

6. NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

6.1 CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFICATIONS

The following requirements are for all Collegiate National Championships.

6.1.1 All riders and their collegiate cycling team must be current members of USA Cycling as Collegiate Clubs and Collegiate Riders. **There will be no rider or club licensing on site at the championships.**

6.1.2 Full-time students competing in national championships must submit proof of eligibility (Collegiate Cycling Eligibility Verification Form) at registration. This form is available from USA Cycling and Conference Directors.

6.1.3 In order to be eligible to compete at National Collegiate Championships, each athlete must meet minimum enrollment requirements at the time of competition. These requirements include the following, based on the most recent academic term:

- Undergraduate and graduate students must be enrolled as “full time students”, as defined by the collegiate institution.
- Graduate students meeting these requirements must be making full-time progress towards completion of a graduate degree.
- Recent Graduates must have been eligible in the most recent academic term (defined above) and completed the requirements for a graduate or undergraduate degree. In addition this student must provide written verification confirming this status.
- Deadlines: road-spring session, track – fall or summer session, freshman (registered but not having started classes for fall session), mountain bike – fall session, cyclocross – fall session– paid session fees. For track nationals, if a rider has not started school, verification of tuition payment must be provided.

6.1.4 Riders must have competed in two A races during the conference season in order to compete at National Championships with the exception of track and cyclocross. For disciplines without conference competitions, qualification shall be at the discretion of the Conference Director. Additional qualification requirements by discipline are detailed in this rulebook as appropriate.

6.1.5 Each conference qualifies individual riders or teams, based on the percentage of the total number of collegiate riders in each conference. Number of riders per conference is based on the total annual collegiate membership count on December 31 of the previous year. Each conference is guaranteed at least one team entry and one individual male and female entry per division at the Collegiate National Championships.

6.1.6 Only conference road events count toward a team's and/or individual's qualification for road nationals. Only conference mountain bike events count toward a team's and/or individual's qualifications for mountain bike nationals. Each conference may decide how teams and individuals are chosen for nationals within the limits allowed in rule 6.1.4. Only finish points from Category A racers count towards qualifications to national championships.

6.1.7 The school hosting the national championship event automatically qualifies a team.

6.1.8 The previous individual National Champions are invited to compete in the current nationals, providing proof of eligibility (whether the team attends or not). If those members are on teams that have already qualified for the event, they will serve as members of these teams, not as additional riders. Under no circumstances may a team include more than eight men and eight women.

6.1.9 At all events, all riders must wear identifiably similar team jerseys or blank jerseys with the school's name or abbreviation prominently displayed.

6.1.10 Collegiate National Champions are permitted to wear their National Championship jersey only in the collegiate event that they won. (i.e. road = road, criterium=criterium) The previous year's National Champion may not wear his/her jersey in the next year's National Championship race.

6.1.11 Eligibility issues for National Collegiate Championships, which may result in a rider or team not competing at the current national championships, may be protested only before the start of the first event at the National Collegiate Championships in question. The Collegiate Cycling Board of Trustees or their designate will have final say regarding all eligibility issues. Start lists for all Collegiate Nationals shall be posted with sufficient notice prior to the start of the first event of each National Championship.

6.1.12 Staging for mass-start events at nationals shall proceed as follows:

GROUP 1:

Previous year's National Champions for the current race; then

Conference omnium champions; then

One representative per team, called one school at a time;

GROUP 2:

One representative per team, called one school at a time;

SUBSEQUENT GROUPS:

One representative per team, called one school at a time.

Only one rider per team may be in each staging group.

6.1.13 The call-up order for National Championship Events shall be based on:

Track/Mountain: prior academic year's top 20 of the final Collegiate National Team

Rankings;

Cyclo-cross: current academic year's standings towards the top 20 of the final Collegiate

National Team Rankings;

Road: current academic year's standings towards the top 20 of the final Collegiate National Team Rankings.

Teams that are not ranked in the top 20 of the Collegiate National Team Rankings shall be called up in a random order set at the close of registration.

6.2 FORMAT

The following rules are for all National Collegiate Championships.

6.2.1 Individual National Championship event winners will be recognized as National Champions with National Championship jerseys awarded to first place, and gold, silver and bronze medals awarded to first through fifth places.

6.2.2 The team title is determined by the highest cumulative point total of all of the men's and women's events and the team is recognized as national champions with national championship jerseys. In addition gold, silver, and bronze medals are awarded for first through fifth places.

6.2.3 Men's and women's individual omnium championships titles shall be determined by summing the points scored by individual riders across all individual events. Men and women will be scored separately within Division I and Division II for the individual omnium.

6.2.4 In the case of a tie on total points, the tie will be broken in the favor of the rider who has:

- The most first place finishes or, if still tied, the most second place finishes, the most third place finishes, the most fourth place finishes, the most fifth place finishes, or if still tied;
- The highest placing in the last race, or the race nearest the last race of the omnium in which at least one of the tied riders placed.

6.2.5 Riders in the team events must belong to the same school; there are no composite teams.

6.2.6 Teams may bring no more than 8 men and 8 women to any single national championship event.

6.3 ROAD CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

6.3.1 The following are the suggested distances for the events for the national collegiate road championships.

<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>
Road Race (60-150 km)	Road Race (60-100 km)
Criterium (60-90 minutes)	Criterium (45-60 minutes)
Team Time Trial (25-35 km)	Team Time Trial (25-35 km)

6.3.2 Altitude, course layout, and weather should be taken into consideration when deciding on courses for the national road championships. USA Cycling Events staff reserves the right to alter the distances at the time of the event based on these considerations.

6.3.3 Separate road races and criterium races will be held for Division I and Division II at National Championships.

6.4 ROAD QUALIFICATIONS

6.4.1 Any single team may enter four individuals in the road race, four in the team time trial and three in the criterium. Up to four riders per team may be allowed in the criterium provided that the field limit will not be exceeded. Riders must designate the mass start events they will be participating in at registration.

6.4.2 To compete in mass start events at Collegiate Road Nationals, riders must have competed in their respective conference championships as a category A racer in the road race and criterium events. Riders must have furthermore competed in at least one other mass-start event in the current conference season as a category A rider. Riders who do not participate in their conference championships must have competed as a category A racer in their final three mass-start conference races during the current season. If the conference schedule prohibits meeting these qualification requirements a petition may be made to the Collegiate Cycling Board of Trustees, whose decision shall be final.

6.5 ROAD RACING REGULATIONS

6.5.1 USA Cycling Road Category A event racing regulations are in effect for the championship road race, criterium and team time trial.

6.5.2 The total individual points for a given team in each race will be summed by event and the resulting rank ordering of this tally will determine the team placing for that race. Team placing for both men and women will be equally valued and will be awarded to the top 40 teams per event.

6.5.3 The criterium field limit is 127.

6.5.4 The road race field limit for both men and women is 169 riders.

6.5.5 Bonus point primes will be offered in the criterium. The men will have six primes and the women will have four on a scale of 7, 5, 3, 2, 1, for first through fifth place. These will apply to both the individual and team omnium.

6.5.6 Any prime prizes must be awarded on the same laps as points primes. Any prime prizes must be awarded to the team of the rider who wins the prime and not the individual rider.

6.5.7 Team Time Trials consists of no more than four riders with a minimum of three riders for both men and women. Teams will be timed on the leading wheel of the third rider for both men and women. Riders must be from the same school; no composite teams are allowed.

6.6 POINTS SCHEDULE: Road Nationals

INDIVIDUAL POINTS

Place	Men/Women RR	Men/Women Crit	Primes
1	166	100	7
2	156	88	5
3	148	80	3
4	140	72	2
5	132	66	1
6	126	60	
7	120	56	
8	114	52	
9	108	48	
10	102	44	
11	96	40	
12	92	38	
13	88	36	
14	84	34	
15	80	32	
16	76	30	
17	73	28	
18	70	26	
19	67	24	
20	64	22	
21	61	20	
22	58	18	
23	56	16	
24	54	14	
25	52	12	
26	50	10	
27	48	8	
28	46	6	
29	44	4	
30	42	2	
31	40		
32	38		
33	36		
34	34		
35	32		
36	30		
37	28		
38	26		
39	24		
40	22		
41	20		
42	18		

43	16		
44	14		
45	12		
46	10		
47	8		
48	6		
49	4		
50	2		

TEAM POINTS (Road Nationals)

Place	M/W RR	M/W Crit, TTT
1	120	84
2	110	77
3	102	71
4	95	66
5	89	62
6	83	58
7	78	54
8	73	51
9	69	48
10	65	45
11	61	42
12	58	39
13	55	36
14	52	34
15	50	32
16	48	30
17	46	28
18	44	26
19	42	24
20	40	22
21	38	20
22	36	19
23	34	18
24	32	17
25	30	16
26	28	15
27	26	14
28	24	13
29	22	12
30	20	11
31	18	10
32	16	9
33	14	8
34	12	7
35	10	6
36	8	5
37	6	4
38	4	3
39	2	2
40	1	1