

Senior Home International Rules

1. **Introduction.** The Senior Home International (SHI) is the annual competition between teams from England, Ireland (Northern Ireland and Eire), Scotland, Wales (the 'home nations'). It is an important event in the Orienteering calendar particularly for the Celtic nations who use the event as a target for performance. It also acts as an important event for offering international competition opportunity and experience to many up and coming British and Irish elite athletes. The important characteristic of the individual event is the running in a narrowly defined start block adjacent to those in other teams that would be experienced in major international events. The event is an important focus for the Home Nations and offers individual performance targets for those who are still short of GB teams. Edition and amendment details are shown at the end of these Rules.
2. **Timing.** The SHI is normally arranged during the period September to mid-November, though it could be scheduled in the spring. The Event Scheduling Group (ESG) will approach associations direct to host the SHI and set the date for competition in good time – at least 15 months ahead. There is an agreed rota for hosting the SHI: ESG is the rota's custodian. This shows which nation is due to host and, when the SHI is to be held in England, which region is due to host.
3. **Teams.** Each team is to consist of 3 M20s, 6 senior men, 3 W20s and 6 senior women. Orienteers of any age may be selected to run as seniors. Teams are to be declared before the first start on Day 1 and only those may run in the SHI (ie no reserves brought in on Day 2).
4. **Eligibility.**
 - 4.1. To be eligible to represent a country in a SHI an athlete must be a current British Orienteering member (or for Ireland team members, alternatively a member of IOA) and be:
 - 4.1.1. Eligible by Birth. Be born in that country OR
 - 4.1.2. Eligible by Parentage. Have a parent who was born in that country OR
 - 4.1.3. Eligible by Residence. Have established permanent residence in that country for at least one year (see notes 1 and 2).

AND

 - 4.1.4. Has not represented any other home nation in a home international in the previous two years (see explanatory notes 3 and 4).

Notes:

1. Students can achieve eligibility by residence if they can prove a permanent home base in that country.
2. Established eligibility by residency is voided if another home nation is represented but otherwise endures.
3. Sub paragraph 4.1.4 means two fallow years eg 2 missed HIs.
4. Athletes currently competing for a nation other than GBR or Ireland(Eire) are nevertheless eligible provided they meet one of the criteria 4.1.1 to 4.1.3, AND criterion 4.1.4.

5. **Racing Format.** Individual Long on Saturday; Relay on Sunday¹

5.1. Individual:

Long Distance 90 minute winning time for senior men
Long Distance 75 minute winning time for senior women
Long Distance 75 minute winning time for M20
Long Distance 60 minute winning time for W20

5.2. Relay:

Teams of three for men and women separately. Each team is to include at least one 20 or under, as determined by BOF age² with courses planned to deliver a 40 minute leading time per leg.

6. **Individual Scoring.** The individual scores of all the counters in each class are to be totalled, ranked and scored by class again to determine the outcome of the individual event³, as follows:

6.1. **Individual runner scoring.**

- 6.1.1. Four M/W21 (of 6) to count, scoring 16, 15, 14 etc.
- 6.1.2. Two M/W20 (of 3) to count, scoring 8, 7, 6 etc.
- 6.1.3. Non-counters do not score (nor are considered in places and therefore score allocation) but may have a tie-breaking effect (qv).
- 6.1.4. If there is a tie in individual time the points are to be shared equally.

6.2. **Team scoring.**

- 6.2.1. All classes, M/W20, M/W21 are to score separately.
- 6.2.2. To derive the team score within a class all the individual scores for a team within that class are to be added up with the resulting totals for each nation determining rank.
- 6.2.3. For M/W21 the first ranked team will score 8 points, the second 6pts, 3rd 4pts, and 4th 2pts.
- 6.2.4. For M/W20 the first ranked team will score 7 points, the second 5pts, 3rd 3pts, and 4th 1pt.
- 6.2.5. If there is a tie in a class the points are to be shared equally.
- 6.2.6. Even with no finishers, a team scores points (4th or 3rd=).

Total points available: 72
Maximum possible score: 30

6.3. **Nation scoring.** A nation's score for the individual day is to be the total of its team scores across the 4 classes. The aggregate points thus gained are

¹ Though it reduces the quality of the SHI, this format may be varied by agreement between the organizing nation or English region and the SHI team managers. It would be acceptable to combine the event with an Area Championships. Nevertheless it is highly desirable that the order should be: Long Saturday, Relay Sunday. If combined, a SHI start block should be set aside for the individual, normally at the beginning.

² BOF age, not the class run in the individual, necessarily.

³ The scoring of the individual races may seem convoluted but the premise behind its design is to ensure not too great an advantage or disadvantage accrues when a class is comprehensively won or lost. The SHI is a team competition and results in one class should not dominate the outcome. This also means that there is often 'all to play for' after Day1, which makes for a better Day 2 and a better competition all round.

to be carried forward (if Day 1) or added to the relay score (if Day 2) for the combined SHI team scores.

6.4. **Tie.** In the event of a tie at Nation scoring, the relative placing of the tying nations' 5th / 3rd placed runners in each of the four classes in the individual race are to be used to separate the teams involved in the tie. If still tied then the relative placing of the tying nations' 6th M21 and 6th W21 are to be likewise used.

7. **Relay Scoring.** Men's and Women's relay races to be scored separately.

7.1. **Team scoring.**

7.1.1. Two out of 3 relay teams to count:

7.1.2. In both Men's and Women's the scoring will be 8 points for a win, 7 pts for 2nd, 6 pts for 3rd down to 1 pt for 8th. To score, relay teams must be eligible by composition and must finish successfully; otherwise 0 pts.

7.1.3. Nation's third teams do not score (nor are considered in place and therefore score allocation) but may have a tie-breaking effect (qv).

Total points available: 72

Maximum possible team score: 30

7.2. **Nation scoring**

A nation's score for the relay day is to be the total of the Men's and Women's points.

7.3. **Tie.** In the event of a tie at Nation scoring the relative placing of the 3rd placed teams of the tying nations in both classes are to be used to separate the teams involved in the tie.

8. **SHI Team Ranking.**

8.1. **Ranking.** The winning team is the nation with the highest total points, calculated by adding the individual team points (6.2) and the relay team points (8.2), with the other nations ranked in order.

8.2. **Tie.** In the event of a tie the nation with the most team wins across the 6 classes (2 relay and 4 individual) is to be ranked ahead. If that is equal then the most individual wins will be used. If that is equal then team seconds are to be used. If that is equal then individual seconds etc.

9. **Finance**

SHIs should be self-financing. Normal BOF levy is payable. Any regional levy may be waived at the discretion of the organizing nation/region. Organizers should specify a fee covering events, accommodation and meals and communicate this to the team managers in very good time: 3 months is suggested.

10. **Trophies**

The trophies are:

The Silva Trophy Awarded to the country with the highest total team points.

The Dolgellau Bowl Awarded to the country with the highest team points in the first day's racing (see Section 6.2 or 7.1 above).

11. Document Control

This edition of the rules is based on the 2001 rules (Elite Competitions Steering Group - John Palmer – 21.08.2001) and effects decisions made at the SHI Team Managers meeting in Oct 2003 and scoring changes agreed at the SHI Team Managers meeting in Oct 2009 and the trophy change agreed at the SHI Team Managers meeting in Oct 2011. Jul 2014 - Minor textual amendment was made to Paragraph 9 (Combined Score) to make its intent clearer and the insertion of 'team' before 'points' in both instances in Paragraph 9. Oct 16 - Revision to effect amendment to eligibility rules agreed at the SHI Team Managers' meeting in Oct 2016 and include them in these rules, and other textual changes (particularly: introduction, timings, finance).