

Coaches Conference 2023

Report SWEDEN

The Swedish National Team: A 365-day team approach (Håkan Carlsson)

The vision of the Swedish National team is to be the best national team in the world in all disciplines. To achieve this goal, the federation wants to support its athletes not only at training camps and international competitions, but also on a daily basis, which means 365 days a year. This is done by providing training opportunities in different parts of Sweden to athletes with local coaches at training centers.

The approach shall guarantee that athletes have environments where they can develop and shall also help to reduce the dropout rate after graduating from orienteering gymnasiums, which has been an issue in recent years. To ensure qualified coaches, the Swedish Orienteering Federation provides educational courses. Fortunately, there are many who participate in the children and youth education courses, which is seen as important for building the base because it gets people involved in working with youth in the club environments. The development environments at the local level are also a reason why Sweden currently does not have a junior team, as these local training centers provide sufficient opportunities for the juniors' individual development. During winter, training camps are open for juniors and adults who are not (yet) on the team.

To reach the goal of becoming the best national team in the world in all disciplines, more financial support is needed to provide income and enable athletes to do orienteering professionally. A target is to help athletes to become a stronger asset by helping and advising them on how to find sponsors or supportive workplaces, or even become ambassadors for larger companies.

New training centers in Örebro and Göteborg from autumn 2023:

<https://www.orientering.se/utova-och-folj/nyheter/ny-satsning-pa-junior-och-seniorutveckling/>

