

SOL Scoring 2009: 'Notes and Explanations'

The new scoring system is based on courses, rather than age classes. The average time of all SOL eligible runners on each course is used as the basis for the scores (a runner taking this time scores 1000 points).

What defines a SOL eligible runner?

- An individual competitor who runs a course at least as long/difficult as the course to which their age class (L or S) is allocated
- A member of BOF

Running up

Because runners may choose to 'run up', it can be difficult to allocate such competitors to an appropriate age class. The following table shows how this has been done, using the principle that runners are allocated to the highest class for which they are eligible.

Table 1: Age classes for which SOL scores are reported for runners on each course, of each age class. For example, a W14 who runs Green will be included in the W16 scores. However, a W14 running 'Short Green' will not be included in any scores as there is no Short Green age class (between W14 and W21) that she can be allocated to. Runners whose Age class – course combination is in one of the empty cells are not included in calculations of the average time for the course, and hence points for other runners.

Age Class	Black	Brown	Short Brown	Blue	Short Blue	Green	Short Green	Light Green	Orange	Yellow
M10	M21L	M20	M21S	M16				M14	M12	M10
M12	M21L	M20	M21S	M16				M14	M12	
M14	M21L	M20	M21S	M16				M14		
M16	M21L	M20	M21S	M16						
M18	M21L	M18	M21S							
M20	M21L	M20	M21S							
M21	M21L		M21S							
M35	M21L	M35L	M21S	M35S						
M40	M21L	M40L	M21S	M40S						
M45	M21L	M35L	M45L	M35S	M45S					
M50	M21L	M35L	M50L	M35S	M50S					
M55	M21L	M35L	M45L	M55L	M45S	M55S				
M60	M21L	M35L	M45L	M60L	M45S	M60S				
M65	M21L	M35L	M45L	M55L	M65L	M55S	M65S			
M70	M21L	M35L	M45L	M55L	M65L	M70L	M70S			
M75	M21L	M35L	M45L	M55L	M65L	M70L	M75			
M80	M21L	M35L	M45L	M55L	M65L	M70L	M80			
W10	M21L	M20	W21L	W18	W21S	W16		W14	W12	W10
W12	M21L	M20	W21L	W18	W21S	W16		W14	W12	
W14	M21L	M20	W21L	W18	W21S	W16		W14		
W16	M21L	M20	W21L	W18	W21S	W16				
W18	M21L	M20	W21L	W18	W21S					
W20	M21L	M20	W21L	W20	W21S					
W21	M21L		W21L		W21S					
W35	M21L	M35L	W21L	W35L	W21S	W35S				
W40	M21L	M35L	W21L	W40L	W21S	W40S				
W45	M21L	M35L	W21L	W35L	W45L	W35S	W45S			
W50	M21L	M35L	W21L	W35L	W50L	W35S	W50S			
W55	M21L	M35L	W21L	W35L	W45L	W55L	W55S			
W60	M21L	M35L	W21L	W35L	W45L	W60L	W60S			

W65	M21L	M35L	W21L	W35L	W45L	W55L	W65L			
W70	M21L	M35L	W21L	W35L	W45L	W55L	W70			
W75	M21L	M35L	W21L	W35L	W45L	W55L	W75			
W80	M21L	M35L	W21L	W35L	W45L	W55L	W80			

Non-SOA runners

The current version of SOL Guidelines requires non-SOA runners to complete 4 events and to notify the competitions convenor that they wish to be included in the league. ALL eligible runners are included in the points calculations (including visiting overseas competitors), but only those who follow the procedure in the guidelines will be eligible for SOL prizes.

How the points system works

To illustrate how the points system works, the following example is taken from Short Blue at Auchingarrich.

72 competitors completed the course, one of whom (Peter Gardiner, M21) was not in an age class that has an appropriate Short Blue course. Of the other 71, 8 scored points in M45S, 15 in M50S, 6 in M65L, 3 in W21S, 19 in W45L, and 20 in W50L. Taking W45L as an example, the table shows one W60 and two W55s, who were running up. These runners could equally be listed in the W50L results, but are shown in the highest class (youngest age group L course, for seniors) eligible for this course.

The 71 eligible runners have an average time of 67:17, with a standard deviation of 15:18. So, a runner taking 67:17 scores 1000 points. Lesley Gomersall (GRAMP, W45L took 67:12 and so scores 1001 points). Every 15:18 minutes slower/faster than 67:17 loses/gains a runner 200 points. In the six age classes running this course, fastest times and maximum points were:

M45S	Sam Gomersall	46:32	1271 points
M50S	Blair Young	41:53	1332
M65L	Neil McLean	52:34	1192
W21S	Victoria Campbell	54:31	1167
W45L	Jane Ackland	45:43	1282
W50L	Christine Patterson	51:43	1204

Correcting errors

There are several sources of error in the points scoring system, particularly if runners have incorrect age classes recorded in the results (or in the SI database). Correcting errors is easy, but any change to a runner's results may have knock-on effects for other runners scores (for example, a runner who is listed as being ineligible for SOL points on their course is not included in the calculation of the average time for that course; if the runner is actually eligible, they will then affect the average and standard deviation so the points scored by all runners on that course will be altered).

Every effort will be made to correct errors, but competitors are asked to notify any errors within 1 month of the scores for each event being published (2 weeks for the final scores after SOL7).