

Start allocation method for the 2011 European Ski Orienteering Championships

1. For each competition, the 30 best from those entered for the competition 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 EOC competition by the following criteria:
 - 1.a) 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 SkiO Commission may provide one "wild card" to add a further top athlete without sufficient number of ranking points into this group.
 - 1.b) Places 11-20 based on the standing of the IOF World Ranking List are drawn as the second last starting group. The IOF event adviser may provide one "wild card" to add a further top athlete without sufficient number of ranking points into this group.
 - 1.c) Places 21-30 based on the standing of the IOF World Ranking List are drawn as the third last starting group.
 - 1.d) Within each of the three groups within the red group, the start times shall be drawn at random subject to rule 12.7.
2. If the 2009 European Champion for 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 must be included as one of the two possible SkiO Commission "wild cards".
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 second last starting group in the red group.
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 11
 - Second last group 12
 - Third last group 10
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 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 (weather) circumstances the event adviser may decide differently.