

Competition Rule K: The Harvester Trophy

CHANGE SHEET			
TITLE: Competition Rule K: Harvester Trophy			
DESCRIPTION OF CHANGE			
ISSUE	DATE	SECTION	DESCRIPTION
2.4	31/08/2022	Rule 4.1.2	Revised the wording to point to the definitive requirements for appointing Controllers for Level B events.
2.5	01/01/2024	Introduction	Contact details for questions added.

Competition Rule K: The Harvester Trophy

These Rules are to be used 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 Nature of event

- 1.1.1 The Harvester was first staged by the Combined Harvesters club and is based on similar events in Scandinavia such as the Tio Mila and Jukola.

1.2 Format

- 1.2.1 The Harvester Trophy is an overnight relay competition for teams of seven or five runners.
- 1.2.2 Runners must compete as individuals.

1.3 Administration

- 1.3.1 The Harvester Trophy is organised by constituent Associations or by clubs (known as The Organising Body) on behalf of British Orienteering.
- 1.3.2 The Harvester must be registered as a level B event.
- 1.3.3 Applications to request variation to the Competition Rules must be made to Events and Competitions Committee.

- a) *Full details of all the requirements of a level B event are contained the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering and supplemented by these rules.*
- b) *The Organiser may be required to make regular reports on the progress of the event to their Association and to Event and Competitions Committee.*

2. Eligibility

- 2.1.1 The competition is open to members of British Orienteering, and to members of overseas IOF affiliated Federations.
- 2.1.2 All members of a team must meet the club representation eligibility requirements in the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering
- 2.1.3 The club must be affiliated either to British Orienteering or to another member federation of the IOF, unless the UK Relay League Neighbouring Clubs Alliance applies.
- 2.1.4 If a team is eligible for more than one class they must declare at the time of entry which classes they wish to compete in.
- 2.1.5 In the event of a team winning more than one class (see above) the trophies must be awarded in the following order:
- Course A - Men's Premier, Handicap, Small club.
- Course B – Women's Premier, Junior, Women's handicap, Handicap
- 2.1.6 Geographically adjacent clubs are permitted to form combined teams ("Alliances") for participation in the Men's or Women's Premier classes. This applies to Men's and Women's teams separately.
- 2.1.7 Two clubs that wish to form such an alliance must satisfy the following criteria:
- The two combining clubs must be geographically adjacent.

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- Neither club has fielded a team that finished in the top ten of the overall UK Relay league standings in the previous year in either the Men's or Women's competitions as appropriate.

2.1.8 Alliance teams must be treated as competitive, and will be eligible to win trophies.

2.1.9 Any clubs who wish to take advantage of this proposal must notify Events and Competitions Committee and be approved before January 31st of the year in which they wish to form the Alliance.

2.2 Trophies

2.2.1 The Harvester Trophies must be awarded as follows:

Course	Trophy	Class	Laps	Status
A	Harvester Trophy	Men's Premier	7	Open
A	Sutton Park Trophy	Small Club	7	Not in top 3 in last 5 years
A	Handicap Trophy	Mixed sex and Age	7	Handicap
B	Panasonic Trophy	Women's Premier	5	Open Women
B	Happy Harvester Trophy	Junior	5	Mixed M/W20 and under
B	Devilla Trophy	Mixed sex and age	5	Handicap
B	Star Posts Trophy	Women's mixed age	5	Handicap

2.3 The Handicap system

2.3.1 Each age class is accorded a points value as follows:

Class	10	12	14	16	18	20	21	35	40	45	50	55	60	65+
Men	1	2	4	6	8	9	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3
Women	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	0

2.3.2 Each relevant class is permitted a maximum point score from the above table as follows:

Class	Handicap
A Handicap	49 points or under
B Handicap	26 points or under
B Women's Handicap	26 points or under

2.4 Badge Scheme

2.4.1 Does not apply

2.5 Ranking Scheme

2.5.1 Does not apply

2.6 Embargo

2.6.1 For the Harvester Trophy, competitors must declare themselves non-competitive if their acquaintance with the terrain would give them substantial advantage over other competitors. Nothing that occurred more than 12 months before the date of the event will be taken into account.

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3. Safety

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

4. Officials

- 4.1.1 The Officials must have experience of relays and night events.
- 4.1.2 See British Orienteering **Rules of Orienteering** and **Appendix C: Event Officials** for full details on the requirements for Event officials at level B events.

5. Organisation

5.1 General

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

- a) *The event is intended to provide a festival atmosphere, and the race site should be chosen and laid out with this in mind.*

b) *The following items should be provided:*

 - *Race numbers for all competitors.*
 - *Race commentary, or radio controls feeding back to computer displays.*
 - *Space for club tents with a view of the run-in and changeover.*
 - *Overnight catering.*
 - *One or more spectator controls (if this does not compromise the course planning).*
 - *A quiet area for competitors sleeping in tents*

5.2 Start & changeover arrangements

- 5.2.1 Each of the two Premier winning teams are expected to be in need of a headlight for about 67% of their running times. Therefore the time of sunrise will dictate start times for each course.
- 5.2.2 All first lap runners take part in a mass start.
- 5.2.3 The map exchange system must be clearly laid out and where possible demonstrated in the daylight prior to the starts.

- a) *There should be separate mass starts for the A and B courses, with the B course mass start likely to be approximately one and a half hours after the A course mass start*

b) *Care needs to be taken over the layout of the changeover area to ensure that it is clear to incoming and outgoing runners what to do, even at night.*

c) *There should be light and shelter at the changeover area (e.g. a large tent or marquee) to provide shelter for outgoing runners who may have to wait some time for their incoming runner.*

5.3 Mini-mass starts

- 5.3.1 Arrangements for mini-mass starts must be published in the final details.
- 5.3.2 Competitors in mini-mass starts must have their team numbers recorded by an official. The Start official must record the actual time manually as well as through their e-card.
- 5.3.3 Teams taking part in a mini-mass start will remain competitive.

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- a) *Teams with a chance of finishing in the top three in their class should not go out in a mini-mass start. This means that the timing of a mini-mass start is to be carefully chosen in order not to be too early. For example, the leaders in the Handicap Class on the A course may be a long way behind the Premier teams after five or six laps, but they may still be involved in head to head relay racing.*

6. Terrain

- 6.1.1 The terrain must provide good runnability at night. Areas that suffer from ground vegetation, thick forest or overly physical terrain are to be avoided.

7. Planning requirements

7.1 Winning times

- 7.1.1 The Men's Premier race is expected to have a winning time of about seven hours.
7.1.2 The Women's Premier race is expected to have a winning time of about 5 hours, although there may be faster teams competing (in other categories) on the B Course.

7.2 Lap lengths

- 7.2.1 There must be varied lap lengths.

- a) *The Harvester usually requires very few basic course variants.*
b) *Typically the longest lap should be around twice the shortest (perhaps slightly more on A, less on B).*
c) *Longest day laps should be around the length of the Brown course at level B events.*
d) *For the A course, 7-5-9-7-9-5-12 seems popular and fits the above requirements (lengths should increase or decrease in proportion to this according to the speed of the area).*
e) *If using the same lengths on B, this leads to a 5-7-4-5-7 combination. An alternative of 6-4-6-4-8 is the same length and perhaps better proportioned, but leads to 8-6-8-6-8-6-12 on A, which is low on variety. The decision may come down to whether or not the 5,7,9 km laps are of better quality than the 6 and 8 km laps*

7.3 Technical Difficulty

- 7.3.1 The shortest lap on Course B must be of technical difficulty 3.
7.3.2 The other laps must be of technical difficulty 5 or 4, depending on the area.

- a) *Lengths and technical difficulty should be quoted in both the entry details and the final details.*