Selection information re 2012 World University Orienteering Championships

1. Background

The 2012 World University Orienteering Championships (WUOC) will be held in **Alicante**, **Spain**, **from the 2-6 July** (see http://sd.ua.es/orienteering-championship/).

Participants of WUOC have to be students who are currently officially registered as proceeding towards a diploma or higher at university or similar institute whose status is recognized by the appropriate national academic authority of their country, or former students who have graduated after 2 July, 2011. Participants must also:

- be at least 17 and less than 28 years of age on January 1st, 2012 (date of birth must be between January 1st, 1984 and December 31st, 1994);
- be a full passport-holding citizen of the country they represent.

Each country may enter a team consisting of up to 12 competitors (6 women and 6 men) and 5 team officials. Maximum number of competitors from each country for participation in different races:

Sprint - 3 men and 3 women Long distance - 4 men and 4 women Middle distance - 4 men and 4 women Relay - 2 men's team (3 legs) and 2 women's team (3 legs)

Following selection of an Australian team by OA, Australian University Sport (AUS) will cross check that all selected team members are bona fide university students in the correct age range.

No funding is likely to be available from OA, however some may be available through competitors' Universities, AUS or orienteering clubs. The onus will be on competitors to pursue this funding.

2. Selection criteria

The selection trials will be:

- a) Primary selection tool all four races of Easter, April 6-9 2012 in Queensland.
- b) Secondary the NOL races near Ballarat on March 10-11.
- c) Tertiary Australian Championships 2011 and WOC / JWOC / World Cup events in 2011.

There are no absolute measures of performance (i.e. times and records) so relative performance compared to other athletes vying for selection will be crucial to the selection process. Selection trials provide the best way of comparing everyone's performance to each other in as objective a way as is possible.

Eligible candidates will be expected to compete in either M/W21E or M/W20E. The selectors may need to compare performance across age groups, and in doing so will take into account such things as kilometre rates.

An Australian orienteer based overseas and studying at an overseas university who is unable to attend the selection trials may apply for selection but **must do so by 1 March 2012.** Such an application will only be considered if it documents evidence of a strong record of performance in international competition in WOC, JWOC or other major international events, and against age group peers in Australia.

The size of the team selected will depend, in part, on the number and quality of nominations received. There is no guarantee that the maximum team size of 6 men and 6 women will be selected. The selectors will select both team members and the races they will be running.

Team selection will be finalised by 15 April for submission to AUS.

3. Selection Panel

As required by clause 9 of section 5.1 of the OA Operational Manual, the selection panel will be: Manager High Performance – Kay Haarsma Chair of Senior selection panel – Jenny Casanova Chair of Junior selection panel – Blair Trewin.

4. Nominations

- All athletes who intend to attend the selection trials and wish to nominate for selection for the Australian WUOC 2012 team must inform the OA High Performance Manager by email at kayhaarsma@hotmail.com and Chair of Senior Selectors Jenny Casanova jenny.casanova@health.sa.gov.au prior to 1 April 2012. Please supply your name, DOB, email address and telephone contact numbers.
- Overseas-based runners must nominate by 1 March 2012.