



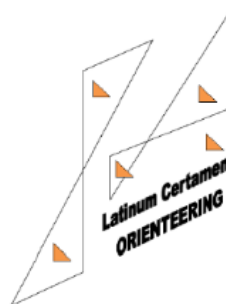
BULLETIN 2

- **South American Orienteering Championships 2026**
- **XXXI Latin Countries Cup 2026**



Valid for WRE

www.saoc2026.cl



Organizer:



Sponsors:



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The South navigates

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Invitation

 Dear orienteers from South America and around the world

With great enthusiasm, the Chilean Orienteering Federation and the Organizing Committee of the 2026 South American Orienteering Championship (SAOC2026) have the honor of inviting the entire international orienteering community to participate in this new edition of the continental event, which will take place in Pucón, Chile, from November 12 to 15, 2026.

SAOC2026 will be a true South American orienteering “fiesta”, with highly technical races in an incomparable natural setting: native forests, volcanic trails, lakes, and the mountains of the Araucanía. We look forward to the presence of national teams, clubs, elite, junior, and master athletes, as well as Orienteering enthusiasts of all ages and levels.

For four days, orienteering will be the meeting point for countries, cultures, challenges, and friendship, under the motto that unites and inspires us: **The South Navigates.**

We look forward to sharing maps, races, and unforgettable experiences in the south of our globe. **See you in Pucón!**

 XXXI Latin Countries Cup – CPL2026



We especially extend a warm invitation to all member countries of the Latin Countries Cup, namely ANGOLA, ARGENTINA, BELGIUM, BRAZIL, COLOMBIA, COSTA RICA, ECUADOR, SPAIN, FRANCE, GUATEMALA, ITALY, MEXICO, MOLDOVA, MOZAMBIQUE, PARAGUAY, PERU, PORTUGAL, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, ROMANIA, SWITZERLAND, URUGUAY, VENEZUELA and CHILE, as well as any other Latin American countries that wish to join, to submit teams for this edition of the **Latinum Certamen**, which will be held in parallel with the South American Orienteering Championships.

 1st S-SAOC (South American Orienteering Championship for the Deaf)

SAOC2026 takes a historic step by strengthening the values of inclusion, diversity and universal access to the sport of orienteering by incorporating, for the first time, the 1st South American Orienteering Championship for the Deaf (S-SAOC).





Held in parallel with the official competitions, the S-SAOC is fully integrated into the event's sporting program, reaffirming South American Orienteering's commitment to inclusive sporting practices, in line with international sporting guidelines.

The championship will feature specific categories for deaf athletes:

-  MSA – Male Deaf
-  WSA – Female Deaf

The goal of the S-SAOC is to guarantee equitable participation, respecting the specific needs of the deaf community, without abandoning the essential principles of orienteering: precise navigation, decision-making, accurate terrain reading, and physical preparation.

By promoting this unprecedented initiative at a continental event, SAOC2026 not only expands the reach of the sport but also positions itself as an active agent in valuing human diversity and building an increasingly accessible sport.

More than a competition, the S-SAOC represents a milestone in the development of orienteering in South America, pointing to a future where inclusion is an integral part of sporting growth.

It is a reaffirmation that orienteering is, truly, a sport for everyone.

SAOC2026 Organizing Committee, Chilean Orienteering Federation

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page featuring wavy lines in shades of green and blue, with a small flag on a pole on the right side.

The South navigates

Competitions and Dates

The South American Orienteering Championship, the Latin Countries Cup, and the South American Open will be held from **November 12 to 15, 2026**, in the municipality of **Pucón**, which will host the SAOC Event Center.

The following competitions will be held as part of the SAOC2026 event:

-  SAOC: South American Orienteering Championship (WRE )
-  SAJOC: South American Junior Orienteering Championship ()
-  SAYOC: South American Youth Orienteering Championship ()
-  CPL: Latin Countries Cup (WRE )
-  O-SAOC: South American Open Orienteering Championship
-  M-SAOC: South American Masters Orienteering Championship
-  S-SAOC: South American Orienteering Championship for the Deaf

Program

Date	Time	Activity	Venue
Thursday 12-11-2026	9:00 am to 10:00 pm	Arrival and accreditation of delegations and athletes	Event Center SAOC2026 Pucón
	10:00 am to 06:00 pm	Model/Training Event	Pucón, Sector Cerdúo
	07:00 pm to 08:00 pm	SAOC2026 Opening Ceremony	Stadium Osvaldo Muñoz Carrillo, Pucón
Friday 13-11-2026	10:00 am to 03:00 pm	Long Distance Competition (WRE)	Pucón, Sector Cerdúo
	07:00 pm to a 08:00 pm	South American Federations and CPL Meeting	Pucón, further info in next Bulletin



Saturday 14-11-2026	10:00 am to 2:30 pm	Middle Distance Competition (WRE)	Pucón, Sector Cerduo
	15:30 a 16:30	Long and Middle-Distance Awards Ceremony	Arena Media Distancia
	07:00 pm to 10:00 pm	SAOC BBQ Social Event	Pucón, further info in next Bulletin
Domingo 15-11-2026	9:00 am to 12:00 am	Sprint Competition (WRE)	Pucón
	01:00 pm to 02:00 pm	Sprint Awards Ceremony, SAOC2026 Closing Ceremony	Arena Sprint, Plaza de Armas Pucón

IOF Senior Event Advisor and National Event Advisor

IOF Senior Event Advisor (SEA)	Gilson Schropfer (BRA), gilsonschropfer@gmail.com
National Event Advisor	Carlos Saldías (CHI), cargassal@gmail.com

Organization

The event is organized by the Chilean Orienteering Federation.

Organizing Team

Event Director	Kai Ostermann, koster@saoc2626.cl
Administrative Director	Erwin Thieme, erwin@saoc2026.cl
Start and Finish Director	Carlos Galdames, carlos@saoc2026.cl
Technical Director	Jorge Espinoza, charly@saoc2026.cl
Timing & IT Director	Manuel Ostermann, manuel@saoc2026.cl
Associated Director	Nelson Yañez, nelson@saoc2026.cl



Contact Information

Please direct all inquiries by email to the Event Secretariat at the following email address: info@saoc2026.cl

 Spanish speaking Contact:	Georgina Sánchez Astudillo
 English speaking Contact:	Kai Thomas Ostermann Valencia
 Portuguese speaking Contact:	Raylane Barros

 Contact Address:	La Concepción 81, Oficina 608, Providencia, Santiago, Chile
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Regulations & Rules

The official regulations governing the competitions can be downloaded from the SAOC2026 website: <https://saoc2026.cl/boletines-2/>

-  Competition Rules for International Orienteering Federation (IOF) Foot Orienteering Events 2026
-  Competition Rules Regulations for the Latin Countries Cup 2026
-  Regulations for the 2026 South American Orienteering Championship

Classes

The following categories will be available for competitors to participate in: W= Ladies, M= Men

SAOC (Elite)	WE / ME	no age limit
SAJOC (Junior)	W20E / M20E	born in 2006 and later
SAYOC (Juvenil)	W18E / M18E	born in 2008 and later
	W16E / M16E	born in 2010 and later

CPL	Senior	equivalent to WE / ME
	Junior	equivalent to W20E / M20E
	Cadete	equivalent to W18E / M18E

O-SAOC (Open)	W12 / M12	born in 2014 and later
	W14 / M14	born in 2012 and later
	W16 / M16	born in 2010 and later
	W18 / M18	born in 2008 and later
	W20 / M20	born in 2006 and later
	W21 / M21	no age limit

M-SAOC (Masters)	W35 / M35	born in 1991 and earlier
	W40 / M40	born in 1986 and earlier
	W45 / M45	born in 1981 and earlier
	W50 / M50	born in 1976 and earlier
	W55 / M55	born in 1971 and earlier
	W60 / M60	born in 1966 and earlier
	W65 / M65	born in 1961 and earlier
	W70 / M70	born in 1956 and earlier



For the South American Open competition, there will be no categories based on difficulty (A, B, N), but two introductory categories will be organized for novices under 18 years of age (N-MENOR) and novices 18 years of age and over (N-MAYOR).

Additionally, the FAM recreational class will be open without age restrictions for the South American Open, allowing family groups to participate on a special course.

If necessary, additional categories older than W/M70 will be opened.

For the open championship, the organizers reserve the right to combine categories if the number of entrants is less than three, which will be communicated to all Federations and competitors in a timely manner.

O-SAOC (Open) Beginners	N-MENOR	born in 2008 and later
	N-MAYOR	born in 2008 and earlier
	FAM	families

With the aim of strengthening the values of inclusion, diversity and universal access to the sport of orienteering, the following categories are opened within the framework of the 1st South American Orienteering Championship for Deaf Athletes (S-SAOC):

S-SAOC (Deaf Athletes)	WSA	Deaf woman athletes
	MSA	Deaf man athletes



XXXI Latin Countries Cup – CPL2026



True to the spirit of this competition, our organization will work enthusiastically to facilitate the reunion of athletes from each country and the exchange of experiences in a friendly atmosphere of sporting coexistence. Furthermore, the annual meeting of the member countries will be included in the program of activities for this event.

Each country will present a team composed of three women and three men:

-  SENIOR WOMEN and MEN
-  JUNIOR WOMEN and MEN
-  CADET WOMEN and MEN

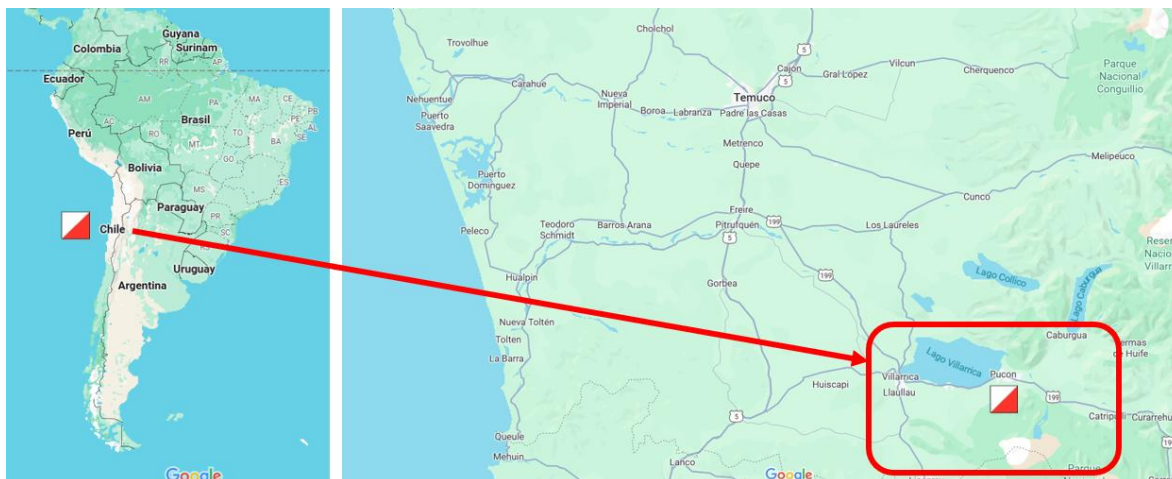
The entrants on each team will compete on the same DE/HE, D2OE/H2OE and D18E/H18E courses, so that the races of South American athletes will also be valid for the South American Orienteering Championship and the South American Junior Orienteering Championship.

-  The country ranking is carried out taking into account only the official athletes registered by the countries (6 athletes).
-  A team is included in the race classification when it has at least one participating representative.
-  Points in the country rankings will be awarded as follows:
 - In each of the three events, and for each category, the first-place finisher will receive one point more than the number of teams present. The second-place finisher will receive two points less than the first-place finisher. The third-place finisher will receive one point less than the second-place finisher, and so on. A disqualified rider will not receive any points. The maximum points for each category will correspond to the participation of all countries, even if a country has no riders in a given category.
-  The CPL regulations will apply as last updated following the meeting held in 2025.
-  As indicated in the "Registration, Deadlines, and Fees" section of this newsletter, our organization will handle the registration of athletes registered with teams in the Latin Countries Cup, with the exception of South American athletes who also participate in the South American Championships. The registration deadlines are the same as those indicated in the "Registration, Deadlines, and Fees" section of this newsletter.



General Map of the Region

The following map shows the general location of Pucón. The nearest regional capital is Temuco.



Competition Venues and Embargoed Areas

The South American Championship will be held in the Chilean city of Pucón and its surrounding areas, south of Temuco, capital of the Araucanía Region.

In accordance with IOF rules, all orienteering-related activities are prohibited in these areas from the date of publication of this bulletin until the end of the event. This includes organizing events, training sessions, terrain surveys, inspections, or any other actions that could create a competitive advantage for athletes or team members participating in the competitions.

The city of Pucón has been designated as an embargoed area because it will be used for the sprint race. However, given that it is a public urban area with accommodation, services, and commercial infrastructure (including hotels, restaurants, and tourist areas), access to the city is not restricted. Movement and presence in the city for everyday and tourist purposes are permitted. Nevertheless, all participants must refrain from any orienteering-specific activities or actions intended to gain a competitive advantage, such as systematic terrain reconnaissance, technical analysis of the urban environment, or course simulations.



Respect for these provisions is fundamental to ensuring sporting fairness and compliance with IOF international standards. Additionally, embargoed areas and other georeferenced information will be published on the interactive map available at the following link:

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/O/edit?mid=1BdbBBSeCkjYg8yDrGikzTlzhJaQHd3O&usp=sharing>



Maps and Terrain

Both the Long Distance and Middle-Distance competitions will take place on the lower slopes of the Villarrica Volcano, in the northeastern part of Villarrica National Park. The terrain is located between 550 and 1,200 meters above sea level and features native forests and a wide variety of vegetation.





The technically difficult terrain is marked by ancient traces of lava flows and volcanic eruptions.



There are two mountain rivers in the competition area, which can only be crossed at the points indicated by the organizers.



WARNING

In the middle and long-distance running areas, there are **sheer cliffs** up to 30 meters high.

For SAFETY reasons, impassable and **DANGEROUS** cliffs are marked with the symbol '201 Impassable Cliff'.



Additionally, the organization may use the symbol '709 Prohibited Area' to mark areas on the map that **must not be crossed** on the ground.



On the date of the competition, there may be nesting areas for protected species, which may be marked as prohibited areas on the competition maps.

The Sprint race will take place in the urban area of Pucón, a very flat course with a mix of streets, buildings, parks, and a beach. The organizers reserve the right to add artificial, impassable barriers to the course to introduce additional challenges.

There will be **NO** road closures in the city, so each competitor is **RESPONSIBLE** for their safety when crossing the streets during their race.



The maps will meet the requirements of ISSprOM 2019 (International Specification for Sprint Orienteering Maps) and ISOM 2017/2 (International Specification for Orienteering Maps).

With authorization from the Senior Event Advisor, the map scales will be as follows:

Competition	Classes	Map Scale	Equidistance
Sprint	All	1:4.000	2,5 m
Middle and Long Distance	WE / ME, W20E / M20E, W18E / M18E, W16E / M16E, W16 / M16, W18 / M18, W20 / M20, W21 / M21, W35 / M35, W40 / M40, W45 / M45	1:10.000	5 m
Middle and Long Distance	W12 / M12, W14 / M14, W50 / M50, W55 / M55, W60 / M60, W65 / M65, W70 / M70, W75 / M75, N-MENOR, N-MAYOR, FAM, WSA/ MSA	1:7.500	5 m

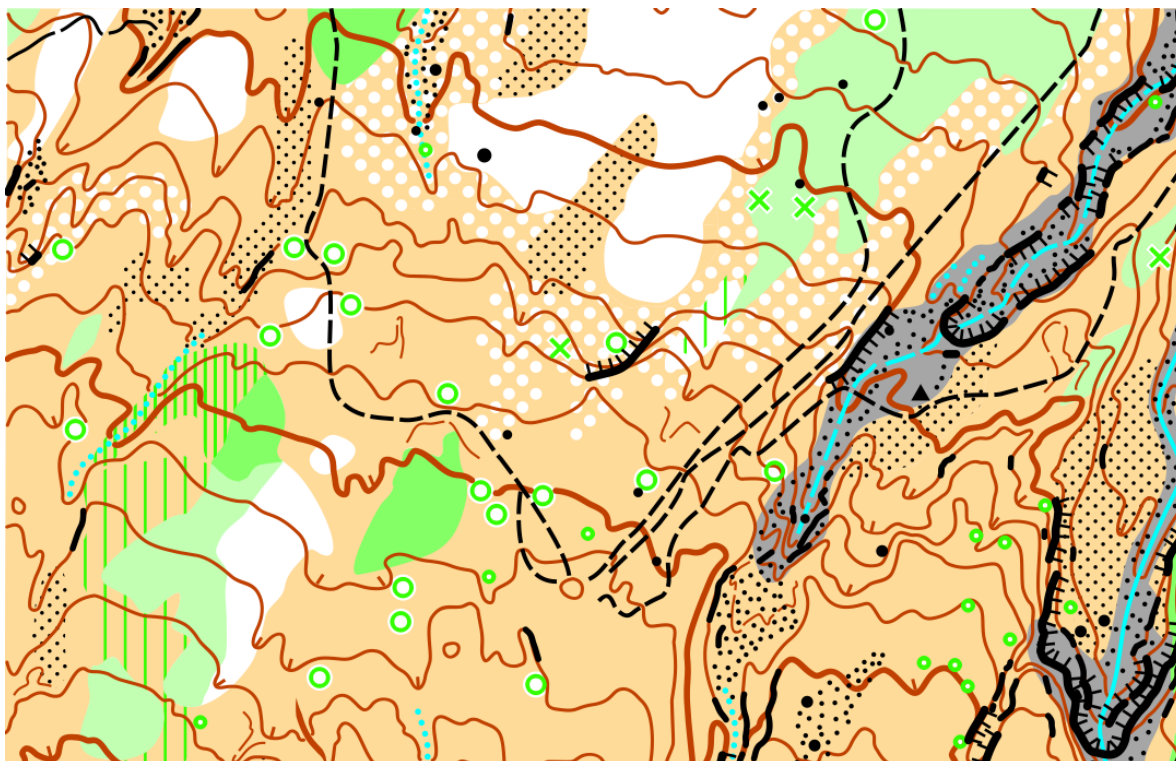
The image shows an example of the competition area for long- and middle-distance races, characterized by highly technical terrain that demands precise navigation and excellent terrain reading.

Slopes predominate in open and semi-open terrain, with a high density of contour lines and numerous micro-landforms, such as ridges, spurs, valleys, depressions, and changes in slope. Detailed interpretation of the terrain will be crucial due to the proximity of features and the variability of visibility.

Deep ravines and watercourses are present, along with rocky sections, cliffs, and potentially dangerous passages, requiring careful route selection. There are also some trails and paths, mainly used for hiking and mountain biking, which may influence navigation options.

The vegetation cover is varied, including areas for fast running and sections for slow progress, due to the dense vegetation and low visibility. The large open areas feature grasslands, rocky outcrops, sandy surfaces, and areas with heavy erosion, reinforcing the need for controlled and careful movement.





Awards

SAOC2026: Medals will be awarded to the first three places in each category for each race, and diplomas to the first six places. Winners will receive the title of **South American Orienteering Champion**.

SAJOC2026: Medals will be awarded to the first three places in each category for each race, and diplomas to the first six places. Winners will receive the title of **South American Junior Orienteering Champion**.

SAYOC2026: Medals will be awarded to the first three places in each category for each race, and diplomas to the first six places. Winners will receive the title of **South American Youth Orienteering Champion**.

CPL2026: The **Latin Countries Cup** will be awarded to the winning country. Since the cup travels from one country to another until it is won permanently, trophies will also be awarded to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd placed countries, and medals will be given to the top three finishers in the official CPL categories, although these categories are also open to non-official runners.





O-SAOC2026 y M-SAOC2026: Medals will be awarded to the top three finishers in each category.

The winners of the **Sprint** race will be declared **South American Orienteering Champions** in their respective categories based on their race times.

The winners of the **Long- and Middle-Distance** races will be declared **South American Orienteering Champions** in their respective categories, **based on the sum of their times**.

In the FAM, N-MINOR, and N-MAYOR initiation categories, all participants will receive awards.

S-SAOC2026: Athletes participating in the S-SAOC will be declared **South American Orienteering Champions** in their respective categories, and medals will be awarded to those who finish up to 3rd place for each class.

All events (O-SAOC, M-SAOC, and S-SAOC) are open to athletes from any IOF member federation. Official race results will include all participating athletes, regardless of nationality.

However, titles, medals, and official South American Championship rankings will be awarded exclusively to athletes representing South American countries.

Athletes from other federations will normally appear in the overall competition results but will not be eligible for South American Championship titles or medals.

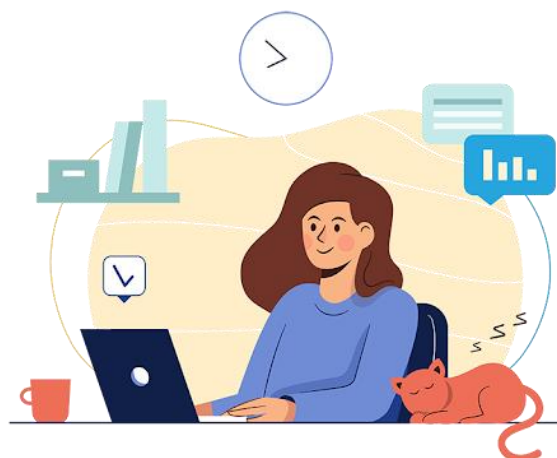


Registration, Deadlines, and Fees

The following must be considered for registration:

- Registration will be open starting November 12, 2025, at <http://www.saoc2026.cl> and the IOF Eventor.
- Registration for athletes in the W/M21E, W/M20E, W/M18E and W/M16E classes must also be completed via the IOF Eventor for SAOC (WRE), SAJOC and SAYOC races.
- Athletes in the W/M21E, W/M20E, W/M18E and W/M16E categories, registered for SAOC2026, SAJOC2026 or SAYOC2026, may also register as members of their respective country's CPL2026 team and are exempt from the CPL2026 registration fee.
- Registration will be possible for one, two, or all three races (Long Distance, Middle Distance, and Sprint).
- Registrations are only valid after payment of the registration fee.
- Payments will be accepted via the Online Registration and Payment System, which will be published in due course
- By registering for SAOC2026, the athlete authorizes the use of their image for the purpose of promoting and publicizing the sport.

The registration fees are as follows:



SAOC2026 (Elite) – Classes DE/HE

Deadline	Long	Middle	Sprint	All	Accreditation	Total
12/05/26	20 USD	20 USD	20 USD	45 USD	20 USD	65 USD
12/08/26	25 USD	25 USD	25 USD	60 USD	20 USD	80 USD
12/10/2026	25 USD	25 USD	25 USD	70 USD	20 USD	90 USD

Deadline: 12/10/2026

SAJOC2026 (Junior) – Classes D20E/H20E

Deadlines	Long	Middle	Sprint	All	Accreditation	Total
12/05/26	15 USD	15 USD	15 USD	40 USD	15 USD	55 USD
12/08/26	20 USD	20 USD	20 USD	50 USD	15 USD	65 USD
12/10/2026	25 USD	25 USD	25 USD	70 USD	15 USD	85 USD

Deadline: 12/10/2026

SAYOC2026 (Youth) – Classes D18E/H18E and D16E/H16E

Deadlines	Long	Middle	Sprint	All	Accreditation	Total
12/05/26	15 USD	15 USD	15 USD	40 USD	-	40 USD
12/08/26	20 USD	20 USD	20 USD	50 USD	-	50 USD
12/10/2026	25 USD	25 USD	25 USD	60 USD	-	60 USD

Deadline: 12/10/2026

O-SAOC2026 M-SAOC2026 S-SAOC2026 All other Classes

Deadlines	Long	Middle	Sprint	All	Accreditation	Total
12/05/26	15 USD	15 USD	15 USD	40 USD	-	40 USD
12/08/26	20 USD	20 USD	20 USD	50 USD	-	50 USD
12/10/2026	25 USD	25 USD	25 USD	60 USD	-	60 USD

Deadline: 12/10/2026



-  Registrations are only valid after payment of the registration fee. Payments will be received via the Welcu Online Registration and Payment System:
 - <https://welcu.com/federacion-chilena-de-orientacion/saoc2026/>
-  Registrations can be canceled until October 12, 2026, and the organizers will refund 70% of the registration fee.
-  Changes to registration can only be made until October 12, 2026, with an additional fee of USD 10.

The organization has contactless timing cards available, which will be provided free of charge to all participants.

Registered participants who have already paid for a SICARD rental will receive a refund upon registration at the event center.

In case of loss of the contactless card, a replacement fee of USD 30 will be charged.

Insurance and Authorizations

Each competitor participates in the event at their own risk. However, the organizers will provide first aid in case of accidents. Participants are expected to have their own medical insurance.

All participants under 18 years of age must have permission from their legal guardian to participate in the event, posted at the following link:

<https://saoc2026.cl/boletines-2/>

Additionally, all participants of legal age must submit a duly signed liability waiver form at the time of accreditation, published at the following link:

<https://saoc2026.cl/boletines-2/>

Participants are expected to submit these documents, already printed and signed, during their pre-event accreditation.



Time Control System

Huichang
灰常越野



The Huichang electronic timing system will be used, supported by punches at each checkpoint. According to IOF rules, it is the competitor's responsibility to ensure their checkpoint pass is registered.

The system is "Air" type, meaning it is contactless. Registration cards will be provided free of charge to each participant.

Athletes will be able to test and familiarize themselves with this new technology at the Model Event.

Huichang
灰常越野

Partial results will be displayed in the finish area (arena) via multimedia.

Athletes who have already paid for a SICARD rental as part of their subscription will receive a refund upon accreditation.



Use of GPS Watches

All competitors are reminded that, in accordance with IOF Rule 21.4 (WMOC, ROC, WRE) regarding the use of GPS watches, competitors may not use or carry any equipment capable of transmitting or receiving information to or from a remote source between the entrance to the quarantine zone (or the exit area if there is no quarantine zone) and the finish of a race, unless the equipment is approved by the organizer.

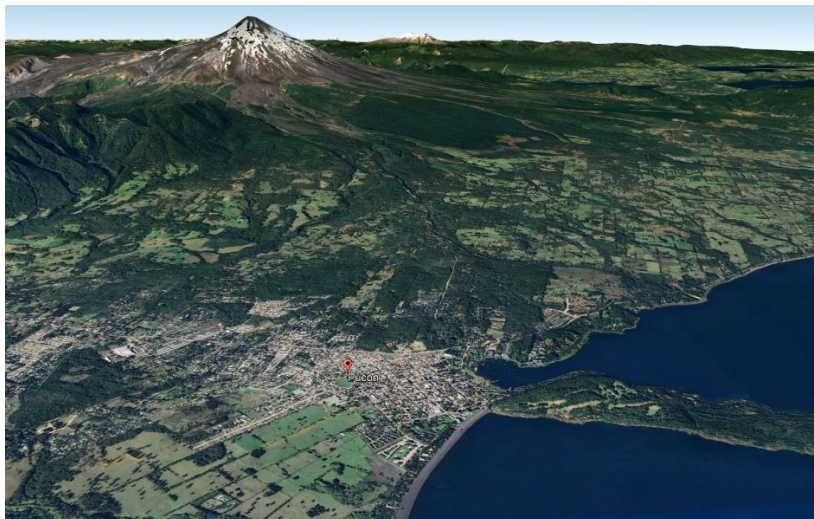
Equipment using GPS (watches, etc.) may be carried, provided that:

-  Does not display a map;
-  Does not have any communication capabilities other than receiving GPS data;
-  and is not used for navigation purposes.

However, the organizer reserves the right to specifically prohibit the use of such equipment. The organizer may require competitors to use a tracking device and/or a GPS data logger.



Event Center



The Event Center will be located at the Osvaldo Muñoz Carrillo Municipal Stadium in Pucón, Colo Colo Street 475.

Image Google Earth (Image Airbus 2025)

Event Transportation

The organization will provide official transportation for athletes. This transportation will cost **USD 15**, and athletes must indicate whether they require transportation at the time of registration.

From	To	Distance	Round trip included	Public Transportation Available
Event Center	Model Event, Long/Middle Distance Arena	14,5 km	Yes	No

The SAOC2026 approach buses will only leave at the Events Center in Pucón, arrive at the Arena in the Cerduo sector and return to the Event Center. Bus departure times will be published in due course in the Event Center and the SAOC2026 website. Transportation tickets will be given to participants who registered and paid for the service. If there are free places, they can be purchased on site at an additional cost.

Private parking is available at the Long and Medium Distance Arena, but spaces are limited. Tourist buses **do not go** to the Arena and must be parked at the Cerduo Bridge.



Model Event

The organizers will prepare a Model Event and provide training maps to each registered competitor. Athletes will be able to train on Thursday, November 12, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

At the model event, there will be an opportunity to learn about and test the Huichang timing system selected for SAOC2026.

Expected Winning Times

The SAOC2026 courses will be planned using the following expected winning times established in the event regulations.

These times correspond to the estimated winner time for each category or competition format. These times are a technical reference for route design and do not represent maximum race times or participation limits.

		Long Distance	Middle Distance	Sprint
SAOC	WE / ME	88-92 min	30-35 min	12-15 min
SAJOC (Junior)	W20E / M20E	70 min	20-25 min	12-15 min
SAYOC (Youth)	W18E / M18E	70 min	20-25 min	12-15 min
	W16E / M16E	70 min	20-25 min	12-15 min

		Long Distance	Middle Distance	Sprint
CPL	Senior	88-92 min	30-35 min	12-15 min
	Junior	70 min	20-25 min	12-15 min
	Cadet	70 min	20-25 min	12-15 min

		Long Distance	Middle Distance	Sprint
O-SAOC	W12 / M12	40 min	20-25 min	12-15 min



	W14 / M14	50 min	20-25 min	12-15 min
	W16 / M16	50 min	20-25 min	12-15 min
	W18 / M18	70 min	25-30 min	12-15 min
	W20 / M20	75 min	30-35 min	12-15 min
	W21 / M21	88-92 min	30-35 min	12-15 min

		Long Distance	Middle Distance	Sprint
M-SAOC	W35 / M35	70 min	30-35 min	12-15 min
	W40 / M40	65 min	30-35 min	12-15 min
	W45 / M45	60 min	30-35 min	12-15 min
	W50 / M50	60 min	30-35 min	12-15 min
	W55 / M55	60 min	30-35 min	12-15 min
	W60 / M60	60 min	30-35 min	12-15 min
	W65 / M65	60 min	30-35 min	12-15 min
	W70 / M70	60 min	30-35 min	12-15 min
	W75 / M75	60 min	30-35 min	12-15 min

		Long Distance	Middle Distance	Sprint
O-SAOC (Open) Beginners	N-MENOR	50 min	25-30 min	12-15 min
	N-MAYOR	50 min	25-30 min	12-15 min
	FAM	50 min	25-30 min	12-15 min
		Long Distance	Middle Distance	Sprint
S-SAOC (Deaf Athletes)	WSA	65 min	30-35 min	12-15 min
	MSA	65 min	30-35 min	12-15 min

The courses will be designed to ensure winning times fall within these ranges, considering terrain characteristics, map scale, technical difficulty, estimated





running speed, weather conditions, and applicable international event technical standards.

The final distances, elevation gains, number of checkpoints, and technical details of each course will be published in subsequent bulletins or in the official event technical information, once the planning, review, and approval process is complete.

The organizers remind participants that orienteering is not defined solely by the physical distance of the course, but also by technical difficulty, route choice, navigation, elevation gain, vegetation, accessibility, and the specific terrain conditions. Therefore, the published distances may vary between categories and events, with the primary criteria being the achievement of expected winning times and the technical quality of the courses.

Ceremonies, Meetings, and Social Event

A solemn opening ceremony will be held jointly for the South American Orienteering Championship and the Latin Countries Cup, with the participation of all delegations. The location will be announced in the next newsletter.

The closing ceremony will take place immediately after the awards ceremony at the end of the Sprint race on Sunday, November 15, at the competition venue. In addition, the Chilean Orienteering Federation invites you to hold the annual Latin American Countries Cup meeting, along with the biannual meeting of South American orienteering leaders. The location of the meetings will be announced in the next newsletter.

As part of SAOC2026, we also invite you to participate in the "SAOC BBQ." Along with registration, you can register to participate in the SAOC barbecue, which costs USD 25.00.





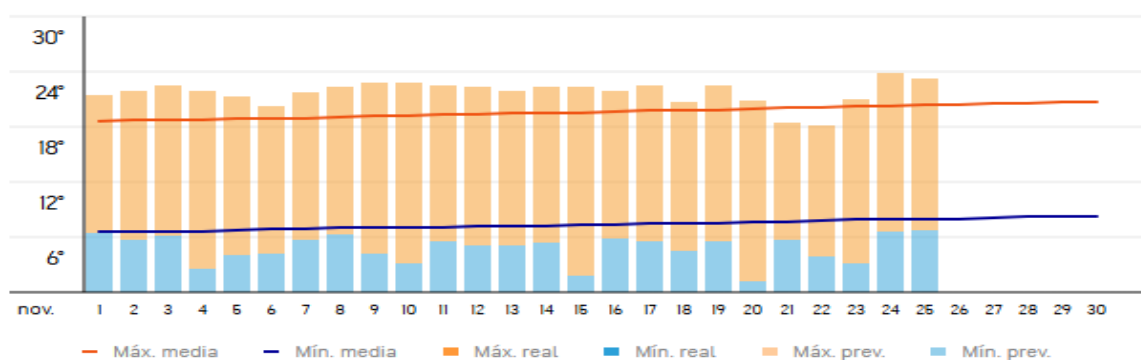
The image is for reference only. More information about the menu will be provided in the next bulletin.

General Weather Conditions

Average temperatures during this time are around 18°C, rarely dropping below 13°C. It's spring, so we'll have better weather, more sunlight, and warmer days than in previous months, but without the sweltering temperatures of summer.

GRÁFICO DE TEMPERATURAS

°C



Probability of precipitation in spring in Pucón:





El porcentaje de días en los que se observan diferentes tipos de precipitación, excluidas las cantidades ínfimas: solo lluvia, solo nieve, mezcla (llovió y nevó el mismo día).

Even if the sun isn't as strong as it is in summer, you should still be careful of sunburn and sunstroke. We recommend using sunscreen and drinking plenty of water, especially while competing.

Extreme Temperature Conditions

The **SAOC2026** organizers announce that they will adopt the International Orienteering Federation (IOF) guidelines for competitions in extreme temperatures, with the aim of increasing the safety of athletes, delegations, officials, volunteers, and other participants in the event.

These measures seek to ensure that the championship is conducted in accordance with international best practices, giving special consideration to the potential effects of heat, solar radiation, humidity, wind, and other climatic factors on the health and performance of the participants.

Monitoring of thermal stress - WBGT index

The **WBGT (Wet Bulb Globe Temperature) index** will be used as a reference to assess heat stress during the event. This index combines temperature, humidity, solar radiation, and wind, allowing for a more comprehensive evaluation of heat-related risk than ambient temperature alone.



During SAOC2026, the organizers, in coordination with the Senior Event Adviser and Event Director, may monitor WBGT values before and during competitions, using available measurements, reference calculations, or meteorological information applicable to the event area.

Based on this information, the organizers may adopt the necessary operational measures to protect the safety and well-being of athletes, officials, teams, and other participants.

WBGT reference ranges

As a general guideline, the following ranges will be considered:

-  **Below 28°C WBGT:** normal conditions for holding the competition.
-  **Between 28°C and 30°C WBGT:** conditions requiring special attention, especially for vulnerable groups, young athletes, people with less acclimatization, or participants with pre-existing medical conditions.
-  **Between 30°C and 32°C WBGT:** conditions requiring active mitigation measures. The organizers may consider operational adjustments, schedule modifications, reduced exposure, postponement, or partial suspension of the competition.
-  **Above 32°C WBGT:** high-risk conditions. The competition may be modified, postponed, suspended, or canceled if the organizers and the referee determine that there is a significant risk to the participants.

These ranges will be used to support decision-making and may be supplemented by local terrain assessment, start times, estimated duration of routes, availability of shade, hydration points, medical services, weather forecast and actual conditions observed in the competition area.

Possible operational measures

In the event of high heat or significant heat stress, the organizers may take one or more of the following measures:

-  Adjust starting times.
-  Reduce athletes' exposure time.
-  Increase or reinforce hydration stations.
-  Provide shade, rest, or cooling areas.
-  Cancel competition if conditions are deemed dangerous.



The organizers remind participants that, in accordance with applicable IOF rules, a competition may be interrupted, modified, or canceled if conditions become dangerous for the participants.

Shared responsibility

Safety in extreme temperatures is a shared responsibility among the organizers, teams, coaches, officials, and athletes. All participants are advised to:

-  Stay properly hydrated before, during, and after the competition.
-  Know their own physical limits.
-  Immediately inform officials, coaches, medical personnel, or volunteers of any symptoms they or another participant may experience.

Commitment to the well-being of the participants

The **SAOC2026 organizing committee** reaffirms its commitment to the well-being and safety of all participants, applying preventative measures and international best practices for managing challenging weather conditions.

General Hazards

There are no special hazards in the area, given that Chile is a seismic country and the Villarrica volcano is an active volcano, with the risks that this entails.

The event organizers will implement all the necessary safety measures required in Chile for these situations and will publish the rules of conduct in the event of an event.

The organization will develop and implement a comprehensive Security Plan for the event, which will detail preventive procedures, action protocols, communication channels and response measures in the event of possible emergency situations. This plan will be disseminated in a timely manner to participants, technical teams, volunteers and other people linked to the event. Safety is a shared responsibility: all people must know, respect and follow the rules and instructions established by the organization and the competent authorities.



Transportation, Food, and Accommodation

Arrival by plane: Santiago International Airport, Chile, and Araucanía Airport, Temuco. It is recommended to book a flight to Temuco, where there are various transportation services (shuttle, bus, or taxi) to Pucón. There are several domestic flights from Santiago to Temuco, which, depending on the fares, can cost between \$50 and \$180 USD.

The distance between Temuco and Pucón is 105 km, and the trip by car takes approximately 1 hour and 40 minutes. Transportation costs from Temuco to Pucón vary, but bus tickets can be found starting at \$10.00 USD. A taxi can cost between \$50 and \$70 USD.



Arrival by bus: Pucón is 786 km from Santiago, approximately 8 to 9 hours by bus. Bus tickets range from \$20 to \$40 USD. Pucón is one of the country's most tourist-friendly cities, with 98.6% hotel occupancy during peak season, so it's easy to encounter crowds of tourists. However, at this time of year,

November, you can still enjoy the benefits of traveling during the off-season, making it ideal for holding the event, given the peace and security afforded by the less crowded months.

Accommodations in Pucón and its surrounding areas are widely varied in terms of services and prices. You can find them on the most popular websites for searching for and booking accommodation, such as:

<https://www.airbnb.cl/>

<https://www.booking.com/>

<https://puconchile.travel/alojamiento/>



You can find a wide variety of accommodations, from hotels, hostels, cabins, and campsites. The cost of these accommodations can range from USD 30 to USD 120 per person per night.



Links with detailed information about agreements the organization will establish with various establishments will be posted on the SAOC2026 website in the future.

Food in Chile is varied and generally unremarkable, with prices ranging from USD 7.00 to USD 25.00 in restaurants.

Visa to enter Chile

Most citizens of South American countries do not require a visa to enter Chile as tourists and can enter with their valid national identity document.

Participants from other countries can check the visa information at:

<https://www.consulado.gob.cl/informacion-sobre-visas-para-ingresar-a-chile>



¡SEE YOU!
in...



The South navigates