



CYCLING NEW ZEALAND POSITION STATEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN AND PROJECT ACTIVITIES UPDATE #9

Updated 18 June 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 18 JUNE 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 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 will be publishing an International Event Entry process between 21 and 25 June. This process and the measures included in the process will apply to any athlete, regardless of cycling code or category, requesting entry into international events where Cycling New Zealand, as the National Federation, has entry jurisdiction.

The published process will include a number of steps. Prior to any further selections or applications, the first step is for Cycling New Zealand to confirm that the country in which the event is being held and the protocols implemented by the event itself meet the appropriate risk threshold. The next step will be for eligible athletes considering entry for eligible events to complete and submit an International Event Entry Application (IEEA) which would include an Informed Consent Form (ICF) by a set date in relation to the targeted event. The process will also speak to the need for the IEEA to be approved by both the PRAG and the independent Risk Assessment Professional before any selection is approved or entry to an event is considered.

While acknowledging that following this process cannot fully eliminate the possibility of contracting COVID-19, Cycling New Zealand believes that any athlete successful in their application will have demonstrated to Health and Safety Work Act standards that risks have been identified and mitigated to a reasonably practicable level.

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.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Landry'.

Jacques Landry

Chief Executive Officer, Cycling New Zealand