



スポーツ振興基金助成事業
独立行政法人日本スポーツ振興センター



World Ski Orienteering Championships 2026

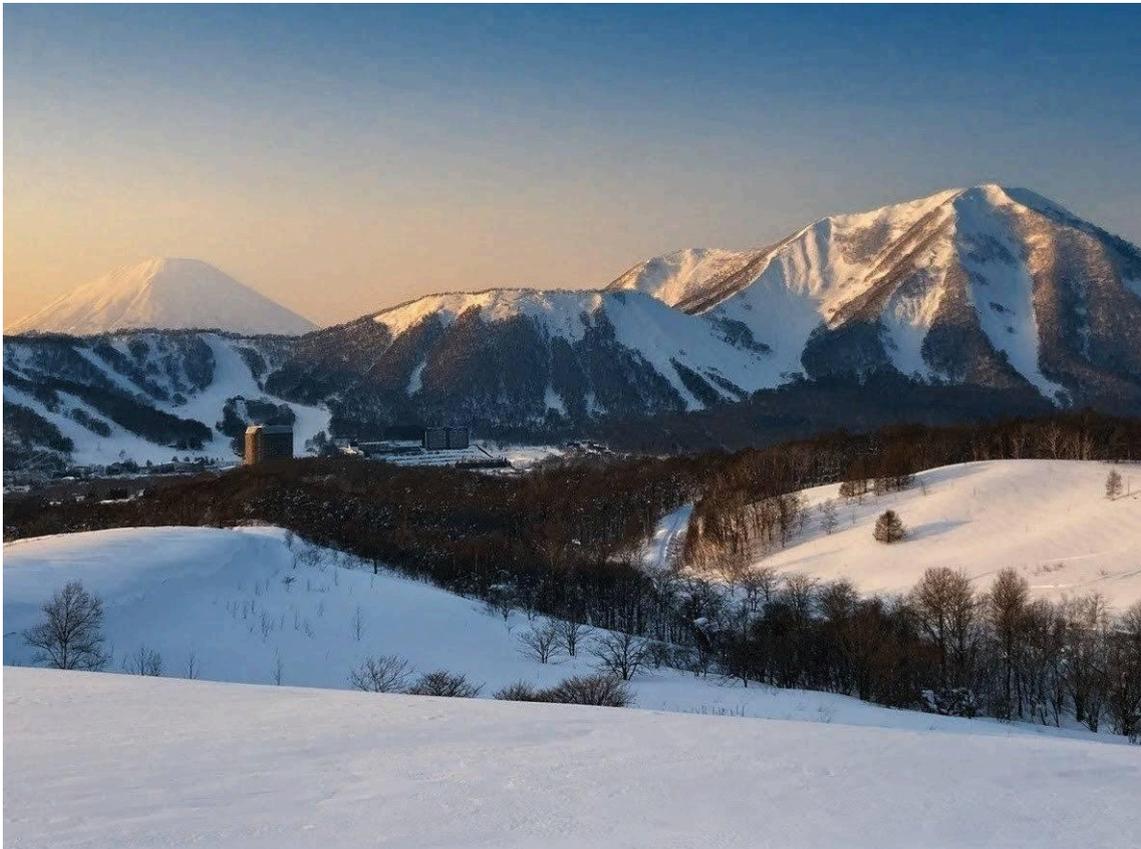
RUSUTSU JAPAN

Bulletin 4

World Ski Orienteering Championships 2026

March 1st – March 6th, 2026

Rusutsu, Hokkaido, JAPAN



1 Welcome Message.....	3
2 Event Organization.....	5
3 Rusutsu Event Center.....	6
4 Event Office.....	7
5 Summary of Entries Received.....	8
6 Overview Maps.....	8
7 Embargoed Area.....	8
8 Accreditation.....	9
9 Saturday, Feb. 28th 2026 – Arrival.....	11
10 Sunday, Mar. 1st 2026 – Model Event.....	11
11 Monday, Mar. 2nd 2026 – Sprint.....	12
12 Tuesday, Mar. 3rd 2026 – Pursuit.....	15
13 Wednesday, Mar. 4th 2026 – Rest Day.....	17
14 Thursday, Mar. 5th 2026 – Middle.....	18
15 Friday, Mar. 6th 2026 – Sprint Relays.....	21
16 Saturday, Mar. 7th 2026 – Departure.....	23
17 Map	23
18 Punching System.....	23
19 GPS.....	24
20 Team Officials' Meetings (TOM).....	24
21 Medical Emergencies	24
22 Ceremonies.....	24
23 Banquet.....	26
24 IOF Athlete Licences.....	26
25 Start Group Allocation and Start lists.....	26
26 Wild Cards.....	27
27 Complaints.....	27
28 Protests.....	27
29 Jury.....	27
30 Live Production.....	27
31 Photo and Video Disclaimer.....	28
32 Liability and Insurance.....	28
33 Quarantine.....	28
34 Waxing & Ski Testing Area.....	28
35 Ban of Fluorinated Waxes.....	29
36 Open Session for Fluorine Testing.....	29
37 Anti-Doping.....	30
38 Registration of Media and Federation Representatives.....	30
39 Notice about attendance of Their Imperial Highnesses.....	30
40 Information and Contact.....	31
41 Other Information.....	32
42 Thanks to our Sponsors and Partners.....	34
43 FAQ.....	35

1 Welcome Message



Greeting from the International Orienteering Federation

On behalf of the International Orienteering Federation, I am very pleased to welcome you to the World Ski Orienteering Championships 2026, taking place from 1-6 March 2026 at Rusutsu Resort in Hokkaido, Japan.

It is special for us to return to Hokkaido again. This shows both the strong tradition of Ski Orienteering in Japan and our commitment to developing the sport worldwide.

The World Championships are the highest level of competition in our discipline. They bring together the best athletes in the world and demonstrate the unique combination of endurance, technical skill and fast decision-making that defines Ski Orienteering.

Looking to the future, the IOF continues to focus on growing Ski Orienteering internationally, supporting young athletes, strengthening cooperation between nations, and delivering high-quality events that inspire the next generation.

We are confident that the excellent organisation, the beautiful winter landscape of Hokkaido, and the facilities at Rusutsu Resort will provide fair and exciting competitions for everyone involved.

May these Championships be successful, inspiring and memorable for all.

With sincere regards,

Tatiana Kalenderoğlu

IOF Senior Vice President

Chair, Ski Orienteering Commission, International Orienteering Federation



On behalf of the Japan Orienteering Association, it is my great pleasure to extend a heartfelt welcome to the World Ski Orienteering Championships 2026, to be held in Rusutsu Village, Abuta District, Hokkaido.

This championship, organized under the authority of the International Orienteering Federation (IOF), is the highest-level international competition in ski orienteering, bringing together athletes and officials from around the world. In hosting this event in Japan, we believe that our responsibility as the host nation goes beyond simply providing a venue for competition. It is our duty to create an environment in which every participant is respected and able to perform to the best of their ability with confidence and peace of mind.

Rusutsu is not only blessed with natural conditions worthy of world-class competition, but is also a community where people have long lived in harmony with nature. We sincerely hope that this championship will be not only a stage for athletic excellence, but also an opportunity for people of different nationalities, cultures, languages, generations, and backgrounds to connect, deepen mutual understanding, and engage with one another in a spirit of respect.

The Japanese concept of *omotenashi*—hospitality—goes beyond formal service. It reflects a sincere attitude of consideration for others, embracing differences, and striving together to create a meaningful shared experience. Through this event, we hope that these values will be shared with participants from around the world, and that the inclusive and unifying power of sport will be passed on firmly to the next generation.

In closing, I would like to express my deepest respect to the International Orienteering Federation, the national federations, the host community, and all those who have contributed to the organization of this championship. I sincerely wish all participants success in their competitions and hope that the event will be safe, rewarding, and memorable for everyone involved.

NODA Seiko

Japan Orienteering Association President



Celebration Message

It gives me great pleasure that the World Ski Orienteering Championships 2026 are being held here in Hokkaido for the first time in seventeen years. I extend my heartfelt welcome to all who have come from countries around the world to Hokkaido for the event.

I would also like to express my profound respect to the Japan Orienteering Association and to all those who have contributed to the organization of this event.

Hokkaido, where rich natural surroundings have been carefully preserved, is a region in which many people enjoy outdoor activities in harmony with nature. In recent years, by virtue of its high-quality natural environment, including its renowned powder snow, Hokkaido has come to be highly esteemed internationally as an ideal destination for winter sports. Rusutsu Village is among the regions that have earned such recognition.

I hold high expectations that the convening of these championships will make a substantial contribution to the further promotion of sport in Hokkaido, and that it will likewise provide a valuable opportunity for people around the world to gain a deeper understanding of our region.

I trust that the athletes will compete with their rivals to the fullest extent of their technical skill and skiing ability, while at the same time experiencing in full measure the splendor of Hokkaido's natural environment.

I also hope that, while deepening exchanges with fellow competitors from around the world and with members of the local community, they will take the time to enjoy the many attractions of Hokkaido, including its seasonal cuisine and hot springs.

In closing, I sincerely wish for the success of these Championships and for the continued success of all the athletes in their endeavors.

SUZUKI Naomichi

Governor of Hokkaido



On the occasion of the World Ski Orienteering Championships, I would like to extend my heartfelt welcome to all athletes and officials participating from around the world.

Rusutsu Village is a community whose main industries are agriculture and tourism. Our agricultural products, such as daikon radish and potatoes grown in the cool highland climate, are highly regarded for their quality. In the field of tourism, Rusutsu Resort Ski Area was honored last year with the prestigious *World Ski Awards 2025*, receiving the award for Japan's Best Ski Resort. This marked its sixth time winning the top distinction—the highest number in Japan. Together with its summer amusement park and golf courses,

Rusutsu Resort continues to develop as a high-quality, year-round international resort destination, and further growth is greatly anticipated.

It is in this exceptional environment that this championship is being held. I sincerely hope that all athletes will fully demonstrate the results of their daily rigorous training and perform at their very best amid our beautiful natural surroundings. I would also like to express my deep appreciation to the organizing staff for their dedication and efforts, and offer my warmest welcome to all participants.

SATO Hisako

Mayor of Rusutsu Village

2 Event Organization

Japan Orienteering Association
Event Director – Shin Murakoshi (JPN)
National Controller – Yoshihiko Yamamoto (JPN)
Operation Director – Tatsuma Shibata (JPN)
Competition Director – Kazuhiro Takashima (JPN)

Advisors:

Hiroyuki Nakamura (Member of the House of Representatives)
Kimito Kamori (Chairman of the Board, Kamori Kanko Co., Ltd.)
Hisatake Kamori (President & CEO, Kamori Kanko Co., Ltd.)

Counsellor:

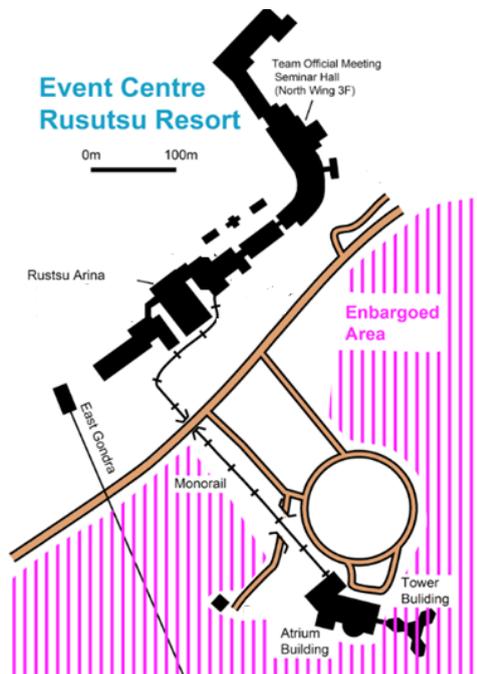
Koichi Yamashita (Director & General Manager, Kamori Kanko Co., Ltd.)

Supported by:

Japan Sports Agency
Japanese Olympic Committee
Japan Sports Association
Hokkaido Prefecture
Hokkaido Board of Education
Hokkaido Sport Association
Rusutsu Village
Rusutsu Village Board of Education

IOF Senior Event Advisor – Tapani Partanen (FIN)
IOF Assistant Event Advisor – Simon Marecek (CZE)
IOF Assistant Event Advisor – Markku Vauhkonen (FIN)

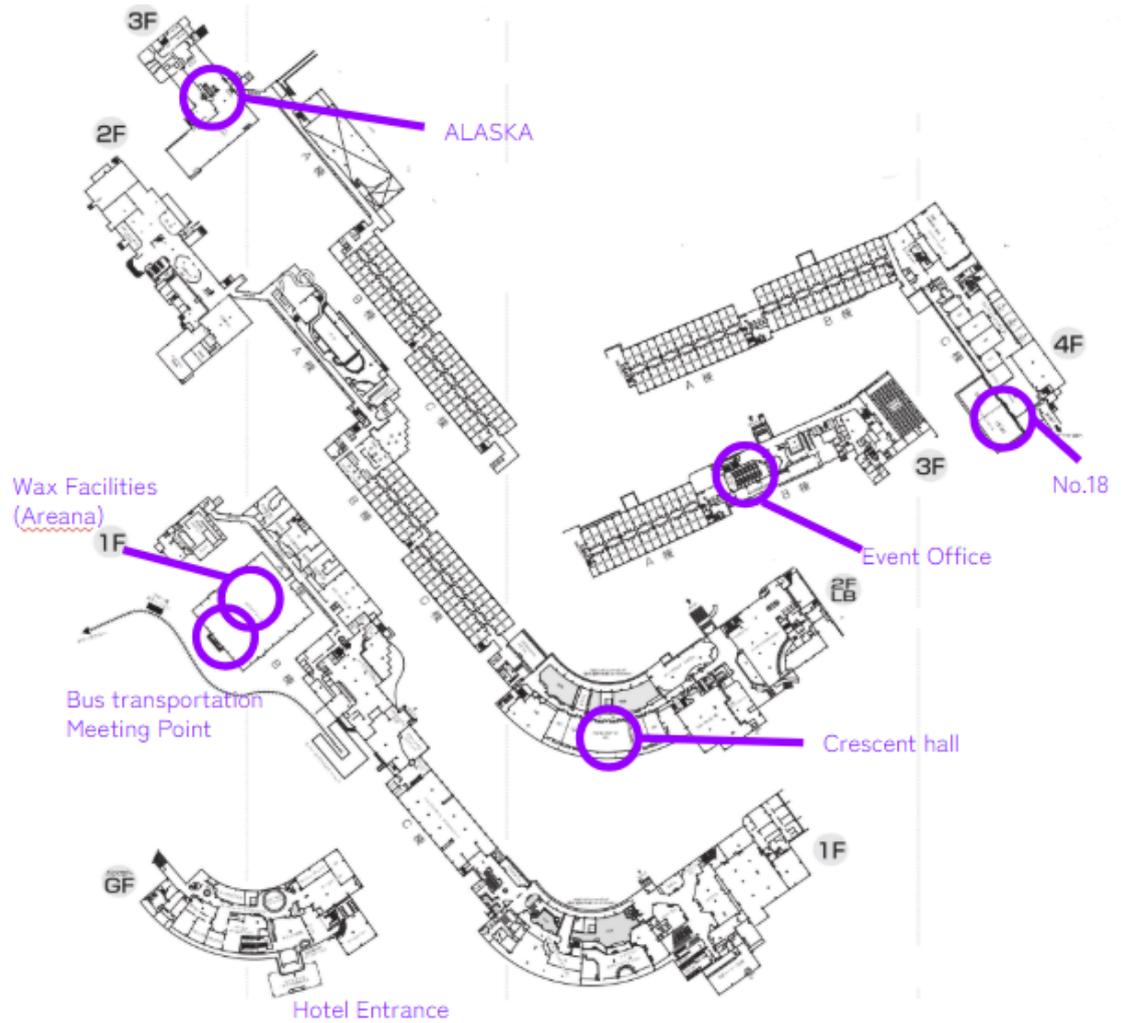
3 Rusutsu Event Center



There are two large hotels in Rusutsu. The event center is located at the northern hotel, Rusutsu Hotel & Convention, while the finish area is at the southern hotel, The Westin Rusutsu Resort.

The two hotels are approximately a five-minute walk apart. A complimentary monorail is also available for transportation between them.

Please note that certain areas of The Westin are restricted and not accessible.



4 Event Office

The event office is located at Seminar Hall at Rusutsu Resort. The event office will be open from February 28 to March 6, 2026. The event office will not be open on-site during the pre-event training and pre-competition periods. Please contact us by email while the event office is closed. If you have any questions or inquiries regarding facilities at Rusutsu Resort, please contact the hotel lobby

e-mail : wsoc2026@gmail.com

Event center: Seminar Hall at Rusutsu Resort

GPS coordinates: 42.752722 140.902556 – [Link to Google Maps](#)

5 Summary of Entries Received

Federation	Men	Women	Team Officials	Total
Bulgaria	1	1		2
Chinese Taipei		1	1	2
Czechia	6	3	3	12
Estonia	5	3	5	13
Finland	6	8	6	20
Germany	2			2
Italy	2	2	1	5
Japan	7	5	5	17
Kazakhstan	1			1
Latvia	2	1	1	4
Lithuania	1	1	1	3
Norway	8	8	3	19
Sweden	8	7	3	18
Switzerland	8	3	2	13
United States	2	2		4
Sum	59	45	31	135

6 Overview Maps

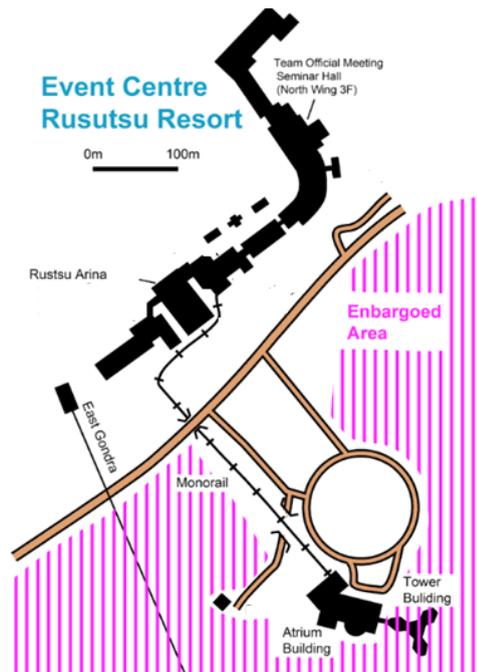
- Sprint, pursuit, and middle distance events will be transported by bus to the starting area near the start.
- Bus boarding times will be determined based on the start time, and the ride from Rusutsu Resort is approximately 10-30 minutes for each event.
- Driving private vehicles to the starting area is not permitted.
- The finish area for all events will be near the Westin Hotel.

7 Embargoed Area

See the map.

Please note that staying at the Westin Hotel, the alpine skiing course, and the commercial facilities on the accommodation side of the Westin Hotel are included in the restricted area.

The Westin Hotel's atrium building itself is accessible during the competition periods, but DO NOT go to the Westin Hotel area before the competition period, and DO NOT go inside the Westin Hotel's tower (accommodation area) even during the competition period.



<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/o/viewer?mid=1zeFyCTig3MxKrCtPq5ZwN3VXBk41H3g&ll=42.78795267478356%2C140.99828200000002&z=12>

8 Accreditation

All athletes and team officials must complete accreditation at the Event Center (Seminar Hall in Rusutsu Resort)

In addition, all participants who stay at Rusutsu Resort (including spectators, family members, etc.) must stop by the Event Center before checking in at the hotel to have their ID cards issued.

Those who arrive before the event center opens, organizers will contact you in advance to let you know about the hotel check in, meals, and accreditation.

Those who are not staying at Rusutsu Resort should have their ID cards issued at an appropriate time.

EMITags will be distributed so they can be used at the March 1 model event: to event participants at the venue, and to non-participants at the event center after the model event.

They will not be handed out at each competition venue, so be sure to stop by the Event Center before participating in the competition to get EMITags.

EMITAGs for the public races on February 24, 25, and 28 will be distributed at the race registration place on the day of each event.

The location of the registration for the public races will be announced to participants.

For accreditation, please bring an official photo ID (such as a passport or driver's license).

After completing accreditation, please proceed to the North Front Desk or South Front Desk (depending on the location of the room), to check in at the hotel . To ensure that the Event Center can assist you upon arrival, please coordinate your arrival time in advance with the organizer.

The ID card issued during accreditation will be required for access to the meal venues, waxing facilities, doping control, and competition-related areas.
Please carry your ID card with you at all times during the event period.

Spectators and media representatives whose accommodation at Rusutsu Resort has been arranged through the organizer are also required to complete accreditation.

- At the Model Event, control points, punching stations, and typical course and map examples will be demonstrated. In addition, a cross-country skiing course of approximately 1 km will be available.
- Please receive the map and EMITags for the model event and competitions at the model event venue.

11 Monday, Mar. 2nd 2026 – Sprint

11.1 Day schedule

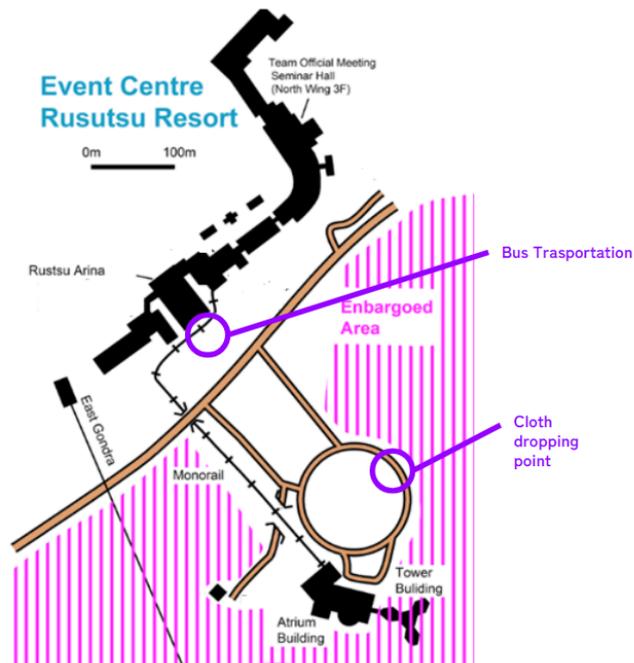
Event Office Open hours	Program
08:00-09:30 15:00-17:00	Bus transportation to start area 08:30- Officials/Wax 09:00/09:30/10:00- Women 10:00/10:30/11:00- Men
	10:00 Women Start 11:00 Men Start
	11:15 Women's Mascot Ceremony (Finish Area) 12:45 Men's Mascot Ceremony (Finish Area)
	15:00 Pursuit Entry deadline 16:00 Award Ceremony (Near the Crescent Hall) 19:00 TOM

11.2 Bus schedule & quarantine

- The bus ride from the bus stop to the competition area takes approximately 10 minutes. Please board the bus at the time specified by TOM.
- Men athletes must wait in either the designated meeting room or the waxing room by 10:00 to avoid contact with female athletes who have finished their races. Staff will escort you to the bus.
- Smartphones/Laptops/other network connectable devices are not permitted on the bus, inside the above-mentioned meeting/waxing room, or at the start waiting area. This applies to all individuals, including coaches and waxing staff.
- Unauthorized spectators are not permitted to be transported to the start area. Please watch the race from the finish area.

11.3 Clothes Drop

- It is difficult to deliver your clothes before your finish from the start area to the finish area, the organizers will prepare clothes drop point near the finish area and it is possible to leave personal belongings (such as clothing to be worn after finishing) near the finish area in advance.
- Athletes who wish to leave their items, please bring your clothes within a plastic bag with a bib number (which the organizers will hand out at the TOM), to the place as below BEFORE you board on the bus.



- The organizer will collect the items which are left at the start waiting area and return them to the arena after the competition has finished.
- It's welcome to collect the left items by team officials for your own federation.

11.4 Start waiting area

- Warm-up is possible near the start waiting area.
- It takes approximately 3 minutes on skis to travel from the start waiting area to the start area.
- A simple tent and a stove will be set up at the start waiting area.
- Please cooperate, as staff will attach the GPS device to the back of your bib after you arrive at the start waiting area, with the power already turned on.
- There will be NO toilets set by the organizer at the waiting area.
- Public restrooms are located nearby; however, athletes are requested to use the facilities at Rusutsu Resort in advance whenever possible.

11.5 Map scale & contour interval

Map Scale	Contour interval
1:5000	5m

11.6 Winning times

	Men	Women
Winning Time	12-15 min	12-15 min

11.7 Start procedure

Please activate your EMITags when you proceed to the start countdown zone (from 3 min before the race.)

A start gate system will not be used on this occasion. Competitors may start at the moment the start signal is given. Even if a competitor starts late, the start time recorded on the start list shall be regarded as the official start time.

11.8 Finish

Punching at the finish line will not be required. The time will be recorded automatically when the EMITag passes the finish line.

After crossing the finish line, competitors will receive instructions regarding the return of the GPS device.

In the event that a competitor is selected for anti-doping control and/or fluorine testing, instructions will be provided by the officials.

11.9 Quarantine

There will be no post-finish quarantine.

Participants may return freely to Rusutsu Resort on foot or by monorail after the mascot ceremony.

11.10 Mascot Ceremony

There will be a Mascot ceremony near the finish area.

11:15 Women's Mascot Ceremony (Finish Area)

12:45 Men's Mascot Ceremony (Finish Area)

Please gather the finish area.

11.11 Maximum skiing time

The maximum skiing time for all classes is 90 minutes

11.12 Equipment change

No ski equipment deposit is planned for the Sprint competition.

12 Tuesday, Mar. 3rd 2026 – Pursuit

12.1 Day schedule

Event Office Open hours	Program
08:00-09:30 15:00-16:30	Bus transportation 08:30 Men 09:30 Women
	10:00 Men Start 11:00 Women Start
	11:15 Men's Mascot Ceremony 12:15 Women's Mascot Ceremony
	16:00 Award Ceremony

12.2 Bus schedule

- The bus ride from the bus stop to the competition area takes approximately 10-30 minutes. Please board the bus at the time specified by TOM.
- Smartphones/Laptops/other network connectable devices are not permitted on the bus, inside the above-mentioned meeting/waxing room, or at the start waiting area. This applies to all individuals, including coaches and waxing staff.
- Unauthorized spectators are not permitted to be transported to the start area. Please watch the race from the finish area.

12.3 Clothes drop

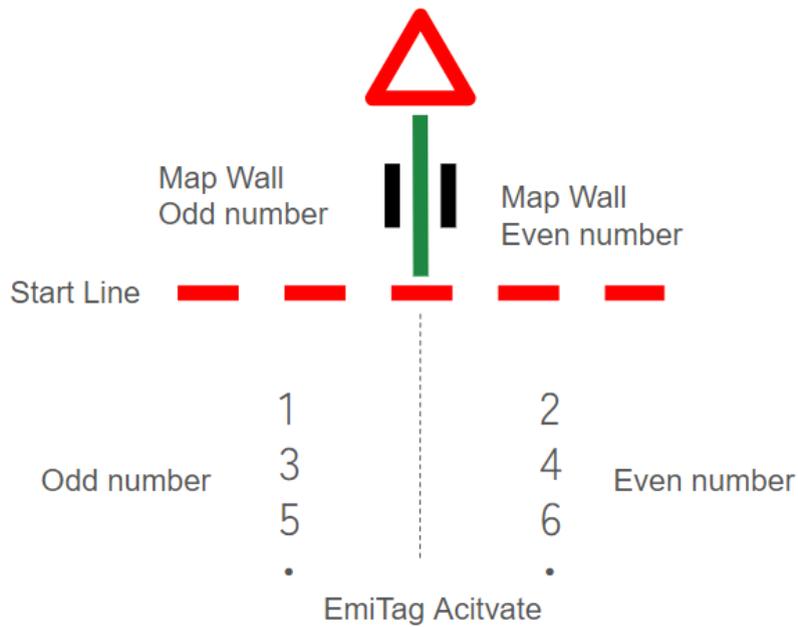
- No Clothes drop for the pursuit race, but the organizer will collect the items which are left at the start waiting area and return them to the Clothes dropping point before the estimated finish time.

12.4 Start waiting zone

- Warm-up is possible near the start waiting area.
- The start waiting area and the start area are nearby.
- You can wait inside a building, toilets are available.
- Please cooperate, as staff will attach the GPS device to the back of your bib after you arrive at the start waiting area, with the power already turned on.

12.5 Start procedure

- The first map and the map exchange will be handled at the map wall.



12.5 Map Change

- All athletes will have a total of 2 maps.
- The location for the map exchange will be different from the start area, maps are on board by bib numbers.

12.6 Finish layout

The finish layout is the same as for the Sprint competition.

12.7 Map scale & contour interval

Map Scale	Contour interval
1:10,000	5m

12.8 Winning times

	Men	Women
Winning Time	50-60 min	50-60 min

12.9 Equipment Change Areas

- Equipment may be deposited in the designated area.

- Each federation can deposit two ski bags, one for the top of the hill and one for the lower place.
- If you want to deposit ski bags, please bring them to the designated location inside the Wax room(Arena) by 8:30. (The exact location will be specified at the Team Officials' Meeting (TOM).)
- After the race, all deposited equipment will be returned to the waxing area by the organizer.

12.10 Finish

- Punching at the finish line will not be conducted. The time will be recorded automatically when you cross the finish line.
- After crossing the finish line, organizers will collect the GPS device, so don't forget to return it.
- In the event that a competitor is selected for anti-doping control and/or fluorine testing, instructions will be provided by the officials.

12.11 Quarantine

There will be no post-finish quarantine.

Participants may return freely to Rusutsu Resort on foot or by monorail after the mascot ceremony.

12.12 Mascot Ceremony

There will be a Mascot ceremony near the finish area.

11:15 Men's Mascot Ceremony (Finish Area)

12:15 Women's Mascot Ceremony (Finish Area)

Please gather the finish area.

12.13 Maximum skiing time

The maximum skiing time for all classes is 180 minutes.

13 Wednesday, Mar. 4th 2026 – Rest Day

13.1 Day schedule

Event Office Opening Hours	Program
	Sight Seeing to Sapporo Bus: 9:00 Departure from Rusutsu resort to Sapporo 15:00 Departure from Sapporo to Rusutsu Resort (It takes about 2 hours)
	15:00 Middle Entry deadline 19:00 TOM

- A bus will be arranged for sightseeing and shopping in Sapporo.
- The round-trip fare is JPY 10,000 per person. If you wish to use this service, please inform the Event Center by 16:00 on the previous day.

14 Thursday, Mar. 5th 2026 – Middle

14.1 Day schedule

Event Office Open hours	Program
08:00-0930 15:00-16:30	Bus transportation 08:30, 09:00, 09:30, 10:00
	10:00 Men Start (Individual start) 11:00 Women Start (Individual start)
	11:15 Men's Mascot Ceremony 12:15 Women's Mascot Ceremony
	15:45 Award Ceremony for Middle distance and World Cup (Individuals) 19:00 TOM

14.2 Bus schedule

- The bus ride from the bus stop to the competition area takes approximately 10-30 minutes. Please board the bus at the time specified by TOM.
- Smartphones/Laptops/other network connectable devices are not permitted on the bus, inside the above-mentioned meeting/waxing room, or at the start waiting area. This applies to all individuals, including coaches and waxing staff.
- Unauthorized spectators are not permitted to be transported to the start area. Please watch the race from the finish area.

14.3 Clothes drop

- It is difficult to deliver your clothes before your finish from the start area to the finish area, the organizers will prepare a clothes drop point near the finish area (same as sprint) and it is possible to leave personal belongings (such as clothing to be worn after finishing) near the finish area in advance.
- Athletes who wish to leave their items, please bring your clothes within a plastic bag with a bib number (which the organizers will hand out at the TOM), to the place as below BEFORE you board on the bus.
- The organizer will collect the items which are left at the start waiting area and return them to the arena after the competition has finished.
- It's welcome to collect the left items by team officials for your own federation.

14.4 Start waiting zone

- Warm-up is possible near the start waiting area.
- The start waiting area and the start area take 2 minutes by skiing.
- You can wait inside a building, toilets are available.
- Please cooperate, as staff will attach the GPS device to the back of your bib after you arrive at the start waiting area, with the power already turned on.

14.5 Start procedure

Please activate your EMITags when you proceed to the start countdown zone (from 3 min before the race.)

A start gate system will not be used on this occasion. Competitors may start at the moment the start signal is given. Even if a competitor starts late, the start time recorded on the start list shall be regarded as the official start time.

14.6 Map Change

- All athletes will have one map but have a map flip

14.7 Finish layout

The finish layout is the same as for the Sprint competition.

14.8 Map scale & contour interval

Map Scale	Contour interval
1:10,000	5m

14.9 Winning times

	Men	Women
Winning Time	40-45 min	40-45 min

14.10 Equipment Change Areas

- Equipment may be deposited in the designated area.
- Each federation can deposit two ski bags, one near the finish area, and one in the forest area.
- If you want to deposit ski bags, please bring them to the designated location inside the Wax room(Arena) by 8:30. (The exact location will be specified at the Team Officials' Meeting (TOM).)
- After the race, all deposited equipment will be returned to the waxing area by the organizer.

14.11 Finish

- Punching at the finish line will not be conducted. The time will be recorded automatically when you cross the finish line.
- After crossing the finish line, organizers will collect the GPS device, so don't forget to return it.
- In the event that a competitor is selected for anti-doping control and/or fluorine testing, instructions will be provided by the officials.

14.12 Quarantine

There will be no post-finish quarantine.

Participants may return freely to Rusutsu Resort on foot or by monorail.

14.13 Mascot Ceremony

There will be a Mascot ceremony near the finish area.

11:15 Men's Mascot Ceremony (Finish Area)

12:15 Women's Mascot Ceremony (Finish Area)

Please gather the finish area.

14.14 Maximum skiing time

The maximum skiing time for all classes is 180 minutes.

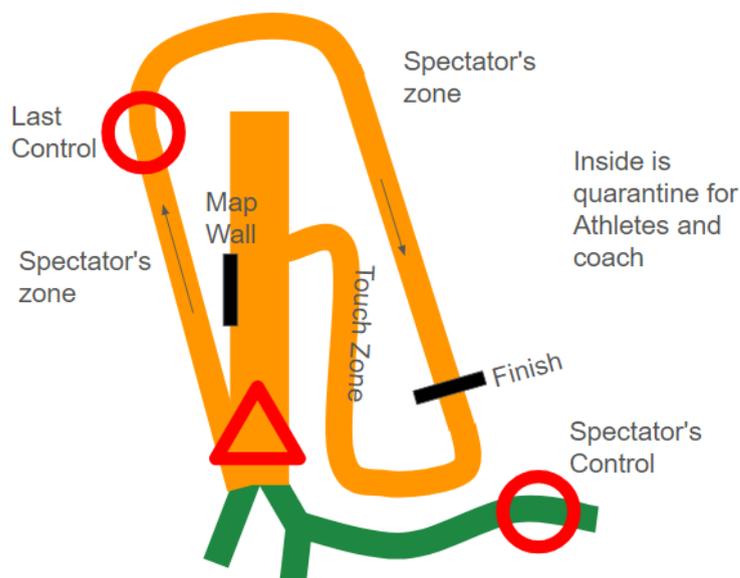
15 Friday, Mar.6th 2026 – Sprint Relays

15.1 Day schedule

Event Office Open hours	Program
	10:00 Start
	11:15 Mascot Ceremony
	16:45 Assembly time (Crescent Hall. Punctuality is required) 17:10 World Cup Award Ceremony 17:30 WSOC Award Ceremony 17:45 Closing Ceremony 18:10 Banquet (Crescent Hall) 20:00 After Party (No.18 Hall)
	※ Once you enter the crescent hall, you will not be allowed to leave or enter late until the closing ceremony has ended.

15.2 Arena layout

Sprint relay will be held near the finish area for the other competitions.



15.3

Quarantine

- Athletes must be inside the quarantine area from 9:30 but before 9:40.

- Only two coaches per federation are

permitted to enter the changeover area.

- Waxing is not permitted inside the quarantine area.
- Athletes must use the same skis throughout the competition, except in the case of damage.

15.4 Map scale & contour interval

Map Scale	Contour interval
1:5,000	5m

15.5 Winning times

	Men	Women
Winning Time	6-8 min×3	6-8 min×3

15.6 Start procedure

- Please activate your EMITags 10 min before the competition in the quarantine zone.
- Please cooperate, as staff will attach the GPS device to the back of your bib after you are in the quarantine area, with the power already turned on.
- Please line up in the order of the start list shared on TOM by five minutes before the start.
- Maps for the first runner will be handed out just before 15 seconds from the start.

15.6 Map Change

The map board will be used for the map change.

15.7 Finish

- Punching at the finish line will not be conducted. The time will be recorded automatically when you cross the finish line.
- After crossing the finish line, organizers will collect the GPS device, so don't forget to return it.
- In the event that a competitor is selected for anti-doping control and/or fluorine testing, instructions will be provided by the officials.

15.8 Mascot Ceremony

There will be a Mascot ceremony from 11:15 near the finish area.

15.9 Maximum skiing time

The maximum skiing time for all classes is 180 minutes.

16 Saturday, Mar. 7th 2026 – Departure

Event Office Opening hours	Program
	Departure Open race If you wish to participate in the Public Race, please register via the link below: https://japan-o-entry.com/event/view/2319 Registration by cash at the Event Center is also possible. Start opens at 9:00-9:30. Finish closes at 12:00.

17 Map

- Size: Format of all maps will be A4 (210 × 297mm)
- One-way compulsory tracks, tracks compulsory to stay, and impassable barriers might be used during the competition.
- If anyone has a color vision deficiency, please let us know in advance.

18 Punching System

- The Emit Touch Free Punching system will be used.
- All competitors will be provided with two tags by the organizer for the duration of the event (primary and secondary card). Only these may be used in the competitions.
- Primary is the YELLOW, Secondary is the Red Tag.
- Both EMITags must be worn on the same hand or arm.
- The reaction distance of the Punching Free unit is specified as 65 cm according to the device specifications. However, this value applies under stationary conditions. When skiing at speed, punching at that distance cannot be guaranteed. Therefore, it is recommended to approach within approximately 20–30 cm to ensure a successful punch.

19 GPS

- GPS units will be worn by all competitors and used for live tracking.
- The GPS device will be attached to the back of the bib.
- Please cooperate, as staff will attach the GPS device to the back of your bib with the power already turned on.
- After each race, all GPS devices will be collected.

20 Team Officials' Meetings (TOM)

The Team Officials Meetings will be held in the North Wing Area Seminar Hall, from 19:00 the day before each competition. There will be no online broadcast, but all material presented in the Team Officials' Meetings will be available on the IOF Eventor and on the event website the same evening.

A WhatsApp group will be used for TOM communication.

Please access the link below to join the TOM group.

<https://chat.whatsapp.com/KN8l8FCjaToVkJ4msjXlk>

(Just ONLY for the Team Officials, not for the athletes.)

21 Medical Emergencies

In the event of an accident, please inform the event staff immediately.

If emergency assistance is required, such as in the case of a traffic accident, please contact the police (110) and an ambulance (119).

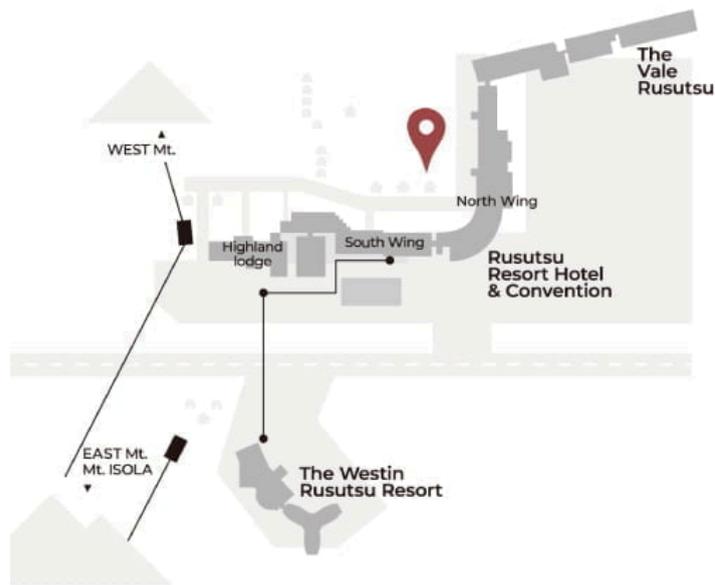
A first-aid station for general skiers is available within Rusutsu Resort. However, if you wish to use this facility due to injury or other reasons, please contact the event staff in advance, except in cases of emergency.

It takes approximately 30 minutes to reach a hospital from Rusutsu Resort by emergency vehicle.

22 Ceremonies

22.1 Opening Ceremony

- The Opening Ceremony will include a parade of federations and will be held outdoors.
- Please come to the Arena (Wax space) before 16:45 with your federation's teamwear.
- Spectators are welcome, please come to the Kids park (Red point below) before 17:00.



22.2 Reception

We will be hosting a reception for team officials. Team officials are kindly requested to proceed directly to the convention room after the opening ceremony.

22.3 Mascot Ceremonies

Mascot ceremonies will be conducted near the finish area on all competition days.

22.4 Medal Ceremonies for Sprint/Pursuit/Middle Distance

- The medal ceremonies for the Sprint, Pursuit, and Middle distance competitions will be held near the Crescent Hall.
- During the medal ceremonies, national flags, banners, signage, and any equipment unrelated to the competition may not be brought onto the stage
- Competition equipment, sunglasses, bottles, hats, headbands, flags, and accompanying persons are not permitted on the medal ceremony podium.

22.5 Medal Ceremonies for Sprint Relay and closing ceremony (Important)

The Sprint Relay competition, the Sprint Relay medal ceremony, and the Closing Ceremony of this event are scheduled to be attended by **Her Imperial Highness Crown Princess Akishino** and **His Imperial Highness Prince Hisahito**, members of the Imperial House of Japan.

The medal ceremony and the Closing Ceremony constitute the official concluding events of the Championships and will be conducted as occasions of an international and public character. Japanese media organizations are expected to cover these events in relation to the attendance of Their Imperial Highnesses.

- The Closing Ceremony and the medal ceremony for the Sprint Relay will be held at Crescent Hall.

- For security reasons, attendance at the sprint relay award ceremony and the closing ceremony is limited to pre-registered athletes and officials only. Please note that security checks, including baggage inspections, will be conducted. Late entry will not be permitted, so please be mindful of the designated meeting time.
- **Attendance at the sprint relay award ceremony and the closing ceremony requires either your national teamwear or a formal suit (with a tie).**
- You can't enter or leave partway through. Since there will be a security check, please gather at 16:45 so that everyone can be inside by 17:00.

23 Banquet

- The banquet is only for the athletes and the coaches who registered before the competition.
- The banquet is scheduled to begin after a break of about 10-15 minutes following the closing ceremony.
- While a dress code is specified for the closing ceremony, there is no dress code for the banquet or the after-party. So, after the closing ceremony, you may leave your seat and change before joining the banquet.
- For those staying at Rusutsu Resort, the banquet fee is included in the accommodation fee for March 6th, and those who are staying outside Rusutsu Resort, prior registration for the banquet is required.
- You can order additional beverages at the banquet. Payments are grouped by country, so please pay when you check out of the hotel.
- After the banquet, an After Party (20:00–22:00) will be held at No. 18 Hall in Rusutsu Resort. The participation fee is 3,000 yen, which includes two hours of all-you-can-drink. Please pay at the entrance of No.18 Hall by cash.
- There are no restrictions on participation in the After Party. All are welcome to attend, including spectators. There is no dress code for the After Party.

24 IOF Athlete Licences

All WSOC participants must have a valid IOF Athlete License. Please complete the application and payment procedures before the competition.

For details on the IOF Athlete License, please refer here:

<https://orienteering.sport/iof/for-athletes/athletes-licence/>

25 Start Group Allocation and Start lists

Individual Competitions:

For WSOC, four start groups will be allocated based on the World Ranking, and a start list will be prepared for each start group.

Relay Competition:

The start list will be prepared based on past WSOC results. Countries that did not participate in WSOC 2024 will be placed in Group 2 or later, and the start order will be determined in alphabetical order.

26 Wild Cards

Linda Lindkvist (Sweden) is approved for the Wild Card.

27 Complaints

Any complaint must be made in writing to the Event Director as soon as possible, no later than 15 minutes after the preliminary results of the race are published (announced by the arena speaker). Complaints may only be made by team officials or competitors. There is no fee for a complaint.

28 Protests

A protest may be made against the organizer's decision about a complaint. Any protest must be made in writing to the IOF Senior Event Advisor no later than 15 minutes after the Event Director has informed the complainant of the decision about the complaint. Protests received after this time limit may be considered at the discretion of the jury if there are valid exceptional circumstances which must be explained in the protest.

Protests may only be made by team officials or competitors. A protest fee of € 50,- must be paid to the IOF Senior Event Adviser in cash when making a protest. The fee will be returned if the protest is accepted by the jury, otherwise the fee is sent to the IOF. Where a protest is signed by more than one federation, each of these federations must pay the protest fee.

29 Jury

For WSOC, the jury consists of the following 5 voting members:

- Lars Beglinger (SUI)
- Joel Karrman (SWE)
- Jan Pecka (CZE)
- Nauris Neimanis (LAT)
- Maria Ruutiainen (FIN)

30 Live Production

There will be live productions from all races broadcast on live stream.

During the competitions, competitors may encounter camera crews in the terrain. Camera positions and intermediate time controls are not specifically marked on the map. Competitors may be followed by a skiing camera person or by camera drones.

Links to GPS live tracking and live video streaming will be made available on the official event website.

31 Photo and Video Disclaimer

By taking part in WSOC, all persons acknowledge their consent to interview(s), photography, audio recording, video recording and its/their release, publication, exhibition, or reproduction to be used for news, webcasts, promotional purposes, telecasts, advertising, inclusion on websites, or any other purpose by the organizers and their affiliates and representatives. No drones are allowed in the competition area without written permission from the organizers.

32 Liability and Insurance

The organization of WSOC declines any liability that might occur through participation in the event. All persons participate at their own risk and are responsible for their own insurance coverage (illness and accident).

33 Quarantine

In the individual races there is a start quarantine for WSOC participants. It is strictly forbidden to communicate with persons outside the quarantine. Therefore, it is also not allowed to have any electronic communication device in the quarantine. This includes, for example, mobile phones, smart watches and laptops.

The quarantine begins when boarding the official bus to the start area. (For the Men's Sprint only, the quarantine will be conducted in a meeting room.)

Team officials, waxing staff and any other accompanying personnel are also not permitted to bring mobile or electronic communication devices into the quarantine area. Please ensure strict compliance with these regulations.

34 Waxing & Ski Testing Area

34.1 Waxing Rooms

- For those who have applied in advance for waxing space, a designated waxing area and a table for waxing equipment will be provided, and the waxing space will be allocated by federation in designated locations within the arena.
- The organizer will set a public (shared) waxing table available for small teams.
- The waxing room is available from 6:00 to 24:00.

34.2 Professional Waxing Service

A professional waxing service is not available.

34.3 Ski Testing Area

The ski testing area is located near the amusement park within Rusutsu Resort.

The use of cross-country skis on the alpine ski slopes of Rusutsu Resort is strictly prohibited, including skiing against the direction of the slopes or conducting training on them.

Please exercise extreme caution to avoid any interaction or conflict with general alpine skiers at all times.

35 Ban of Fluorinated Waxes

The use of fluorinated waxes is forbidden. If used previously, all equipment (skis, waxing irons, scrapers, brushes, ski bags, ...) must be thoroughly cleaned of fluorinated substances. . It is not allowed to bring fluorinated waxes to the event.

For background and FAQs in this regards, please see the information provided by the IOF:

<https://orienteering.sport/skio/faq-ban-of-fluorinated-waxes-in-skio/>

All competitors are required to fill out, sign and hand in to the event office a declaration of conformity. A Team Official representing a national team may make the declaration on behalf of the entire team.

A signed declaration is mandatory for participation in the event, please submit the document at the event center when you arrive and accreditate.

The form can be downloaded here: [IOF Ban on fluorinated products.pdf](#)

([https://eventor.orienteering.sport/Documents/Event/9907/1/IOF Ban on fluorinated products](https://eventor.orienteering.sport/Documents/Event/9907/1/IOF_Ban_on_fluorinated_products)) and will be available in printed form at the event office.

36 Open Session for Fluorine Testing

Fluorine testing will be conducted during this event.

Due to time and resource limitations, opportunities for test fluorine testing before the competitions are very limited. Athletes and coaches who wish to conduct a test fluorine testing may do so only at the following time and place:

- Date: Sunday, 1 March
- Location: Waxing Room (Arena)
- Time: 13:30- 14:30 Free for all team
14:30- 16:30 Only during the designated time slots

Please come to the wax room at the time assigned for your slot if you wish to take part.

- Maximum one ski per person can be tested.
- To avoid congestion, Team Officials are requested to coordinate and manage the testing for their teams.
- It takes about one minute to test one ski.

No other open session for fluorine testing will be available during the competition period.

start	finish	federation			
14:30	14:40	Bulgaria	Germany	Italy	Kazakhstan
14:40	14:50	Czechia			

14:50	15:00	Estonia	Chinese Taipei		
15:00	15:10	Finland			
15:10	15:20	Finland			
15:20	15:30	Japan	United States	Lithuania	
15:30	15:40	Japan	United States	Lithuania	
15:40	15:50	Norway			
15:50	16:00	Norway			
16:00	16:10	Sweden	Latvia		
16:10	16:20	Sweden	Latvia		
16:20	16:30	Switzerland			

37 Anti-Doping

Doping is strictly forbidden, and the organisers of the WSOC are committed to supporting the Anti-Doping authorities in their work. Doping controls may be carried out at any time during the competitions, in accordance with the procedures set out in the WADA International Standard of Testing and Investigations. The latest IOF Anti-Doping Rules and the World Anti-Doping Code apply. Athletes who are selected for doping control must bring an official identification (with photo) to the doping control station. They should also present their personal Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) if applicable. In general, athletes are advised to take their ID to all competitions and events.

For more information, please consult [Anti-Doping / IOF](#)

38 Registration of Media and Federation Representatives

For general media coverage, please contact the organizing committee using the email address

: wsoc2026@gmail.com

39 Notice about attendance of Their Imperial Highnesses

We are honoured to inform you that
Her Imperial Highness Crown Princess Akishino and
His Imperial Highness Prince Hisahito
are scheduled to attend selected events during the Championships.

Their attendance reflects the international significance of Ski Orienteering and of this event, as well as the expectations placed upon youth development and the promotion of winter sports. This represents a great honour for the Orienteering Family and for the Organising Committee.

In order to ensure the smooth and dignified operations of the event, we kindly request the understanding and cooperation of all athletes, team officials and attendants regarding the following:

During the Visit of Their Imperial Highnesses

1. Behaviour and Conduct

When Their Imperial Highnesses enter or leave the venue, we kindly ask that you respond in a respectful and composed manner.

During official occasions, such as ceremonies, please follow the instructions of the Master of Ceremonies and event staff members.

2. Direct Interaction

Directly addressing Their Imperial Highnesses, requesting handshakes, or engaging in personal conversation is not permitted unless arranged through official protocol.

Please refrain from making photographs or video recordings of Their Imperial Highnesses as well as posting such images on social media outside of areas specifically authorised for media coverage.

Please follow the instructions given by event staff members and security personnel within the venue.

3. Security Arrangements

In connection with the attendance of Their Imperial Highnesses, security measures and arrangements will be implemented in coordination with the relevant authorities, in addition to the standard procedures for an international sporting event.

As a result, temporary access restrictions, route alterations and/or bag checks may be introduced in certain areas.

These measures are not intended to limit your experience at the Championships. They are implemented to ensure the smooth proceeding of the event in accordance with Japanese protocol and security considerations.

We sincerely appreciate your understanding and cooperation in maintaining the high standards of this international event and ensuring that it remains a meaningful occasion for all attendants.

Media coverage related to the Imperial Family of Japan is strictly limited to Japanese media outlets that have been pre-approved and officially coordinated in advance.

We are not able to arrange any filming related to the Imperial Family.

40 Information and Contact

IOF Eventor	https://eventor.orienteering.org/Events/Show/8173
Event Web Site	https://wsoc2026.jp/
Media Contact	wsoc2026@gmail.com
Accommodation / Equipment Rental	wsoc2026_hotel@o-hokkaido.com
Event Center	wsoc2026@gmail.com

About Rusutsu resort (hotel)	+81-136-46-3331 https://rusutsu.com/en/
------------------------------	--

41 Other Information

41.1 Training Camp

The bus departs from the main entrance of Rusutsu resort.

Please come there at least 5 minutes before the bus departs.

	Place	Bus Transportation (Need reservation in advance)
23/2 Mon	Otaki XC course	To:Otaki 9:00, 13:30 To:Rusutsu 12:00, 16:30
24/2 Tue	Otaki XC course	To:Otaki 9:00, 13:30 To:Rusutsu 12:00, 16:30
25/2 Wed	Otaki XC course Public Race	To: Otaki 9:00 To: Rusutsu 12:00 Training Course Open 10:00-12:00 14:00- Public Race (Sprint, Amusement Park) Inside Rusutsu resort, no transportation
26/2 Thu	Kutcyan XC course Public Race	To: Kutcyan 9:00 To: Rusutsu 12:00 Training Course Open 10:00-12:00 14:00- Public Race (Knock Out Sprint, Amusement Park) Inside Rusutsu resort, no transportation
27/2 Fri	Kuccyan XC course	To:Kutcyan 9:00, 13:30 To:Rusutsu 12:00, 16:30
28/2 Sat	Public Race	To: Public Race 13:00, 13:30 To: Rusutsu 15:00, 15:30, 16:00, 16:30

41.2 Restaurant

Please note that meal venues may change depending on the day.
Make sure to check the designated venue each day.

An accreditation ID card is required to enter the official meal venues.

Breakfast: 06:30 – 08:30

Dinner : 17:30 – 19:30

Date	Meal	Place
------	------	-------

23/2 Mon	Dinner	Alaska
24/2 Tue	Breakfast	Alaska
	Dinner	Alaska
25/2 Wed	Breakfast	Alaska
	Dinner	Alaska
26/2 Thu	Breakfast	Alaska
	Dinner	Alaska
27/2 Fri	Breakfast	Alaska
	Dinner	Alaska
28/2 Sat	Breakfast	Alaska
	Dinner	Alaska
1/3 Sun	Breakfast	Alaska
	Dinner	Alaska (till 20:30 only for this day)
2/3 Mon	Breakfast	Alaska
	Dinner	Alaska
3/3 Tue	Breakfast	Alaska
	Dinner	No.18 Hall
4/3 Wed	Breakfast	No.18 Hall
	Dinner	No.18 Hall
5/3 Thu	Breakfast	No.18 Hall
	Dinner	No.18 Hall
6/3 Fri	Breakfast	No.18 Hall
	Banquet	Crescent Hall
7/3 Sat	Breakfast	Alaska

42 Thanks to our Sponsors and Partners



43 FAQ

Regarding the FAQ, we have created a Q&A on our website, so please check it.

<https://wsoc2026.jp/new/faq.html>