

Selection procedures for Australian team for 2011 Junior World Orienteering Championships

Australia will send a team of up to 6 men and 6 women to contest the 2011 Junior World Orienteering Championships in Poland. As in most previous years, the principal selection trials will be the four days of Easter (including the prologue) in Western Australia. While we are not committing to sending a full team of 6 men and 6 women, nor has any decision been made at this time to send a smaller team – if enough people perform in the trials then a full team will be chosen.

Nominations

Nominations are to be made to the Chair of the Junior Selection Panel, Blair Trewin, either in writing (2/53 Darebin St, Heidelberg VIC 3084) or by e-mail (b.trewin@bom.gov.au). A note advising of your availability for selection is sufficient. Nominations should be received no later than Sunday, 17 April, to give the selectors sufficient time to collect the necessary background information on all candidates. Verbal nominations will not be accepted.

Please advise, with your nomination, a contact (preferably phone) in the days after Easter – this will make it easier for us to get the good news to you if the occasion requires.

Selection criteria

The events forming the primary guide to selection are the four events of the Easter weekend, to be held in WA from 22-25 April 2011. Performances in previous Junior World Championships (for those who have been in a JWOC team previously) may also be taken into account.

Contrary to earlier advice, a time trial will not be part of the selection criteria this year due to lack of available time before Easter. However, successful candidates for selection may be required to prove their ongoing fitness at some point between Easter and the JWOC training camp.

National League events in early 2011, and national events in 2010, are not part of the selection criteria, except for those seeking special consideration (see below). Nor are any events following Easter (e.g. the Australian Sprint and Middle Distance Championships).

Classes

Candidates for selection will normally be expected to compete in M/W17-20E at Easter. Any candidates for selection who want to run M/W21E should seek the approval of the Chair as soon as practicable – this approval will normally be given only to those who are realistic candidates for selection in senior representative teams or squads. Any such competitors will be considered based on kilometre rates at Easter, and past Junior World Championships performances.

(Performances in M/W17-20E, as well as M/W21E, will be considered in the selection process for the World University Championships team, so there is no need to run up for this reason).

Pre-selection

Candidates for selection who are competing or training overseas at the time of Easter may apply for pre-selection. The Selection Panel has the authority to pre-select one or more individuals at any time if, in the Panel's opinion, they have clearly demonstrated that they have a realistic prospect of placing in the top 16 of the individual races in the Junior World Championships. Such a decision will be based primarily on previous international championship performances and the candidate's proposed programme of training and competition overseas.

There is no longer any other provision for overseas selection.

Anyone who wishes to seek pre-selection under this clause is advised to contact the Chair as soon as possible (noting that we do not believe any 2011 candidate currently meets the criteria above).

Other applications for special consideration

Any competitor who is unable to compete, or whose performance is adversely affected, in one or more selection trials due to injury or illness may be considered for selection in the team, providing that they have significantly outperformed one or more members of the team that would have been selected in their absence in recent major events and/or have performed at an appropriately high level in one or more alternative events nominated by the Junior Selection Panel.

Anyone seeking special consideration under this clause should contact the Chair as soon as possible once they become aware of the situation which leads them to seek it. The Chair may require a medical certificate to be produced.

Timing of selection

The team will not be announced at the Easter presentations this year. Instead, the team will be announced in the week following Easter (the same procedure as is used for WOC).

Other information

The full rules for the selection of JWOC teams can be found in the Operational Manual on the OA website, in sections 5.1 (Australian Teams) and 5.3 (Junior World Championships Teams). This includes information on the procedure for appeals.

Selection in the team will be conditional on acceptance of an athlete agreement, including relevant codes of conduct.

There have been some changes to the selection panel, which now consists of Blair Trewin (chair), Roch Prendergast (National Junior Coach), and a third member still to be appointed at the time of writing.

Contacts for further information

Blair Trewin can be contacted by e-mail at b.trewin@bom.gov.au, and by phone on (03) 9455 3516 (h), 9669 4623 (w) or 0413 849 309 (m) – the mobile isn't always reliable but is the best contact if something happens during the Easter weekend.

Blair Trewin
Chair, Junior Selection Panel
20 March 2011