



INTERNATIONAL ORIENTEERING FEDERATION



# **WORLD CUP 2023**

## **PRE-BULLETIN**

August 2021

## **WELCOME TO THE WORLD CUP 2023**

Dear athletes, Dear fans of orienteering,

The World Cup consortium, consisting of Verein Swiss Cup and IOF are proud to present a strong World Cup program for 2023. The program is another step towards further strengthening the quality of major orienteering events and is designed to meet the growing interest from teams and from media.

The program will provide a good balance between forest and urban terrains to award the orienteers who best can perform across all formats and the variations of challenges that implies. The first round will be held in Norway and using the same format as the Nokian Tyres World Championships in Switzerland a couple of months later. This will allow athletes and teams to fully focus on forest disciplines during the spring and early summer. As summer is peaking, teams will be heading back to the region of the Czech Republic that hosted WOC 2021 to meet a mix of urban and forest races. As autumn approaches in Europe, teams can focus on sprint disciplines as the third and decisive round will be held in Italian towns, and doubles as the European Orienteering Championships 2023.

We hope that this program will attract athletes, teams and fans all over the world.

Welcome to the Orienteering World Cup 2023!

Jörgen Hector  
Brand Manager  
Orienteering World Cup

## THE PROGRAM

The World Cup 2023 will consist of the following 10 competitions.

<i>Date</i>	<i>Format</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Location</i>
27-30 April	Middle Distance	World Cup round 1	Østfold, Norway
27-30 April	Long Distance		
27-30 April	Relay		
2 August	Sprint	World Cup round 2	Ceska Lipa and Ždírec, Czech Republic
3 August	Sprint Relay		
5 August	Middle Distance		
6 August	Long Distance		
3-7 October	Sprint	World Cup round 3 with European Championships	Lake Garda, Ve- rona and Vi- cenza, Italy
3-7 October	Knock-Out Sprint		
3-7 October	Sprint relay		

## **WORLD CUP #1 MEETING THE SPRING IN SOUTHERN NORWAY**



We plan to kick off the World Cup 2023 in late April with a long weekend in Østfold, Norway. Forest is the focus, fitting well with the coming World Orienteering Championships 2023. The event will be held already in spring when the vegetation is still sparse, promising good visibility and runnability. Running speed may however be kept down as the Norwegian hills are known to challenge athletes.

The competitions will be held in terrain with similarities to the terrain of the successful Nokian Tyres World Championships 2019. The terrain is characteristic for the Østfold region, offering managed but wild forests and placing focus on an ability to understand detailed contours and the use accurate navigation. The program composes of the typical WOC formats Long Distance, Middle Distance and Relay.

*“We expect challenging and tight races, and hopefully the learnings from WOC 2019 will allow us to again fill the arenas with a large cheering international audience”,* says Øystein Hildeskor, Secretary General of Norwegian Orienteering Federation.

## **WORLD CUP ROUND #2 TOWNS AND SANDSTONE TERRAIN IN CZECH RE- PUBLIC**



The second World Cup round takes place in the peak of the summer, in Early-August. The summer can be warm here but the altitude of the forest races suggests nice days.

The two sprints will take place in Česká Lípa, a medium sized town in the Northeast of the country, and the 3rd largest city of Liberec region, with a beautiful old town. The terrain consists of an irregular network of paved streets, a historical monastery, a small fortress, and grassy parklands. The area was mapped as a reserve area for WOC2021 and has never been used for orienteering before.

The Liberec region has developed as an orienteering hub in central Europe. Not only because the density of orienteers is high, but also because the area offers a good variety of challenging terrains. The sandstone terrains, used in the forest parts of WOC 2021, are maybe the most well-known and the two forest races will take place in similar terrain.

*“We are proud of our sandstone terrain and know that orienteers of all categories are fascinated by the scenery that the sandstone formations create. We are also proud of our cultural heritage and by combining sprints with forest races, we can allow the elite orienteers, fans and partners to enjoy together with us,”* says Sport Director Daniel Wolf.

The World Cup in Czechia will be part of four-year period which started by WOC 2021 continues with the public Czech O-Tour 2022, World cup in 2023 and JWOC 2024.

*“For us it is also important to keep our important values: sustainability, local support, a young organizing team, the use of modern environmental tools, promoting orienteering among the public, high level TV productions and last but not least focus on the athletes,”* says Event Director Jan Píček.

## **World Cup Round #3 with European Championships Winding streets and tight alleys around lake Garda**



Many orienteers claim that Italy hosts the best sprint terrains, and the final round of the World Cup season 2023 will prove them right. The weekend races will take place around beautiful lake Garda.

The Event Centre will be in Peschiera del Garda by the southern tip of lake Garda. October is still warm and may invite athletes to a dip in the lake after the race. The races will be in towns on the Northern side of Lake Garda, with Riva del Garda in the Trentino region, and the towns on the South-West side in the Veneto region, with Verona and Vicenza. Each race will feature a different terrain with an abundance of rich history and culture. The heritage of the romans is obvious, and the irregular forms around the landmarks can trick any sprint specialist.

As the first two World Cup rounds hosts a total of 5 forest races and only the 2 sprint races, the Italian round will even up the balance and probably change the final result list dramatically.

*“The Italian sprint tradition is strong and for many years the Italian towns have hosted international competitions and training camps for the world’s top orienteers. The terrains in the historical towns around Lake Garda are further strengthening our position and will offer a great challenge and fun for all. We hope and think that we will see World Cup 2023 final results determined by a route choice in a World Heritage Site city and Landmark of Italy in the World.”* says Event Director Gabriele Viale

