



January 2012

2012 West Midlands Youth Teams

In 2012, the West Midlands Region will be selecting teams of youth riders to take part in prestigious inter-Regional Championships. The first of these is the UK School Games.

The UKSG (Inter-Regional Road Championship) will take place on the 7th and 8th May at the Redbridge (Hog Hill) cycling circuit in East London. As in 2011, there will be a wide-range of road based events but for 2012 year will include shorter sprint racing. Separate to the Inter-Regional Road Championship, on the following day (9th May) will be a one day track event at the Olympic Velodrome for all the cycling teams at the School Games. This will be the final event to be held there prior to the Games themselves and a fantastic opportunity for youth riders to experience.

Backed by the Youth Sport Trust and National Lottery, the School Games is a multi-million pound sporting event; effectively a Youth Olympics complete with opening / closing ceremonies etc. Around 2500 young athletes will stay together in an athletes village, be mentored by Olympic Champions, and compete for their regions across 12 different Olympic and Paralympic disciplines. The cycling events will be contested between teams of Youth riders from British Cycling's 10 English regions, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

Later in the year, the Inter-Regional MTB Championship will provisionally take place from 31st August to the 2nd September. This is a new event as a legacy from the 2011 School Games which included mountain biking. As last year, there will be a wide-range of off road events; Dirt Crit, Team Relay, Uphill, Time Trial and Cross-Country.

Also in September will be the Inter-Regional Track Championship which will take place from the 14th to 16th September. This is a continuation of the events staged in 2010 and 2011 as a legacy from the 2009 School Games. Riders will compete in the 9 World Championship events: Sprint, Keirin, Time Trial, Scratch, Points, Pursuit, Madison, Team Sprint and Team Pursuit.

Selection criteria

Selection criteria for the MTB and Track event will be circulated shortly. For the Road Championships in May 2012, a selection deadline of mid-March is necessary, and therefore the selection for the West Midlands team will be based upon performances in events as follows:

UKSG : Inter-Regional Road Championship – May 7th - 8th (4 Males and 4 Females)

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|----------|------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|
| Saturday | 3rd March | Solihull CC Circuit Races – Race 1 | Tudor Grange circuit |
| Saturday | 3rd March | Solihull CC Circuit Races – Race 2 | Tudor Grange circuit |
| Saturday | 10th March | Ashfield RC – Darley Moor 1 | Darley Moor |

Riders 2 best performances out of the 3 races will count for selection.

West Midlands top 5 male and female riders in each event will be given 5-4-3-2-1 points irrespective of their actual race position. Male - 3 highest points scorers from youth A plus 1 wildcard selected by regional panel. Female – 3 highest points scorers from youth A plus 1 wildcard selected by regional panel. Wildcard selections may include youth B riders at the discretion of the selection panel. In the event of a tie on points the decider will be the decision of the selection panel. Reserves – at least one reserve male and female rider will be selected by regional panel.

Due to the travel and attendance requirements, riders who are selected to compete in the UKSG will not be able to compete in the Isle of Man Youth Series event which finishes on the 6 May, and therefore those riders wishing to be considered for UKSG selection should give full and proper thoughts to their preferred event.

This selection process has been developed and approved in consultation with the West Midlands Regional Board. Any concerns regarding the criteria or riders selected should be directed via riders Clubs to the Regional Board and not to the team staff. For information, the West Midlands Team Manager and Coach for the UKSG are Paul Swinnerton and Debbie Capewell, and the Region is very grateful for their volunteer commitment in helping at this event.

Richard Lodge
Chairman/Secretary, BC West Midlands Region