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## Cycling Ireland European Youth Olympic Festival 2022

### Policy Objectives & Aims

This Policy sets out the Cycling Ireland process for selecting athletes, coaches and/or team managers for nomination to represent Team Ireland for the European Youth Olympic Festival held in Banska Bystrica Slovakia July 24th-30th 2022.

To be selected by the OFI to Team Ireland for cycling at the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival athletes, coaches and team managers must satisfy the criteria below to be considered eligible for nomination

The aim of this criteria is to nominate an athlete team and staffing support team to the OFI. The athlete team may comprise of up to 3 Boys and 3 Girls to represent Team Ireland in the road race and time trial events at EYOF 2022. The staffing team is contingent on the size of the team selected by OFI and will include a combination of a Team Manager/Coach(es) and a mechanic.

### Athlete eligibility

In order for cyclists to be considered for nomination they must meet the following eligibility criteria:

1. Be an affiliated member of and in good standing with Cycling Ireland
2. Born in the year 2006-2007 and hold a current racing licence for the 2022 season
3. Be an Irish citizen and hold an Irish passport at the time nomination performances of being considered by the nomination panel
4. Be eligible to represent Ireland as per rules of the UCI
5. Not be the subject of a current anti-doping ban, a current doping violation and/or a pending doping violation. Cycling Ireland shall inform the OFI immediately of the outcome of any anti-doping test of any athlete who is on the long list.

## Athlete nomination criteria

In reaching their nominations a Cycling Ireland nomination panel will consider the following:

### **1. Performances in the following events:**

- 27<sup>th</sup> March PJ Logan
- 24<sup>th</sup> April Waller Cup
- 30<sup>th</sup> April Kanturk Stage 1 Road Race
- 30<sup>th</sup> April Kanturk Stage 2 Time Trial

It is important to highlight that due consideration will be paid to overall performances in these events and not just results in isolation. The nomination panel understand the complexities of road racing in particular which can be unpredictable due to mechanical issues, crashes etc.

Good performances may be race-winning results, but also skilful riding in a bunch, good technical skills at speed, reading a race, being a good team mate and physical capacity to be competitive. It is essential that all nominations put forward for selection by OFI are considered to be ready to perform at international level.

### **2 Fitness to Compete**

- A Fitness to Compete protocol may be initiated in the event of a cyclist sustaining an injury or illness.
- The Fitness to Compete protocol may be initiated either:
  - a. Prior to departure for the event – if an athlete is injured or ill at the time of nomination or in the window between nomination and departure.
  - b. At the event – if an athlete sustains an injury or illness after arrival, prior to competing.
- If an injury /illness occurs to a cyclist after selection the Fitness to Compete protocol can be used to demonstrate the athlete has the ability to complete their event to an acceptable performance level, and thus justify them remaining a selected cyclist.
- The Fitness to Compete protocol consists of:
  - a. Medical Assessment – Carried out by the OFI’s Doctor and/or Physiotherapist. This assessment makes no judgement of performance standard attainable by the athlete but evaluates the athlete’s medical readiness to participate in their sport or event. The outcome of the Medical Assessment is an opinion on whether the athlete should progress to the next stage of the Fitness to Compete protocol (ie the Performance Fitness Test).

- b. Performance Fitness Test - this is a test devised by the Head Coach & Team Leader to evaluate an athlete's performance readiness and determine whether the athlete is capable of delivering a performance to an acceptable standard.
- c. The outcome of the Fitness to Compete protocol will be reported to the Chef de Mission, the Youth Commission Chair and the High Performance Director.
- d. Athletes shall immediately report any injury, illness, change in training, or personal event that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level at the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival, to the Youth Commission Chair and/or High Performance Director in writing, via e-mail
- e. Any cyclist injured at the time of nomination may be considered for nomination subject to passing a Performance Fitness test.

### **3. Replacement Athlete Process**

If an athlete, team coach, team manager or sports science/sports medicine practitioner is removed from or withdraws from the nomination or selection, that individual may be replaced by another eligible individual who meets the required standards set out in this Policy and in accordance with the EOC Late Athlete Replacement Policy.

The High Performance Director and Youth Commission Chair, where in their combined opinion it is in the best interests of Team Ireland, may recommend that any number of additional athletes, team coaches and/or team managers be added to the selected Team, subject to such additional individuals meeting the required standards set out in this Policy.

Any replacement or addition of an individual shall be made by way of nomination by the National Performance Director to the National Selection Panel. Final selection decisions to Team Ireland remain with the OFI.

### **4. Deselection**

A selected athlete may be deselected from the team if they:

Due to illness or injury, in the opinion of the responsible panel becomes unable to perform to the required standard.

Breaches or fails to fulfil a requirement of the Anti-Doping Policies of Cycling Ireland, the cycling World Federation UCI, or other approved agencies

### **5. Appeal Process**

Appeal to the nomination may be made in writing to the Chief Executive of Cycling Ireland within 48 hours from the date and time cyclists have been notified by Cycling Ireland of the Irish team. The sole ground for an appeal is that the nomination policy was not properly followed. An appeal must be made in writing with appropriate and sufficient supporting documentation.

Within three working days of receiving the appeal, the Chief Executive (or an appointed deputy) will appoint a group of three selected people with relevant experience ('Appeal Committee') that will investigate the issues of the appeal with all involved parties. Where possible one member of the panel will be from outside the sport. No member of the Appeal Committee shall have been involved in the original nomination process.

The Chief Executive will in writing inform all parties about the Appeal Committee's decision to either uphold or reject the appeal.

All decisions issued by the Cycling Ireland appeals procedure may be appealed exclusively by referral to Just Sport Ireland, within 14 days from receipt of such decision, for final and binding arbitration in accordance with the Just Sport Ireland Arbitration Rules. Each party will bear its own costs throughout the process.

The Chief Executive will set appropriate deadlines for appeals to minimize disruptions to the competition.

In the event that the OFI fails to select a cyclist nominated by Cycling Ireland, the cyclist shall have the right to appeal in accordance with the OFI's "Selection Appeals Process" outlined in the Team Member Agreement

## **6. Team Manager, Coach and Mechanic**

### **Coach**

The Cycling Coach at the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival will be nominated by the National Performance Director following the nomination trials.

### **Coach Eligibility**

Coach to be considered eligible for nomination must meet the following criteria:

- i. Be in good standing with Cycling Ireland;
- ii. Be a practising coach within an performance programme;
- iii. Be holders of a Cycling Ireland Coaching Certificate or international equivalent at the time of nomination;
- iv. Hold a UCI Licence with coach endorsement
- v. Be available to fulfil the obligations of the Ireland National Team and comply with the statements and expectations of the Cycling Ireland include DBS checks and safeguarding.

### **Manager Nomination Procedure**

The Cycling Team Manager at the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival will be nominated by the National Performance Director.

### **Team Manager Eligibility**

Team manager to be considered eligible for nomination must meet the following criteria:

- i. Be in good standing with Cycling Ireland;
- ii. Be holders of the Cycling Ireland UCI licence with coach/manager endorsement or international equivalent;
- iii. Be available to fulfil the obligations of the Ireland National Team;

- iv. Other than in exceptional circumstances, team managers will not be the parent or guardian of an athlete member of the Team;
- v. Have provided first hand service or support as a team manager as part of a national or regional programme in the last 5 years;
- vi. Comply with the statements and expectations of the Cycling Ireland including DBS checks and safeguarding.

### **Team Manager / Coach / Mechanic Nomination Procedure**

I. Subject to the team manager (and/or coach) meeting the criteria as set out in Section 6, a team manager may be recommended by the National Performance Director to the OFI. The National Performance Director, depending on the available accreditations, the needs, age and gender balance of the team, may nominate a Team Manager to fulfil a dual manager/coaching role. The second accreditation given to support the team will be for a mechanic. Supporting the team as a mechanic will be his/her primary duty. A third accreditation, depending on team size, may be for a coach, with coaching being their primary purpose.

## **7. Nomination Policy**

Team Obligations, in order to be formally selected to Team Ireland, athletes and staff will be required to sign the Team Ireland Athlete/Staff Agreement. This Agreement will be sent to athletes and staff upon approval of their nomination by Cycling Ireland. In addition to the OFI obligations, Cycling Ireland obliges all athletes selected by the OFI to:

- i. Complete, sign and comply with the Cycling Ireland National Team Code of Conduct
- ii. Comply with the OFI Team Members Agreement
- iii. Complete a Cycling Ireland Medical Form prior to competing at the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival
- iv. Commit to the values of the Cycling Ireland National Programme Athlete Charter
- v. Abide by the Uniform Policy, the Media Policy, the Appearances Policy, the Betting, Gambling & Integrity Policy and the Sports Supplements Policy of the Cycling Ireland National Team
- vi. Comply with Cycling Ireland, OFI and UCI Cycling regulations
- vii. Adhere to all prescribed travel arrangements which might involve different travel dates to other members of the Team
- viii. Not take holidays/elected periods away from training between the Nomination Trials and the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival unless by agreement with Cycling Ireland High Performance Team
- ix. Not attend overseas camps and/or overseas competitions between the Nomination Trials and the 2022 EOC European Youth Olympic Festival without prior written approval from the National Performance Pathway Manager

x. Make themselves available for all Ireland National Team activities designated by the Cycling Ireland High Performance (including, but not limited to, preparation camps and a holding camp) as part of or in addition to the National Programme.

xi. Nominated athletes, team coaches, team managers and Cycling Ireland agree not to disclose any selected name to the press or any other media (including their own social media) until the OFI have themselves announced this to the press and other media.

xii. Nominated athletes, team coaches, team managers and Cycling Ireland agree to abide by other relevant OFI requirements

## **8. Team Uniform/Kit**

i. All Team uniform and kit will be provided for and to the team by the OFI.

ii. Athletes accepting nomination/selection must wear only OFI supplied clothing for all of their races and official leisure kit for the duration of the festival.

## **9. Nomination Panel**

A Nomination Panel comprising three representatives from the Cycling Ireland Youth Commission working group, chaired by Cycling Ireland High Performance Director will be responsible for administering this policy.

Panel members will declare any conflict of interest and be replaced in such an instance.

## **10. Selection date, Notification and announcement**

Cycling Ireland nomination Date May 2nd

Nomination to OFI May 30th

Team Announcement July 1st \*\* \*\*TBC date subject to change\*\*

Final selection is at the sole discretion of the OFI and will be based on the Cycling Ireland nominations made against this nomination policy. Nominations will be submitted to the OFI and the team will be announced following selection by the OFI.

Cycling Ireland will notify all cyclists of their nomination by e-mail by May 2nd. Any cyclist who might be difficult to contact by normal means during this period should inform Cycling Ireland in advance of alternative contact details.

If a cyclist has not received notification personally on that day, it is his/ her responsibility to contact Cycling Ireland to confirm the situation.

Nominated/selected cyclists are not permitted to make any announcements to the media or the general public in any form whatsoever (including via any social media platforms such as Twitter and Facebook) of their possible or confirmed selection or non-selection prior to official announcement by the OFI of such selection.

## **11. Unforeseen Circumstances**

In the event that this Policy is silent on any matter which arises in the administration or application or interpretation of any nomination/selection process or decision, then the Nomination Panel shall have discretion to determine any issue as they deem fit so long as it is exercised fairly and quickly.