

**POLICY FOR EX ASTUTE RUNNER – THE ARMY INDIVIDUAL ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS**

1. **Introduction.** Exercise ASTUTE RUNNER is an Army Orienteering Association (AOA) sponsored Army Individual orienteering championship and usually takes place in late January or early February. Entry details are promulgated on a flyer and published on the British Army Orienteering Club (BAOC) website; with the competition taking place within a weekend civilian event.

2. **Purpose of Ex ASTUTE RUNNER.** The purpose of Ex ASTUTE RUNNER is to:

- a. Annually establish the best male and female orienteer in the Army;
- b. Expose competitors to:
  - (1) high quality orienteering maps and planning;
  - (2) technically demanding and physically challenging orienteering;
  - (3) large scale civilian orienteering competition organisation;
- c. Expose the civilian orienteering community to the best of the Army competitors;

IOT support community engagement, recruitment and develop orienteering as a military skill.

3. **Event Criteria.** The selected event should be a British Orienteering registered Level A or B competition. The event should move geographically round the UK; it will not take place overseas.

4. **Competition Format.** Level A and B competitions are structured using Age Groups and are not Colour Coded. Army competitors will compete in Age Groups as determined below:

Class	Age Group Course	Prizes	Comments
Men's Army Individual Champion – Men's Open Class	M21L	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Male competitors in age groups M35+ will be expected to run up; M21L is Brown/Black equivalent
Women's Army Individual Champion – Women's Open Class	W35L	1 <sup>st</sup> , 2 <sup>nd</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> place	Female competitors in age group W21 will be expected to run down; whilst competitors W40+ will be expected to run up; W35L is Blue/Short Brown equivalent
Men's Short Class	M40S	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Male competitors will mostly run out of age group; M40S is Blue equivalent
Women's Short Class	W45S	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Female competitors will mostly run out of age group; W45S is Short Green equivalent
Junior / Novice Men's Class	M14	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Juniors / Novices will all run out of age group; M14 & W14 courses' are Light Green (TD4) equivalent
Junior / Novice Women's Class	W14	1 <sup>st</sup> & 2 <sup>nd</sup>	

5. **Attendance.** Attendance is voluntary and there is no pre-entry requirement, but competitors are responsible for their own personal safety and for assessing their own abilities to complete the selected course.
6. **Communications Plan.** The event will be published on the BAOC website and the CoC informed by an Army Briefing Note (ABN).
7. **Prizes.** The Men's and Women's individual 1<sup>st</sup> place winners will be presented with the appropriate cup / plate and for all classes less Junior / Novice will be medals or equivalent. Junior / Novices will be awarded a 1<sup>st</sup> place £50 and 2<sup>nd</sup> place £25 voucher for Ultrasport.
8. **Entries.** Competitors will be expected to enter the Army Individual orienteering championships [Exercise ASTUTE RUNNER] via the appropriate civilian competition website. Details of which will be clearly articulated in the event flyer.
9. **Entry Fees.** Individual competitors should make a request to their unit budget manager to allocate non-public funds, such as PRI to pay for entry fees.
10. **Allowances and Service Transport.** This is an authorised exercise and participants are entitled to the normal duty allowances detailed in JSP 752. Service transport may be used subject to the normal rules for military training and charged to Purpose of Travel Code 13 (POT 13). All charges against Public Funds incurred by individuals, or units, are to be charged against their appropriate unit training budget with prior authority of the budget manager.
11. **Authority.** The annually published DIN, Authority for Army Orienteering, is the authority for Army service personnel participating in AOA sponsored events and competitions to be classified as official individual military training. It is recognised that 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.