

Youth Road Race – Rim Size Review 2024

Following the establishment of Youth Working Groups for 2024, across both Competition and Participation – the Technical Working Group – following queries raised by provinces, etc. have agreed to place a hold on the implementation of restricted rim sizes for youth riders in road competition until the 1st January 2025, and the matter is fully reviewed by these new working groups.

The rule was T4.A1.3

3. In Youth Time Trial events, specialist low profile bicycles, time trial bars, fixed wheel bicycles and aero helmets are not permitted. Bicycles used in time trial events must be as per road race regulations.
 - (a) In under 16 Youth Track events, time trail bars are permitted in Time Trial and Pursuit events.
 - (b) Disc, Tri-Spoke or similar wheels are not allowed in Youth Track Events, and rim depth cannot be greater than 35mm.

Additional Part – comes into force 01.01.2024

Wheels with rim depth greater than 35mm are not permitted in Youth Road Races and Time Trials.

This date will now be changed to 01.01.2025 for the 2024 Rule Book.

Representation was made by Provinces, Coaches and Parents – around access to smaller dimensioned rims, increased cost over other standard rim sizes and the fact that while numbers are reducing in Youth Racing, no blocks should be placed on any youth wanting to compete on the road. The case was made where a youth may buy a bicycle they like in a local cycle shop, only to be told they could not use it if they turned up at a race, which is something we do not want to happen.

We will keep everyone updated on the progress going forward on this, as well as all other issues around Youth Cycling and attempts to grow the numbers involved. The Youth Working Groups are being lead by

Competition Aaron Johnson aaron.johnson@cyclingireland.ie

Participation Paul Norton paul.norton@cyclingireland.ie

Please do not hesitate to contact either of these workstream leaders with any suggestions you may have on the development of Youth in Cycling Ireland.

Paul Watson

Sports and Operations Director

11/12/2023