

MLN/150727

28 Aug 16

See Distr

MILITARY LEAGUE NORTH ORIENTEERING RULES FOR 2016-2017 SEASON

References:

- A. [British Orienteering \(BO\) Governance, Policies and Regulations](#) (www).
- B. [2015DIN07-143 Authority for Army Orienteering](#)
- C. [Army General Administrative Instructions \(AGAI\) Volume 1 Chapter 5: Sport.](#)
- D. [JSP 907 \(Catalogue of Training Estates\).](#)
- E. [Land Forces Corporate Governance Statement \(LFCGS 10\) dated June 2013\)](#)
- F. DIO National Licence Arrangements dated 12 May 14.
- G. Op Order 14/002 – The Army’s Approach To ‘Risk To Life’ dated 28 Feb 14.

1. **General.** Physical training is an integral part of service life and is essential for military effectiveness; technically difficult and physically demanding orienteering plays a key role in this military output. Orienteering in the Army is classified as normal military training, a distinct form of navigation training. It can be used as a component of Military Annual Training Test (MATT) 5 (Land Navigation), an annual test for Army personnel.

2. **The Rules.** These rules explain the governance structure of the Military League North Orienteering (MLNO) and the competition formats, and provide direction for the staging of events. They are in accordance with the general principles, guidelines and policies outlined at Reference A, as authorised at Reference B.

3. **MLNO Aim.** The aim of the MLNO is to:

- a. Enhance the effectiveness of military personnel through the provision of structured orienteering opportunities in a competitive environment.
- b. Foster links with local orienteering clubs to enhance the quality of military orienteering events and for the benefit of community relations.

4. **Governance.** The MLNO will be governed by a committee consisting of the under-mentioned appointments:

- a. **Chairperson.** The Chairperson holds overall responsibility for the management of the MLNO in accordance with its aims and governance framework. He/she is responsible for the policy framework governing MLNO activities.
- b. **Secretary.** The Secretary is the main POC for the MLNO and is responsible for the MLNO Fixtures calendar. He will liaise with the Army Orienteering Association (AOA) Secretary to avoid clashes with other championships and embargo areas as and when necessary. He is also the Account Manager for the MLNO Account (the Fund Charter is at Annex A).
- c. **Results Secretary.** The Results Secretary is responsible for the collation and publication of MLNO League results.
- d. **Suitably Qualified and Experienced Person (SQEP).** The MLNO is supported by an AOA Advisor who is available to give expert technical advice, as and when required. He will also assist the league secretary in running the league.

5. **MLNO Meeting.** The MLNO will hold a meeting annually, normally preceding the MLNO League first event in September, to discuss any rule changes or items affecting the MLNO.

Event Governance and Safety

6. **Organising Unit and Officials.** The Organising Unit is to appoint an Organiser who is responsible for the organisation (or cancellation) of the event in accordance with Reference A, with special emphasis on event safety. The Organiser is to appoint all the necessary officials for the event, in particular the Planner and Controller.

7. **Event Management.** Event management must comply with both military policy for individual training activities and BO rules. Events must also be run in accordance with the AOA DIO licence agreement. The event Organiser is directly responsible for ensuring that the event is conducted in a safe manner. He is to stop the activity if he is not satisfied in this respect. A civilian cannot take formal responsibility for the conduct of a military activity. Where civilians are running a MLNO event a UK service Officer or Warrant Officer is to be formally nominated as the Organiser.

8. **Retail Traders and Caterers.** Any trader or caterer who attends an MLNO event staged on MOD land must hold their own DIO licence.

9. **Risk Management.** The Organiser is to ensure that the AOA rules for the conduct of a Level D event are complied with in full. Additionally, a risk assessment is to be conducted for every MLNO event and recorded in an EASP. In particular:

a. **Medical cover.** The organisers are responsible for the provision of appropriate medical cover. This is to include, as a minimum, a qualified first aider cover and the provision of a basic first aid kit (supplied with MLNO equipment) at the event

b. **Unusual Hazards.** The organiser, supported by the planner and controller, has responsibility for identifying and advising participants of hazards that the participant would not usually expect to encounter. Examples include: armoured vehicles; exercising troops; road crossings¹; forestry operations; deep pits; mine shafts; missing manhole covers; deep water; high-tension power cables; military wire obstacles; very high cliffs. Courses are to be planned to provide competitors with a physically and navigationally challenging course whilst keeping the risk to life as low as reasonably practicable.

c. **Competitors Clothing and Equipment.** As minimum, all competitors are to wear full leg cover²; those not compliant are not to be permitted to start any event. Short sleeve shirts are permitted. Competitors are also to be advised to carry a compass and whistle.

d. **Children.** Competitors under the age of 13 years must be accompanied by a responsible adult at all times. Juniors over the age of 13 can complete courses unaccompanied, if deemed appropriate by their parent or guardian and, for those under 16 years of age, as long as there is no unmanaged road crossing included in the course planning.

10. **Liability Insurance.** Liability insurance for Army organised or sponsored orienteering events follow the guidance given in Reference F. The MOD does not provide compensation for personal injury resulting from participation in orienteering events, although military personnel would normally expect to be eligible for payments under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme. In all other respects participants take part at their own risk and are advised to consider taking out personal accident insurance. For third party liability:

a. **Service Personnel.** When service personnel are formally authorised by the chain of command to participate in recognised³ orienteering activities, they do so 'On Duty'⁴.

¹ Participants under the age of 16 years old, must not be allowed to compete in courses that include a busy road crossing

² This rule may be relaxed by the Organiser for Park or Urban Orienteering in accordance with BO rules.

³ Recorded on Part 1 Orders, as a formal event; includes exercise instructions and appropriate authority from the CoC

⁴ [2014DIN07-028](#) refers

Under these circumstances, third party liability/public liability protection is provided by the MOD so long as the activity is conducted in accordance with the Safe Systems Approach to Training⁵.

b. **Civilians.** The AOA arranges public liability insurance that is provided by Towergate to provide cover for civilians when participating in or acting in a position of responsibility for an AOA registered event.

11. **Booking of areas for MLNO events.** It is a mandatory requirement that the organiser of a MLNO event books military training areas and/or private land in accordance with Reference E and/or LFSOs for Training on Private Land (TOPL)). Failure to adhere to this policy could result in the event being deemed an unauthorised activity. Where areas are booked as TOPL, the organiser is to arrange with the private land owner to dual book the area for civilian use (on behalf of the BAOC, or via the local civilian club if the latter is utilised as an organiser).⁶ The organiser is to liaise with the MLNO Secretary with regards to any additional charges that the private land owner raises.

League Structure

12. **MLNO Area/Amalgamations for Sport.** The MLNO Area covers all military (including Joint and the other single Services⁷) units and organisations based within the Army Sport North (4(NE) and 42(NW) Bdes) geographical boundaries. At the agreement of the committee, teams from units outside of the stated area may compete but are to take no part in competitions within their own designated area. Army units are to compete as Major or Minor Units in accordance with Reference C and as listed in the [Sp Comd UK North Amalgamations for Army Sport](#). Reserve unit teams will compete as a minor Unit. Unit teams may comprise of either single or mixed gender; there will not be a separate league for women.

13. **Individual Eligibility.** The MLNO is open to all service personnel⁸ and MOD Civil Servants on the strength of, and representing, MOD units/organisations covered in paragraph 12 above. Although other personnel (military and civilian) are welcome, and encouraged to participate, they will compete only as 'Guests'.

14. **Competitions.** The MLNO comprises two main competitions:

a. **MLNO League.** The League will operate throughout the main orienteering season, normally commencing in late Sep and ending in Jun. It comprises an Individual, a Major Unit, a Minor Unit and a Guest Unit/Club League, with any number of competitors from a unit or club competing on any course offered by the organiser within an event that is declared by the MLNO Secretary as a MLNO League scoring event. See paragraphs 23-24 for detailing of both individual and team scoring for events.

b. **Individual/Team Championship.** Separate instruction will be issued to cover the MLN Individual and Team Championships.

15. **Fixtures.** Events will normally be held on Wednesday afternoons, but may be held at other times, eg during an evening, or on other weekdays. All fixtures are to be arranged through the MLNO Secretary who is responsible for notification of events and ensuring publication on the events section of the BAOC Website.

16. **Notification of event details.** The Organiser is to publicise the event details, by the means of an Event Flyer uploaded to the BAOC website (via the MLNO Secretary), not less than 21 calendar days prior to the event date.

⁵ Safe Persons, Safe Equipment, Safe Place, Safe Practice

⁶ DIO TOPL bookings can only be made for purely military use of land.

⁷ Such as RAF Stations

⁸ Regulars and Reserves from all 3 Services, including RM, FTRS, NRPS, OTC, Cadet Forces and Visiting Forces personnel. Reservists (including OTC) must be on an endorsed military activity, otherwise they are to enter events as a civilian participant.

16. **Type and Standards for Events.** The following formats and standards will apply for all listed MLNO League events. All courses MUST be planned in accordance with the BO Rules (see Annex B to Reference A):

a. **Cross-Country format.** It is essential to have three courses complying with the following parameters **taken over flat terrain**, and that the rule 'expected time for most competitors' is taken on board by Planners.

Course	Course Colour	Technical Difficulty (TD)	Expected Time For Most Competitors (minutes)	Minimum/Maximum Length (km)
A	Blue	5	55 - 90	5.5 – 7.5
B	Light Green	4	45 - 75	3.5 - 5
C	Red	3	45 - 75	4.5 - 7

(1) BO guidelines note that each 100m of climb is equivalent to an additional 1 km of flat route; this must be taken into consideration by planners when estimating course completion times.

(2) For the Red Course, maps should include a legend.

(3) The Red Course is an adult novice standard course. It is aimed at new recruits and can also be completed by dependants during school holidays. The Planner must aim this course at the complete novice and not just re-use course controls from the Blue or Lt Green courses. Control descriptions must be written English and not IOF pictorial.

b. **Score format.** Course planners are to ensure that events are planned at a technical and physical standard so that it should be difficult for an individual to achieve a maximum control point score within the target time. Ten points will be deducted per minute over the target time at a rate of 1 point every 6 seconds, or part thereof.

c. **Other formats.** For events other than Cross-Country and Score, (eg Spanish Score, Contour, Corridor, Window, Map Memory and/or Norwegian), a mixture of control sites should be used to encourage competitors and competition. Advice should be sought from either the MLN Secretary or from the AOA Technical Advisor, if necessary.

17. **Start Procedures.** Start times for competitors from the same team on the same course are to be at least 4 minutes apart.

18. **Orienteering Event Equipment.** To assist organising units the MLNO has various orienteering equipment available for temporary loan, details of which can be gained from the League Secretary.

19. **League Registration.** Units do not need to register for the league as they will automatically be included whenever teams attend an event. However, Team Captains are responsible for ensuring that all team members complete and confirm their entry correctly at Event Registration, as follows:

a. **Military competitors.** Service number, rank, surname, initial, unit and DoB.

b. **Civilian competitors.** BOF number, first name, surname, club and class.

20. **Missing detail.** A competitor whose unit or club cannot be identified on the day by the organiser will be listed as "IND" (independent) and will result in the non-publication of any league points until such time that either the Team Captain or individual rectify such omissions. Individuals of either sex who fail to give a correct age group when registering will be listed as M21.

21. **Age Grouping.** For the purposes of the MLNO League competition, individuals will compete throughout the League in the age category that they will hold as at 1 Jan of the current season. For the Individual, Team Harris competition, individuals will compete in the age category which they hold on the day of the event.

22. **League Scoring System - Individual Scores.**

a. **Cross-Country events.** This includes Night, Contour, Window, Map Memory and Norwegian formats, the timings of the top 3 MLNO League military runners per course will be averaged, with this being the 'target time'. Points will be allocated as follows, but see sub-paragraph 23a(5) below:

(1) A Course (Blue) – Maximum 100 points (see sub-paragraph 23a(6) below).

(2) B Course (Light Green)) – Maximum of 70 points.

(3) C Course (Red) – Maximum of 50 points.

(4) For each full minute that a competitor is over the target time, a point will be subtracted from the maximum allowed for that Course. Negative points will not be awarded.

(5) For competitors under the target time, bonus points will be awarded on the basis of one point per full minute under the target time, but this will apply only to the A Course (Blue).

b. **Score events.** The League points calculation depends on whether more than 2 MLN military runners achieved the maximum score at the event.

(1) **Maximum score NOT achieved by more than 2 military runners.** The scores of the first 3 MLN military runners will be averaged, with the MLN League points then calculated as:

$$\frac{\text{Runner's Score}}{\text{Average Score}} \times 100$$

(2) **Maximum score IS achieved by more than 2 military runners.** All those achieving the maximum score will have their League points calculated by the same method used for a Cross-Country event A Course (Blue) as described in section 23a above. This will result in reducing points awarded over the average of the first three MLN military runners' times. The lowest point's value awarded using this method is the Base Points Value (BPV) for those who do not achieve the maximum score and therefore all those below the maximum score will have their points calculated as follows:

$$\frac{\text{Runner's Score}}{\text{Maximum Score}} \times \text{BPV (as described above)}.$$

(3) **Negative points.** Negative points are to be zeroed prior to submission to the Results Secretary.

c. **MLN Championship events.** MLNO League points will not be awarded for MLNO Individual/Team Championships.

d. **Event Officials.** 100 points each are awarded to the Organiser, Planner and Controller for an MLN League event (not including MLNO Championship events). This is available for up to a maximum of two events per official, in whatever capacity, per season

and will be taken from the first 2 events that an official undertakes a duty. They may however assist in more, and an organiser may compete in their own event as long as they are not involved in any part of the course planning and have no prior knowledge of control locations.

e. **League Positions.** The final league individual positions will be calculated from the average of the runners' best 50% rounded up +1 of the total events declared as an 'MLN League Scoring Event'. For example: if there are 15 MLNO Scoring events throughout the season the average of a runners best 9 scores would be used. Subsequent placings after those who have completed the necessary events will be calculated on 'Total' score of events attended. To encourage attendance, a runner completing 50%+1 of events will always finish higher than someone who has not, regardless of score.

23. **League Scoring System - Team Scores.** These will be calculated as follows:

a. **Major Units.** The top six scoring runners per event will count towards the MLNO League position. Any number of runners may compete.

b. **Minor Units.** The top four scoring runners per event will count towards the league position. Any number of runners may compete.

c. **Guest Units/Clubs.** The top four scoring runners per event will count towards the league position. Any number of runners may compete.

d. **Minimum numbers of runners.** Should any unit or club be unable to field a full team, then the maximum points gained will be that obtained from the runners attending.

e. **Event Organising Unit.** The organising unit is awarded the following points per MLN League event (not including MLNO Championship events). This is available for up to a maximum of two events, however, the award of these points is dependent upon the event being run in accordance with Reference A and the production of a set of results for distribution to the Results Secretary (see sub-paragraph 30a below):

(1) Major Unit – 600 points.

(2) Minor Units and Guest Unit/Club – 400 points.

f. **League Positions.** The final team league positions will be calculated from the units' or clubs' best 50% rounded up +1 of the total declared events and within the same guidelines as 23e

24. **Funding/budgets.** As Military Training, orienteering events may in some circumstances utilise public funding, subject to authorisation from the budget holder. Organisers should always seek prior advice from their own unit RAO staff. Examples of issues that Organisers and participants may wish to consider include:

a. **Unit Costs.** Operating costs of staging an event may be chargeable to a unit's military training budget.

b. **Orienteering Equipment.** Equipment may be considered for purchase through the annual Sports Equipment Grant (SEG) administered by Sp Comd.

c. **Entry Fees.** Event entry fees may be payable through ECOPF.

d. **Prizes.** The purchase of prizes is not normally allowable with public funds.

25. **Entry Fees/Levies.** Event organisers should try to keep the charge per entrant to the recommended Entry Fee as shown in the table below. Entry Fees include the Organiser's costs, the MLNO Levy and the DIO/TOPL Levy.

Detail	All Military	Senior Civilians (M/W21 and above)	Junior Civilians (M/W20 and below)	Remarks
Recommended Entry Fee	£3.00	£5	£5	
Breakdown of costs				
Organising expenses (Unit)	£1.50	£1.50	£1.50	To cover mapping costs and sundries
MLNO Fund	£1.50	£1.00	£1.00	Equipment and prizes
AOA Ins	Nil	£1.00	£1.00	Civilian entrants only
DIO/TOPL Levy	Nil	£1.50	£1.50	Civilian entrants only

26. **League Tables.** The Results Secretary is to produce the MLNO League Tables (for Individuals, Major Units, Minor Units and Guest Teams) and a copy of these is to be placed onto the BAOC website under MLNO Results. League Tables are to be published as often as possible and as a minimum once every 2 months during the season and at least a week before the final league prize-giving event.

27. **Prizes/Prize Giving.** The Prize Giving, for all competitions, will be at an event held at the end of the MLNO League season, with prizes awarded in the categories listed below:

Competition	Classes	Awards	Procured by
MLNO League Individual	M/F Open	1st, 2nd, 3rd	MLN Secretary
	M/F U21, U40, U50, 50+ Guests	1st	
		1st	
MLNO League Team	Major Unit (8), Minor Unit (6), Guest (6)	1st, 2nd	MLN Secretary
		1st	
Novice medal	As nominated by team captains (3)		MLN Secretary

28. **Complaints procedures.** Events will be governed by these MLNO Rules and AOA/BO Rules. The format and rules of the MLNO will remain unchanged throughout the season. Units seeking clarification should in the first instance consult the MLNO Secretary. In the event of any dispute, the decision of the Chairman will be final. Any complaints with regard to any competitor or any aspect of the organisation or course planning at events should be directed to the Organiser and Controller in the first instance. Matters not resolved should then be directed to the MLNO Secretary for further discussion with the MLNO Chairman, with the decision of the Chairman being final.

(Original Signed)

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 MLNO Secretary
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Annex:

A. The Fund Charter – Military League North Orienteering Fund.

Distr:

Chairman

Secretary

Results Secretary

AOA Technical Advisor

Trg PD – 4(NE)Bde, 42(NW) Bde

Army Sport North – all units

**THE FUND CHARTER
MILITARY LEAGUE NORTH ORIENTEERING FUND**

References:

- A. Queens Regulation for the Army.
- B. Service Fund Regulations.

Managing Trustee: North of England, RFCA

Fund Manager: League Secretary

1. **Status.** The Military League North Orienteering (MLNO) Orienteering Fund is a Service (Non-Public) Fund and is to be administered in accordance with References A and B. It will be held within the Unit Accounts administrated by 102 Bn REME.
2. **Aim.** The aim of the MLNO is to:
 - a. Enhance the effectiveness of military personnel through the provision of structured orienteering opportunities in a competitive environment.
 - b. Foster links with local orienteering clubs to enhance the quality of military orienteering events and for the benefit of community relations.
3. **The Fund.** The aims of the Fund are:
 - a. To financially support the aim of Military League North Orienteering.
 - b. The collection and payment of levies due to Army Orienteering Association (AOA) and other bodies.
 - c. Financing or subsidising the cost of the MLNO League, Individual and Team Championship events and the provision of suitable prizes for such competitions.
 - d. Provision or repair of resources and equipment owned or used to support the aim.
4. **Income.** The fund will attract income from the following sources:
 - a. The MLNO Levy charged at all MLNO events.
 - b. Sports Equipment Grants for capital equipment projects.
5. **Maintenance.** The account is to be maintained by the RCMO 102 Bn REME in accordance with accounting instructions detailed in Reference B.
6. **Safeguards.** Audits checks are to be carried out in accordance with Reference B.
7. **Management.** A MLNO Committee, consisting of a Chairman, Secretary and Results Secretary shall ensure the correct management of the Fund. By default the Secretary shall act as treasurer and Account Manager for the Fund. Furthermore, publication of the following will take place annually at the MLNO Meeting, normally held in September each year, to ensure clarity of the Fund:
 - a. The Annual Statement of Accounts and current Liquidity Statement.

