



Foot Orienteering Controller Level 1 Training Curriculum



Australian Government

Australian Sports Anti-Doping Authority

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OA would also like to acknowledge that some content within this document has been adapted from publicly available resources developed by Sport Australia, State and Territory Orienteering Associations, Orienteering Canada, and British Orienteering Federation.

Copyright Statement

OA has designed the overall controller framework, as well as the syllabus for each level of the Controller levels. These documents are the intellectual property of OA Inc. and are subject to copyright.

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Section 1: General Course Information

Orienteering Australia accreditation structure

Controller Level 1 is one of the five training programs in the Orienteering Australia (OA) controller structure. Details of the overall structure, as well as general information relevant to all controller courses, can be found in the OA Controller Framework document.

Orienteering Controller Level 1

This accreditation aims to ensure Controllers have the skills and knowledge to oversee the delivery of foot orienteering events and ensure the standards for the particular event are met.

The intended outcome of accreditation of Orienteering Controllers is to ensure organisers and course setters are delivering quality events, to ensure rules are followed, mistakes are avoided that fairness is paramount.

Course Details and Administration

Candidate Requirements

Candidates seeking Orienteering Controller accreditation have requirements which they must meet before, during and after the accreditation program. The full requirements can be found in the Controller Framework and the Competition Rules. The requirements for attending a L1 training course are outlined in Table 1 below.

Table 1: Orienteering Controller L1 Accreditation Candidate Requirements

Timeframe	Requirement
Prerequisites	18+ years of age Proficient/experience with courses of at least “hard navigation” standard
Corequisites	Community Officiating General Principles online course (Sport Australia) https://www.sportaus.gov.au/coaches_and_officials/officials

Delivery methods

The recommended delivery of Level 1 foot orienteering controller programs is for a longer time-span and more hands-on activity than for other controller programs. The emphasis is on on-ground work with a mentor/assessor, or attendance at a series of practical workshops to develop and demonstrate competence in course planning and event organisation.

Many candidates approach Level 1 with personal competition experience, but seeking guidance on their development in planning and event organisation. This longer, more developmental approach can be truncated for candidates who are already well-experienced in course planning and/or event organisation.

Personnel

Orienteering Controller Foot Level 1 training courses must be overseen by an accredited Orienteering Australia Controller. The overseeing controller may be a L1,2 or 3 Foot controller. Courses must be endorsed by the State/Territory director or coordinator of Controllers.

Appropriate personnel need to be engaged to deliver courses and/or work with various modules. Suitably trained presenters and assessors are compulsory, while mentors for each individual Controller are strongly recommended. More information regarding presenters, assessors and mentors can be found in the OA Controller Framework.

Section 2: Orienteering Controller Accreditation Program Overview

Learning Modules

In addition to the co-requisite of completing the Sport Australia Community Officiating General Principles online course, there are three Learning Modules:

- Planning Orienteering Courses
- Organising Orienteering Events
- Fairness and Equity in Orienteering, and Controlling Orienteering Events

It is anticipated that candidates may take 12-18 months to complete these Learning Modules, with the first two likely to be undertaken substantially in a practical mode.

It is understood that each jurisdiction will have local processes and software to assist in managing organising and course planning. Please substitute as appropriate where specific software/systems are mentioned herein.

Suggested approach and delivery methods

Learning Module	Suggested delivery	Indicative scope/ duration
Planning Orienteering Courses	<p>Option (a): Attend a Course Planning workshop. Including demonstrating in-field expertise.</p> <p>Option (b) Work with a mentor to discuss and be involved in course setting for sprint, long, middle/urban, bush.</p> <p>Both options include facility with course-setting software as applied locally.</p>	<p>Possibly over a number of sessions.</p> <p>May, but not necessarily, include setting a full range of courses for a particular event.</p>
Organising Orienteering Events	<p>Option (a) Work with a mentor to gain a solid foundation in organising pre-entry events.</p> <p>Option (b) Involvement in a range of workshops to cover e.g., Event software; general aspects of event organisation. Include some practical activities.</p>	<p>Don't have to be the main event organiser, but have involvement in all aspects.</p>
Fairness and Equity Controlling Orienteering events	<p>This is best done in a workshop-situation. Presentation, discussion and case studies/practical</p>	<p>Say, 2 hours. Plus, evaluation of the program overall.</p>

Assessment

Assessment of each module will be by the mentor (in conjunction with other approved controllers as agreed.)

To keep track of a candidate's progress through this program, a 'star' might be awarded at the completion of each module, including the General Principle's course. So, 4 stars = completion of the formal sections of the program. The modules do not have to be completed in any particular order – though it is desirable for the Sport Australia General Principles course to be done first. It might be desirable for the Fairness-Controlling module to be done last as a program wrap-up and summary, but the State's annual controller education program might offer such an opportunity earlier.

A mentor/assessor managing the Planning and Organising modules should keep a detailed record of the candidate's progress and notify the State/Territory director or coordinator of Controllers when these modules are satisfactorily completed.

It is suggested that the Learning Objectives for the Planning and Organising modules, be used as a checklist to record the candidate's progress.

Section 3: Course Modules

Planning Orienteering Courses

Mentors/Assessors might use this list to check off the progress of each candidate.

Learning Objectives

At the completion of this module the Controller will be able to: -

Discuss with course planners' ways to improve the quality of their courses in terms of meeting OA competition guidelines and rules, and the expectations of competitors and be able to:

√	Indicate satisfactory completion of each
	Explain the essentials of course planning (refer to guidelines in the OA Foot Orienteering rules)
	Explain the different event formats and course requirements for each
	Evaluate orienteering courses and detect errors or omissions
	Explain changes required to the layout of orienteering courses to correct errors, omissions or potential risks
	Explain changes required to control descriptions to correct errors or omissions
	Explain changes required to the placement of orienteering controls
	Provide constructive feedback to the event officials in a positive manner
	Analyse and assess if the courses meet the required course standards for the event
	Advise any updates required to meet the required course standards for the event
	Analyse and revise control descriptions for those planned courses

Content of this Module

In undertaking this module and covering the learning objectives above, the candidate will gain a solid foundation in planning and evaluating courses covering hard, moderate, easy and very easy navigation, including

	Sprint, middle, and long distance formats. Being aware of the different requirements and rules applying to each format
	Showing confidence and competence in placing and checking control location in bush environments
	Using the local software for course setting (e.g., Condes, Purple Pen, Corpse, OCAD)

Organising Orienteering Events

Learning Objectives

At the completion of this module the Controller will be able to: -

Discuss with Event Organisers ways to improve the quality of their management of events in terms of meeting OA and any local state/territory competition rules and the expectations of competitors.

Content of this Module

In undertaking this module, the candidate will gain a solid foundation in organising a pre-entry (Group C) event, including

	Tasks needed to organise an event and the timing of each (including as listed below)
	Understand the various roles required to organise an event, and the organiser's responsibilities
	What needs to be done to gain permission to use the area;
	Assess that a suitable map is available (this may have been done before the organiser was appointed);
	Work with the course planner to agree on a suitable arena and parking area;
	Understand managing Eventor set-up and output;
	Communication with competitors and the organising team;
	Managing SPORTIdent (timing software), OE (or local system) input and results and output;
	Consideration of risks e.g., with area/surrounds/terrain, weather and external impositions;
	Arranging equipment required for the event;
	Concluding the event, checking that all competitors have returned safely, resolving any discrepancies in results;
	Assessing if there are for any missing competitors and what action should then be taken;
	Providing reports/results as required;
	Evaluating how well the event was staged and identifying areas for improvement.

Fairness and Equity in Orienteering and Controlling Orienteering Events

Learning Objectives

At the completion of this module the Controller will understand the role of the controller in organising Group C foot orienteering events be able to: -

1. Assist Event Organisers in how to handle complaints and for the Controller to chair a jury should a complaint escalate into a protest.
2. identify potential unfairness and inequity and influence the corrections required.
3. Design a plan to monitor the planning, preparation and staging of an orienteering event
4. Outline the key elements of an event risk management plan

Session Content

- Interpretation of fairness in Orienteering – identify potential unfairness and inequity and corrections required
 - Fairness in course planning
 - Unfair tactics by competitors, e.g., following, Control punching
- Consideration of complaints and protests (Focus on Group C events)
- Overview of the role of a Controller and the authority that they may exercise
- Examples of plans to oversee the preparation for a local club or state series event (Group C event), including the key milestones
- Examples of risk management plans for a local club or state series event (Group C event), with consideration of participant safety, event management and public safety
- Meetings with other officials
- Officials' Code of Ethics
- OA's Competition Rules for Foot Orienteering
- OA's other relevant policies, e.g., Risk Management, Protecting the environment
- State/Territory Competition Rules and Policies

Section 4: Useful Links and Resources

Resource	Source
Orienteering Australia Competition Rules for Foot Orienteering Events	OA Operational Manual
IOF Control Descriptions	IOF Website
IOF Control Descriptions Australian Edition	OA Operational Manual
International Specification for Orienteering Maps ISOM 2017-2	https://orienteering.sport/iof/mapping/
International Specification for Sprint Orienteering Maps ISprOM 2020 - 2	https://orienteering.sport/iof/mapping/
Test sheet for assessing print quality for orienteering maps	https://orienteering.sport/iof/mapping/
Forbidden Orienteering Map Features	Australian Orienteer – June 2020
State Association Web Sites – Event and Technical Guidelines	Various
Controller Report Template	Appendix 13 – OA Foot Orienteering Rules
Complaint Protest Form	IOF Document
Jury Guidelines in 2019	IOF Document
Cancelling-a-competition	IOF Document
Managing an Event with Mixed Punching	SPORTIdent UK
IOF SportIdent-Advice-for-Event-Advisers-and-Controllers-July-2015	IOF Document
Course planning and mapping resources e.g.,	Purple pen: http://purplepen.golde.org/ , Condes: https://condes.net/ , Open orienteering mapper: https://www.openorienteering.org/ , OCAD: https://www.ocad.com/en/

Version History

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2	Craig Steffens	Personnel section amended	27/11/2022
3	Craig Steffens	TOC expanded	13/12/2022