

Event Guideline B: Regional Events

1 General Information

Level: 3

Purpose: To provide domestic competition for all orienteers above the level of absolute beginners.

Nature of Event: Single-day cross-country competition held in daylight. Runners compete as individuals in badge classes.

How to Apply: Clubs apply via their Constituent Association's Fixtures Secretary.

Who May Compete: Anybody

Responsibility: The committee of each British Orienteering Constituent Association is responsible for the co-ordination of Regional Events within its area, working with Fixtures Group to ensure a sensible spread of events throughout the country. The Association may delegate responsibility for the organisation of an event to a club or individual.

The organising body shall take financial responsibility unless prior agreement has been reached with British Orienteering.

[Rule 2.3.1]

Officials: See Rules 4.1 to 4.4 (roles), and Appendix C parts 1.2.1, 1.3.1 (recommended experience for organisers and planners), and 1.4.1 (level of controller).

Timescale: This is intended to give guidance only and is not an all-embracing list.

15 months	Event date agreed with Fixtures Group.
10 months	Controller appointed.
9 months	Map adviser appointed. Land permission and car park confirmed.
6 months	Survey complete and draft colour map available for planning (new maps).
4 months	Survey complete and draft colour map available for planning (updated maps).
8 weeks	Planning completed.
4 weeks	Courses agreed with Controller.
2 weeks	Overprinted maps available.
EVENT	Results displayed on the day, and on the internet with a link from the British Orienteering web site by the evening. Results submitted to the ranking list.
+2 weeks	Results booklet posted. Final results submitted to the ranking list.

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Rule Variations: See Rules 1.3.6, 1.3.8.

2 Map and Terrain

Quality of Terrain: As a guide, an area for a Regional Event should meet the following requirements:

(a) The area should allow an M21L course with a gold badge time of at least 85 minutes without undue repetition. This equates to a course which a top elite-standard competitor would win in 67 minutes. (This might be reduced for an area of exceptional technical merit.)

(b) At least 50%, and preferably considerably more, of the area which the longer courses will use should be reasonably runnable, and at least 75% for the shorter courses (i.e. the majority of the competition should avoid the need for long track runs).

(c) The area should not be so steep that the total climb on any course is more than 5% of the course length. (i.e. not more than an average of 50m climb per km of course length).

(d) Where several small areas are linked, the total amount of marked route should not exceed 15% of the total course length.

(e) The area should not normally have been used for an open orienteering competition in the 12 months preceding the event.

Map: see Rule 5.1 (requirements), Appendix H parts 1.1 (requirements), 1.2 (symbols), 1.4.3 (scales), and 2.1.5 (printing), and the International Specification for Orienteering Maps 2000.

3 Event Organisation

Organisation: The organisation should be sufficient to cope with the number of competitors expected to attend the event. Regional Events should normally provide the following facilities:

- at least some entry on the day
- unmarked maps on display in start lanes
- where an area has been used for an earlier event, unmarked maps on display in the assembly area (these may be of the map used for the earlier event)
- results display
- clearly signed First Aid point
- toilets
- string course

Start Times: Choice of early, middle, or late start times.

See Rules 8.1.1, 8.1.3, 8.1.4.

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Badge Calculations: Badge times should be calculated as described in Appendix J (The Badge Scheme), and included in both online and printed results.

Ranking Scheme: All Regional Events are Ranking Events unless the Organiser explicitly indicates otherwise on the ER1 Registration Form and in the pre-event publicity. Preliminary results should be submitted as soon as possible after (ideally on the day of) the event. Final results should be submitted within two weeks of the event. See Appendix K (The Ranking Scheme) for details of how to do this.

4 Course Planning

Courses: Courses are to be provided for the following range of classes:

M/W 21 to M/W 75 ; JM/W 1 to JM/W 5

unless the Organiser specifies in the pre-event information that certain classes will not be offered. For example:

- In certain cases the terrain may not allow courses at TD1 to be planned so JM/W1 will not be available.

- Multi-day holiday events, attracting a significant foreign entry, may wish to use the standard IOF age classes for juniors.

Long (L) and Short (S) courses shall be offered for all M/W21 – M/W75 classes. The Short course shall be of the same technical difficulty as the Long course and about 2/3rds the length of the Long course.

It is recommended that, in addition to the Regional Event courses, colour coded courses should be provided for novices and less competent competitors. Appropriate colours would be White, Yellow, Orange, Light Green, and Red. These could be the same courses as used by the badge classes. In addition, there should be an opportunity for competitors on TD 1 and TD 2 courses to inspect their courses (and even discuss them with their parents) before they start. This could be achieved by making these courses available in the start lane or in the pre-start area. See Rule 8.2.4.

Class Combinations: Courses provided at Regional Events should encourage entrants to run in their proper class.

The combining of junior classes must take into account not only the course lengths but more importantly the Technical Difficulty. On this basis the combinations of junior classes below give the minimum number of courses which can be provided.

Multi-day holiday events, attracting a significant foreign entry, may wish to use the standard IOF age classes for juniors. Such events should base their junior class combinations and course length ratios on the table in Guideline C: National Events.

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Course Number	Course Length Ratio M21L = 1.0	Technical Difficulty	M:L+M Classes	M:S,V+N Classes	W:L Classes	W:S,V+N Classes	Colour Coded Courses
1	1.00	5	M21L				
2	0.85	5	M35L M40L				
3	0.69	5	JM5L M45L M50L	M21S	W21L		
4	0.56	5	M55L M60L	JM5M M35S M40S	JW5L W35L W40L		(Blue)
5	0.45	5	M65L	M21V M45S M50S	W45L W50L	W21S	
6	0.39	5	M70L	JM5S M55S	W55L W60L	JW5S W35S W40S	(Green)
7	0.33	5	M75L	M60S M65S	W65L W70L	W21V W45S	
8	0.28	5		M70S M75S	W75	W50S W55S W60S W65S W70S	
9	0.50	3		M21N			Red
10	0.35	3				W21N	

Course Number	Course Length Ratio M21L = 1.00	Minimum-Maximum Length (km)	Technical Difficulty	JM Classes	JW Classes	Colour Coded Courses
11	0.30	3.0 - 4.0	4	JM4	JW4	Light Green

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12	0.25	2.5 - 3.5	3	JM3	JW3	Orange
13	0.22	2.0 - 2.9	2	JM2	JW2	Yellow
14	0.14	1.0 - 1.9	1	JM1	JW1	White

Notes: (a) M21L should be planned such that a top elite-standard competitor would win it in 67 minutes. The actual winning time will depend on the standard of the competitors who take part. All other course lengths should be scaled to the length required for M21L, which has been allocated a course length ratio of 1.00.

(b) Planners should note that course length ratios refer to course lengths which are “corrected” for height climb (by adding 0.1 km for every 10m of climb).

(c) For the courses of TD1-3 (particularly courses 12 -14) it is more important that the course is of the correct TD than of the correct length – it will often be the case that the nature of the terrain forces the course length away from the precise course length ratio given above.

(d) For courses 11-14, the minimum and maximum course lengths are quoted as well as the course length ratio to help planners ensure they are within the correct course length range.

Course on Map: See Rules 5.2, 5.4 (master maps), and 6.2.4 (proximity of controls); and Appendix B parts 4.1.1-13 (symbols), 4.1.14 (map cases), 4.2 (map corrections), 4.4.1 (start position).

Control Descriptions: See Rule 6.1.2/3 (course length and climb), 6.6.2 (issue to competitors) and Appendix A (layout of description sheet and symbols to be used).

5 Further Information

Other Information: Appendices B (Course Planning), E (event safety), and G (juries, protests and appeals).

Regional Championships Regional Events are frequently used for Regional Championships. In these circumstances it is usual to award Junior age class trophies to the highest placed Junior competing in the following classes:

M10 = JM2	W10 = JW2
M12 = JM3	W12 = JW3
M14 = JM4	W14 = JW4
M16 = JM5M	W16 = JW5S
M18 = JM5L	W18 = JW5L
M20 = JM5L	W20 = JW5L

Further Advice: If you cannot find the answer to a question within the published Rules, Appendices and Guidelines then please contact your Association’s representative on Rules Group, or failing that the Chairman of Rules Group via British Orienteering National Office.

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