
Rules for The South American Orienteering Championships

Valid from 1st January 2016

The South American Orienteering Championships (in short SAOC) is the official event to award the titles of South American Champion in Orienteering. It shall be organised by the appointed member Federation(s) under the auspices of the IOF. These rules apply to the Men's and Women's Elite classes. The rules are available in both English and Spanish.

1. Principles for SAOC

The Championships shall be organised in accordance with the following principles:

- The participants shall be offered competitions of international technical standard.
- The aim of the competition is to encourage competitive orienteering and the development of Orienteering as a whole in the South American continent.
- In addition, the championships shall aim to encourage more participation from member Federations of the South American region giving competitors, leaders and other representatives of orienteering a possibility to meet outside the forest.
- The costs of participation shall be kept low and accommodation of different standards and prices shall be offered.

2. Event programme

The event shall be organised every two years (in even years). The programme shall include Long Distance and/or Middle Distance, Sprint and/or Relay competitions. The organising Federation may choose Long or Middle Distance or both according to the situation and available resources of the Federation.

The Long Distance, Middle Distance and Sprint competitions shall consist of Finals only. In the Relay competition, each team shall consist of 3 competitors from the same country. The dates of the SAOC shall be co-ordinated with other international events and finally approved by IOF.

3. Event application and appointment of organiser

The SAOC shall alternate between the Federations of South America unless otherwise agreed by them for special cases. Applications shall reach the IOF Office before January 1st 2 years prior to the championships.

The provisional appointment of organisers or organising Federations is made by the South American Working Group Meeting and submitted as a recommendation to the IOF by October 31st the same year.

Each appointment must be confirmed by the signing of an organisers agreement within 6 months, else a different Federation may apply to organise the event. An IOF licensed Event Adviser from another Federation shall be appointed by the IOF to control the event.

4. Eligibility

Competitors representing member Federations of the IOF, and belonging to the South American region can compete in the SAOC. The participants must also be passport holders of the country of their Federation. Non-eligible competitors representing South American Federations and other competitors from Federations of the IOF outside of the South American continent can compete in M/W21E but will not be eligible for SAOC titles or prizes.

5. Entries

The SAOC is an open-entry event in which competitors enter as individuals and/or relay teams, and there is no restriction on the number of competitors and/or relay teams. Only the better-placed relay team of each Federation will be counted in the prize list.

6. Starting order

In the individual competitions the starting order shall be drawn at random. The draw shall be made in two starting groups (1 and 2) and the highest ranked competitors, according to the World Ranking list published 10 days before the event, shall start in the group 2 drawn at random. The non-eligible competitors shall start in group 1.

7. Results

If any non-eligible competitors participate in the competition, separate results lists shall be published, one list showing the results of all eligible competitors in M/W21E, a second with results for all competitors.

8. Prizes

The IOF shall provide medals for individual competitions (medals for the first 3 places in each class and competition) and relay competitions (medals for each member of the first 3 teams in each class) and diplomas for places 1-6 for all competitions.

9. Jury

The jury is appointed by the IOF. It shall consist of 3 voting members, at least one of whom must be from outside the host Federation.

10. Courses

The courses shall be set to give the following winning times, in minutes:

	Men	Women
Sprint	12-15	12-15
Middle distance	30-35	30-35
Long distance	90-100	70-80
Relay (total of three legs)	105-135	105-135