

BRITISH BIATHLON & NORDIC CHAMPIONSHIPS – RUHPOLDING 2015
“BOYS & GIRLS” and “MASTERS” RACES.

The AWSA has been approached with a view to re-introducing races for “Boys & Girls” as well as “Masters” in 2015. (For the 2014 - 15 season, **Boys & Girls are those born in 2000 or later; Masters are those born in 1980 or earlier**). We have held specific races for over a decade in Cross Country for Boys and Girls, with entries peaking in 2012 (9 Boys & 6 Girls) but in 2011 there was just one entry in each sex and in 2014 there were none. At the behest of BSS Nordic we held specific Cross Country races for Masters in 2006 but with only 3 men and one lady entering this has not been repeated. We have however let the more elderly males race the female distances as Hors Concors, and elderly ladies just half the ladies distance! The races for Boys & Girls have been held over distances between 2.5 km and 5 km, and we would propose the same distances be raced in 2015 subject to there being sufficient entries. For Masters we would propose distances between 4 km and 10 km, dependent on the age / sex of the athlete but, again subject to there being sufficient entries.

We have not run Biathlon races for Boys & Girls or Masters. The layout of the tracks at Ruhpolding means we would be looking at Individual of 8 km (Male & Female) and Sprint of 6 km (Male & Female). Again such races will depend on there being sufficient entries. **Please note that under German law no athlete under the age of 14 can compete with .22 biathlon rifle.** All weapons have to be listed on an individual or multi weapon European Firearms Certificate. Any athlete who is “not known” to the AWSA / BBU will have to submit to a weapon handling and safety test before being allowed on the range. The AWSA will not be able to lend or hire weapons to athletes who do not have their own.

Child Protection Policy for this event is that any civilian athlete under the age of 18 must be accompanied (at their own expense) by their parent / guardian or Disclosed Club Official, until they reach their 18th birthday. This adult will also be responsible for the transportation / documentation etc of weapons for those under 18. Military athletes under 18 are subject to different military regulations.

A decision on whether any of the above races will take place in 2015 will depend on a guaranteed level of interest. Clubs should notify the BBU (on behalf of the AWSA) of the intended participation of any of their athletes, including Date of Birth, in either or both of Cross Country & Biathlon at “Boy” / “Girl” / “Masters” (indicating Male or Female) level by no later than **Monday 20 October 2014**. Individual athletes not in a Club should note the same deadline. Please Email your interest to: info@britishbiathlon.com.