

#### **4. NSW Schools Championships**

ONSW uses the NSW Schools Championships to encourage students from the regional schools championships to compete at a state-level event.

Courses should be set so that all competitors enjoy the event, not just the winners – i.e. not too long, thick or difficult.

##### **a. Conduct and responsibility**

Orienteering NSW conducts the NSW Schools Championships each year. The ONSW Board can delegate decisions relating to events and marketing to schools etc to a sub- committee.

The organiser should consult the previous year's organiser. Ideally, the controller should be an orienteer with recent junior orienteering event organisation experience.

Allocation of the NSW Schools Championships to a club (or clubs) should be made prior to the previous year's event and at least 1 year before the event. Schools Championships have additional requirements and marketing which makes this important.

##### **b. Event and timing**

The NSW Schools Championships should be conducted in conjunction with a State League event. One set of results is to be generated for the Schools Championships with related data (School/Region), and a second set for the State League that includes all competitors. Schools results have been adjusted to fit directly into SL classes so that ONSW members can score points in their normal State League class.

The NSW Schools Championships are to be conducted prior to the Australian Schools Championships if possible.

##### **c. Entries**

Entries for the NSW Schools Championships will be accepted from any student at a primary, secondary or approved home school in NSW. Membership of an affiliated club of the ONSW is not required.

Schools entry data is to be collected through TryBooking, or like, to include extra fields such as school and school region. A co-ordinator for this data is to be appointed. Their sole role will be to prepare entries and allocate SI numbers if needed after the closing date to present to the organising club. Trybooking closure window should allow for this compilation.

Schools classes **will not** be available in Eventor. All other entries are through Eventor.

##### **d. Descriptions**

Descriptions are to be in English for all classes in the NSW Schools Championships. International symbols may also be made available.

## **e. Map**

The map must include:

- \* legend
- \* control descriptions
- \* emergency mobile number
- \* course closure time

## **f. Terrain**

The terrain for the NSW Schools Championships should provide enjoyable orienteering for all competitors. It should be forgiving for relatively inexperienced orienteers, eg controls should have good catching features and there should be plenty of tracks, fences and/or clearings.

The area needs to have sufficient simple terrain to allow the setting of a Very Easy course.

Each competitor's map should have distinct boundaries. The area needs to comply with the Event Safety rules in ONSW Manual 4.3 relating to traffic; in particular the paragraphs on traffic and children.

## **g. Safety**

Ensuring safety is especially important in schools championships. Organisers need to ensure their event team is aware of the Event Safety, Event Cancellation and Search Party rules.

Due to the large number of relatively inexperienced orienteers competing, all competitors should carry a whistle. This requirement will be advertised in the invitation/entry. The organisers will ensure that whistles are available at the event.

## **h. Information**

The invitation (and entry form) are to be posted on the ONSW website at least 2 months prior to the event. An invitation should also be circulated as widely as possible to schools, eg, via the NSW School Sports Unit and Regional Championships.

The start list and program must be made available on the event website at least 1 week prior to the event.

Results (including split times) are to be available on the day of the event.

## **i. Finances**

Entry fees charged will belong to the organizing club, with ONSW and OA levies applying.

ONSW will pay for the awards/trophies for the NSW Schools Championships, from any surplus related to the Regional Schools Championships.

## j. Bush (Middle Distance) event

The NSW Schools Championships are to be conducted in the classes specified below. Course lengths should align with the equivalent State League course, although erring on the short side rather than long is preferred.

Courses with a large number of competitors can be split, particularly where the time between first and last start approaches 2 hours.

Each class will be conducted provided there is at least one entry (underlined classes are for schools champs).

| Course    | Middle (Bush) classes   |
|-----------|---|
| Hard 1    | M21A, M35A  |
| Hard 2    | <u>M17+A</u> , M18A, M20A, M40A, M45A, M50A, M55A, W21A   |
| Hard 3    | <u>M15/16A</u> , M60A, M65A, M70A, <u>W17+A</u> , <u>W15/16A</u> , W18A, W20A, W35A, W40A, W45A, W50A, W55A, W60A, M21AS, M35AS |
| Hard 4    | M75A, W65A, W70A, M45AS, M55AS, W21AS, W35AS, W45AS, W55AS  |
| Hard 5    | M80A, M85A, W75A, W80A, W85A, M65AS, W65AS  |
| Moderate  | <u>M13/14A</u> , <u>W13/14A</u> , M Open B, W Open B, M Junior B, W Junior B, <u>M15+B</u> , <u>W15+B</u> .                     |
| Easy      | <u>M11/12A</u> , <u>W11/12A</u> , Open Easy, <u>M14B</u> , <u>W14B</u> .  |
| Very Easy | <u>M9/10A</u> , <u>W9/10A</u> , M/W10N, Open Very Easy, <u>M12B</u> , <u>W12B</u>   |

## k. Awards

The Champion School, Champion Primary School and Champion Region will be awarded perpetual trophies (donated by Uringa Orienteers, Scrubrunners Orienteering Club and Southern Highlands Occasional Orienteers, respectively).

The Champion Schools and Champion Region are determined by allocating points as follows:

A classes: 6 for 1st, 5 for 2nd, 4 for 3rd, 3 for 4th, 2 for 5th, 1 for finishing

B classes: 4 for 1st, 3 for 2nd, 2 for 3rd, 1 for finishing.

The organisers will arrange for suitable awards (cloth badges or medals or similar) to be awarded to at least the winners of each class and certificates to all finishers.

## I. NSW Schools Sprint Championships

Sections 4a to 4i above also apply to the NSW Schools Sprint Championships which were introduced in 2014. These Championships can be conducted as a single sprint race or as the combined time over two sprint races held on the same day.

### m. Classes

| Course    | Sprint classes  |
|-----------|---|
| Hard 1    | M21A, <u>M15/16A</u> , <u>M17+A</u> , M18A, M20A, M35A  |
| Hard 2    | M40A, M45A, M50A, M60A, M65A, <u>W17+A</u> , W20A, W21A, W35A, W40A, W45A, M21AS                            |
| Hard 3    | M70A, M75A, <u>W15/16A</u> , W50A, W55A, W60A, W65A, W70A, M35AS, M45AS, M55AS, W21AS, W35AS, W45AS, W55AS  |
| Hard 4    | M80A, M85A, W75A, W80A, W85A, M65AS, W65AS  |
| Moderate  | <u>M13/14A</u> , <u>W13/14A</u> , M Open B, W Open B, M Junior B, W Junior B, <u>M15+B</u> , <u>W15+B</u> . |
| Easy      | <u>M11/12A</u> , <u>W11/12A</u> , Open Easy, <u>M14B</u> , <u>W14B</u> .                                    |
| Very Easy | <u>M9/10A</u> , <u>W9/10A</u> , M/W10N, Open Very Easy, <u>M12B</u> , <u>W12B</u>                           |

NSW Schools Sprint Championships shall be conducted in the classes specified above. Course lengths should align with the equivalent State League Sprint course.

Courses with a large number of competitors can be split, particularly where the time between first and last start approaches 1 hour.

### n. Awards

The organisers shall arrange for suitable awards (cloth badges or similar) to be awarded to at least the winners of each class and certificates to all finishers.