Technical control of orienteering maps

[Map committé Sweden, August 2016]

Svenska Orienteringsförbundet
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Technical control

> Is working since 1th of January 2014

> Is carried out only by checking in computer by members of the map committé (15 min)

> No interpretation or judgement, purely objective. Either the map has deviations from ISOM or it does not.

> The technical map control doesn't replace but completes the field control.

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Which maps are checked in the technical control?

Maps to be used in level 1 competitions is checked. Level 1 is:

›National championships

›Swedish League

›O-Ringen

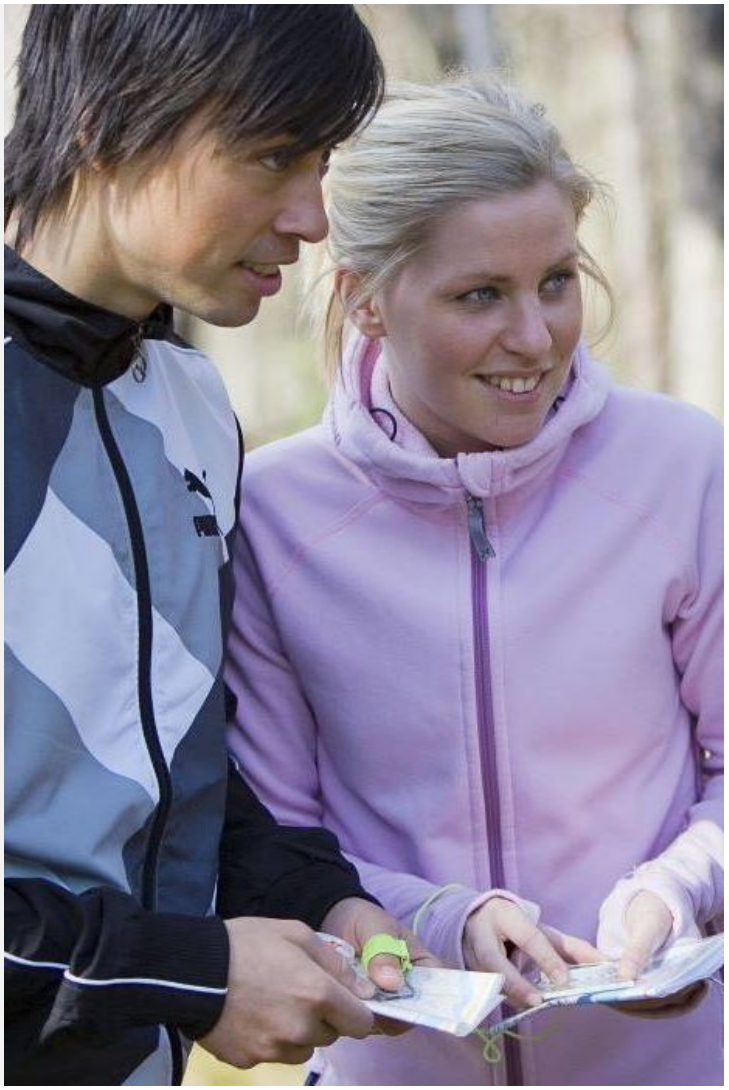
›10-mila

›25-manna

›Smålandskaveln

›*IOF competitions is not checked by us*

In total 20-25 maps per year checked.



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Why this contol?

- Map control has never worked in Sweden as it was meant to do
- Almost an explosion of small objects in maps last years
- New ISOM >> harder on generalisation
- Swedish problem with self invented objects
- Use of Lidar, GPS, PDA etc. (focus moved from x,y,z to generalisation)

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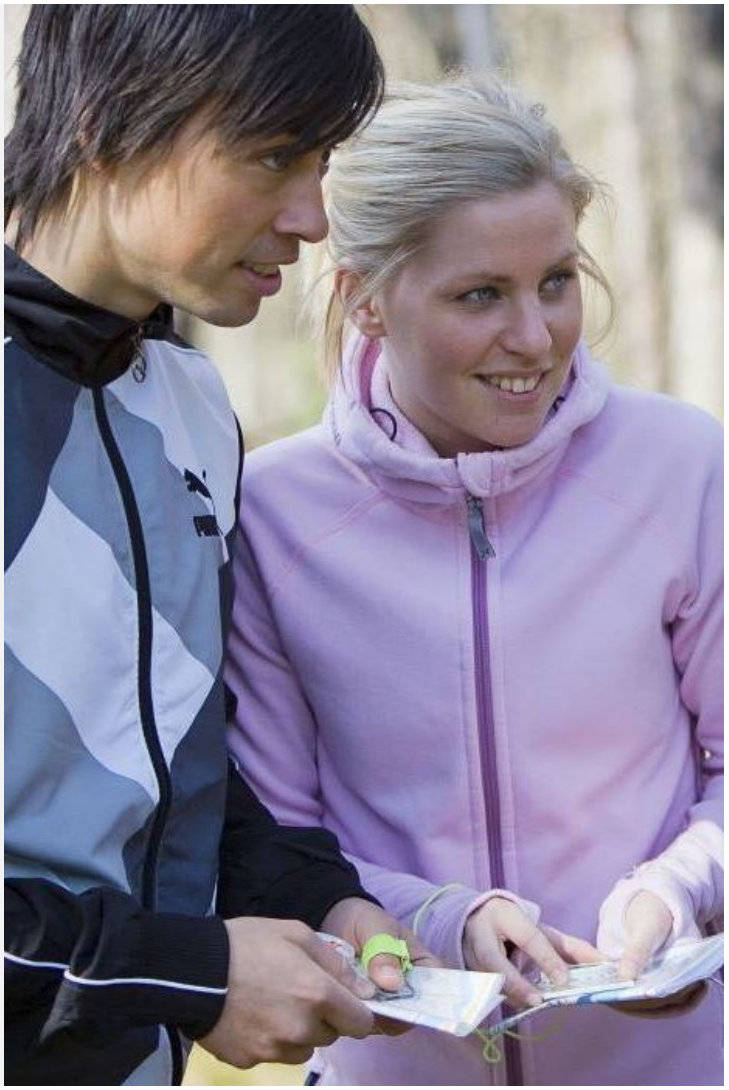
What is checked?

- Use of self invented symbols
- Correct size of symbols defined in ISOM
- Minimum size of some critical area symbols etc.
- Combination of symbols
- Use of form lines

- *Distance between symbols of same colour*
- *General quality of digitalisation*



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Experiences

- About 20-25 maps per year checked. In general thousands of deviations per map first year. Hundreds of deviations second year. Now we are down to tens of deviations.
- The map control process is described in the competition rules, which means that the map can be adapted already at the drawing and field control. Technical map control after the event becomes more a check and in the future the technical control may be included entirely together with the field control.
- Set of symbols, and size of point symbols, often no problem. Size of surfaces often deviates from the norm. In several cases also multiple form lines occur.
- The norm is not complete in terms of readability, but if the size of the point object and surfaces follows ISOM it is our experience that also distance between object is maintained better.
- The technical control has created a large discussion among mappers. Our experience is that many mappers now consider to follow the map dimensions already during the actual map survey.
- The next step is to educate and inform the districts in Sweden so that this also implemented on maps for other levels of competitions.

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