

2015 WOC Team Selection

August 1-7, Inverness, Scotland

www.woc2015.org

WOC 2015 Schedule

2014															
October 11 - 13 Preliminary selection	<p>Preliminary Selection races - NAOC, Ottawa, Ontario</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Middle (WRE) - Oct 11 ● Long (WRE) - Oct 12 ● Sprint (WRE) - Oct 13 <p>Website: http://www.naoc2014.ca/</p>														
2015															
Final selection	<p>The final selection races have not yet been determined. They will be announced as soon as possible, giving enough time for clubs to set their spring 2015 schedules.</p> <p>Current options include:</p> <p>Canada - potentially GVOG sprint camp in February Canada - if suitable Canada Cup races prior to WOC</p> <p>O-Ringen, Boras, Sweden July 18-24</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Long & Middle ● Sprint (traditionally there is no sprint at O-Ringen) <p>Currently no specific details on the website (Aug 30/2014) Website: http://www.oringen.se/</p> <p>Scotland, immediately prior to WOC2015 WOC2015 will have more training opportunities announced later, but we won't know if there are any suitable races in Scotland till then. Potential to organize our own selection races.</p>														
August 1 - 7 WOC 2015	<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Saturday 1 Aug</td> <td>Sprint Relay</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sunday 2 Aug</td> <td>Sprint Qualification / Sprint Final</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Monday 3 Aug</td> <td>Rest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Tuesday 4 Aug</td> <td>Middle Final</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wednesday 5 Aug</td> <td>Relay</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Thursday 6 Aug</td> <td>Rest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Friday 7 Aug</td> <td>Long Final</td> </tr> </table>	Saturday 1 Aug	Sprint Relay	Sunday 2 Aug	Sprint Qualification / Sprint Final	Monday 3 Aug	Rest	Tuesday 4 Aug	Middle Final	Wednesday 5 Aug	Relay	Thursday 6 Aug	Rest	Friday 7 Aug	Long Final
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Monday 3 Aug	Rest														
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Wednesday 5 Aug	Relay														
Thursday 6 Aug	Rest														
Friday 7 Aug	Long Final														

WOC National Spots

In 2014 a new qualification system was introduced at WOC for the Middle and Long distance races, with the removal of qualification races in those disciplines. In addition, a new discipline – the mixed sprint relay – was added.

The new WOC qualification system for Middle & Long introduced a three division ranking system in which the top eight nations in the world form the first division and get three starting spots each, nations 9-22 get two spots and nations 23 and lower get one spot. All nations are thus guaranteed at least one starting place in the Middle and Long finals. The countries are ranked separately for men and women on the basis of the results in the Long, Middle, and Relay competitions in the past two WOC's. At the end of each year, the nations move between the divisions based on the points from the two previous years.

List of nations, by division at end of 2013:

<http://orienteering.org/qualification-for-world-orienteering-championships-2014/>

(2014 standings were not available at time of writing (Aug 30, 2014). However the allocations were confirmed in an IOF press release)

IOF's Special Rules: Qualification for WOC Long and Middle distance competitions

http://orienteering.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/Qualification-for-WOC-Long-and-Middle-distance-competitions_Special-Rules.pdf

National spots for Canada at WOC 2015:

In 2015 Canadian men are in Division 3, and Canadian women are in Division 2.

Sprint Relay	2 men, 2 women
Sprint Q/F	3 men, 3 women
Middle	1 man, 2 women
Relay	3 men, 3 women
Long	1 man, 2 women

WOC Personal Spots

In addition to the National spots, for WOC 2015 there are four Personal spots awarded by the IOF. These are awarded to the 2014 North American regional champions (male and female) in the Middle and Long distance races, and they will be given an automatic entry into the corresponding WOC 2015 final. These spots are not transferable to other athletes.

WOC 2015 Selection Policy

Overview

WOC 2015 selection will be based primarily on performance at the following races:

- 2014 WOC Pre-selection: Top-40 in an individual final will trigger pre-selection
- 2014 NAOC Preliminary selection: Top Canadian in each event selected to run that event
- 2015 races Final selection: at races to be chosen later. All remaining spots filled.

The WOC 2015 selection will be made as follows:

- Pre-selection: Exceptional performance at previous WOC will be used to pre-select athletes who have proven themselves able to perform at a very high level. A top-40 result in an individual race in WOC 2014 will guarantee selection for that race at WOC 2015.
- Preliminary Selection: The top Canadian in the Middle, Long & Sprint at the 2014 NAOC races will automatically earn a spot in the corresponding race at WOC 2015 according to the Selection Process described later in this document.

The 2014 North American Regional Championships have been chosen as the preliminary selection event for several reasons including high quality of event, importance of having HPP athletes compete head to head in Canada, and the importance of aiming to win as many personal spots in WOC 2015 for Canadian athletes. It is expected that all athletes who wish to compete at WOC 2015 will attend NAOC 2014 and will aim for a peak performance at this important race.

- Final Selection: The final selection races will be used to fill all remaining places on the Canadian team, including replacing any athlete who was previously selected to run but is unable to due to injury or other circumstance.

The selection committee and the HPC are discussing the race(s) to be used for final selection. A lack of races on the domestic calendar (i.e., few or no spring Canada Cup events to choose from) is a significant challenge. Following discussions with current HPP members and the success of the WOC 2014 selection races in Europe it is possible that a European selection race will be used shortly before the start of WOC 2015. This is due to a combination of factors including: maximizing head to head competition, minimizing athletes' travel costs, maximizing time in WOC terrain prior to WOC, maximizing team training with WOC Team coach. It is not ideal to have important selection races so close to WOC, but given the new WOC format (less forest racing) and the other factors listed above, this schedule is felt to provide a reasonable balance between all factors.

Eligibility

It is not necessary to be a member of the HPP to be selected to the Canadian WOC team, but it is strongly encouraged. All athletes who wish to be considered must be in good standing with Orienteering Canada, in that they are full members of a Canadian orienteering club affiliated with Orienteering Canada and have no outstanding amounts owing to Orienteering Canada (unless a payment plan has been negotiated with the Orienteering Canada Treasurer). Competitors must meet IOF eligibility requirements, including having "full passport-holding citizenship" of Canada.

Declaration of intent

- Personal spot: a declaration of intent **is not** required.
- National spot: a declaration of intent **is** required.
- In order to win a National spot athletes must submit a Declaration of Intent prior to the relevant selection race, and in any case by April 30th 2015 at the latest. This means for example that an athlete may decide to try for the team after the NAOC races and submit a Declaration of Intent after the NAOC races but before the Final selection races, in which case their results from NAOC races would not be considered, but their results from the Final selection races would be.
- There are several reasons for the Declaration of Intent requirement, one of the main ones being so that athletes know the selection outcome immediately following the race (for example, a race may be won by a Canadian orienteer who has no intention of going to WOC).
- The declaration must be submitted by email to Orienteering Canada (hpp@orienteering.ca). The email should simply identify which WOC races the athlete wishes to be considered for and which they don't. Unlike previous years, no backup information is required. Please list all events so that there is no ambiguity. For example:
 - Sprint relay - yes
 - Sprint - no
 - Middle - yes
 - Relay - yes
 - Long - yes

“Top Canadian”

To clarify, “Top Canadian” in the context of this Selection Policy means the highest placing Canadian in M/W21 who meets the eligibility requirements and who has submitted a Declaration of Intent. In the case of the Sprint race, and any other race in which the M20 class runs the same course as M21E and / or the W20 class runs the same course as W21E, then top Canadian will be the fastest of the highest placed Canadian in those two categories who meets the eligibility requirements and who has submitted a Declaration of Intent.

Middle / Long Selection Policy

Pre-Selection:

The pre-selection criterion of top-40 at 2014 WOC was met by Emily Kemp and Louise Oram in both the Long and Middle races. Thus, in the absence of any significant injury or health issues, Emily and Louise will be offered the opportunity to race in both Middle and Long at WOC. No men met the top-40 criterion at WOC 2014, so none will be pre-selected for WOC.

Preliminary Selection:

The preliminary selection races will be the NAOC races in Ottawa. Personal and National spots will be awarded as follows:

- *Men's Middle – one spot awarded to the top Canadian for WOC Middle. If a Personal spot is won, then the National spot will be awarded in the Final selection*
- *Men's Long -one spot awarded to the top Canadian for WOC Long. If a Personal spot is won, then the National spot will be awarded in the Final selection*
- *Women's Middle - top Canadian automatically selected for WOC Middle if 1) Emily or Louise decline a starting position, or 2) top Canadian wins a Personal Spot*
- *Women's Long - top Canadian automatically selected for WOC Long if 1) Emily or Louise decline a starting position, or 2) top Canadian wins a Personal Spot*
- *Men's Middle/Long: If the same man is the top Canadian in both the Middle/Long, but fails to win a Personal spot, then that individual will be given the choice to run one race at WOC, but not both. The vacated spot will be filled by the fastest Canadian at the relevant Final selection race. If the same man is*

the top Canadian in both the Middle/Long, and wins one or both Personal spots, then that individual will run both races at WOC, and the corresponding National spots will be filled at the relevant Final selection race(s).

Final Selection:

Selection for all remaining National spots will be made at the Final selection event, as follows:

- *Men's Middle: If necessary, the top Canadian in the men's Middle distance race will be selected.*
- *Men's Long: If necessary, the top Canadian in the men's Long distance race will be selected.*
- *Men's Middle/Long: If the same man wins both National spots in the Middle and Long (using results from Preliminary and/or Final selections), then that individual will be given the choice to run one race at WOC, but not both. The vacated spot will be filled by the next fastest Canadian in the relevant Final selection race.*
- *Women's Middle: If necessary, the top 1 or top 2 Canadian women in the women's Middle distance selection race will be selected.*
- *Women's Long: If necessary, the top 1 or top 2 Canadian women in the women's Long distance selection race will be selected.*

Relay Selection Policy

- The men and women selected to run Middle/Long at WOC are automatically selected to the Relay.
- As required, additional men and women will be selected based on best overall placing in the Final selection Middle and Long races, using a points system that weights Middle and Long results equally.
 - $\text{Score} = (\text{Winning Time}) / (\text{Racer's Time}) \times 100$
 - This is basically a % of the winner's speed ... 100 if you win, 90 if you are travelling 90% as fast around the course.
 - The "winner" is considered to be the fastest runner of the appropriate gender on the course, regardless of age or nationality
 - Highest combined score (Middle score + Long score) wins. If a tie, then highest score in the Long distance race will be the deciding factor.
- An unlikely situation may occur in which more than three different Canadian runners run in the Middle and Long WOC finals. In this case the relay team will be chosen from those runners by the discretion of the National Team Coach and the Selection Committee using primarily the performances in the Final selection races (note: in this situation selection is ideally based on performance in the WOC Middle & Long races, however the WOC 2015 schedule is unusual in that the Long distance race takes place after the Relay).

Sprint and Sprint Relay Selection Policy

Pre-Selection:

No man or woman satisfied the top-40 place criterion for pre-selection in the WOC 2014 Sprint. Thus, there will be no pre-selection to the team for the individual Sprint event at WOC 2015.

Preliminary Selection:

One male and one female runner will be selected at the NAOC Sprint race as follows:

- *Men's Sprint: The highest placed Canadian will be selected.*
- *Women's Sprint: The highest placed Canadian will be selected.*

Final Selection:

- All remaining spots for the WOC Sprint Qualification race will be selected at the Final Selection sprint races. Races to be included in sprint selection:
 - races have not yet been chosen (Sept 4/2014)
- If possible, two sprint races will be used for Final Selection. This will depend on finding a suitable second sprint race. Athletes should be prepared to run a second sprint selection race, which may be announced

- as late as one month before the first Final selection sprint race.
- If there are two final sprint selection races, each race winner will earn a spot in the WOC Sprint races.
 - If the same athlete wins more than once in the Preliminary and Final selection races, then additional runners will be chosen based on their overall Final selection two-race score.
 - In each race points will be awarded using the same scoring system as for Relay selection (percentage-behind-winner).
 - The total score over the two races will count. If a tie, then the highest score in the first Final selection sprint race will be the deciding factor.
 - If we cannot arrange for a second Final selection sprint race then all remaining positions will be selected based on the results of first Final selection sprint race.
 - The National Team Coach and the Selection Committee will use discretion to choose the team of four runners (2 men, 2 women) to represent Canada in the Sprint Relay using primarily results from the Final selection sprint races.

Selection Timeline

Step 1. Pre-selection - deadline Sept 20, 2014

- Any athlete pre-selected by the Selection Committee for certain races will be notified.

Step 2. Acceptance of Pre-selection - deadline Sept 30, 2014

- Athletes offered pre-selected positions must confirm their intent to compete at WOC 2015 in those disciplines by the deadline. If they do not confirm in time, or if they decline the race, then these positions will become available to general selection.

Step 3. Preliminary Declaration of Intent – deadline Oct 10, 2014

- In order to be eligible for Preliminary selection for a National spot, athletes must submit a *Declaration of Intent*.

Step 4. Preliminary selection races - Oct 11-13, 2014

- NAOB races - Sprint, Middle, Long.

Step 5. Final Declaration of Intent – deadline April 30, 2015 (or earlier)

- If an athlete did not submit a Preliminary Declaration of Intent previously, then in order to be eligible for Final selection, then this is the final deadline for the athlete to submit a *Declaration of Intent*.

Step 6. Review of Intention - deadline May 15, 2015

- The Selection Committee will review all athletes' *Declaration of Intent*.
- Should there be **fewer** qualified applicants than positions available in any race at WOC 2015, the Selection Committee may ask the HPC to recruit certain athletes for the available positions in those races. Additionally, the Selection Committee may make a discretionary selection for those races only.
- An announcement will be made by the Selection Committee listing:
 - all race positions that have already been filled
 - all race positions that are being contested
 - all race positions that are unfilled (i.e. not already filled, nor being contested)

Step 7. Final Selection races

- The races have not yet been chosen (as of Sept 4, 2014) that will be used as final selections for WOC 2015. All athletes not already selected who would like to race at WOC 2015 must attend these selection races.
- Athletes must handle all logistics including registration, accommodation, transport.

Step 8. Team Selection announcement - deadline July 26, 2015

- The results of the Selection races will be tallied, and the Canadian WOC team will be announced by email on or before July 26, 2015.
- The Selection Committee may fill any unfilled positions using their discretion, based on
 - Results in the selection races
 - Results in other events in 2015 (International Events, Canada Cups, US National Events)
 - Results in the 2014 season (Canada Cups, US National Events, WOC, International Events).
 - Training dedication, as documented in training logs.
 - Long-term potential (e.g., preference given to younger athletes in the appropriate LTAD stage in case other selection factors are comparable).

Step 9. Athlete Confirmation – deadline July 28, 2015

In order to confirm their place on the WOC team, each athlete must provide:

- A signed copy of the current Athlete Agreement (if that wasn't submitted with the 2015 HPP application)
- An athlete profile for the Orienteering Canada website (if that wasn't submitted with the 2015 HPP application)
- Email confirmation to hpp@orienteering.ca that the athlete accepts a spot on the team.

Exceptions

If unforeseen circumstances arise which do not allow for this selection process or its timelines to be implemented as planned (such as a voided selection race), the Selection Committee reserves the right to identify an alternate process or alternate timelines. Should this occur, all eligible athletes will be notified of these changes in a timely manner.

Alternates

The Selection Committee will use discretion to choose alternates, considering performance in the selection races, performance in recent major events (eg: 2014 National Champs), WRE score, future potential. The alternates may or may not be athletes selected to run in other WOC races.

Use of Alternates

In the event a selected runner is unable to start a race, the National Team Coach in consultation with the Selection Committee will make a decision about which runner to replace them with. The coach may pick any of the other selected runners or the designated alternates.

Removal from the Team

Once selected to the WOC team, an athlete may withdraw or be withdrawn for the following reasons:

- A. Failure to satisfy minimum training standards;
- B. Failure to adhere to team rules and Orienteering Canada's Code of Conduct and policies;
- C. Failure to remain competition-ready leading up to the event. Athletes who do not remain competition-ready by reason of lack of fitness, injury or illness may be removed from the team. It is the obligation of the athlete to immediately report any injury, illness or change in training that could affect their ability to compete at their highest level.
- D. Voluntary withdrawal/retirement;
- E. Fraudulent misrepresentation.

Where an athlete is unable to meet training standards, competition readiness, violates team rules or the code of conduct or provides fraudulent misrepresentations, the Selection Committee will have the discretion to remove the athlete from the team, provided the athlete is given an opportunity to be heard, and to replace the athlete with another suitable candidate.

The Selection Committee will notify the athlete in writing that they have been removed from the team and reasons for the removal.

Funding

Any money required to be contributed by the athlete must be paid to Orienteering Canada as requested. Failure to pay such monies may result in the athlete's removal from the Team.

Petitions

The selection process is heavily weighted to objective results in mandatory selection races. Therefore petitions will be accepted only in exceptional circumstances such as when illness, injury, other medical circumstance or personal commitments result in absence or underperformance in a selection race. Petitions must include documentation of the cause for absence or underperformance in a selection race (such as a letter from a doctor) and evidence of other results which are clearly strong enough to overturn the results of the selection races (such as previous excellent performance at World Championships). Petitions must be submitted by the end of the day of the final selection race.

Appeals

Any appeal against a decision of the Selection Committee can be made in accordance with Orienteering Canada's appeals policy. In particular, if the Team Selection announcement is made after July 1st 2015 then the appeal deadline is 24 hours after the announcement.

Team Officials

Orienteering Canada will recruit a Team Leader and a Team Coach. The WOC athletes will be expected to work together with these officials and with each other to handle registration and arrange for transportation, accommodation and other logistics.

Development and approval of team selection criteria

Orienteering Canada's team selection criteria are created by a subcommittee of Orienteering Canada's High Performance Committee. The criteria are reviewed and approved by the High Performance Committee.

Updates history

Oct 2nd, 2014: Definition of "Top Canadian" was clarified, by listing which categories it applied to.