

Orienteering is totally dependent upon the existence of suitable areas for the sport, which are usually woodland, heath or moor, preferably with height variation to provide contour detail. Such areas in Britain are increasingly rare, and come under many competing human pressures which can jeopardise the sustainability of wildlife and habitats and bring about conflict between people. Whilst orienteering is generally regarded as having a low environmental impact, orienteers recognise their part in maintaining the integrity and beauty of the countryside in order that the areas we run in today are available undiminished for all users now and in future generations.

British Orienteering is therefore committed to the conservation of our natural environment and to ensuring that all orienteers recognise their responsibilities towards the land. This will be achieved in the following ways:

- ❑ continuing to be aware of the need to preserve a healthy environment, and to integrate this principle into the fundamental conduct of orienteering
- ❑ ensuring that the Federation's Environmental Policy and best practice guidance as included in its Rules and Guidelines are consistent with the principles of respect for the environment and the protection of flora and fauna.
- ❑ working in partnership with landowners, government authorities and environmental organisations in defining and achieving best practice
- ❑ incorporating the importance of nature conservation and consideration for other users in all education and training programmes for orienteers and event officials, and particularly those aimed at young people
- ❑ taking particular care to observe local regulations for environmental protection, to maintain the litter-free nature of orienteering and to take proper measures to avoid pollution
- ❑ carrying out basic monitoring of environmental performance at events and collecting the data centrally so that overall performance can be monitored and ways of improving established

This policy incorporates the Environmental Policy of the International Orienteering Federation.