

Competition Rule U: CompassSport Cup

These competition rules are owned by the CompassSport Cup steering group, which is the ruling body of the event. They are to be used in conjunction with the British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering. Where these Rules vary or supplement British Orienteering Rules of Orienteering then this Competition Rule will take precedence.

General guidance is provided at the end of the document - this supplements the rules and focuses on what should happen and providing additional advice.

'CSC' or 'CompassSport Cup' refers to the competition as a whole, including both Cup and Trophy.

'Cup' refers specifically to the large clubs competition.

'Trophy' refers specifically to the small clubs competition.

Any questions regarding these Rules should be emailed to the CompassSport Coordinator at: cscupcoordinator@gmail.com

Any questions regarding entries should be emailed to the entries secretary at: cscentries@btinternet.com

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Nature of the event

The CompassSport Cup is seen as an inclusive competition for all club members, and seeks to encourage club development across all ages. In general terms, age categories are allocated to shorter courses than they would normally run at other national competitions (e.g. UKOL) to encourage this inclusivity.

1.2 Format

1.2.1 The CSC is an annual competition, consisting of a qualifying round of heats, and a final.

1.2.2 Each CSC heat is a Level B event. The final is a Level A event.

1.2.3 The Trophy and Cup finals shall each include at least 6 clubs.

1.2.4 Heats should be between the same number of clubs as far as is possible having regard to the geographical distribution of the clubs.

1.2.5 A Cup heat should have a minimum of 2 clubs competing; if the heat includes a club that was in the top 3 in the previous year, it should have a minimum of 3 clubs competing. A Trophy heat should have a minimum of three clubs competing.

1.2.6 Within the context of the above rules, clubs will normally be allocated to their Association heat unless there are exceptional circumstances, such as a limit on entry numbers. Any club making a claim to participate in a qualifying match other than the one to which they are allocated, will only be moved to this preference if:

- a. The matches they propose moving to and from both satisfy 1.2.4 and 1.2.5 once the club has moved;
- b. The match that is left has a reasonable entry level, as decided by the Entries Secretary;
- c. There is capacity in the alternative choice for the club;
- d. The club making the request makes a suitable case for participating in its alternative choice.

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1.3 Eligibility

1.3.1 All clubs affiliated to British Orienteering may enter the CSC.

1.3.2 Entry to the Trophy will be limited to clubs with fewer than 110 eligible members.

'Eligible members' are defined as those club members who belong to either or both the British Orienteering and Scottish Orienteering Association in age categories M/W12 to M/W80 inclusive on September 30th in the year preceding the competition.

In the event of both or just British Orienteering figures being unavailable, the criterion will be 'fewer than 73 members listed in the British Orienteering ranking lists'.

In the event of just SOA figures being unavailable, the joint criteria will be 'fewer than 110 British Orienteering members and fewer than 73 members listed in the British Orienteering ranking lists'.

1.3.3 Competitors in all matches must be members of British Orienteering and/or the Scottish Orienteering Association.

1.3.4 Any competitor who has competed for one club in any CSC match may not then compete for another club in any other CSC match in the same year.

2. ORGANISATION

2.1 Event dates

2.1.1 The Event Scheduling Group is responsible for determining the dates of the qualifying round and the final, in consultation with the Coordinator and Entries Secretary. All heats should take place on the same day unless that is not possible. Event Scheduling Group will inform the Coordinator of these dates before the end of September in the year prior to the competition.

2.2 Qualifying rounds

2.2.1 Entry for competitive CSC courses will be pre-entry only. The entry date should be as close as possible to the event, and no more than 14 days before the competition.

2.2.2 All clubs must enter all their runners by the closing date. Changes and further entries are at the organiser's discretion, but must be shown on-line.

2.2.3 The following facilities shall be provided in addition to those required at Level B events

- a. Start lists in the assembly area and at pre-start;
- b. A large visible display of course numbers, colours and the age categories allocated to them at the pre-start (a requirement);
- c. Where an area has been used for a previous event, unmarked maps shall be displayed in the assembly area (these may be of the map used for the earlier event);
- d. Frequently updated results display (club and individual results).

2.3 The Final

2.3.1 Any club may bid to host the final via their association fixtures secretary. Responsibility for the final will be allocated to a specific club by the Event Scheduling Group. The Coordinator is available to offer advice and to consult with the CSC Group regarding any queries from the organising club.

2.3.2 The Entries Secretary will advise the organisers of the final after confirmation with qualifiers as to whether they intend to take part in the final.

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2.3.3 The organisers shall send out preliminary details and the start time schedule at least 2 months before the date of the final.

2.3.4 In addition to facilities described in 2.2 and those expected of a Level A event, the final must also provide:

- a. Map collection at the finish, with returns after the last runners are at the start;
- b. Timed (rather than punching) starts (competitors may still be required to punch a start control);
- c. Live results with team and individual results available;
- d. A string course or similar activity for younger children (for which the Golden String is awarded);
- e. A dignified and prestigious prize ceremony.

2.3.5 At the final, there are 'Golden Boot' trophies for the man and woman with the fastest run-in times. The run-in should be a minimum of 150 metres, preferably longer. All courses must use the same final control.

2.3.6 At the final, the 'Golden String' trophy is awarded to the fastest time on the string course (or its equivalent) This is for the competitor's first attempt, and excludes anyone who has run a CSC competitive course.

2.4 Start times

2.4.1 Start times on courses shall be pre-allocated in rotation to minimise proximity of members of the same club. Runners from the same club must not start on adjacent start times on the same course. A different order of rotation will be used on each course. There shall be no specific allowance for clubs travelling longer distances.

2.4.2 The organiser will prepare a schedule of start times. These will be provided to the clubs who will allocate the names of runners to the start times and provide these to the organiser by a date specified prior to the date of the event.

2.4.3 Where it is necessary to allocate additional start times to a club these can be taken from vacant start slots not required by other clubs.

2.4.4 A club will only be allocated additional start times if they have filled all their original allocation. The event organiser will allocate spare slots equitably across all the clubs that request them by the closing date for entries. Any club requesting extra start slots after the closing date will be only be allocated those still remaining.

2.4.5 The event organiser may extend the start period at their discretion.

3. PLANNING

3.1 Courses

There shall be 12 different CSC courses planned to the colour coded standards shown below. Note the inclusion of M18- in courses 2 and 9M, and W18- in courses 5 and 9W. (This is to provide a progression from junior to senior classes for those ready to compete at TD5 but not on the respective open courses, whilst still enabling others to compete at appropriate levels).

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Course	Age categories	Colour standard	Course size
1	Open	Short Brown*	Large
2	M18- M45+	Blue	Large
3	Women Open	Blue	Large
4	M55+	Short Blue	Large
5	W18- W45+	Green	Large
6	M65+	Green	Large
7	M75+ W60+	Short Green	Large
8	M80+ W70+	Very Short Green	Small
9M	M18-	Light Green*	Small
9W	W18-	Light Green*	Small
10M	M14-	Orange	Small
10W	W14-	Orange	Small

*See rules 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 on the distances of these courses

3.2 Planning requirements

3.2.1 Course 1 distance is to be planned at a ratio to Black distance of 0.75 (as opposed to the normal Short Brown distance of 0.69).

3.2.2 Courses 9M/9W distances are to be planned at the same ratio to Black as a Green course, i.e. 0.39, whilst remaining at TD4 (Light Green) technical level.

3.2.3 Course numbers 2 & 3 (Blue standard) must be different. Courses 5 & 6 (Green standard) must be different. Courses 9M and 9W can be the same. Courses 10M and 10W can be the same.

3.2.4 Courses should only be identified on the map, control descriptions, start lanes and map boxes by the course number, supplemented as appropriate by the age categories as shown above. This is because competitors often run a different colour from normal. For example: 3 - Women Open, 7 - M75+/W60+.

4. COMPETITION

4.1 Course eligibility

4.1.1 There is no limit to the number of competitors a club may field on any course.

4.1.2 CSC courses are only open to members of clubs that are competing in that round. Non-CSC courses are open to all. All competitors on CSC courses must be competitive. The only exception to this is for members of a university club in qualifying rounds, as it may be impractical for them to get to their open club's round.

4.1.3 Shadowing is not allowed on any CSC course. Shadowers of those on non-CSC courses, if competing in the CSC themselves, must have completed their CSC course before shadowing.

4.1.4 If a competitor runs a different course to the one entered, even if eligible for that course, they shall be declared non-competitive and not count in the scoring.

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4.2 Scoring - Individuals

4.2.1 Cup and Trophy matches are to be treated as two entirely separate competitions when taking place at the same event.

4.2.2 The winner of each course scores 100 points.

4.2.3 Every competitor receives a score based on their finishing position:

- a. Scoring in each 'Large' course will be 100,99,98 etc down to 1. Subsequent finishers also score 1;
- b. Scoring in each 'Small' course will be 100,98,96 etc down to 2. Subsequent finishers also score 2.

4.2.4 If two or more runners tie for a place, all those runners will score the points appropriate for that place. The next runner will score the same points as if the runners in front had not tied. E.g. if two runners on a Large course tie for 3rd, they both score 98 points, and the next runner down (in 5th place) will score 96 points.

4.3 Scoring - Teams

4.3.1 In the Cup, each team counts a maximum of 25 scores; in the Trophy it is 13 scores to count.

4.3.2 In the Cup, each team may score a maximum of 5 counters from any one course (the pairs 9M/W and 10M/W each count as one course); in the Trophy it is 3 counters.

4.3.3 In both Cup and Trophy each team must score at least 1 counter from at least 7 courses.

4.3.4 The winner in each match will be the team with the highest points total. Where clubs finish on equal points, positions will be determined by looking at the next best eligible (following rule 4.3.2) score for each club, then, if needed the next best etc, until the tie is broken. E.g. in the Cup, the 26th eligible scorer will be used, then the 27th etc. If a club does not have that extra scorer, they will be deemed to have scored zero. If the tie is still not broken, then the score of the lowest of the original counters for each team will be compared (e.g. 25th on Cup, 13th on Trophy), followed by the next highest etc until the tie is broken. In all these cases, the club with the higher scorer will be the tie-winner. If the tie remains unbroken at that stage, the clubs will be deemed to have tied.

4.3.5 In the event of one course being voided, the result will be decided on the courses not voided, and the minimum number of courses to count reduced to 6.

4.3.6 In the event of two courses being voided, then the number of scorers will be Cup - 20 and Trophy - 10, and the minimum number of courses to count will be reduced to 5.

4.4 Qualifying for the Final

4.4.1 The winner of each heat, scored in accordance with rule 4.3, will qualify for the final. Additional places are as per below. Complete teams are defined as those clubs which started the minimum number of eligible runners to count a full score as defined in 4.3.1-4.3.3 (even if one or more of those starters scores zero).

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4.4.2 Cup qualifying places

- a. If there are THREE or fewer complete teams in a heat, just the winning team qualifies; exceptionally, in a match where there are three (but not fewer) complete teams, if the winning club was in the first three at the final in the previous year, then the second placed club will also qualify;
- b. If there are FOUR complete teams in a heat, the first TWO teams qualify;
- c. If there are FIVE or more complete teams in a heat, THREE teams qualify.

4.4.3 Trophy qualifying places

- a. If there are THREE or fewer complete teams in a heat, just the winning team qualifies; exceptionally, in a match where there are three (but not fewer) complete teams, if the winning club was in the first three at the final in the previous year, then the second placed club will also qualify;
- b. If there are FOUR complete teams in a heat, the first TWO teams qualify;
- c. If there are SIX or more complete teams in a heat, THREE teams qualify;
- d. If there are EIGHT or more complete teams in a heat, the first FOUR teams qualify;
- e. If there are TWELVE or more complete teams in a heat, the first FIVE teams qualify.

4.4.4 In the case where two heats are merged into one event, the event will be regarded as one heat, and the above rules applied.

4.4.5 NIOA may nominate one club each for the Cup and Trophy finals using whatever process they deem appropriate.

4.4.6 Any club hosting a final receives a guaranteed place in the final either at their own event, or in the following year, on the condition that they field a complete team (see 4.4.1) in the relevant qualifying round; if they qualify through competition, no extra qualifying places for other clubs in the heat are created. The club's decision as to which final to compete in must be communicated to the Coordinator/Entries Secretary before the date of the first final.

4.4.7 When a team who has qualified for the final declines to take part, the Coordinator, in consultation with the CSC Group, may invite another team to take part in the final.

4.4.8 The Coordinator and Entries Secretary, after consultation with the CSC Group, may vary these criteria once all entries have been submitted, particularly in the circumstance where more or less than seven qualifying events are held, including where events are cancelled and cannot be rearranged or merged with another fixture. Their guiding principle will always be to try and achieve a fair representation and proportion of clubs in the final.

5. RESPONSIBILITIES

5.1 Ownership

5.1.1 The competition is owned by CompassSport.

5.2 The role of the CSC Coordinator

- a. Maintains, updates and manages the implementation of the rules in consultation with the CSC Group.
- b. Answers all queries in respect of the rules.
- c. Works with all orienteering partners to develop and maintain the quality of the event.
- d. Works with event organisers, particularly for the final, to ensure the events are staged in accordance with the Rules.

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5.3 The role of the CSC Entries Secretary

- a. Liaise with Event Scheduling over heats and final event locations.
- b. Liaises with qualifying events to ascertain event capacity, entry numbers and car parking.
- c. October: Contacts Club Captains to collect entry numbers for the qualifying events.
- d. December: Publishes information on club allocation to qualifying events to club captains and event organisers.
- e. Sends a copy of the current rules to all event organisers and club captains (or a link to a location from where the rules can be downloaded). Organisers must ensure that the Planner and the Controller have a copy of this document.
- f. Following qualifying events ascertains if clubs intend to compete in the final.
- g. April/May: Provides the final organisers the contact details of clubs participating in the final.
- h. Entries Secretary will copy in the Coordinator to all correspondence.

5.4 The roles of Coordinator and Entries Secretary may be performed by the same person

5.5 The role of the CompassSport Cup Group

- a. Act as a consultation group for the Coordinator and Entries Secretary, providing a range of relevant experience, knowledge and opinions.
- b. Proactively provide feedback and ideas on the maintenance and development of the CSC.

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COMPASSSPORT CUP GUIDANCE NOTES

6. GENERAL INFORMATION

6.1 These guidance notes must be read in conjunction with the rules; they are intended to provide supplemental help, whilst avoiding unnecessary duplication. The rules focus on what must be done, these guidelines on what is recommended or preferred (sometimes strongly!).

6.2 The fundamental framework is that CSC heats are Level B events, the Final Level A. The requirements and expectations of these levels, as laid out in British Orienteering Rules, need to be met, and are generally not repeated here. The focus here is on variations and additions.

7. ORGANISATION

7.1 General notes

7.1.1 Organisers should pay particular heed to the following rules:

CSC heats: Rules 2.2, 2.4.

CSC Final: Rules 2.3, 2.4.

7.2 Entries

7.2.1 Whilst competitive CSC courses are pre-entry only, entry on the day should be available for the non-competitive courses.

7.3 Assembly

7.3.1 At the final, a public commentary should be provided where practical. See note under planning about spectator and radio controls.

7.4 Results

7.4.1 Output should be in the format as below. The main file for each course, including all the results for that course, is the one to be submitted for national rankings. If using SI-Timing, please use their results for all the scores.

Team Scores

Cup

Trophy

Courses - each course 1-10 (including separate ones for each of 9M/9W, 0M/10W) in the order:

Results for Course 1 Men Open Cup

Results for Course 1 Men Open Trophy

Results for Course 1 Men Open

Please also publish a Winsplits file in the results after the event.

7.5 Juries

7.5.1 Event organisers should arrange a jury prior to their event. Although the occasions on which they will be required are normally rare, it is likely to prove more difficult than usual to obtain an independent jury on the day, as many of the potential members will be competitors in the CSC competition and thus more likely to be, or be perceived to be, not completely independent.

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7.6 Admin Support

7.6.1 Michael Napier offers an entry service from just a set of club entry spreadsheets with pre-allocated start times through to an SiTiming import file. Please contact him direct for details. Email: mnapier@cix.co.uk Mobiles: 07943 699338 or 07771 660892.

7.6.2 Alastair Mackenzie (CLOK) has developed an entry system that was used successfully for the 2025 Final, which may be available for use by other clubs. Contact him via his club email address: webmaster@clock.org.uk.

7.6.3 If using SiTiming software, their most recent advice is: "Normal SiTiming software can be used for the event. There is just some extra configuration you need to enable the Cup and Trophy results to be produced. You don't need any additional software. As a starting point the setup in SiTiming is defined in an Appendix in the User Guide entitled 'CompassSport Cup/Trophy (British Orienteering Annual Club Competition)'. Basically, you set up the event as a "normal" orienteering event, with participants entering a class rather than a course. Interclub results are then used to produce the team results."

8. PLANNING

8.1 Competitive courses

8.1.1 Planners should pay particular heed to Rule 3.

8.1.2 There are two variants in the rules to the normal colour standards that Planners need to take into account:

- a. The ratio to Black distance for the Short Brown course is 0.75 (aiming for an elite winning time of just over rather than just under 50 mins) , rather than the usual 0.69;
- b. Whilst courses 9M/9W are to be planned at TD4 (Light Green) standard, the distance needs to be at the Green distance ratio to Black of 0.39; i.e. 30% longer than a normal Light Green. Planners in TD4 areas also need to remember that courses 9M/9W need to still be at TD4, not just a degree easier than the senior courses.

8.1.3 Whilst courses 2 & 3 (Blue) and 5 & 6 (Green) each need to be different from the other same colour course, the degree of difference is up to the planner. If numbers are relatively small on these courses, it could be as little as one or two controls. The important thing here is that there can be no argument as to which course the competitor was running, as there have been instances in the past of competitors (and captains) trying to transfer a run across from one course to another after the run.

8.1.4 Whilst all the senior courses 1-8 are at the hardest technical level available, planners are asked to pay particular regard to planning at the appropriate physical difficulty. for the age classes on each course. This does not mean just distance (built in to the colour standards), but also having due regard to the nature of the terrain.

8.1.5 At the final, the courses should include a spectator control where practical. Where a public commentary is provided, radio control sites would be an additional enhancement.

8.2 Non-competitive courses

8.2.1 In addition to the required 10 competitive courses, non-competitive courses should also be provided: White and Yellow for juniors who are not yet ready to tackle the Orange course, and an extra Light Green and/or Red course for inexperienced adults who may be accompanying other competitors or supporting their club.

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8.2.2 A string course or similar activity should normally be provided for younger children (this is a requirement at the final).

8.3 Control descriptions

8.3.1 Although Level B events are allowed to include just one or other, the expectation is that descriptions will be provided loose and printed on the map at all CSC events (This is a requirement for Level A events, i.e. at the final).

8.4 Map

8.4.1 The following map scales may be used (variation on British Orienteering Rules Appendix D para 2.2):

Group	Courses	Normal Scale	Alternative Scale
A	1, 3	1:15000	1:10000
B	2, 4, 5, 9,10	1:10000	1:7500
C	6,7,8	1:7500	1:10000,1:5000

8.4.2 To reword BO Rules Appendix D 2.3.4/5 to fit the CSC: Where the basic map scale is 1:15k, standard practice should be to provide 1:10k enlargements for Group B and 1:7.5k enlargements for Group C (and non-competitive courses); where the basic map scale is 1:10k, 1:7.5k enlargements should be provided for Group C and course 10. Any exceptions to these at the Final must be approved by the CSC Co-ordinator, otherwise reference from qualifying heats or final need only be made if the Planner and Controller are unable to agree.

8.4.3 The CompassSport Cup logo may be added to the map, and is available from CompassSport. Whilst the Final is a Level A event, the British Orienteering layout design is not a requirement.

9. COMPASSSPORT CUP FINAL - PRIZES AND PRIZE GIVING GUIDE.

9.1 Setup

9.1.1 Ask clubs to bring their club flags to the prize giving. This creates a good photo background if room permits, otherwise just the organising club flag and the CompassSport banner.

9.2 Prizes

9.2.1 There are trophies for the winners of the Cup and Trophy competitions. In addition, there are the two Golden Boot and the Golden String awards.

9.2.2 Event organisers will need to ask the trophy holders to bring them back, best approached via the Club Captains. Also, the Golden Boot holders, and the Golden String Trophy.

9.2.3 CompassSport (Nick Barrable) provides a memento for each scoring team member, a bottle of 'bubbly' for each winning team, and a tub of chocolates for 1st/2nd/3rd teams in the Cup and Trophy. The organiser provides a prize for the winner of each course (15 prizes), a giant Toblerone for example.

9.2.4 The organiser should provide the results team with a copy of the table in the prize-giving template below to fill in and make available in time for the prize giving.

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9.3 Prize Giving Template

This table provides a simple, efficient, means of running the prize-giving, and has worked successfully in previous finals.

Organiser/MC: *Good afternoon - welcome to the prize giving for the XX CompassSport Cup Final. Firstly, many thanks to all the officials and helpers who have worked hard to stage today's event. Landowner etc.*

Present memento (provided and presented by Nick Barrable) to Organiser, Planner and Controller.

Secondly, thank you to all the clubs/competitors and supporters, some of whom have travelled a long way to take part today. XXXX will now present the prizes for the course winners:

Number	Course	Winner
	Golden String award	
1	Men Open	
2	M18/45	
3	Women Open	
4	M55	
5	W18/45	
6	M65	
7	M75/W60	
8	M80/W70	
9M	M18	
9W	W18	
10M	M14	
10W	W14	
	Light Green/Red	
	Yellow	
	White	

Next, we move to the Golden Boot trophies.

The winner for the Men's Trophy is:

The winner of the Rachel Majumdar Trophy is:

Now we move to the Cup and Trophy competitions.

Nick Barrable, Mr CompassSport, will present the prizes:

In the Trophy, 3rd place with XXX points is:

2nd place is: with XXX points is:

In the Cup, 3rd place with XXX points is:

2nd place with XXX points is:

Now we move to the winners:

In Trophy this year's champions are:

In the Cup, this year's champions are:

Safe journey home. See you next year.