

Competition Rule D: British Relay Orienteering Championships

CHANGE SHEET			
TITLE: Competition Rule D: British Relay Orienteering Championships			
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VERSION	DATE	SECTION	DESCRIPTION
2.8	01/01/2020	2.3 Trophies and / or Medals 1.3 Administration 2.6 Embargo 3 Safety 4 Officials 6.2 Map 6.3 Map Scales 6.4 Map Printing	2.3.1 & 2.3.2: Clarified the criteria for eligibility and prize-winners. Deleted 1.3.3 (c) as a Partnership Agreement may not be in place. Embargo requirements are covered in the Rules of Orienteering Safety requirements are covered in the Rules of Orienteering Officials' requirements are covered in the Rules of Orienteering Deleted 6.2.2, which replicates requirements set out in Appendix D Deleted 6.3, which replicates requirements set out in Appendix D Deleted 6.4, which replicates requirements set out in Appendix D
2.9	01/01/2024	2.1 Eligibility 3.3 Seeding 3.6 Timing and results 4.1 Terrian 5.1 Classes	2.1.1 Gender 3.3.5 Clarification of seeding requirement 3.6 Clarification 4.1.2 Flat assembly field allowed. 5.1.1 Ad Hoc; option for gaffled Relays added
2.10	01/01/2025		No changes made.
2.11	01/01/2026	2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.1.4 2.1.7 2.1.9, 2.1.10 Where required 3.4 5.1.1 Classes	Clarification on team/individual eligibility for trophies and medals. Competitive runners in the Junior Ad Hoc relay must be M/W18 or under. Clarification of Elite Alliances. Addition of Junior Alliances. "Mixed Ad Hoc" class renamed "Ad Hoc" Update to "Start times" table which reduces elapsed time. Also, classes running the same course no longer all have the same start time. All Ad Hoc teams now run laps in the same order so they must be gaffled.

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These Rules are to be used in conjunction with the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering. Where these Rules vary or supplement the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering, then this Competition Rule will take precedence. Any questions regarding these Rules should be emailed to: rules@britishorienteering.org.uk

1. General Information

1.1 Purpose

- 1.1.1 To find the British Relay Champions in each relevant age class.
- 1.1.2 To provide a high standard of domestic relay competition for all members of British Orienteering through a high quality event.
- 1.1.3 The British Relay Championships are usually held the day after the British Long Distance Orienteering Championships.

1.2 Format

- 1.2.1 Single day, relay race for teams of three, run in age classes.

1.3 Administration

- 1.3.1 The British Relay Orienteering Championships are organised by constituent Associations or by clubs (known as The Organising Body) on behalf of British Orienteering.
- 1.3.2 The British Relay Orienteering Championships must be registered as a Level A event.
- 1.3.3 Full details of all the requirements of a level A event are contained the British Orienteering Rules of Foot Orienteering and are supplemented by these Competition Rules.
- 1.3.4 Applications to request variation to these Competition Rules must be made to Rules Group as delegated by Events and Competitions Committee.

2. Competition and Eligibility

2.1 Eligibility

- 2.1.1 The Championships are open to members of the British Orienteering Federation and to members of overseas IOF affiliated Federations. M classes are open to all genders; W classes are restricted to female competitors - see British Orienteering Trans Competition policy.
- 2.1.2 Only Clubs which are affiliated to British Orienteering are eligible to win trophies/medals.
- 2.1.3 For a team to be eligible for British Relay Championship trophies and medals all team members must meet the individual eligibility requirements specified in 2.1.4 and 2.1.5. In addition, for all classes except for Ad Hoc and Junior Ad Hoc, all its members must be from the same club or the team must satisfy the requirements in the Elite or Junior Alliance Rules (2.1.9 or 2.1.10).

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2.1.4 All team members must, on the day immediately preceding the day of competition in question, be a member of British Orienteering and:

- either
- be a British citizen;

or

 - have been a member of British Orienteering in each of the three membership years preceding the year of the competition.

2.1.5 For Juniors who are not British citizens, the membership criteria will be as specified below:

Age on 31st December in year of competition	British Orienteering membership criterion
10 or under	Member on day before the day of competition and in previous 6 months.
11	Member on day before the day of competition and in previous year
12	Member on day before the day of competition and in previous two years
13 and over	As in rule 2.1.4

2.1.6 To be competitive, runners in the Mini relay must be M/W12 or under.

2.1.7 To be competitive, runners in the Junior Ad Hoc relay must be M/W18 or under.

2.1.8 Teams in the M/W70 Class must contain at least one W70+.

2.1.9 Elite Alliances: In the Men's and Women's Premier classes geographically adjacent clubs are permitted to form combined teams ("Alliances"). This applies to M and W teams separately and can be done on an event by event basis. Alliance teams are treated as competitive and are eligible to win trophies/medals. Two clubs that wish to form such an alliance must satisfy the following criteria:

- The two combining clubs must be geographically adjacent.
- Neither club has fielded a team that finished in a top three position in the previous three calendar years in the M or W (as appropriate) JK Trophy or British Relay Championships Premier class.

2.1.10 Junior Alliances: In the Mini Relay (M/W12-), M14, W14, M18 and W18 classes, clubs from the same Association and/or geographically adjacent clubs are permitted to form combined teams ("Alliances"). This applies to M and W teams separately and can be done on an event by event basis. Alliance teams are treated as competitive and are eligible to win trophies/medals. Clubs may only combine to enter "Alliance" teams if they have already entered as many complete teams as they are able to in each class. In circumstances where combined teams are formed, clubs must pick their best runners for their own club team or teams before seeking to form an alliance to give their additional junior orienteers the

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opportunity to run in the competition. Any attempt by clubs to do otherwise may lead to their alliance team being declared non-competitive. The spirit of this initiative 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 'elite' teams to be formed.

- 2.1.11 Any clubs who wish to take advantage of this proposal must notify the event organiser at least seven days before the closing date.

2.2 Shadowing

- 2.2.1 The shadowing of any competitor on a Championship course is not permitted.

2.3 Trophies and/or Medals

- 2.3.1 British Championship Trophies will be presented to the winners of each age class relay team. Competitors are only eligible for British Championship titles and trophies in the age class they have entered and if they satisfy the Eligibility requirements in 2.1.
- 2.3.2 British Championship medals, if applicable, will be awarded to the members of the first, second and third placed teams in the age and Ad Hoc relay classes.

2.4 Badge Scheme

- 2.4.1 Does not apply.

2.5 Ranking Scheme

- 2.5.1 Does not apply.

3. Organisation

3.1 General

- 3.1.1 Full details of the requirements for a level A event are covered in the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering.

3.2 Additional requirements

- 3.2.1 Competitors should be reminded in the Event Details that any attempt to 'see' the map before they start renders their team liable to disqualification.

3.3 Seeding

- 3.3.1 Organisers must attempt to limit the likelihood of potential winners having identical courses. This must be done by seeding unless 3.3.4 applies.
- 3.3.2 Teams to be seeded include those which finished in the top 10 in the class in question in the previous year. Any other teams which are considered competitive should also be included.
- 3.3.3 The actual number of seeds depends on the chosen system of gaffling.
- 3.3.4 If the system chosen for gaffling is sufficiently complex (≥ 9 variants) seeding may be deemed not to be required if agreed by the Controller.

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3.4 Starts

- 3.4.1 The table below shows suggested start times (which may be varied to suit local circumstances with agreement from the Controller).

Class	Call up	Mass Start
Mini Relay (M/W12-)	09.45	10.00
Men's Premier	09.55	10.10
Women's Premier	10.05	10.20
M14, W14, Junior Ad Hoc, Ad Hoc	10.15	10.30
Women's short, W18, W40, W50, W60, M/W70	10.25	10.40
Men's short, M18, M40, M50, M60	10.35	10.50

3.5 Mini-mass Starts

- 3.5.1 Arrangements for mini-mass starts must be publicised in the Event Details.
- 3.5.2 Competitors in mini-mass starts must have their team numbers recorded by an official. The Start official must record the actual time of start manually as well as through their e-card.
- 3.5.3 Participation in a mini-mass start does not disqualify a team unless previous notice has been given that this will be the case.

3.6 Finish, timing and results

- 3.6.1 The results of each relay class are decided by the order in which the last lap runner passes the finishing line. (Subject to any disqualifications & mispunches). The order of Lap 3 crossing the finish line will be recorded by a judge and/or video camera. The finish control will be after the finish line.
- 3.6.2 The finish control for lap 1 and lap 2 will be before the handover line. Handover is by touch and will be supervised by a marshal.
- 3.6.3 Time must be allowed for appeals against disqualifications to be considered and resolved before the prize-giving.
- 3.6.4 Results:
- (a) On the day/ live results should as a minimum display team results by leg and position
 - (b) Final results will also include individual and split times along with the course variant data.

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4. Map and Terrain

4.1 Quality of Terrain

- 4.1.1 The terrain for the British Relay Championships must be generally runnable and of good technical quality.
- 4.1.2 A Grade A controller appointed by Event and Competitions Committee must assess the suitability of the venue before the event is confirmed.
- 4.1.3 Courses are shorter than for a Long Distance competition so smaller areas may be considered.
- 4.1.4 Areas should have technical merit, be well featured, and largely runnable.
- 4.1.5 A suitable assembly, adjacent or within the forest with good visibility and/or capability to accommodate a spectator control for most courses, greatly enhances the competition.

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5. Course Planning

5.1 Classes

5.1.1 Classes for competition must be provided as follows:

Class Label	Age Class	Recommended winning time per lap (mins)	Technical Difficulty	Suggested race number range
A	Men's Premier	32	5	1 - 99
B	Women's Premier	32	5	101 - 199
C	Men's Short	≈ Length 2/3 A	5	201 - 299
D	Women's Short	≈ Length 2/3 B	5	301 - 399
E	M40	32	5	4001-4060
F	W40	32	5	4061-4099
G	M50	32	5	5001-5060
H	W50	32	5	5061-5099
J	M60	32	5	6001-6060
K	W60	32	5	6061-6099
L	M/W70 (Lap 1 & 3 Long, Lap 2 Medium)	32	5	7001-7099
M	M18	25	5	1801-1860
N	W18	25	5	1861-1899
P	M14	18	3	1401-1460
Q	W14	22	3	1461-1499
R	Mini Relay (M/W12-)	12	2	1201-1299
S	Ad Hoc		5/3/5	401-499
T	Junior Ad Hoc (M/W18-)		3/2/5	501-599

For classes S and T (Ad Hoc and Junior Ad Hoc) the courses must be gaffled, with all the teams running the different length laps in the same order. Lap 1 Medium, Lap 2 Short, Lap 3 Long.

- On Course S the Long and Medium are TD5 and Short TD3. If Short is included in the gaffling system the relevant sections must be TD3. Alternatively, Short may be ungaffled.
- On Course T the Long is TD5, Medium TD3 and Short TD2. In the segments involving Long and Medium only the relevant sections must be TD3. If Short is included in the gaffling system the relevant sections must be TD2. Alternatively Short may be ungaffled.

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It is not necessary to plan separate courses for each class. This table shows how the different classes can be planned by combining nine courses,

Course		a	b	c	d	e	f	g	h
TD		5	5	5	5	5	5	3	2
Course length ratio		1.00	0.82	0.74	0.66	0.56	0.40	approx 2.5 km	approx 2.0 km
Course									
1	A	1, 2, 3							
2	B, E		1, 2, 3						
3	C, F, J, M				1,2,3				
4	D, H, N					1,2,3			
5	G			1,2,3					
6a	K						1,2,3		
6b	L					1,3	2		
7	P, Q							1,2,3	
8	R								1,2,3
9	S			3 or Long		1 or Medium		2 or Short	
10	T					3 or Long		1 or Medium	2 or Short