

# AUS-NZL SCHOOLS TEST MATCH RULES

Agreed between Orienteering Australia and NZOF, 3 September 2008. Endorsed by School Sport Australia and NZ Secondary School Sports Council

Responsibility for these rules is vested in Orienteering Australia and the New Zealand Orienteering Federation, and they may only be amended with the approval of both bodies, in consultation with their national school sport organizations.

Under the current rules Schools Test Matches are contested by Australia and New Zealand.

## 1 Eligibility

Eligible competitors will be those selected and nominated in the correct age classes in accord with the procedures laid down by the relevant national school sport organization.

Competitors must be in attendance at a recognized school, or, in the case of a Test Match contested between 1 November and 31 January, have completed their schooling within the previous 3 months.

Competitors are eligible to represent the nation in which they attend school, regardless of nationality. Competitors who attend school outside the competing countries are ineligible to compete, even if they are a citizen of one of the competing countries.

## 2 Management

Responsibility for the organization of the event shall be vested in the orienteering body of the host nation, who may delegate that responsibility as they see fit.

Each competing nation shall appoint a team manager, who in addition to responsibility for their team, shall fill such specific functions as are specified under these rules.

## 3 Rules and conditions of competition

The events shall be conducted in accordance with the competition rules of the host nation for national-level events, except as provided otherwise in these rules.

The age classes shall be as follows:

- Boys 19 years and under                      Girls 19 years and under
- Boys 15 years and under                      Girls 15 years and under

A competitor's age is determined by their age on December 31 of the year of the competition, except that if the event takes place in January it is determined by their age on December 31 in the preceding year.

Each nation may nominate a maximum of four (4) runners in each class. Except as provided for in 3.7, the same four competitors in each class contest both the individual and relay event.

There will be two events for which teams may score points: an individual competition in which the team result shall be the sum of the times of the best three (3) competitors from each nation, and a relay event in which four runners compose an official team in each class.

Each nation shall receive 1 point for each class which they win in each competition, except that if a class is tied both nations receive 1 point. The overall winning nation will be the nation which achieves the



greatest number of points accumulated across the two competitions. If both nations have an equal number of points they shall be considered to have tied.

Courses for both events shall be of hard navigational difficulty That is, red level when set in New Zealand), and shall be set to achieve the following winning times:

- Individual:      Boys/girls 19 years and under – 45-50 minutes  
                         Boys/girls 15 years and under – 35-40 minutes
- Relay:            Boys/girls 19 years and under – 30-35 minutes per leg  
                         Boys/girls 15 years and under – 25-30 minutes per leg

In the event that a team member is unable to participate in the second of the two events, having participated in the first, then, with the agreement of both managers:

- a) That team member may be replaced by a reserve, if available, providing that that reserve meets the eligibility requirements laid down in clause 1;
- b) If the second event is the relay event, with the agreement of the organizers, that class may be contested by teams of three rather than four. If this occurs then the organizers must ensure that both teams complete the same course over the three legs.

In the individual event, competitors from each nation shall start alternately, but the order of competitors from each nation shall be random. The starting interval shall be not less than two (2) minutes. If other competitors not participating in the Test Match are competing on the same course, their start times shall be separated from those of the Test Match competitors by at least ten (10) minutes.

