

**British Orienteering selects athletes to compete at all IOF, and a number of other, international competitions.**

The overall aim of selection is to maximise the opportunity to gain medals at World and Junior World Orienteering Championships and to create sustainable success by using these and other recognised competitions to develop and prepare athletes for future international success, particularly WOC2024.

Each competition serves a different purpose to British Orienteering and the selection process and criteria for each is tailored to deliver this purpose.

Whilst it is desirable to take a full team, the selectors may not select for all positions, at a specific competition, if they feel that the standard of an athlete will not contribute towards the overall aims and objectives of the programme.

### Competitions

Disciplines are: sprint (S), knock-out sprint (KOS), mixed sprint relay (MSR), middle (M), long (L) and forest relay (FR).

<b>World Orienteering Championships</b> (WOC) Alternating Forest (odd) & Sprint (even) years	<b>Purpose:</b> Measures the level of performance of our athletes and programme against the stated aims; provide development opportunities for transitioning athletes from Junior to Senior categories who have demonstrated the ability to achieve the stated aims within 5 years <b>Target:</b> Medals and top 10 places <b>Age Class:</b> Open <b>Disciplines:</b> Sprint - S, KOS, MSR <b>Team:</b> no limit <b>Places per discipline (races in 2022):</b> S: 3 men & 3 women in 2022 KOS: 3 men & 3 women in 2022 MSR: 1 team - 2 men & 2 women in 2022
<b>European Orienteering Championships</b> (EOC) Alternating Forest (even) & Sprint (odd) years from 2021.	<b>Purpose:</b> Measures the level of performance of our athletes and programme against the stated aims, establish World Ranking places (used for forest start order), competition experience, development & assessment of athletes <b>Target:</b> Medals and top 10 places <b>Age Class:</b> Open <b>Disciplines:</b> Forest - M, L, FR <b>Team:</b> no limit <b>Places per discipline (races in 2022):</b> L: 6 men & 6 women in 2022 M: 6 men & 6 women in 2022 FR: 2 men's and 2 women's teams in 2022 (awaiting confirmation)

<b>IOF World Cups</b> 3 in 2022, including Forest EOC.	<b>Purpose:</b> Prepare for World Championships, establish World Ranking places (used for forest start order), competition experience, development & assessment of athletes <b>Target:</b> None <b>Age Class:</b> Open <b>Disciplines:</b> various <b>Places per race/discipline:</b> to be confirmed by IOF by 1 January each year
<b>Euromeeting</b> Annual  Status/venue of any 2022 Euromeeting competition not yet confirmed	<b>Purpose:</b> Competition experience, development & assessment of athletes in the terrain of the next but one WOC. Potential development experience for transitioning juniors. <b>Target:</b> None <b>Age Class:</b> Open <b>Disciplines:</b> sprint & forest tbc for 2022 <b>Team:</b> no limit in 2021
<b>World Universities Orienteering Championships</b> (WUOC) Every two years, in even years.	<b>Purpose:</b> The selection process is by agreement with BUCS <b>Target:</b> None <b>Age Class:</b> In higher education & aged between 17 and 25 <b>Disciplines:</b> S, MSR, M, L, FR <b>Team:</b> max 6 men & 6 women overall; 4 men & 4 women in each of S, M, L; 1 MSR team & 2 men's & 2 women's FR team
<b>World Games</b> Every 4 years, the scheduled 2021 event has been moved to 2022	<b>Purpose:</b> Measures the level of performance of our athletes and our programme <b>Target:</b> None <b>Age Class:</b> Senior <b>Disciplines:</b> S, MSR, M <b>Team:</b> 2 men & 2 women in each discipline and overall; 1 MSR team of 2 men & 2 women (subject to qualification rules)
<b>Junior World Orienteering Championships</b> (JWOC) Annual	<b>Purpose:</b> The aim is to select athletes who are performance-based and have demonstrated that they can deliver top 20 targets at JWOC, either immediately or in future years. <b>Target:</b> 0-1 top 6, 3-4 top 20 Measures the level of performance of our athletes and the talent segment of the programme; competition, development & assessment experience. <b>Age Class:</b> 20 <b>Disciplines:</b> S, M, L, FR <b>Team:</b> max 6 men & 6 women in each discipline and overall; 2 men's & 2 women's FR team.

<b>European Youth Orienteering Championships</b> (EYOC) Annual	<b>Purpose:</b> The aim is to select athletes who have demonstrated strong and consistent levels of performance and is primarily aimed towards second year M/W16's and first/second year M/W18's. <b>Target:</b> None Competition experience, development & assessment of athletes. <b>Age Class:</b> 16 & 18 <b>Disciplines:</b> S, L, FR <b>Team:</b> max 4 men & 4 women per class
<b>Junior European Cup</b> (JEC) Annual	<b>Purpose:</b> The aim is to select athletes for international experience and development and is primarily aimed towards the M/W18's and first year M/W20's who have not been selected for EYOC/JWOC in 2022 and have demonstrated appropriate levels of performance at the nominated selection races. <b>Target:</b> None Competition experience, development & assessment of athletes. <b>Age Class:</b> 18 & 20 <b>Disciplines:</b> S, L, FR <b>Team:</b> max 6 men & 6 women per class; relay max of 4 teams of 3

### Selection

Information regarding selection including squads, competitions, deadlines for declaring availability and a timeline for selections will be published on the British Orienteering web site. If you have specific questions regarding the selection policy, or process, then please contact us at [info@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:info@britishorienteering.org.uk).

Selections for all competitions will be open and can include athletes outside of the squads. IOF international Foot O disciplines are sprint (S), knock-out sprint (KOS), mixed sprint relay (SR), middle (M), long (L) and forest relay (FR). Athletes will be selected to compete in specific disciplines in most competitions and should not necessarily expect to be selected to compete in all disciplines. To be selected athletes will have demonstrated proficiency in specific disciplines or will be selected in order to gain appropriate experience in a specific discipline.

Athlete views on race disciplines appropriate to them should be communicated through the appropriate Squad Manager. Where competitions have targets attached, the Squad Manager will discuss with each athlete, shortly after selection, the tactics that will be deployed to maximise the opportunity of achieving the target. For example, an athlete may be rested, or given an alternative training opportunity, rather than compete in a 'B' final.

Athletes will be selected to relay teams or a relay pool at the time of selection with any changes at the discretion of the Selection Panel or a delegated person. Selection criteria will include all disciplines and selected teams may include athletes not selected to compete in the individual disciplines at a competition. Changes to relay teams may take place prior to a competition or at a competition. Selection for the relay teams is entirely at the discretion of the Selection Panel or their delegated person (eg Team Manager) and as such is not subject to the appeals provisions.

The Team Manager at a competition has a duty of care to the athletes and may, in the best interests of the athletes and squad, withdraw athletes from disciplines or races prior to or during an event. Other athletes at the event may be substituted if the Team Manager believes this to be appropriate.

### Responsibility for Selection

All selections will be discretionary and made by the designated Selection Panel. The format and operation of the Selection Panel is published in the separate Selection Panel document, and members of the Selection Panel will be named in each season specific Policy. Additional expert guidance may be sought from specific coaches, technical experts or programme medical advisors, if the panel thinks it is appropriate. Any person involved in providing advice or guidance during the selection process must declare any conflict of interest.

The Selection Panel will take full account of the selection criteria published annually. In general, the criteria will not be listed in any order of priority. Selectors will exercise discretion fairly and without bias in making selection decisions.

### Testing & Substitution

Athletes will be required to agree their preparation programme with their Squad Manager or designated person. This stipulation is not to 'interfere' with athletes' preparation but to ensure athletes are supported and challenged in optimising their preparation.

Selected athletes and athletes in squads may be required to undergo physiological and/or medical assessment. This will be to monitor development and confirm fitness following injury, illness, any other period where the athlete has been prevented from training and/or competing normally or a period of marked under-performance.

British Orienteering reserves the right to require a medical examination by British Orienteering's medical officer.

British Orienteering reserves the right to de-select any athlete who does not fulfil the necessary fitness, medical, or performance standards; or who does not agree and then follow their agreed preparation programme or meet the standards of behaviour expected.

### Eligibility

To be eligible to be selected into the team to participate in a competition, each athlete will need to meet the eligibility requirements specified which include:

- Hold a valid British passport and be eligible to represent Great Britain in accordance with the rules of the International Orienteering Federation;
- Hold a valid and current membership of British Orienteering;
- Meet the age class requirements of the competition on 31st December in the year of competition;
- Not be serving a period of ineligibility as a result of an anti-doping rule violation.
- Justify the opinion of the Selectors that selection of the individual will not jeopardise the efficient, safe and orderly management of the group and or individual during the trip.

- Additional eligibility requirements will apply for WUOC.

### Anti-Doping

All selected athletes must comply with the UK Anti-Doping Rules as published by UK Anti-Doping Limited (or its successor). [www.ukad.org.uk/documents/uk-anti-doping-rules](http://www.ukad.org.uk/documents/uk-anti-doping-rules)

### Force Majeure

British Orienteering reserve the right to withdraw the team or change the selection policy in response to abnormal situations beyond the control of the sport including but not limited to a pandemic, terrorist threat or environmental disaster.

### Clarification and Appeals Procedure

If clarification of any specific selection issue is required, please contact Peter Hart at [peter.hart@britishorienteering.org.uk](mailto:peter.hart@britishorienteering.org.uk).

British Orienteering operates a formal appeals procedure for challenging selection decisions which can be found at [www.britishorienteering.org.uk/selection](http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/selection), or is available on request from the British Orienteering National Office. The appeals procedure must be instigated within 72 hours of any selection announcement being published on the British Orienteering web site.