



ORIENTEERING

Rules

Edition 2025

INTRODUCTION

Competitions in Underwater Orienteering take place in deep, open water bodies and over various distances, as prescribed in the competition rules. Competitors must, while remaining completely submerged without any contact with the water surface, reach specific points or pass specified points.

Competitions in underwater orienteering are based on the principle that orienteering and searching tasks are performed under water with the aid of a compass and distance meter. The competitor may only use his/her own muscular strength to propel him/herself. The breathing apparatus used may only be filled with normal compressed air. Enrichment with oxygen is not allowed. The only contact with the surface of the water allowed is a buoy line and a safety buoy. In these rules the expression competitor, participant or sportsmen refer to both men and women.

Should there be differences in the different translations of these rules, the English version will take precedence.

The rules determined by CMAS "Procedures & Obligations Championships and Competitions CAT A – CAT B" are not cancelled by these rules.

These rules apply from 2025. All previous editions are invalid.

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1. Events, adjudication and announcement of competitions

1.1 Events

1.1.1. Individual events

- M course
- 5-Point course
- Star course
- Parallel course

1.1.2. Team events

- Team orienteering with map (MONK)
- Team event Version A, B or C
- Relay orienteering event

1.2 Adjudication

1.2.1. For competitions in underwater orienteering, adjudication can be done in the following categories:

- individual competitions
- team competitions
- mixed teams
- junior – individual
- junior – mixed

1.2.2. For the individual competition adjudication, the ranking of the competitors is based on the points obtained; which is the sum of the points for accuracy (buoys and finish) and time. Since they are plus points, the higher ranking is determined by the higher aggregate.

1.2.3. For team competition adjudication, the ranking of a team is determined by the points obtained by the team, which is the sum of the points obtained by the individual team members.

1.3 Announcement of the competitions

1.3.1. Announcements shall be drawn up in compliance with the rules as described later on, and contain the following points:

- name, kind (CAT A or CAT B competition) and contents of the competition,
- date, location and duration,
- organiser,
- details of the conditions to be expected:
 - water temperature,
 - air temperature,
 - depth of water in the competition area,
 - underwater visibility,
 - currents (direction and speed),
- nature of the bottom and the banks, kind of water,
- competitions management,
- participants,
- events,
- programme,
- technical matters:
 - equipment required,
 - equipment provided by the organiser,
 - filling pressure and connection of the compressor,
 - rules and practice time-table for training,
- competition events
- adjudication
- Awarding of prizes
- organisation:
 - preliminary and final entry,
 - declarations of competitors, divers' licences,
 - medical certificates,
 - entry fees, protest fee,
 - arrival and departure, accommodation,
- catering and transport during the competition.

1.3.2. Applications for CAT A and CAT B competitions must be submitted to CMAS in accordance with the PROCEDURES & OBLIGATIONS CHAMPIONSHIPS AND COMPETITIONS Cat A & B.

2. Participants

2.1 Age

Only competitors who are at least 15 years and maximal 21 years old at the time of the competition may take part in the Youth category competitions.

The calculation of the age category is described in the PROCEDURES & OBLIGATIONS CHAMPIONSHIPS AND COMPETITIONS Cat A & B.

It is allowed that a boy or girl may start in the category men or women. This must be indicated before the start of the competition by the team leader. The upgrade is only valid for the current competition.

2.2 Admission of competitors

- 2.2.1. The conditions of participation in the competitions of categories A and B can be found in the valid CMAS procedures and the details of the respective competition on the CMAS portal.
- 2.2.2 Only teams and individual competitors belonging to bodies affiliated to CMAS can participate in CMAS competitions.
- 2.2.3. Competitors taking part in CMAS CAT A competitions as members of a national team
- 2.2.4 Note: PROCEDURES & OBLIGATIONS CHAMPIONSHIPS AND COMPETITIONS Cat A & B contains further information and rules on the handling of the nationality of athletes participating in CMAS championships and competitions

2.3 Duties of competitors

2.3.1. The competitors shall:

- know the international rules for underwater orienteering competitions, the programme and the special regulations of the competition in which they participate,
- observe the safety rules during training and during the competition, and abide with all rulings made by the judges during the competition.

The competitors are solely responsible that their equipment and apparatus is in good working order and is ready on time.

2.3.2. A competitor may only communicate with a judge through his team manager.

2.3.3. No competitor is allowed to act as a judge in the same competition.

2.4 Team manager

2.4.1. Each competing team shall have a team manager who is responsible for the discipline of the members of the team and for their punctual appearance at the place where the competition takes place. The team manager is the intermediary between the judges and the team members. If the team manager is invited thereto, he attends the meetings of the judges, is present when the draw takes place, and informs the participants of decisions made by the organisers.

2.4.2. The team manager may not criticise or challenge the rulings of the judges. The processing of claims is regulated in the PROCEDURES & OBLIGATIONS CHAMPIONSHIPS AND COMPETITIONS Cat A & B.

2.4.3. In the absence of the team manager, the trainer takes his place.

2.4.4. The team manager is responsible for the preparation of the athletes.

3. Competition venue

3.1. Condition

At the competition venue shall

- the water current not exceed 4 m/min,
- the depth of water not be less than 3 meters,
- the visibility in the water be at least 1 m (Secchi disk).

Competitions can be held with the condition that the total safety of competitors is guaranteed. It is forbidden to hold competition in shipping lanes (channels). In areas open to the public for swimming, or in areas where rowing boats, sailing boats and/or motor boats are allowed, these must be kept away from the competition area. The competition venue shall be selected and equipped according to the rules and competition regulations.

3.2 Competition area boundaries

The competition area extends from the bank to the limiting buoys. These are anchored 50 m from the course.

4. General information on the competition disciplines

4.1 The courses for orienteering competitions consist of:

- the starting area,
- rounding buoys and/or orienteering points which are anchored in open water and as far as possible where the bottom is not visible
- the finish area

The course shall be ready 2 hours before the competition starts and at the same time be made available in the form of a scale plan.

The true length of any competition leg may not differ by more than 1 % from the official scale plan. The scale plan shall contain details of the numbering or marking of the turn buoys or find buoys that are used for the competition. When the official scale plan is posted on a notice board or handed out, the course is declared ready to be surveyed by the competitors.

For international competitions, the course shall be laid out in consultation with the CMAS technical delegate.

Only the prescribed materials may be used to construct a course see chapter 5.

4.2. The total length of the course may not differ by more than 10% from the total course lengths given in these rules.

4.3. Except for the MONK course, the buoys must be clearly visible above the surface of the water.

4.4. The competitions may be run clockwise or anticlockwise.

4.5. The competition organisers may designate sections of the shore where teams may not erect survey points. Surveying may only be done from land and the course may not be measured by boat or by swimming along it.

4.6. If the buoys marking sections of the course move during the competition, the organiser must re-establish the course according to the scale plan. If this is not possible, a new course will be placed by the organiser and the competitors who have not started will be given one hour to survey this course. If the new course length differs 10% from the original (complete course length), the technical delegate must decide whether the competitors who completed the course must start again (new course is longer) or whether they may (course is shorter).

5. Competition course material

- 5.1. Marking of rounding points (turning buoys) is done with foam plastic buoys either in the dimension 20 cm x 20 cm x 40 cm or with a minimum diameter of 50 cm in size. The buoys are painted grey-green below water and white, orange or yellow above water.
- 5.2. Orienteering points are marked with buoys whose length should be 400 cm and whose diameter must be 10-30 cm (e.g. crossed wooden boards or pipes). At a visibility of less than 3 meters the buoys must be 30 cm in diameter. At a visibility of more of 3 meters the diameter of the buoys can be reduced to 10 cm.
- 5.3. The buoy anchoring should be capable of withstanding a tension of at least 60 kg and for this reason be equipped with a buoy rope with a breaking strength of at least 60 kg. For marking rounding points the buoy rope should be such that it is invisible at a distance of more than 3 meters.
- 5.4. The start can be a:
- buoy (such as a pipe, reaching at least one meter into the water) or
 - fixed point (landing stage, driven-in stake etc.).
- The starting area is the area within a circle of one meter radius around the starting point, but is not marked.
- 5.5. For international competitions the buoys are to be marked in the following way and sequence:
- rounding buoys (individual) I - II - III - IV - V
 - orienteering points (individual) 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5
 - rounding buoys and orienteering points (team) A - B - C - D - E - F - G
- 5.6. Finish line: M course and team competition
- The finish line has a length of 32 meters. The middle part has a length of 2 meters. The parts on either side of the middle part are to be clearly marked in one-meter lengths. For international as well as important national competitions the finish line has to hang freely above the surface of the water. Between the meter-markers the distance has to be clearly stated in numbers (a 2 m indication is enough). A marker with a different colour has to be placed at a minimum of 5 m beginning at 0m. Sticks and straps have to be used as meter-markers. The lower end of the

markers may touch the water surface but they should not be any shorter than 5 cm above water surface.

5.7. Limit buoys, limit ropes

The limits of the competition area must be marked by clearly visible buoys. They are to be joined to each other by ropes to which floats are attached. The distance from the course to the area limits is 50 m.

5.8. Any deviation from the above must be made known during the manager's meeting before the competition.

6. Clothing, equipment and apparatus of competitors

- 6.1. During the opening ceremony of the competition, members of a team must wear uniform clothing. For the respective events, competitors shall wear the appropriate outfit (at least bathing trunks for men and bathing costume for women). During the competitions, it is recommended that the members of a team wear uniform track suits, swimwear and bathing caps. The clothing should clearly identify the affiliation to a national team.
- 6.2. The type and brand of all equipment (fins, masks, wet suits, compressed-air breathing apparatus, orienteering devices) used by the competitors is not specified in any way. The equipment, however, has to be shaped in such a way that it has neither pointed nor sharp edges which pose a hazard to other competitors. The equipment must comply with the current state of the art and has such a maintenance status. On the buoy must be drawn the flag of the represented country, and the name of competitor.
- 6.3. In addition to the diving equipment and orienteering device, a safety buoy (not a hollow body) with a signal colour (e.g. yellow, red, green, white, blue or orange). The buoy shall have a minimum flotation capacity of 8 kg and must be attached with a braided buoy rope with a tensile strength of at least 30 kg (measured with the anchoring) to the body of the competitor.
- It is not allowed to move under water without a safety buoy.
- For the Monk event only one buoy is required between the paired competitors, as long as they are attached to each other by a buddy line with a tensile strength of 30 kg and a maximum length of 2.5 m (knots to knots).
- 6.4. Only those types of fins which are fastened to the feet of the competitor may be used.
- 6.5. The pressure of the air in the cylinder of the compressed air equipment shall not be higher than the legally stipulated and permitted filling pressure marked on the cylinder. The pressure of the air in the cylinder must not exceed 200 bar (20 MPa). It is not allowed to use cylinders without test labels. For breathing air only normal atmospheric compressed air, without oxygen enrichment is allowed.
- Every organiser of a competition has the responsibility to supply and check it.
- With the first filling of the cylinder the test label must be clearly identifiable. If the cylinder has any kind of encasement which makes it impossible to see the test label the encasements have to be removed for the check. The bottle will then be clearly marked so that the encasement can remain on the bottle at further fillings.

- 6.6. Competitors are not allowed to use auxiliary searching aids (sonar, ropes, rods, bars etc.) or any device that could allow communication with other persons or instruments.
- 6.7. The judges shall disqualify competitors whose clothing, equipment or apparatus does not meet with the rules, from taking part in the competition.
- 6.8. If the temperature of the water is below 14 C, competitors are obliged to wear a full body wet suit inclusive hood (minimum thickness 3mm). The official water temperature is measure in a water depth of 3m by the chief judge.
- 6.9. The competitor bears the full responsibility for the state of his/her equipment and its compliance with the operating instructions for compressed-air breathing apparatus.

7. Competition management and competition judges

7.1 Competition management

7.1.1. The composition of the competition management depends on the importance of the event. A smaller team of officials can manage competitions with a smaller number of participants.

7.1.2. The competition management consists of:

- Competition manager
- Deputy competition manager
- Technical manager
- Course surveyor
- Competition doctor
- Awards manager

7.2 Functions of competition management

7.2.1. Director of Competition Manager

The competition manager is responsible for:

- all aspects of the planning, preparation and execution of the competition;
- drafting the announcement;
- accommodation, catering and transport of CMAS representatives
- the competition management,
- the International Judge
- the competition judges and
- the teams taking part.

He appoints the members of the competition management and the competition judges. He supervises the preparation of the competition venue, the equipment, the facilities, the means of control and communication, the boats and means of rescue. He supervises the placing of the competition courses and their compliance with the rules and the special regulations of the competition.

7.2.2. Deputy Competition Manager

At large or important competitions a deputy is provided who works according to the directives of the competition manager, and takes the place of the competition manager when he is absent.

7.2.3. Technical Manager

The technical manager is responsible for all equipment/technical matters before, during and after the competition such as preparation of

- the competition venue,
- the equipment,
- all facilities (including air conditioning),
- the means of control and communication,
- boats and means of rescue,
- the equipment for placing the courses,
- demarcation of the competition area by limit buoys or limit ropes,
- timely placement of buoys and finish lines for the individual competitions,
- construction of the access area to the competition area
- provision of the equipment for the pre-starter and the starting device
- provision and checking of the safety facilities
- provision of the necessary equipment for the judges.

He has at his disposal the required number of boats, equipment and apparatus, and the necessary staff.

7.2.4. Course Surveyor

Together with the competition manager, the course surveyor draws up a plan for the competition course, and instructs the team of the technical manager responsible for the placing of buoys. They measure the completed course and draw up a scale plan that the chief judge will provide to the participants. During the competitions they make sure from time to time that the course has not changed.¹

The competition courses have to be cleared with technical delegate of the CMAS. If the courses are set before the arrival of the technical delegate of the CMAS, this consultation has to take place at the earliest possible date before the competition. The team of the organizing nation is

not allowed to use the documents and the original scale plan for the competition. This is especially important if the plans display any information about the MONK- course lengths.

The course surveyors carry full responsibility for the accuracy of the positions of the buoys and the plan prepared by them.

7.2.5. Competition Doctor

The duties of the competition doctor are:

- to carry out medical supervision during the competitions
- to help in the event of an accident or illness
- to check the availability of the first-aid and rescue equipment
- to check the quality of the compressed air,
- to check the sanitary and hygienic requirements during the competitions

7.2.6. Master of ceremonies

The Master of ceremonies directs all ceremonies, such as opening ceremony, prize giving ceremonies and closing ceremonies acc. PROCEDURES & OBLIGATIONS CHAMPIONSHIPS AND COMPETITIONS Cat A & B.

- procures in time:
 - the official flags of the event,
 - the flags of participating nations,
 - the flags for the prize giving ceremony,
 - the boards of participating nations,
 - the anthems of participating nations,
 - the CMAS anthem,
 - diplomas,
 - medals,
 - prizes,
 - flowers and
 - perhaps other presents,
- controls the establishment of
 - the flag poles,
 - the winner rostrum, barriers and the VIP area
 - organises the music and
 - has the necessary rehearsals.

7.2.7. Manager of Training

In order to uphold the rules and safety regulations for the training a “Manager of Training” has to be installed by the organiser. It is his task to survey the training area during the official training times. If the rules are violated, he can demand from the team-leader proper behaviour. Severe violations have to be reported to the organisational committee which will then decide on possible behavioural measures. During the official training times a rescue boat (if possible, with crew) has to be near the course.

7.3 Board of judges

7.3.1. The composition of the competition judges depends on the importance of the event. For competitions with a small number of participants a small number of judges is required. The competition manager appoints the judges.

7.3.2. The competition judges consist of:

- Chief competition judge,
- Deputy Chief competition judge,
- Pre-starter,
- Starter,
- Chief time-keeper and time-keepers,
- Chief course judge and course judges,
- Chief finish judge and finish judges,
- Head of competition office.

7.3.3. All Competition Judges must remain at the competition venue and be available until the end of the time allowed for lodging a protest.

7.4 Functions of competition judges

7.4.1. Chief Judge

The chief judge makes sure that the

- competition is executed and adjudicated according to the current international rules
- special competition rules and safety measures are adhered to.

The chief judge will decide:

- whether or not competitors will be followed by boat or
- whether adjudication and safety measures will be carried out in other ways.

The chief judge:

- allocates the other judges their duties and
- ensures that they are able to carry out these duties before the event takes place.

Before the event takes place, the chief competition judge inspects:

- the competition venue,
- the necessary facilities and
- the equipment

The chief judge is entitled to:

- In exceptional cases change the programme or the starting order or starting times of the competitors.
- Re-allocate duties to judges during the competition.
- Dismiss judges who have committed faults or those who have not carried out their tasks correctly.
- Set aside the decision made by the judges after he has convinced himself that their decision was wrong, and allow the competitor a re-swim or to let the result stand.
- Give a decision in all matters in which the other judges cannot come to agreement.
- Disqualify competitors who do not comply with the rules, or who are guilty of unsportsmanlike behaviour.

The chief judge is not entitled to alter the rules of the competition.

The chief judge presides over all meetings of the judges.

Upon completion of the competition, the chief judge is obliged to provide the results of the competition to the organiser on the same day.

7.4.2. Judge in the pre-start area

These judge calls the competitors to the pre-start area, and checks whether the equipment of the competitors complies with the rules. It is the responsibility of the judge to get the signature of the athlete according to point 7.8.1. Athletes who have not given their signature 10 minutes before their start have to be demanded to do so at least twice via loudspeaker.

7.4.3. Starter

The starter:

- calls the participants to the starting point
- checks that they have taken up the correct position and posture at the start.
- gives the start signal,
- decides whether the start was correct or not and
- in case of a false start he orders either a disqualification or a penalty (more information see chapter 7.8.2) enters this on the start card.

The penalty seconds will be added to the first leg of the course (limit time!).

The start command is:

"One minute"

"30 seconds"

"10 seconds"

"5-4-3-2-1" (or an acoustic signal)

"Go" (or an acoustic signal).

7.4.4. Chief Time-keeper and Time-keepers

The chief timekeeper

- checks the stopwatches,
- completes the test certificate,
- gives instructions to the timekeepers, and shows them their positions on the course,
- checks the ability of the timekeepers to operate stopwatches and
- writes down (or tells a record keeper to write down) the time results of each competitor on his record card.

The time-keepers

- start the stopwatches when the start signal is given
 - when the starter gives the command "go" or
 - the acoustic signal sounds
- record the time taken by the competitor to cover the individual legs as indicated by the flag signals given by the course and finish judges.

The stopwatches may only be reset when the chief timekeeper has checked the results and recorded them, and when he has given the instruction "stopwatches to zero".

A timekeeper is to be provided for each competitor or each team that is in the water at the same time. Additionally, standby timekeepers are to be provided who can take over the function of a timekeeper who is unable to continue or in case of a malfunctioning stopwatch. Only the time of the designated timekeeper is used for the result. The course time of a competitor is also to be taken by the chief timekeeper.

7.4.5. Chief Course Judge and Course Judges

The chief course judge

- appoints a course judge for each competitor,
- provides him with the course card,
- collects the completed course cards and
- gives them to the competition office.

The course judges may follow each competitor or control the adjudication of the competition from a fixed point.

The course judges check whether the competitors have correctly completed the course and supervise changing during relay competitions.

The course judges indicate the correct completion of a leg by waving a flag.

If a course judge follows the competitor in a boat, a distance of 5 to 10 meters from the safety buoy of the competitor must be maintained.

The course judge takes all the necessary precautions to prevent endangerment of the competitor and in an emergency directs the work of the rescue team.

For international championships, the nationality of the course judge shall not be the same as that of the competitor.

7.4.6. Chief Finish Judge and Finish Judges

The finish judges watch the finish, fix the position at which the finish line was crossed, and signal the instant when the finish line is passed (leading edge of the safety buoy or reaching the finish buoy).

The number of finish judges can differ according to the number of competitors and the importance of the competition. It must, however, always be an odd number.

For international championships at least three finish judges must be provided, one of who is appointed chief finish judge.

7.4.7. Head of Competition Office

The head of the competition office prepares all equipment and documents which are needed for the administration of the competition.

He is responsible for:

- directs the work of the competition office
- receives the registrations and appeals and reports them to the chief judge
- prepares a report of the competition and organises its distribution
- with the permission of the competition manager, he informs the press about the competitions
- the official notice – board.

All posted information such as course plans, results, time tables have to be signed by the responsible person with the time of postage.

7.5 Claims

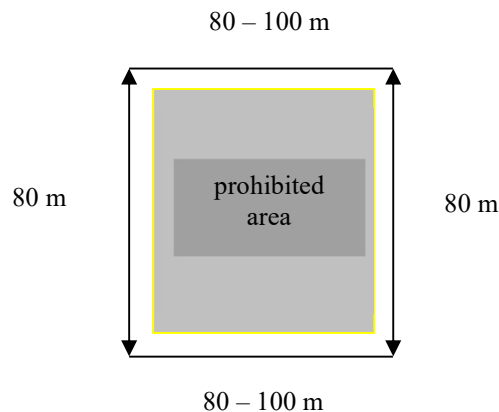
- 7.5.1. Claims are processed in accordance with the actual version of
"PROCEDURES & OBLIGATIONS CHAMPIONSHIPS AND COMPETITIONS Cat A - Cat B"

7.6 General rules

- 7.6.1. The organiser of the competition or the organising committee set up by him is obliged to:
- provide the necessary equipment and facilities
 - provide transport means and boats,
 - organise the competition venue and courses,
 - organise safety measures,
 - provide medical care and aid,
 - provide means of communication and information,
 - provide filling means for the compressed-air cylinders with at least 20 MPa (200 bar).
- 7.6.2. Additionally, for CMAS – championships:
- accommodation, transport and catering for the competitors,
 - accommodation, transport and catering for the CMAS representatives
 - accommodation, transport and catering for the Technical Delegate
 - accommodation for spectators.
- 7.6.3. The competition venue, the organisation and safety measures as well as the equipment, facilities and boats will be inspected by the judges in co-operation with the organising committee under the management of the chief competition judge at least one day before the competition starts.
- 7.6.4. Doping control must adhere to the WADA Rules; the CMAS Anti-Doping Rules and the PROCEDURES & OBLIGATIONS CHAMPIONSHIPS AND COMPETITIONS Cat A & B.
- 7.6.5. The starting order of the teams and individual competitors must be determined by drawing lots before the start of the competition.
- 7.6.6. It is not allowed to assist a competitor in any way. This applies especially to the giving of signals to orientate the competitors or to give guidance on the course (except in the event of an emergency or for special events such as MONK competitions) or to place obstacles in the path of other competitors.
- 7.6.7. The competition manager is entrusted with the general management of the competition. He is responsible for the safety of the competitors, judges and rescue parties. During the competition the course judge and the rescue team ensure the safety of each competitor.
- 7.6.8. The accompanying boats must be equipped with signalling and communication means (flags, megaphone or radio).

7.7 Training

- 7.7.1. No training is allowed on a course that will be used for a competition. Participants are allowed to train and measure at their own risk in the area designated for training by the organisers. The underwater orienteering commission can order an additional day for training before an international championship. On this day training should be possible at the competition area. The competition area is closed one day before the first official competition.
- 7.7.2. During competition and training the participants must strictly comply with the safety requirements and rules laid down in the rules as well as the regulations laid down by the organisers for the competition.
- 7.7.3. The organisers of an international championship must provide a training course, which consist of 4 points. The distances are fixed.



It is forbidden to swim in the prohibited area. The direction for swimming on the course will be fixed by the organisers of the championship. The training course must comply with the same conditions (water depth, no obstacles, etc) as for competition courses. Two hours before the start of the official training period, a notice must be posted showing the length of the training legs, as well as a roster for training times when applicable. During official training hours, the organisers are to provide a supervisor who ensures that all rules are complied with. Team managers are responsible for the safety of team members. If a competitor does not comply with the rules and thereby endangers or hinders another competitor, this will be seen as unsportsmanlike conduct. Such a competitor may be barred from the competition. The rules for equipment are the same during training as for competitions.

7.8 Competition rules

7.8.1. Pre - start

Before every start a competitor must report to the pre - starter and present his equipment for inspection. At the pre - start the competitor declares, by signing a form, that he is feeling well, is not under the influence of any substance that may affect his ability to dive and that his equipment complies with the rules.

At the pre-start a pre-start zone has to be established. The presentation of the equipment and the signature of the athlete should be about 30 minutes before the start. It is not allowed to remove the equipment from the pre-start zone after it has been checked and the athlete has signed. The athlete must leave the pre-start zone to go to his start into the water. Entering the water from a different place is not allowed.

7.8.2. Start

The start shall commence from the starting area in a start posture with the competitor(s) in a static swimming pose with the head above water at the time when the signal to start is given.

It is considered a false start, if the start takes place prior to, or later than 1 minute after the start command, or if the prescribed start posture was not assumed.

For a false start the following rules will apply:

- for more than 5 seconds early start or more than one minute late start the competitor will be disqualified.
- for less than 5 seconds early start or not assuming the correct start posture, a 15 seconds penalty will be added to the competitor's time.

This will be added to the time of the first leg and must be taken into account when considering limit times. After the start, the competitor shall submerge within the first 10 meters of the course. These 10 meters are not marked and it is left to the starter's discretion to determine compliance with this rule. For the MONK competition the map is handed to the competitor at the moment that the start signal is given.

Prime Time is a starting window at the end of each individual competition. The 3 first-placed athletes from the last CAT A Championships and the 3 leading athletes from the current CAT B Cup series are eligible to start. Primetime begins in ascending order with the start of the third-placed athlete from the current Cat B Cup series, followed by the athletes from the last CAT A Championship. CAT A Championships are to be rated higher. If athletes are not present, the free starting places will not be filled.

7.8.3. On the course

A competitor will be removed from the running competition (also from a team competition) and pulled up, if he/she:

- commits a false start (more than 5 seconds early, or more than one minute later),
- has not left the start area within 1 min (MONK 3 min) or returns to the start area after 1 min (MONK 3 min) has elapsed
- breaks the surface of the water with any part of his body or equipment (except within the first 10 m after the start),
- exceeds the boundaries of the competition area or is endangered by swimming in a clearly wrong direction,
- incorrectly rounds the buoys and has completed about half the distance of the following leg,
- changes direction within the 50-meter finish area for competitions with a finish line,
- searches for the orienteering points in the incorrect sequence, or
- exceeds the time limit.

If a competitor is removed from a competition, points are scored up to the moment at which one of the aforementioned errors occurred.

Should two competitors who are both still in the competition meet underwater and their buoy lines become entangled, then both are responsible to untangle their buoy lines without breaking surface. Should one of the competitors already be dropped out, then the course judges are obliged to help untangle the lines. If this cannot be done without time loss, the competitor that was hindered can request a new start. For the MONK a new start is not possible, and in such a case the Technical Delegate can decide to make a ruling that will cancel out the effect of the hindrance (for instance deduct time from the finish time).

At the orienteering points (find buoys), at the turning points and in the 50 m finish zone at least part of the safety buoy of a competitor must be visible on top of the water. If, during the team competition the buoys of two or more competitors have become entangled, part of at least one buoy must be visible on top of the water. Because in such cases it is not possible to exactly determine the finish time and the deviation, a penalty of 5 seconds and 1m will be applied. This penalty will only be partly applied (or not at all) if one or more single buoys are clearly further away from the centre of the gate (no deviation penalty) or clearly finish later (no time penalty), as long as such single competitors finish within the 20 second time limit. The penalty will be determined by the finish judge.

When the safety buoy has been lost, the competitor must surface at once. The points till then will count. Should the competitor not surface and has to be taken out by the competition judges, he will lose all points scored. For the MONK competition, if the buddy line is lost or the divers become separated, this will count the same as the loss of the safety buoy.

If no competitor completes the course for an event, adjudication will be based on how many

rounding buoys were correctly rounded or how many orienteering points were found. The time for each competitor up to the last correctly rounded buoy or found orienteering point will be used to determine the ranking. For team events the time for the last team member to round a rounding buoy or to arrive at an orienteering buoy will be used.

Rounding buoys

- Rounding buoys must be rounded such that they are on the inside of the course from the competitor.
- A rounding is considered to be completed when, after turning, the safety buoy of the competitor crosses the line or the extension of the line between the previous buoy (start, rounding buoy or orienteering point) and the buoy he is rounding. Additional explanation: If one thinks of the course of the competitor as a thread, it should lie around the buoy after when pulled tight.
- The decision when this occurs rests with the designated course judge, and the time is taken upon his signal.
- It is not allowed to search for rounding buoys.

Orienteering Points

Orienteering points must be clearly moved by the competitor after being found, by either pulling or spinning the buoy. If this is not done, no points are awarded.

For the team competition all members of the team are obliged to move the buoy. For scoring the time for the last team member to move the buoy is taken.

Finish line

- A competitor may not change course within the 50m finish zone. This applies to a clear change in course, and the arranging of swim positions during the team event does not constitute a course change. A course judge must signal by lifting a flag each time that a competitor enters the finish zone, from which moment a course change should be judged if it occurs.
- The distance from the centre of the finish line and the time are taken at the moment that the front of the safety buoy crosses the finish line.
- For team competitions the time for the last team member to reach the finish line is used for scoring, as well as the greatest deviation. These are not necessarily due to the same competitor.
- When a safety buoy touches a meter marker on the finish line, the lesser distance is used to determine the points, even if part of the safety buoy may be in the farther meter interval.

- All team members must cross the finish line within 20 seconds of each other. For the purpose of determining this, seconds will be rounded down (for example a time of 7:30,10 and 7:30,90 are both rounded off to 7:30). If a team member crosses the finish line more than 20 seconds after the first team member, his finish is not taken into account when scoring. When the limit time has elapsed, the rest of the team are pulled up. Even if only one team member finishes the course, this is used for scoring.

Team Events

- Should there be fewer competitors in a team than required, they must start from buoy 1 and 2 or 1, 2 and 3.
- A team consists of at least two competitors.
- The moment when a team member or a group of team members has/have clearly left a buoy on their way to the next buoy, the other team member(s) who have not yet reached that buoy are pulled up. The points that were scored by those team members that are pulled up are still used for scoring.
- When all competitors found the orientation buoy (finding buoy) it is irrelevant whether they leave this point as a group or individually. The 20 second rule only applies for the crossing of the finish line and not for the other courses.

7.9 Adjudication

- 7.9.1. The method for calculating results and placing must be explained in detail in the competition rules.
- 7.9.2. The results in the various disciplines are either expressed in units of time (minutes, seconds) or in points resulting from a combination of speed and accuracy according to the points tables of CMAS, or of the organisers for a competition not contained in these rules. In the event of tied scores, the faster time shall determine the placing. This also applies in the case of that a competitor not end the competition completely.
- 7.9.3. All times are rounded down to whole seconds. If the time limit is exceeded, the full time reached (15:20) is used to determine exceeding of the time limit. All times below (e.g. 15:19.99, rounded down to 15:19) are below the time limit. Exceptions can be found in the regulations for the disciplines (e.g. Parallel Course)
- 7.9.4. In the event of a tie in the combined scoring, the points obtained in the team competitions are used to

7.10 Means of communication during the competition

- 7.10.1. In order to ensure effective judging, radio communication should be used if possible. Apart from this, communication can be established with the aid of red and white (yellow or orange) flags according to a system devised by the chief judge. It should be kept in mind that red flags are only used in cases concerning the safety of the competitors.
- 7.10.2. If a course judge raises a red flag during a competition, it means "Attention, a rescue diver is required". In this case, a rescue boat is sent to the site of the incident. If the course judge waves the red flag above his head, the chief judge must give the general alarm by firing a red flare. In such an event, the course judges must recall all competitors to the surface and do everything necessary to help the competitor in difficulty.
- 7.10.3. The white (yellow or orange) flags used for the normal indication of time (reaching a buoy, crossing a line etc.) should be held horizontally to announce arrival and quickly lifted up and kept in this position for at least five seconds when reaching the buoy (crossing the line). If the judge waves the white signal flag pointing down in front of his body, this means "mistake or breaking of rules" (incorrect turning, breaking the surface with the fins etc).

8. Tables for the adjudication of underwater orienteering competitions

Table I: Points for precision at the finish line of the M-course and Team competitions.

Deviation from the centre (m)	Points
0	1000
1	935
2	878
3	825
4	776
5	731
6	690
7	653
8	620
9	591
10	566
11	545
12	528
13	515
14	506
15	501

Table II: Cut-off times and points for the 5-Point Course.

N° orienteering point	Distance (m)	Cut-off time	Points
1	80	04:00	200
2	180	08:00	300
3	300	11:00	600
4	450	13:00	950
5	650	15:20	1300

Table III: Cut-off times and points for the Star Course

No. of rounding buoy	No. of orienteering point	Cut-off time	Cumulative Points
I	1	04:00	75 275
II	2	8:00	350 550
III	3	11:00	625 825
IV	4	13:00	900 1100
V	5	15:20	1175 1375

Table IV: Cut-off times and points for the Team competition Version A

Buoy	Cut-off time	Points per competitor	Total points	
			4 comp	3 comp
A1 A2	06:00	150	600	450
B	11:00	250	1000	750
		Total	1600	1200
Finish	15:20	Table I + VI	x factor *	x factor **

Table V: Cut-off times and points for the Team competition Version B

Buoy	Cut-off time	Points per competitor	Total points	
			4 comp	3 comp
A1, A2, A3, A4		50	200	150
B1, B2	07:00	100	400	300
C	11:00	150	600	450
D		100	400	300
E		100	400	300
		Total	2000	1500
Arrivée	15:20	Tableau I + VI	x factor *	x factor **

Factor *

Factor **

- 4 competitors finishing	0.75	- 3 competitors finishing	0.75
- 3 competitors finishing	0.30	- 2 competitors finishing	0.30
- 2 competitors finishing	0.15	- 1 competitors finishing	0.15
- 1 competitors finishing	0.05		

Table VI: Points for Speed

Min Sec	4:00	5:00	6:00	7:00	8:00	9:00	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00
0	1700	1340	1040	800	620	470	350	260	200	140	80	20
1	1694	1335	1036	797	617,5	468	348,5	259	199	139	79	19
2	1688	1330	1032	794	615	466	347	258	198	138	78	18
3	1682	1325	1028	791	612,5	464	345,5	257	197	137	77	17
4	1676	1320	1024	788	610	462	344	256	196	136	76	16
5	1670	1315	1020	785	607,5	460	342,5	255	195	135	75	15
6	1664	1310	1016	782	605	458	341	254	194	134	74	14
7	1658	1305	1012	779	602,5	456	339,5	253	193	133	73	13
8	1652	1300	1008	776	600	454	338	252	192	132	72	12
9	1646	1295	1004	773	597,5	452	336,5	251	191	131	71	11
10	1640	1290	1000	770	595	450	335	250	190	130	70	10
11	1634	1285	996	767	592,5	448	333,5	249	189	129	69	9
12	1628	1280	992	764	590	446	332	248	188	128	68	8
13	1622	1275	988	761	587,5	444	330,5	247	187	127	67	7
14	1616	1270	984	758	585	442	329	246	186	126	66	6
15	1610	1265	980	755	582,5	440	327,5	245	185	125	65	5
16	1604	1260	976	752	580	438	326	244	184	124	64	4
17	1598	1255	972	749	577,5	436	324,5	243	183	123	63	3
18	1592	1250	968	746	575	434	323	242	182	122	62	2
19	1586	1245	964	743	572,5	432	321,5	241	181	121	61	1

20	1580	1240	960	740	570	430	320	240	180	120	60	
21	1574	1235	956	737	567,5	428	318,5	239	179	119	59	
22	1568	1230	952	734	565	426	317	238	178	118	58	
23	1562	1225	948	731	562,5	424	315,5	237	177	117	57	
24	1556	1220	944	728	560	422	314	236	176	116	56	
25	1550	1215	940	725	557,5	420	312,5	235	175	115	55	
26	1544	1210	936	722	555	418	311	234	174	114	54	
27	1538	1205	932	719	552,5	416	309,5	233	173	113	53	
28	1532	1200	928	716	550	414	308	232	172	112	52	
29	1526	1195	924	713	547,5	412	306,5	231	171	111	51	
30	1520	1190	920	710	545	410	305	230	170	110	50	
31	1514	1185	916	707	542,5	408	303,5	229	169	109	49	
32	1508	1180	912	704	540	406	302	228	168	108	48	
33	1502	1175	908	701	537,5	404	300,5	227	167	107	47	
34	1496	1170	904	698	535	402	299	226	166	106	46	
35	1490	1165	900	695	532,5	400	297,5	225	165	105	45	
36	1484	1160	896	692	530	398	296	224	164	104	44	
37	1478	1155	892	689	527,5	396	294,5	223	163	103	43	
38	1472	1150	888	686	525	394	293	222	162	102	42	
39	1466	1145	884	683	522,5	392	291,5	221	161	101	41	
40	1460	1140	880	680	520	390	290	220	160	100	40	
41	1454	1135	876	677	517,5	388	288,5	219	159	99	39	
42	1448	1130	872	674	515	386	287	218	158	98	38	
43	1442	1125	868	671	512,5	384	285,5	217	157	97	37	
44	1436	1120	864	668	510	382	284	216	156	96	36	
45	1430	1115	860	665	507,5	380	282,5	215	155	95	35	
46	1424	1110	856	662	505	378	281	214	154	94	34	
47	1418	1105	852	659	502,5	376	279,5	213	153	93	33	
48	1412	1100	848	656	500	374	278	212	152	92	32	
49	1406	1095	844	653	497,5	372	276,5	211	151	91	31	
50	1400	1090	840	650	495	370	275	210	150	90	30	
51	1394	1085	836	647	492,5	368	273,5	206	149	89	29	
52	1388	1080	832	644	490	366	272	208	148	88	28	
53	1382	1075	828	641	487,5	364	270,5	207	147	87	27	
54	1376	1070	824	638	485	362	269	209	146	86	26	
55	1370	1065	820	635	482,5	360	267,5	205	145	85	25	
56	1364	1060	816	632	480	358	266	204	144	84	24	
57	1358	1055	812	629	477,5	356	264,5	203	143	83	23	
58	1352	1050	808	626	475	354	263	202	142	82	22	
59	1346	1045	804	623	472,5	352	261,5	201	141	81	21	

8. Special Competition Rules

The description of the individual competitions and the team competitions can be found in the attached annexes (see table below).

Annex 1:	M – Course
Annex 2:	5 Point – Course
Annex 3:	Star – Course
Annex 4:	Parallel Course
Annex 5:	Team Competitions

9. Abbreviation for Rank List

BRS	BRoke Surface
ETL	Exceeded Time Limit
OCA	Out of Competition Area
SBS	Start Before Signal
NST	Not STarted
WRB	Wrong Round Buoy
MFL	Missed Finish Line
ETB	Exceeded Time Buoy underwater
CDF	Change Direction last Fifty meters