



# BTO Scottish Orienteering Urban League (btoSOUL) guidelines 2019



(Jan 2019)

## Urban guidelines

btoSOUL events should follow as closely as possible the comprehensive BOF Urban events guideline (Rules of Orienteering Appendix B, section 11), the updated version of which can be found here:

<https://www.britishorienteering.org.uk/rules>

This provides guidance on course lengths, combinations and specific advice regarding safety for juniors.

NB Urban sprint, middle distance or score events may all be included in the series to provide variety and increase geographic spread. In these events distances/ times will be relevant to the discipline / category.

## Junior courses

In addition to the BOF guideline the following guidance is provided to btoSOUL series event organisers and planners regarding junior courses. They should also provide helpful information to parents.

- All junior courses should comply with BOF guidance that under 16s should not cross roads with busy traffic (see BOF guidelines for alternative ways of dealing with this matter).
- In line with BOF guidance on **shadowing**, juniors being shadowed on junior courses shall remain competitive for the series. **Note** It is possible that the guidance for any individual btoSOUL event may require shadowed juniors to declare themselves as non-competitive for the purposes of the event, but **that will not prevent them from gaining the appropriate btoSOUL points**. It is the responsibility of the competitor/parent to clarify with the event organiser if they are unsure.
- Course M/W 12- maps should where possible be provided to competitors at registration to allow parents to judge whether or not shadowing is appropriate.
- Where possible the Technical difficulty (TD) and distance of the junior courses should be provided at the pre-entry stage. This is particularly important if the course for M/W 12- has controls above TD2 standard.
- Whilst there are clear restrictions for Junior courses, nevertheless planners should still aim to produce courses that provide appropriate technical navigational challenges to the participants.

## Series events

Scottish Clubs will be invited to submit events for inclusion in the series. Once accepted they will be added to the event list. The expectation is that events would be level C or

above, and should provide courses suitable for all 7 of the current age categories (see below).

There is currently no set number of events which make up the series. The series coordinator will endeavour to include all events that apply and meet the designated criteria. However if there is considered to be an excessive number of potential events, the coordinator reserves the right to limit the number.

Normally events will not be added to the list after the first event of the series has been held.

Events are open to all SOA / BOF members.

When the series consists of between 6 and 8 events the best 4 scores will count towards overall outcome of league. For a series having between 9 and 11 events the best 5 results will count towards the overall score whilst for 12 or more events in the series the best 6 results will count.

Prizes will be awarded for the 1,2,3 in each category at the end of the league with trophies being presented to the winners.

The winners name will be added to the SOUL Roll of Honour

#### **Categories** (as per above BOF guidelines)

- M/W 12-
- M/W16- (with regard to the BOF requirements for under 16's running in urban areas)
- M/W Open
- M/W Vet (40+)
- M/W Supervet (55+)
- M/W Ultravet (65+)
- M/W Hypervet (75+)

**Note: The BOF Guidelines referred to above make no mention of the Men's & Women's Hypet Vet classes (M/W75+). When these classes were introduced the intention was that they should share the same course as WUV i.e course 5 , Short Green. This is considered best practice for the SOUL series**

Points will be awarded to finishers on each category as follows: 100, 96, 93, 91, 90, 89...

At any given race, a competitor may score in only one category. Unless specified otherwise beforehand, he / she will score in the lowest category for which he is eligible; for example, if W Vet and W Supervet share a course, a W55 would score only as a W Supervet. A competitor who runs a course above that designated for his category will

score in the lowest category for which he is eligible, e.g. an M55 running up on a course designated for M Open, W Open and M Veteran would score only as M Veteran.

- In a competition with parallel heats and a set of graded finals, points will normally be awarded from the top of the A final downwards. Anybody not finishing both races will not be eligible to score points.
- Coordinator reserves the right to amend the scoring system during the year, with the aim of promoting competition or improving fairness in unforeseen circumstances.

### **Tie-break**

In the event of a tie in btoSOUL scores at the conclusion of the league, the outcome will be determined by the head to head scores between the relevant competitors. This will include any DNF, which will attract a nil score.

Roger Thetford who administers the UK Urban League scoring system has agreed to administer the league scoring software for this league. A BOF or SOA number will be required to be included in the series results.

### **Pre-entry**

When setting up pre-entry it is sensible to ask people to enter by category rather than by course.

The correct abbreviated categories for uploading for results (to save time later) are (in order of ascending age:

**MYJ, WYJ, MJ, WJ, MO, WO, MV, WV, MSV, WSV, MUV, WUV, MHV, WHV**

You may also find it helpful to add additional open categories for each course (Course 1 open, Course 2 open etc) to allow people to run down without having to modify their age/gender.

Organisers please read Roger's comprehensive guidance on the scoring system (<http://www.oxfordfusion.com/ukul/OrganisersInstructions.pdf>) before opening up for pre-entry, as the guidance includes information about how best to set up the event to allow results to be exported for the league scores.

### **Event information**

Event organisers should provide some information in the Preliminary / Final details as to the nature of the terrain to be expected and the appropriate form of footwear / leg cover that should be worn e.g. " terrain is 70% tarmac 30% forest with some brambles and steep slopes. Leg cover is recommended but road shoes will be suitable."