

An Olympic title in BMX, a UCI World Championships silver medal on the track, and UCI World Cup, Continental, and National Champions crowned across the different disciplines: the UCI World Cycling Centre's trainees made their presence felt on the international scene in 2021.

We take a look at just some key figures that summarise a year rich in experiences and performances.

Road

34 days of competition for the UCI Women's Continental Team, WCC Team, which competed in 2 stage races, 9 one-day races and 15 national events.

3 National Champions, in Azerbaijan (Ayan Khankishiyeva WE RR and ITT), South Africa (Frances Janse Van Rensburg WE ITT) and Slovakia (Tereza Medvedova, WE RR).

1 Continental Champion, in Africa for South African Frances Janse Van Rensburg in the WE TTT and TTT mixed relay. She also finished 2nd in the WE ITT.

2 members of the Refugee Olympic Team benefitted from WCC support: Masomah Ali Zada (Afghanistan) competed in the Women's ITT in Tokyo after several months training in Aigle, while Syrian Ahmad Badreddin Wais also received WCC support before competing in the Olympic ITT and the team time trial mixed relay at the UCI Road World Championships in Flanders, Belgium.

18 athletes participated in a training camp organised in Bahrain.

Track

4 Olympians

2 Olympic Diplomas: Jaïr Jestyn Tjon En Fa (SUR) 4th in the keirin and Nicholas Paul (TTO) 6th in the Sprint.

2nd in the UCI Track Cycling World Championships 1km time trial for Nicholas Paul in Roubaix (France).

3 top-ten places in UCI Track Champions League for our men sprint trainees after four rounds.

37 Junior athletes participated in a training camp organised in Egypt before the UCI Junior Track Cycling World Championships.

BMX Racing

5 Olympians

1 Olympic Champion: Niek Kimmann (NED)

1 UCI World Champion: Niek Kimmann (NED)

1 UCI World Cup winner: Simon Marquart (SUI)

1 Continental Champion : in Europe (Zoe Claessens, SUI)

1 National Champion: in Sweden (Einar Lindberg).

Mountain bike

19 days of cross-country Olympic competition across five rounds of the Mercedes-Benz UCI Mountain Bike World Cup and the UCI Mountain Bike World Championships.

4 National Champions: in Canada (Emily Johnston Women U23 XCO), Japan (Akari Kobayashi – Women Elite XCC), Argentina (Agustin Duran - Men U23 XCO), and Lesotho (Tumelo Makae – Men Elite XCO).

23 athletes participated in a training camp organised in Serbia.

Looking ahead to 2022

Seven female athletes from Indonesia, Iceland and Estonia competed in a talent identification camp at the UCI World Cycling Centre from 5 to 10 December. The camp was funded by Olympic Solidarity as part of its Youth Athlete Development programme for the 2021-2024 cycle. This programme aims to help smaller National Olympic Committees offer training opportunities to their talented athletes.

The camp in Aigle was organised with a view to the athletes' possible integration into the UCI WCC's development track-road endurance team. The main goal is to help them develop their skills, improve their level of performance, and prepare them for the Continental Games and Championships during the 2022 season.

Training cycling professions

Meanwhile, the UCI WCC continued to train people working in cycling's professions, with courses organised in 2021 for:

60 mechanics across Levels 1, 2 and 3 delivered at the UCI WCC in Aigle (32), in Egypt (16) and China (12)

559 coaches across Levels 1, 2 and 3 delivered at the UCI WCC in Aigle (36), online (470 participants in 21 courses), in Serbia (3), Azerbaijan (15, funded by Olympic Solidarity), India (16) and Egypt (19).

32 Riders' Agents online

84 Sport Directors at the UCI WCC (including 13 women, 6 of whom benefitted from UCI scholarships).