



NSW SCHOOLS ORIENTEERING TEAM 2024 – SELECTION CRITERIA

These criteria were updated on 4 February 2024. Due to the cancellation of State League #3 on Saturday 13 April 2024, the third trial will now be a SHOO event as part of their Highland Forest Series on the same date.

Orienteering NSW will be sending a NSW Schools Team to the 2024 Australian Schools Orienteering Championships (ASOC) to be held near Armidale, NSW on 1-3 October 2024. The team will consist of a maximum of 20 athletes, with a maximum of 6 athletes permitted in any of the four classes. The four classes are Junior Boys and Girls (athletes 15 and under on December 31, 2024) and Senior Boys and Girls. As these Championships will be held in our Home State we expect positions within the team to be highly contested.

During the ASOC Juniors run Moderate navigation courses and Seniors run Hard navigation.

Eligibility

To be eligible for selection, juniors must, in 2024:

- a) Be full members of ONSW;
- b) Be enrolled in and attending a NSW school or registered by the NSW Education Standards Authority as a student; and
- c) Be at least 12 years of age by 31 December 2024 or as otherwise specified by OA in their eligibility criteria.

Selection Process

To be considered as a potential NSW Schools Orienteering Team Member at the 2024 Australian Schools Championships in NSW, athletes will need to:

1. *Nominate*

Athletes should nominate through Eventor (<https://eventor.orienteering.asn.au/Events/Show/20375>) by **Sunday 17 March 2024**. Athletes will also need to provide details of their school, date of birth and competition class to the Team Manager, Saffron Sweeney.

2. *Participate*

- a) Nominated Trial Events:
 - i. NSW State League 1 on Saturday 16 March 2024 at Roseberg State Forest;
 - ii. NSW State League 2 on Sunday 17 March 2024 at Ophir;
 - iii. **Highlands Forest Series #1 on Saturday 13 April 2024 at Penrose State Forest; (NOTE NSW State League 3 on Saturday 13 April 2024 has been CANCELLED);**
 - iv. NSW State League 4 on Sunday 14 April 2024 at Snow Hills.

If you are unable to compete in one or more of these events, you must notify the Chair of Selectors before the event, stating the reason.

b) Age Class at Trial Events:

- i) **Senior Girls and Senior Boys** athletes must compete on a **Hard** navigation course in either their A level age class or an older junior age class: **M/W16A, M/W18A, M/W20A**.
- ii) **Junior Girls and Junior Boys** athletes must compete on either a **Moderate or Hard** navigation course in either their A level age class or an older junior age class: **Moderate M/W14A, M/W Junior B; Hard - M/W16A**.
 - ***Note: Athletes turning 15 in 2024 may compete in the M/W Junior B (which is Moderate navigation) if they do not feel ready to run Hard navigation in M/W16A.***
 - ***Note: Athletes turning 12 in 2024 must compete in the M/W14A (Moderate navigation) in order to be considered for selection.***

If you are unable to compete in one or more of these events, you must notify the Chair of Selectors before the event, stating the reason.

b) Athletes are encouraged to attend the following events which may be used as secondary selection trials and to demonstrate consistency:

- i. Australian 3 Days in South Australia on 29 March to 1 April 2024; and
- ii. Events at club and regional level.

These events may be used to separate athletes where necessary.

- c) Athletes are strongly encouraged to compete in all other NSW State Leagues for the duration of 2024, including NSW State Leagues 8-10 (KB3) on June 8-10 2024 near Rylstone. This will help you prepare for the multi-day nature of the ASOC.
- d) Athletes over the age of 17 are encouraged to compete in all National Orienteering League (NOL) events for the NSW Stingers. Please email the NSW Stingers managers Bec, Rob and Toby at nswstingers@gmail.com if you are new to the NSW Stingers.

3. Commit to the Sport

This is demonstrated by attendance at the NSW Development Squad Training Camps to be held at Belanglo from 14-17 April, and near Armidale from 12-16 July. Camp details can be found on Eventor at:

April Camp - <https://eventor.orienteering.asn.au/Events/Show/19850>

July Camp - <https://eventor.orienteering.asn.au/Events/Show/20169>

Athletes over the age of 16 should also be following a structured training program. It is suggested this is prepared by a coach, mentor and/or parent.

It is current practice for athletes selected in the NSW Schools Team to attend the full Australian Orienteering Championships Carnival which includes the weekends before and after the Schools Championships. In 2024 the full Carnival is from 28 September to 6 October.

Team Announcement

The Schools Team will be announced by no later than 30 April 2024, by email to individual athletes, and on the Orienteering NSW website.

Please note that all positions in the team are **provisional** based on continued fitness and satisfactory participation in events and camps up to the Australian Schools Carnival. An athlete may lose their position in the team under the following circumstances:

- a) Injury or illness which cannot be resolved sufficiently to enable a satisfactory performance at the ASOC (Note: athletes will be given as much time as possible to prove their fitness);
- b) Behaviour at squad/team camps and events which contravenes the Code of Conduct (Note: A right of appeal under existing ONSW and OA rules will apply);
- c) Lack of attendance and participation at squad/team camps and ONSW events (Note: It is acknowledged that athletes may have prior or conflicting commitments but these need to be communicated well in advance to the Squad and Team Managers).

Athletes who cannot compete in any selection races - or will be competing but have a significant inhibition of their ability to perform - should contact the Chair of Selectors as soon as possible.

Independent Athlete Development Camp

In 2024 those Australian juniors who miss selection in their State or Territory Schools Team will have the opportunity to attend the Australian Schools Championships as an Independent Athlete (IA). Independent Athletes will compete on the same courses as their Schools Team peers, and will be invited to participate in the IA Development Camp. This camp will have its own travel and accommodation arrangements for the full 9 days of the Carnival.

Enquiries, Questions or Concerns

Selection for the NSW Schools Team should be directed to the selectors listed below.

Rob Bennett (Chair) bennett.robert06@gmail.com

Toby Wilson tobby.orienteeing@gmail.com

Gayle Quantock gayle.quantock@bigpond.com

Other matters regarding the NSW Schools Team should be directed to Team Manager Saffron Sweeney at saffron.sweeney@bigpond.com

Independent Athlete Development Camp should be directed to: Helen O'Callaghan
juniors@onsw.asn.au