

SIGNIFICANT CHANGES TO THE PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED VERSIONS OF THE RULES, APPENDICES, AND GUIDELINES IN THE PERIOD 2002 TO 30 JUNE 2016

In July 2013, the structure of the Rules, Appendices, and Guidelines was changed resulting in a change in the indexing of the different sections. The change in the paragraph numbers from the 2002 version of the Rules is listed in each section.

RULES

R1.1 Definitions

Formerly Rule 1 (Amended March 2010)

Revised to conform with the IOF Competition Rules, *Short Distance, And Other Distances with Long Distance, Middle Distance* published March 2010, and it replaced the paragraphs 1.1, 1.2, and 1.3. It replaced *Classic Distance, Sprint, and Other Distances* while it introduced *Micr-O*.

The Rule R1.2 changed the title of the document by adding the words 'for foot orienteering events'.

The Rule R1.8 specified that the Guidelines for each event type should be followed with significant differences being approved by the Controller of Technical Standards.

R1.2 Definition of terms (Unchanged)

Formerly Rule 2. Replaced Rule 1.4 March 2010.

R1.3.5 Disputes regarding the interpretation of the Rules

Formerly Rule 3 (Amended March 2010)

Replaced Rule 1.6 and expanded the title from *Disputes*.

In paragraph 3.2 it introduced the provision that should the IOA Rules not cover a specific situation, or none exist for some of the newer disciplines such as MTBO or Trail-O, then the IOF Rules shall be used.

R2.1 Categories of Competition

Formerly Rule 4 (Amended September 2008)

Replaced Rule 1.5

Former Rule 4.2 relating to international competitions, listed the current IOF approved events that fall into this category.

R2.3 Age classes for competitions

Formerly Rule 7 (Amended March 2010 and July 2013)

In March 2010 the age classes listed in 2002 Rule 7.5, were extended to include classes for M/W75 and M/W80.

No B classes were to be provided for M/W 10, M/W 12, and M/W14 due to the low level of entries in these classes. For similar reasons no Short courses should be provided for M/W 70, M/W 75, and M/W 80 classes.

Under previous Rule 7.2.5 any Short or B course should have been be technically easier than the corresponding Long or B ones, and to be of approx. 50 to 75% of its length. This was changed to the same technical standard as the Long or A course and two-thirds of their length.

Rule 7.13 confirmed the provision of Elite classes for M/W 20 and M/W 21 competitors at all C2 events. The previous Rules had no provision for the Elite classes.

Under previous Rule 7.2.7 courses suitable for novice orienteers should have been provided at C2 events. As has become the practice at the recent C2 events, colour courses have been provided for these competitors. The new Rule 7.12 endorsed this practice with the recommended courses being Light Green, Orange, and Yellow.

With the introduction of Sprint events, no Elite, Short, or B classes should be provided in this format, as is the international practice.

Rules (2002 version) 7.11, 7.12, and 7.13 were amended to include Middle Distance events.

In July 2013 the age classes were further extended to include M/W85 and M/W90 to bring them into line with IOF age classes.

R2.5 Irish Relay Championships

Formerly Rule 8, Classes for the Irish Relay Championships (Amended September 2007, September 2008, and July 2013)

Replaced Rule 7.3 in the 2002 version of the Rules

With 18 potential classes allowed for in the 2002 version of the Rules, and limited competition in many classes, the format was simplified in September 2007 to provide seven classes that would have more competing teams in each. Three handicap classes were introduced where competitors of different ages could form a team, and need not necessarily be from the same club.

Apart from the Women's Premier class, teams in all of the other classes can be made up of male or female competitors, or both.

With the competition moving to an Open one, the wording of the 2007 version of the Rule was changed in September 2008 to include club teams from IOF affiliated clubs.

In July 2013 with the inclusion of M/W85 and M/W90 age classes, these were incorporated within the handicap scoring.

R3.1 Event eligibility and entry

Formerly Rule 5 (Amended September 2008 and January 2013)

Formerly Rule 6 in 2002 version of the Rules

It introduced in paragraph 5.2 the ruling on competitors having to declare themselves non-competitive if they believe that their knowledge of the terrain would give them a substantial advantage over other competitors. In the previous Rules (6.2.4) the responsibility for declaring a competitor as non-competitive rested with the Organiser or Controller.

The Rule 5.3 applies to all C2 competitions that include the Irish and Regional Championship events. Previously for Irish Championship events, non-IOA or NIOA competitors, or IOA or NIOA competitors who did not meet certain citizenship or residency requirements (6.2.2) should have been declared as non-competitive on entry although in practice this did not happen. To encourage more overseas people to compete in Irish Championship events, they became Open competitions from September 2008.

In Rule 5.5 the citizenship and residency requirements for a competitor to be declared as *Irish Champion or Irish Class Winner* were simplified in January 2013.

R4.1 Representing clubs in competitions

Formerly Rule 6.6 (Amended September 2008 and January 2012)

With the Irish Relay Championships becoming an Open competition, Rule 6.6 allowed club teams from an IOF affiliated club to compete.

Rule 6.7 specified the requirements of members for their club team to be declared Irish Champion in the Open, Womens' Premier, Junior 48, and Junior 36 classes. With the Handicap 6,12, and 18 classes having no requirement for team members to be from the same club or to meet the requirements of Rule 6.7, the winning teams in these classes will not be termed as Irish Champions.

This Rule was amended further in January 2012 to include club members who can claim Irish citizenship but live outside Ireland.

R5.5 Certified Event Controllers

Formerly Rule 9.1 (Amended September 2002 and December 2010)

Formerly Rule 4.3 Grading of Controllers in the 2002 version of the Rules

Under the 2002 version of the Rules, Controllers were graded in categories of C1, C2, and C3, that indicated the level of competition that they could control. With a relatively small number of graded controllers, it was decided to move to a single grade, with the expectation that the experience of new Controllers would build through progressively controlling C4, C3, and eventually C2 events.

In December 2010 an addition was made to Rule 9.1 requiring that all Certified Event Controllers should be a member of an IOA affiliated club.

R7 Maps and Map Register

Formerly Rule 8 Maps and Course Marking on the Map of the 2002 version of the Rules

On examination of the former Rule 8 and Appendix 3 Registration of Orienteering Maps, it was found that certain parts of the Appendix were more appropriate to be rules while part of the Rules were related to their practical application and more appropriate for inclusion in the Appendix. This has been recognized in the new Rule 7 Maps and Map Register and Appendix E Maps and Map Registration.

The principal changes are:-

In the previous Rule 8.1.4 all maps, whether used for competitive or non-competitive events, were to be registered with the IOA. Under new Rule R7.2.1 only maps with terrain greater than 0.5 sq k need be registered, while those of smaller areas only need to be registered if they are going to be used for C1, C2, or C3 competitions. The purpose of this

change is to do away with the need to register maps of areas that will only be used for C4 club or training events.

In former Appendix 3 para 6.2 the registration period of the intention to map an area was 2 years for an area of 4.0sq k or less, or 3 years for a greater area. In new Rule R7.2.3 this is now 3 years for maps of all areas.

In former Appendix 3 para 6.7 the registration right of a club lasted for three years from the date of the registration of the completed map or three years from the date of the last open competition on the area. In view of the investment by clubs in producing maps, these periods have now been extended to five years (Rule R7.2.4)

A registration requirement of Appendix 3 para 3.3 was that the registering club was to hold full copyright to the map. This is no longer a requirement as the issue of copyright should be the sole responsibility of the club in their arrangements with the surveyor and cartographer of the map.

For the resolution of disputes, the former Appendix 3 para 8.2 required the Appeals Board to have at least three members, two of which should be from the IOA Executive. This has now been changed in AE.3.6 to one member being from the Executive.

To enable the re-establishment of the Map Register, clubs have been asked to register their completed maps that they intend to use for orienteering competitions by 30 September 2013. From this information the Map Register will be compiled and will be published by 20 December 2013 that will be the effective date of registration for the Registration Right of the map.

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A Course Planning Principles

Amended December 2010

This replaced the previous Guideline 2 Principles of Course Planning and is based on the June 2010 IOF Appendix 2 Principles of Course Planning. It brings it up to date in terms of current planning practices. It also deals with the particular requirements of orienteering in Ireland.

APPENDIX E Maps and Map Registration

Formerly Appendix 3 Registration of Maps in the 2002 version of the Rules

Amended June 2013

See the comments in R7 Maps and Map Register above regarding the changes in June 2013.

GUIDELINES

GUIDELINE G1 C2 LONG DISTANCE OR 'CLASSIC' EVENTS

Formerly Guideline 5 (Amended December 2010 and July 2013)

The new Guideline simplified the previous 2002 version by reducing the number of courses from 23 to 12 by consolidating the age classes while still maintaining the required technical and physical standards. It recommended providing M/W21E classes for all C2 competitions, and applied international standards and recommended winning times to these and the surrounding age classes.

For the older age classes particularly, winning times and Course Length Ratios are tailored more towards the abilities of regular competitors in Irish competitions.

In July 2013, with the addition of age classes M/W85 and M/W 90, these were allocated to course 9 in the table on course standards. The recommended winning time range was reduced from 40 to 50 minutes to 35 to 45 minutes partly to reflect the recent performances of competitors on that course.

GUIDELINE G2 IRISH MIDDLE DISTANCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Formerly Guideline 21 (Introduced February 2013, amended July 2013 and July 2015)

The Guideline is based on the IOF Guideline with the recommended winning times for most classes being in the 30 to 35 minute range. The course length ratios have been set using the recent average speeds of competitors in each of the age classes.

In July 2013, with the addition of age classes M/W85 and M/W 90, these were allocated to course 7 in the table on course standards. The recommended winning time range was reduced from 30 to 35 minutes to 25 to 30 minutes partly to reflect the recent performances of competitors on that course.

In July 2015 the course/class combinations were re-configured to provide exclusive courses for the M18E, M20E, and M21E classes (Course 1); and for the W18E, W20E, and W21E classes (Course 3). The Course Length Ratios were adjusted to reflect recent running speeds. As an additional guide for planners, Indicative Course Lengths and Climbs were included.

GUIDELINE G3 IRISH SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIPS

Formerly Guideline 21 (Introduced March 2010 and July 2013)

This Guideline is based on the IOF Guideline, with the allocation of classes to courses being derived from the Long Distance Guidelines, with differences in recommended technical difficulty for the M/W 12 and M/W 10 classes.

In July 2013, with the addition of age classes M/W85 and M/W 90, these were allocated to course 5 in the table on course standards.

Guideline G4 IRISH RELAY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Formerly Guideline 6 (Amended September 2007, February 2013, July 2013, and February 2016)

In September 2007 partially replaced Guideline 6 of the 2002 version of the Rules.

Replaced the 2007 limited Guideline in February 2013 with a complete Guideline.

In July 2013 it was amended to allow for the inclusion of the M/W85 and M/W90 age classes in the handicap system.

In February 2016, the recommended system for the forking or gaffling of courses was changed from the fairly basic system as was detailed, to the use of software systems that can provide a much greater number of forking options. The purpose of this was to reduce the potential for competitors to follow others. The Course Length Ratios were dropped and were replaced by Indicative Course Lengths and Climbs.

Guideline G10 SUBVENTION TO IOA CLUBS FOR STAGING MAJOR EVENTS

Formerly Guideline 20 (Introduced May 2009 for application to events after 1 January 2010. Amended December 2010 and January 2013)

This Guideline formalized the practice of subvention payments being made by the IOA to the organising club of certain C2 multi-day events such as the Irish Championship weekends.

In December 2010 it introduced the requirement that the Controller should submit a report on the event to the Controller of Technical Standards within 3 weeks of it being held.

In January 2013, the provision of drinks at the finish was moved from the Mandatory to Desirable section.