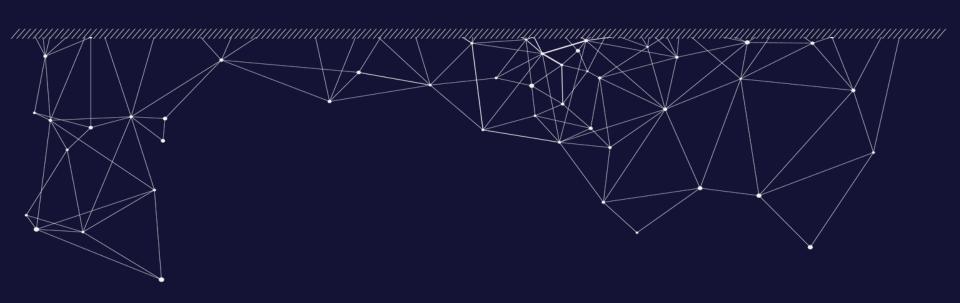


WOMENS SPORTING JOURNEYS ORIENTEERING INSIGHTS

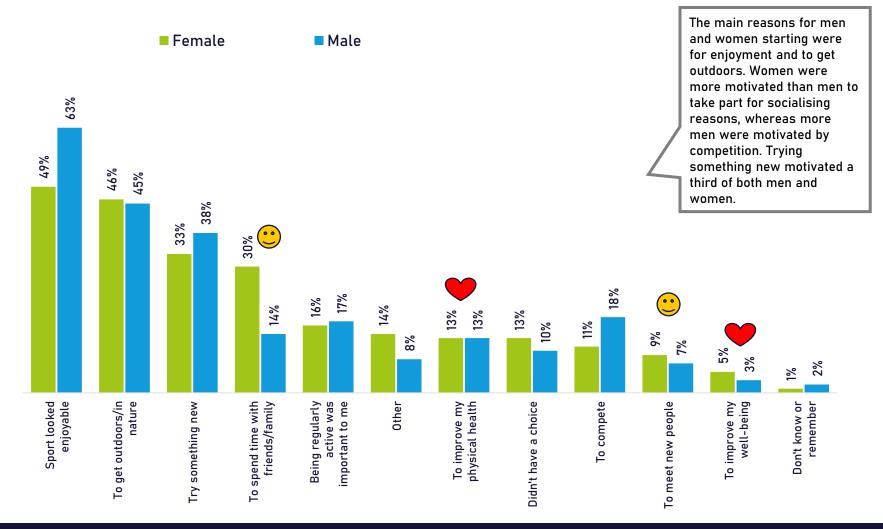
NOVEMBER 2021



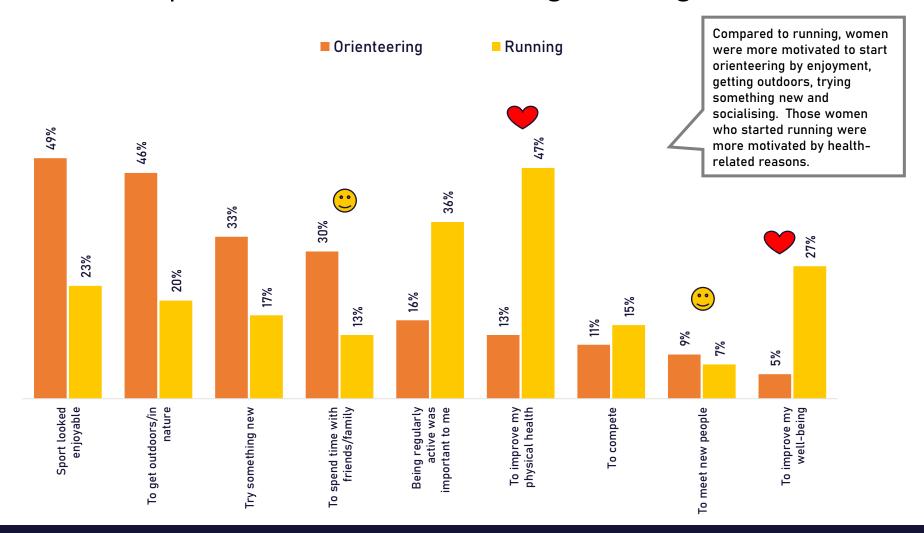
STARTING | What age did you start orienteering?



STARTING | Why did you start orienteering?



STARTING | Motivations for orienteering v running in women?



STARTING | Why barriers did you face?

Women

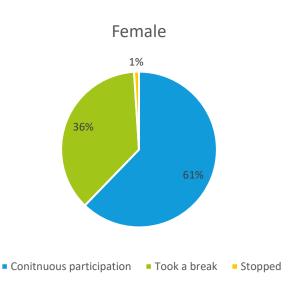


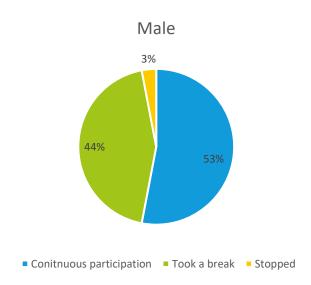
Transport and travel were barriers for both men and women (e.g. distance and travel to events). For women, knowledge was a more common barrier (e.g. understanding how the sport worked, map reading and jargon).



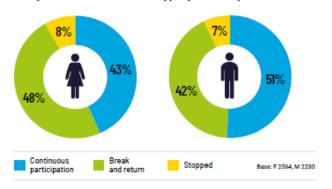
Confidence was a more commonly noted barrier among runners than orienteerers. They noted barriers of self-consciousness, embarrassment and intimidation. These words did not appear for women in this research, but knowledge did appear as a common barrier in orienteering.

JOURNEYS I Have you taken a break from orienteering?





Have you taken a break from or stopped your main sport?



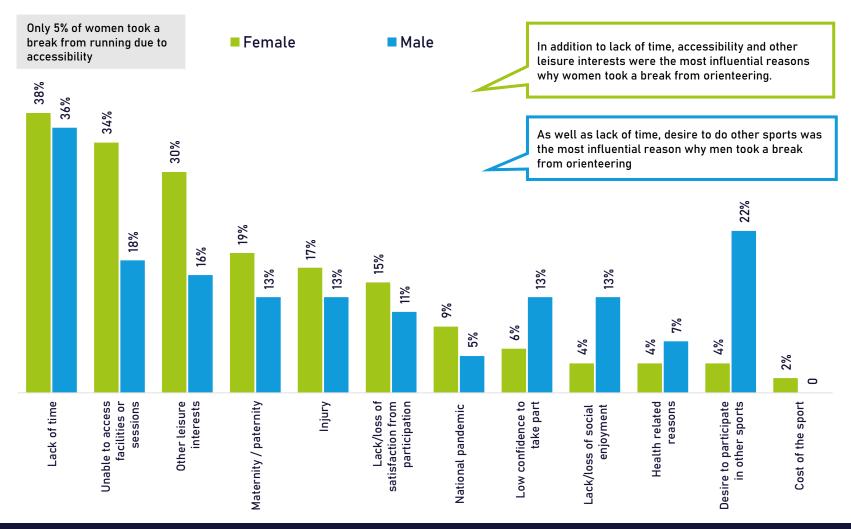
Once engaged, the majority of men and women continuously participate in orienteering.

Women are more likely to continuously participate in orienteering compared to all sports.

Those who take a break are very likely to return

Those who take a break are very likely to return with low dropout rates compared to all sports.

TAKING A BREAK | Why did you take a break from orienteering?



ENGAGEMENT | An inclusive sport

An inclusive sport

Orienteering is seen as an inclusive sport where people of all ages, juniors to masters, and abilities, beginners to elites, can take part in the same events. It is seen as a sport for life.

The post-university transition

A number of people noted the challenges they faced doing orienteering when they left university. The loss of mini-bus transportation was a barrier.

A sport for the whole family

Orienteering is seen as a sport for all of the family, including babies in backpacks, grandparents with their children and grandchildren, parents and teenage children. People have different experiences during parenthood but at some point all return with a shared experience with their children.

Volunteer-led

The majority of respondents recognize the value of volunteers in orienteering and feel a sense of duty to give back to their sport.