

## Start allocation method for the 2013 World Ski Orienteering Championships

As a complement to the COMPETITION RULES FOR INTERNATIONAL ORIENTEERING FEDERATION (IOF) SKI ORIENTEERING EVENTS section 12, these special rules should be apply to WSOC (rule 12.16).

1. For each individual competition on WSOC, the 30 best entered (based on the standing of the IOF World Ranking List) are allocated to the red group. Red group places are individual and are allocated for each individual WSOC competition by the following criteria (rule 12.6 and rule 12.16):

1a). Within the red group the 10 best, based on the standing of the IOF World Ranking List, are drawn as the last starting group. The IOF Ski Orienteering Commission may not provide any "wild cards" into this group.

1b). Places 11-20 based on the standing of the IOF World Ranking List are drawn as the second last starting group. The IOF Ski Orienteering Commission may provide two "wild cards" to add further top athlete without sufficient number of ranking points into this group.

1c). Places 21-30 based on the standing of the IOF World Ranking List are drawn as the third last starting group.

1d). Within each of the three groups within the red group, the start order shall be drawn at random subject to rule 12.7.

2. If the 2011 World Champion on the distance in question is entered for the competition, but is not among the 30 best in the World Ranking list (among those entered for the competition), he/she will get one of the two "wild cards" and be placed in the second best red group.

3. If no competitors from the organising federation are qualified by criteria 1a-c, the highest ranked competitor among those entered from the organising federation shall be added to the third last starting group in the red group (to give better attention to competitors from the host nation).

4. In case of ties in the last placing when applying criteria 1, all competitors sharing the placing are qualified. If there are no ties, the maximum numbers in the red group are:

- Last group 10
- Second last group 12 (incl. two wild cards)
- Third last group 11 (incl. one from the organising federation)

5. For the rest of the entered athletes the starting order shall be drawn at random within starting groups subject to rule 12.7. The number of such unrestricted starting groups will be decided by the IOF Event Adviser with respect to the total number of competitors entered for the race.

6. The World Ranking list is updated after each competition.

7. Competitors allocated to the red group cannot change to another starting group.

8. The red group normally starts last and in the above given order, but in the case of specific (e.g. weather) circumstances the IOF Event Adviser may decide differently.

9. The start interval (rule 12.15) can be increased if the producer finds this necessary in order to make attractive TV broadcasts and similar coverage from a competition. This type of decision must be made by the IOF Event Adviser in close consultation with the organiser and the production company. It is very important to have a strong focus on that the competitions are fair so that the best athletes win and no coincidences or external circumstances determine the results. Normally, the starting interval in rule 12.15 is to be followed.