

Orienteering ACT

2024 Australian Schools Orienteering Championships

Armidale NSW, 28 September - 6 October 2024

ACT Team Selection Criteria and Information

An ACT team will be selected to compete in the 2024 Australian Schools Orienteering Championships ('ASOC'). This year's championships will be held in Armidale NSW as part of the 2024 Championship carnival, running from 28 September to 6 October.

All keen school-aged ACT Orienteers who are capably running moderate courses (junior category - see below) or hard courses (senior category - see below) are encouraged to nominate for selection and compete in the team trials.

Australian Championships Program

Saturday 28 September	Australian Championships Middle
Sunday 29 September	Australian Championships Relay
Monday 30 September	Rest Day
<i>Tuesday 1 October</i>	<i>Schools Championships Sprint</i>
<i>Wednesday 2 October</i>	<i>Schools Championships Long</i>
<i>Thursday 3 October</i>	<i>Schools Championships Relay</i>
Friday 4 October	Rest Day
Saturday 5 October	Australian Championships Long
Sunday 6 October	Australian Championships Sprint

All team athletes will compete in all races.

Further information is available on the [carnival website](#) and in the event bulletins:

- [Australian Schools Championships Bulletin 1](#)
- [Australian Championships Bulletin 1](#)

Further information on specific ACT team arrangements will be provided by the ASOC team managers once the team has been selected.

Team Composition

The team will comprise of up to 20 total athletes in following four classes – with a maximum of 6 athletes per class:

- Junior Girls, 15 years and under
- Senior Girls, 16 years and over
- Junior Boys 15 Years and under
- Senior Boys 16 years and over

Age is taken as at 31 December 2024.

The selectors will aim to select at least four athletes who meet the minimum standard in each class. Additional athletes who meet the minimum standard may then also be selected. Additional athletes will initially be assigned one per class. That is: one additional junior girl, one additional junior boy etc. until there are a total of five athletes selected in each class, for a total team of 20.

If there are fewer than five nominees of a suitable standard in one or more of the classes, then further additional athletes may be selected in the other classes, up to a total of six athletes in any class. In this case, the selection of further additional athletes will be based on selecting the remaining nominees whose performances were closest to those athletes already selected in each class.

Fewer than 20 athletes may be selected if the selection panel decides that further nominees have not met the minimum standard.

Minimum Standard

Only athletes of the applicable minimum standard will be selected.

The minimum standard is that nominees must demonstrate, through their attendance at the selection trials, that they are committed competing and improving their performance, and can complete courses of the applicable length and difficulty for their ASOC class, in relevant championship level terrain.

Junior Girls/Boys must be able to complete courses of moderate technical difficulty of the relevant length for their age class (long distance winning time of 35-40 minutes) within a reasonable time.

Senior Girls/Boys must be able to complete courses of hard technical difficulty of the relevant length for their age class (long distance winning time of 45-50 minutes) within a reasonable time.

All nominees are expected to obey the rules of orienteering, uphold the values of fair play, and show respect to competitors, event organisers, team coaches and managers throughout the selection process.

Eligibility

Athletes wishing to be considered for selection must:

1. Attend school in the ACT or, if they attend school in NSW, be a member of an ACT orienteering club. Athletes must be at least 12 years of age and no older than 19 years of age, at 31 December 2024.
2. Be fully paid current members of Orienteering ACT.
3. Nominate for selection by emailing the Orienteering ACT Office (office@act.orienteering.asn.au) by Thursday 29 February 2024. Late nominations may still be accepted after this date.

Nominations must include the nominee's name, parent/guardian name and contacts, including email and phone, age (and date of birth), and expected competition class.

Selection Criteria

1. All nominees must demonstrate that they can meet the minimum standard described above through completion of the assigned courses at the selection trials.
2. The primary selection criteria will be performance in the assigned selection trials, listed below.
3. As secondary criteria, the selectors may consider:
 - a. Nominees' commitment to improving performance through regular attendance at local events and Blue Lightning training sessions.
 - b. Performances at other recent and upcoming state or national level events.

Selection Trials

Performances in the selection races are the primary criteria for team selection. Nominees are expected to compete in all selection races.

- Selection Trial 1: ACT Sprint Championships, Amaroo Schools, Sunday 3 March
- Selection Trial 2: ACT Classic Series: ACT League #2, Ballinafad Creek, Sunday 7 April
- Selection Trial 3: NSW State League #4 & ACT League #3, Snow Hills, Sunday 14 April
- Selection Trial 4: NOL Round 4, ACT League #7: Wee Jasper, Saturday 18 May

*NB: the third selection trial has been moved from 28 April to 14 April.

The ACT League weekend at Broulee on 4-5 May may be used as a backup trial if any of the above events are cancelled.

All selection trial venues are embargoed, nominees must not train or reconnoitre at any of the venues until after the applicable selection trial.

Nominees will be advised of which course/class to enter prior to each selection race event. Nominees must compete in the assigned course/class; performances in a different course/class at the same event may be disregarded by the selectors, even when that course/class is longer or more challenging than that assigned for the selection trial.

Nominees will be randomly allocated and advised of fixed start times for some of the selection trials.

All the selection trials are pre-entry events. It is the nominating athlete's responsibility to ensure that they enter each event on time and in the correct course/class. N.B.:Nominees must enter each of the selection trial events separately in addition to nominating for selection in the team.

Course maps may be on display prior to the start for the public at the selection race events. Athletes must not look at the course maps prior to their start.

Athletes who are unable to compete in one or more of the selection trials for any reason must advise the Orienteering ACT Office via email and nominate a result from a suitable substitute event for consideration.

Suitable substitute events include recent and upcoming National and State League events, such as:

- The 2024 Oceania Championships
- The 2024 Australian 3 Days
- Other 2024 ACT League and NSW State League events

Special Consideration

Special consideration may be given to any competitor who is unable to compete, or whose performance is adversely affected, in one or more selection trials due to injury, illness, or other circumstances. Notification must be made in writing to the Orienteering ACT Office, including listing alternative events to be taken into consideration.

Team Announcement

All nominees will be advised of the outcome of the trials in the week following the final selection race.

Independent Students at Australian Schools Championships

Students who are not selected in the ACT team may still compete in the ASOC. These students are referred to as 'independent students'. Independent students must be endorsed by Orienteering ACT as having demonstrated the competencies necessary to compete in their ASOC class.

Students seeking endorsement as independent students must meet the same minimum standard as ASOC team nominees and are also expected to demonstrate this through their participation in the selection trials.

Independent students compete in the same competition classes and must meet the same eligibility criteria as schools team members.

Independent Athlete Development Camp

Independent students endorsed by Orienteering ACT may choose to attend the Independent Athlete Development Camp at the Championships. This camp provides the opportunity for juniors to attend a residential experience aligned to the Australian Schools Championships as an Independent Athlete and to camp and connect with other junior athletes. Independent Athletes will compete in ASOC on the same courses as the State representative teams. This camp will have its own travel and accommodation arrangements for the full 9 days of the Australian Carnival. For more information email ACT Camp Co-ordinator Toni Brown totoni@iinet.net.au.