

British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering 2013 changes

During 2013 there will be significant changes to the presentation of the documents that are currently known as the British Orienteering Rules (of Orienteering), the Appendices, the Competition Rules and the Event Guidelines.

These changes will be introduced in two phases.

Phase 1

This phase involves the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering and the Competition Rules.

These rules have been amended to correct changes in committee names and the new membership and levy schemes. They will also contain changes that bring into a formal setting what is already custom and practice. Finally there are a few changes that prepare the rules for a second phase of changes.

The only documents that have changes to them in Phase 1 are the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering, the Competition Rules and Appendix B.

The changes to the British Orienteering Rules (of Orienteering) 2013 are as follows:

- Shadowed competitors are no longer automatically non-competitive. This has been changed to reflect current custom and practice. The onus will be on the Competition Rule to; disallow shadowed competitors, allow but make them n/c or allow them to be competitive.
This will in practice mean that for the vast majority of Level D and Level C events where there are no “competition rules”, competitors being shadowed will be treated as competitive.
- References to Rules Group will be to Events and Competitions Committee.
- Clarification of what constitutes a person who has British Orienteering Event Safety Accreditation – this means that risk assessment sign off for Level D events if not by a controller may be either by an Event Safety workshop Tutor or a licenced Coach.
- Addition of a requirement for “Events” to pay levy. The new levy system takes effect from the 1st January 2013 and applies to all events registered at levels A, B, C & D.
- Addition of a definition of Activity: An “Activity” is defined as gathering of people who intend to participate in activities related to orienteering, e.g. to practice, train or as an introduction to the sport, and where there is no intention to rank or publish the competitive outcome of the gathering other than the results of coach-led exercises for the purposes of training. For all activities registered up until the 31st March 2013, the definition of Activities previously in place will apply, the new 2013 definition of activities will not apply to them. The new definition of an Activity will come into effect for orienteering staged on or after 1st April 2013. Clubs may need to change registrations previously made where registered activities do not meet the new definition and class them as events.

The Competition Rules

Any changes that may significantly affect Level A competitions in 2013 have already been communicated to the Event Officials.

The first phase of updates is as follows:

Competition Rule A: British Long distance
Competition Rule B: British Middle distance
Competition Rule C: British Sprint distance
Competition Rule D: British Relays
Competition Rule E: British Night Champs

The following has been changed:

- British Championship eligibility – this has been sent to the 2013 Night Champs Team already and posted on the British Orienteering website
- Responsibility – reflects the existence of the Partnership Agreement
- Embargo – now reflects the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering wording
- Name changes to all read Events and Competitions Committee
- Shadowing – not permitted for Championship course competitors however at most Championships, there is now the requirement to put on non-championship courses.
- Removal of the non-competitive ban. Previously relay teams that were not eligible under the same team/age class criteria were banned from competing at all except in the ad hoc. Custom and practice meant that they did actually take part in the relays and were n/c in the results.
- Courses – to include a requirement for non-championship courses except at British Relays and these courses are not subject to all of the Level A event requirements.
- A wording change that reads ‘The Championships are open to members of’ rather than the event is open to..... This allows non-members to enter the non-championship courses.
- In addition the British Sprint Championship section on timings has been deleted. (The 2013 team are aware of this and will pilot new timings for the rules.)

Competition Rule F: JK Sprint
Competition Rule G: JK Individual
Competition Rule H: JK Relays
Competition Rule I: Area Championships

- Responsibility – reflects the existence of the Partnership Agreement. (Not for Area championships where the financial responsibility lies with the Organising Body.)
- Shadowing – not permitted for Championship course competitors – as above for British Championships.
- A wording change that reads ‘The Championships are open to members of’ rather than the event is open to..... This allows non-members to enter the non-championship courses.
- Embargo – now reflects the British Orienteering Rules wording
- Name changes to all read Events and Competitions Committee
- Courses – to include a requirement for non-championship courses except for JK Relays and these courses are not subject to all of the Level A event requirements
- Removal of the non-competitive ban. Previously teams that were not eligible under the same team/age class criteria were banned from competing at all except in the ad hoc. Custom and practice meant that they did actually take part in the championships and were

n/c in the results.

- In addition the JK Sprint will have area embargo (it has been agreed that this is not to be retrospectively applied for JK 2013).
- Event and Competitions Committee have noted that the JK Individual course/class combination may change if the numbers of M21E and M18 & 20E are too great to be able to be combined into one class. This will be piloted if required and reworded for JK 2014.

Competition Rule J: UK Orienteering League

- New rule and replaces old Competition Rule J which was the CompassSport Cup.

Competition Rule K: The Harvester

- 12 month embargo added in.
- Name change for Event and Competitions Committee.
- Minor updates to reflect recent changes in levels, courses & membership.

Competition Rule L: Yvette Baker

- Changed to reflect new scheduling requirements.
- Event and Competition Committee name changes.
- Minor updates to reflect recent changes in levels, courses & membership.
- Change in badge standard to be Championship.

Competition Rule M: Peter Palmer

- Event and Competition Committee name changes.
- Minor updates to reflect recent changes in levels, courses & membership.
- Removal of financial support clause
- Changed to reflect new scheduling requirements.

Competition Rule N: FCC Final

- Removed

Competition Rule O: JIRCS

- This has been re formatted but not changed.

Competition Rule P: BSSOC

- Removal of financial support clause
- Removal of Levy exemption clause
- Event and Competition Committee name changes.

Competition Rule Q: BSOC

- Removal of Levy exemption clause
- Event and Competition Committee name changes.
- Removal of financial support clause

Competition Rule R: JHI

- Removal of Levy exemption clause
- Event and Competition Committee name changes.
- Removal of financial support clause

Phase 2

The second stage of the changes will take place by April 2013. The current British Orienteering Rules (of Orienteering) will be split into two sections:

Event Officials
Competitors

The two documents will have an updated format, slight re order of the sections, a change of language and style. The intention is not to significantly change the rules other than in the ways outlined in the section entitled 'Changes to the British Orienteering Rules (of Orienteering) 2013'.

There will however be added rules on the use of devices with GPS and mobile phones and any other changes agreed by Events and Competitions Committee.

Appendices

At the same time as the split is made, all the mandatory requirements that currently sit within the 15 Appendices will be brought into the Event Officials rules and the Appendices will be streamlined into 5 documents. The Appendices will be increased in size but reduced in number. All of the contents of the 10 Appendices that are no longer on the list will be moved either; into the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering, into the 5 Appendices as listed below, into a Competition Rule or added to the Event Officials Handbook.

- Appendix A: Event Systems
- Appendix B: Course Planning
- Appendix C: Event Officials
- Appendix D: Mapping
- Appendix E: Safety

The effect of moving all the mandatory requirements into the rules may make it seem like there are lots of new rules this is not the case, the mandatory rules that were in the rules and appendices have been reconciled into a single set of rules. The current Appendices contain both secondary rules that are mandatory and considerable guidance about the application of the rules. The mandatory rules will have been stripped out and moved into the Rules of Orienteering section leaving the guidance sitting in the new Appendices.

Competition Rules

The second phase will consist of changes in the order of the information and a removal of duplication and guidance from the rules into the Appendices.

Event Guidelines

These will all migrate into either Appendix A or Appendix B. Much of their content was a repeat of information already written elsewhere and the key content relating to the planning of a particular format has been moved into Appendix B: Course planning.