

6.1 CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

The following requirements are for all Collegiate National Championships.

6.1.1 All riders and their collegiate cycling team must be current members of USA Cycling as Collegiate Clubs and Collegiate Riders. **There will be no rider or club licensing on site at the championships.**

6.1.2 Full-time students competing in national championships must submit proof of eligibility (Collegiate Cycling Eligibility Verification Form) at registration. This form is available from USA Cycling and Conference Directors.

6.1.3 In order to be eligible to compete at National Collegiate Championships, each athlete must meet minimum enrollment requirements at the time of competition. These requirements include the following, based on the most recent academic term:

- Undergraduate and graduate students must be enrolled as “full time students”, as defined by the collegiate institution.
- Graduate students meeting these requirements must be making full-time progress towards completion of a graduate degree.
- Recent Graduates must have been eligible in the most recent academic term (defined above) and completed the requirements for a graduate or undergraduate degree. In addition this student must provide written verification confirming this status.
- Deadlines: road-spring session, track – fall or summer session, freshman (registered but not having started classes for fall session), mountain bike – fall session, cyclocross – fall session– paid session fees. For track nationals, if a rider has not started school, verification of tuition payment must be provided.

6.1.4 Riders must have competed in two A races during the conference season in order to compete at National Championships with the exception of track and cyclocross. For disciplines without conference competitions, qualification shall be at the discretion of the Conference Director. Additional qualification requirements by discipline are detailed in this rulebook as appropriate.

6.1.5 Each conference qualifies individual riders or teams, based on the percentage of the total number of collegiate riders in each conference. Number of riders per conference is based on the total annual collegiate membership count on December 31 of the previous year. Each conference is guaranteed at least one team entry and one individual male and female entry per division at the Collegiate National Championships.

6.1.6 Only conference road events count toward a team's and/or individual's qualification for road nationals. Only conference mountain bike events count toward a team's and/or individual's qualifications for mountain bike nationals. Each conference may decide how teams and individuals are chosen for nationals within the limits allowed in rule 6.1.4. Only finish points from Category A racers count towards qualifications to national championships.

6.1.7 The school hosting the national championship event automatically qualifies a team.

6.1.8 The previous individual National Champions are invited to compete in the current nationals, providing proof of eligibility (whether the team attends or not). If those members are on teams that have already qualified for the event, they will serve as members of these teams, not as additional riders. Under no circumstances may a team include more than eight men and eight women.

6.1.9 At all events, all riders must wear identifiably similar team jerseys or blank jerseys with the school's name or abbreviation prominently displayed.

6.1.10 Collegiate National Champions are permitted to wear their National Championship jersey only in the collegiate event that they won. (i.e. road = road, criterium=criterium) The previous year's National Champion may not wear his/her jersey in the next year's National Championship race.

6.1.11 Eligibility issues for National Collegiate Championships, which may result in a rider or team not competing at the current national championships, may be protested only before the start of the first event at the National Collegiate Championships in question. The Collegiate Cycling Board of Trustees or their designate will have final say regarding all eligibility issues. Start lists for all Collegiate Nationals shall be posted with sufficient notice prior to the start of the first event of each National Championship.

6.1.12 Staging for mass-start events at nationals shall proceed as follows:

GROUP 1:

Previous year's National Champions for the current race;

Then Conference omnium champions; then

One representative per team, called one school at a time;

GROUP 2:

One representative per team, called one school at a time;

SUBSEQUENT GROUPS:

One representative per team, called one school at a time.

Only one rider per team may be in each staging group.

6.1.13 The call-up order for National Championship Events shall be based on:

Track/Mountain: prior academic year's top 20 of the final Collegiate National Team Rankings;

Cyclo-cross: current academic year's standings towards the top 20 of the final Collegiate National Team Rankings;

Road: current academic year's standings towards the top 20 of the final Collegiate National Team Rankings.

Teams that are not ranked in the top 20 of the Collegiate National Team Rankings shall be called up in a random order set at the close of registration.

6.2 FORMAT

The following rules are for all National Collegiate Championships.

6.2.1 Individual National Championship event winners will be recognized as National Champions with National Championship jerseys awarded to first place, and gold, silver and bronze medals awarded to first through fifth places.

6.2.2 The team title is determined by the highest cumulative point total of all of the men's and women's events and the team is recognized as national champions with

national championship jerseys. In addition gold, silver, and bronze medals are awarded for first through fifth places.

6.2.3 Men's and women's individual omnium championships titles shall be determined by summing the points scored by individual riders across all individual events. Men and women will be scored separately within Division I and Division II for the individual omnium.

6.2.4 In the case of a tie on total points, the tie will be broken in the favor of the rider who has:

- The most first place finishes or, if still tied, the most second place finishes, the most third place finishes, the most fourth place finishes, the most fifth place finishes, or if still tied;
- The highest placing in the last race, or the race nearest the last race of the omnium in which at least one of the tied riders placed.

6.2.5 Riders in the team events must belong to the same school; there are no composite teams.

6.2.6 Teams may bring no more than 8 men and 8 women to any single national championship event.

6.7 TRACK CHAMPIONSHIPS

6.7.1 The following races shall count toward the men's omnium: Sprints (Championship format), 3k Time Trial, 30k Points Race and Kilometer Time Trial.

6.7.2 The following races shall count toward the women's omnium: Sprints (Championship format), 2k Time Trial, 500m Time Trial and 20k Points Race.

6.7.3 The following team races are to be held: Italian Pursuit, Women's Team Sprint and Men's Team Pursuit.

6.7.4 A team may register a maximum of eight men and eight women at track nationals with a maximum of 4 riders per team in any single race.

6.7.5 The Women's Team Sprint may be ridden with a minimum of 2 riders.

6.7.6 The Italian pursuit is a six-lap race with a minimum of two and a maximum of six riders with at least one woman and no more than 4 men per team. The women must lead the team for a minimum of two laps. The Italian Pursuit follows the same format as the Olympic Sprint.

6.7.7 Division I and Division II teams and individuals will be scored separately at track nationals.

6.8 TRACK QUALIFICATIONS

In order to compete in the collegiate track championships, riders must either successfully complete a track safety course or submit a participation form that verifies that the rider has safely competed in a track event prior to national championships. Riders must have a USA Cycling Track category of 4 or above. A male rider must have a USA Cycling Track Category 3 or above designation to compete in the Points Race.

6.9 TRACK FORMAT

6.9.1 National Collegiate Track Championships must take place in the course of three full days, with a fourth day scheduled for inclement weather when held on an outdoor track.

6.9.2 A rider is limited to competing in only three individual

races, not including team races. These events must be declared at time of registration.

6.9.3 For team competitions, teams are limited to one participating school per race.

6.10 TRACK RACING REGULATIONS

6.10.1 USA Cycling Track racing regulations are in effect for the championships, as listed in the USA Cycling Rules of Bicycle Racing.