



Elite Field Vetting Process for Life Time Cycling Events

1. Objective

To foster a professional and safe racing environment that promotes fairness, respect, and integrity among all participants while ensuring the highest standards of organization and athlete well-being.

2. Scope

Applies to Elite fields at these events with prize purses or Elite fields for the 2025 and 2026 season:

- Sea Otter Classic Gravel
- Sea Otter Fuego XL
- UNBOUND Gravel
- Crusher in the Tushar
- Leadville Trail 100 MTB
- Chequamegon 40
- The Rad Dirt Fest
- Little Sugar MTB
- Big Sugar Gravel

3. Selection Committee

- **Staff:** Michelle Duffy Smith, Sean Thurman
- **Event Managers:**
 - Jeff Frost (Sea Otter Classic)
 - Sean Thurman (UNBOUND, Little Sugar, Big Sugar, The Rad Dirt Fest)
 - Ginger Hall (Crusher in the Tushar)
 - Tamira Jenlink (Leadville Trail 100 MTB)
 - Peter Spencer (Chequamegon 40)

4. Automatic Qualification

- Current Life Time Grand Prix athletes
- Current Wild Card or U23 LTGP athletes
- Top 10 finishers from prior year's event in Elite or Overall Categories
- 2025 Life Time Grand Prix field
- National Champions (gravel or MTB)
- Top 3 at the following Life Time events (non-GP)
 - Lutsen 99er
 - Crusher in the Tushar
 - The Rad Dirt Fest
 - Tahoe Trail MTB
 - Silver Rush MTB
 - Austin Rattler MTB
 - Coldwater Trail MTB
 - Leadville Stage Race

5. Competitive Qualifications

Applicants may be considered based on:

- Elite team affiliation (UCI, Pro domestic)
- **Top Results at LTGP Events (Past 2 Years)**
 - Top 20 overall finish at any LTGP event in the previous season
- **Top Results at Life Time (non GP) Events (Past 1 year)**

Top 10 overall



- Lutsen 99er
- Crusher in the Tushar
- The Rad Dirt Fest

Top 5 Overall

- Tahoe Trail Mtb
- Silver Rush Mtb
- Austin Rattler Mtb
- Coldwater Trail Mtb
- Leadville Stage Race
- **Performance at High-Level Off Road Events**
 - Top overall performances at select premier races within the last 12 months:
 - **American Events**
 - SBT Gravel (Elite field)
 - Oregon Trail Stage Race
 - US Nationals - MTB Cross Country
 - US Nationals - Gravel
 - Breck Epic 6 day (overall)
 - Mid-South
 - Whiskey Off-Road 50 (Pro/Open)
 - Barry Roubaix
 - Valley of Tears
 - Rule of 3
 - **International Events**
 - Heathland Gravel
 - Cape Epic (overall)
 - BC Bike Race - MTB Stage race in BC
 - La Ruta - MTB Stage Race Costa Rica
 - UCI MTB XCO/XCM events - All
 - UCI Gravel
 - Gravel Earth
 - Traka (360km or 240km)
 - Rift

At its sole discretion, Life Time may consider performances from other national or international events not listed, as well as other relevant factors in determining final athlete selections. Applicants may submit additional event performances alongside their application for consideration.

6. Entry Fees

- Entry fees will not be covered by Life Time for the Elite field.
- The winner of the previous year's event will be guaranteed entry into the same event in the next year, however entry fees will not be complimentary.

7. Registration

- Note this policy outlines criteria to be eligible for the Elite Corral only and does not grant entry into the event.
- Selected Elite athletes must still register for the event in accordance with standard policy and deadlines, this includes lottery events such as UNBOUND and Leadville.

8. Policy Adjustments



- The Selection Committee reserves the right to modify these policies and criteria in response to unforeseen circumstances, evolving competitive landscapes, or to uphold the values and integrity of the Elite field.