

School Sport Australia Orienteering Championships Rules and Guidelines

Note: These Rules and Guidelines are to be read in conjunction with the 'School Sport Australia General Policies'.

1.0 Competition Rules

1.1 Rules of the Game

All competition rules of the Orienteering Australia will apply with the exception of those governing eligibility to compete in the event.

1.1.1 There will be **three events** for which teams may score points. Two **individual competitions (Sprint & Long)** in which the performance of the first three (3) out of the four runners will count for a team result, and a **relay event** in which three runners compose an official team in each class. (CR 3.8, CR 25.13)

1.1.2 The age classes shall be as follows:

Boys 19 years and under

Girls 19 years and under

Boys 15 years and under

Girls 15 years and under

1.2 Participation

Eligible competitors will be those selected and nominated in the correct age classes in accord with the procedures laid down by the state affiliates of School Sport Australia. Students must be in attendance at schools recognised by state Education Departments.

1.2.1 Age Eligibility

The age of competitors shall be calculated as at the 31 December in the year of competition. The minimum age for selection in state teams is the twelfth year from the year of birth.

1.2.2 Participation Rule

The Australian Schools Orienteering Championship event, accommodation facilities, eating arrangements, social activities etc, will be available only for the competition participants and team officials (maximum 4).

1.3 Team Size

1.3.1 Each state may select a maximum team size of twenty (20) runners, dependent on host state capacity. The team will consist of four (4) official runners and a maximum of 2 reserves per age class. Travelling team reserves outside the sixteen (16) team members are allowed to participate in the individual and relay events, but may not receive awards or contribute to team points.

1.3.2 Runners must compete in the same age class in all three events with the exception of the conditions set out in clause 1.3.3

1.3.3 In the event of a state having been able to nominate only one or two competitors in a class for the Championship, or in the event of injury or illness affecting a competitor from taking further part, a member of the team may compete in any other class for which they are eligible under the Orienteering Australia Competition Rules, providing approval of the Championship Jury is obtained prior to the team change.

1.3.4 Provisional nomination of six (6) competitors for each class are to be submitted 6 weeks prior to the schools carnival. Confirmation of the official runners to be submitted at pre event meeting. Changes may be accepted only due to injury or exceptional circumstances up until one (1) hour prior to the first start of each race.

1.4 Inclusion of Reserves

1.4.1 In the individual sprint event, reserves will commence their run in a 5th start time block, beginning a minimum of three (3) minutes after the last official runner in each age class.

1.4.2 In the individual long event, reserves will commence their run in a 5th start time block, beginning a minimum of six (6) minutes after the last official runner in each age class.

- 1.4.3 Competitors not included in the state relay teams will be arranged by organisers into ad hoc composite teams which will be entitled to compete in the relay event but not receive awards or contribute to team points.

1.5 Team Documentation

States will be required to present team documentation as per School Sport Australia policy at or before the Management Meeting at the beginning of each annual carnival.

2.0 Competition Structure

2.1 Individual Sprint Draw

A start draw for the individual sprint event is to be conducted on the evening prior to the race as follows:

- 2.1.1 Nominations to be accepted the evening before at a time to be determined by the organizing state.
- 2.1.2 The starting sequence in each class shall be organised in four start groups.
- 2.1.3 Each state may nominate one runner for each of the four groups, provided that where a state has fewer than four runners in each class they may choose in which groups they nominate their runners.
- 2.1.4 The starting order in each group shall be drawn at random except that two runners from the one state may not be drawn to start consecutively.
- 2.1.5 The starting interval between runners will be one (1) minute, with a first call up time at -3 min.

2.2 Individual Long Draw

A public start draw for the individual long event is to be conducted on the evening prior to the race as follows:

- 2.2.1 The starting sequence in each class shall be organised in four start groups.
- 2.2.2 Each state may nominate one runner for each of the four groups, provided that where a state has fewer than four runners in each class they may choose in which groups they nominate their runners.
- 2.2.3 The starting order in each group shall be drawn at random except that two runners from the one state may not be drawn to start consecutively.
- 2.2.4 The starting interval between runners will be three (3) minutes, with a first call up time at -3 min.

2.3 Relay Draw

- 2.3.1 In the relay state officials will have the right to nominate the running order for their teams. A mass start will be used for the first leg and the courses will be set so that all of the teams have visited all the same controls and run all the same legs between controls by the end of the race.

2.4 Points Allocation

- 2.4.1 Points will be awarded on the following basis for all age classes in both the teams and the relay competitions. Teams which are not placed will receive 0 points

1st	-	7 points	
2nd	-	6 points	
3rd	-	5 points	(Total points for all age classes to count.)
4th	-	4 points	
5th	-	3 points	
6th	-	2 points	
7th	-	1 point	

- 2.4.2 In the individual competitions, teams with three or more finishers will be ranked by the sum of the three times of their best three competitors. Teams which do not have three finishers will be ranked after all teams with three finishers, as follows:

- Teams with two finishers: by the sum of the two times
- Teams with one finisher: by the time of that finisher and after all teams with two finishers
- Teams with no finishers shall not be placed.

- 2.4.3 In the event of two teams being tied in any event, both teams shall receive the points for the

higher placing.

2.5 Method of Determining a Winner

- 2.5.1 The team with the highest overall point score from the individual sprint, individual long and relay competitions is the winner
- 2.5.2 In the event of a draw, joint winners will be announced.

2.6 Complaints and Protests

- 2.6.1 A complaint may be made with the organisers against the conduct of the event, against the disqualification of a competitor, or against alleged breaches of the rules.
- 2.6.2 If a State Team Manager is dissatisfied with the organisers decision on a complaint, they may lodge a protest. A protest jury, as established under rule 4.1 will consider protests.

3.0 Course Standards & Technical Details

3.1 Individual Sprint Event

- 3.1.1 The course setters for the individual event are to plan courses with the following anticipated winning times: (CR 16.20)
 - Boys 19 years and under 12-15 mins Girls 19 years and under 12-15 mins
 - Boys 15 years and under 12-15 mins Girls 15 years and under 12-15 mins
- 3.1.2 One runner from each class starting at the same time at 1 minute intervals.

3.2 Individual Long Event

- 3.2.1 The course setters for the individual event are to plan courses with the following anticipated winning times: (CR 16.20)
 - Boys 19 years and under 45 - 50 mins Girls 19 years and under 45 - 50 mins
 - Boys 15 years and under 35 - 40 mins Girls 15 years and under 35 - 40 mins
- 3.2.2 One runner from each class starting at the same time at 3 minute intervals.

3.3 Relay Event

- 3.3.1 The course setters for the relays are to plan courses with the following anticipated winning times:
 - Boys 19 years and under 35 mins Girls 19 years and under 35 mins
 - Boys 15 years and under 30 mins Girls 15 years and under 30 mins
- 3.3.2 Course setters need to be aware that results of the relay event are considered by selectors when choosing members of the All Australian Team. Similarity in course length and number of controls is important when course setting for the relay. Course details need to be made available to All Australian Team selectors after the relay event.

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3.4 Technical Difficulty

- 3.4.1 The 15 years and under classes should be of moderate navigation standard with English and IOF description supplied and the 19 years and under classes should be of hard navigation standard with IOF control descriptions.

4.0 Event Officials

4.1 Protest Jury

- 4.1.1 The Orienteering Australia protest jury appointed in accordance with Orienteering Australia CR29 will deal with protests that apply to the Orienteering Australia National Event.
- 4.1.2 A school Protest Jury which will be appointed at the Pre-Event Meeting will deal with protests only of concern to the ASOC.
- 4.1.3 The ASOC Protest Jury shall consist of representatives from three (3) different states, with the National Secretary (or his/her representative) to be a non-voting member of the protest jury.

4.2 Event Controller

- 4.2.1 When the host state has been determined for a particular year, the host organisation should request the relevant State Orienteering Association appoint a suitable **event controller** in accordance with Orienteering rules.

4.3 Meeting Chairs

- 4.3.1 The host state is also expected to provide an appropriate person to chair the Pre-event and Post-event Meetings.

5.0 All Australian Team

Should the Management Committee determine that the event has attracted the best possible range of national talent, an All Australian Team may be announced at the end of the championship. The following procedures will apply:

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5.1 Number of players

The team will consist of a maximum of four (4) competitors from each age group (a lesser number may be selected should the standard be considered to be below par).

5.2 Selection Process

- 5.2.1 The selectors may make use of different formulae for analysing the results (eg placings, kilometre rates and total elapsed times).
- 5.2.2 Equal weighting will be given to all three events.
- 5.2.3 In considering the relay results the selectors should note the different legs (length, position and number of controls) run by the competitors.
- 5.2.4 Any competitor who has been found to have breached the Code of Behaviour set down by School Sport Australia shall not be eligible for selection.
- 5.2.5 Only competitors who have successfully completed all three events will be considered for selection.
- 5.2.6 Any competitor who performs well in the individual events and runs in the relay in a different class, under the circumstances allowed in 1.3.3, may still be considered for the All Australian Team in the class in which they ran the individual events.

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5.3 Selectors

- 5.3.1 A selection panel of three (3) will be appointed at the Management Meeting before the commencement of competition.

6.0 International Schools Team

In the event there is a schools tour approved the following applies:

6.1 A team of 16 will be selected for travel with non travelling reserves named. The team shall consist of four representatives from each category.

6.2 Selection events will consist of the three Australian Schools Championships combined with Australian Orienteering Long Distance Championships.

- 6.2.1 Students must compete in all 4 events to be considered for selection.
- 6.2.2 The selectors may make use of different formulae for analysing the results (eg placings, kilometre rates and total elapsed times.)
- 6.2.3 Greater emphasis should be given to the three Australian Schools Championship races ahead of the Australian Long Distance Champs.
- 6.2.4 Any competitor who has been found to have breached the code of behaviour set down by School Sport Australia shall not be eligible for selection.
- 6.2.5 Only competitors who have successfully completed all three events will be considered for selection
- 6.2.6 A selection panel of 3 will be appointed at the management meeting before the commencement of competition. A fourth panel member will be appointed by Orienteering Australia.

7.0 AUS – NZL Schools Test Match Rules

Responsibility for these rules is vested in Orienteering Australia and the New Zealand Orienteering Federation, and they may only be amended with the approval of both bodies, in consultation with their national school sport organizations.

Under the current rules Schools Test Matches are contested by Australia and New Zealand.

7.1 Eligibility

- 7.1.1 Eligible competitors will be those selected and nominated in the correct age classes in accord with the procedures laid down by the relevant national school sport organization.
- 7.1.2 Competitors must be in attendance at a recognized school, or, in the case of a Test Match contested between 1 November and 31 January, have completed their schooling within the previous 3 months.
- 7.1.3 Competitors are eligible to represent the nation in which they attend school, regardless of nationality.
- 7.1.4 Competitors who attend school outside the competing countries are ineligible to compete, even if they are a citizen of one of the competing countries.

7.2 Management

- 7.2.1 Responsibility for the organization of the event shall be vested in the orienteering body of the host nation, who may delegate that responsibility as they see fit.
- 7.2.2 Each competing nation shall appoint a team manager, who in addition to responsibility for their team, shall fill such specific functions as are specified under these rules.

7.3 Rules and conditions of competition

- 7.3.1 The events shall be conducted in accordance with the competition rules of the host nation for national - level events, except as provided otherwise in these rules.
- 7.3.2 The age classes shall be as follows:
 - Boys 19 years and under Girls 19 years and under
 - Boys 15 years and under Girls 15 years and under
- 7.3.3 A competitor's age is determined by their age on December 31 of the year of the competition, except that if the event takes place in January it is determined by their age on December 31 in the preceding year.
- 7.3.4 Each nation may nominate a maximum of four (4) runners in each class. Except as provided for in 3.7, the same four competitors in each class contest both the individual and relay event.
- 7.3.5 There will be two events for which teams may score points: an individual competition in which the team result shall be the sum of the times of the best three (3) competitors from each nation, and a relay event in which four runners compose an official team in each class.
- 7.3.6 Each nation shall receive 1 point for each class which they win in each competition, except that if a class is tied both nations receive 1 point. The overall winning nation will be the nation which achieves the the greatest number of points accumulated across the two competitions. If both nations have an equal number of points they shall be considered to have tied.
- 7.3.7 Courses for both events shall be of hard navigational difficulty That is, red level when set in New Zealand), and shall be set to achieve the following winning times:
 - Individual:
 - Boys/girls 19 years and under – 45-50 minutes
 - Boys/girls 15 years and under – 35-40 minutes
 - Relay:
 - Boys/girls 19 years and under – 30-35 minutes per leg
 - Boys/girls 15 years and under – 25-30 minutes per leg
- 7.3.8 In the event that a team member is unable to participate in the second of the two events, having participated in the first, then, with the agreement of both managers:
 - a) That team member may be replaced by a reserve, if available, providing that that reserve meets the eligibility requirements laid down in clause 1;
 - b) If the second event is the relay event, with the agreement of the organizers, that class

may be contested by teams of three rather than four. If this occurs then the organizers must ensure that both teams complete the same course over the three legs.

- 7.3.9 In the individual event, competitors from each nation shall start alternately, but the order of competitors from each nation shall be random. The starting interval shall be not less than two (2) minutes. If other competitors not participating in the Test Match are competing on the same course, their start times shall be separated from those of the Test Match competitors by at least ten (10) minutes

8.0 Trophies, Awards & Ceremonies

It is recommended that a presentation night, to which sponsors, School Sport Australia and Orienteering Australia representatives are invited, be conducted during or at the end of the carnival.

8.1 Major Trophy

- 8.1.1 An overall trophy, the ASSOA Shield, is to be presented to the best performed state team.

8.2 Player Awards

8.2.1 Individual Sprint and Long Event

School Sport Australia medallions are to be presented to the first three (3) place-getters in each class in the individual events.

8.2.2 Individual Teams Events

School Sport Australia medallions are to be presented to all four (4) members of the first three (3) teams with the fastest combined times in the individual events.

8.2.3 Relays

School Sport Australia medallions are to be presented only to the three (3) members of the first three (3) place-getting teams in the relay event. (CR 25.14)

8.2.4 School Sport Australia Sportsmanship Award

The School Sport Australia Sportsmanship badge is to be awarded by the ASO Committee when in outstanding circumstances, exceptional sportsmanship, integrity or fair play has been demonstrated by a competitor. There is no limit to the number of badges to be awarded each year, if awarded at all.

8.3 Official Awards (Course Setters, Controllers etc)

- 8.3.1 The host state should formally acknowledge the efforts of course setters, controllers etc through the presentation of a small gift/certificate of appreciation etc.

8.4 All Australian Team

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- 8.4.1 All members of the All Australian team will receive an SSA All Australian Team Plaque supplied by the SSA office. The cost of the plaques is to be included in the Championship budget.

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8.5 Service Awards

The Annual General Meeting (post event) may recommend awards in accordance with the School Sport Australia Service Awards policy.

9.0 Guidelines for Organisation

- 9.1 Where a decision has been reached between the ASSOA and **Orienteering Australia** (or its host state affiliate), a joint championship may be conducted in accord with the above rules and guidelines.
- 9.2 School Sport Australia endorsement for this procedure should be sought twelve months in advance and a joint committee set up to handle the organisation of the carnival. It is recommended that under these arrangements the host School Sport Australia association undertake all **duty of care** and **educational** responsibilities and the State Orienteering Association undertake all **technical** responsibilities. Other administrative tasks should be the responsibility of the joint committee.
- 9.3 The preferred name of the event is "School Sport Australia Orienteering Championship, jointly hosted by School Sport Australia and Orienteering Australia.
- 9.4 Because it is often necessary to conduct the event away from major population centres where suitable terrain and maps are available, hostel type accommodation at a reasonable cost may be organised as an alternative to billeting.

- 9.5 The Association shall hold two (2) meetings during the period of the national carnival. The pre-event meeting will be conducted prior to the commencement of the competition and the post-event meeting (Annual General Meeting) during the concluding period of the carnival. Both meetings will be conducted in accord with the procedures set out in the Australian Secondary Schools Orienteering Association Constitution. **(CR 13)**
- 9.6 The host state will be responsible for all aspects of the organisation of the carnival. They should prepare a **budget** and establish an **event levy** in consultation with the National Secretary. They will be responsible for the issue of receipts, the payments of accounts and the preparation of a **financial statement** in accord with the constitutional requirements.
- 9.7 The host state may negotiate and enter into agreement with sponsors provided the National Secretary is kept informed and there is no conflict of interest in the sponsorship deal with any general sponsorships arranged with School Sport Australia or **Orienteering Australia**

10.0 Invitational New Zealand Team

An Invitational New Zealand Schools Orienteering team is to be invited each year to participate in the ASOC. The team is to compete under the School Sport Australia Rules and Guidelines and will need to adhere to School Sport Australia policies.

When a New Zealand team participates, they will be eligible to compete against individual Australian States for the Southern Cross Junior Challenge Shield. Points will be allocated according to the current ASOC points scoring system, but with the points being allocated from 8 –1 rather than 7-1. The SCJC will run concurrently with the ASOC.

Additional SSA medallions will be awarded to NZ competitors who place in the individual sprint, individual long, teams individual and relay events

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

NAME	STATE	YEAR
Rob Simson	QLD	2001
Peta Whitford	VIC	2003
Len Minty	ACT	2003
Fiona Calabro	QLD	2004
Blair Trewin	VIC	2004
David Tilbrook	SA	2005
Ian Dalton	WA	2014
Reid Moran	QLD	2016