

1. PROGRAMME, REGISTRATION AND RACE CHARACTERISTICS

1.1 The 2026 UCI-UEC Mountain Bike European Series takes place over 1 (one) or more days and in accordance with the applicable race, advertising, doping and other rules of the Union Cycliste Internationale (UCI);

1.2 The 2026 UCI-UEC Mountain Bike European Series is in the race types:

- Cross-country Olympic (XCO);
- Downhill (DHI);

1.3 Each year the UEC designates the races, types of events and the age categories for each UEC Mountain Bike European Series.

1.4 All riders must be registered via the registration system provided by each organiser who is part of the UCI-UEC series.

All athletes in the categories foreseen by the series (*for the year 2026 – XCO: Elite Under 23 and Junior categories - DHI; Elite, Junior and U17 categories-*), who have an annual valid license issued by a National Federation affiliated to the UCI are also eligible to register.

Registration is considered to be completed once the entrant(s) have paid the provided entry fee and have received confirmation of acceptance from the organiser.

Registration fees are as set by each race organiser, also considering the existing UCI regulations, but cannot exceed the maximum amount of: **EUR 80 - per rider.**

Registration deadlines will be published in the Technical Guides.

The organiser will pay to the UCI CHF 10.- per participant, an invoice will be sent, by UCI, to the organiser after the event.

1.5 The start order is determined as per the UCI Mountain Bike Regulations, articles 4.2.061 for XCO and 4.3.001 for DHI.

1.6 All riders of each category shall start in their club or national jerseys except for National Champions, Continental Champions and World Champions, who must start in the relevant champions jersey.

1.7 Anti-doping will be carried out according to UCI rules or national rules of the event organiser.

1.8 The UCI penalty scale is applicable for all races as part in the UCI calendar.

1.9 In instances where the regulations do not specify, the commissaires panel, in conjunction with UEC and the organisers (where applicable), will decide.

2. CONTINENTAL SERIES STANDINGS

2.1 The organisers of each race included in the calendar of the 2026 UCI-UEC MTB Continental Series will send as soon as possible, and in any case no later than midnight on the Sunday of the week in which the race took place, the rankings, divided into the categories for which standing is provided and using the same Excel format as used for UCI DATARIDE, to the following UEC e-mail address: g.baruffi@uec.ch

2.2 The qualification system envisaged from 2026 for the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup in Cross-country and Downhill as follows:

Category	Criteria
XCO - men elite (aged 23 and over)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Top three riders of any round of a UCI Mountain Bike Continental Series limited to 1 round of the UCI MTB World Cup within 52 weeks of the qualification (GoldenTicket) 2. Top five riders from the final standings of any of the UCI Mountain Bike Continental Series of the previous year, Elite (from 2026) 3. Top five riders from the final standings of any of the UCI Mountain Bike Continental Series of the previous year, U23 (if progressing into Elite category) (from 2026)
XCO - women elite (aged 23 and over)	
XCO - men under 23 (aged from 19 to 22)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Top three riders of any round of a UCI Mountain Bike Continental Series, limited to 1 round of the UCI MTB World Cup within 52 weeks of the qualification (GoldenTicket) 2. Top five riders from the final standings of any of the UCI Mountain Bike Continental Series of the previous year, U23 (from 2026) 3. Top five riders from the final standings of any of the UCI Mountain Bike Continental Series of the previous year, Junior (if progressing into U23 category) (from 2026)
XCO - women under 23 (aged from 19 to 22)	
Category	Criteria
DHI - men elite (aged 19 and over)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Top three riders of any round of a UCI Mountain Bike Continental Series, limited to 1 round of the UCI MTB World Cup within 52 weeks of the qualification (GoldenTicket)
DHI - women elite (aged 19 and over)	

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Top five riders from the final standings of any of the UCI Mountain Bike Continental Series of the previous year, Elite (from 2026) 3. Top five riders from the final standings of any of the UCI Mountain Bike Continental Series of the previous year, Junior (if progressing into Elite category) (from 2026)
<p>DHI - men juniors (aged 17 and 18)</p> <p>DHI - women juniors (aged 17 and 18)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Top three riders of any round of a UCI Mountain Bike Continental Series, limited to 1 round of the UCI MTB World Cup within 52 weeks of the qualification (GoldenTicket) 2. Top five riders from the final standings of any of the UCI Mountain Bike Continental Series of the previous year, Junior (from 2026) 3. Top five riders from the final standings of any of the UCI Mountain Bike Continental Series of the previous year, Cadet (if progressing into Junior category) (from 2026)

The qualification criteria listed above are not applicable for riders member of a UCI MTB WORLD SERIES TEAM. As a matter of clarification, the riders member of a UCI MTB WORLD SERIES TEAM can participate in the race but they cannot pretend to a qualification quota for the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup.

2.3 In accordance with the above, the 2026 General standings will be provided as follows:

XCO (MEN and WOMEN)	ELITE – UNDER 23 - JUNIOR
DHI (MEN and WOMEN)	ELITE – JUNIOR – UNDER 17 (CADET)

2.4 The points for the general standings of the 2026 UCI-UEC MTB European Series, as clarified by UCI Off-Road, will be awarded only to athletes registered in UCI Teams or Teams registered with NF. **All athletes registered with UCI MTB WORLD SERIES TEAM will be excluded from the standings of the 2026 UCI-UEC MTB European Series (1).**

2.5 The overall standings take into account the maximum **4 best** events per athlete.

2.6 The points scale is available at annexes 2 and 3 of the UCI Mountain Bike Regulations.

2.7 The overall standings are drawn up by the UEC.

2.8 Unless otherwise announced by the UEC, the 2026 UEC Mountain Bike Continental Series standings are updated, if there have been competitions in the previous week, every Tuesday and published on a dedicated page on the UEC website.

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2.9 At each event, **the top-3 (three) per category** (excluding any WS Team athletes) will receive a **'Golden Ticket'** for participation in a round of the UCI World Cup within 52 weeks of the qualification (GoldenTicket) it does not have to be the next round immediately following the series race where they qualified. Entry for the UCI World Cup is done by the national federation of the country of the athlete.

2.10 For each round of the World Cup/World Series **there are 8 Wild Cards for the UCI Teams** and the selection criteria also include the Team Ranking in the Continental Series. For this reason, for the year 2026 in the UCI-UEC MTB European Series there will also be a **Team Ranking** for the UCI Teams, which will be updated in the same manner as the individual rankings.

Remarks:

1. As a matter of clarification, riders who are a member of a UCI MTB WORLD SERIES TEAM can participate in the race, and will be awarded UCI points in accordance with their finishing position but are ineligible for the UCI-UEC Continental Series qualification quota for the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup.
 - *For example, if WS team riders finish 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 9th in a race then series standing points for 1st place are allocated to the rider who finished 3rd in the race, 2nd place standing points are allocated to the rider who finished 6th, etc.*
2. In the DHI **no** standing points for the seeding run will be given. The standing points will be awarded to the riders according to their position in the final only.
3. The UCI-UEC Mountain Bike European Series classification, for each rider of each one of all the categories will be calculated by adding points gained in the best **4** races.
4. Riders tied in points will be ranked by the greatest number of 1st places, 2nd places, etc. taking in to consideration account only of places for which points are awarded for the UCI-UEC Mountain Bike European Series. If they are still tied, the points scored in most recent event, shall be used to separate them.