Build up to WOC 2024

With just over 5 weeks to until World Orienteering Championships (WOC2024) arrives in Edinburgh there's lots going but still time for you to get involved!

WOC2024 organisers are putting the finishing touches to plans to ensure that everything is ready for almost 350 athletes and officials arrive in the Scottish capital for what promises to be 5 days of exciting competition. If you're on social media, you'll surely have seen our recent posts and activity featuring Scottish athletes who we hope will be representing GB at WOC2024 as well as some of the biggest names from around the world preparing to compete for medals.

Building the awareness around the event is a top priority for us in the coming weeks, and it's been great to see coverage of orienteering growing, with a recent article in Athletics Weekly and confirmation that the action in Edinburgh will be shown live on the European Broadcasting Union's new Eurovision Sport website and app. If you're in Edinburgh, then keep your eyes peeled for WOC2024 videos appearing on digital screens at bus stops across Edinburgh and being shown on around 150 screens on-board Lothian buses that run across the city – that's more than 5 million views each week!

As awareness increases, so does support from businesses and brands in Edinburgh and further afield. With an event of this size, there is so much to source and secure, so we've been delighted to bring cash partners on-board as well as reaching agreements which ensure we have access to the very best equipment, facilities and services without cost to the event. If you or your brand want to use WOC2024 as a platform to reach the orienteering world and a wider global broadcast audience, then please get in touch at www.woc2024.org/contact.

The interest in the WOC Tour events which run parallel with WOC2024 has exceeded our expectations, but there is still space if you do want to get involved. Head across to www.woc2024.org/woc-tour for all the details and to enter.

And just as it is not too late to sign up for WOC Tour – it is not too late to sign up to volunteer either! We are very grateful to those of you who have made yourselves available already to help with WOC or WOC Tour (or in some cases both), and we are working hard to confirm roles, timings, and briefing plans all back to you by mid-June. But as you can imagine, staging sprint races in busy Central Edinburgh in July is quite the challenge and so the more helpers the better! If you are able to help us and have yet to put your name forward, then please do sign up at www.woc2024.org/volunteering

For those of you already planning to be in Edinburgh during WOC week, there will be some additional spectator services available (via SIEntries) by the time you read this:

- Our partnership with Lothian Buses - who will be providing all the race transport for national teams - means they have also made it possible for us to offer a discounted 'citysmart' card which will offer 20 single journeys (valid on bus and tram) for use during WOC and the days afterwards.
- We will also be offering ticketed access to the part of the Sprint Relay area with views of the changeover and finish (the Sprint Relay is at Heriot Watt's Riccarton Campus on Sunday 14th July)
- For non CompassSport subscribers, there will also be the chance to purchase copies of the souvenir programme that their subscribers will receive alongside the June issue of the magazine.
- Finally, we are delighted to have partnered with Heart Research UK and their Heart of Scotland Appeal as the official charity of WOC2024. If you'd like to donate to support their vital research and work in Scotland, you can do so via the SIEntries page.

We look forward to welcoming athletes, spectators, officials, volunteers and WOC Tour entrants to (hopefully) sunny Edinburgh in July. See you there!!!

WOC2024 Organising Team