



USAC/BRAC
2018 Cyclocross Categorization Guidelines



Rider upgrades/downgrades are handled electronically through a rider's USAC account. The request will be sent to Yvonne van Gent, USAC LA representative. Please follow the instructions online and provide the information about your race experience and placings. The information you provide must include the race date, name, type of event, category, number of participants in your category, and placing. If the upgrade/downgrade is approved, your account will be changed .

Categorization

Categories indicate cycling abilities relative to riders of the same sex without regard to age.

Categories are initially established one of two ways:

1. Cyclocross categories may be upgraded to match the road or MTB-XC category as shown in the chart.

Road Category	MTB-XC Category	CX Category
Pro/1	Pro	1
2	Pro	3
3	2	4
4 or 5	3	5

2. Riders can upgrade their CX category by earning cyclocross upgrade points in cyclocross races whose duration is at least 30 minutes in length.

- 5 → 4: Voluntary Upgrade: experience in 5 races
Mandatory Upgrade: experience in 10 races
- 4 → 3: Voluntary Upgrade: 10 points
Mandatory Upgrade*: 15 points - *or* - two wins in a field of at least 30
- 3 → 2: Voluntary Upgrade: 15 points
Mandatory Upgrade*: 20 points - *or* - two wins in a field of at least 30
- 2 → 1: Voluntary Upgrade: 20 points
Mandatory Upgrade*: 25 points - *or* - two wins in a field of at least 40

For category 1 upgrades, only 10 points may be earned from training race series or masters' races

** Juniors are exempt from this mandatory upgrade for points gained in junior races, Points gained in Senior races will be used for mandatory upgrades, up to category 3.*

Place	Number of Starters			
	5-10	11-20	21-49	50+
1	3	4	5	7
2	2	3	4	5
3	1	2	3	4
4		1	2	3
5			1	2
6				1

In regards to the points tables, if the field contains mixed categories (e.g. cat 3-4), than the number of starters is the number of riders that are the same category or higher as the person requesting the upgrade. The number of points awarded is the raw finish across the finish line, not taking account the category of the rider. In other words, in a 3-4 race the cat 3 riders are not subtracted out so that the cat 4 appears to have a higher finish place.

2. Downgrades: Any rider who in the preceding 12 months has never placed in the top 10 in a qualifying race in the rider's category may be assigned to the next lower category. Cat 4 men/women may request a downgrade if they have not completed 10 CX events. *In no other case will a rider be allowed to downgrade to category 5.*