

# Schools League Rules and Scoring System

## 2023/2024

### General

#### Purpose

To promote the sport of Orienteering to Primary/Senior Schools and Youth Groups in Cheshire and Merseyside by providing a series of Orienteering Events for a competitive League.

#### Organisation

The league is organised on an informal basis by members of Deeside Orienteering Club. The Schools League Events are not closed events, they are events in the Deeside Autumn/Winter Series and are open events in which anybody may take part.

#### Courses

The League will have five courses: White, Yellow, Orange, Light Green and Green (or a Long Light Green where Green is not possible). If an Event Area is deemed to be suitable, an additional Blue Course may be offered.

#### Entries

School entries should be made by email to Liz Jackson ([lizjackson125031@gmail.com](mailto:lizjackson125031@gmail.com)) on the proforma spreadsheet before the closing date for each event. Competitors should be entered using their gender and correct school year, for example B8 (Boy year 8), G10 (Girl year 10).

### School League Rules

#### Eligibility

To be eligible, a Schools League competitor must be either:

- A member of a School or Youth Group,
- Or a Junior Member of a British Orienteering affiliated Club (such Competitors must register at Events using their School and School Year rather than their British Orienteering Club and Age Class).

Each Competitor must be equipped with a Whistle and where possible, a Compass.

#### Courses

To be competitive and earn individual points for their team, competitors must enter the correct course appropriate for their school year as shown in the table below. Technical difficulty ranges from 1 (easy) to 5 (difficult).

Course	Eligibility	Technical difficulty	Length (km)	Estimated winning time
WHITE	YR 3-6	1	1.5 +/-20%	15-20 minutes
YELLOW	YR 5-8	2	2.0 +/-20%	20-25 minutes
ORANGE	YR 7-10	3	2.6 +/-20%	25-35 minutes
LIGHT GREEN	YR 7-13	4	3.3 +/-20%	30-35 minutes
GREEN	YR 7-13	4/5	4.3 +/-20%	35-40 minutes
BLUE	YR 7-13	4/5	5.0 +/-15%	45-50 minutes

Senior beginners of any age class may enter a lower difficulty course in order to gain experience, but will be deemed to be non-competitive and will not score Schools League points.

## Race Timing

All Schools League Events will use electronic timing based on Sport-Ident equipment. Competitors can use their own SI-Card, or may hire an SI-Card at each Event (a nominal hire fee applies).

The newest SI cards (SIACs) enable contactless punching when a competitor is within 50cm of a control, without the need to insert the card into the hole on the control box. This gives a time advantage over conventional punching. As DEE do not have sufficient stocks of SIAC cards to allow equal access to all, competitors must use conventional SI cards in order to score points at Schools League events. Anyone using a SIAC will be marked as non-competitive and will not score team or individual points.

## Pairs

Competitors may run as pairs on the **White Course and the Yellow Course** and will both score Individual Ranking Points but only one set of points for their School Team, subject to eligibility. If two runners wish to run as a pair, they must both have an SI-Card and they must both punch at every control on their course, otherwise only one individual score will be registered. Pairs on other courses will be classed as 'Non-competitive' meaning that they will not score either Individual or School Team points. Any group of more than two on any course will be classed as 'Non-competitive'.

## Teams

Teams consist of six counters who must all be members of the same School/Group. Schools/Groups may have more than one Team. The first six highest counters count towards team 1, the next six highest, team 2 and so on. There can only be a maximum of 3 competitors (Boys or Girls) per course to count for their team.

## Scoring

The season will consist of **five** Events. This may be reduced due to an Event cancellation or should an Event inadvertently clash with another School Event.

### Individual Points:

At each event, individual points are calculated according to the competitor's position on their course (taking only league members into account).

The highest position receives 100, next 99 and so on down. Boys and girls are counted separately, first boy receives 100, first girl 100.

To encourage those competitors who fail to finish their course or mis punch, all runners who DNF or DSQ will be awarded 20 points. Runners who complete an ineligible course for their age (eg YR13 on an Orange course) will be awarded 30 points.

Each competitor's position within their Year Group's Individual Rankings Table is based upon the sum of their Individual Points for their best four events.

### Team Points

The first 6 highest individual points are added together to produce a team score for that event, the maximum being 600.

The Team rankings at the end of the season are based upon the sum of their team points for their best four events.