

Rules

**EUROPEAN YOUTH SKI ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**Valid from 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012.**

The European Youth Ski Orienteering Championship (in short EYSOC) is the official event to award the titles of European Youth Champion in Ski Orienteering in the classes M-17 and W-17. The event is organised under the authority of the European Working Group (in short EWG), the IOF and the appointed Federation.

The event shall follow the IOF Competition Rules for Ski Orienteering Events unless otherwise stated in these Rules.

**1. Principles for EYSOC**

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

- The best youth ski orienteers of each European Federation shall be offered competitions of the highest technical quality in M-17 and W-17.
- The event shall have a social, rather than a competitive atmosphere, letting young people exchange experience and find new friends.
- The EYSOC in M/W -17 can be arranged in conjunction with Junior World Ski Orienteering Championships (JWSOC) or as separate events.
- The costs of participation shall be kept low.

**2. Event programme**

The event is organised annually. The programme normally shall include Sprint, Middle and Long distance competitions as well as an opening ceremony, a closing ceremony and adequate model events. The Sprint, Middle and Long distance competitions are single race competitions.

No EYSOC Relay shall be arranged. If arranged in conjunction with JWSOC, the EYSOC competitors may participate in the JWSOC Relay event.

The programme for the EYSOC races shall be kept within 3 or 4 days. The dates for the EYSOC shall be coordinated with other international youth and junior events.

**3. Event application and appointment of organiser**

Any European Federation that is a member of IOF may apply to organise the EYSOC. Applications shall reach the IOF Secretariat before 1<sup>st</sup> January 2 years prior to the year of the event<sup>1</sup>. The Annual Meeting of the orienteering federations in Europe appoints the organiser. An IOF Event Adviser from another Federation shall be appointed to control the event.

**4. Participation and Classes**

Competitors representing member Federations of the IOF, defined by the International Olympic Committee as belonging to the European continent, can compete in EYSOC.

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<sup>1</sup> Example: The deadline for EYSOC2015 is 1<sup>st</sup> January 2013 even if the event is proposed to take place in the pre-season, e.g. December 2014.

Competitors representing other member Federations of the IOF can participate in EYSOC but will not be eligible for European titles, medals or diplomas.

For each competition a Federation may enter a maximum of 4 competitors in each class. All competitors must have a valid passport of the country they are representing.

The EYSOC is divided into 2 classes for the following age categories:

- W-17** for female athletes who are no more than 17 years old on 31st December of the year of the competition.
- M-17** for athletes who are no more than 17 years old on 31st December of the year of the competition.

The year of the competition is defined as the calendar year for which the championship counts, even if the event takes place in the pre-season e.g. in December the year before<sup>2</sup>.

The organising Federation may have two additional competitors as official EYSOC competitors in the individual competitions. These competitors shall start in the lowest ranked start group.

### 5. Starting order, start interval, winning times

The start interval in the Long and Middle distance competition shall be 2 minutes, if they are not mass start competitions. The start interval in the Sprint distance is 1 minute.

The start draw shall be made with 4 starting groups, each starting group being drawn at random. Competitors from the same Federation shall not start consecutively. In each individual competition each Federation shall allocate its competitors to specified starting groups. A Federation shall allocate one competitor to each group. If a Federation fails to allocate its competitors to starting groups, the organiser shall decide the allocation.

Winning times:

	Middle	Long	Sprint
W -17	20-25 min	40-45 min	8-12 min
M -17	20-25 min	40-45 min	8-12 min

### 6. Prizes

The organiser shall pay for specially designed medals provided by the EWG for all the individual competitions (3 medals in each class / competition) and diplomas for places 1-6.

No team score shall be calculated.

Representatives of the organising Federation and a representative of the EWG (preferable) or the IOF shall perform the prize-giving ceremonies.

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<sup>2</sup> **Example:** The EYSOC2015 event takes place in December 2014. Any runner less than 18 years old on 31st December 2015 is eligible to compete.

**7. Jury**

EWG appoints the jury. It shall consist of 3 voting members from different orienteering federations.