

# National Junior Travel Program (NJTP) – 2024

National Series and Championship events are an important focus for development athletes and they are also an integral part of the selection process for squads and Junior World Championship teams. AusCycling recognises that attending some, or all of these events can be a significant time and financial burden on families. The NJTP gives the opportunity for U17, U19 and U23 riders to attend selected events without requiring parent/guardian accompaniment, and under the supervision of experienced and accredited coaches and staff. Athletes are met at the destination airport and are under the care of AusCycling staff until they are returned to the airport at the end of the camp.

# Important Information Regarding Injury and Illness Management

All staff running the National Junior Travel Program have first aid training and all events included in the program are serviced by professional medical support. In rare instances athletes may sustain an injury or illness that prevents them from travelling home within the scheduled program timeframe. This may include, but is not limited to, being admitted to hospital and/or injuries that prevent an athlete from flying. While AusCycling will take all reasonable steps to facilitate the athletes return home, where the athlete is unable to travel home through the normal program logistics the athlete becomes the responsibility of the parent or guardian. AusCycling strongly recommends the use of travel insurance to facilitate the cancellation or rebooking of flights.

# **Eligible Participants**

The program is targeted at athletes aged 15 to 22 (at Dec 31st 2024) who would otherwise have logistical difficulty in attending National Cup events / National Championships. To be eligible athletes must be –

- XCO eligible and competing in U17, U19 or U23 category (where there is no separate U23 category athletes aged 22 or younger at Dec 31st 2023 racing elite category are still eligible).
- DHI eligible and competing in U17 or U19 categories or elites aged 22 or younger at Dec 31st 2024.
- EDR eligible and competing in the U17 or U21 category.
- All participants MUST be able to fly unaccompanied. AusCycling staff are not able to act as a nominated adult.

# Staff

The program will be staffed from AusCycling's network of accredited and highly experienced part-time and contract coaches and staff. Where possible AusCycling accredited coaches local to the event region will be utilised to maximise local knowledge and limit staff travel expenses.

### **Inclusions**

- All ground transport at the destination.
- · Accommodation.
- All meals / food (excluding race food gels etc and any exceptions will be clearly noted on the specific information for each event).
- Supervised/coached practice laps (XCO) and/or track walk (DHI).
- · Basic mechanical support.
- Feed zone / techzone assistance (XCO).
- Nutritional, race prep and warmup advice.

# **Non-Inclusions**

- All race entries.
- Flight bookings (or transport to a pickup point if local to the event).
- Race food (gels, sports drinks etc)



#### Cost

Cost will vary from camp to camp depending on the duration and local costs.

# **Flights**

Flight bookings are the responsibility of the athlete / parent. Please check the registration page carefully for the dates and times flights you need to book for. The times vary from camp to camp and must be adhered to. AusCycling recommends booking transferrable fares and/or using travel insurance.

# Registration

Links to registration can be found on the Development page of the AusCycling website. Registrations generally close up to 4 weeks before the event to allow for logistics planning. There are minimum numbers required so please register early to avoid disappointment.

### **Code of Conduct**

All athletes and staff will be required to adhere to the AusCycling Code of Conduct. The code is available on the AusCycling website <u>HERE</u>. <u>All program events will be completely alcohol free regardless of athlete age.</u> This includes drinking at the accommodation and at any other venue including after parties.

### **Schedule**

Detailed schedules will be communicated to registered participants in the lead up.

### **Cancellations**

In the case of minimum numbers for a particular camp not being reached AusCycling may elect to cancel. That decision will be made when registrations close and any registered participants will be refunded in full. In the event an athlete is forced to withdraw through injury or sickness refunds will be available (minus an administration fee) with the presentation of a doctor's certificate. Refunds for reasons other than documented illness or injury will be at AusCycling's discretion.

For further enquiries please contact AusCycling MTB Operations and Pathways Manager – Evan James evan.james@auscycling.org.au