

British Orienteering Selection Overview Foot Orienteering Squads & Teams

British Orienteering selects athletes to GBR squads, camps and teams to prepare for and compete at all IOF competitions 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.

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

Competitions

Disciplines are sprint (S), mixed sprint relay (MSR), middle (M), long (L) and forest relay (FR).

World Orienteering Championships (WOC) Annual through 2018; then alternating Forest & Sprint years	Purpose: Measures the level of performance of our athletes and programme; provide development opportunities to selected athletes Target: Medals and top 10 places Age Class: Open Disciplines: S, MSR, M, L, FR Team: no limit Places per discipline(race): S: 3 men & 3 women M, L: 2 men & 3 women in 2018 MSR: 1 team of 2 men & 2 women; FR: Men 3 in team & women 3 in team
European Orienteering Championships (EOC) Every two years in even years	Purpose: Establish World Ranking places (used for forest start order), competition experience, development & assessment of athletes Target: None Age Class: Open Disciplines: S, M, L, MSR, FR Places per discipline (race): S, M: 6 men & 6 women L: 2-6 places based on world ranking at 1 Jan in competition year. Likely outcome for 2018 is 3 places for men and 3 places for women (only more than 3 if number of athletes in top 30 of world rankings is above 3). MSR: 1 team of 2 men & 2 women FR: 2 men's teams and 2 women's teams. 3 athletes in an FR team.

IOF World Cups 2 in 2018	Purpose: Establish World Ranking places (used for forest start order), competition experience, development & assessment of athletes Target: None Age Class: Open Disciplines: S, MSR, M, L Team: max 8 men & 8 women per race for 2018, team size for 2018 is based on nation rankings as at 1/1/2018
Euromeeeting Annual (N.B. No competition is confirmed for 2018)	Purpose: Competition experience, development & assessment of athletes in the terrain of the next but one WOC Target: None Age Class: Open Disciplines: unknown Team: unknown
World Universities Orienteering Championships (WUOC) Every two years in even years	Purpose: Competition experience, development & assessment of athletes Selection process is by agreement with BUCS Target: None Age Class: In higher education & aged between 17 and 25 Disciplines: S, MSR, M, L, FR Team: 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
World Games Every 4 years, next in 2021	Purpose: Measures the level of performance of our athletes and our programme Target: None Age Class: Senior Disciplines: S, MSR, M Team: 2 men & 2 women in each discipline and overall; 1 MSR team of 2 men & 2 women
Junior World Orienteering Championships (JWOC) Annual	Purpose: Measures the level of performance of our athletes and the talent segment of the programme; competition, development & assessment experience Target: 0-1 top 6, 4-5 top 20 (to be confirmed) Age Class: 20 Disciplines: S, M, L, FR Team: max 6 men & 6 women in each discipline and overall; 2 men's & 2 women's FR team. British Orienteering will select athletes to specific disciplines. This could be one, two or three races plus relay and will depend on the athlete's stage of development and potential for a podium place or top twenty position in 2018 or the future.
European Youth Orienteering Championships (EYOC) Annual	Purpose: Competition experience, development & assessment of athletes. The Talent Programme will use this event to provide additional opportunity first and foremost to exceptional athletes who are suitably competent and consistent, and who have been selected to train within the Talent Programme Target: None Age Class: 16 & 18 Disciplines: S, L, FR Team: max 4 men & 4 women per class

Junior European Cup (JEC) Annual	Purpose: Competition experience, development & assessment of athletes. The Talent Programme will use this event to provide additional opportunity first and foremost to suitably competent athletes who are within the Talent Programme and secondly to those likely to be inducted into the Talent Programme for the following season Target: None Age Class: 16 & 18 Disciplines: S, L, FR Team: max 6 men & 6 women per class; relay max of 4 teams of 3
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Squads

British Orienteering operates four squads. The remit of these is shown in the diagram below. In addition, the Board has awarded the senior performance programme special project funding for the next three years which will allow the establishment of an Elite Group.

PERFORMANCE SQUAD Athletes who have shown the potential to deliver top 10 performances during the next one to three World Orienteering Championships.	ELITE GROUP Details to be confirmed
DEVELOPMENT SQUAD Athletes who have demonstrated they are developing and showing the potential to consistently deliver top 20 performances at the World Orienteering Championships in two to five years.	
WATCH SQUAD Athletes who are transitioning from junior to senior international representation and have competed well against athletes in the performance and development squads in the last year. Athletes who have competed well against athletes in the performance and development squads in the last year. Athletes who are taking a year out from squad activities or have previously represented International Level and are making a return to the sport.	
TALENT SQUAD Athletes who have shown they may have the potential to achieve top 20 places at the Junior World Orienteering Championships in the next one to five years and that they deserve and will benefit from the activities delivered through the British Orienteering Talent programme.	

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 are not selected to a squad but wish to have your name added to the selection information e-mail list or have specific questions regarding the selection policy or process then please contact us at info@britishorienteering.org.uk.

Selections for all competitions will be open, and can include athletes outside of the squads. Athletes from outside the squads should declare their availability for selection by the stated deadline. The reality of course is that to be selected an athlete must have a track record which can be considered and young athletes not yet in the National Talent Programme will be encouraged to aim for selection into the National Talent Squad prior to being selected for international competition.

IOF international Foot O disciplines are sprint (S), 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 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 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 competing 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.

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 Selection Panel will consist of 5 members a Chair, two Selection Advisors, a Squad Manager and a Scrutineer. 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;

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- 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;
- 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

Clarification and Appeals Procedure

If clarification of any specific selection issue is required, please contact Craig Anthony at canthony@britishorienteering.org.uk.

British Orienteering operates a formal appeals procedure for challenging selection decisions which can be found at www.britishorienteering.org.uk/keydocuments, 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.