

1. Introduction

- 1.1.** The World Masters Road Championship are now known as the UCI Gran Fondo World Championships. This is an event for riders aged 19 and over.
- 1.2.** There are qualifying events held around the world (Gran Fondo World Series events) where riders can qualify for the world championship based on the following criteria:
 - Riders who take part in one of the qualifier events held worldwide and who finish in the first 20% of their age group qualify for the UCI Gran Fondo World Championships
 - The first 3 in each age category will also qualify directly to the World Championships, independent of the number of starters in that age group.
 - Riders who participate in 3 qualifier events during the season will also qualify.
- 1.3.** For countries that do not have a Qualifying event (for 2023 this includes New Zealand). Automatic and Wildcard Qualifying slots are offered through the federations' National Championships.
- 1.4.** This document outlines the entry allocation process for the slots (automatic and wildcard) offered through the national championship.
- 1.5.** For the purposes of this entry allocation process, the allocation panel will consist of a RTX representative.
- 1.6.** Applicants must meet the Eligibility requirements as specified in Clause 4 of the General Selection Regulations.

2. Entry Allocation Event

- 2.1.** The national championship refers to the 2023 Age Group Road National Championship. This will be held in Timaru from 14 - 16 April 2023.

3. Confirmation of age groups

- 3.1.** Automatic slots are available in the following categories:
 - 19 -34 (issued through the Senior and U23 combined race)
 - 35-39

40-44

45-49

50-54

55-59

60-64

65-69

70-74

75-79

80 +

4. Automatic Qualification

- 4.1.** The winner in both the Time Trial and the Road Race at the entry allocation event in each of these categories are offered an automatic slot to take part in the UCI Gran Fondo World Championship. These slots are not rolled down if the winner does not take the slot (except in the case of a current World Champion winning their category – see 4.2).
- 4.2.** In the case that a current World Champion wins their category this automatic slot is offered the second-place rider. This slot is not rolled down any further.
- 4.3.** There are no alternates named. If those who earn an automatic slot do not take up their slot, these are not rolled down or re-offered.

5. Wildcard Slots

- 5.1.** In addition to the automatic slots offered above, there are 10 wildcard entries available. Five (5) for male and five (5) for females. These are the total slots available across all categories (not for each category).
- 5.2.** There are no alternates named. If those who are awarded a wildcard slot and do not take up their slot, these are not rolled down or re-offered.

6. Wildcard Slots application window

- 6.1** Those riders wishing to be considered for the Wildcard slots shall be required to complete an online expression of interest within the application window.
- 6.2** The application window will open on Wednesday 19 April and will close on Wednesday 3 May. Click [here](#) for the link.

7. Wildcard slots allocation process

- 7.1** If there are **no more** applications received than the available slots (five (5) for male and five (5) for females) – all riders shall be offered a slot.
- 7.2** If there **are more** applications than allocated number of slots the slots will be offered to the five (5) for male and five (5) for females who can demonstrate the least time differential (represented as a %), from the winner of their category in the road race at the entry allocation event.
- 7.3** If there are no more applications received than the total available slots (10), regardless of gender – all riders shall be offered a spot.

8. Consideration of riders who do not compete in the National Championships

- 8.1** Extenuating circumstances will be considered for those riders unable to compete in the national championships road race. These can include but are not limited to illness, injury or personal circumstance.
- 8.2** Riders who do not compete in the national championships but still wish to be considered for a wildcard slot are invited to complete an expression of interest in the prescribed timeframes (6.2) and must register Extenuating Circumstances using the link [HERE](#).
- 8.3** These riders will only be considered if there are remaining slots available after the wildcard process is completed (7.1 – 7.3)
- 8.4** The awarding of these slots will be at the discretion of the selection panel.

9. Additional Competitions

- 9.1.** There are no additional competitions that will be considered in this entry allocation process.

10. Postponement or Cancellation of Entry Allocation Event

- 10.1.** In the event that the entry allocation event is postponed, then this policy will be updated to reflect the date changes.
- 10.2.** In the event that the entry allocation event is cancelled, the previous year's national champions will be offered an automatic qualifying slot.
- 10.3.** In the event that the entry allocation event is cancelled, the wildcard application process will open as per 6.0 and the available slots will be drawn at random at the end of the window.

Noting that the dates of this window may change dependant on when the event is cancelled.

11. Financial Conditions

- 11.1. Participation at the UCI Gran Fondo World Championship is dependent on selected athletes being able to fund themselves.
- 11.2. Additional entry fees and event terms and conditions apply to those who take a slot.
- 11.3. Cycling New Zealand makes no financial contribution towards expenses or otherwise, nor do they provide any travel or logistics support.

12. Key Timelines

Event	Entry Allocation Event	Applications opens	Applications close	Notification
2023 UCI Gran Fondo World Championships, Scotland 4 - 7 August 2023	2023 Age Group Road National Championships, Timaru, NZ 14 - 16 April 2023	Wednesday 19 April 2023	Wednesday 3 May 2023	Automatic qualifiers will be notified no later than Wednesday 19 April 2023. Wildcard qualifiers will be notified no later than Tuesday 9 May 2023.