

Orienteering Australia
World Orienteering Championships 2021
Selection Criteria and Preliminary Information
Czech Republic, 3 – 9 July 2021

(To be read in conjunction with Section 5.1 Australian Teams - OA Operational Manual and Section 5.2 World Championships Teams - OA Operational Manual)

It is the responsibility of all prospective team members and their coaches to read and make sure they understand the policy and how it operates. Specific queries in relation to the intended meaning or operation of the policy shall be made to [Fredrik Johansson \(OA High Performance Administrator\)](#).

Note on COVID-19: A WOC team will only be selected if OA considers participation in WOC to be feasible given the prevailing COVID-19 health situation and associated government recommendations and restrictions. A final decision on if and how Australia will participate in WOC 2021 will be made prior to team announcement. Sending a small team composed of only Europe-based athletes is one option that may be considered.

WOC 2021 Program

3 July	Sprint
4 July	Sprint Relay
6 July	Middle Qualification & Final
8 July	Relay
9 July	Long

The team will convene in the Czech Republic in the days leading up to the first race day. A detailed schedule will be finalised closer to the Championships.

OA Senior Selection Panel 2021

Fredrik Johansson, Chair of Selectors (non-voting)

Bruce Arthur, Selector

Tracy Marsh, Selector

Head Coach (TBA)

WOC Coach (if different to Head Coach)

Team Size

Australia is permitted to enter the following number of athletes in each race:

- Sprint (Terezín) 3 women (+ personal place for Ella), 3 men (+ personal place for Brodie)
- Sprint Relay (Doksy) 2 women, 2 men
- Middle (Smržovka) 3 women, 3 men (+ personal place for Aston)
- Relay (Heřmánky) 3 women, 3 men
- Long (Heřmánky) 2 women, 2 men (+ personal place for Brodie)

The maximum number of athletes allowed in each discipline at WOC for Australia is as above. However, the number of selected athletes will depend upon how we choose to structure the team to meet the available positions.

Athletes selected are judged by the Senior Selection Panel to have a reasonable chance of achieving a top 2/3 result in each of the WOC disciplines. As a guide, a suitable standard would involve being a consistent top 6 finisher in W/M21E at national level. W/M20's in order to be selected need to be consistently in the top 3 positions in W/M20E and would also need to compete with the 21 Elites in the trials which are not JWOC trials. Athletes born in 2003 will not be considered for selection if they run W/M18. They will need to move up an age group to be considered.

Funding

OA has a draft budget of \$35,000 for the WOC team. As OA no longer receives high performance funding from Sport Australia this is money raised from the Australian orienteering community. Team members will need to pay for their own travel costs to and from WOC and any additional on-ground expenses not covered by OA, which are expected to be of the order of \$500 per person. Team members are encouraged to recoup their costs as much as possible through activities with their local club, state association, or seeking personal sponsorship. The WOC team and individual team members are also able to receive tax deductible donations through the Australian Sports Foundation.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible for the team, prospective team members must complete an online nomination form.

All athletes must be members of a state association affiliated to Orienteering Australia. All athletes must ensure that they conform to OA rules in relation to anti-doping provisions.

The IOF requires that to compete for your nation you must have full passport holding citizenship rights with that nation and you can only represent one nation in a calendar year

Selection Process

In exercising their discretion, the selectors may consider any factor, or combination of factors that is, in the opinion of the selectors, relevant for consideration when selecting an elite Australian team.

Generally, selection will be based on consideration of the athlete's:

1. **Participation** in international, national and state orienteering events (both in Australia and overseas).
2. **Performances** achieved in these international and national events in relevant foot orienteering formats (sprint, middle, long, relay) as measured by overall result, percentage behind winner etc.
3. **Commitment** to improving physical, technical and mental skills. Road races, track races, time trials and x/c race races maybe used as a guide of physical condition if we have difficulty in getting enough orienteering races completed before we need to select the WOC team.
4. **Potential**. The benefit of exposure to international racing to any athlete who, in the opinion of the selectors, has the potential to represent Australia at future World Orienteering Championships and achieve podium placing.

Specific selection criteria (Category A , B, and C in order of importance)

A) **NOL Round 1 – Eureka Challenge**

- March 13-14, 2021, Ballarat, VIC (sprint, middle & long/Hageby)

NOL Round 2 - Australian Easter 3-days + prologue

- April 2-5, 2021, Orange, NSW (sprint, middle, long, shortened long)

NOL Round 3 – Renmark (incl, SA Long Distance Championships)

- April 24-25, 2021, Renmark, SA (middle & long/Hageby)

The Senior Selection Panel will evaluate each of the disciplines at the Easter 3-day as individual races as well as the total result.

Overseas based athletes who are unable to participate in any of the “A” events will have suitable events agreed with them by the Senior Selection Panel. These events must be run no later the 25th of April 2021 as the WOC team will be announced the following week.

B) **NSW Middle & Long Distance Championships**

- April 10-11, 2021, Eugowra, NSW (middle, long)

Other international events held in the 24 months leading up to the selection date. Examples of such events are races from the Oceania Championships Carnival 2019, WOC 2019, JWOC 2019, Norwegian Championships 2020, Swedish Championships 2020 etc.

- C) **Other state events**. Due to the current situation regarding changing Covid-19 travel restrictions we will even take into account state championship and state league/OY events in the selection process. Examples of such events are the NSW, ACT and SA Sprint Championships which are all scheduled to be run prior to Easter 2021.

Inability to participate in any of the Category A events for reasons such as injury, sickness, personal circumstances, work or study commitments must be communicated to the Chair of Selectors, Fredrik Johansson, prior to the event in question. It is the responsibility of the athlete to keep the Senior Selection Panel informed of circumstances that will impact on performances.

OA may decide at its discretion to allocate alternative selection races should we have a number of race cancellations due to travel restrictions. Any changes will be communicated to all senior athletes regardless of whether they have nominated for WOC or not.

Selection Procedure

- 1. Athletes must complete online nomination by 11.59pm on Tuesday the 9th of March 2021.** The Chair of the Senior Selection Panel will communicate to all athletes how this nomination is to be completed. The Senior Selection Panel will then compile a list of all nominating athletes which will be made public at 6.00pm on the 10th of March 2021. Should there be any errors or omissions in the list then this information should be communicated with a member of Senior Selection Panel no later than 6.00pm on the 11th of March 2021. Thereafter the nomination process for WOC21 will be finalised and closed for further nominations and made public by 12.00pm on the 12th of March 2021. If you are uncertain about whether you wish to nominate for the WOC21 team, we would encourage you to nominate by the due date as you can always withdraw your nomination at any stage, alternatively not accept an offer should you be selected in the team. You cannot be added to the selection process once nominations are finalised.
- 2. The Provisional team will be communicated through a number of channels no later than the 28th of April at 8pm AEST time.** Provisionally selected athletes will have 2 weeks to accept the offer of a place in the team by completing the required payment and documentation. There may or may not be a number of reserves named in the selection process. Should a selected athlete decline their position on the team then the position will go to the highest placed reserve athlete. In the case that there are no reserves named the Senior Selection Panel will convene to decide on whether a new team member shall be selected from the nominated athletes. Should we encounter a worst-case scenario that we are unable to send all of our selected athletes as planned, the Senior Selection Panel reserves the right to consider replacement athletes if they fulfill the requirements to compete.

The payment and documentation requirements will be communicated in advance of the selection to give all athletes adequate time to make plans.

- 3. Enquiries:** [Fredrik Johansson \(OA High Performance Administrator\)](#).

Notes

These selection criteria take precedence over other documents in the case of inconsistencies. For clarification:

1. These selection criteria take precedence in the event of any inconsistency with **Section 5.2 World Championships Teams - OA Operational Manual**
2. **Special consideration** may be given in exceptional circumstances. Section 5.1.23 of the Operational Manual states: *The respective Selection Panel should take account of any exceptional circumstances affecting the performance of team candidates in a selection event (e.g., illness, or potentially unfair aspects of course setting). Any team candidates who consider they have a case for special consideration are responsible for advising the Chairperson of the respective selection panel in writing.* In addition, in considering the performances of athletes at events, trials, training camps or other attendances required under these criteria, the respective national selection committees may, at their discretion, give weight to extenuating circumstances. In such circumstances (for example, travel delays, bereavement or personal misfortune), it is the athlete's responsibility to submit a written application with evidence for special consideration to the Head Coach or Chair of Selectors in a timely manner.
3. **Pre-selection** options will apply to WOC team selection. OA has the authority to pre-select one or more individuals at any time if, in the Senior Selection Panel's opinion, they have clearly demonstrated that they have a realistic prospect of placing in the top 16 of the individual races in the World Championships. Such a decision will be based on previous international championship performances, the candidate's proposed programme of training and competition overseas, and performances in earlier selection trials (if applicable).

Links to key documents

[Section 5.2 World Orienteering Teams Section](#)

[5.1 Australian teams](#)

This policy can be amended at any time by Orienteering Australia if Orienteering Australia is of the opinion that such an amendment is necessary as a result of any change in the IOF guidelines, to give effect to the policy following discovery of a drafting error or oversight, or for any other reason determined to be in the best interests of Orienteering Australia by Orienteering Australia. Orienteering Australia shall not be responsible or liable in any way to anyone as a result of any such amendment.