

# SKI ORIENTEERING WORLD CUP

## SEASON GUIDE 2015-2016



### ROUND 1

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NOVEMBER - DECEMBER  
**26-2**  
2015

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**YLLÄS**  
FINLAND

### ROUND 2

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JANUARY  
**21-27**  
2016

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**OBERWIESENTHAL**  
GERMANY

### ROUND 3

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FEBRUARY - MARCH  
**27-6**  
2016

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**OBERTILLACH**  
AUSTRIA

## Welcome to 2015-2016

Welcome to the 2015-2016 Ski Orienteering World Cup season!

The World Cup starts in Lapland in Northern Finland in the end of November. Then it travels south to the more famous biathlon arenas in Germany and Austria for the second world cup round in Oberwiesenthal in January and the European Championships in Obertillach in March.

The last years, the number of athletes fighting at the top has increased greatly in Ski Orienteering, resulting in a very high level and small margins. Athletes from many countries around the world are fighting for the medals and no one can take an easy victory.

Who will take the women's and men's overall World Cup title in 2016? Will Tove Alexandersson and Andrey Lamov manage to defend their titles? Will any of the young athletes show their potential? How will the generation change in the Men's category effect the results and the nation's cup?



Follow the Ski Orienteering season on  
[livecenter.orienteering.org](http://livecenter.orienteering.org)

**World Cup Opening:**  
26 Nov - 2 Dec  
Ylläs, Finland

**World Cup round 2:**  
21 - 27 January  
Oberwiesenthal/  
Klingenthal, Germany

**World Cup Final & European  
Championships:**  
27 Feb - 6 March  
Obertillach, Austria

## Ski Orienteering

Ski Orienteering is an exciting, action-filled sport that challenges the athletes' mental strategy skills whilst they race at maximal speed through rough terrain.

Ski Orienteering is a unique winter sport where the competitors find their way on skis using pisted ski tracks or short-cutting through the loose snow. In the terrain, the track network is created by connecting permanent ski tracks in and around biathlon or cross-country skiing stadiums with narrow snow-mobile tracks. The organisers provide the athlete with a map of the track network and the checkpoints, which have to be visited in a set order from the start to the finish. The athletes decide their own route between checkpoints and navigate to find them. The fastest athlete to complete the course wins.

### The Ski Orienteer

The elite Ski Orienteer needs the endurance of a cross-country skier combined with the strategy skills of a chess grand master, and has to be skilled in skiing through rough and unknown terrain at high speed as a SkiCross or Freeskier.



## Project 2020

Ski Orienteering is a sport with its roots in the 19th century and has for a long time been one of the strongest candidates to be included as a sport on the Winter Olympic programme. The nature of Ski Orienteering, with most of the action deep in the forest, has made it hard to tell the story of one of the most fascinating and unpredictable adventure sports. Recent technological developments with GPS tracking and portable cameras have now made it possible to follow all the essential elements of Ski Orienteering. The sport has also proved to be a brilliant arena sport which can be organised from any cross-country or biathlon stadium in the world. Project 2020 is designed to promote the awareness of Ski Orienteering, develop its entertainment value to the fullest and attract youth to take part in and follow the sport.

**Vision:** Ski Orienteering shall be a well-recognised and attractive winter sport, included in the Olympic Winter Games.

**Mission:** The mission of Project 2020 is to make Ski Orienteering easy accessible to youth - both to follow and to participate

**Focus:**

- Entertaining, visible and fair events with local enthusiasm
- Develop the storytelling of Ski Orienteering to be visible and attractive and possible to follow *Beyond TV*
- Make Ski Orienteering accessible around the world



## World Cup 2015-2016

	Event	Date	Competition	Country
<b>Round 1</b>	Event 1	27 Nov	Sprint	Finland
	Event 2	28 Nov	Sprint Relay	Finland
	Event 3	29 Nov	Middle distance	Finland
	Event 4	01 Dec	Long distance, mass-start	Finland
<b>Round 2</b>	Event 5	22 Jan	Sprint	Germany
	Event 6	23 Jan	Middle distance	Germany
	Event 7	24 Jan	Long distance	Germany
	Event 8	26 Jan	Sprint Relay	Germany
	Event 9	27 Jan	Relay	Germany
<b>Round 3</b>	Event 10	29 Feb	Sprint	Austria
	Event 11	01 Mar	Sprint Relay	Austria
	Event 12	02 Mar	Long distance	Austria
	Event 13	04 Mar	Middle distance, mass-start	Austria
	Event 14	05 Mar	Relay	Austria



### World Cup Scoring

The Ski Orienteering World Cup is an individual World Cup for Men and Women and a Nations Cup. The Nations Cup count points scored in relays, sprint relays and the three best women's and men's individual scores in each competition.

For the individual World Cup the best 7 best scores out of 9 individual competitions counts for the overall title. The 35 best athletes obtain points as follows: 60, 50, 45, 40, 36, 33, 30, 28, 27, ..., and 1.



### Contact details

For questions about the Ski Orienteering World Cup contact:

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Media Contact:	Per Frost	per@perfrost.se

## Women's contenders

### Iuliia Tarasenko, Russia (31)

**World Ranking: 1**

Iuliia Tarasenko, the current World Ranking leader with a gold medal from last years European Championships sprint. Unfortunately she got no individual medals in the World Championships and will most likely fight for a revenge this season! Always a girl to watch out for, especially in the shorter distances.



### Mervi Pesu, Finland (42)

**World Ranking: 3**



Mervi Pesu is the woman that just keeps going and going. After some years' break she is now back stronger than ever. An age of 42 years did not seem to bother her when she won last years European Championships middle distance with nearly a minute. Long distance mass-starts is her specialty so it is just to watch out for her already in the World Cup opening on home ground!

### Milka Reponen, Finland (24)

**World Ranking: 7**

The young Finn, Milka Reponen, got her international breakthrough last year by winning the World Championships middle distance mass-start in Norway. It will be interesting to see if this has given Milka more motivation to continue to develop and train hard this summer. Milka has a great potential to take more victories and maybe will she be able to stabilize in the top already in 2016?



### Hana Hancikova, Czech Republic (27)

**World Ranking: 13**

Hana Hancikova is close to a European Championships specialist and one to look out for in the final round in Austria. Hana is currently living in Sweden and being challenged by Tove Alexandersson in their club Alfa Ösa. Definitely a woman that suddenly can do outstanding races.



### Tove Alexandersson, Sweden (23)

**World Ranking: 5**

Tove Alexandersson, the last years Queen of Ski Orienteering. Last season she lost much of the season due to sickness, but still managed to take 2 gold medals in the World Championships. The young Swede is also ranked number 2 in the Foot Orienteering World Ranking in the summer. Tove definitely have both the orienteering and physical capacities. Combined with a hard headed competition spirit she is very hard to beat on her best.



### Olga Novikova, Kazakhstan (30)

**World Ranking: 20**

Olga Novikova is the athlete who ski faster and faster the more technical the navigation is. She won all 4 gold medals in the Asian Winter Games in 2011 and has won 2 World Cup races. She has one World Championship medal and numerous world cup podium places. Olga is a girl that can surprise with a top result any day!



Rank	Name		Points
1	Iuliia Tarasenko	RUS	7153
2	Josefine Engstrom	SWE	7148
3	Mervi Pesu	FIN	7103
4	Audhild Bakken Rognstad	NOR	7067
5	Tove Alexandersson	SWE	7061
6	Mira Kaskinen	FIN	7058
7	Milka Reponen	FIN	6959
8	Tatyana Oborina	RUS	6926
9	Marjut Turunen	FIN	6898
10	Mariya Kechkina	RUS	6822
11	Magdalena Olsson	SWE	6778
12	Kseniya Tretyakova	RUS	6676
13	Hana Hancikova	CZE	6672
14	Frida Sandberg	SWE	6599
15	Polina Frolova	RUS	6386
16	Marta Ulvensoen	NOR	6329
17	Salla Koskela	FIN	6319
18	Carmen Strub	SUI	6288
19	Anna Ulvensoen	NOR	6259
20	Olga Novikova	KAZ	6161

## Men's contenders

### Stanimir Belomazhev, Bulgaria (27) World Ranking: 1



Stanimir Belomazhev is the World Ranking leader. And with good reason. 4 individual medals in 2015 makes him one of the most successful athletes in Bulgaria. At his best he delivers outstanding performances, but he might take some more chances to achieve this and is therefore maybe not as stable as Andrey Lamov. Specialty: Sprint and Mass-starts

### Andrey Lamov, Russia (29) World Ranking: 2

In 2014 Andrey Lamov won the World Cup with 5 victories and was never outside of top 4 all season! He took his first World Championship title in 2009 and has since taken 6 more World Championship titles. His stability in all distances is enormous. Even so he has sometimes shows an extra speed which makes him almost unbeatable.



### Erik Rost, Sweden (30) World Ranking: 7

Erik Rost has been in the world top for a long time and is one of the athletes with the most routine. His favorite discipline is the individual long distances, but he is definitely among the favorites for all the distances. So far Erik only has 1 World Champions medal, but several podium places in World Cup and European Championship. In 2008 he won the World Cup overall.



### Christian Sporrey, Switzerland (30) World Ranking: 17



Christian Sporrey has been in the game for a long time, but last season he took several steps forward, resulting in a silver medal in the European Championships on home ground. If he continues the development also this season we might see him on the podium several times this winter!

### Lars Moholdt, Norway (30)

### World Ranking: 8

Lars Moholdt has for many years been fighting in the very top. But last year he got his real breakthrough when he won the very tough long distance at the World Championship in Norway. Even though long distance is his specialty he also has World Cup victories in Sprint. Lars is very strong physically and manages to keep calm even in very stressed situations. It will be interesting to see if last years success will continue in 2016.



### Ville Petteri Saarela, Finland (26) World Ranking: 16

Ville Petteri Saarela is the front person for the Finnish generation change. He is also a skilled cross country skier and is the Ski Orienteer with the fastest top speed. This makes him very strong in the short distances and in tight duels. Ville Petteri is an athlete that can dominate the sport in the years to come.



Rank	Name		Points
1	Stanimir Belomazhev	BUL	7296
2	Andrey Lamov	RUS	7292
3	Eduard Khrennikov	RUS	7227
4	Staffan Tunis	FIN	7199
5	Andreas Holmberg	SWE	7193
6	Peter Arnesson	SWE	7168
7	Erik Rost	SWE	7154
8	Lars Moholdt	NOR	7064
9	Hans Jorgen Kvale	NOR	6927
10	Janne Hakkinen	FIN	6838
11	Martin Hammarberg	SWE	6837
12	Oyvind Watterdal	NOR	6809
13	Ulrik Nordberg	SWE	6785
14	Ove Saetra	NOR	6753
15	Tuomas Kotro	FIN	6751
16	Ville Petteri Saarela	FIN	6750
17	Christian Spoerry	SUI	6703
18	Kirill Veselov	RUS	6700
19	Sindre Jansson Haverstad	NOR	6686
20	Vladimir Barchukov	RUS	6685

## Round 1: Ylläs, Finland

26 NOVEMBER — 2 DECEMBER [ensilumenrastit.fi/2015](http://ensilumenrastit.fi/2015)

Ylläs has for more than 20 years hosted the traditional opening of the Ski Orienteering season in Finland. Last time Ylläs hosted the World Cup opening was in 2013. This year they will offer an even more compact and visible event this time with all events in the Ylläsjärvi Ski Resort.

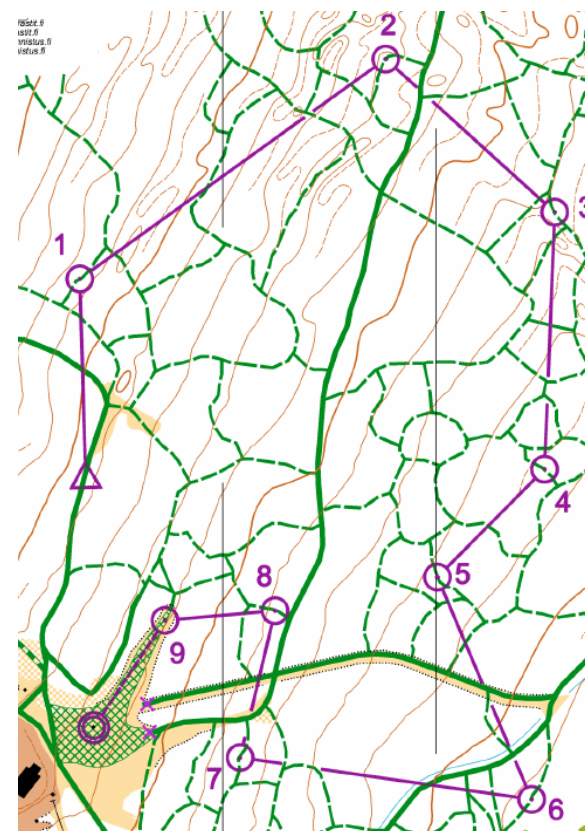
Date	Competition
Friday 27 November	Sprint Distance
Saturday 28 November	Sprint Relay
Sunday 29 November	Middle Distance
Tuesday 1 December	Long Distance, mass-start

### Get to Ylläs

The nearest international airport is Kittilä Airport, 40 km from the Ylläsjärvi Ski Resort. Kittilä Airport has daily flights from Helsinki and there is a public bus going straight to the venue. Here there are many possibilities for accommodation nearby, both hotel, apartments and cabins for rent only some hundred meters from the stadium.

### Follow the event online

All events the 2015-2016 season will be possible to follow online at [livecenter.orienteering.org](http://livecenter.orienteering.org).



### Media

The media center will be located inside the Event Centre. Press conferences will be held after the flower ceremony or prize giving ceremony in the competition center.

Accreditation deadline: 16 November, no fee

### Contacts

Contact person: Tommy Uusimäki, [tommi@mapq.fi](mailto:tommi@mapq.fi)

## Round 2: Oberwiesenthal/ Klingenthal, Germany

**21 JANUARY — 27 JANUARY**

[ski-orienteeing.de](http://ski-orienteeing.de)

In the Ore Mountains winter sports have long traditions. For 100 years, competitions in cross country skiing, ski jumping and luge races have been held here. Now it is finally time to bring Ski Orienteering to the Ore Mountains!



Oberwiesenthal is located on the border between Germany and Czech Republic and is a big winter sport resort with 75 km of cross country tracks and over 4000 guest beds. The Ski stadiums in Oberwiesenthal and Klingenthal are regularly used for international biathlon, cross country skiing and ski jumping events.

Date	Competition	Venue
Friday 22 January	Sprint Distance	Oberwiesenthal
Saturday 23 January	Middle Distance	Oberwiesenthal
Sunday 24 January	Long Distance	Oberwiesenthal
Tuesday 26 January	Sprint Relay	Klingenthal
Wednesday 27 January	Relay	Klingenthal

### Get to Oberwiesenthal/Klingenthal

The nearest international airports are Prague (125km), Dresden (140 km) and Leipzig-Halle (150 km). There is a railway station in Oberwiesenthal. There are numerous accommodation possibilities and standards close to the ski stadiums, both in Oberwiesenthal and in Klingenthal.

### Follow the event online

All events the 2015-2016 season will be possible to follow online at [livecenter.orienteeing.org](http://livecenter.orienteeing.org).



### Media

The media center will be located at the Event Centre and at the finish arena during the competitions.

Accreditation: No fee, but register to [info@ski-orienteeing.de](mailto:info@ski-orienteeing.de)

### Contacts

Contact person: Bernd Kohlschmidt, [info@ski-orienteeing.de](mailto:info@ski-orienteeing.de)

**Klingenthal** 

KURORT  
**OBER  
WIESEN  
THAL**

Kommt höchst gelegen!



## Round 3: Obertillach, Austria

27 FEBRUARY — 3 MARCH

[skio2016.at](http://skio2016.at)



The World Cup Final will be organised together with the European Championships and the Junior World Championships. This means a lot of action all day long at the stadium in the middle of beautiful East Tyrol in the Alps.

Date	Competition
Monday 29 February	Sprint Distance
Tuesday 1 March	Sprint Relay
Wednesday 2 March	Long Distance
Friday 4 March	Middle Distance mass-start
Saturday 5 March	Relay

### Get to Obertillach

The nearest international airport is Munich, 300 km from the Obertillach. It is also possible to take the train to Lienz, 40 km from Obertillach. In Obertillach there are many different types of accommodations offered by the local tourist board [www.obertillach.at](http://www.obertillach.at).

### Follow the event online

All events the 2015-2016 season will be possible to follow online at [livecenter.orienteering.org](http://livecenter.orienteering.org).



### Media

The media center will be located at the Event Centre.

Accreditation: No fee

### Contact

Contact person: Hans Georg Gratzner, [office@skio2016.at](mailto:office@skio2016.at)



## Other Events

### FISU World University Ski Orienteering Championships

The first FISU World University Ski Orienteering Championships will be held in Tula, Russia from 9-16 February. The event will have sprint, pursuit, sprint relay and mass-start competitions for students aged 17-28 years old. The World University Championships is an important step in developing Ski Orienteering by offering a high quality event for tomorrows stars.

[wusoc2016.ru](http://wusoc2016.ru)



### 2017 World Championships

5-13 March 2017 the Ski Orienteering World Championships returns to the Ski Orienteering metropolis Krasnoyarsk in Russia. Krasnoyarsk also hosted the World Championships in 2000, but this time it will return with TV broadcast, GPS tracking and just as enthusiastic spectators as in 2000. Everyone is welcome!

[wsoc2017.ru](http://wsoc2017.ru)



Follow the Ski Orienteering season on

[LIVECENTER.ORIENTEERING.ORG](http://LIVECENTER.ORIENTEERING.ORG)



International Orienteering  
Federation

[www.orienteering.org](http://www.orienteering.org)



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