

Minutes – Ski Orienteering Commission – Meeting No: 1 – 2017

Place: Imatra Spa, Finland

Meeting Schedule: Friday, 10th of February – 9:00-16:00

Participants:	Antti Myllärinen (AM)	Acting Chairman
	Aleksandr Bliznevskiy (AB)	Member
	Roland Hellberg (RH)	Member
	Thierry Jeanneret (TJ)	Member
	Valentin Garkov (VG)	Member
	Juraj Nemec	Member
Invited:	Leho Haldna	IOF President
	Tatiana Kalenderoglu	IOF Council
	Erik Blomgren	Athletes' Commission

SUMMARY

1. Meeting summary

SOC evaluated competition applications for 2018/19 season, competition fee levels for the future races and the set-up of Ski Orienteering Commission. In addition, several smaller issues were discussed.

TO NOTE DECISIONS / ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE SOC MEETING IN OBERTILLIACH

2. Council & ESB decisions

IOF Council has approved SOC's proposal to lower WSOC sanction fees from 10,000 EUR to 8,000 EUR in the future. Lower sanction fees will first time apply in 2019/20 season (simultaneously with WSOC format change).

In Council meeting No. 182 Council approved the modification of sanction fees for ESOC and the World Cup to move to a per competition fee. Council set the fee at 1200 EUR for an individual event and 600 for a relay event.

In meeting No. 182 Council clarified that: in discussing the SOC proposal about competitions formats, which was a clarification on the decisions from the competition review and GA, Council agreed the following;

- Regarding the SkiO World Cup it was clarified that there could be from 3 to 4 competitions per event, with minimum 3 individual competitions.
- Regarding European Ski Orienteering Championships (ESOC) the decision should remain as the GA decided, i.e. that ESOC should be an annual event, organised in conjunction with the World Cup and with up to 3 European Championships competitions contested annually.
- Regarding JWSOC it was clarified that the same program as currently organised is valid.

COMPETITION CALENDAR AND EVANT ADVISERS IN THE FUTURE

3. Event applications for 2018/19

Applications from Russian, Turkish and Swedish Federation were reviewed and evaluated. AM will continue discussions with candidate federations. The aim is to reveal organizers after the Council meeting held in March 2017.

4. Other competitions and event advising

2019-20 and 2020-21 calendars were discussed and potential organizers were identified. Event advisers for competitions held 2018/19 and onwards will be selected after the Council has approved the competitions to organizers.

IOF SKI ORIENTEERING COMPETITIONS AND THEIR ATTRACTIVNESS TO ORGANIZERS

5. Risks to organizers

Leho Haldna (LH) indicated his concerns about low interest from organizers to apply for IOF ski orienteering competitions. LH divided organizer risks to three categories (economic, snow and technology risks) and emphasized the importance to each of them. The recent changes to future international calendar will allow organizers to keep competitions in smaller areas and hence decrease the overall risk associated with snow. For economic risks LH proposed entry fee increases classified in the next chapter.

6. Higher entry fees in the future

LH presented an entry fee comparison between FootO, MBTO and ski orienteering. In ski orienteering entry fees are significantly lower than in other two disciplines. Because of low economic incentives to organize ski orienteering events, LH proposed an increase to entry fees starting from season 2018/19. Before that gradual corrections to entry fees can be made. In the future entry fee levels will be negotiated in the application phase together with SOC and local organizers. Moreover, LH informed SOC that the Council is going to prepare new and more flexible sanction fee structure for WRE competitions in spring 2017.

Proposals were accepted and no objections were presented against coming changes.

SOC COMPOSITION

7. Resignations

Eivind Tonna left his SOC Chairman position in December 2016. This decision was noted and accepted by SOC.

8. SOC in the future

AM was nominated to identify new member(s) for SOC. It was also discussed that in the future SOC could have a core group of 5-6 persons that would have meetings 2-3 times a year and then a reference group that would only travel for the winter meeting. The reference group would support the work of the core group by providing regional support or technical expertise.

The coming SOC composition will be published in SOC summer meeting in Estonia, 2017.

RULES

9. Rules updates

Required rules changes were discussed by RH. It was unanimously stated that ESOC 2017 has revealed some urgent update needs in rules and guidelines. RH will lead this update process.

FISU AND CISM RELATED MATTERS

10. FISU

AB will actively support FISU 2019 Universiades and the role of ski orienteering in the event. Further, TJ together with IOF office will work to get ski orienteering to 2021 FISU Universiades held in Switzerland.

Ski orienteering commission

VG will conduct an inspection visit to FISU Universiades venues in winter 2017 in conjunction with IOF WSOC held in Krasnoyarsk, Russia. Further, VG will also conduct an inspection visit to Estonia, that will organize 2018 FISU World Championships.

11. CISM

CISM World Winter Games 2017 held in Sochi, Russia (Feb 22-28) will consists of 7 sports. Ski Orienteering is included to the competitions.

OTHER ISSUES

12. Comments on WSOC program in the future

Erik Blomgren (EB) commented new WSOC structure and competition formats as a chairman of the Athletes' Commission. The variety of different distances was seen as a disadvantage compared to current program. SOC engaged to take AC in to the discussions when these issues will next time be considered.

13. Complaint from SkiO Tour organizers

SOC decided in January to cancel WRE points from the last SKiO Tour race because of insufficient competition quality. Local organizers requested a change to this decision. SOC went through the case once more but the original decision was not changed.

NEXT MEETINGS

14. Next meeting in Krasnoyarsk, Russia

Next SOC meeting will be held in Krasnoyarsk, Russia in conjunction with WSOC 2017.