 5% of the leading CW rider on at least 1 occasion. Where several riders meet this level, the provisions above will apply.

19.06 While all the provisions of 19.04 above will apply strictly, the secondary selection criteria will be the same as those that apply to the SA Team Selection in 2023. This includes the basic requirements in 3.0 above, the Performance Criteria as listed in 7.0 above and the nominated Selection Races in 11.01 of the **2023** Selection Policy

19.07 SASCOC retains the sole right for the final announcement of the CWG Team. Approval of selection is entirely at the discretion of SASCOC. Successfully following and attaining the necessary qualification in line with the selection criteria is not a guarantee of attendance at CWG, as that decision rests solely with SASCOC.

20.0 Target Dates for Team Selection, Approval, Appeals and Announcement

The following target dates are set down with the purpose of guiding the work of the Selection Panel, CyclingSA and riders so that all functions are carried out timeously for preparation and logistics:

World Champs: All Disciplines 02nd – 06th Aug 2023

20.01	Task	Published	Revised
20.01.01	Rider Assessments	Monthly	
20.01.02	Provisional Team	30 th May 2023	Final rider assessments
20.01.03	Preliminary Selection	05 th Jun 2023	
20.01.04	Appeals to be submitted	07 th Jun 2023	
20.01.05	Final Team Selection	10 th Jun 2023	
20.01.06	Approval by CyclingSA	12 th Jun 2023	
20.01.07	Announcement of Team:	13 th Jun 2023	

A1 Olympic Games XCO: 2024

- A1.01 The Selection Criteria for the 2024 Olympic Games is dealt with in a separate document: **2024 Olympic Games MTB XCO Selection Criteria**
- A1.02 The primary selection criteria, and number of male and female riders, will be determined by the specific criteria as laid down by SASCOC, the UCI and the International Olympic Committee [IOC] and in any agreements between SASCOC and CyclingSA
- A1.03 While the provisions of A1.01 above will apply strictly, riders would also need to meet the general and overall criteria as required for SA Team Selection to the World Championships
- A1.04 **Target Dates for CSA-MTB Olympic nominations:**
Please refer to the separate document as indicated at A1.01 above

A2 Selection Long List – Tier Levels – Funding

Riders on the selection long list are allocated to 3 levels as follows. Any funding is strictly dependent on available funds, budget priorities and any sponsorship that may become available. The default position is that selected athletes are self-funded. However, if funding is available, it will be allocated on a pro-rata basis as indicated below.

A2.01 Level 1: High-Performance Athlete Group

Professional Level Athletes who are consistently considered for selection

CSA-Funded: *Dependent on available funds the following in priority order:*

A2.01.01 *One economy class, single destination airfare, which includes up to 2 pieces of luggage:*

A2.01.02 *Up to two bikes or one bike and one wheel case,*

A2.01.03 *One suitcase each under 23kg (excess weight or additional bag charges are the responsibility of the athlete).*

A2.01.04 *Kit: Competition and casual clothing*

A2.01.05 *Lodging/food, ground transportation at event location, all mechanical/race support, and travel insurance throughout duration of the event*

A2.02 Level 2: Developing Athlete Group

Athletes who are getting close and or showing good form who could be or are starting to compete regularly with the High-Performance Athlete Group

Self-funded: *If selected to the team*

A2.03 Level 3: Monitoring Athlete Group

Athletes who are either new to the sport or who are starting to show talent. These athletes need to be monitored and feedback given to the Commission to encourage them in certain areas to increase their level of performance.