



Cycling Association of Maharashtra

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CYCLING ASSOCIATION OF MAHARASHTRA (CAM)

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION

Selection Trials & Final Selection of Maharashtra State MTB Cycling Team – 2026

For participation in the

23rd National Mountain Bike Cycling Championships, Mahendragiri, Odisha – 2026

To,

All Cyclists, Parents/Guardians, Coaches, Team Managers, District Associations and all concerned stakeholders

Subject: Official Notification regarding Selection Trials, Selection Procedure and Final Nomination of Maharashtra State MTB Cycling Team

The **Cycling Association of Maharashtra (CAM)** hereby notifies all concerned that the Selection Trials for the formation of the **Maharashtra State MTB Cycling Team** for participation in the **23rd National Mountain Bike Cycling Championships, Mahendragiri, Odisha – 2026** shall be conducted in accordance with the applicable rules, regulations and guidelines communicated by the **Cycling Federation of India (CFI)**.

This Notification is issued with the objective of ensuring a **fair, transparent, disciplined and clearly understood selection process**, while safeguarding the sporting interest of the individual cyclist as well as the **overall interest of the Maharashtra State Team**.

The CFI has prescribed the Championship guidelines, age categories, events, entry limits, Rider Licence requirements, State Team selection provisions and XCR team composition for the Championship.

1. BASIS OF THE SELECTION PROCESS

The Selection Trials shall be conducted on the basis of the applicable **CFI Guidelines and Event List** communicated for the 23rd National MTB Cycling Championships.

The applicable categories are:

Category	Birth Year / Age	Applicable Events
Elite Men/Women	Born in 2007 & before	XCT, XCO, XCE, Down Hill (Demonstration/Trials), XCR where applicable
U-23 Men/Women	Born 2004–2007	XCO
Junior Boys/Girls	Born 2008–2009	XCT, XCO, XCR where applicable
Sub-Junior Boys/Girls	Born 2010–2011	XCT, XCO
Youth Boys/Girls	Born 2012–2014	XCT, XCO

The above age/event structure is based on the CFI Event List.

Note: Event distances may be modified depending upon the availability and suitability of the route/circuit, as specified by CFI.

2. PARTICIPATION IN SELECTION TRIALS DOES NOT GUARANTEE SELECTION

All eligible cyclists may participate in the Selection Trials subject to the applicable eligibility requirements.

However:

Participation in the Selection Trials shall not create an automatic or vested right to be selected or nominated to represent Maharashtra at the National Championship.

Performance in the Selection Trials shall be an **important basis for selection**, but the final selection shall also take into consideration the applicable CFI rules, eligibility, category, permissible entry limits, event suitability, team requirements, XCR composition and the overall competitive interest of the Maharashtra State Team.

3. SELECTION COMMITTEE

The performance of participating cyclists shall be evaluated by the **Selection Committee constituted/authorized by CAM.**

The Selection Committee shall consider the available performance data and applicable eligibility requirements and shall make recommendations for the State Team.

The final nomination shall be approved by the **Cycling Association of Maharashtra (CAM)** in accordance with the applicable CFI provisions.

4. SELECTION CRITERIA

While considering the final State Team, CAM may take into account the following relevant factors:

1. Performance in the Selection Trials;
2. Performance consistency;
3. Eligibility in the prescribed age category;
4. Valid CFI Rider Licence;
5. Suitability for the particular event;
6. Maximum permissible entries prescribed by CFI;
7. Required team composition;
8. XCR team combination, wherever applicable;
9. Fitness and ability to participate in the Championship;
10. Compliance with CFI/CAM rules and instructions;
11. Discipline and sportsmanship; and
12. Overall competitive interest of the **Maharashtra State Team.**

These factors shall be applied in accordance with the applicable rules and requirements and shall not be interpreted as creating an automatic selection entitlement.

5. CFI ENTRY LIMITS

The final number of riders in each category shall remain subject to the maximum entry limits prescribed by CFI:

Category	Men – Maximum	Women – Maximum
Elite	6	6
U-23	4	4
Junior	5	5
Sub-Junior	4	4
Youth	3	3
Total	22	22

These limits are specifically prescribed in the CFI Championship Guidelines.

Therefore, even where more cyclists are eligible or participate in the trials, CAM cannot nominate riders beyond the permissible CFI entry limits.

6. XCR TEAM SELECTION

XCR selection shall be considered **separately from individual event selection**, because XCR requires a prescribed combination of riders from different categories.

Elite & U-23 XCR – 6 Riders

- 01 Men Elite
- 02 Men U-23
- 01 Women Elite
- 02 Women U-23

Junior & Sub-Junior XCR – 6 Riders

- 02 Junior Boys
- 01 Sub-Junior Boy
- 02 Junior Girls
- 01 Sub-Junior Girl

The above composition is prescribed by CFI.

Accordingly, **individual trial performance alone shall not determine XCR selection.** The prescribed composition, rider suitability, team combination and overall strength of the Maharashtra State Team shall also be considered.

7. CFI RIDER LICENCE – MANDATORY

A valid **CFI Rider Licence** is mandatory for riders participating in the Championship.

As per the CFI Circular dated **7 March 2025**, the Rider Licence fee is **₹750**, while a late application fee of **₹2,000** is prescribed subject to the conditions stated by CFI.

Therefore, cyclists/parents are advised to complete the Rider Licence formalities **well before the prescribed deadline.**

8. AGE & DOCUMENT VERIFICATION

Every cyclist shall be responsible for submitting correct and genuine information and documents relating to age, identity, eligibility and other requirements.

CFI has prescribed an enhanced age-verification process, including physical verification by a CFI-deputed committee for suspected cases in the Youth and Sub-Junior categories.

If any information or document is found to be false, misleading, suppressed or inconsistent with the applicable requirements, CAM may take appropriate action, including **withdrawal/review of selection or nomination**, subject to applicable CFI/CAM rules.

9. AGE CATEGORY RULES

No rider shall be permitted to compete in an upper age category contrary to the CFI provisions.

CFI has specifically provided that a rider competing in an upper age category cannot thereafter compete in the lower category from that date onwards, subject to the specific provision applicable to team events.

Further, an U-23 rider choosing to compete in the Elite category shall not participate in the U-23 events during the same Championship, as specified by CFI.

10. FITNESS, INJURY & AVAILABILITY: A selected cyclist must be physically fit and available to participate in the Championship and must comply with all applicable requirements.

If, after selection, a rider:

- becomes injured or medically unfit;
- becomes unavailable;
- fails to fulfil eligibility requirements;
- does not possess/maintain the required CFI licence;
- fails to comply with applicable rules;
- is unable to participate in the assigned event; or
- creates a situation affecting the composition or participation of the State Team,

CAM may **review the nomination and, where necessary, modify or replace the concerned rider**, in accordance with applicable rules and in the interest of the Maharashtra State Team.

11. FINAL AUTHORITY OF CAM

This clause is issued specifically to avoid misunderstanding regarding the status of Selection Trial results:

The final decision regarding the selection and nomination of cyclists to represent Maharashtra at the 23rd National Mountain Bike Cycling Championships shall rest with the Cycling Association of Maharashtra (CAM).

The decision shall be taken **in accordance with the applicable CFI rules and guidelines, prescribed eligibility and entry limits, Selection Trial performance, event requirements, team composition and the overall interest of the Maharashtra State Team.**

Selection Trial results shall therefore be treated as an important basis for selection and not as an unconditional guarantee of nomination.

The decision of CAM shall be **final at the State Association level**, subject to the applicable rules, eligibility requirements and directions of the **Cycling Federation of India (CFI)**.

12. DISCIPLINE & CODE OF CONDUCT: All selected cyclists, coaches, managers and officials shall maintain proper discipline and sportsmanship during:

- Selection Trials;
- travel;
- accommodation;
- training;
- competition;
- official ceremonies; and
- all activities connected with the Championship.

CFI requires strict discipline and sportsmanship and provides for disciplinary action in cases of aggression, verbal abuse, cheating or other unsportsmanlike conduct.

Any serious violation may result in appropriate action in accordance with the applicable rules.

13. MEDIA & OFFICIAL COMMUNICATION

As per CFI guidelines, riders and team members shall not interact with the media without prior official permission, and complaints are to be communicated through the designated authorities.

Accordingly, no person shall issue any statement **on behalf of CAM or the Maharashtra State Team** without proper authorization.

Official communication with the Race Secretariat, Technical Delegate or Chief Commissaire shall be through the **one authorized person designated by the team during the Team Manager's Meeting**, as prescribed by CFI.

14. JERSEY, UNIFORM & CEREMONIES

All selected riders shall strictly follow the approved team jersey/race attire requirements.

CFI requires riders of a team to wear the same approved team jersey and does not permit last-minute changes.

Participation in the **Opening and Closing Ceremonies is mandatory** and riders/officials must attend in proper State uniform.

For medal ceremonies, the prescribed State/affiliated race attire and sports shoes must be worn. Caps, sunglasses, helmet and visor are not permitted during the medal ceremony.

15. BIKE & EQUIPMENT CHECK

Commissaires shall check bicycles for all disciplines/races.

The concerned rider/coach/mechanic must be present with the bicycle for verification before the event, and the equipment must comply with the applicable quality and safety requirements.

16. TRAVEL, ACCOMMODATION & ORGANIZATION FEE

All teams are required to communicate arrival and departure details to the organizers at least **one week before commencement of the event**. Failure to do so may result in the team being responsible for its own transportation arrangements.

Accommodation is provided within the period specified by CFI, with check-in permitted two days before the event and vacation required on the next day after completion by **12:00 noon**.

The CFI guidelines prescribe an **organization fee of ₹1,500 per person** for the championship duration, applicable to riders and officials irrespective of whether boarding/lodging facilities are availed.

All selected team members shall comply with the applicable financial, travel and accommodation instructions communicated by CAM/CFI/Organizing Committee.

17. ANTI-DOPING

The **UCI Anti-Doping Rules are entirely applicable** to the Championship.

Anti-doping controls shall be conducted at the designated Anti-Doping Area and shall be the responsibility of **NADA**.

Every selected cyclist shall be responsible for complying with all applicable anti-doping requirements.

18. PARTICIPATION CERTIFICATE: For Time Trial and Cross-Country events, eligibility for a participation certificate shall be subject to completion of the race in accordance with the applicable provision mentioned by CFI, including the **80% UCI rule**.

19. REPRESENTATION / GRIEVANCE

CAM is committed to maintaining a fair and transparent selection process.

If any cyclist, parent/guardian or authorized coach has a genuine concern regarding the Selection Trial or selection procedure, the matter shall be submitted **in writing to CAM through the prescribed official channel within the period communicated by CAM.**

The representation should contain:

- Name of cyclist;
- Category;
- Event;
- Specific issue/ground;
- Relevant supporting documents, if any.

Personal pressure, social-media posts, unauthorized communication, verbal allegations or communications through third parties shall not be treated as an official representation.

CAM shall consider genuine representations in accordance with the applicable rules and the authority available to the Association.

20. PARENT / GUARDIAN & COACHES – IMPORTANT NOTE

Parents and coaches are requested to understand that the purpose of the Selection Trials is to identify the most suitable cyclists for representing **Maharashtra as a State Team**, and not merely to determine an individual ranking.

Therefore, parents, coaches and cyclists are requested to:

- respect the Selection Committee;
- provide correct information;
- avoid undue pressure or influence;
- follow the prescribed procedure;

- maintain sportsmanship and discipline; and
- respect the final decision taken through the authorized CAM process.

Constructive feedback and genuine representations are welcome; however, the selection process must remain free from personal pressure, confrontation and unauthorized interference.

21. DECLARATION BY CYCLIST / PARENT / COACH

All concerned may be required to acknowledge that they have:

- Read and understood this Notification;
- Read and understood the applicable CFI Guidelines;
- Understood the age-category and event requirements;
- Understood that trial participation does not guarantee final selection;
- Understood the CFI entry limits and XCR composition;
- Agreed to comply with CFI/CAM rules and instructions;
- Understood the authority of CAM regarding final State Team nomination; and
- Agreed to maintain discipline and sportsmanship throughout the selection and Championship process.

22. FINAL CLARIFICATION

The Selection Trials are being conducted to facilitate a fair and objective assessment of eligible cyclists. The ultimate objective is to constitute a competitive, eligible, disciplined and properly balanced Maharashtra State Team in accordance with CFI regulations and the sporting interest of Maharashtra.

No cyclist shall be considered automatically selected merely because he/she participated in the trials or achieved a particular trial position. Similarly, no eligible cyclist shall be excluded except on the basis of applicable eligibility, rules, prescribed limits, team requirements, performance assessment or other legitimate considerations relevant to the State Team.

CAM shall endeavour to ensure that the selection process is conducted fairly, transparently and without discrimination, while retaining the authority necessary to comply with CFI regulations and to protect the overall interest of Maharashtra.

IMPORTANT SOURCE NOTE

This Notification is based on the official documents communicated by the Cycling Federation of India (CFI), namely:

- 1. Guidelines for the 23rd National Mountain Bike Cycling Championship, Mahendragiri, Odisha – 2026;**
- 2. 23rd NMTB Cycling Championships – Event List, Mahendragiri, Odisha;**
- 3. CFI Circular – Guidelines for Rider License dated 7 March 2025.**

Where a matter is not specifically prescribed in the above CFI documents, the applicable CAM administrative/selection procedure shall apply, subject to CFI rules and directions.

For and on behalf of

CYCLING ASSOCIATION OF MAHARASHTRA (CAM)

