

Bulletin 1



EUROPEAN ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS

TEST RACES MECHELEN BELGIUM 2 & 3 AUGUST



INTERNATIONAL ORIENTEERING FEDERATION

EOC TEST RACES

Welcome!

This organisation is part of the European Sprint Orienteering Championships 2025. Three weeks before the European Champs, teams get the chance to run in relevant Belgian cities and prepare for the big races.

Not only do the athletes get a chance to test themselves in Belgian orienteering competitions, they can also meet the organiser of these championships, see the same people in the start team, quarantine, finish, etc...

We are planning a fantastic orienteering weekend of the highest level, with 6 races in just 32 hours: a full Knock Out Sprint WRE on Saturday and a Sprint Quali + Final WRE on Sunday.

We're looking forward to welcoming you in Mechelen!

1. Program

Date	Hour	Discipline	Map
FRI 1/8	17:30 - 19:30	Model Event	TBA
SAT 2/8	9:00 - 11:00	Knock Out Qualification	Houtem (Vilvoorde)
SAT 2/8	13:45 - 15:00	Knock Out Quarter Final	Otterwijk & Tivolipark
SAT 2/8	16:15 - 17:15	Knock Out Semi Final	Mechelen Noord
SAT 2/8	17:45 - 18:15	Knock Out Final	Mechelen Noord
SUN 3/8	9:00 - 11:00	Sprint Qualification *	Mechelen Centrum
SUN 3/8	14:00 - 17:00	Sprint Final **	Mechelen Centrum

* Sprint Quali will decide on the starting order for the Sprint Final WRE

** Everybody will run the same course in the Sprint Final. This final race will count towards the World Ranking Event.



2. Organiser

KONO BV
Westpoort 68, 2070 Zwijndrecht, Belgium

Contact

Administration Anneleen Aerts - info@eoc2025.be

Competition Jeremy Genar - jeremy@eoc2025.be

Training Simon Krekels - training@eoc2025.be

Email info@eoc2025.be

Website www.eoc2025.be

Phone +32 477 47 85 33 (available on weekdays between 9:00 and 18:00 CET)

Event Team

Event director – Jeremy Genar

Event officer – Anneleen Aerts

Course setter sprint – Jeremy Genar

Course setter KO sprint– Dirk Goossens

Arena – Stefan Thiels

Quarantine – Bob de Clercq

Start – Jelle Bakelants

Finish – Bert van Rillaer

Timing – Gilles de Neyer

Finances – Julie Genar

Logistics – Adriaan Pelckmans

Safety & Medical – Dirk Genar

Stewards – Patrick Wallaert

Communication – Joris Kint

Marketing – Silke van Rooy

Media – Kris Verduyck

Training – Simon Krekels

Event Advisors

IOF Event advisor – Michel van Dongen (NED)

National Controller – Karl Keuppens (BEL)



3. Venue

Holiday Inn Express Hotel Mechelen

Veemarkt 37C
2800 Mechelen

The event hotel is located in the Holiday Inn Express Hotel in Mechelen.

From the event hotel it is a:

- ▲20min drive to KO Sprint Qualification
- ▲5min drive to KO Sprint Finals
- ▲10min walk to Sprint Quarantine

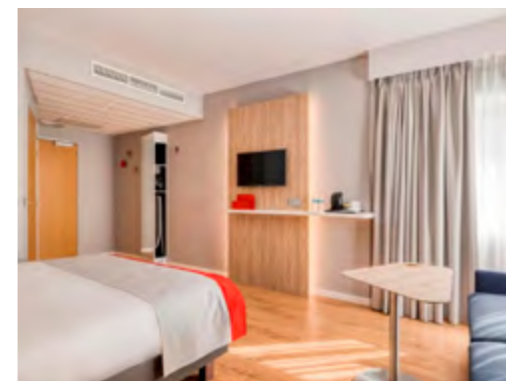
4. Accommodation

The recommended accommodation for the Test Races is the Holiday Inn Express Hotel Mechelen. The Event Center is also located at this hotel.

Rooms are available at a rate of € 124,00 for a **double room** (2 single or 1 double bed), **breakfast included for 2 persons**.

Bookings can be done via [this link](#).

Of course, teams are free to look for their own accommodation. Note that the event center is inside the embargoed zone. Be sure to follow the allowed road to the hotel. This allowed route into the embargoed area will be shown in bulletin 2.



5. Region



6. Old maps

Mechelen has been used for orienteering events before:

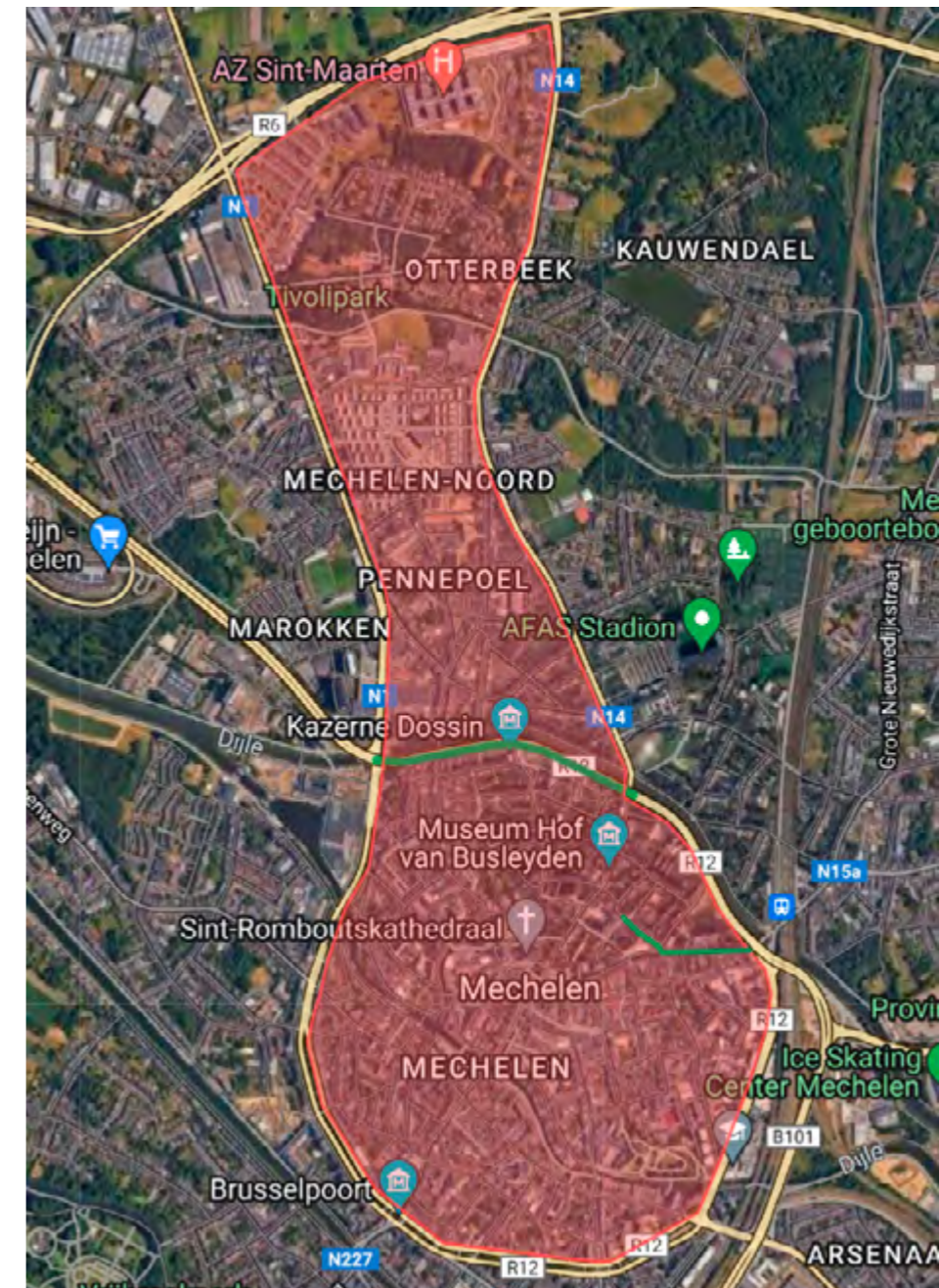
Mechelen Centrum - last used in 2016 [Link to the map](#)

Mechelen North - last used in 2021 [Link to the map](#)

Houtem - last used in 2021 [Link to the map](#)

7. Embargoed areas

The embargoed areas can be found on the [EOC google maps](#).
The city center of Mechelen is under strict embargo. Also a part of the city center of the town 'Houtem' is embargoed.



8. Classes

There will be 2 classes during all races, Women and Men.
There are no age restrictions.

9. Entries

All entries for the races should be done via IOF EVENTOR.

For **Knock Out Sprint** (all races on Saturday):

<https://eventor.orienteering.org/Events/Show/8289>

For **Sprint** (2 races on Sunday):

<https://eventor.orienteering.org/Events/Show/8290>

Normal entry fee is up to **20/07/2025** and is € **45**.

Late entries should be done up and until **27/07/2025**, the price for an entry during this last week is € **64** for all races during the weekend.

Payments of entries should be no later than **27/07/2025**

The entry fee includes model event on Friday, Full KO Sprint WRE on Saturday and Sprint Qualification and Sprint Final WRE on Sunday.

KONO BV - EOC2025

IBAN BE87 7330 6722 7494

Bank: KBC Bank NV

Address: Havenlaan 2, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

SWIFT: KREDBEBBXXX

BIC: KREDBEBB

10. Punching system

The SPORTident AIR+ timing system will be used during all the races.
Both SI9 (not touch-free) and SIAC can be rented from the organisation, please let us know via your entry form in Eventor.

11. Food

Saturday 2/8

At the competition center on Saturday between 17h00 and 19h00 athletes will have the possibility to buy dinner (pasta) at reasonable prices.

Sunday 3/8

At the competition center on Sunday, lunch and dinner will be available at the competition at reasonable prices.

12. Transport

There is no official transportation for athletes offered by the organisation.

All arenas are reachable by train from Brussels Airport, Mechelen, Brussels and Antwerp.

13. Entry permits (visas)

For citizens of the European Union, a valid identity card is a prerequisite for entry into Belgium. Travelers from some countries might require a passport, visa or further documents.

Please check with your local government or Belgian embassy if you need visa permits.

More information can be found at <https://diplomatie.belgium.be/en/travel-belgium> and <https://dofi.ibz.be/en>

14. Team Official Meeting

A Team Officials Meeting (TOM) will be organised on Friday evening 20h00 at the Event Hotel, Holiday Inn Express Mechelen.

During this meeting, any last-minute additional information to bulletin 2 will be given. This Team Official meeting can be followed remotely, available to all athletes. The link to this online meeting will be shared in bulletin 2.

We kindly invite National Team Coaches to be present at this meeting. Please let us know if you want to attend this TOM at info@eoc2025.be

Address: Veemarkt 37C, 2800 Mechelen.

15. Clothing restrictions

There are no restrictions on clothing.
More information on your shoe choice will be available in bulletin 2.



16. Training

There is a possibility to do the EOC Training Camp #2 around the EOC Test Races from Monday the 4th of August until Wednesday the 6th of August 6, trainings are planned. Each morning session is a 'free' session. In the afternoon the trainings will be timed with SPORTident.

It is possible to do some of these trainings BEFORE the Test races as well. Please contact our training manager at training@eoc2025.be for more information or with your travel plans.

PROGRAM TRAINING CAMP #2

Monday 4/8	AM Free Training* in Leuven PM SI Training** in Leuven
Tuesday 5/8	AM Free Training in Tessenderlo PM SI Training in Diest
Wednesday 6/8	AM Free Training in Westerlo PM SI Training in Herentals

* Free Training includes a prepared training, a quality printed map and control flags

** SI Training includes a prepared training, a quality printed map and SPORTident controls.

TRAINING CAMP FEE

€ 7 for each training of the Training camp
Full training package (6 trainings): € 35

REGISTRATION FOR TRAINING CAMP #2

Registrations can be done by emailing training@eoc2025.be
Please provide your name, nationality, SI number and which trainings you would like to take part in.

After completing the payment, The Training Camp #2 bulletin 1 will be send to you the 15th of July.

Registrations for a whole team can also be done by mailing training@eoc2025.be.

17. Competition

Knock-Out Sprint Qualification

Map Houtem

Scale 1/4000

Terrain This area is a flat, residential area with many roads and tracks in between properties. There are small parks and a school located in the area.

Houtem is a sub-municipality of the City of Vilvoorde, and is located about 10km South of Mechelen.

The **Knock-Out Sprint** is a format where 6 runners on a course race head-to-head. The first ones to reach the finish line will go through to the next round.

In this **qualification race**, all athletes will be divided in 3 heats, the 12 best of each heat will go to the Knock-out Sprint Finals.

After the Knock Out Qualification, a **Heat Selection** will be organized so the qualified runners can choose their Quarter Final. The order in which the runners can pick their Quarter Final is determined by the IOF Competition Rules.

Winning times

Men 10min

Women 10min

Knock-Out Sprint Finals

Map Mechelen Noord

Scale 1/4000

The **terrain** is flat with a mix of residential zones and a big park. The streets in this area have a very regular pattern. You'll find grassy parks in between the houses.

The 12 best runners of each qualifying heat start in the Quarter Finals. From each Quarter Final the 3 best runners go through to the Semi Final. From each Semi Final, the 2 best runners go to the Final.

Winning times

Men 6-8min

Women 6-8min

Sprint Qualification

Map Mechelen

Scale 1/4000

This is a **qualification race** for the Sprint WRE Final that takes places in the afternoon. All runners will be qualified for the Sprint WRE Final.

This Qualification race + Final race concept is to prepare the athletes for a similar program at the European Championships Sprint on 31/08/2025.

Every minute, 3 runners **start** in 3 different heats: Heat A, Heat B and Heat C.

The purpose of this qualification race is to determine the **starting order** for the Final. The winner of Heat A starts last in the Final. The winner of Heat B second last. The winner of Heat C third last. The second of Heat A starts fourth last. Etc... Disqualified runners in the qualification race will start first in the Final.

Important note to coaches: To make it more convenient for national teams to compare their runners at these Test Races, it is possible to ask for a same qualification heat for all your national team runners. Doing this, there is an extra chance for the national team athletes to be compared on exactly the same course. National teams & runners will be spread over the qualification heats based on the World Federation League Table.

! All runners starting in the qualification will have the possibility to start in the Sprint WRE race in the afternoon regardless of their result in the qualification.

National teams that want this qualification race to be the same for all their national team runners can show their interest by emailing **info@eoc2025** before the entry deadline of 20/07/2025!

Winning times

Men 12-15min

Women 12-15min

Sprint Final

Map Mechelen
Scale 1/4000

Mechelen is a typical Belgian city with a ring road around the city center. The river Dijle flows through the city. On a sunny Sunday, tourists and locals will fill the streets and parks. Most noticeable building is the St. Rumbold's Cathedral, with the St. Rumbold's Tower. It is this tower that lead to the nickname of the inhabitants of Mechelen: Maneblussers (Moon Extinguishers) – a nickname they bear to this day, for trying to extinguish a non-existent fire in the tower that only turned out to be the moon on a foggy night.

Winning times

Men 12-15min

Women 12-15min



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