



CYCLING NEW ZEALAND POSITION STATEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN AND PROJECT ACTIVITIES

UPDATE #10

Updated 15 October 2021

SITUATION

As the COVID-19 pandemic and pandemic conditions in New Zealand and abroad evolve, Cycling New Zealand (CNZ) is committed to continually reviewing its own response in regard to staff and licenced riders' overseas travel activities.

To ensure CNZ's ongoing response is informed by the best available evidence and advice, CNZ has started consulting with an independent risk assessment professional and has established the Pandemic Response Advisory Group (PRAG). In accordance to its Terms of Reference, the group, along with the internal risk assessment professional, will meet regularly with the specific purpose of reviewing and evaluating risks associated with attending international events and the potential exposure to the COVID-19 virus.

GENERAL

CNZ and its Member Organisations acknowledge and agree the position of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT) and Sport New Zealand (Sport NZ) in regard to international travel as it pertains to athletes and support staff undertaking international travel for competition purposes. This is summarized below:

The COVID-19 pandemic has significantly impacted on sport related international travel. The New Zealand Government currently recommends that New Zealanders do not travel overseas, but New Zealanders are not prevented from doing so. Despite the international pandemic, professional and high-performance athletes and teams have a number of motivations for travelling overseas to train or compete in international competitions.

In developing this position statement, CNZ's consideration is given to a range of factors and advice including, but not limited to:

- CNZ's duty of care and obligations to its riders and staff
- the global pandemic environment (including consideration of domestic and global vaccination programmes)
- advice from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFAT)
- advice from Sport NZ
- advice from [Chubb Travel Smart](#)
- advice from an independently appointed risk assessment professional
- World Health Organisation recommendations and statistics
- the resumption of international racing
- protocols introduced at international races
- availability and scope of international travel insurance
- the significance/importance of travel (E.g., Major Games qualification or selection, professional obligations, etc.)

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CURRENT POSITION AS OF 1 OCTOBER 2021

Cycling New Zealand recognises that the state of the global pandemic is improving in some countries, as such there is now a need to review how we endorse international entries.

With the view of increasing international training and competition opportunities all the while continuing to exercise our duty of care, Cycling New Zealand has already established an International Event Entry Process (IEEP) which is outlined on: <https://www.cyclingnewzealand.nz/covid-19/international-event-entry-process>.

This process and the measures included in the process will remain in place and will continue to apply to any athlete and support staff, regardless of cycling code or category, requesting entry into international events where Cycling New Zealand, as the National Federation, has entry jurisdiction.

To ensure that the current response continues to be appropriate and that it reflects the current Covid-19 environment and associated risks, Cycling New Zealand will undertake a review of the process. The review process will take into consideration the factors mentioned above as well as; current status of the pandemic, rider feedback and key learnings from the past few months. It is anticipated that any changes to the IEEP process from this review will not take effect before 1 January 2022.

While there may be some changes to the process, the overarching intent and guiding principles of the IEEP will remain.

While acknowledging that this process cannot fully eliminate the risks of travelling overseas at this time, Cycling New Zealand believes that any individual successful in their application, is, as reasonably practicable, fully informed of the risks of traveling at this time, and participating in events overseas. The International Event Entry Process also seeks to assist CNZ in fulfilling their health, safety and wellbeing obligation

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For more on MFAT positions click [here](#):

For more on Sport NZ position click [here](#):

CLOSING

Cycling New Zealand will continue to monitor the situation and will provide timely updates to this position statement where required.

Jacques Landry

Chief Executive Officer, Cycling New Zealand