

Common rules

These common rules are for all classes in Finnish Open National Competition and Baltic Sea Cup.

Mandatory equipment for all classes and vehicles

- First aid kit and at least 2kg fire extinguisher (at least in one ATV in the group)
- Working GSM phone (telephony number must be mentioned in registration)
- Seat belts for everyone in the vehicle (not applicable for ATVs)
- Strong towing points in both front and rear of the vehicle
- Sling or strap to protect trees when winching (only for vehicles equipped with a winch)
- Strong towing rope or line and at least 2 strong shackles

The equipment listed above and vehicle documents must be presented in scrutinising. Failure to do so means that the vehicle cannot participate the competition.

Winch is highly recommended equipment for all vehicles. If the vehicle does not have one, it is recommended to have at least a hi-lift type off road jack and/or a hand-operated hoist for self-recovery.

Orders for all classes

- Common laws and regulations must be followed
 - Non-tarmac roads: maximum speed limit 50 km/h on all gravel roads, some roads can have signs for even smaller speed limits
 - Seat belts must be used always when driving on roads
- Only existing trails must be used when driving off-road, AND THOSE MUST NOT BE WIDENED
- When winching tree protective strap must be used
- If a tree is used for winching, the protective strap must be as low as possible
- Control point (tree etc.) must NOT be used for winching
- Winch cable/rope can go over or under seal off line, but the vehicle can not
- All equipment in vehicle must be fastened properly
- Chains etc. non-slip tread inserts are not allowed
- Vehicles must not leak oil or fuel
 - Possible oil and/or fuel leaks must be informed immediately to the organisers
- Unnecessary damaging and/or littering the nature is strictly forbidden
- Carrying or using an axe, saw or chain-saw is strictly forbidden
- Help and support from outside the competition is not allowed
 - All persons in the competition vehicle (driver and co-driver(s)) must be registered as competitors
 - Persons servicing and/or repairing the vehicle in addition to the drivers must be registered as service personnel, all service vehicles must be registered also
 - Help and support from the other competitors is allowed (regardless of their class)
 - Competition vehicle can be towed only by other competition vehicle, service vehicles and other vehicles not part of the competition are not allowed to do that
 - Outsiders are not allowed to carry competitors, service personnel, tools or parts etc. without prior permission from the competition jury, excluding emergency cases
 - Service vehicles can use only good roads (that can be driven by normal private car)
 - During the competition, competition vehicles must not be transported using a trailer
- Competitors must not set up camp fires by themselves, except in a place indicated and monitored by the organisers
- Competitors must not use any kind of welder, except in a place indicated and monitored by the organisers

Service vehicles are allowed when those are registered to the competition. Service persons are not allowed to be as a passenger in the competition vehicle, or participate the competition in any other way (e.g. by locating control points or helping in competition vehicle recovery).

Visit to the control points are proven by pictures taken by digital cameras. If necessary the teams can use more than one camera or memory card. The vehicle is driven next to the control point, and competitors take a picture of each control point they visit. One of the team members touches both the vehicle and the control point sign at the same time. The control point identifier and the vehicle competition number or license plate must be clearly visible in the picture.

In SafariOrienteering and ATV classes the picture can be taken separately for each vehicle, all the vehicles in the group don't need to be in the same picture with the control point. Video is not accepted as a control point picture, it must be in a common still picture format (e.g. jpeg or tiff).

Examples of acceptable control point pictures:



COMPETITORS MUST PAY EXTRA ATTENTION TO THE CONTROL POINT PICTURES, SO THAT THOSE VERY CLEARLY SHOW THAT THE COMPETITOR IS TOUCHING BOTH THE VEHICLE AND THE CONTROL POINT SIGN AT THE SAME TIME. BOTH CONTACTS MUST BE VISIBLE IN THE PICTURE.

COMPETITION NUMBER OR VEHICLE REGISTER PLATE NUMBER MUST ALSO BE CLEARLY VISIBLE IN THE PICTURE.

If necessary, the competitors can take several pictures from the same control point, so that at least one shows the simultaneous contact to the vehicle and the control point sign.

Minimum resolution for the pictures is 800*600 pixels, and the competitors need to ensure they can take a good picture from every control point they visit (camera battery and memory card capacity). It is highly recommended, that the memory cards don't contain anything else than the pictures for the competition. The camera must have a memory card that can be removed, most common memory card types are accepted (e.g. Secure Digital, Multi Media Card, Memory Stick, Compact Flash). Mobile phone camera is accepted, if it saves the pictures to removable memory card and meets the requirements for the minimum resolution, see memory card requirements above. The organisers reserve the rights to use all the pictures delivered for results calculation.



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The competition points associated for certain control point varies depending on how easy or difficult the control point is to reach. All the control points are shared by all classes. The most difficult control points (with the highest amount of competition points associated to them) are really challenging for Original- and Standard class vehicles. Approved result needs at least ten approved visits to the control points. There are no multipliers for the control point competition points, and competition points for every control point are the same for all classes.

The competitors mark the control points where they have visited to the control point form. Each of these visits must be proven also with a picture. The competitors sum up each control points competition points where they have visited to the summary sheet, and give the results with the pictures to the organisers within the time limit after the finish.

Teams are given two competition numbers for each vehicle; those must be attached to the (front) doors, one in the driver side and one in the co-driver side. In ATV class there is only one competition number per vehicle, and it can be freely located.

For examples of competition number placement, please see example control point pictures above.

The organisers reserve the right to make changes to the rules. Possible changes will be made available at latest in the drivers meeting and competition information desk.

Any violation to these rules will result in disqualification. The penalty can also be reduction of points, if the violation did not cause a big security risk. The competitors are responsible for any damages caused by any violation to these rules.

Speed limits are monitored during the competition, speeding more than 10 km/h will result in disqualification.

Official competition time is the GPS-time (GMT/UTC+3 hours = Finnish summer time).

The jury of the Finnish Open National Competition consists of three members: Paavo Leinonen, Teppo Rapo and Peter Knoblock. Baltic Sea Cup jury is Yuri Ovchinnikov (RUS).

The jury will handle e.g. violations of the rules. After the results are announced there is a protest time, during which the competitors can present any requests they might have for the jury to correct the results. The protest will be handled if it is presented during the protest time, and also the protest fee (50€) need to paid before the protest is handled. The protest fee is returned if the protest is approved.

Duty telephone during the competition: +358-40-848 9389

Emergency telephone during the competition: +358-40-505 1024, also official 112 and 10022

The nearest gas stations can be found from Misi (petrol only), Vikajärvi, Pirttikoski and Kemijärvi.