



2021

**U23 Men & Women
European Road
Championships
8-12 September
Trentino, Italy.**

Selection Policy & Criteria

Under 23 Men & Women - European Road Championships Selection Criteria

Issued August 2021

Introduction

This selection policy has been agreed by Cycling Ireland (CI). It provides detail on the process by which CI will arrive at athlete selections.

The purpose of the U23 and Junior Programme is to provide identified athletes with suitable opportunities to assist their long-term development and progression and provide experiences to develop the skillset required to perform to their best in future years.

Alongside this, a second short-term goal is to target identified events with the intention to give further learning opportunities and also to optimise qualification opportunities to identified World championships in the process.

Cycling Ireland will follow all public health guidelines and Sport Ireland guidance on international travel and competition. It is recognised that advice may change at short notice.

Cycling Ireland will consider athletes who have qualified under the Cycling Specific Selection Standards stated below. Exception may be given where allocation of places exceeds the number of athletes meeting the minimum standards, CI may consider athletes close to these standards as a development opportunity, subject to budget restraints.

Cycling Ireland General Selection Policy Aim

1. The aim of this policy is that CI will select a team that will perform with distinction in the 2021 European Road Championships.
2. All priorities listed are subject to change due to performance, athlete availability, budgetary considerations or Covid-19 related restrictions.
3. This Cycling policy is consistent with the aim.

Athlete Eligibility

1. The athlete must hold a current UCI licence which permits them to ride in the discipline(s) they are being considered for and which has an “IRL” UCI licence code or Nationality which states Ireland/Irlande.
2. The athlete must hold, or is eligible to hold, a valid Irish passport (note that riders who have transferred from another nationality must meet the UCI transfer requirements. Passport expiry dates must be at least 90 days past the competition date).
3. The athlete has signed Cycling Ireland’s Code of Conduct for riders.
4. The athlete must not be currently under disqualification or suspension by Cycling Ireland, or UCI

International Federation or under the World Anti-Doping Code.

Competition Format

The cycling competition comprises: Road Races and Time Trials

Sport Specific selection Standards

Below are the key selection details:

By achieving the required selection standard in the manner defined for each discipline within the last 6 months, athletes are eligible for consideration to be selected to the 2021 European Championship team.

Cycling Ireland is well aware that Covid-19 has prevented international travel and therefore has had a significant effect on racing opportunities.

The following selection hierarchy will apply to this year's selection criteria, and will form the selection matrix to allow for evidence-based selections.

Criteria
Athletes Demonstrated form & results - <i>(Results & performances in this years U23 National team events will form part of this) along with the following.)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• UCI ranked event results.• Elite international results.
Racing Calendar - <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The exposure to a high a quality-racing calendar (past 6 months) that demonstrates ones' ability to be competitive at an international level will be considered.
National level results – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Only if required, given lack of available opportunities, National level (or equivalent) results (past 6 months) may be considered.
Ability in specific event & suitability to squad objectives <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Consideration will be given to the suitability and technical ability of a selected rider in relation to the course and team objectives.

In the event of a medal or result potential being identified, the CI Selection Panel will nominate a team to best support the medal potential.

Rider characteristics:

Irrespective of the category or event type (some or all) of the following points will be considered when selecting members of national teams or squads:

- Commitment to Cycling Ireland and the UCI anti-doping policies;
- Agreement to Cycling Ireland's Code of Conduct for riders;
- The profile of the rider, their ability to form part of a team and their interaction with Cycling Ireland support personnel;
- International and national race performances in comparable events and UCI ranking (where applicable). Please note these performances are purely a guidance and do not automatically guarantee selection;
- The age and development potential of the rider;
- Tactical awareness and skill levels of the riders;
- The nature of the course and the suitability of the riders;

All national team selections will be discretionary and based upon the judgement of the selectors. Selectors may seek expert opinion from specific personnel where necessary particularly in 2021 given the Covid-19 implications.

Athlete Eligibility

1. The athlete must hold a current UCI licence, which permits them to ride in the discipline(s), they are being considered for and which has an "IRL" UCI licence code.
2. The athlete must hold, or is eligible to hold, a valid Irish passport (note that riders who have transferred from another nationality must meet the UCI transfer requirements. Passport expiry dates must be at least 90 days past the competition date).
3. The athlete has signed Cycling Ireland's Code of Conduct for riders.
4. The athlete must not be currently under disqualification or suspension by Cycling Ireland, or UCI International Federation or under the World Anti-Doping Code;

Other Factors For Consideration

In instances where an athlete has had evidence to justify selection prior to injury/illness which precluded them from qualifying within the period, selection may be possible provided there is sufficient objective evidence to suggest that the athlete in question has returned to the previous standard.

In addition to the Specific Selection Criteria, selection will take into consideration any one or more of the following additional factors in selecting riders for any Team:

- i. Consistent and successful individual performances of the rider in the 6-month period prior to the selection to pool or team in international competition;
- ii. The rider's ability to work within a team structure when selected to a National Team
- iii. The rider's technical ability and bicycle handling skills;
- iv. The rider's tactical ability. The ability to read and react to the race, including passive or aggressive racing tactics, that leads to individual or team performances;

- v. The rider's participation in an intense training or competition program that may have affected current performances;
- vi. The rider's demonstrated willingness to promote cycling in a positive manner;
- vii. The rider's demonstrated ability to take personal responsibility for self and their results;
- viii. The rider's proven ability to be reliable within a team structure.
- ix. The results of any of the rider's sports science tests including biomechanical and physiological.

Selection Process

1. Cycling Ireland will have a selection meeting no later than the 22nd of August.
2. Athletes will be informed of selection, non-selection within 24 hours of this meeting.

De-Selection

Anti-Doping: Athletes suspended by their Governing Body as a result of on-going or concluded anti-doping violation allegations, will be deselected.

Injury Management: Where injury issues are identified at or after selection, a fitness test may be used to determine if the athlete is capable of performing to the level that they were selected for the Event. This will be specific to cycling and the athlete's condition.

Breach of Policy: Athletes in breach of CI policies, code of conduct and team agreement may be de-selected