



## **Rules and Guidelines**

regarding

### **U23 World Cup and U23 World Championships**

**(for competitors up to and including 23 years old)**

**U23 classes at Ski Orienteering World Cup events**

**Special Rules and Guidelines**

**September 2021**

## **1 Definitions**

### ***General***

- 1.1 The U23 World Cup and U23 World Championships are integrated into the existing World Cup rounds, i.e. they are always held in conjunction with the World Cup Events but an additional U23 results list shall be generated.
- 1.2 U23 competitors are Elite athletes who are up to and including 23 years old (see 3.1). They compete in Women/Men and shall be ranked in both the U23 World Cup and the Elite World Cup as well as the U23 World Championships and the WSOC – if within the number of allowed participants as defined in the SkiO Competition Rules or the Special World Cup Rules.
- 1.3 This document is an extract from the SkiO Rules and gives some further guidance. Where there is any discrepancy between the SkiO Rules and this document, the SkiO Rules take precedence.

### ***U23 WSOC***

- 1.3 The U23 World SkiO Championships (U23 WSOC) are part of a designated World Cup round (see 2.1). The medals are awarded based upon a results list extracted from the results list of the competitions at this World Cup round (see 2.1 and 2.2).

### ***U23 World Cup***

- 1.4 The U23 World Cup in SkiO (U23 WCup) is the official series of competitions to find the world's best SkiO athletes up to and including 23 years old over a season, based on the individual formats Sprint, Middle distance and Long distance. It is an Individual World Cup for women and men aged 23 and younger. There is no Team World Cup. There is a separately calculated points list for U23 competitors.

## **2 Event Programme**

### ***U23 WSOC***

- 2.1 The U23 World Ski Orienteering Championships are staged every year as part of World Cup round which is not in conjunction with either WSOC or ESOC, if possible.
- 2.2 The programme consists of 2 individual competitions of this World Cup Round. These can be a Sprint, a Middle distance or a Long distance competition, at least one of them must be an individual start.

### ***U23 World Cup***

- 2.3 The U23 World Cup is organised every year, integrated into the World Cup for the Elite. It is based on individual competitions only (Sprint, Middle distance, Long distance).

The programme is the same as for the Individual World Cup for the Elite according to the

Special World Cup Rules.

### **3 Classes and Participation**

- 3.1 There is one class for Women U23 and one for Men U23. Women and men belong to the Women U23 and Men U23 classes respectively up to the end of the calendar year in which they have their 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday. All competitors entered in Women or Men and who are aged 23 or younger will automatically be ranked in Woman U23 or Man U23. To qualify for the Women U23 or Men U23 class, competitors must be in that class in the year of the competition, defined as the calendar year in which the World Cup ends.
- 3.2 They compete simultaneously in the Women's and Men's classes and are treated in all respects as competitors in those classes except that their results and scores are also listed separately in Women U23 and Men U23 lists. The additional U23 competitors are entered for the classes Women or Men and the entry procedure is the same as for Women and Men.
- 3.3 The Women U23 and Men U23 World Cup scores are calculated separately.
- 3.4 In addition to the number of participants entered for the Men/Women World Cup competitions (published annually in the Special World Cup Rules, currently 6 + 6), every federation may enter up to two U23 women and two U23 men. Only competitors who are entitled to compete in the classes Women U23 or Men U23 may be entered.
- 3.5 For the Elite World Cup (Women/Men) all participants can obtain points and will be ranked in the Elite World Cup as well-
- 3.6 The same principle goes for the WSOC competitions Sprint, Middle distance and Long Distance. So if a federation enters the (current) maximum of 6 Women/Men, 2 Women U23 and 2 Men U23, they are all ranked in the WSOC, and all athletes who are aged 23 or younger will automatically also be ranked in Women U23 or Men U23.

### **4 Courses and starting order**

- 4.1 Competitors in the U23 classes have the same course as Women and Men.
- 4.2 The U23 competitors are on the same start list as the Women/Men competitors, there is no special start list for U23.
- 4.3 The starting order and start groups are determined by the SkiO Competition Rules and/or the Special World Cup Rules.

### **5 Ranking U23 World Cup**

- 5.1 There is a separate ranking for U23, i.e. all athletes aged 23 or younger who compete in Women or Men are automatically also ranked in Women U23 or Men U23. This means that U23 competitors are in the U23 ranking and in the ranking of the Elite World Cup-

- 5.2 The calculation for the U23 scoring is the same as for the scoring of the Elite World Cup and is done according to the Special Rules for the SkiO World Cup.

## **6 Prize-giving and prizes**

### ***U23 WSOC***

- 6.1 There is a prize-giving for the classes Women U23 and Men U23. It takes place in conjunction with the prize-giving for Women and Men.
- 6.2 The title of U23 World Champion is awarded in the two individual competitions held at this U23 WSOC (see 2.2) in both Women U23 and Men U23.
- 6.3 The first 3 competitors of both genders receive medals provided by the IOF. The first 6 competitors receive diplomas provided by the IOF.
- 6.4 During the prize-giving ceremony, the national flags of the first 3 competitors will be flown and the national anthem of the winner will be played.

### ***U23 World Cup***

- 6.5 There is a prize-giving for the U23 classes. It takes place at the final World Cup round of the year, in conjunction with the prize-giving for Women and Men.
- 6.6 The first 3 competitors of both genders receive medals provided by the IOF. The first 6 competitors receive diplomas provided by the IOF.
- 6.7 During the prize-giving ceremony, the national flags of the first 3 competitors will be flown and the national anthem of the winner will be played.