



**CYCLING SOUTH AFRICA
MOUNTAIN BIKE COMMISSION
SELECTION CRITERIA
2025**

**for
South African MTB and Off-Road Cycling Teams
including
XCO – DHI – XCM – Gravel – EDR**

Cycling South Africa – MTB Commission

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INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

1. Preamble

- 1.1. This policy is aligned with the general *CyclingSA Selection Regulations and Policy Framework 2024 – 2028*, and the *Tiered Selection and Funding Matrix* of that policy and subject to the tenets and requirements of that policy.
- 1.2. This policy aims to provide selection performance criteria to athletes want to be part of Team South Africa selections to Africa Championships, World Championships, and Multi-Sport Code Games (Olympics, Commonwealth and / All Africa Games).
 - 1.2.1. The selection of riders to Team SA for World Championships, is strategic in that the aim is to send riders with the realistic potential to achieve the targets set out below.
- 1.3. In collaboration with SASCOC guidelines and any applicable quotas, to nominate riders to compete at any Multi-Sport Codes Games when they are held.
 - 1.3.1. Any agreement between SASCOC and CyclingSA regarding qualification criteria will also be applied.
 - 1.3.2. The objective is thus also to recognize the achievements of riders at the highest level, and to enhance, maintain and protect the status of merit-based Team SA Selection over time and that riders who do not meet selection standards will not be selected for World Championships to gain experience.
 - 1.3.3. International experience needs to be gained with participation in UCI-categorized races in Africa, Asia, Europe, the Americas and Oceania, such as World Cups, and various international Cat 1 and 2 national series.
- 1.4. It is very important to understand that, by a rider meeting the performance criteria set out in this document, s/he will not automatically qualify for inclusion in Team SA. In addition, a selection process and panel approval will also be required and only riders who meet the targets set out in this policy and are approved by the selection panel, will be eligible for selection.
 - 1.4.1. The selection panel shall determine that qualifying riders are at the performance level required to be competitive at World level.
 - 1.4.2. Riders deemed non-competitive can be excluded from selection, even if slots remain available.
 - 1.4.3. It is not a requirement to fill all slots – only riders who are deemed competitive at World Level will be selected.
- 1.5. A test for competitiveness will be conducted to assess:
 - 1.5.1. A rider's head-to-head performance against other RSA and International riders, in the same category.
 - 1.5.2. Rider's performance can also be compared with others who are ranked in the Top 30 in the current UCI Rankings.

2. Purpose of Policy

- 2.1. To enable riders to prepare, train and schedule for the upcoming 2025 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.

3. Scope of Application

- 3.1. The Team Selection Criteria will be used to select the teams to represent South Africa at:
 - 3.1.1. UCI MTB World Championships – Switzerland 2nd to 14th September, 2025
 - 3.1.2. African Continental Championships [TBC] 2025
 - 3.1.3. Host nation Team SA - for any World Cup that may be held in South Africa
 - 3.1.4. Other events, if held, where selection of Team SA is required;

4. Rider Long Lists & Short List

- 4.1. To encourage ongoing achievement and to facilitate early talent identification, riders at various levels of development in their cycling careers will be able to view their performance and standings on the Performance Data. This data will be released on a regular basis throughout the season.
- 4.2. Riders who meet the minimum number of points will be noted on the Long List.
- 4.3. Long List does not equate to selection.
- 4.4. The Selectors Panel is responsible for assessing the individual performance of all riders on the Long List and ascertain which riders will be noted on the Short List and Final List.
- 4.5. For the Short List, riders with more points are ranked higher.
- 4.6. For riders with the same points, the total combined Score of national and international performance, further ranks the riders.
- 4.7. For riders with the same Points and Score, the individual UCI ranking at the time of selection, further ranks the riders.

5. Eligibility for selections

- 5.1. The general requirements for selections are set out in the CyclingSA Selection Regulations and Policy Framework 2024 – 2028. These amongst others include:
 - 5.1.1. Be a South African Citizen.
 - 5.1.2. Hold a valid South African passport.
 - 5.1.3. Meet the UCI requirements in terms of citizenship, particularly in cases where dual citizenship comes into question.
 - 5.1.4. Riders may only enter and race as a South African citizen, in all races during the season.

- 5.1.5. Have a “full racing” Cycling SA license or UCI International License, with nationality recorded as RSA, by the start of the season, or first selection race if earlier.
- 5.1.6. Never bring the sport into disrepute. This includes, but is not limited to, both in person and/or via the media, social media and/or other forms of communication. Said athlete will not be eligible for selections.

5.2. Participate in the 2025 SA National Championships in the specific discipline.

5.2.1. Riders meeting this selection criteria can apply for exemption from riding the SA Championships, but a request to the Executive Board of Cycling SA will only be considered if the rider is considered a realistic Top 5 contender at the World Championships. This concession is not automatic, and must be approved first.

5.2.2. If exempted and not a Top 5 World Championship contender, the rider must still meet the Selection Criteria and compete in as many of the other selection events as deemed necessary in order to meet said requirements.

6. Extenuating Circumstances

6.1. The criteria and process to consider selection under extenuating circumstances are outlined in the Cycling South Africa Selection Regulations and Policy Framework.

7. Criteria outside the ambit of the Selection Policy

7.1. 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 include, but are not limited to:

7.1.1. Races outside the time periods listed in this document, including any past performances at selection races incorporated in earlier policies.

7.1.2. Events not listed as selection races, unless otherwise specified.

7.1.3. Performance levels outside of those specified in this policy.

7.1.4. Contributions and commitment to the sport in general, in whatever way, outside of qualifying criteria and performances. While such contributions are highly appreciated, they are recognized separately from SA Team Selection.

8. Rider responsibilities

8.1. It is the personal responsibility of contending riders to establish the dates and venues of the races and series listed as selection races as these may change.

8.2. Race Reports:

8.2.1. 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.

8.2.2. Results must be submitted in the format as outlined below within 10 days after a race:

- 8.2.2.1. Name, date, venue and UCI Class of the event
- 8.2.2.2. Number of laps, if XCO; qualifier and final if DHI
- 8.2.2.3. Race winners name, nation, time and current world ranking
- 8.2.2.4. Riders own finish position and time
- 8.2.2.5. Ascent per lap in meters
- 8.2.2.6. Additional information on any mechanical failures, illness or unforeseen challenges

8.2.3. If riders do not submit results for any particular race, those results may be excluded from being assessed.

8.2.4. The selection panel may also source results of races, in addition to those submitted by riders, to enable them to evaluate performances.

8.2.5. DNF and DNS:

- 8.2.5.1. The onus is on the rider who believe themselves to be eligible for selection for the 2025 World Championships team to provide the selectors with reasons for a DNS or DNF at selection races.
- 8.2.5.2. Reasons to be provided in writing within 48 hours of the selection race.
- 8.2.5.3. The only allowable reasons for a DNS and-or DNF will be illness or mechanical breakdown. Mechanical problems can only be used as a reason once during the season.
- 8.2.5.4. Once a rider has started the race, illness cannot be used as a reason for poor performance.

8.3. Long-term layoff due to injury or illness:

8.3.1. 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.

8.3.2. The rider's results in selection events prior / post the layoff period will be taken into consideration however, the rider still needs to mee the Selection Criteria and must be deemed competitive when assessing head-to-head performance.

8.4. Riders participating internationally

8.4.1. All riders who want to be considered for selection to Team SA for World Championships, must participate in the discipline's 2025 SA National Championships, and must also meet the required performance criteria.

8.4.2. 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 2025, by taking part in the other required selection events.

8.5. All rider correspondence to be addressed to the MTB Convenor of Selectors on mtbselections@cyclingsa.com

9. SA Team Selection Protocols

9.1. 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.

9.1.1. Acknowledge the personal financial commitment required in terms of the budget.

9.1.2. Acceptance of the CyclingSA Code of Conduct.

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

9.2. Preliminary Selection and Appeals

9.2.1. Once all appeals have been resolved, the **Final Team Selection** will be made and announced.

9.2.2. For the Appeal Process, refer to the CyclingSA Selection Regulations and Policy Framework 2024 – 2028.

10. Entries for UCI World Cups

10.1. Entries are only available through Cycling SA and are limited to the number of available slots, as stipulated by the UCI.

10.2. Riders must inform Dallah Paul via email dallah.paul@cyclingsa.com, of their intention to be entered for a World Cup, before the end of February 2025.

10.3. Riders will be given preference, based on their standings on the Performance Data, on the date that entries open for the specific World Cup.

10.4. As per UCI regulations, Federation slot entries, riders are required to wear their National Team kit, no other kit is allowed.

Mountain Bike Selection Panels

11. Objectives of Selection Panels

- 11.1. 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.
- 11.2. The Panel(s) and convener being appointed are also subject to the requirements of the CyclingSA Selection Regulations and Policy Framework 2024 – 2028.

12. Terms of a Selector

- 12.1. To retain institutional knowledge and promote continuity, panel members should serve for at least 2 years.
- 12.2. The Panel should strive not to replace more than 3 members in any one year.
- 12.3. A minimum of 5 selectors is required to make a selection.

13. Eligibility to serve on a Selection Panel

- 13.1. Panel members should not be directly involved with contending riders in one or more of the following roles: as a parent, coach, sponsor or manager of a rider in the category being served as a panellist.
- 13.2. 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.
- 13.3. Panel members should be appointed on the basis of proven competence in at least one or more of:
 - 13.3.1. Depth of knowledge and understanding of selection principles and policy.
 - 13.3.2. Ability to apply selection criteria fairly, objectively and consistently.
 - 13.3.3. Specific discipline expertise, in one or more of XCO, DHI, XCM, EDR and GRV.
 - 13.3.4. Specialist sports scientific knowledge and expertise, preferably related to cycling and MTB.
 - 13.3.5. Direct observation and assessment of rider performances at selection events.

14. Selection Panel 2025

The appointed panel members are:

- 14.1. Convenor of Selectors: Geoffrey McGiven
- 14.2. High Performance: Marike Vreken
- 14.3. XCO Specialist: Paola Damilano
- 14.4. DHI Specialist: Christopher Pearton

- 14.5. XCM specialist: Greg Stedman
- 14.6. Transformation and Development Representative: Sipho Madolo
- 14.7. Women Representative: Cherise Willeit
- 14.8. Additional Member: Wade Prinsloo
- 14.9. Additional members: Monia Van Heerden

14.9.1. Additional Selectors as required, may be co-opted to the selection panel, to provide further inputs and to observe to ensure a full complement of at least 5 per disciplines and / or category.

15. The role of the Convenor

- 15.1. Convene and guide the selection process, and Chair meetings of the Selection Panel
- 15.2. Gather and compile the performance data required by the selectors.
- 15.3. Ensure that the selectors apply the criteria fairly and objectively.
- 15.4. Report to CyclingSA on the findings of the Selection Panel.
- 15.5. Communicate regularly with riders in contention and provide them with data and guidance.

16. Mountain Bike Disciplines

- 16.1. Team selection will focus on:
 - 16.1.1. XCO [Cross Country] incorporating XCC [Short Course]
 - 16.1.2. DHI [Downhill Individual]
 - 16.1.3. XCM [Marathon Cross Country]
 - 16.1.4. EDR [Enduro]
 - 16.1.5. GRV [Gravel]

17. Age Categories applicable for selections

- 17.1. Any rider of 30 years and older in 2025, and who wants to be considered for selection as an Elite, will be required to have an Elite Racing License at the start of the 2025 season.
 - 17.1.1. This implies that riders wanting to be eligible for team selection will need to obtain an Elite license prior to the season commencing, and must then race Elite for the full season.
- 17.2. For XCM and GRV:
 - 17.2.1. only applies to riders of 19 years and older, and only for taking into consideration of results obtained for the full distances as per the UCI rules, shall be eligible for selection.
- 17.3. For EDR:

17.3.1. Only applies to Elite Men and Women aged 17 years and older as of 31 December, 2025

17.4. For XCO and DHI:

17.4.1. Only riders turning 17 years and older in 2025 will be considered for selection in the Junior, Under-23 (only XCO) and Elite racing categories only.

18. Diversity Representation

18.1. 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 fast-track and afford PDI mountain bikers the best possible opportunity to develop into world-class mountain bikers.

18.2. While meeting selection and performance criteria will determine final squad sizes, the target will be to achieve a 25% PDI representation in teams. Such inclusion is:

18.2.1. Subject to 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.

18.2.2. Within the targets set at above, those PDI riders achieving the best overall results in selection races across all categories will be considered for selection.

18.2.3. If no PDI riders meet the selection and performance criteria, the selection committee can include the best performing PDI riders as part of the SA team. It must be noted that this will not be at the expense of any other qualifying rider.

19. Mountain Bike International Calendar

19.1. For more UCI Calendar, Venues and Event information go to : <https://ucimtbworldseries.com/events>

20. Selection timelines

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:

20.1. Gravel World Championships [TBC]

20.2. African Continental Championships [TBC]

20.3. XCO | DHI | XCM | EDR World Championships:

Event Date: Switzerland 2nd to 14th September, 2025

Task	Published
Rider Assessments	Monthly from March to June 2025
Provisional Team	01st Jul 2025
Preliminary Selection	05th Jul 2025
Appeals to be submitted	07th Jul 2025
Final Team Selection	10th Jul 2025
Approval by CyclingSA	12th Jul 2025

XCO Selection Criteria

21. Performance Time Period

- 21.1. The performance period for the purposes of selections is **15th Jan 2025 to 30th Jun 2025**. In the case of extenuating circumstances being approved, the Panel may consider an athlete's results in the 12 months prior to the performance time period.

22. Selection Events

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

- 22.1. 2025 UCI XCO World Cups Rounds 1 - 7 between the 4th of April and the 30th Jun 2025.
- 22.2. 2025 CSA National XCO Championships – compulsory to attend : 26-27 April, Thaba Trails GP
- 22.3. 2025 CSA National Cup Series XCO events during the performance period.
#1 : 1-2 March, Spice Route WC
#2 : 14-15 June, Cascades KZN
- 22.4. 2024 UCI XCO World Championships, though this will not form part of the performance time period.
- 22.5. Any further UCI Categorized Races: Cat 1 and Cat 2 during the performance period.

23. XCO Performance Criteria

- 23.1. The Performance Criteria is set out below incorporates international as well as domestic competitions with specific targets outlined to be considered for international selections. In all cases below:
- 23.1.1. 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.
- 23.1.2. Performance levels are assessed based on the race category winner's time [i.e. head-to-head performance; Men assessed against Men; Women against Women]. Percentage time from the winner varies and is event specific.
- 23.1.3. Events are weighted. The higher the weighting, the more points a rider will attain provided the rider is within the required percentage time from the winner.

24. XCO Number of Points required to be noted on the Long List

- 24.1. Riders must attain a minimum of 3 points on the Performance Data, during the selection period in order to be considered for the Long List. Long List does not equate to selection.

25. XCO Performance Parameters

- 25.1. See Table below

Event	Country	Under-23 Race Category	Class	Weighting	EM	UM	EW	UW	JM	JW
SA Cup	South Africa	Elite		100%	103%	105%	103%	105%	103%	103%
SA Champs	South Africa	Elite		100%	103%	105%	103%	105%	103%	103%
SA Champs	South Africa	Under-23		100%		103%		103%		
UCI World Cup	World wide	Elite	Cat 1	100%	110%		110%		110%	110%
UCI World Cup	World wide	Under-23	Cat 1	100%		110%		110%		
UCI World Champs 2024	World wide	Under-23		100%	110%	110%	110%	110%	110%	110%
UCI Cat 1 & HC	Non African countries	Elite	Cat 1 & HC	100%	105%	107%	105%	107%	105%	105%
UCI Cat 1 & HC	Non African countries	Under-23	Cat 1 & HC	100%		105%		105%		
UCI Cat 1 & HC	Africa	Elite	Cat 1 & HC	100%	103%	105%	103%	105%	103%	103%
UCI Cat 1 & HC	Africa	Under-23	Cat 1 & HC	100%		103%		103%		
UCI Cat 2	Non African countries	Elite	Cat 2	75%	105%	107%	105%	107%	105%	105%
UCI Cat 2	Non African countries	Under-23	Cat 2	75%		105%		105%		
UCI Cat 2	Africa	Elite	Cat 2	75%	103%	105%	103%	105%	103%	103%
UCI Cat 2	Africa	Under-23	Cat 2	75%		103%		103%		
Junior World Series	Non African countries		JWS	100%					110%	110%
Junior World Series	Africa		JWS	100%					103%	103%
AFCON 2025 if held	Africa	Elite		0%	103%	105%	103%	105%	103%	103%
AFCON 2025 if held	Africa	Under-23		0%		103%		103%		

DHI Selection Criteria

26. Performance Time Period

- 26.1. The performance period for the purposes of selections is **15th Jan 2025 to 30th Jun 2025**. In the case of extenuating circumstances being approved, the Panel may consider an athlete's results in the 12 months prior to the performance time period.

27. Selection Events

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

- 27.1. 2025 UCI DHI World Cups Rounds 1 - 5 between the 3rd of May and the 30th Jun 2025.
- 27.2. 2025 CSA National DHI Championships – compulsory to attend : 20 Apr, Cascades KZN
- 27.3. 2025 CSA National Cup Series DHI events during the performance period.
- #1 : 26 Jan, Sun – Spice Route, WC
 - #2 : 16 Feb, Sun – Mankela, MPU
 - #2 : 30 Mar, Sun – Jonkershoek, WC
 - #4 : 19 Apr, Sat – Cascades, KZN
- 27.4. 2024 UCI DHI World Championships, though this will not form part of the performance time period.
- 27.5. Any further UCI Categorized Races: Cat 1 and Cat 2 during the performance period.

28. DHI Performance Criteria

- 28.1. The Performance Criteria is set out below incorporates international as well as domestic competitions with specific targets outlined to be considered for international selections. In all cases below:
- 28.1.1. Performance levels are assessed based on the race category winner's time [i.e. head-to-head performance; Men assessed against Men; Women against Women]. Percentage time from the winner varies and is event specific.
- 28.1.2. Events are weighted. The higher the weighting, the more points a rider will attain provided the rider is within the required percentage time from the winner.

29. DHI Number of Points required to be noted on the Long List

- 29.1. Riders must attain a minimum of 4 points on the Performance Data, during the selection period in order to be considered for the Long List. Long List does not equate to selection.

30. DHI Performance Parameters

- 30.1. See Table below

Event	Run	Country	Class	Weighting	EM	EW	JM	JW
SA Cup	Final run	South Africa		100%	103%	103%	103%	103%
SA Cup	Qualifying Run	South Africa		25%	105%	105%	105%	105%
SA Champs	Final run	South Africa		100%	103%	103%	103%	103%
SA Champs	Qualifying Run	South Africa		25%	105%	105%	105%	105%
UCI World Cup	Final run	World wide	Cat 1	100%	105%	105%	105%	105%
UCI World Cup	Qualifying Run	World wide	Cat 1	75%	109%	109%	109%	109%
UCI World Champs 2024	Final run	World wide	Cat 1	100%	105%	105%	105%	105%
UCI World Champs 2024	Qualifying Run	World wide	Cat 1	75%	109%	109%	109%	109%
UCI Cat 1	Final run	Non African countries	Cat 1	100%	105%	105%	105%	105%
UCI Cat 1	Qualifying Run	Non African countries	Cat 1	75%	109%	109%	109%	109%
UCI Cat 1	Final run	Africa	Cat 1	100%	103%	103%	103%	103%
UCI Cat 1	Qualifying Run	Africa	Cat 1	25%	105%	105%	105%	105%
UCI Cat 2	Final run	Non African countries	Cat 2	75%	105%	105%	105%	105%
UCI Cat 2	Qualifying Run	Non African countries	Cat 2	50%	109%	109%	109%	109%
UCI Cat 2	Final run	Africa	Cat 2	75%	103%	103%	103%	103%
UCI Cat 2	Qualifying Run	Africa	Cat 2	25%	105%	105%	105%	105%
AFCON 2025 if held	Final run			0%	103%	105%	103%	105%
AFCON 2025 if held	Qualifying Run			0%	105%	107%	105%	107%

Enduro Selection Criteria

31. Performance Time Period

- 31.1. The performance period for the purposes of selections is **15th Jan 2025 to 30th Jun 2025**. In the case of extenuating circumstances being approved, the Panel may consider an athlete's results in the 12 months prior to the performance time period.

32. Selection Events

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

- 32.1. 2025 UCI EDR World Cups Rounds 1 - 5 between the 10th of May and the 30th Jun 2025.
- 32.2. 2025 CSA National EDR Championships – compulsory to attend : 2nd of May, Summerplace LP
- 32.3. 2025 CSA National EDR Cup Series events during the performance period.
- #1 : 16 Mar, Sun – Jonkershoek, WC
 - #2 : 6 Apr, Sun – Karkloof, KZN
 - #3 : 28 Apr, Mon – Thaba Trails, GP
 - #4 : 1 May, Thur – Summerplace, LP
- 32.4. 2024 UCI EDR World Championships, though this will not form part of the performance time period.
- 32.5. Any further UCI Categorized Races: Cat 1 and Cat 2 during the performance period.

33. EDR Performance Criteria

- 33.1. The Performance Criteria is set out below incorporates international as well as domestic competitions with specific targets outlined to be considered for international selections. In all cases below:
- 33.1.1. Performance levels are assessed based on the race category winner's time [i.e. head-to-head performance; Men assessed against Men; Women against Women]. Percentage time from the winner varies and is event specific.
- 33.1.2. Events are weighted. The higher the weighting, the more points a rider will attain provided the rider is within the required percentage time from the winner.

34. EDR Number of Points required to be noted on the Long List

- 34.1. Riders must attain a minimum of 3 points on the Performance Data, during the selection period in order to be considered for the Long List. Long List does not equate to selection.

35. EDR Performance Parameters

- 35.1. See Table below

Event	Country	Class	Weighting	EM	EW
SA Cup	South Africa		100%	103%	103%
SA Champs	South Africa		100%	103%	103%
UCI World Cup	World wide	Cat 1	100%	105%	105%
UCI World Champs 2024	World wide		100%	105%	105%
UCI Cat 1	Non African countries	Cat 1	100%	105%	105%
UCI Cat 1	Africa	Cat 1	100%	103%	103%
UCI Cat 2	Non African countries	Cat 2	75%	105%	105%
UCI Cat 2	Africa	Cat 2	75%	103%	103%
AFCON 2025 if held	Africa		0%	103%	103%

Marathon Selection Criteria – XCM

36. Performance Time Period

- 36.1. The performance period for the purposes of selections is **15th Jan 2025 to 30th Jun 2025**. In the case of extenuating circumstances being approved, the Panel may consider an athlete's results in the 12 months prior to the performance time period.

37. Selection Events

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

- 37.1. 2025 UCI XCM World Cups Rounds 1 - 7 between the 4th of April and the 30th Jun 2025.
- 37.2. 2025 CSA National XCM Championships – compulsory to attend : 25th May, Karkloof KZN
- 37.3. 2025 XCM events during the performance period.
- 18 Jan : Attakwas (UCI), WC
 - 25 Jan : Trailseeker #1, Plaisir WC
 - 25 – 26 Jan : Eurosteel Drak Descent, KZN
 - 6 – 9 Feb : Tankwa Trek (UCI), WC
 - 5 – 15 Feb : Imbuko Big, WC
 - 28 Feb – 2 Mar : Luxliner Route 66, GP
 - 16 – 23 Mar : Cape Epic, WC
 - 5 Apr : Sappi Mankele, MPU
 - 6 – 10 May : Sani2C, KZN
 - 8 – 10 May : Dryland Glacier Waterberg, Summperlace, LP
 - 7 Jun : Trailseeker #3, Bosveld GP
- 37.4. 2024 UCI XCM World Championships, though this will not form part of the performance time period.

38. XCM Performance Criteria

- 38.1. The Performance Criteria is set out below incorporates international as well as domestic competitions with specific targets outlined to be considered for international selections. In all cases below:
- 38.1.1. Performance levels are assessed based on the race category winner's time [i.e. head-to-head performance; Men assessed against Men; Women against Women]. Percentage time from the winner varies and is event specific.
- 38.1.2. Events are weighted. The higher the weighting, the more points a rider will attain provided the rider is within the required percentage time from the winner.

39. XCM Number of Points required to be noted on the Long List

- 39.1. Riders must attain a minimum of 3 points on the Performance Data, during the selection period in order to be considered for the Long List. Long List does not equate to selection.

40. XCM Performance Parameters

40.1. See Table below

Event	Country	Class	Weighting	EM	EW
SA Cup	South Africa		100%	103%	103%
SA Champs	South Africa		100%	103%	103%
SA Selection events	South Africa		100%	103%	103%
UCI World Cup	World wide	Cat 1	100%	105%	105%
UCI World Champs 2024	World wide		100%	105%	105%
UCI Cat 1	Non African countries	Cat 1	100%	105%	105%
UCI Cat 1	Africa	Cat 1	100%	103%	103%
UCI Cat 2	Non African countries	Cat 2	75%	105%	105%
UCI Cat 2	Africa	Cat 2	75%	103%	103%
AFCON 2025 if held	Africa		0%	103%	103%

Gravel Selection Criteria

41. Performance Time Period

- 41.1. The performance period for the purposes of selections is **15th Jan 2025 to 30th Jun 2025**. In the case of extenuating circumstances being approved, the Panel may consider an athlete's results in the 12 months prior to the performance time period.

42. GRV Selection Events & Criteria

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

- 42.1. Selections based off UCI Gravel Regulations. The UCI Management Committee approves the qualification system each year.
- 42.2. Qualification through the UCI Gravel World Series:
- 42.2.1. 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.
- 42.2.2. 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.
- 42.2.2.1. 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
- 42.2.2.2. 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.

42.2.3. 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.

42.2.4. Riders taking part in the UCI Gravel World Championships must hold a valid license issued by their respective national federation (day licenses 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

42.2.5. Gravel National Champions

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

42.3. National Federation Quotas

42.3.1. Each National Federation can enter 10 quotas in total for all categories across both genders.

42.4. Wild Cards

42.4.1. 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.

42.4.2. Age Groupers 35-79: No Wildcard entries will be available for these age groups. Only qualification through World Series events and Age Group Winners at National Champs.

42.5. Host National of the UCI Gravel World Championships Quotas

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

MTB Disciplines not listed

43. Non listed MTB disciplines

- 43.1. Riders who wish to be considered for MTB (off-road) disciplines not listed in this document, such as 4X, MTB Trials, E-Bike etc which are not yet recognized in South Africa as part of the official Team SA selection disciplines, must take part in all UCI World Cups pertaining to said discipline and must be ranked in the Top 30 of the UCI World Series for the said discipline.
- 43.2. Any rider who participates in one of these disciplines and who is able to validate and motivate why they could or should be considered to represent such discipline at the specific World Championships, must apply in writing to the Convenor of Selectors of CyclingSA Mountain Biking.

Mountain Bike Teams – Basic Selection Principles

44. Basic Selection Principles

44.1. Selections are subject to the requirements of the CyclingSA Selection Regulations and Policy Framework 2024 – 2028.

44.2. With reference to funding, the tiered selection framework of Cycling SA shall apply to Mountain Biking:

	Competitions	Selection Level	Key Selection Principle	Funding allocation
Tier 1	Olympic Games Paralympic Games Commonwealth Games	Primary	Performance Merits - meeting international benchmarks.	OG / PG / CWG Fully funded.
		Secondary	Future medal potential if UCI quota slots allow.	
		Tertiary	No consideration shall be given for any disciplines.	
	Elite and U23 World Championships	Primary	Performance Merits - meeting international benchmarks.	As determined by ExBo annually ☞ Support structure fully funded. ☞ Athlete costs partially funded
		Secondary	Future medal potential if UCI quota slots allow.	
		Tertiary	As per the criteria defined for each discipline.	Self-funded / provincial funded, except if determined differently by ExBo.
	Junior World Championships	Primary	Performance Merits - meeting international benchmarks.	As determined by ExBo annually ☞ Support structure and Athlete costs partially funded. ☞ Top 10 results to be reimbursed (as determined by ExBo annually)
		Secondary	☞ Mainly Domestic Performances ☞ Development and transformation	
		Tertiary	☞ Meeting tertiary selection policy standards, but not international Benchmark standards. ☞ Development	
	World Championships of non-Olympic Disciplines	Primary	☞ Performance Merits - meeting international benchmarks.	As determined by ExBo annually ☞ Support structure and Athlete costs partially funded. ☞ Top 10 results to be reimbursed (as determined by ExBo annually)
		Secondary	☞ Mainly Domestic Performances ☞ Development and transformation	
		Tertiary	☞ Meeting tertiary selection policy standards, but not international Benchmark standards. ☞ Development	
	Master's / Age categories World Championships	Tertiary	☞ Athlete qualifying as per UCI regulations	Self-funded
Tier 2	World Cups	Primary	☞ Performance Merits - meeting international benchmarks.	As determined by ExBo annually ☞ Support structure funded and Athlete costs partially funded. ☞ Reimbursed of costs if performance standards met (as determined by ExBo annually)
		Secondary	☞ Future medal potential if UCI quota slots allow.	
		Tertiary	☞ As per the criteria defined for each discipline.	
	Africa Games African Continental Championships.	Primary	☞ 1/3rd Performance Athlete with experience.	Africa Games (As per Sport SA funding) Afon Champs ☞ Support structure and Athlete costs partially funded (as determined by ExBo annually) ☞ Provincial Affiliate (as determined by provincial committees).
		Secondary	☞ 1/3rd Future talent	
		Tertiary	☞ 1/3rd PDI opportunities	
Tier 3	Federation invited teams, but not part of National Team Programs.	Primary	☞ As determined by each discipline. ☞	Self-funded / Own sponsors.
		Secondary		
		Tertiary		

44.3. It is important to understand the difference between what is the Tiers and the Selection Levels.

44.3.1. Tiers

The Tiers, as per section below, refers to the Levels of the selection events. As an example, Olympic Games, Commonwealth Games and World Championships are all Tier 1 events.

44.3.2. Selection Levels

The Selection Level is to categorise the athlete in terms of their level of performance in their chosen discipline. The reason for this is to identify the level of athletes that are targeted for selection in the different Tiers of events, and, when available, to provide financial support in accordance with the athletes selection Level.

Tiered Selections

Tiers refer to the level of the selection events ie. the level of competition.

45. Tier 1: Multi-Code Sport events and World Championships Selections

- 45.1. Subject to available national starting positions at the Olympic and Commonwealth Games and World Championships (inclusive of juniors) , selection criteria shall be based on the principles below taking into consider that if more athletes per category attain the criteria listed than the quota available, priority shall be given to primary, then secondary criteria. The selectors will select the best athletes based on results achieved on a course having similar characteristics and profile to the proposed course for the event.
- 45.1.1. Additionally, the relevant Selection Panel shall consider any one or more of the following factors to select the best athlete:
- 45.1.1.1. Any of the result(s) and performance(s) of the athlete at any national and/or international competitions, with priority given to results and performances in selection period prior to the applicable Team Selection Date including a comparison of the athletes at the National Championships and Series events.
 - 45.1.1.2. The technical, physical, and mental skills, as well as behavior, of the athlete which are relevant to the nature of the event, the course and the environment of the applicable International Competition to meet team objectives.
- 45.2. Primary Selections pertaining to an athlete's performance matrix and level of potential financial support:
- 45.2.1. Any athlete who achieves a Top 20% finish in a UCI World Cup during the selection period, is eligible to form part of the Primary Selection Category.
 - 45.2.2. Any athlete finishing in a medal position at most recent Olympic Games or Commonwealth Games or World Championships in the respective MTB discipline, is eligible to form part of the Primary Selection Category.
 - 45.2.3. Any Elite and U23 athlete who is in the Top 10 of the UCI World Rankings at the time of selection, is eligible to form part of the Primary Selection Category.
- 45.3. Secondary Selections pertaining to an athlete's performance matrix and level of potential financial support:
- 45.3.1. Athletes who have achieved at least two Top 30 % finishes in a UCI World Cup in the calendar year starting 1 January until the selection date, or at the previous World Championship shall be eligible to form part of the Secondary Selection Category.
- 45.4. Tertiary Selections pertaining to an athlete's performance matrix and level of potential financial support:
- 45.4.1. Tertiary selections shall not be considered for selections as part of Multi-Sport Teams (E.g. Olympic Games).

45.4.2. Preference will be given to PDI riders.

45.4.3. Athletes who have not met the Primary and Secondary Selection category, but have met the Performance Criteria as set out in this document, shall form part of the Tertiary Selection Category.

46. Tier 2: African Continental Championships 2025

46.1. If no quota is applied, all licensed riders may apply to the Commission for an entry to participate. A National team will still be selected for purposes of awarding National Colours to the riders who have met the selection criteria.

46.1.1. In the case that quotas do apply, only the selected team may participate.

46.2. Participation in the African Continental Championship will be on a self-funded basis, unless funding is available as determined by ExBo, in which case the criteria as for Tier 1 will apply.

47. Tier 3: Host Nation Team Selection for any MTB World Cup that may be held in SA

47.1. Riders with UCI Points: Those riders who have sufficient UCI points to qualify in terms of the UCI rules, will automatically be able to participate.

47.2. The onus is on these riders to inform Cycling SA-MTB of their intention to participate at least 1 month before the World Cup.