

## Review of Ageless Junior Badge Scheme

In January 2003 the Council of the British Orienteering Federation approved the adoption of a Federation wide ability based badge scheme for juniors at Regional Events. The scheme had been previously trialled in NWOA, NEOA, YHOA and SOA. It was approved on the basis that a comprehensive review would take place after two years.

In June 2005, Development Committee carried out a review on the operation of the scheme based on comments received from a large number of sources, not all of which were in favour. All the comments received can be found on the Development Committee page on the website or in paper format from the National Office on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope.

The minute contained in the Development Committee proceedings reads:-

“A large amount of feedback from a range of sources and backgrounds was considered. The general reaction is to retain the present system as it is seen from the feedback, as valuable to newcomers and in aiding retention, although there is a degree of confusion especially regarding labelling. There was some concern that a rung of progression previously present in the age class system had been removed by the adoption of the ageless scheme although it was felt that the support for the scheme in other areas outweighed this concern. ....”

### Progression through the Incentive Schemes

The review of the Ageless Badge Scheme identified a lack of understanding of the progression through the various incentive schemes. There are presently three progression awards available for junior orienteers.

The Colour Coded award is ability based and is administered by Associations with the reward being a suitably coloured flash that can be worn on an o-suit or track suit.

The “Regional” Badge Award is also ability based but is administered by BOF with the reward being a cloth Gold, Silver or Bronze Badge along with an ability flash which can be worn on an o-suit or track suit. Anyone achieving a Gold standard automatically receives a certificate.

TD	Colour Coded Award		“Regional” Badge Award
1	White	Ability Progression ↓	JM1, JW1
2	Yellow		JM2, JW2
3	Orange		JM3, JW3
4	Light Green		JM4, JW4
5	Green		JM5S, JW5S
5	Blue		JM5M, JW5L
5			JM5L

The “National” Badge Award is age based and is also administered by British Orienteering with the reward being a Gold, Silver or Bronze Badge along with an age flash which can be worn on an o-suit or track suit. Anyone achieving a Gold standard automatically receives a certificate.

TD	“National” Badge Award		Normal course to enter at			
			National Events		Championships	
			Male	Female	Male	Female
1	10B	Age Progression ↓	17	17	29	29
2	10A, 12B		16	16	28	28
3	12A, 14B		15	15	27	27
4	14A, 16B		13	14	25	26
5	18S		7	9	11	21
5	16A, 20S		6	8	16/10	20/12
5	18L		5	7	8	11
5	20L		4	6	7	10