



Knock-Out Sprint Finnish Championships WRE

16.5.2026 Oulu, Finland

Bulletin 2

Organisers

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Information

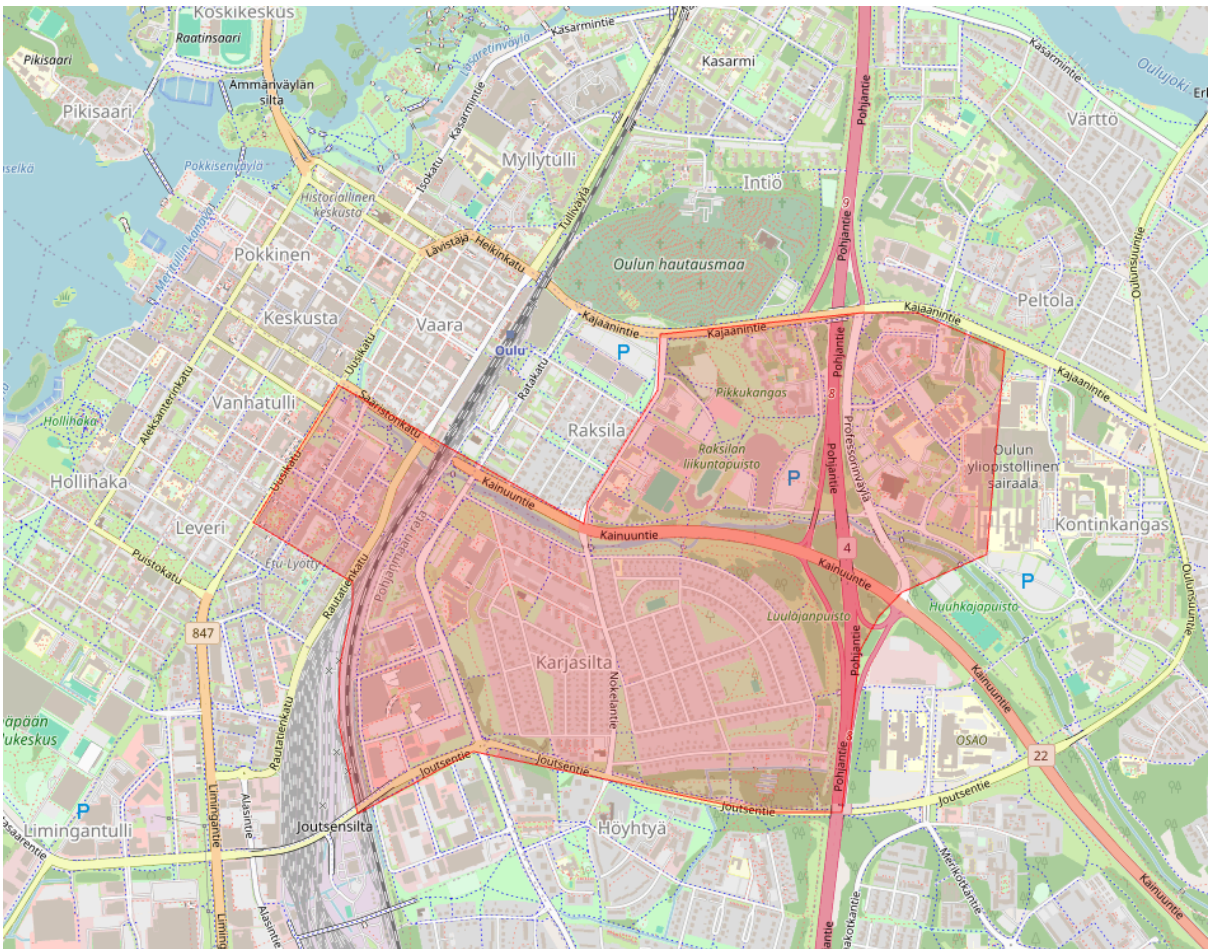
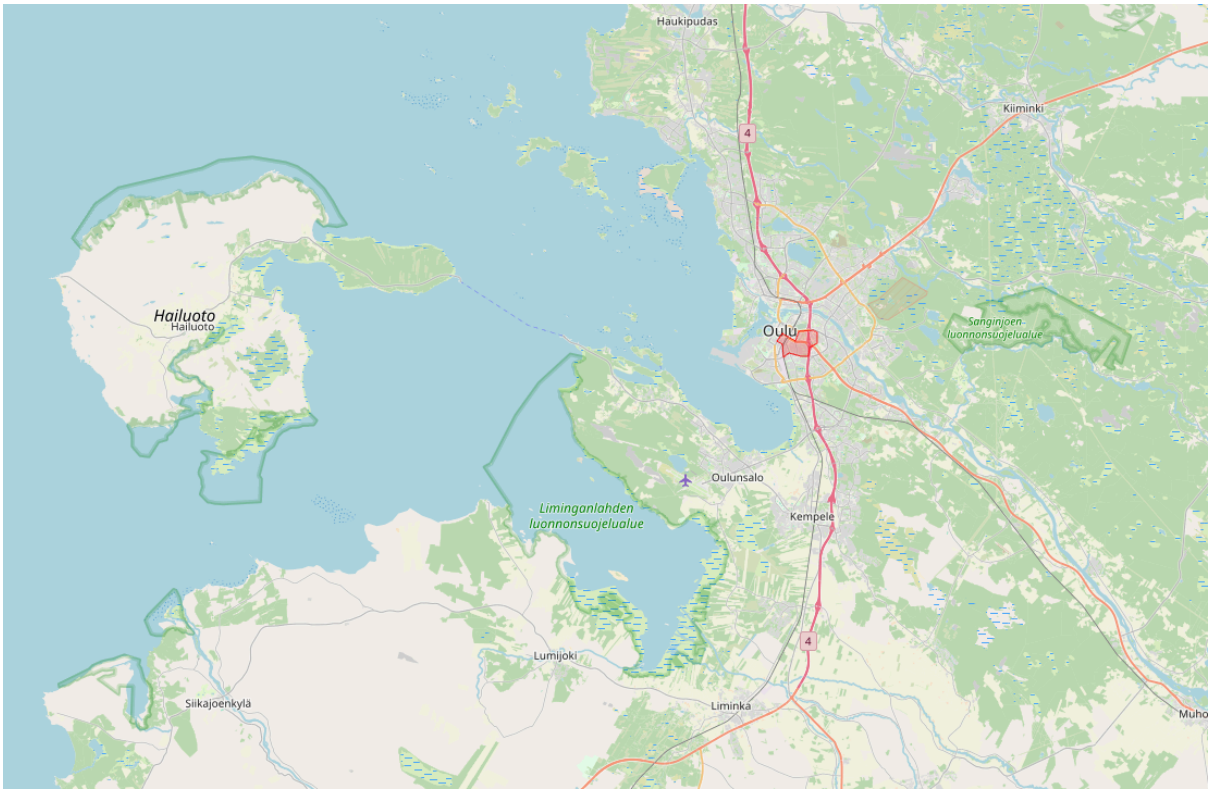
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Rules

The Competition Rules for IOF Foot Orienteering Events (Rules for IOF World Ranking Events, as published on the IOF website <https://orienteering.sport/orienteering/competition-rules/>) and national rules by Finnish Orienteering Federation apply to competition. For WRE classes, IOF rules will take precedence over national rules. There will be no jury but a referee. A competitor may report a disqualification decision by the organiser directly to the referee, who will deal with the report immediately. This process is an accelerated version following the "IOF Referee System For Foot Orienteering Sprint Competitions 2023".

Embargoed areas

The embargoed area is indicated on the map below. More information in SSL 'Karttarekisteri' <https://karttarekisteri.fi/index.php/pages/maps#> under 'Harjoituskiellot' (embargoed areas).



The embargoed area remains in effect until the end of the competition. Be cautious when moving around on the competition day! Any violation of the rules will result in disqualification.

Classes and distances

The WRE competition classes are M21 for men and W21 for women. The qualification time is 8-10 minutes and in the quarter-finals, semi-finals and finals 6-8 minutes. B-finals will be organised for those who do not qualify for quarter-finals, winning time 6-8 minutes. B-finals as well as quarter finals, semi-finals and finals are heats, where 6 athletes run at the same time.

Finnish championships are also organised for H18 and D18 classes, but these will not have WRE status. There are no other classes at the competition, but one can attend M21 or W21 classes (born 2012 or before). People born between 2012 and 2008 can also attend H18 and D18 classes.

The classes, distances, the number of controls, and the total climb are provided in a table below.

Distances are the shortest possible distances.

Class	Length (km)	Controls	Total climb
Qualification 1			
MQ1	2,7	14	10 m
WQ1	2,2	13	10 m
Qualification 2			
MQ2	2,6	14	10 m
WQ2	2,3	13	10 m
Qualification 3			
MQ3	2,6	14	10 m
WQ3	2,2	13	10 m
Quarter-final			
MQ	1,9	15	10 m
WQ	1,8	14	10 m
Semi-final			
MS	1,8	7	10 m
WS	1,8	7	10 m
Final			
MF	2,1	14	0 m

WF	2,0	13	0 m
B-final			
MB	3,4	16	10 m
WB	3,2	15	10 m

Terrain

Mostly urban areas consisting of apartment buildings, public buildings, and some public parks in between.

Map














Competition map was made by Panu Hyvönen 2026, 1:4000/2 m. The map will be digitally printed and is in plastic cover. The map has been previously used and the maps are visible in competition pages,

<https://skpohjantahti.fi/index.php/sm-knock-out-sprintti-ja-sprinttiviesti-2026/>. Map size is A4.

Normal forbidden features for sprint orienteering, see image. Forbidden areas and forbidden features specific to sprint orienteering are monitored and may result in the disqualification of the competitor.

Forbidden areas are emphasized when necessary with forbidden area tapes. In some places during the competition, there are monitored road crossings.

Forbidden objects on the map

-  Impassable cliff
-  Uncrossable water
-  Uncrossable marsh
-  Uncrossable vegetation. bushes
-  Entrance to a bridge or tunnel (the map symbol can only be passed under)
-  Uncrossable wall
-  Uncrossable fence or railing
-  Forbidden area
-  Building
-  Uncrossable line feature
-  No crossing
-  Out-of-bounds area
-  Temporary construction or closed area

There are also some so-called course-technical fences in the terrain. Fences marked on the map with a thick purple line are indicated in the terrain with plastic tape and highlighted on the map with the forbidden area hatch pattern.

There are also pedestrian crossings in terrain and those are highlighted with poles. These poles must bypass inside pedestrian crossing. There is control in these places and competitor can disqualify is not following the rule.



Terrain controlling

Terrain controllers do not warn or notify the orienteer during the competition about a possible disqualification. An orienteer can avoid disqualification by returning along the same route.

Control descriptions

Loose control descriptions are available in the start for the qualification race. In the heats and in the B-finals, control descriptions are only on the map. No fastening materials are provided for control descriptions. Control descriptions are also printed on all maps. Max size of Loose control descriptions is 100 x 50 mm.

Quarantines

Qualification, Quarter-final and Semi-final have same quarantine area. In Final there is a new quarantine area. B-finals don't have quarantine area.

In heat phases, there is a gear transport service from the quarantine to the competition center.

Qualification

The quarantine for the qualification opens at 8:30 a.m. and closes at 9:00 a.m. The distance from the competition center to the quarantine is 1100 m. The quarantine area has a warm-up area, clock, indoor facilities, dressing rooms and toilets. There is no gear transport service after qualification. Competitor can pick up his/her own gear from quarantine gate after finish. From finish to quarantine gate is 250m. The distance from the quarantine to the start is 250 m. The first start is at 9:00 a.m.

Quarter-Finals

The quarantine for the quarter finals is same as in qualification and opens at 11:30 a.m. and closes at 12:00 a.m. The distance from the competition center to the quarantine is 1100 m.

Semi-Finals

The quarantine for the semi finals is same as in qualification and opens at 2:30 p.m. and closes at 3:00 p.m. The distance from the competition center to the quarantine is 1100 m.

Finals

The quarantine for the quarter finals opens at 4:05 p.m. and closes at 4:20 p.m. The distance from the competition center to the quarantine is 200 m. There is no gear transport service in final.

Pre-start Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, and Finals

The distance from the quarantine to the start is 100 m. At the edge of the quarantine area for the heats, there is a so-called pre-start area. From the pre-start, competitors are released towards the start in starting groups 10 minutes before their own start time. Competitors will not be called to the pre-start individually; each competitor is responsible for keeping track of their own start time. There is a clock at the quarantine area. Deviating from the marked route (red-white) is not allowed, and competitors must follow the marked route to the start area without communicating with outsiders along the way.

Start groups will be assembled at the start area 4 minutes before the start.

General Information about quarantine

The use of mobile phones or any other communication devices (e.g., tablets) is not permitted at the start threshold. No maps of the terrain are allowed, including maps from previous stages.

Access to the quarantine is not possible after the closing time, and competitors can only leave to go to the start. Competitors who miss the closure of quarantine will be disqualified from the competition.

Gear Transport

A gear transport service to the competition center is arranged from the quarantine (heats and semi-finals). Competitors must leave their gear for transportation in their own bag or backpack.

Punching system

We use the EmiTag punching system in heat stages (organisers provide 1 tag per competitor), In the qualifying stage and in the B-finals Emit is used. Competitors can also use another EmiTag at heat stages (own or rental. EmiTags that organizers give are available at the quarantine.

The functionality of the EmiTag can be tested in the quarantine area. Competitors are responsible for ensuring that they use the competition card reported to the organizers in the start list. The organizer does not verify the correctness of the competition card before the start. If a competitor uses an EmiTag other than the one reported to the organizers, the performance will be disqualified (Competition Rules 11.518). Changes should be reported to

the information desk on the morning of the competition. A fee of 3 € will be charged for changes.

Controls

The controls have control flags and EmiTag-punchers. A model control with EmiTag is available for testing at the quarantine area.

Bib numbers

Bib numbers are used in all classes. The bib numbers are at the quarantine area. It is the competitor's responsibility to collect and attach their own bib number. Bib numbers will be removed from the quarantine area after it closes (qualification at 9:00 a.m.). Bring your own safety pins. The same number is used all the way to the final as well as at the B-finals.

Starts

The distance from the competition center to the quarantine is 1100 m and the distance from the quarantine to the start is 250 m.

Start procedure (Qualification)

- 4 min, competitors are called into the starting grid. Loose control descriptions available (if used in stage), no attachment materials provided.
- 3 min, Emit check-in (clear and check).
- 2 min
- 1 min, map stands where the competitor waits for the final minute.
- The map can be taken at the start time. It is the competitor's responsibility to take the correct map.

Start procedure (Quarter-Finals, Semi-Finals, and Final)

The organizers call competitors for EmiTag clearing four minutes before the start. Two minutes before the start, competitors are guided to their designated start box. Forking may be used in the heat stages. It can be either diamond, butterfly, or runner's choice forking. Forking is not necessarily used in all classes or in every heat stage. The map may be touched before the start, but it can only be taken at the start signal.

If runner's choice forking is used, the command "kartat"(maps) will be given one minute before the start. At that moment, an official will lift the cover from the selection maps. The selection map is fixed to the board and cannot be taken in hand. The selection is made from three map pieces showing only the forked section. The pieces are on the same sheet of paper. Competitors have 20 seconds to view the options. Then the command "aika"(time) will be given, and the official lowers the cover back over the maps. The competitor then moves to the map corresponding to their chosen option. The cover board is marked with the letters A, B, and C. The start takes place at the sound of the start clock signal.

Start lists

Qualification

Start lists for the qualification are prepared according to the Orienteering Federation of Finland's competition rules and the specific guidelines for the National Championships. For the World Ranking Event (WRE) competitions, the world rankings are used as the basis. Start lists can be found in competition pages as soon as they are published.

Quarter-Finals and B-finals

The top 36 competitors from the qualification proceed to the quarter-finals, which is 12 best competitors from each qualification group. They are allocated to the quarter-finals according to the following table, which complies with the IOF's competition rules. For example, 1K3 indicates the winner from qualifying heat 3, 4K1 indicates the person who finished fourth in qualifying heat 1, etc.

AE1	AE2	AE3	AE4	AE5	AE6
1K3 (1)	2K2 (6)	1K1 (2)	2K3 (5)	1K2 (3)	2K1 (4)
4K1 (12)	3K3 (7)	4K2 (11)	3K1 (8)	4K3 (10)	3K2 (9)
5K2 (13)	6K1 (18)	5K3 (14)	6K2 (17)	5K1 (15)	6K3 (16)
8K3 (24)	7K2 (19)	8K1 (23)	7K3 (20)	8K2 (22)	7K1 (21)
9K1 (25)	10K3 (30)	9K2 (26)	10K1 (29)	9K3 (27)	10K2 (28)
12K2 (36)	11K1 (31)	12K3 (35)	11K2 (32)	12K1 (34)	11K3 (33)

If two or more competitors achieve the same time in the qualification race, the placing will be decided by a draw. If two competitors share 12th place, both will qualify to the heats. In that case, one of the heats will include 7 runners. All other competitors will be placed in the B final (including disqualified, did not finish, and did not start).

The starting order for the B final is based on the qualification results: the highest-ranked competitors (place 13) will start in the last B final heat. The B finals are also run as 3 person mass starts, so that places 13 run in the same B final, places 14 in the same B final, and so on.

Start lists for the heats and B finals will be published on the competition website as soon as they are ready.

Semi-Finals

The top three (3) competitors from each heat advance to the semi-finals. Semi-final 1 will include the top three competitors from heats 1 and 2. Semi-final 2 will include the top three competitors from heats 3 and 4. Semi-final 3 will include the top three competitors from heats 5 and 6. The start lists for the semi-finals will be published as soon as they are ready.

Final

The top two competitors from each semi-final advance to the finals. The start lists for the finals will be published as soon as they are ready.

Finish

Qualification

In qualification the competitors run through the finish line and punch and then proceed to read out. Any discrepancies are handled at the nearby protest desk. The finish closes in qualification at 10.40 a.m.

Quarter-finals, semi-finals, finals and B-finals

In the knock-out phases the competitors run through the finish line, and if necessary, a finish judge will decide the positioning. The placement is determined by the chest crossing the finish line; swinging an arm does not count. Times are automatically entered into the online results based on the EmiTags. Placements and times can be adjusted, if necessary, following the decision of the finish judge.

Upon arriving at the finish, the competitor gives the EmiTag provided by organizers to an official. It is read into the system. If there are any problems with the punches on that EmiTag, the competitor is directed to the protest desk. There, both EmiTags are read to check if the missing punches can be found in the other EmiTag (if the competitor has 2 EmiTags). If the correct punches are not found, the competitor is disqualified.

The finish closes in the quarter-finals at 2.55 p.m, in the semi-finals at 4.20 p.m., in the finals at 5.40 p.m, and in the B-finals at 12.40 a.m.

Out-of-bounds violations

Competitors are directed to the protest desk if the organizers have observed them entering a forbidden area or crossing a forbidden feature. After hearing the athlete, the referee may disqualify the competitor. If a potential rule violation occurs near the end of the course and the information does not reach the protest desk before reading out, the competitor can be called back to the protest desk.

Finish Quarantine

In the quarter-finals and semi-finals, after reading the EmiTag, competitors who have finished are held in a designated area near the finish line. Competitors must stay in this area until the results of that heat have been confirmed. The results will be brought to the finish quarantine on paper.

Abandoning the race

Competitors who do not finish their course must report to the finish.

Warm-up Areas

In quarantine, quarter-final and semi-final, warming up is allowed on the marked route to the quarantine and outside the embargoed area. In quarantine, there is a large inner yard. In the finals, local fitness track near by the quarantine is available.

Complaints

The National Championship uses the procedure according to Annex F of the competition rules. A competitor or their support person must notify a judge of any infringement no later than 5 minutes after the publication of the results of the round. The complaint may be given verbally but must be confirmed in writing shortly after the verbal notification. There is no fee for a complaint. The judge is located near the protest desk. The judge will make a decision as quickly as possible and immediately inform the parties involved. There can be no

objections to the judge's decision. Any subsequent appeals after the competition must be made according to section 6.7 of the competition rules.

Results

Results are published on the competition website. There is no separate results table in the competition center.

Event centre

The event centre is located at the Raksila Sports Centre. Indoor facilities are not available for competitors. Please arrive according to the arrival instructions provided by the organizers.

The event centre includes an info point, café and canteen, toilets, orienteering gear shops, and a first aid station. Toilets and changing rooms are also available.

At the kiosk, you can buy items such as coffee (€1), sausages (€2), pastries, sandwiches, and soft drinks.

Lunch will be served in the near by canteen in Ouluhalli. The menu includes pasta with minced meat or chicken, salad, bread, and a drink. Price for lunch is €13/person, payable on site in cash, card. Lunch will be available from 11:00 to 15:00.

Guidance and parking

Parking will be directed from Kainuuntie road. Guidance will be in place from Saturday, May 16th, starting at 7:30 AM.

Shoes

The basic recommendation is to wear running shoes, but in wet conditions, it's advised to consider shoes with a stronger sole pattern. Spikes and studded orienteering shoes are forbidden, and their use will result in disqualification.

Prize giving ceremony

Prize giving ceremony will take place shortly after the final results are announced.

Photography and recording

There will be photographers and recording equipment in the terrain and in the competition center, capturing the event, its sounds, and the overall atmosphere. Photos from the competition may be published on the event website and other communication channels of the organizing club. During the race, there may also be runners following behind who are filming or recording audio.

Event programme

Qualification

8.30 Quarantine opens

9.00 Quarantine closes

9.00 First starts at the qualification

10.10 Last starts at the qualification

B-finals

The B finals are organized so that competitors who did not qualify to the heats still have the opportunity to run. The B final is a normal sprint competition, beginning at 11:00.

Quarter-Finals

12.00 Quarantine opens.

12.30 Quarantine closes.

12:30	D18 QF1	13:30	W21 QF1
12:35	D18 QF2	13:35	W21 QF2
12:40	D18 QF3	13:40	W21 QF3
12:45	D18 QF4	13:45	W21 QF4
12:50	D18 QF5	13:50	W21 QF5
12:55	D18 QF6	13:55	W21 QF6
13:00	H18 QF1	14:00	M21 QF1
13:05	H18 QF2	14:05	M21 QF2
13:10	H18 QF3	14:10	M21 QF3
13:15	H18 QF4	14:15	M21 QF4
13:20	H18 QF5	14:20	M21 QF5
13:25	H18 QF6	14:25	M21 QF6

Semi-Finals

14.30 Quarantine opens.

15.00 Quarantine closes.

15:00	D18 SF1	15:30	W21 SF1
15:05	D18 SF2	15:35	W21 SF2
15:10	D18 SF3	15:40	W21 SF3
15:15	H18 SF1	15:45	M21 SF1
15:20	H18 SF2	15:50	M21 SF2
15:25	H18 SF3	15:55	M21 SF3

Finals

16.05 Quarantine opens.

16.20 Quarantine closes.

16:30	W21 F
16:45	M21 F
17:00	D18 F
17:15	H18 F