

## DEFENCE INSTRUCTIONS AND NOTICES

(Not to be communicated to anyone outside HM Service without authority)

**Title:** Authority for Army Orienteering 2009

**Audience:** All Army Personnel

**Applies:** Effective immediately

**Expires:** 31 Mar 2010

**Replaces:** 2008DIN07-012

**Reference:** 2009DIN07-075

**Released:** June 2009

**Channel:** 07 - Training and Education

**Content:** General authority letter for all Army Orienteering related activities, especially those linked with the MATT 5 Land Navigation test.

**Sponsor:** Army Orienteering Association

**Contact:** Capt Walsh AOA Sec 01622 767222 Mil 94663-3222

# Authority for Army Orienteering 2009

[AOA/1: (01420 537079)]

## General

1. Orienteering in the Army is classified as normal military training, a distinct form of navigation training, which is reflected in the new Military Annual Training Test (MATT) 5 - Land Navigation, which is an annual test for Army personnel. Orienteering has been nominated as an ideal training medium for MATT 5 as it's value lies in increasing navigation skills and fitness, as well as the development of decision-making, mental robustness and a competitive edge. It is not an Army Recognised or Approved Sport, but is a sponsored sport officially classified by the Army as individual/collective military training, in the same way as shooting.

2. The Army Orienteering Association (AOA), through an Executive Committee consisting of nominated officials, oversees orienteering in the Army. The AOA Secretary is:

Capt Eddie Walsh RE, AOA Secretary,  
TQM, 36 Engr Regt, Invicta Park Barracks, MAIDSTONE, Kent, ME14 2NA.  
Tel - 94 663 3222 / 3212(Fax); Civilian - 01622 767222; Mobile - 07906 438 297  
Email: Intranet - 36EngrRegt-QMT-QMT Internet - eddie.walsh302@mod.uk

3. All Army orienteering competitions are open to Regular and Territorial Army personnel, embracing the one Army concept. Whilst men and women do compete in separate competitive classes where appropriate, women are eligible to run in any team.

4. Further information on all aspects of Army orienteering may be obtained from:

Maj(Retd) Allan Farrington, AOA Technical Advisor,  
RAO CPU RMP, Kitchener House, Longmoor Camp, LISS GU33 6DS  
Tel Mil: N/A Civilian: 01420 537079; Fax: 01420 538528  
Mil Email: farringtona@rmp.mod.uk Civilian Email: [allan@baoc.org.uk](mailto:allan@baoc.org.uk)

## Participation in Events and Competitions

5. All participation in the following AOA sponsored competitions, which will be held on the following dates in 2009 where known, is classified as official military training:

a. Division, District, Brigade and unit orienteering championships, leagues and events.

b. Army Inter Unit Night Championships: Tue 17 Mar 09.

c. Army Individual Short Course Championships: Wed 18 Mar 09.

d. Combined Services Challenge Match: 6/7 Mar 09.

e. Territorial Army Championships at Warcop: 9/10 May 09.

f. Army Inter Unit Championships at Edinburgh: 29/30 Apr 09.

g. AOA sponsored exercises:

- |                              |         |
|------------------------------|---------|
| (1) Exercise DHOWES RUNNER   | TBC 09. |
| (2) Exercise RUNNING DEER    | TBC 09. |
| (3) Exercise RUNNING COMPASS | Jul 09. |

- h. Army Individual Night Championships: TBC Nov 09.
- i. Army Individual & Inter Corps Championships: TBC Nov 09.
- j. Inter Service Championships: TBC Nov/Dec 09.
- k. Regular Army v Territorial Army Match: TBC Nov/Dec 09.

6. To reduce the commitment of military manpower and resources, civilian events utilising civilian personnel and resources may be used to host some of the competitions listed in paragraph 4. Organisers should ensure the event instructions make this clear and where appropriate also ensure the event is registered correctly with the British Orienteering Federation (BOF), which then provides insurance cover for civilian organisers.

7. All civilian events are deemed as training events and may be used to host other military competitions, provided that unit/fmn budget managers are prepared to meet the costs. This also includes attendance at any mountain marathon such as the OMM, LAMM, Highlander, Saunders, Polaris, which are excellent training mediums. This is often the most cost effective method of training small groups, or running/hosting unit competitions, especially in isolated areas. There is no need to publish attendance in advance, unless the budgetary authority requires specific written evidence and publication on Unit Orders should then suffice.

8. **Exercise RUNNING DEER 09.** Exercise RUNNING DEER 09 is a series of training exercises for younger (approximately under 25 years old) soldiers and officers, normally based around the major civilian championships, with a final concentrated week of training hosted at a major championship abroad. For 2009 this will either be held at a major championship in Europe, perhaps combining with Ex Running Compass. Participants will have demonstrated an aptitude and keenness for orienteering at division/district league events. Nominations from Unit, Corps, or Divisional orienteering secretaries for the 20 places in the squad should be to the AOA Secretary (see para 8c).

9. **Exercise RUNNING COMPASS 09.** Exercise RUNNING COMPASS 09 is due to take place in Jun/Jul 09 and will be held at a major championship within Europe as the usual invitation from the Swedish Armed Forces to their orienteering and orienteering biathlon championships cannot be accepted due to the ongoing SOFA restrictions on military training exercising in Sweden. This exercise adheres to the principles of sporting excellence, with the Army team participating in the higher levels of competition. Selected participants will be very active orienteers, who could be expected to benefit and develop from training in terrain of a very high technical standard. 7 men and 3 women will be selected. Interested personnel should contact:

Lt Col CJH Sanderson RLC, AOA Team Manager, SO1 Ammo Ops and Plans  
 PATO, HQ Land, Erskine Barracks, Wilton, Salisbury, Wilts SP4 0AG  
 Tel: Mil: 94331 3542/3285 (fax) Civ: 01722 433542  
 ISIS: Land-Log-PATO-SO1 Ammo. LCSS(R): Land-Log-PATO-Ammo-OpsPlans-SO1  
 Internet: chris.sanderson855@land.mod.uk

## Allowances

10. Properly authorised events are classified as individual/collective military training and participants are entitled to the normal duty allowances. This includes the appropriate rates of LOA and subsistence allowance for those selected to represent the AOA abroad. 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 the appropriate unit-training budget. The AOA Technical Advisor (see Para 4) controls the central budget used to fund the organisation of, but not unit participation in, AOA-sponsored events/activities. Organisers of such events are to liaise with him in advance to determine permissible charges to that budget, such as portaloos hire, central catering and transport costs. Anyone attending AOA committee meetings can claim against the AOA budget and should submit their claims locally, notifying the AOA Bud Man of the final cost.

## Entry Fees

11. Entry fees may be raised against participants by event organizers to cover extra expenditure that cannot be met from Public Funds, such as special prizes, or to spread the cost of Public Funding away from the organizing unit's training budget. Units can pay entry fees, either from their training budget, or from unit PRI funds if public funding is not available.

## Training Courses

12. Various Orienteering Skills (Basic, Intermediate & Advanced) and an Orienteering Planners courses will be run by the AOA at the Centre of Excellence at Longmoor Trg Area. Exact dates can be obtained from the BAOC/AOA website at [www.baoc.org.uk](http://www.baoc.org.uk). Dates are:

- a. 30 Mar-3 Apr 09
- b. 11-15 May 09
- c. 21-25 Sep 09
- d. 25-29 Jan 10

Units are to bid for places through the Army School of Physical Training (ASPT) using the standard DIN application form. Clerks Tel No: 94222-2103. To give continuity of teaching and to maintain standards qualified ex-military and civilian instructors are hired, with costs covered by the AOA.

13. The aims of these courses are:

- a. **Skills.** To develop the orienteering skills necessary to complete a Division/District League event successfully and skilfully. Training is up to Light Green standard.
- b. **Planners.** To provide students, who already have a reasonable proficiency of orienteering skills, with the necessary knowledge to enable them to plan and organise courses for Division/District League events and also develop their controlling skills.
- c. **Intermediate & Advanced Skills.** To allow individuals to continually improve their personal orienteering skills and provide guidance for training unit teams.

14. **OCAD Users Course.** An OCAD users course is always held on the weekend after one of the above courses, provided the demand exist. These are designed to develop the computer & basic mapping skills to apply a simple mapping survey onto a specialised orienteering mapping/planning programme designed to publish orienteering maps and also produce overprinted courses. Qualified instructors will be used, with costs met from the AOA Budget. Those interested in attending should forward their name to the AOA Courses Coordinator Maj Owens as at para 16 or contact Maj (Retd) Colin Dickson 94261-2421 or 01276 412421.

15. **Coaches Courses.** Due to the need for highly qualified instructors in this specialist area it has been agreed with British Orienteering that the AOA will host courses of all levels at the Army Centre of Orienteering Excellence at Longmoor and be granted vacancies on each course at a reduced cost. British Orienteering will pay a subsidised rate to use the facilities and the military personnel will pay for any personal specialist equipment needed. This arrangement will allow the Army to train personnel to a high standard at minimal cost. The courses are the 1st4 Sport level 1 to 3 courses which provide a government recognised award. Full details will appear on the BAOC/AOA website see [BAOC Online](#).

16. **Courses Coordinator.** Anyone interested in attending the OCAD mapping course, a Coaching course, or instructing/helping on a Skills/Planners course, or with queries about the content/standard of any of the above courses should contact the AOA Courses Coordinator:

Maj John Owens RE(V) AOA Courses Coordinator,  
 c/o Chief Clerk, R SIGNALS CVHQ, Basil Hill Site, Park Lane, Corsham SN13 9NR  
 Tel: 07795 034769. Email: [johnpcowens@aol.co.uk](mailto:johnpcowens@aol.co.uk)

### AOA Executive Committee

17. AOA Executive Committee meetings will either take place at Longmoor Training Area at 1000 hrs on the Wed during each Skills and Planners course, or at any other suitable location as notified by the Secretary. Attendance at these meetings is to include those responsible for running AOA competitions both in the current (as at paragraph 5) and following years (as at paragraph 19). Meetings will be coordinated by the AOA Secretary, see para 2 for contact details:

19. The responsibilities for running AOA championships from 2009 onwards are:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Army Inter Unit</b> (Sub-para 5g)	<b>Individual &amp; Inter Corps</b> (Sub-paras 5j, 5k & 5l)	<b>Inter Unit Night &amp; Individual Short Course</b> (Sub-paras 5b & 5c)
2009	2 Div	R SIGNALS	AGC
2010	5 Div	RE	Infantry
2011	NI	RLC	AAC/RAC
2012	4 Div	RA	REME
2013	2 Div	R SIGNALS	AGC
2014	5 Div	Infantry	RE
2015	NI	RLC	AAC/RAC
2016	4 Div	REME	RA
2017	2 Div	R SIGNALS	AGC
2018	5 Div	Infantry	RE