

NOL Guidelines Addendum: Sport Class for 2023 Season

Following a trial in 2022 and in response to feedback provided in the NOL 2022 feedback survey the High Performance Management Group (HPMG) is adopting the following rules for the Sport Class in the 2023 NOL season:

1. The M/W18A category is not included as a class in the NOL. Where this class is part of another Championship, e.g. Oceania 2023, it will be included as a once off (see below for details)
2. The Sport class, trialled in 2022, will be used for both junior (M/W20) and open (M/W21) classes for **all forest races of the NOL 2023 season**.

Sports Class Divisions:

For the forest races in the 2023 season there will be an “elite class” (which exists at the moment) and a “sport class”. The sport class is designed for competitive orienteers who may have other priorities than just the goal of elite racing on the international level. It will complete hard navigation.

Sport class courses will be approximately 70% distance of their corresponding elite course (+/-10%). Race organisers should contact the high-performance management group with any questions around sport class course setting.

Scoring the Sport Class:

Whilst there will be 8 classes for the forest races, for the purposes of scoring there will be only 4 individual categories (the same as for teams): Open Women, Open Men, Junior Women and Junior Men. *For example, both the junior men elite class and junior men sport class score points in the Junior Men category in the overall NOL season.*

Points from the Elite and Sport categories will be combined for each category. Due to the nature of Elite class being a higher-level competition, the Sport class will be awarded approximately 1/3 of the points on offer in the Elite class. Point Scores for Elite and Sport Class in each category are shown Appendix 1.

With this structure, competitors do not need to run the same class for the whole season (i.e. coming back from injury, illness, time out of the sport). Where the Sport and Elite class run the same course, there will be only one point score.

For all sprint races in the 2023 the Sport Class will not be offered. If there is an A class offered for these events, it will not be part of the NOL scoring.

Teams when Sport Class is included:

Sport and Elite Classes will be combined for team competition. There is one Open and Junior Team Competition for Men and Women.

For individual events, teams in each of the four divisions are ranked according to the sum of the points of their best three competitors in each division, with the following provisos:

- Teams who have 3 runners are ranked 1st, followed by teams with 2 runners and then 1 runner.
- Teams which have no finishers receive no points;
- Teams with an equal points are placed according to the results of the highest placed competitors in each team;
- Teams still equal shall be considered to have tied.
- Where there is a qualifying race and a final, the first finisher in the B final is ranked after the last finisher in the A final, with team results are then based on the sum of points awarded.

This scoring structure will be used for all races in the 2023 season, including that those that don't have the sport class. This is included in the Oct 2022 update of the NOL Guidelines.

No change to relay point scoring as elite and sport classes will run together.

Sport Class for each round of the 2023 season:

The specific way which the sport class will be integrated into each round of the 2023 season will be published in the lead up to each event, including a guide on which class to enter if wanting to be included in the Sport Class.

Appendix 1: Point Score

Place in class	Elite Class	Sport Class
1	30	10
2	27	8
3	24	6
4	22	5
5	21	4
6	20	3
7	19	2
8	18	1
9	17	1
10	16	1
11	15	0
12	14	0
13	13	0
14	12	0
15	11	0
16	10	0
17	9	0
18	8	0
19	7	0
20	6	0
21	5	0
22	4	0
23	3	0
24	2	0
25	1	0
>25	0	0