

Competition Rule N: Future Champions Cup Final

1 General Information

Level: 3

Purpose: To determine the Future Champions Cup overall winners (the combined time for the Middle and Long Distance races) in the Under 21 Men's and Women's classes and the series winners in the M18, W18, M20 and W20 age categories.

The event is intended to provide an equivalent type of competition to that held at the Junior World Championships.

Nature of Event: Single-day cross-country Middle distance and Long distance competitions held in daylight. Runners compete as individuals in Men's and Women's classes.

The event should normally be held in late April or early May (before the examination season starts) at a weekend with the Middle distance race on the Saturday and the Long distance race on the Sunday. The competition can be a stand alone event or combined with public races.

Who May Compete: National or Local Members of British Orienteering are eligible to take part in the FCC Final through qualification. Competitors in age classes M18, W18, M20 and W20 compete in a series of qualification races and are scored in their own age class. The best 15 in each age class are eligible to compete in the FCC Final.

Non-competitive runners (i.e. those who have not qualified through the FCC series) may be allowed to run the courses before the FCC finalists if the races are to be used for junior selection purposes (e.g. for Junior World Championships team or summer tour selections). In such a case the non competitive runners must start before the FCC finalists on both days and receive no FCC scores.

Responsibility: The FCC Final is organised by clubs affiliated to British Orienteering, Regional Associations, or by Regional junior squads on behalf of their Association.

How to Apply: The location of the events will not necessarily rotate around the country. They will be allocated by the Fixtures Group in conjunction with the Elite Competitions Group (ECG) to clubs or Associations wishing to stage the competition. Although the event should be staged on good terrain, Associations should not be discouraged from hosting the event because they do not have very complex terrain. The ECG should try to vary terrain type and geographical location.

Officials: See Rules 4.1 to 4.4 (roles); Appendix C parts 1.2.1, 1.3.1 (recommended experience for organisers and planners), and 1.4.1 (level of controller and who is responsible for making the appointment); and Appendix H parts 3.3.1 and 3.4 (map adviser).

The Planner and / or Controller should have experience of planning courses for elite orienteering.

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2 Map and Terrain

Quality of Terrain: The event should provide a true test of orienteering ability on quality maps and terrain.

Map: See Rule 5.1 (requirements), Appendix H parts 1.1 (requirements), 1.2 (symbols), 1.4.1/2 (scales), 1.5.1 (variations) and 2.1.2/3/4/6 (printing), and the International Specification for Orienteering Maps 2000.

The map scale for the Middle distance race should be 1:10,000.

The map scale for the Long distance race should be 1:15,000.

3 Event Organisation

Organisation: The FCC Final is a prestigious event in the junior calendar. The organisation of the event should reflect this.

The event should be presented in a manner that is attractive and that emphasises the elite nature of the event. This should include the following aspects:

- race numbers for all competitors
- start lists available for competitors and spectators
- 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)
- race commentary
- prominent results display
- a dignified and prestigious prize giving ceremony. This should be as soon as possible after the results are known.

Funding: 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.

Trophies and Prizes: There are perpetual trophies for the Men's and Women's winners of the combined FCC Final (both races times added) and for the winners of the FCC series for each age class: M18, M20, W18 and W20. It has been the practice to award prizes to the top three M and W in the FCC Final and to the top three in each series.

There are also team trophies for universities and clubs. For the total of their 3 highest scorers for universities, and the total of their 4 highest scorers for clubs. Only points scored in the qualifying races count towards these trophies. (note: an individual's score can be counted for both their university and their club).

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Start Times: Start times on the Saturday should not be before 12 noon and for the Sunday it is preferable if the FCC Final and the prize giving can be completed by 2pm so as to allow travelling time.

The start lists for the Middle distance race on the Saturday are determined by the positions in each age class after the qualifying races: 15th best M/W18, 15th best M/W20, 14th best M/W18, 14th best M/W20 etc with the best qualifying M/W18 followed by the best qualifying M/W20 starting at the end. Where there are gaps because an athlete who has qualified for the FCC final but not entered the order should not be altered to take account of the absent runner e.g. 13th best M 18, 12th best M18, 12th best M20 would be the correct order if the 13th best M20 does not enter.

The M and W start lists for the Long distance race on the Sunday are based on the results from the Middle distance race with start times allocated in the reverse order of the Middle distance results. i.e. the competitor with the fastest time at the Middle distance race has the last start time, regardless of which age class they are in. Anyone who is disqualified or not listed in the results for the Middle distance must start before those who completed the Middle distance race.

Athletes who wish to compete in the FCC Final but who have not qualified shall start before anyone who has qualified for the final on both days.

The start interval for the Middle distance race should be two minutes.

The start interval for the Long distance race should be three minutes.

Start times should only be changed under exceptional circumstances.

Supporting Events: Some orienteering may be provided for spectators. Care should be taken not to compromise the FCC Final. This can be achieved by not combining the FCC Final courses with any other classes or courses or by giving the FCC Final courses controls which are not used by the supporting event. For the Middle distance races, it is preferable for the supporting races to take place after the FCC races.

Badge Calculations: Badge times should be calculated as described in Appendix J (The Badge Scheme), and included in both online and printed results. For the purposes of badge times the FCC Final should be classed as M/W 20E classes.

Ranking Scheme: 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. For ranking purposes the FCC Final must be classed as M/W20E classes.

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4 Course Planning

Courses: Planners should produce the best courses possible from the area within the recommended time range rather than aiming for the exact mid-point of the range.

Middle Distance Race: Middle distance orienteering (previously called Short distance) was developed as a discipline which places more emphasis on the technical skills of orienteering. Courses should be planned accordingly.

Two separate courses should be provided for the Middle distance race, as follows:

Course	Classes	TD	Winning Time (mins)
1	FCC Final Men	5	25
2	FCC Final Women	5	25

Long Distance Race: Two separate courses should be provided for the Long distance race, as follows:

Course	Class	TD	Winning Time (mins)
1	FCC Final Men	5	65 - 70
2	FCC Final Women	5	55 - 60

Course on Map: See Rules 5.2 and 5.3 (pre-marked maps), 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).

Further information

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

If you cannot find the answer to a question within the published Rules, Appendices and Guidelines then please contact the event advisor appointed by the Elite Competitions Group, the Future Champions Cup Co-ordinator, or the Chairman of Rules Group, via the British Orienteering National Office.