

# U.S. Paralympics Cycling 2025 UCI Para-cycling Road World Cups 1 & 2 Team USA Roster Selection Process & Information for Independent Athletes

Ostend, Belgium

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Maniago, Italy

Race Dates: May 1-4 (Ostend) & May 15-18 (Maniago), 2025 **Projected Travel Dates:** Depart USA on April 27 and Return May 19 *Note: Travel dates are subject to change based on the competition schedule and may differ for athletes on one or both rosters.* 

U.S. Paralympics Cycling will provide support for **up to 15** athletes (plus tandem pilots, if applicable), for 2025 UCI Para-cycling Road World Cup #1 and #2 in Ostend, Belgium and Maniago, Italy, respectively.

Athletes who intend to compete at either World Cup, but are not selected to the Team USA roster, may still enter as *self-supported* independents provided there are start rights available as outlined in this document, and provided they notify U.S. Paralympics Cycling of their intent to compete as an independent by the deadline outlined in this document.

## 1. Athlete Eligibility to Compete

Only athletes who meet the following criteria are eligible to compete at the World Cup:

- Athletes holding a valid U.S. passport, not expiring before November 19, 2025.
- Athletes holding a valid USA Cycling International (UCI) license for the 2025 season.
- Athletes internationally classified with an international sport class status of R-review or C-confirmed.
  - Athletes who do not have a current international classification of R-review or C-confirmed but are nationally classified – or who are given a classification appointment at the World Cup by the UCI - are eligible for selection.
- Athletes who submit an application to be considered for the Team USA roster OR who notify U.S.
   Paralympics Cycling of their intent to compete at World Cup 1 and/or World Cup 2 as a self-funded independent by the deadline of March 21 at 6 pm MT, per the link in section 2 of this document.
- Athletes in classifications with an available start right per the allocation process outlined in this
  document.

### 2. Online Application

https://usoc.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV 2uAT8nmUA3Lmyt8 Closes March 21, 2025 at 6 pm MT

Athletes who do not wish to apply to race for Team USA, but still aim to compete at the World Cup as a self-supported independent should notify U.S. Paralympics Cycling of their intent to compete by emailing Jenny Ryan no later than March 21, 2025: <a href="mailto:jenny.ryan@usopc.org">jenny.ryan@usopc.org</a>. Athletes who do not apply for the Team USA roster – or – notify U.S. Paralympics Cycling of their intent to compete as a self-funded independent by March 21 will not be registered for the event.

#### 3. Athlete Eligibility Team USA Roster Selection

Only athletes who meet the following criteria are eligible to be selected to the Team USA roster for World Cup 1 and/or World Cup 2:

- Athletes who compete and ride a minimum of the Talent Pool Standard (lower than 105.0%) for their sport class at the U.S. Paralympics Cycling Time Trial in Huntsville, AL on March 29, 2025
- Athletes who submit an application to be considered for the Team USA roster World Cup 1 and/or World Cup 2 through the link in section 2 of this document, by the March 21 deadline.
- Note: Meeting the eligibility criteria in Section 3 of this document does not imply, nor does it guarantee selection to the Team USA roster. Only athletes who meet the Team USA Roster selection requirements in section 4 of this document will be nominated to the Team USA Roster.

#### 4. Team USA Roster Selection

- Up to 15 athletes (plus tandem pilots, if applicable) will be selected to the Team USA roster for World Cup 1 and World Cup 2, per the process below, in sequential order. The roster for each World Cup will be selected separately, based on the applicant pool for each World Cup. Athletes can indicate their interest to attend one, or both World Cups on the application. Although athletes may be selected to the roster for both World Cups, the selection committee will consider the applications relative to the performance potential for each World Cup separately.

**First:** Results from the individual time trial at the 2025 U.S. Paralympics Cycling Time Trial in Huntsville, AL in Huntsville, AL (March 29, 2025) will be used to create a ranking list for men, and ranking list for women.

- The top six (6) men and the top six (6) women who have submitted applications for one or both World Cups and appear on the individual time trial ranking list(s) from the selection time trial will be named to the Team USA roster for each World Cup.
- To create ranking lists from the individual time trial, each finish time will be converted to a
   "result" by expressing it as a percentage of the 2025 U.S. Paralympics Cycling National
   Standard, per sport class. (<a href="https://www.usparacycling.org/athletes-section/athlete-and-sport-program">https://www.usparacycling.org/athletes-section/athlete-and-sport-program</a>)
- Each Result will be rounded to the nearest one hundredth of a percent. Lower percentages are better than higher percentages (97% beats 99 % beats 103%). Result = (finish time/National Standard) x 100. All Results will then be utilized to formulate two ranking lists.
  - There will be a separate ranking list for men and women, which will include results for ordered from lowest percentage (best) to highest percentage.

**Second:** Up to three (3) additional athletes of any gender will be named to the Team USA roster for each World Cup, per the discretionary selection criteria below.

The roster will be named by a discretionary selection committee made up of the following staff and athletes:

- o Director, U.S. Paralympics Cycling
- o Associate Director, High Performance, U.S. Paralympics Cycling
- Sr. Director, Internally Managed Sports, U.S. Olympics & Paralympic Committee
- Athlete Representative
- Athlete Representative

Discretionary criteria used to evaluate athlete performances for discretionary selection to both World Cups are listed below, in priority order:

- 1. An athlete with history of, and demonstrated potential to reach the podium in an individual event at a World Cup.
- 2. An athlete who has demonstrated a trend of improving performance in international competition, that when extended to 2025 World Cup 1 or World Cup 2, intersects the current international performance standard for a top five (5) result at the World Cup.
- 3. An athlete who demonstrates a trend of improving performance in international competition, that when extended to 2025 World Cup 1 or World Cup 2, intersects the current international performance standard for a top 8 result at the World Cup.
- 4. An athlete who has a proven potential to help a teammate earn a podium performance in the road race at World Cup 1 or World Cup 2.
- 5. An athlete with a history of, and demonstrated potential to help Team USA earn a top four (4) result in the handcycle relay at World Cup 1 or World Cup 2.

Results the discretionary selection committee will consider in applying the above discretionary criteria are listed below:

- 1) The athlete's performance in the time trial at the 2025 U.S. Paralympics Cycling Time Trial in Huntsville.
- 2) The athlete's performance in an individual event at a 2023 or 2024 UCI Para-cycling Road World Cup. Performances will be weighted by the discretionary selection committee in the following order:
  - a) Podium (top 3) Performances
  - b) Top 5 Performances
  - c) Top 10 Performances
- 3) The athlete's performance in an individual event at the 2024 Road World Championships. Performances will be weighted by the discretionary selection committee in the following order:
  - a) Podium (top 3) Performances
  - b) Top 5 Performances
  - c) Top 10 Performances
- 4) The athlete's position on the ranking list at the 2025 U.S. Paralympics Cycling Time Trial.

Other factors the discretionary selection committee may consider in selecting athletes:

An athlete who experienced an illness, injury, or other problem during the 2023 or 2024 season that
made it impossible for them to compete and attain results at one or more of the races above, but who
– based on historical performances from the 2023 or 2024 season – has potential to attain high results
at World Cup 1 or World Cup 2.

#### 5. Handcycle Relay Selection Process

U.S. Paralympics Cycling will enter a maximum of two (2) teams into the Handcycle Relay at World Cup 1 and World Cup 2. The final determination to enter one (1) or two (2) teams will be made by the Director, Paralympic Cycling based on staff resources available, and the viability / results potential of entering one or two teams. The relay composition (3 athletes) must comply with the UCI rules on total points for mixed classification events.

The discretionary selection committee will select and name the relay long list for World Cup 1 and World Cup 2, immediately after the individual Team USA roster has been named. The final roster entered at the World Cups will be determined by the Director, Paralympic cycling in consultation with coaching and high performance staff.

- Relay long list will be made-up only of athletes who have already been selected to the Team USA roster for the World Cup as individual athletes.
- Performance criteria used to evaluate athlete performance for discretionary selection to the handcycle relay long list include, but are not limited to:
  - o The athlete's performance in Handcycle Relay events in 2023, or 2024.
  - The athlete's performance in road races or relays in events listed on page 3 of this document.
  - An athlete with potential to help Team USA earn a podium (top 3) performance in the Handcycle Relay at the 2025 UCI Para-cycling Road World Cup.
- Athletes will be notified if they earned a position on the Handcycle relay long list at the same time they are notified of their individual selection.

#### 6. Entries

U.S. Paralympics Cycling will manage the entry and confirmation process for all U.S. athletes (Team USA roster and Independents) competing at the events.

#### 7. Start Rights

- Start rights are managed by U.S. Paralympics Cycling and will be allocated as follows:
  - o First priority: Athletes competing as part of the Team USA roster
  - Second priority: Self-supported independent athletes.
  - In the event that there are more USA athletes than available start rights after the prioritization above has been applied:
    - Athletes ranked higher in 2024 UCI World Cup final rankings will earn start rights ahead of lower-ranked, or un-ranked athletes.

#### 8. Notification

• All athletes who apply will be notified of their outcome on or before April 4, 2025

#### 9. Participation Requirements

All athletes competing at the World Cups must adhere to the following requirements:

- Adult athletes must have a current SafeSport Training. The training must be completed prior to the
  date of selection and must be valid through the conclusion of the event. Please see the instructions
  below. If you have any questions about SafeSport Training, please contact <u>Lindsay Griswold</u>, Athlete
  Safety Coordinator.
- Athletes are required to complete and sign the National Team, or non-National Team Agreement
- Athletes are required to abide by the USOPC Athlete Code of Conduct.
- Athletes must have completed a background check.

# 10. Team USA Athlete Support

- Entry into the event as a Team USA roster athlete
- Roundtrip airfare
- Ground transportation (athlete and equipment)
- Accommodations
- Baggage reimbursement up to \$400 (receipts required)
- Meals
- Race Day nutrition
- Team USA high performance support leading up to, and during the competition(s)
- Team USA competition gear and casual clothing
- Traymed insurance for the duration of the event

## 11. Independent Athlete Support

- Entry into the event
  - o Independent athletes who request entry but do not attend the event will be responsible to repay the entry fee to U.S. Paralympics Cycling
- Representation at classification evaluation, if applicable
- Liaison with race organizers

# 12. Classification

Athletes who attend the World Cup but do not yet have an international classification with a status of C-confirmed or R-review, should expect to go through a classification evaluation at the event and will be required to submit documentation within four (4) weeks prior to the start of competition – April 1, 2025.

For questions about this document, or entry into the World Cup, please contact: jenny.ryan@usopc.org