

Competition Rule J: UK Orienteering League

CHANGE SHEET			
TITLE: Competition Rule J: UK Orienteering League			
DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE			
ISSUE	DATE	SECTION	DESCRIPTION
1.7	01/01/2025	Introduction 1.4.3 and 1.4.4 2.3.1	Inclusion of contact point for questions. Events and Competitions Committee replaced by Rules Group. Age classes extended to include M/W95.
1.7	01/01/2026	No changes	

Competition Rule J: UK Orienteering League

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

1. General information

1.1 Level

1.1.1 The UK Orienteering League will utilize a variety of events. These will be registered at different levels. Each event must comply with the relevant requirements for that level.

1.2 Purpose

1.2.1 To find the top competitors in their age classes over the course of a season comprising a variety of course and terrain types.

1.2.2 To find the club with the top 15 competitors across a range of age classes.

1.2.3 The UK Orienteering League is an annual, national competition for individuals and clubs.

1.3 Format

1.3.1 The League must, over the course of a year, use a variety of terrain and formats and should be as geographically balanced as possible.

a) *The annual programme of events to be included in the UK Orienteering league should be published by the 1st October of the previous year.*

1.4 Administration

1.4.1 Each event chosen to form part of the UK Orienteering League is the responsibility of the relevant organising Club or Association or of British Orienteering via the Partnership Agreement as appropriate.

1.4.2 Each event chosen to form part of the UK Orienteering League must comply with the relevant British Orienteering rules and requirements with regard to terrain, map, officials, organisational and planning requirements, as appropriate for the event level and type it has been registered at.

1.4.3 Applications to request variation of the Competition Rules must be made to Rules Group.

1.4.4 The Coordinator/Organiser must make regular reports on the progress of the event if required by their Association and/or Rules Group.

2. Competition and eligibility

2.1 Individual league

2.1.1 To be eligible for points in the individual league, competitors must be members of British Orienteering.

2.2 Club league

2.2.1 To be eligible for points in the club league a club must be affiliated to British Orienteering and to score points for a club an individual must also be a member both of British Orienteering and of that club.

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- 2.2.2 An individual is only permitted to score points in the club league for their 'membership' club. (The one they are listed as a member of in the British Orienteering membership database).
- 2.2.3 An individual is only permitted to score points for one club in any one year of the league.

2.3 Individual classes

- 2.3.1 The individual league classes are as follows:
 - o M/W16, or M/W16A if B classes are offered
 - o M/W18E, or L if no E classes are offered
 - o M/W20E, or L if no E classes are offered
 - o M/W21E, or L if no E classes are offered
 - o From M/W35 up to M/W95 then M/W35, or M/W35L if S classes are offered, etc.
- 2.3.2 Juniors in classes M14 and below are permitted to 'run up' and score points in the M16 class, and juniors in class W14 and below are permitted to 'run up' and score points in the W16 class, except at events that expressly forbid them from running up.
- 2.3.3 Points will only be awarded to individuals older than M/W14 if they are competing in their age class. (It is not permitted to 'run up' and score points).
- 2.3.4 Where events use a different class structure, classes will be disaggregated for the purposes of scoring.

2.4 Club classes

- 2.4.1 There is one class for clubs that consists of the sum of scores taken from a range of individual classes.
- 2.4.2 Clubs will be able to score multiple teams.

2.5 Individual League scoring

- 2.5.1 The overall series scores will be calculated using the best X from Y events, where X is no less than 33% (rounded down) and no more than 75% (rounded down) of the events in the series. These will exclude any void or cancelled races. The number of events to count should be published on the 1st October of the previous year.
- 2.5.2 Points will be awarded to the first 50 finishers in each age class.
- 2.5.3 In the event of a tie, both runners will receive the higher score, e.g. two-way tie for 5th place = 46 points each, next runner scores 44.
- 2.5.4 In races with qualifying and final rounds where positions are based only on the final round, points will be awarded first to finishers in the 'A' final, then to runners in the 'B' and subsequent final. (the winner of B final will be treated as if they finished after last place in the A final regardless of the comparative times). Competitors who do not finish the final either by disqualification or not finishing are deemed not to have finished the race and so do not score any points.
- 2.5.5 In races where the overall time used to determine position is based on a number of races, the method for point allocation must be specifically stated in advance.

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2.6 Club League scoring

2.6.1 A club team must consist of a maximum of the following fifteen individual class counters:

3 from Classes M/W16 – 21
3 from Classes M/W35 – 45
3 from Classes M/W50 – 55
3 from Classes M/W60+
plus any 3 additional scores.

2.6.2 The overall team score is the sum of the best overall individual scores for each team which meets the criteria in 2.6.1. This is re-calculated after each event. There is no requirement to nominate a team in advance.

2.6.3 If a club has more than 15 competitors who together would count as a scoring team, the remainder will automatically be allocated scores as a 'B' team.

2.7 Badge Scheme

2.7.1 If applicable, Badge times are to be calculated and included in the published results.

2.8 Ranking Scheme

2.8.1 If applicable, results must be submitted to the British Orienteering results database as soon as possible after (ideally on the day of) the event, and at most within one week of the event.

2.8.2 Note: For a World Ranking Event results for the Elite classes must also be submitted separately to the IOF.

a) *Full details can be found on the World Ranking page of the IOF web site. As these results will include IOF runner ID information, it is important that elite runners are asked for their IOF IDs beforehand, via the entry process if practicable.*

3. Safety

3.1.1 Event officials must refer to British Orienteering Rules and Appendix E: Event safety for detailed information on the required and recommended safety and risk management procedures.

4. Event officials

4.1.1 See British Orienteering Rules and Appendix C: Event officials for full details of the requirements for each event level.

5. Map and terrain

5.1.1 The requirements for maps are contained in British Orienteering Rules and Appendix D: Mapping

6. Course planning

6.1.1 The requirements for courses and planning are contained in British Orienteering Rules Appendix B: Course planning and the relevant Competition Rule where applicable.

7. Event organisation

7.1.1 The requirements for each level of event are contained in British Orienteering Rules, Appendix A: Event systems and where applicable the Partnership Agreement.