

2026 IARU Region 2 and US National Championships in Radio Orienteering

Bulletin #2 14 July 2026

The 2026 IARU Region 2 and US National Championships in Radio-Orienteering (ARDF), will be held near Portland, Oregon, USA on August 12-16, 2026.

The championships include Sprint, Foxoring, 2m Classic, and 80m Classic competitions. The venues are in the forests around Mt. Hood, and are 1 to 2 hours driving time from Portland International Airport (PDX).

General event information

- Event website: <https://www.mthoodo.org/radio-o-champs>
- Registration: <https://eventreg.orienteingusa.org/eventregister/register/start/2026radioochamps>
- Registrar email: ROchamps2026_reg@mthoodo.org
- Organizers email: usachamps2026@radioorienteering.us

Registrar: Kathleen Kerns, K7KER telephone 1-415-806-3579

Event Directors and Course Design:

Dale Hunt, WB6BYU telephone 1-971-226-9628

Charles Scharlau, NZ0I telephone 1-919-886-6439

Mappers: Tony Pinkham, KA7AHP, and Yves Nager

Host Organization: Mt. Hood Orienteering

Weather is typically warm and dry at this time of year. Historically, daytime high temperatures range from about 25C to 32C (80F to 90F), while morning temperatures can be near 10C (50F).

Registration and payments will be handled online through the Registration website. For any questions, including visa invitations, please contact the registrar. Other questions about the event can be sent to the organizers.

Schedule:

Wednesday August 12, 2026 - White River East Sno-Park

Arrival Day

Distribute competitor packets 14:00 - 17:00 PDT

Equipment Check for Sprint 14:00 - 17:00 PDT

Thursday August 13, 2026 - White River West Sno-Park

Late Frequency Check for Sprint 09:00

Sprint Competition arrive by 9:30 PDT

All Competitor meeting 09:45 PDT

Foxoring Equipment Check after Sprint competition

Friday August 14, 2026 - Skyline Sno-Park

Foxoring Competition arrive by 09:00 PDT

2m Classic Equipment Check after Foxoring competition

Banquet (ZigZag Inn in Welches, Oregon) open 18:00, food 18:30
includes awards for Sprint, Foxoring.

Saturday August 15, 2026 - Billy Bob Sno-Park

2m Classic Competition arrive by 09:00 PDT

Awards after competition is complete

80m Classic Equipment Check after 2m Classic competition

Sunday August 16, 2026 - Billy Bob Sno-Park

80m Classic Competition arrive by 09:00 PDT

Awards after competition is complete

Departure

Competitors who arrive late can pick up their packets at the competition venues prior to the competition starts. All the information from the meeting will also be in the packets.

There is an interactive map on the event website that shows the locations of the venues, and can be used to determine driving time between them and some of the possible lodging locations, along with driving directions.

There is no specific event center or hotel. Meetings will be held at the venues. There are no separate training days scheduled.

Schedule changes will be posted on the web site.

Venues:

The venues are in the Mt. Hood National Forest. Course elevations are around 1200m (4000 ft). The nearest town in the area is Government Camp. All of the access roads to the venues are paved.

White River East Sno-Park (opening meeting, Sprint equipment check)

This is at the East end of the White River Bridge on highway 35 between Government Camp and the town of Hood River.

GPS: 45.3045, -121.669

White River West Sno-Park (Sprint Competition, Foxoring equipment check)

This is located at the West end of the White River Bridge on highway 35 between Government camp and the town of Hood River.

GPS: 45.3033, -121.6734

Skyline Sno-Park (Foxoring competition, 2m Classic equipment check)

This is located just off US highway 26 about 12 miles Southeast from Government Camp. The signs at the turnoff will point to Timothy Lake.

GPS: 45.1744, -121.6787

Billy Bob Sno-Park (2m Classic, 80m Classic and equipment check)

This is located on Dufur Valley Road (Forest Service Road FS-44) 17 miles West of Dufur and 10 miles East of Oregon highway 35.

GPS: 45.4023, -121.4523

ZigZag Inn (banquet on Friday night)

This is located in the village of Zigzag (or Welches, depending who you ask), on US highway 26 about 11 miles West of Government Camp, beside the Zigzag Ranger Station. The Zigzag Mountain Cafe and the turnoff to Lolo Pass Road are across the street.

GPS: 45.3436, -121.9430

The event website has an interactive map that shows the locations of the venues, and can be used to determine driving time and directions. We will also include other information about each venue, including maps of recent competitions, course notes and embargo information.

Competition Categories:

Women	Men	Age (year of birth only)
W19	M19	19 and younger
W21	M21	Open to all, regardless of age
W35	M40	35/40 and over
W45	M50	45/50 and over
W55	M60	55/60 and over
W65	M70	65/70 and over
W75	M80	75/80 and over

Current competitor count as of 12 July 2026:

W19: 1	M19: 1
W21: 0	M21: 2
W35: 1	M40: 0
W45: 0	M50: 4
W55: 1	M60: 11
W65: 3	M70: 2
W75: 0	M80: 0

A current list of registered competitors is available via the [Already Registered](#) button on the event website.

Transportation:

Competitors are responsible for their own transportation to the parking areas at the venues. We will provide competitor transport by van between remote Finishes and the venue Parking Area where needed.

Please ensure that airline flights are to **PDX** airport. The other “Portland” airport is about 2500 miles away, and will require a very long drive.

Registering devices:

Transmitters will be registered using SI E-sticks. These are available for rent (on the registration page) for those who do not have their own.

Entry Fees per event:

	early (until 20 June 2026)	standard (21 June - 18 July)	late (19 July to 8 August)
Sprint Competition Thursday 13 August	\$32	\$37	\$42
Foxoring Competition Friday 14 August	\$32	\$37	\$42
2m Classic Competition Saturday 15 August	\$32	\$37	\$42
80m Classic Competition Sunday 16 August	\$32	\$37	\$42

Fees for additional items (SI stick rental, banquet, etc.) are listed on the [Registration page](#).

Registration fees are based on the date that the fees are paid, unless arrangements are made with the registrar in advance. Registrations or refund requests will not be accepted on or after August 8, 2026 without permission of the registrar.

Event shirts [can be ordered here](#).

Course Safety:

Wildlife in the area may include bears, deer, elk, porcupines, and mountain lions. There have been no reports of venomous snakes or poisonous plants, and ticks are uncommon.

Competitors are required to carry a whistle (which will be provided) in case of emergency. Competitors may carry a cell phone (coverage may be erratic) or, if properly licensed, a 2m or 440 HT, to be used only for safety-related communications with the organizers. Details will be provided.

In case the event has to be canceled due to lightning or wildfire, competitors in the field will be notified by shutting off one or more transmitters (except the finish beacon), a signal from a high power transmitter, car horns, or other method depending on the specific venue and event.

Transmitter information:

Sprint Competition

Slow Sprint	3.52 MHz	1W	"Mx"
Spectator	3.54 MHz	1W	"S"
Fast Sprint	3.56 MHz	1W	"Ox"
Beacon	3.60 MHz	3W	"MO"

Fox antennas: 2m-tall tuned vertical dipole

Beacon antenna: Tuned short vertical dipole

Foxoring Competition

Foxoring Foxes	3.52 MHz	10 mW	"MOx"
	3.54 MHz	10 mW	"MOy"
	3.56 MHz	10 mW	"MOz"
Foxoring Beacon	3.60 MHz	5W	"MO"

Fox antennas: 60cm untuned length of wire

Beacon antenna: Tuned short vertical dipole

2m Classic Competition

2m Foxes	144.50 MHz	1 W	"MOx"
2m Beacon	145.55 MHz	1 W	"MO"

2m Antennas: Turnstile

80m Classic Competition

80m Foxes	3.52 MHz	5W	"MOx"
80m Beacon	3.60 MHz	5W	"MO"

80 Antennas: Tuned short vertical dipole

Medical care:

The nearest hospital Emergency Room is in Hood River:

Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital
810 12th St, Hood River, OR 97031
541-386-3911
12 a.m. - 11:59 p.m., 7 days a week
(Urgent care also available)

Note: the Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital Mountain Clinic in Government Camp is only open during the winter (ski season).

Urgent care:

One Community Health
849 Pacific Ave, Hood River, OR 97031
541-386-6380 CALL FOR APPOINTMENT AND AVAILABILITY
Mon. - Fri. 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM, Sat. 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM, closed Sun.

In an emergency, call 911.

Rule Deviations:

The Sprint transmitters will send “Mx” and “Ox” rather than “MOx” to further differentiate between the Fast and Slow sets.

Course lengths for some categories may deviate slightly - this will be announced beforehand.

Sprint Course Details:

There will be a flagged path from the parking lot to the event start, and also from the finish back to the parking lot (where the download station will be).

Competitors will start through the start corridor to find the first set of transmitters, register the Spectator beacon, then proceed through the Spectator Corridor to find the second of transmitters. When done, they will register the Finish beacon and follow the Finish Corridor to the Finish.

Sprint 2D Layout 2D Graphic

Magnetic north (14.3° E declination)

