

CHAPTER T3 - UPGRADING

1. Points will be awarded on all open races in Ireland as follows: -
 - (a) All open mid-week races (excl. Bank Holidays) to be awarded points 6-5-4-3-2-1 regardless of distance
 - (b) In A1, A2, A3 & Junior Road Races over 50km points to be awarded: 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1; with the exception of open mid-week races as indicated in T3.1(a) above
 - (c) In A4 road races over 50km, points to be awarded, 8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1; with the exception of open mid-week races as indicated in T3.1(a) above
 - (d) National League road races points will be awarded 12-11-10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1;
 - (e) In any road race with 20 riders or less points to be awarded 3-2-1;
 - (f) National Senior Road Race Championship – Double points as detailed in (d) above;
 - (g) National Masters and National A3 Road Race Championship, National Junior Championships, National Women's Championships 12-11-10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3.
 - (h) National Time Trial Championships 6-5-4-3-2-1;
 - (i) National Hill Climb Championship 6-5-4-3-2-1;
 - (j) National Criterium Championship 12-10-8-6-4-2;
 - (k) International Calendar single day races – Double points awarded as (d) above;
 - (l) A1 Stage races – per stage as (a) and (b), above. Time Trial stage points 6-5-4-3-2-1, final general classification - points to be awarded: 15-14-13-12-11-10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1.;
 - (m) A2, A3 & A4 stage races – per (a) and (c) above. Time Trial stage points 6-5-4-3-2-1, final general classification - points to be awarded 10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1.;
 - (n) International Calendar stage races – per stage as (f) and (h) above, final general classification points to be awarded 34-32-30-28-26-24-22-20-18-16-14-12-10-8-6;

Points Table –																
Placing		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Open Mid-Week Races	T3.1.(a)	6	5	4	3	2	1									
Open RR over 50km – ex open mid-week	T3.1.(b)	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1					
Open A4 RR over 50km – ex open mid-week	T3.1.(c)	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1							
National League	T3.1.(d)	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1			
Race 20 riders or less	T3.1.(e)	3	2	1												
National RR Champ	T3.1.(f)	24	22	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2			
National Masters, A3 Senior Men, Junior & Womens RR Champs	T3.1.(g)	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3					
National TT Champ	T3.1.(h)	6	5	4	3	2	1									
National HC Champ	T3.1.(i)	6	5	4	3	2	1									
National Crit Champ	T3.1.(j)	12	10	8	6	4	2									
UCI Race Single Day	T3.1.(k)	24	22	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6	4	2			
A1 Stage Race Final GC (1)	T3.1.(l)	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
A2,A3,A4 Stage Race Final GC (2)	T3.1.(m)	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1					
UCI Stage Race Final GC (3)	T3.1.(n)	34	32	30	28	26	24	22	20	18	16	14	12	10	8	6
UCI Stage Race Final GC A2 riders		6	4	2												
Note (1) - Stage Points as (a) and (b), above in respect of road stages with 6-5-4-3-2-1 for TT Stage																
Note (2) - Stage Points as (a) and (c) above in respect of road stages with 6-5-4-3-2-1 for TT Stage																
Note (3) – UCI Stage Points as (f) and (h) above																
Points in Handicap Races are allocated as per Scratch Races, not for placing's per category																

2.
 - (a) Newcomers to the sport will be granted an A4 licence. Holders of an A4 licence may only compete with other A4 licence holders with the exception of handicap races and the National Masters Road Race Championships. Notwithstanding in events restricted to Juniors, Masters or Women, A4 licence holders may compete with other category riders. Those returning to the sport after an absence will normally be granted an A3 licence, however this may be reviewed following an application to the National Grading Officer. Downgrading from A3 to A4 is not possible
 - (b) An A3 rider who has amassed 15 points, this includes the points carried from the previous year, will be upgraded to A2 with zero points.
 - (c) An A3 rider with less points than the upgrade threshold indicated in T3.2.b above at year end will carry 50% of their total points rounded down through to the following year.
 - (d) An A4 (including Junior A4) rider on amassing 13 points, cumulative across years will be upgraded to A3.
 - (e) Category A3 or A2 riders may opt to upgrade by one category on their first licence application for the season.

3.
 - (a) A youth rider on becoming a Junior will be graded as A3. However upon reaching 45 points as a first year Junior they may be upgraded to A2 for the remainder of that season. A 2nd year Junior A2 may opt to commence the season as an A3 on Zero points or remain as an A2 with Zero points. A 2nd year Junior A3 on reaching 30 points they may be upgraded to A2 for the remainder of that season. A Junior A3 rider may opt to remain an A3 for the remainder of the season in order to focus on their studies. Such upgraded Junior's will not be exempt from the Junior Maximum Distance (140km) and will be entitled to ride Junior only events. In the event of a race (A2) being above the maximum distance, a junior with an A2 licence may ride the A3 race at that event.
 - (b) A 2nd year Junior A3 on Moving to Senior will be graded as A3 with Zero points. A 2nd year Junior A2 on Moving to Senior will be graded as A2 with Zero points. However any Junior who has amassed 50 Points or more in their 2nd year as a Junior may apply to the National Development Coach for grading to a higher grade.
 - (c) An A2 rider on amassing 20 points this includes points carried from the previous year in a calendar year will be upgraded to A1 with zero points.
 - (d) An A2 rider with less points than the upgrade threshold indicated in T3.3.c above at year end will carry 50% of their total points rounded down through to the following year.
 - (e) An A2 rider may apply to the National Grading Officer for a downgrade to A3 with 5 points if they fail to score 6 points in a full season at A2. Downgrades will be at the discretion of the National Grading Office (grading@cyclingireland.ie) taking account of the rider's known ability. Such requests must be made prior to the 28th February.
 - (f) An A1 rider at the end of the year with zero points will be graded as A2 with 5 points at the beginning of the following year, unless the rider has already been upgraded to A1 during that year. However those riders so affected by this rule will be subject to review by the National Grading Officer (grading@cyclingireland.ie)

4.
 - (a) Riders in the year of their 40th birthday and each year thereafter may apply for Masters designation on their licence.
 - (b) A1, A2 or A3 Masters riders in their 46th to 49th year may apply, on their first licence application for the relevant licence year, for an A2 or A3 Masters licence with zero points brought forward. Such riders are subject to automatic upgrades during the licence year on reaching the relevant points threshold.
 - (c) A1, A2 or A3 Masters riders in their 50th or greater year may apply, on their first licence application for the relevant licence year, for an A2 or A3 Masters licence with zero points brought forward. Such riders are exempt from automatic upgrades during the licence year unless requested by the rider on reaching the relevant points threshold.
 - (d) A1, A2 or A3 Masters riders in their 60th or greater year may apply, on their first licence application for the relevant licence year, for an A2 or A3 Masters licence with zero points brought forward. Such riders are exempt from automatic upgrades during the licence year unless requested by the rider on reaching the relevant points threshold
 - (e) Women, on their first licence application for the year, may opt for an A4, A3 or A2 licence. In any event women will not be upgraded beyond A2 but are otherwise subject to the rules for upgrading and downgrading.

5. Upon reaching the necessary points for upgrading, the riders will submit their licence and number to Cycling Ireland for re-issue with their new category.

6. Commissaires have the power to withdraw a rider's licence if their points total is in excess of that required for upgrading and to submit it in accordance with rule T3.5 above.
7. When a rider reaches the appropriate points total for re-grading the rider will be deemed to be re-graded from that point in time.
8. When a grading dispute arises, this may be submitted to the National Grading Officer for resolution.
9. Former International riders will normally be issued with an A1 licence. However on representation to the National Grading Officer they may be re-graded as A2 or A3.