

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).

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| <p>WOC World Orienteering Championships (Annual through 2018; then alternating Forest & Sprint years)</p> | <p>Purpose: Measures the level of performance of our athletes and programme; provide development opportunities to selected athletes Target: Medals and top 10 places (2017 target – Relay medal) Age Class: Open Disciplines: S, MSR, M, L, FR Team: no limit Places per discipline(race): S 3 men & 3 women M, L 3 men & 3 women in 2016, future years subject to national rankings; MSR 1 team of 2 men & 2 women; FR Men 3 in team & women 3 in team 2017 focus – Convert podiums to medals</p> |
| <p>EOC European Orienteering Championships (Every 2 years in even years i.e. no competition in 2017)</p> | <p>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 Team: max 6 men & 6 women per race</p> |
| <p>WCs World Cups (3 events annual)</p> | <p>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 2017, team size for 2017 is based on nation rankings as at 1/1/2017</p> |
| <p>Euromeeting (Annual; for the next but one WOC)</p> | <p>(Annual; for the next but one WOC) Purpose: Competition experience, development & assessment of athletes in the terrain of the next but one WOC Target: None</p> |

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| | <p>Age Class: Open Disciplines: S, M, L Team: max 12 men & 12 women</p> |
| <p>WUOC World Universities Orienteering Championships (Every 2 years in even years, i.e. not 2017)</p> | <p>World Universities Orienteering Championships (Every 2 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 & other criteria 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</p> |
| <p>World Games Every 4 years, next in 2017</p> | <p>Purpose: Competition experience, development & assessment of athletes 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</p> |
| <p>JWOC Junior World Orienteering Championships (Annual)</p> | <p>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 2017 or the future.</p> |
| <p>EYOC European Youth Orienteering Championships (Annual)</p> | <p>Purpose: Competition experience, development & assessment of athletes. The Talent Programme will use this event to provide additional opportunity first and foremost to exceptionally and suitably competent athletes that 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</p> |
| <p>JEC Junior European Cup (Annual)</p> | <p>Junior European Cup (Annual)</p> |

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| | <p>Purpose: Competition experience, development & assessment of athletes considered to be future top 20 prospects at JWOC</p> <p>Target: None</p> <p>Age Class: 18 & 20</p> <p>Disciplines: S, L, FR</p> <p>Team: max 6 men & 6 women per age class; relay is max of 4 teams of 3</p> |
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Selection process

British Orienteering run four squads which consist of:

Performance Squad: Athletes who have shown the potential to win medals in relay or individual races during the next one to three World Orienteering Championships.

Development Squad: Athletes who have demonstrated they are developing and showing the potential to win medals in relay or individual races 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

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.

For others interested in competing for GBR, information about competitions and selection opportunities as well as self-help coaching/training camps will be published on the British Orienteering web site.

Selections for all competitions will be open, they can include athletes outside of the squads. It should be recognised that selection is an inclusive process and athletes are able to move into and out of squads at short notice. For example, an athlete that has retired from international competition due to family or career pressures is welcome to notify the Performance Manager that they are available for selection. The reality of course is that the 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 FootO 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 will be considered during discussions about athlete personal development plans. Where competitions have targets attached, the selector or a delegated person will discuss with each athlete, shortly after selection, the tactics that will be deployed in order to maximise the opportunity of achieving the target. For example, an athlete is likely to be rested or given an alternative training opportunity rather than competing in a 'B' final.

Athletes will be selected to relay teams at the time of selection with any changes at the discretion of the Performance Manager 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.

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The Lead Coach 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 Lead Coach believes this to be appropriate.

Voided or otherwise affected races may still be used for selection, possibly taking into account split times, assuming that can be done fairly across all relevant athletes in the judgement of the selectors.

Responsibility for Selection

All selections will be discretionary and based on the judgement of the British Orienteering Performance Manager, Jackie Newton, or a delegated Selector. The Performance Manager or delegated person will be advised by a small group of Selectors specified in the Senior and Junior Selection Criteria. Additional expert guidance may be sought from specific coaches, technical experts or programme medics if the Programme Manager thinks it is appropriate. Any person involved in providing advice or guidance during the selection process must declare any conflict of interest.

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

Testing & Substitution

Athletes will be required to agree their preparation programme with the Performance Manager or a person nominated by the Performance Manager. 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;
- Age class requirements of the competition on 31st December in the year of competition; and
- 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 Jackie Newton, the British Orienteering Performance Manager at jnewton@britishorienteering.org.uk.

British Orienteering operates a formal appeals procedure for challenging selection decisions which can be found at http://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/images/uploaded/downloads/governance_policies.pdf, 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.