

AUS-NZL ELITE TEST MATCH RULES

1 Introduction

Orienteering Australia (OA) and New Zealand Orienteering Federation (NZOF) have decided to commence test matches between elite orienteers on a regular basis. These rules formalise the basis for the conduct of these test matches. The name of the event(s) to be titled the "Australia-New Zealand Test Series".

2 Schedule

The general schedule, with the agreement of both OA and NZOF, will allow for two tests a year conducted on a home and away basis. The Oceania Championships (when conducted in AUS or NZL) shall include a Test Series.

Elite test matches shall be confirmed at least 4 months prior to the staging of the event.

3 Competition Rules

Elite test matches shall be conducted in accordance with the official competition rules of the host Federation, with the following additions:

- a) Elite test matches shall be conducted in M21E and W21E grades only.
- b) The visiting Federation shall determine the number of competitors in each grade, subject to a minimum of 3 and maximum of 6, and shall advise the host Federation accordingly no later than 3 months before the event.
- c) In each race within the series (male and female), the first 4 will count for the purposes of scoring unless teams are each of 3, in which case all three will count for scoring.
- d) The host Federation shall determine the format and nature of events to be conducted, and shall advise the visiting Federation accordingly no later than 3 months before the event. At least 2 competitions shall be conducted for the elite test match.
- e) The host Federation may propose changes to their official competition rules for the purposes of an elite test match, so long as the visiting Federation has agreed such changes no later than 2 months before the event.

4 Determination of Winner

- a) The winner of an elite test match shall be determined by a points format.
- b) In the case of an individual competition, points will be allocated to finishers in each grade, based on the order of the respective scoring team members, as follows:
 1. First - 10 points
 2. Second - 9 points
 3. Third - 8 points
 4. Fourth - 7 points
 5. Fifth - 6 points
 6. Sixth - 5 points
 7. Seventh (if applicable) - 4 point
 8. Eighth (if applicable) - 3 points
 9. Ninth (if applicable) - 2 point
 10. Tenth (if applicable) - 1 point



Competitors who are disqualified or do not finish receive no points.

- c) In the case of a relay competition, points will be allocated to teams in each grade, as follows:
1. First - 20 points
 2. Second - 15 points
 3. Third (if applicable) - 10 points
 4. Fourth (if applicable) - 5 points.

Teams who are disqualified or do not finish receive no points.

- d) The winner of the series shall be the team with the most accumulated points over all events contested.
- e) If, after all competitions, points are equal between the two countries, the winner shall be determined by the following tiebreak method:
1. Firstly, the greater number of first placed finishes
 2. Secondly, the greater number of second placed finishes
 3. Thirdly, the greater number of third placed finishes.

If the tiebreak method is unable to determine a winner, the elite test match shall be declared a draw.

5 Amendments

Amendments to these rules may be made upon the agreement of both OA and NZOF.

6 Trophy

The winning nation will receive a trophy and will be responsible for engraving and return of the trophy at the following test match.

