



Statement from the Organization about POM 2019 Preo

The Punching System in POM 2019 PreO will be SI Card for timing and also for the PreO course answers.

This is the first time system will be used on a Classic PreO course in Portugal. Please read carefully the following rules.

The following rules apply:

- Each control point will have its own group of punching boxes, near the decision point and normally in the opposite side of the road.
- A manual punch is also available at each control point for backup purposes.
- There is one box for each possible answer for that control point plus the Zero answer box (ex. A-C points will have 4 stations (A,B,C and Z) ; A points will have 2 stations (A and Z))
- All boxes will be identified by its letter and the group identified by the control point number.
- If a decision point is used for viewing the flags of more than one control point, there is a group of punching boxes placed for each control point (ex. flags A-C on terrain for control point 10 and 11 are viewed from same place; two groups of A,B,C and Z boxes are placed separately and properly identified by control point number 10 and 11).
- On A clusters, there is also a separated A plus Z group box for each control point.
- Only one punch is allowed per control point to give a proper answer. It is not possible to change answer by punching other box. If more than one box is punched in the same control, it is considered multiple answers and all punches are voided.
- The control points can be answered in any order.
- Manual punch is only possible if a particular punching box does not work.
- There will be a mini control card printed in the competition map for three backup punches. Each row can be backup for any control point.
- If used, at the end of the course, the athlete must inform which control points have been punched manually.

- The three backup rows will have A,B,C,D,E and Z boxes for manual backup punch. Same rules apply for manual punching on the backup control card (only one punch per row).
- If SI and manual punch is made at one particular control, the SI will count and the manual punch is not considered.
- Any SI card you may use has at least 30 control point punches available. The course has 23 control points. Try not to punch more than needed in order not to fill your SI Card before the course ends.
- It is mandatory to CLEAR and CHECK your SI before start. It is mandatory to have START and FINISH punches at the download procedure to be classified.

Due to the high number on entries in PreO Open Class and the decision not to limit anyone to participate, the organization decided to implement some particular measures:

- All PreO athletes will have an early start time in the Foot-O Middle course on Day 2, in order to take some rest, eat properly and arrive in time to the PreO competition.
- Two Open Class Heats will be set, one for Iberian athletes, other for non Iberian, with a real start every two minutes from each Heat.
- This decision is to prevent any unfairness concerning the Portuguese Cup and the WTC 2019 national team qualifying events, as Portugal and Spain are using PreO POM 2019 as observation events.
- At the end of the course, a dual timed station will be held close to each other, with visual and sound interference minimized. Chairs will be apart by some meters.
- The point-of-view viewing angle is similar between stations, in order to use the same map and order of challenges.
- The slightly different position of elements and flags viewed from each station chair will not be an issue, because of the closeness of the viewing points, the rounded shape of the timed maps and the nature of PreO timed controls (there is no Zero answer).
- The spoken procedures will be in English in both stations.
- The startlists for Open class are published by station.
- Heat A (Open Class Portuguese and Spanish) will solve the timed challenges on the LEFT tent/chair, the one far away for the Finish.
- Heat B (Open Class non Iberian) and Para Class will solve the timed challenges on the RIGHT tent/chair, the one closest for the Finish.
- The Open Class results will be published independently of the station used by each athlete, but the designated tent for each Heat must be respected.