



# NEW ZEALAND SECONDARY SCHOOLS ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS 23-25 July 2021



Officially sanctioned by the NZSSSC.  
Incorporating Year 7 & 8

## ENTRY INFORMATION and RULES

Preliminary Information regarding maps, locations and embargoed areas can be found at the [HBOC website](https://www.hboconz.org.nz/). Please refer to the Special Rules for New Zealand Secondary Schools Orienteering Championships at [www.orienteeering.org.nz/resources/rules/](https://www.orienteeering.org.nz/resources/rules/).

### ELIGIBILITY

A student eligible to compete officially in the NZSSOC must:

1. Be enrolled as a bona fide (Year 9 or above) student in New Zealand at the school of representation and studying at least 80% of a programme that is part of the timetable provided by the school for at least four weeks immediately prior to the event.
2. Have a satisfactory attendance record at the school. The final decision will be at the principal's discretion.
3. Be under 19 years of age at the first of January in the year of the competition.
4. Year 7 & 8 students must meet equivalent criteria as bona fide students in Year 7 or 8. Younger children are not eligible to enter any of the events.
5. Under School Sport NZ guidelines, home-schooled students that provide current evidence of MoE approval for home schooling may participate in an NZSSSC sanctioned event. However, home-schooled students are not eligible for medal placings although their placing in events will be recognised. The parent or guardian of the home-schooled student must sign off the registration document accepting full responsibility for their student including the event health and safety plans.

Where an ineligible or non-competitive student is participating (e.g. a student visiting from overseas), their performance may be recognised by organisers in prize-giving, but they are not eligible for an official placing. The same approach may be applied to non-competitive relay teams.

### Individual Classes

1. Competitors are divided into classes based on their gender and current year level at school.
2. Competitors are divided into four separate grades based on their current year level at school, Yr 7&8, Junior (Yr 9), Intermediate (Yr 10&11), Senior (Yr 12&13).
3. There are also maximum ages for each grade as follows:
  - a) Senior (Yr 12-13) must be under 19 years of age at the first of January in the year of the competition.

- b) Intermediate (Yr 10-11) must be under 16 years of age at the first of January in the year of the competition.
- c) Junior (Yr 9) must be under 14 years of age at the first of January in the year of the competition.

If someone is over the maximum age for their grade, they must run up a grade regardless of what year they are in at school.

4. Determining year at school:
  - a) Regardless of what level they are studying at, year at school should be determined by how many years the student has been at school. For example, if someone is in Year 11 but studying a mixture of NCEA Level 1 and 2 papers then they still compete as a Year 11.
  - b) If someone has skipped a whole year then they compete at their new year level. For example, if someone skips straight from Year 9 to Year 11 (missing year 10) then they compete as a second-year Intermediate grade.
5. Classes for the individual Long-Distance event are further subdivided on skill into Championship, Standard and (depending on grade) Novice categories.

Note: The practice of competitors “running up” a grade is not endorsed by Orienteering NZ, however it is recognised that in some cases this may be the best approach for a small number of top competitors with significant past experience. It is recommended that only those who have a chance of obtaining a podium place in the grade above consider running up.

## ENTRY INFORMATION

- All entries must be made via the online website [HBOC website](#) using EnterO.
- Entries will be open from 1 June 2021 and close on 6 July 2021.
- It is the responsibility of the Team Managers to make sure every individual athlete is entered at each event at the right grade appropriate to the experience: novice (if available), standard or championship grade. Although this event is not just for athletes at championship level, it is not an event for first-timers. All participants must have orienteered before, have the skills and knowledge to read a map, understand the legend, and know how to orientate a map using a compass confidently. Additional notes on course levels and classes are provided later in this notice.
- Because entries must be paid for and entrants endorsed by the School Principal as bona fide students of the school, full payment of entry fees must be made and a signed acknowledgement of attendance form submitted, or the school’s entry will not be valid.
- Once entries have been completed online, a pdf file will be available to download for the School Principal to endorse. A copy of this pdf file will also be emailed to the school’s contact email address. The signed form must be scanned or photographed and emailed to the contact email address: [schools@hborienteering.com](mailto:schools@hborienteering.com). **This endorsement form and payment is required to confirm all entries by the deadline 5pm Tuesday 6 July 2021.**
- The online entry also generates a tax invoice for payment as part of the pdf file. You will be given a reference number to be included with your school name when paying online. Please follow the instructions provided on the entry site.
- Start Lists and Event Programme will be available from 18 July 2021.

**PRINCIPAL’S SIGNED ENTRY COPY** to [schools@hborienteering.com](mailto:schools@hborienteering.com) by Tuesday 6 July 2021.

## Visual Impairment

Please contact the organisers by Tuesday 6 July if an entrant has any special requirements, for example a map with blue lines may be provided for colour blindness. Requests will be discussed with the controllers for approval of any variation to the map.

## FEES\*

Sprint:	\$15 per person
Long:	\$20 per person
Relay:	\$45 per team (\$15 per individual)
SI Hire	\$3 per day (Sprint, Long, Relay)
SIAC Hire	\$6 per day (Sprint, Long, Relay)

\* All fees are in New Zealand Dollars (NZD) and are inclusive of GST (Goods and Services Tax).

## SPORTIDENTS

The SportIdent (SI) punching system will be used at NZSSOC2021 in accordance with the ONZ Policy on Touch-free punching. Both types of SI cards will be available for hire: standard SI Cards which are inserted into the control to record the punch or SI-Air Cards (SIAC) which are waved over the control to record the punch. SI cards \$3 per event; SIAC cards \$6 per event. Lost or damaged SI cards will incur a charge of \$100 (SI) or \$150 (SIAC) to cover the cost of a replacement.

## PAYMENT

Payment is made by the school. The school collects the individual payments from each student. The following payment methods are available for this event:

### Bank Transfer

Deposit your entry fee into Hawke's Bay Orienteering Club (HBOC) bank account.

Direct deposit to: 03-0642-0780264-00

<b>Particulars:</b>	<b>School name</b>
<b>Code:</b>	<b>NZSSOC2021</b>
<b>Reference:</b>	<b>Reference Number</b> – entry key provided with online entry

## LATE ENTRIES

Late entries received after the start list is published will only be accepted at the organiser's discretion. An additional late entry fee of 50% of the normal entry fee will be payable if the entry is accepted.

## COVID-19, CANCELLATION, POSTPONEMENT AND REFUNDS

**The event will only proceed if all of New Zealand is at COVID-19 Alert Level 1.**

If NZ is at COVID-19 Level 1 and you wish to cancel an entry to the event, you will receive:

- A full refund of the event fees if we receive your cancellation before 5pm Tuesday 6 July 2021,
- A partial refund of 50% of the event fee if we receive your cancellation after 5pm Tuesday 6 July 2021, and at the organiser's discretion.

If any of NZ changes Covid-19 Alert Levels to 2 or higher prior to the event being held then the following will apply:

- A full refund of the event fee. If this was to occur we would request each school entered provide us with bank account details for the refund to be processed.

A decision to go ahead or to cancel NZSSOC21 will be made on Tuesday 6 July. However, if on this date it is decided to go ahead, the event could still be cancelled in the following two weeks up until the event date 23 July in response to changing Covid-19 Alert Levels. We realise this provides a level of uncertainty but for safety as well as competition fairness we consider that this is the right decision. Any decisions around cancellation or postponement will be communicated immediately via a notice on our website as well as email to those who have provided their email address with their entry.

In addition to the entry fees most participants and schools will have travel and accommodation costs. Unfortunately, Hawke's Bay Orienteering Club cannot accept liability for any financial losses associated with travel and accommodation cancellations or changes.

Further, if any participants or their supporters are unwell or are at risk of recent contact with a person with Covid-19 we ask that they do not attend this competition.

#### **CASUAL ENTRIES**

The long course will be available for casual entries after the school competition.

## COURSE LEVELS AND CLASSES

Competitors are divided into four separate grades based on their gender and current year level at school (refer to Eligibility above):

Senior:	Year 12 or 13 at school
Intermediate:	Year 10 or 11 at school
Junior:	Year 9 at school
Yr 7/8:	Year 7 or 8 at school

Classes for the individual Long Distance event are further subdivided on skill into Championship, Standard and in Novice (Senior only) categories as in the Table below.

EVENT	SPRINT	LONG CHAMPIONSHIP		LONG STANDARD		LONG NOVICE		RELAY	
	EWT	Difficulty	EWT	Difficulty	EWT	Difficulty	EWT	Difficulty	EWT (per leg)
Senior Boys	12-15	Red	45-50	Orange	35-40	Yellow	25-30	Orange	30
Senior Girls	12-15	Red	45-50	Orange	35-40	Yellow	25-30	Orange	30
Intermediate Boys	12-15	Orange	35-40	Yellow	25-30			Yellow	25
Intermediate Girls	12-15	Orange	35-40	Yellow	25-30			Yellow	25
Junior Boys	12-15	Yellow	25-30	White	20-25			Leg 1,3 Yellow Leg 2 White	20
Junior Girls	12-15	Yellow	25-30	White	20-25			Leg 1,3 Yellow Leg 2 White	20
Year 7/8 Boys	12-15	Yellow	25-30	White	20-25			White	20
Year 7/8 Girls	12-15	Yellow	25-30	White	20-25			White	20

EWT = Estimated winning time in minutes

## DEFINITION OF GRADES AND DIFFICULTY COLOURS

The following is provided to guide Team Managers in which course to enter individual athletes for the long event. Orienteering courses are colour coded by difficulty. The skills required for each difficulty level are indicated below. We expect that many athletes will not have the requisite skills for the championship course at their age grade. We strongly encourage Team Managers to enter these less experienced athletes into the standard or novice course for their grade. Competing on the right course will improve an athlete's enjoyment and confidence in the sport.

**Red:** Red courses are set to make the navigation as difficult as possible. They require competitors to be very competent at reading contour detail, using bearings and handling the full complexity of an orienteering map. Frequently fences are left off maps used for red courses, requiring greater dependence on terrain recognition for navigation. Control sites on red courses can be on small features with no catching or collecting features. Competitors should be experienced at running red courses and

have good route planning skills. Inexperienced runners can find it difficult to relocate if they do not navigate successfully to a control.

**Orange:** Orange course competitors must be competent at reading distinct contour features, very competent at reading vegetation patterns, watercourse, rock, track types and building features, and be able to set and follow a basic compass bearing and have some ability to judge distances in event terrain. The best route between controls will often be away from simple navigation features like fences and tracks. Competitors should have extensive experience in running yellow courses and have some experience at the orange level of difficulty prior to entering the championship. Orange courses are set so that there is a catching feature (e.g. a distinct track, fence or stream) some distance after the control. This means that inexperienced runners should be able to relocate if they overrun a control.

**Yellow:** Yellow courses follow linear features (e.g. tracks, fences, vegetation boundaries and streams), however controls are frequently sited off the route being followed. Competitors need to be able to orient their map using a compass in order to choose their direction to go in and be able to recognise features that will lead them from their linear feature and into the control. The fastest route between controls may be away from the network of linear features. Competitors should be confident running white courses and have run yellow courses successfully before entering the championships. The structuring of courses around linear features means that an athlete with good recognition of these features on the map and the ground should be able to relocate easily.

**White:** White course competitors need to be able to read basic map features, follow linear features (e.g. tracks, fences, vegetation boundaries and streams) to control points and use a compass to orient their map to north. There will be controls at each significant decision point around the course. The white course is designed to minimise the chance that a competitor will become lost and need to relocate.

#### **Selecting the appropriate course for students:**

The technical difficulty of the championship courses will match those recommended by Orienteering NZ for the NZSSOC.

Please be responsible when choosing which competition grade to enter. Orienteering is difficult and not much fun when you can't complete a course because it is too hard. If a student has not completed a course at the championship level for their age group, then they should enter the standard grade. This is a Championship Event and the championship courses are set as difficult as possible within the guidelines to test the most able orienteers in each age group.

The standard grade courses still provide a good level of technical and physical challenge. We estimate that roughly half of the competitors should be running in the championship grade, with the rest running standard or novice grade. The Long Novice grade is available for Senior students who are new to orienteering.

#### **COMPETITION RULES NZSSOC2021**

This competition will be run in accordance with the [Special Rules for New Zealand Secondary Schools Orienteering Championships](#). These rules define the specific regulations pertaining to the New Zealand Secondary Schools Orienteering Championships (NZSSOC), especially where they deviate from the New Zealand Foot-O competition rules.

## RELAY EVENT RULES

The rules for **official teams** in the Relay event, as per NZSSSC, are:

1. The students must be from the same school.
2. Yr7/8 students cannot run up in the secondary school grades in official teams (this would disadvantage Year 9 - 13 schools).
3. Official teams comprise of 3 different competitors, none of whom have completed a leg for another team in the relay in the current competition.
4. For mixed schools, girls may run in the equivalent boys' grade. However boys may not run officially in a girls' team.
5. Within the secondary school competition, students may run up a grade.
6. All other combinations will constitute a non-competitive (NC) entry with regard to points contributing to the Top School competition.

The rules for **non-competitive teams** from the **same school** are:

1. Girls can run equivalent boys' grade or higher.
2. Boys cannot normally run any girl's courses without controller approval.
3. Mixed boys and girls' teams will run the 'boys' version' of the highest grade runner in the team. However, when the competition is not compromised by non-competitive teams running in the girls' grade or in lower grades, this can be permitted at the controller's discretion.
4. These teams should be entered as a 'Full Team' when completing the initial entry forms. Individual students that have selected to run in a **composite team** will be placed in teams of the same grade and gender.
5. In official result lists, non-competitive teams should be listed with their times at the end of the results, below the competitive teams but above teams that mispunch.
6. Non-competitive junior teams may be entered in the Year 7/8 relay.

## RESULTS AND PRIZEGIVING

Provisional results will be provided in the Event Centre during the competition.

Final results will be made public upon completion of the event, and given there are no outstanding complaints or protests.

The prizegiving for the Sprint and Long events will be at the completion of each event.

The prizegiving for the Relays and Overall Schools Competition will be held after the relays.

Certificates will be awarded to all placegetters, medals awarded to championship placegetters and trophies to the winning boys' and girls' secondary schools.

## INTERSCHOOL COMPETITIONS

Three interschool competitions are contested at the National Secondary Schools Orienteering Championships each year.

### *Top Secondary School Competition*

This is the longest running competition and caters for the broadest spread of students. It is intended that the trophies go to the schools that display the greatest depth of orienteering talent at all levels. There are separate trophies for boys and girls.

1. Only 3 competitors in each age grade will contribute to the school's points for any one race. Therefore, a maximum of 9 competitors (3 at each age group) will be able to earn points for their school for any one race for either the boys or girls trophies. Over the full competition, different team members may score on different days meaning many more than 9 athletes may contribute to a school's points. A "no-blocking rule" applies (see below): remaining competitors from the school are removed from the results for the purpose of points allocation only.
2. In the individual Sprint competition, the best three results at each age grade will be counted. Only one level is offered.
3. In the individual Long competition, the best three results at each age grade, whether in the Championship, Standard or Novice event, will be counted. A school can gain points from no more than two athletes from outside the Championship grade, except when the "same points rule" applies (see points calculation notes below).
4. When the points for the third contributing competitor for a school in a grade could come from different grades, the "same points rule" applies (see points calculation notes below).
5. In the relay, only the highest positioned team from any school in each age grade will count. (Runners in composite teams do not count).
6. When two competitors receiving points tie in any race, they each gain the points appropriate for their placing. For example, if there is a tie for 5th place both get points for 5th place. The next counting athlete gets points for 7th place.

Points for this competition are as follows:

Individual Sprint:	1st = 25 pts, 2nd = 24 pts, 3rd = 23 pts, down to 25th = 1 pt
Individual Long Championship:	1st = 25 pts, 2nd = 24 pts, 3rd = 23 pts, down to 25th = 1 pt
Individual Long Standard:	1st = 10 pts, 2nd = 9 pts, 3rd = 8 pts, down to 10th = 1 pt
Individual Long Novice (A):	1st= 3pts, 2nd = 2pts, 3rd= 1pt.
Relays:	1st team = 60 pts, 2nd = 54, 3rd = 48, down to 10th = 6 pts

### **Premier School Competition**

This competition is for Boys and Girls with a Trophy for each. It is aimed at encouraging schools to support their top performing competitors at national level. The winners are the schools that have the best performance by their top competitors at Championship level only. The results of one competitor from each school in each Championship age grade count, with points from 10 for 1st to 1 for 10th.

### **Small Teams Competition**

This competition is to cater for schools who have insufficient numbers or an inadequate spread of students to compete seriously in the Top School Competition. It is restricted to schools that have entered 5 or fewer competitors, as determined on the day of close of entries. There are separate boys' and girls' Competitions. Mixed schools with more than 5 competitors in total but whose boys, girls, or both teams number fewer than 5 competitors are eligible for the Small Teams Competition. Certificates are awarded to the winning school and the place getters. This competition will be based on results in the Top School Competition.

### **Year 7/8 Competition**

This competition follows the rules of the Top Schools Competition. There are only 2 grades: Boys and Girls.



### Points Calculation Notes

*The “no blocking” rule.* This means that once a school has scored its best competitors then any further competitors from the same school do not interfere with points. Eg in the top school competition, if a school has runners at 2, 4, 6 and 7, the school will score 24, 22 and 20. The 7th place getter is then removed from the equation so the runner who is 8th will score 19 points (as though he/she were 7th).

*The “same points” rule.* This relates to the unusual case where a school has two team members on the same points, either of whom could be considered to generate the points for the third counting runner in a grade. This has arisen when two athletes from the same school and same grade, but competing in different classes (championship, standard, or novice) have shared the same points. The points are to be awarded only for the runner from the less technical class (novice -> standard -> championship). This does not affect the school's points, but leaves more points available for distribution to remaining competitors in the more technical grade. An example is where the runner 11th in Championship and 1st in Standard are both at the same school in the long distance. By attributing 15 points from the standard grade, the 15 points for 11th place in the championship grade remain available and now given to the 12th place competitor (as the 11th place championship competitor will be removed from calculations by the no blocking rule). Although points are not allocated to the higher technical grade competitor, their achievement is valued.

### ENQUIRIES

For any enquiries, please email [schools@hborienteering.com](mailto:schools@hborienteering.com).

All updates will be provided at <https://hborienteering.com/nzssoc2021>.

