

Format Rules - Draft

Biathlon Team Sprint Relay Test

Vuokatti, December 2016

IPC Nordic Skiing will test a new biathlon relay format in Vuokatti in December 2016. Experience gained from this test will be used to further develop this format for potential integration into the WCH and PWG calendar after 2018.

The format has been developed by a committee of coaches and STC members. The objective is to create an exciting team format with a strong emphasis on shooting results and that maximizes the opportunity for Nations to participate.

- Team composition
 - 2-person sprint relay team
 - teams may be made of any combination of classes and gender
 - no limit on the number of teams per Nation

- Prologue:
 - a skiing prologue/qualification round (2 x 1km sit ski course) to establish skiing time for relay pursuit start (both skiers ski one lap with exchange in middle).
 - relay start time calculated based combined prologue time and percentage of each team (CC Sprint formula)
 - sit skiers receive additional 20% factor to compensate for skate ski differential
 - to qualify for the relay, teams need to be within 30% of fastest team in prologue
 - the maximum number of teams that can participate will be based on the number of shooting positions available based on a limit of 5 more teams than shooting positions (eg 15 for 10 LW lanes, 17 for 12 LW lane). Additional teams can be added depending on the number of B athletes or B teams competing).

- Zeroing:
 - 45-60min break for zeroing

- Relay:
 - pursuit start based on prologue, first team across the finish line wins
 - sprint relay (3 x 1km with 2 shooting rounds per athlete – total 6km / 20 shots per team)
 - penalty loop for each missed shot: 40m for sit ski / 60m for standing/VI
 - relay exchange between team members is the same as in the XC relay
 - CC & Bt rules apply otherwise

- Option:
 - If there are many more teams than we think we can handle on the range, then we may ask Coaches to pick an “A” group and a “B” group and run two different relay competitions. This would provide the chance to TEST the event twice on the same day.