



# **Technical Regulations Orienteering**

**European Deaf Youth Games**

**Hanover, Germany**

**17 to 23 August 2026**

# EUROPEAN DEAF SPORT ORGANISATION

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# ***EUROPEAN DEAF SPORT ORGANISATION***

## **1. EVENT STATUS**

### *1.1 Event Authority*

The European Deaf Youth Games (EDYG) Orienteering competition is organised under the authority of the European Deaf Sports Organisation (EDSO).

The sport-specific organisation and technical supervision shall be conducted by the EDSO Orienteering Director in cooperation with the Local Organising Committee (LOC).

The LOC shall be responsible for venue operations, logistics, scheduling, and on-site organisation.

All technical and regulatory authority remains with EDSO.

### *1.2 Event Type / Sport Status*

EDYG Orienteering is a youth development competition.

It is designed to:

- promote participation in international Deaf sport,
- support athlete development,
- provide competitive experience for young athletes,
- and encourage long-term engagement in Orienteering.

EDYG Orienteering is not an elite championship and does not serve as a qualification event for ICSD competitions, World Deaf Championships or Deaflympics.

### *1.3 Event Level*

EDYG Orienteering is conducted at the continental youth level under EDSO authority. It constitutes an official European youth competition for Deaf athletes.

### *1.4 Sport Classification*

Orienteering is classified as an individual sport.

In addition, a mixed sprint relay/pair event may be organised if the minimum participation requirements are met.

### *1.5 Competition Categories*

The following categories may be organised:

- Boys
- Girls
- Mixed category added for Sprint only

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The mixed event consists of one (1) female and one (1) male athlete.

## **1.6 Qualification Competitions**

No qualification competitions are required for EDYG Orienteering.

Participation is based on open entry, subject to the limits defined in these Technical Regulations.

## **1.7 Advancement Pathways**

The EDYG Orienteering competition does not serve as a qualification event for:

- European Deaf Championships (EDC)
- World Deaf Championships
- World Deaf Youth Games
- Deaflympics

The competition serves exclusively as a developmental and educational platform.

## **1.8 Ranking, Seeding and Cycle Systems**

Results from EDYG Orienteering do not form part of any official ICSD ranking system.

EDSO may, where appropriate, use results for internal youth development tracking and seeding purposes in future youth competitions.

No automatic ranking points or advancement rights shall apply unless explicitly stated.

# **2. PARTICIPANTS & ELIGIBILITY**

## **2.1 Invitation / Nomination**

Participation in the EDYG Orienteering competition is subject to official nomination.

All National Deaf Sports Federations (NDSFs) in good standing with EDSO are entitled to nominate athletes for participation.

Only athletes duly nominated by their respective NDSF are eligible to compete.

Entries may only be submitted by authorised representatives of the respective NDSFs.

## **2.2 Eligibility**

Participation in the competition is restricted to athletes who fulfil all eligibility requirements defined by EDSO and ICSD.

All athletes must:

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- hold a valid ICSD athlete registration number,
- be registered with a National Deaf Sports Federation recognised by ICSD,
- possess a valid and ICSD-recognised audiogram in accordance with the ICSD Audiogram Regulations.

Athletes without a valid ICSD ID and recognised audiogram are not eligible to compete.

## **2.2.1 Hearing Eligibility**

Participation is restricted to athletes who are deaf and/or hard of hearing.

All athletes must comply with the ICSD Audiogram Regulations.

A minimum hearing loss of 55 dB in the better ear is required.

Audiograms shall be verified in accordance with the applicable ICSD procedures.

The use of hearing aids, cochlear implants or similar hearing devices is prohibited in the Restricted Zone.

## **2.2.2 Age Eligibility**

EDYG Orienteering is a youth-level competition.

Age eligibility is defined by year of birth, not by exact date of birth.

The following age categories apply:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Year of Birth</b>
Boys U16	2011 – 2013
Boys U19	2008 - 2010
Girls U16	2011 – 2013
Girls U19	2008 – 2010

The standard age categories defined above may be modified by Addendum where necessary.

The exact grouping into competitions depends on the number of registered athletes and shall be confirmed in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

EDSO reserves the right to merge or adapt age categories if required to ensure meaningful competition.

All athletes who are sixteen (16) years of age or younger must obtain written permission from their parents or legal guardians and, where applicable, from their educational authorities.

## **2.2.3 Compliance**

Only athletes who comply with:

- the EDSO Statutes,
- the EDSO General Regulations,
- the EDYG General Provisions (Part I1),
- and the present Technical Regulations

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are eligible to participate.

## 2.3 Number of Teams

Not applicable.

(Orienteering is primarily an individual sport, with optional mixed sprint event.)

## 2.4 Qualified Teams / Athletes

Participation in EDYG Orienteering is based on open entry.

No qualification tournaments are required.

If the number of registered athletes exceeds the operational capacity of the event, EDSO may introduce:

- quota systems,
- entry caps per NDSF,
- or prioritisation criteria.

Any such measures shall be published in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

## 2.5 Maximum Number of Athletes and Team Officials per NDSF

### 2.5.1 Athletes

Each National Deaf Sports Federation (NDSF) may enter and field a maximum number of athletes for participation in the EDYG Orienteering competition as follows:

Category	Maximum
Boys	2
Girls	2

This quota defines the maximum number of athletes who may be accredited and allowed to compete per gender and per age category.

This quota defines the maximum number of athletes who may be accredited and allowed to compete for each NDSF.

No NDSF may exceed this overall athlete quota.

### 2.5.2 Team Officials

In addition to the registered athletes, each National Deaf Sports Federation (NDSF) may accredit team officials in accordance with its own organisational needs.

For EDYG Badminton events, no fixed maximum number of team officials per delegation is prescribed. The composition and number of team officials (e.g. coaches, head of delegation, medical staff, support personnel) shall be determined at the discretion of the respective NDSF, subject to overall event capacity and accreditation policies.

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The final confirmation of accredited team officials, including categories, numbers and access rights, shall be determined by the Organising Committee and communicated via the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

## **2.6 Number of Athletes per Discipline / Event**

Within the overall participation quota defined in Article 2.5, the following maximum numbers of athletes per discipline/event apply:

<b>Event</b>	<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>	<b>Mixed</b>
Sprint	2	2	2 teams (1 male + 1 female per team)
Middle Sprint	2	2	-
Mass Start	2	2	-
Maze / Labyrinth	2	2	-

For mixed events, one mixed team consists of one (1) male and one (1) female athlete. Each NDSF may enter a maximum of two (2) mixed teams per mixed event.

These limits define how many athletes from one NDSF may be entered and fielded per discipline or event.

The limits per discipline/event do not increase the overall maximum number of athletes defined in Article 2.5.

## **2.7 Number of Reserves / Substitutes**

Each NDSF may nominate reserve athletes within the overall maximum athlete quota.

No additional athletes beyond the permitted maximum shall be accredited.

Replacements must be made from within the originally registered group of athletes, unless otherwise approved by EDSO.

## **2.8 Competition Entry Standards**

No minimum performance standards apply.

EDYG Orienteering is a development-oriented competition.

## **2.9 Competition Entry Rules**

Only an authorised representative of each NDSF is allowed to submit entries.

All entries must be submitted using the official EDSO forms or platforms.

## **2.10 Non-Starting Athletes (DNS / No-Show)**

A fine of EUR 30 shall be levied on each non-starting athlete.

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This fine shall not apply if the athlete submits a medical certificate or a doctor's declaration stating that he/she is not allowed to start.

## **3. ENTRIES & REGISTRATION**

### *3.1 Entry Procedure*

Entries for EDYG Orienteering shall be submitted exclusively by the National Deaf Sports Federations (NDSFs).

All entries must be submitted using the official EDSO registration forms or platforms.

Entries shall be sent to the EDSO Orienteering Director, with a copy to the EDSO Representative and the Organising Committee.

### *3.2 Entry Phases*

EDYG Orienteering follows the standard multi-phase entry system for individual sports.

Due to the youth-development character of the EDYG, flexibility may be applied within the defined framework.

The following phases apply:

#### **Phase 1 – Preliminary (Form 1)**

NDSFs shall submit a non-binding preliminary entry indicating their intention to participate and the expected number of athletes.

Standard deadline: **30 June 2025**

This phase serves to:

- estimate participation numbers,
- support scheduling and court allocation,
- enable early planning of age categories and formats.

#### **Phase 2 – Final Entry (Form 2)**

NDSFs shall submit their binding number of athletes per gender and age category.

Standard deadline: **16 January 2026**

Special EDYG provision for Orienteering:

An NDSF may initially register 0, 1 or 2 athletes.

An increase from 0 → 1 or 0 → 2, or from 1 → 2 athletes is permitted until Phase 3, to allow the late identification of talented youth athletes.

After Phase 3, no further increases are permitted.

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## **Phase 3 – Provisional Name List (Form 3)**

NDSFs shall submit a provisional and extended list of athletes, including reserve athletes.

Standard deadline: **16 May 2026**

This phase serves for:

- eligibility verification,
- age category confirmation,
- scheduling and draw preparation,
- safeguarding and supervision planning.

## **Phase 4 – Final Name List (Form 4)**

NDSFs shall submit the final and binding list of athletes.

Standard deadline: **16 July 2026**

Only athletes included on the Final Name List are eligible to compete, unless replacement rules apply.

### *3.3 Entry Limits*

Entry limits per NDSF, discipline or event may apply.

For EDYG Orienteering, the following limits refer to the maximum number of athletes who may actively compete:

<b>Boys</b>	<b>Girls</b>
2	2

These limits apply to competition participation only and do not restrict the total size of a national delegation.

These limits refer exclusively to athletes and do not include coaches, team officials, interpreters or support staff.

No fixed maximum number is imposed on the total number of non-athlete delegation members per NDSF.

However, the number of coaches and officials allowed in the field of play, competition area or restricted zones shall be limited and regulated in accordance with the sport-specific competition rules.

All additional delegation members may only access spectator areas or non-restricted zones.

### *3.4 Reserve Athletes*

Reserve athletes may be designated only within the maximum number of athletes defined in Chapter 2.5 (Number of Athletes per NDSF).

No additional athletes beyond this limit shall be accredited.

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## **3.5 Late Entries & Changes**

Late entries, changes after deadlines or exceptional modifications require explicit approval by EDSO.

Such approvals shall only be granted in justified youth-development cases.

## **3.6 Non-Start, Withdrawal & Penalties**

A fine of EUR 30 shall be levied for each non-starting athlete (DNS).

This fine shall not apply if the athlete submits an official medical certificate or a doctor's declaration confirming that he or she is not allowed to start.

Additional sanctions may apply in accordance with the EDSO Schedule of Fees.

## **3.7 Maximum Numbers of Teams and/or Athletes**

The maximum number of athletes admitted to EDYG Orienteering may be limited for organisational, scheduling or safeguarding reasons.

If necessary, restrictions shall be published in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

## **3.8 Accreditation Fees**

Participation in the European Deaf Youth Games (EDYG) is subject to an accreditation fee payable to EDSO.

Unless otherwise specified in the sport-specific Technical Regulations, an accreditation fee of EUR 30 per person shall apply for:

- athletes,
- coaches,
- team officials,
- team leaders,
- physiotherapists,
- interpreters,
- and any other accredited delegation members.

This accreditation fee is payable to EDSO and is mandatory for all persons accredited for participation in EDYG events.

### **3.8.1 Sport-Specific Exception – Beach Volleyball**

For EDYG Beach Volleyball, the following exception applies:

- An accreditation fee of EUR 50 per pair shall apply for each competing beach volleyball pair (two athletes together).
- This pair-based accreditation fee replaces the individual athlete fee for beach volleyball athletes only.

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All non-athlete delegation members (coaches, officials, interpreters, etc.) remain subject to the standard EUR 30 per person accreditation fee.

## **3.8.2 Local Organising Committee (LOC) Fees**

Any additional fees charged by the Local Organising Committee (LOC), including but not limited to accommodation, meals, transport or local services, are not included in the EDSO accreditation fee.

Such LOC-related fees shall be invoiced separately by the LOC and are governed exclusively by the event-specific participation package.

## **4. COMPETITION RULES**

### *4.1 Governing Rules*

All EDYG Orienteering competitions shall be conducted in accordance with the IOF Competition Rules for Orienteering (International Orienteering Federation) in their valid version.

Where necessary, adaptations may be applied to reflect the youth-development character of the EDYG.

In case of conflict between IOF rules and these Technical Regulations, these EDYG Orienteering Technical Regulations shall prevail.

### *4.2 Deaf-Specific Adaptations*

The following deaf-specific adaptations shall apply:

- Visual signals shall replace acoustic signals where required.
- Referees and officials shall ensure that all instructions are clearly visible.
- Written or visual announcements may be used for scheduling and calls.
- Match supervision shall take into account communication accessibility.

Any further sport-specific adaptations shall be announced at the Technical Meeting

### *4.3 Competition Format*

The EDYG Orienteering competition includes the following disciplines per gender:

- Sprint
- Middle Sprint
- Mass Start
- Maze / Labyrinth

In addition, a Mixed Sprint competition may be organised, consisting of teams of one (1) male and one (1) female athlete.

The competition format depends on the number of participants and may include:

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- individual starts,
- group starts,
- mass starts,
- or a combination thereof, depending on the discipline.

The final format, including start procedures and course structures, shall be determined after the Final Discipline Entry (Form 2) and confirmed at the Technical Meeting.

The objective is to ensure fair, safe and development-appropriate competition for youth athletes.

## *4.4 Field of Play & Equipment*

Competitions shall be conducted on orienteering terrain, which may include urban areas, parks, forests or indoor maze facilities, depending on the discipline.

Competition venue:

TBA

All competition maps, courses and control points must comply with IOF mapping and course-setting standards.

Athletes must use:

- IOF-approved maps,
- electronic punching and timing systems,
- official control descriptions,
- timing chips compatible with the official timing and results system used at the event.

## *4.5 Equipment Control / Verification*

Equipment checks may be conducted before or during the competition.

Athletes are responsible for ensuring that their timing chips, bib numbers and personal equipment comply with the applicable IOF and EDSO rules.

Non-compliant equipment may be rejected by the referee or Technical Committee.

Athletes shall wear sportswear suitable for orienteering and in accordance with EDSO advertising and identification regulations

## *4.6 Youth-Specific Provisions*

Due to the youth-development character of the EDYG, the following principles apply:

- Course lengths and technical difficulty shall be adapted to youth age categories.
- Adequate rest periods between races shall be ensured.
- Safety instructions shall be clearly communicated before each race.
- Medical supervision and hydration opportunities shall be prioritised.

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Any such adaptations shall be communicated in advance and confirmed at the Technical Meeting.

## **5. EVENT PROGRAMME**

### *5.1 Disciplines / Events Offered*

The following disciplines and events shall be offered in EDYG Orienteering, subject to the minimum participation requirements being met:

#### **5.1.1 Individual Events**

- Sprint
- Middle Sprint
- Mass Start
- Maze / Labyrinth

All individual events are conducted separately for:

- Boys
- Girls

#### **5.1.2 Mixed Sprint (Pair Event)**

The following mixed event may be organised if the minimum participation criteria are fulfilled:

- Mixed Sprint Relay (1 male + 1 female per team)

This event shall only be conducted if the minimum number of participating athletes and countries, as defined in these Technical Regulations, is reached.

### **5.2 Confirmation of Programme**

The final event programme shall be confirmed after the completion of the final entry phase (Form 2).

The Organising Committee, in cooperation with the EDSO Orienteering Director, shall determine:

- which disciplines and events will be conducted,
- whether group formats, knockout formats, or combined formats will be used,
- and the final structure of each competition.

The confirmed programme shall be published in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

### **5.3 Timetable**

The EDYG Orienteering competitions are scheduled within the official EDYG event period:

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17–23 August 2026

The orienteering competition days are planned as follows:

18–22 August 2026

The exact number of competition days shall depend on the number of registered athletes and events.

The duration of the competition may be shortened if required.

The provisional and final timetables shall be:

- published on the official event website: [www.dg-sportjugend.de/de/edyg-2026](http://www.dg-sportjugend.de/de/edyg-2026)
- confirmed at the Technical Meeting.

## **5.4. Minimum Participation Requirements**

Competitions shall only be conducted if the following minimum participation criteria are met:

### **5.4.1 Individual Events**

- At least 4 athletes per gender category
- From at least 2 different countries

### **5.4.2 Mixed Events**

- At least 4 mixed teams,
- From at least 2 different countries.

If the minimum requirements are not met, the respective event may be cancelled or merged with another event, where appropriate.

## **5.5. Competition System and Formats**

The competition system shall depend on the number of registered athletes and may include:

- interval start formats,
- mass start formats,
- qualification rounds and finals,
- relay formats (for mixed events).

The applicable format for each discipline shall be determined after the close of entries and published in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

## **5.6. Programme Adjustments**

EDSO reserves the right to adapt the competition programme in order to ensure:

- meaningful competition,
- athlete safety,

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- appropriate workload for youth athletes,
- and operational feasibility.

Possible adjustments include:

- modification of course lengths or difficulty,
- merging of age or gender categories,
- cancellation of events,
- rescheduling due to weather or terrain conditions.

All adjustments shall be communicated to the participating NDSFs without delay.

## **6. TECHNICAL MEETING**

### **6.1 General Provisions**

A Technical Meeting shall be held prior to the start of the EDYG Orienteering competitions.

The Technical Meeting serves as the official forum for:

- confirmation of entries and eligibility,
- clarification of competition rules and procedures,
- presentation of technical and organisational information,
- addressing questions from participating delegations,
- and the adoption of binding technical decisions.

All decisions taken at the Technical Meeting shall be binding for the competition.

### **6.2 Date, Time and Location**

The date, time and location of the Technical Meeting shall be determined by EDSO and the Organising Committee.

<b>Date - Time</b>		<b>Location</b>
TBA	First Technical Meeting	TBA
TBA	Second Technical Meeting	TBA

This information shall be published in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin and communicated to all participating National Deaf Sports Federations.

### **6.3 Attendance**

Each participating National Deaf Sports Federation (NDSF) may send up to two officials, at least one of whom must be deaf. In addition, a maximum of one interpreter may accompany the country if the second official is not deaf.

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## **6.4 Chair and Organisation**

The Technical Meeting shall be chaired by the EDSO Orienteering Director or by a person designated by EDSO.

The Organising Committee and the Sports Liaison Officer (SLO) shall support the organisation of the Technical Meeting, including:

- room booking,
- provision of interpretation,
- distribution of documents,
- and preparation of attendance lists.

## **6.5 Languages and Accessibility**

The official working language of the Technical Meeting shall be English. International Sign Language (ISL) interpretation shall be provided.

All important information shall be communicated in a visually accessible manner.

## **6.6 Agenda and Content**

The agenda of the Technical Meeting shall normally include:

- confirmation of participating delegations,
- confirmation of athlete eligibility,
- explanation of the competition programme and timetable,
- explanation of orienteering disciplines and formats (Sprint, Middle Sprint, Mass Start, Maze / Labyrinth, Mixed Sprint),
- explanation of start procedures and start intervals,
- course information and maps,
- safety instructions and terrain-specific risks,
- restricted zone – competition areas (start, finish, map issue and controlled zones)
- protest procedures,
- and any other relevant technical matters.

## **6.7 Binding Effect of Decisions**

All technical clarifications and decisions made during the Technical Meeting shall be binding. Delegations are responsible for informing their athletes accordingly.

# **7. TRAINING & WARM-UP**

## **7.1 Official Training**

Official training sessions may be organised prior to the start of the EDYG Orienteering competitions.

The availability, duration and structure of official training sessions shall depend on:

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- terrain availability,
- competition schedule,
- number of participants,
- safety considerations,
- and organisational feasibility.

Participation in official training sessions is optional unless explicitly stated otherwise.

## **7.2 Training Schedule**

The official training schedule shall be determined by the Organising Committee in coordination with EDSO.

For EDYG Orienteering, the following applies:

- Training period: TBA
- Daily time slots: TBA
- Venue: TBA (depending on competition terrain)

The detailed training schedule shall be published on the official event website and/or in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

## **7.3 Warm-Up Areas**

Designated warm-up areas shall be provided where possible.

Warm-up areas may include:

- open terrain near the competition area,
- designated jogging or mobility zones,
- map-free warm-up areas.

Athletes must respect the instructions of officials and venue staff when using warm-up facilities.

## **7.4 Restricted Zone**

The Restricted Zone includes all controlled and competition-related areas within the orienteering venue that are designated as part of the competition environment.

The Restricted Zone includes in particular:

- the start area,
- the finish area,
- the map issue and quarantine areas,
- control points and control equipment locations,
- marked routes and compulsory passage areas,
- designated warm-up areas under competition control,
- and any other areas designated by the Technical Committee.

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The Restricted Zone applies only to areas under official competition control and does not include the entire competition terrain.

Within the Restricted Zone, the use of any hearing aids, amplification systems, cochlear implants, or external cochlear implant parts is strictly prohibited.

All applicable ICSD and EDSO Audiogram Regulations apply.

## **7.4.1 Hearing Devices (Audiogram Regulations)**

In accordance with the ICSD Audiogram Regulations, athletes participating in EDYG 2026 Orienteering are strictly prohibited from using any hearing aids or cochlear implant devices within the Restricted Zone during warm-up and competition.

For EDYG Orienteering, the Restricted Zone applies from the moment athletes enter the start area, map issue or other controlled competition areas and remains in effect until the athlete has completed the course and exited the finish and controlled areas.

## **7.4.2 Authority**

The authority within the Restricted Zone lies with the Event Controller, Referee and other competition officials appointed by the Technical Committee.

These officials have the authority to inspect athletes and enforce Restricted Zone regulations within all controlled competition areas.

## **7.4.3 Violation and Penalty**

If this rule is violated, the athlete shall be disqualified from the respective event.

Further handling of the violation, including additional sanctions, shall be governed by the [ICSD Audiogram Regulations, 8: Violations and Penalties](#).

# **8. CHECK-IN / CALL ROOM**

## **8.1 Procedures**

Check-in procedures shall apply for all EDYG Orienteering competitions.

All athletes must report to the designated check-in point prior to their scheduled start in order to:

- confirm their presence,
- verify identity and accreditation,
- confirm eligibility,
- receive start-related instructions,
- ensure correct allocation to start times and courses.

A classical indoor “Call Room” system does not apply in Orienteering; however, structured check-in and start procedures are mandatory.

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## **8.2 Timing**

The timing of check-in procedures, including:

- check-in deadline,
- start window,
- call-up to the start area,

shall be communicated during the Technical Meeting and published in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

Failure to report within the prescribed time limits may result in:

- disqualification from the discipline,
- or DNS (Did Not Start),

in accordance with the applicable competition rules.

## **8.3 Substitution & Replacement**

Substitution and replacement rules shall be governed by:

- the entry phase regulations (Chapter 3),
- the eligibility rules (Chapter 2),
- and the youth safeguarding principles of EDYG.

Once the final name list deadline has passed, replacements shall only be permitted:

- for medical reasons,
- in case of injury,
- or for other exceptional circumstances,

and must be approved by the Technical Committee.

Failure to appear in time at check-in may result in DNS.

## **8.4 Orienteering-Specific Provisions**

For EDYG Orienteering, the following sport-specific check-in and start procedures shall apply:

- Athletes must report to the designated check-in point within the time window specified for their start.
- Check-in may include verification of bib number, SI card / timing device, map allocation and start lane assignment.
- Athletes shall follow the instructions of start officials at all times.

### **8.4.1 Start Procedures**

- Starts may be conducted as individual starts, wave starts or mass starts, depending on the discipline (Sprint, Middle Sprint, Mass Start, Maze/Labyrinth).

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- Start intervals, start lists and start blocks shall be published in advance or communicated at the Technical Meeting.
- For Mass Start events, all athletes must be present in the start zone before the announced call time.

Failure to comply with start procedures may result in:

- delayed start,
- time penalties,
- or disqualification,

in accordance with the applicable Orienteering rules.

### **8.4.2 Mixed Events (Sprint Relay)**

Due to the possibility of athletes participating in multiple disciplines, including the Mixed Sprint (Pair Event), the following applies:

- Each mixed team consists of one (1) male and one (1) female athlete.
- Start order and relay exchange procedures shall be defined in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.
- Both athletes must be present and checked in before the start of the mixed event.

### **8.4.3 Waiting Rules and Overlapping Starts**

- If an athlete is still competing in another EDYG Orienteering discipline, reasonable adjustments to start times may be applied.
- Such adjustments shall be decided by the Technical Committee or Start Officials.
- Unjustified delays or failure to report may result in DNS or disqualification.

### **8.4.4 Failure to Appear**

If an athlete:

- fails to appear at check-in,
- fails to report to the start within the permitted time window,
- or leaves the start area without authorisation,

the athlete may be:

- marked as DNS,
- excluded from the discipline,
- or subject to further sanctions,

in accordance with these Technical Regulations and applicable Orienteering rules.

## **9. PROTESTS & DISCIPLINARY MATTERS**

### **9.1 Protests**

All protests must be submitted in writing within the prescribed time limits.

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For EDYG Orienteering, the following procedures apply:

## **9.1.1 Lodging a Protest**

All sport-related protests shall be resolved in accordance with:

- the applicable international Orienteering rules (IOF Rules),
- the EDSO General Regulations,
- these EDYG Orienteering Technical Regulations.

Any official protest must:

- be submitted in writing in English,
- be completed on the Official EDSO Protest Form,
- be submitted to the EDSO Orienteering Director,
- be accompanied by a protest deposit of EUR 100,
- be submitted within 30 minutes after the official posting of the relevant results.

## **9.1.2 Classification of Protests**

The EDSO Orienteering Director shall determine whether a protest is:

- sport-related (technical, rules, competition matters), or
- eligibility-related (participation, compliance, status).

Sport-related protests shall be reviewed by the Protest Committee.

Eligibility-related protests shall be referred to EDSO for decision.

## **9.1.3 Protest Deposit**

The protest deposit shall be returned only if the protest is upheld.

If the protest is rejected, the deposit shall be retained.

# **9.2 Disciplinary Bodies**

For EDYG Orienteering, the following disciplinary and adjudication bodies may be appointed:

## **9.2.1 Technical Committee**

The Technical Committee shall be responsible for the technical organisation and supervision of the competition.

It shall normally be composed of:

EDSO Orienteering Director (Chair)	Tomas Kuzminskis
EDSO Representative	Burcu Piskin
IOF-qualified Controller / Head Referee	TBA
Deaf Representative	TBA
Sport Liaison Officer	TBA

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The final composition shall be confirmed in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

## **9.2.2 Protest Committee**

A Orienteering Protest Committee shall be established.

It shall normally consist of:

EDSO Representative (Chair – no Voting Rights)	Burcu Piskin
EDSO Orienteering Director	Tomas Kuzminskis
IOF-qualified Controller / Head Referee	TBA

The Protest Committee shall adjudicate all sport-related protests.

## **9.3 Protest Review and Decision Procedure**

### **9.3.1 Procedure for Reviewing a Protest**

The Protest Committee shall meet at a location and time determined by the Chair of the committee.

Unless otherwise stated, the following rules apply:

- The EDSO Representative shall chair the meeting.
- The Sport Liaison Officer (SLO) shall arrange the meeting room and interpretation.
- The SLO shall notify all committee members of the time and location.
- The EDSO Orienteering Director shall liaise with the relevant competition officials.
- The SLO shall inform the hosting Deaf Sport Federation.
- The EDSO Orienteering Director shall inform the EDSO Executive Board of the protest and the decision.

### **9.3.2 Decision Authority**

All sport-related protest decisions taken by the Protest Committee are binding for the competition.

EDSO retains final authority in all disciplinary and eligibility matters.

### **9.3.3 Unforeseen Cases**

In cases not covered by these regulations, the Protest Committee shall decide.

If the Protest Committee is not available, the EDSO Orienteering Director shall make a provisional decision, subject to later confirmation.

## **9.4 Penalties and Financial Sanctions**

At the time of publication, no sport-specific penalty catalogue applies to the EDYG Orienteering competition.

The following principles shall apply:

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- Financial sanctions imposed by EDSO are limited to those defined in the EDSO Schedule of Fees, in particular for non-starts (DNS), withdrawals after deadlines, or administrative violations.
- No additional automatic financial penalties apply for sporting infringements unless explicitly stated.

Sport-related violations, misconduct or breaches of competition rules shall be handled as follows:

- Technical or sporting infringements shall be assessed in accordance with the applicable international orienteering rules and principles of fair play.
- The Technical Committee and/or Protest Committee may impose sporting sanctions, including warnings, time penalties, disqualification or exclusion from an event, where justified.
- In serious or repeated cases, the matter may be referred to EDSO for further disciplinary consideration.

Any sanctions imposed must be proportionate, documented and communicated to the affected delegation.

## **10. AWARDS & CEREMONIES**

### **10.1 Location and Procedure of Award Ceremonies**

The location, timing and procedure of award ceremonies shall be determined by the Organising Committee and published in the Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

Award ceremonies shall normally take place at or near the competition venue.

For EDYG Orienteering, award ceremonies may also take place at a central event location if competition venues are geographically separated.

### **10.2 Medals**

For EDYG Orienteering events, medals shall be awarded as follows:

- Gold medal for 1st place
- Silver medal for 2nd place
- Bronze medal for 3rd place

In case of a tie, where two (2) or more athletes achieve identical official results (e.g. identical course completion time), the respective placing shall be shared.

All athletes sharing the same placing shall receive the corresponding medal.  
No additional tie-breaking procedure or run-off shall be applied.

For relay events, one medal shall be awarded to each athlete who is part of the medal-winning relay team.

Medals shall be awarded separately for each discipline and category, including but not limited to:

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- Sprint
- Middle Sprint
- Mass Start
- Maze / Labyrinth
- Mixed Sprint Relay (1 male + 1 female)

For mixed events, one medal shall be awarded to each athlete who is part of the medal-winning mixed team.

Coaches, team officials, medical staff or other delegation members are not entitled to receive medals.

Commemorative items or certificates for coaches and officials may be provided at the discretion of the Organising Committee.

## **10.3 Trophies, Cups and Team Awards**

No trophies, cups or team awards shall be awarded in EDYG Orienteering.

Team rankings or nation rankings shall not be established.

Additional special awards (e.g. fair play, youth development recognition, special technical achievement) may be introduced at the discretion of the Organising Committee and/or EDSO.

Such special awards shall have no effect on official results, rankings or medal classifications.

## **10.4 Certificates and Diplomas**

Where applicable, certificates, diplomas or participation confirmations may be issued.

According to EDSO practice, certificates may be awarded up to 8th place per event and category.

The design, format and distribution of certificates shall be defined by EDSO and/or the Organising Committee.

# **11. FINAL PROVISIONS**

## **11.1 Event Modification or Cancellation**

EDSO reserves the right to modify, reschedule, suspend or cancel the EDYG Orienteering competition, in whole or in part, due to:

- safety reasons,
- weather conditions,
- force majeure,
- insufficient participation numbers,
- organisational or logistical constraints,
- or other exceptional circumstances.

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Any such changes shall be communicated to all participating NDSFs as soon as possible.

## **11.2 Reactivated / Pilot Sports**

EDYG Orienteering is conducted as a youth development competition.

As part of the EDYG framework, simplified, adapted or pilot formats may be applied where necessary, provided that:

- athlete safety is ensured,
- fairness and equal opportunity are maintained,
- and sporting integrity is preserved.

## **11.3 Authority**

These Technical Regulations are issued under the authority of the European Deaf Sports Organisation (EDSO).

All participants, officials and delegations are bound by these regulations.

## **11.4 Language**

This Technical Regulation is issued in English.

In case of any discrepancies, ambiguities or differing interpretations, the English version shall prevail.

## **11.5 Additional Provisions**

Any matters not explicitly covered in this Orienteering Technical Regulation shall be governed by:

- the EDSO Statutes,
- the EDSO General Regulations,
- the EDSO Technical Regulations Handbook (Part E),
- Part I – EDYG General Provisions,
- and the applicable Event-Specific Technical Bulletin.

# **12. ADDENDUM**

This Addendum supersedes the standard provisions defined in Chapters 1–11 where explicitly stated.

This Addendum is reserved for future supplementary provisions, clarifications and technical specifications relating to the European Deaf Youth Games (EDYG) Orienteering competition.

It may be used to publish:

- additional competition details,
- late technical clarifications,

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- updated procedures,
- modified formats,
- safeguarding-related adaptations,
- or newly introduced provisions

which could not reasonably be included in the main body of these Technical Regulations at the time of publication.

Any future addenda shall form an integral part of these EDYG Orienteering Technical Regulations and shall be published by EDSO.

Such provisions shall not conflict with:

- the EDSO Statutes,
- the EDSO General Regulations,
- the EDSO Technical Regulations Handbook (Part E),
- Part I – EDYG General Provisions,
- or applicable ICSD Regulations (where relevant).

### **12.1. Age Eligibility (reference 2.2.2)**

Due to the limited number of registrations received in both gender categories, and in order to ensure fair, safe and meaningful competition, the originally planned age categories have been merged.

For the EDYG Orienteering competition, the following age category applies for both genders:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Year of Birth</b>
Boys U19	2008 – 2013
Girls U19	2008 – 2013

All other provisions of these Technical Regulations remain unchanged.