

Event Guideline L: Peter Palmer Junior Team Relay

1. General Information

1.1 Nature of event

- 1.1.1 The Peter Palmer Junior Team Relay is named after one of Britain's finest orienteering coaches. Peter Palmer helped to devise this event in order to give an opportunity for Juniors to experience competition similar to some Scandinavian events and the Harvester Relays, whilst also giving the chance for social interaction amongst Juniors from across the country.
- 1.1.2 The event is held annually and is aimed at club teams comprised of all standards of Junior orienteers from the M/W12 to M/W18 age classes. (Note: M/W10s are specifically not allowed to take part.)
- 1.1.3 The Peter Palmer Junior Team Relay is normally held during September.
- 1.1.4 The Peter Palmer Junior Team Relay is a Level 3 event.

1.2 Eligibility

- 1.2.1 Any club registered with British Orienteering may enter a team or teams in the Peter Palmer Junior Team Relay.
- 1.2.2 All competitors must be Juniors in the age range M/W12 to M/W18. (Note: M/W10s are specifically not allowed to take part, even running up as M/W12s.)
- 1.2.3 Competitors must be either members of British Orienteering (individual or family membership) or attend a school, college or university which has a formal association with the local club.
- 1.2.4 For Juniors who are members of British Orienteering, eligibility to represent a club in this competition is governed by Rule 3.2.
- 1.2.5 Juniors who are not members of British Orienteering may compete in this competition provided that this is the only "Open" club that they compete for in any competition during the year.

1.3 Trophies

- 1.3.1 There are three Trophies competed for at the Peter Palmer Junior Team Relay:
- **Peter Palmer Trophy** - all team members from the same club.
 - **Joan George Trophy** - all team members from the same club, combined BOF ages to total 90 or less.
 - **Norwich Orienteering Club Anniversary Trophy** - all team members either (a) from the same 'small club', or (b) from two 'small clubs' forming a combined team.

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- 1.3.2 Note that combined teams are only eligible for the Norwich Orienteering Club Anniversary Trophy.
- 1.3.3 A 'small club' is defined as one with 100 or fewer members of British Orienteering. For this purpose individual members count as one member and families count as three members.
- 1.3.4 If a team is eligible for more than one Trophy, and wishes to compete for more than one Trophy, then they shall declare this on the team declaration form.
- 1.3.5 In the event of a team winning more than one Trophy for which they have declared themselves eligible then they shall only receive one Trophy according to the following order of precedence:
- Peter Palmer Trophy; Norwich Orienteering Club Anniversary Trophy; Joan George Trophy,
- with the next placed eligible team receiving the lower order Trophy.
- 1.3.6 Prizes shall be awarded to the first three teams in each class. The three trophies shall be awarded first, then the second prizes following the same sequence, and then the third prizes. In order that the greatest number of teams should receive awards, no team should receive more than one trophy or prize.
- ### 1.4 Combined teams
- 1.4.1 Combined 'small club' teams can only be made up from two 'small clubs' that are either from the same association or are geographically adjacent.
- 1.4.2 Two 'small clubs' should not combine if either of them is able to enter a complete team from their own club. However, if the first club is able to enter a complete team and the second club cannot, they may then combine to form a second competitive 'small club' team.
- 1.4.3 Two clubs, large or small, may combine to enter additional teams provided that the large club or clubs have already entered a complete team or teams in the competition.
- 1.4.4 In circumstances where combined teams are formed it is assumed that clubs will pick their best runners for their own club team or teams before seeking to combine with a neighbouring club to give their 'spare' junior orienteers the opportunity to run in the competition. Any attempt by clubs to do otherwise will lead to their disqualification. The spirit of the competition is, therefore, that clubs form teams from their own members and are encouraged to develop their own club juniors. It is not the intention for Regional 'elite' teams to be formed.
- 1.4.5 Non-competitive teams may be allowed to take part at the discretion of the event organiser after consultation with the Junior Competitions Group.

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1.5 Team Structure

- 1.5.1 The race is run over six laps. Each team must have at least two laps run by boys and two laps run by girls.
- 1.5.2 Lap 5 may have up to three runners per team. Each team's runners all start together when their lap 4 runner finishes. The first lap 5 runner to finish hands over to the lap 6 runner.
- If the first finisher on lap 5 is subsequently disqualified due to mispunching then the second finisher's time will be used to calculate the final result.
 - For lap 5 to count as a girls (boys) lap all three runners must be girls (boys).
 - For the Joan George Trophy the BOF age of the oldest runner on this lap will be used.
- 1.5.3 A competitor may not run more than once.

1.6 Terrain

- 1.6.1 The Peter Palmer Junior Team Relay is best staged in a forested or parkland/forested area with a good track and path network. The terrain should not be too physical. The area must be suitable for planning a Yellow standard course, and for Red standard courses for night legs.

1.7 Officials

- 1.7.1 The officials for the event shall meet the requirements set out for a Level 3 Event in Appendix C (Event Officials).
- 1.7.2 The Peter Palmer Junior Team Relay requires a Planner who is experienced at planning good Junior courses.

2. Organisational Requirements

2.1 Responsibility

- 2.1.1 The date and location of the Peter Palmer Junior Team Relay is determined by Fixtures Group after consultation with the Junior Competitions Group.
- 2.1.2 Individual clubs may offer to host the Peter Palmer Junior Team Relay through their Association representative on Fixtures Group.

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3. Planning Requirements

3.1 Course details

3.1.1 The lap distances and technical difficulties are as follows:

	Lap Distance	Technical Difficulty	Nearest equivalent in Colour Coded scheme, but relay lap may be longer
Lap 1	4.5 – 5.5 km	3	Red
Lap 2	4.5 – 5.5 km	3	Red
Lap 3	3.5 – 4.5 km	4	Light Green
Lap 4	3.0 – 3.5 km	3	Orange
Lap 5	2.0 – 2.5 km	2	Yellow
Lap 6	5.5 – 6.5 km	5	Green

3.1.2 Laps 1 & 2 are similar in distance and difficulty, but individual competitors on each lap may not be running the same course. Some controls are common to both courses, some are not. ie. the legs are gaffled.

3.1.3 Laps 3 & 6 should be planned so that approximately the first 2.5 to 3.5km are of Light Green difficulty, with legs gaffled between the two laps. The remainder of Lap 3 is then of Light Green difficulty (common to all Lap 3 runners) whilst the remainder of Lap 6 is of Green difficulty and will be common to all Lap 6 runners.

3.1.4 The first lap should be run in darkness. Leading teams will start the second lap still needing a light to read the map, but most of this leg should be run at dawn.

3.2 Planning considerations

3.2.1 The Planner should aim to provide relay courses which test the top competitors but do not spread out inexperienced orienteers too much, especially those who haven't run at night before.

3.2.2 Control sites should be kept well apart, with no grouping of control codes. The objective is not to have to disqualify any competitor for mispunching.

3.2.3 Control flags should be easily seen once the competitor is in the correct location. The use of any sort of hidden control banner, even behind a tree, is not acceptable in a relay.

3.2.4 A spectator control is not essential, but adds much to the atmosphere of the race.

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4. Other Information

4.1 Start time

- 4.1.1 The race should be started so that the second leg is run at dawn. The actual start time will depend on the date and location of the event, but should be approximately ninety minutes before sunrise.

4.2 Event centre

- 4.2.1 This race requires an event centre with suitable sleeping accommodation for the teams in or adjacent to the competition area.
- 4.2.2 It is customary to hold a five-a-side football tournament on the Saturday evening if the facilities are available to do this.

4.3 Prizegiving

- 4.3.1 Juniors like a good presentation ceremony.
- 4.3.2 In addition to the permanent trophies, medals or prizes for the leading teams are a welcome addition.

4.4 Finance

- 4.4.1 The Event Organiser may be able to obtain support for the event from British Orienteering as there is a fund available which is used to help to provide enhancements for junior events. Full details can be found on the British Orienteering web site, or contact the National Office for further information.