



Swansea Bay Orienteering Club

presents the



2025

British Schools' Score Orienteering Championships

Saturday 11th October 2025

Gnoll Country Park

Neath, South Wales SA11 3BS

What is a 'Score' competition?

This is a competition where participants score points by visiting as many controls as possible in any order within a pre-specified time limit. Points are deducted if the time limit is exceeded. For this event there will be approximately 30 controls in the area, with around 8 to 10 controls in a loop equivalent to a White course on the British Orienteering Colour Coded system. The remaining controls will give a mixture of yellow, orange, light green and green standard control sites.

Time limit

The time limit will be **45 minutes for all pupils**. Competitors do not have to stay out for the whole of this time.

Scoring System

Pupils score 10 points for each control correctly punched; 5 points will be deducted for every minute or part of a minute late. In the event of a tie on points the shortest time will decide the result.

Who can take part?

The event is for pupils in years 5 to 13 inclusive. Pupils below year 5 may only run if they are experienced (having gained white colour-coded standard). This is a school's competition and ideally all entries should be made through your school. Please note that schools do not have to be members of the BSOA to enter. It is not necessary for a member of the school staff to accompany the team, but the team must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Pairs

Pupils in years 5 to 8 may compete in pairs.

- If a pair contains two different age categories, then they compete in the older age category
- If a pair contains a boy and a girl then they compete in the Boys category in the age class of the oldest of the pair

Photographs

BSOA appointed photographer **Ray Barnes & Jim Clarke** will be in attendance and their photos will be on the BSOA website after the event. These photos will be taken in compliance with British Orienteering O safe Guidelines. Submission of the entry form implies permission for these official photographs.

Entry

Entry Forms must be emailed by Tuesday 23rd September 2025 to:
bsoasecretary@gmail.com

Enquiries to:

bsoasecretary@gmail.com

EVENT DETAILS

Final details will be posted on both the BSOA web site www.bsoa.org and the SBOC web site www.s boc.org.uk

Getting there

Gnoll Estate Country park, Neath, South Wales.
Postcode: SA11 3BS, NGR: SS766975, W3W : couch.update.horn

Parking, Start and Finish

There is ample hard standing parking for cars, minibuses and coaches. Please let us know your means of transport on the entry form, especially if you are travelling by coach or minibus. Parking charges must be paid on all vehicles.

Car park in the park. £3.50 up to 4 hrs, £4.50 all day.

The start/assembly will be clearly signposted from the Car Park and is approximately 5 minutes easy walk.

Map and Control Descriptions.

The map scale is 1:10000 and has been updated in 2025. Maps will be on waterproof paper and overprinted with the controls. Control descriptions will be on the map.

Please note that there is ongoing work to improve facilities in the park. These are scheduled to finish in September or early October, we will do our best to ensure the map is as up to date as possible. If there are late changes these will be provided as map corrections.

Terrain.

A mix of open grassland and woods. There is a complex path network and streams, least providing water features along with lakes and ponds. To add to the complexity there is a ruined castle that will provide complex navigating.

Off the path most of the woodland is thick with undergrowth and is not passable.

Safety.

Paths are rough in places, take care near water features.

Cost and Entry Details

£7.00 per individual: £14.00 per pair

All entries **must** be on the downloaded spreadsheet which should be saved such that the name of your school appears in the title. This should then be emailed to bsosecretary@gmail.com no later than **Tuesday 23rd September 2025**. Then ensure payment is made preferably by BACS.

British Schools Orienteering Association

Sort Code 30 95 41

Account No. 01301825 (Please ensure your school name is on the transfer).

Alternatively post a cheque payable to 'British Schools Orienteering Association' postmarked no later than Tuesday 23rd September 2025 with the school name written on the back to

BSSC entries, 5 Rounds Hill, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 1DW.

There is no late entry or entry on the day.

Entry Enquiries to: Mel Elington bsosecretary@gmail.com

Your entry form will not be processed unless payment has been received.

Final details and an Excel spreadsheet with start times will be emailed to the adult in charge of each team and the names of all competitors must be returned via the emailed spreadsheet by Monday 29th September 2025. N.B. email communication is preferred for speed and economy.

There is no entry on the day.

Equipment Required

Orienteering kit, or a T-shirt or long-sleeved shirt, tracksuit bottoms and trainers (or shoes with a good grip). **NO SHORTS or VESTS** . A watch will be essential so pupils know how long they have been out for, and whistles will be compulsory – **NO WHISTLE, NO GO**. A compass is recommended.

Given the time of year, it may be necessary to stipulate that competitors wear rainproof jackets with hoods or cagoules. Please come prepared.

Punching

SI electronic punching will be used and an SI card will be handed to each competitor / pair in the pre-start area to those that do not have their own. Demonstration controls and cards will be at the Enquiry point.

Start Times

Please don't arrive before 10am as there is another event, a Parkrun, taking place until then. Start times will be from 11.30am to 13.00pm. Starts will be at one-minute intervals but pupils from the same school will normally start at least four minutes apart.

Individual Medals

Medals will be given to the first three pupils (or pairs) in each age class. Years 5 to 9 will compete in separate year classes. Years 10 & 11 will be combined into one age class as will Years 12 & 13. Competitors in Years 5 to 8 may run in pairs.

Participation certificates will be awarded to all competitors.

Team Awards

BSSC is primarily aimed at school team competition. Medals and certificates will be awarded to the top three teams in each category.

Primary Boys (Years 5 & 6) Best 4 scores to count

Primary Girls (Years 5 & 6) Best 4 scores to count

Middle / Prep Boys (Years 5 - 8) Best 4 scores to count from at least 2 years

Middle / Prep Girls (Years 5 - 8) Best 4 scores to count from at least 2 years

Lower Secondary Boys (Y7 - 9) Best 6 scores to count from at least 2 years

Lower Secondary Girls (Y7 - 9) Best 6 scores to count from at least 2 years

Upper Secondary Boys (Y10 - 13) Best 6 scores to count

Upper Secondary Girls (Y10 - 13) Best 6 scores to count

In the event of a tie-on points, the shortest total time of the scorers will count.

Medals for non-scorers in a winning team will be available at a cost of £1.50 each at the end of prize giving from BSOA.

British Schools Orienteering Association

The BSOA exists to provide a link between schools and mainstream Orienteering. It is affiliated to British Orienteering and has approximately 300 schools as members. At present membership of

BSOA is free. BSOA have funded all the winners medals & certificates for the British Schools Score Championships. Further details of the BSOA can be obtained from www.bsoa.org