

ELITE RANKING SCHEME

2.18

Purpose

1 The Australian Orienteering Elite Ranking Scheme provides orienteers, coaches, administrators, spectators and media with a fair and objective ranking list of Australian elite and junior elite orienteers.

2 In summary, an orienteer's ranking is based on their best five results over the last 12 months. Points for each race are allocated based on the orienteer's performance, the spread of times, and the strength of the field.

Scope

3 Separate Elite Ranking lists are maintained for elite men, elite women, junior elite men and junior elite women.

4 Rankings for classes other than those indicated above are calculated by the National Statistician (using a simplified system) and are published in the Australian Orienter at the end of each season.

5 Orienteers must be a member of a State Association to be eligible for the Australian Orienteering Elite Ranking Scheme.

6 Rankings points for elite men and elite women are available in nominated Australian Ranking Events in elite classes (21E). Where elite classes are not offered, ranking points will be available in open classes (21A). Rankings points for junior elite men and junior elite women are available in nominated Australian Ranking Events in junior classes only (17-20E). Where junior elite classes are not offered, ranking points will be available in 17-20A classes or the Senior Boys/Girls class in the Australian Schools Championships. If the junior elite class runs the identical course of the elite class, then juniors can also score senior elite ranking points.

7 Rankings include points obtained from overseas World Ranking Events. This enables overseas-based Australians to obtain a ranking. Considerable effort has been taken to calibrate these WRE points with the points obtained from the Australian Scheme to make the scheme fair.

8 Ranking points for each ranking class shall be calculated separately. The only exception is where a class does not have 3 ranked runners within 50% of the winner's time, and the class has the same course as another ranking class. In this case, points can be awarded to these runners by combining the classes - otherwise they would not score.

Scheme Details

9 The formula to be used to calculate ranking points...

a) takes into account (i) strength of field at each event and (ii) differing spreads of times at different events and is given by:

$$RP = (MP + SP \times (MT - RT) / ST) \times IP,$$

where the number of ranked runners (see c) below) is 20 or more.

b) There must be at least 3 ranked runners in order for the race to qualify for the Elite Ranking scheme.

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- c) A ranked runner is defined as one who has scored Ranking points in the 12 months before the event, who finishes within the winner's time plus 50% and whose average points score is greater than or equal to 600. For junior elite rankings, the 600 point criteria is not used.
- d) Calculate the mean (MP) and the standard deviation (SP) of the average unweighted (i.e. for IP=1.00) ranking points of all ranked runners. These are the points that are available to be shared amongst the orienteers in the current race. Orienteers who DNF or DSQ are included if their average makes a positive contribution to the MP. This ensures that finishers are not penalised by other competitors not finishing.
- e) Calculate the mean (MT) and the standard deviation (ST) of the times of all ranked runners
- f) Using RT (each runner's race time) finally calculate RP, the race points for each competitor at the event
- g) If the number of ranked runners, n, is small (n < 10), the formula in 9a) must be replaced by the following:

$$RP = 2600 - RT \times (2600 - MP) / MT$$
- h) If the number of ranked runners is such that 10 < n < 20 each runner's points is given by a weighted average of the large events points (RPL, as calculated by 9a) and the small events points (RPS, as calculated by 9g) as follows:

$$RP = RPL \times (n - 10) / 10 + RPS \times (20 - n) / 10 \quad 2.12$$
- i) IP is a factor that depends on the status of the event. This will usually be 1.00, as shown in the following table:

IP	Race Type
1.10	World Championship
1.05	World Cup, National Championship, Regional Championship, JWOC, World Games
1.00	State Championship, National League, World Ranking Event
0.95	Badge Event

Additionally IP is reduced by; 0.05 for qualification races, 0.20 for B final races.

- j) The best 5 results in a 12-month period will give the final score of each ranked orienteer.
- k) Points scored from IOF designated World Ranking Events (WRE's) are counted in this scheme. Some point scores in this scheme will differ slightly, due to the application of the IP weightings described above, which may be different to the WRL IP weightings.
- l) At the end of each year, all groups of ranked runners shall have the points of each runner re-calibrated with the World Ranking Scheme so that their average points have an overall mean of 1000 and standard deviation of 200.

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Ranking Events

- 10 Long Distance, Middle Distance and Sprint Distance races are included for:
- World Ranking Events
 - World Championships
 - World Cup Events
 - Australian Championships
 - National Orienteering League Events
 - State Championships
 - Badge Events
 - Australian Schools Orienteering Championships
 - AUS-NZL Test Matches
 - AUS-NZL Challenge
 - Asia Pacific Championships
 - Oceania Championships
 - Junior World Championships
 - Nominated national selection races

Management

- 11 The Australian Ranking Scheme administrator collates Ranking Event results from OA Results as soon as possible after each ranking event.
- 12 The administrator receives the World Ranking Event updates monthly from the World Ranking Scheme and applies the Australian scores to the database.

Publication

- 13 The Australian Ranking Scheme delivers relevant and timely rankings, available on the internet.
- 14 Full ranking lists, event results and point scores are published at least monthly on the Orienteering Australia website.
- 15 At the completion of each orienteering season, a summary of the top rankings will be published in the *Australian Orienteer* at the discretion of the editor.

Ratification

- 16 This scheme was ratified at the December 1999 OA National Conference for M/W21 orienteers, at the December 2003 OA National Conference for M/W-20 orienteers, with minor modifications approved at the December 2004 OA National conference. Further minor modifications were approved by the OA Board in June 2006, 2008 and the 2010 OA National Conference

Further Information

- 17 Additional details can be obtained from the Orienteering Australia website, or by contacting Bruce Arthur brucearthur1@bigpond.com.

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