

**Minutes – Foot Orienteering Commission – Meeting 5–15**

**Place:** 2 Dārza iela, Riga, Latvia

**Meeting schedule:** Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> October – 0900-2330 EET

<b>Participants:</b>	Áron Less (AL)	Chairman
	Kilian Imhof (KI)	Member
	Helge Lang Pedersen (HLP)	Member
	David May (DM)	Member – through Skype
	Janne Salmi (JS)	Member
	Unni Strand Karlsen (USK)	Member
	Blair Trewin (BT)	Member – through Skype
	Vincent Frey (VF)	Member – through Skype
<b>Invitations:</b>	Mike Dowling (MD)	IOF Vice President / FOC's IOF Council contact person – through Skype
	David Wästlund (DW)	IOF Sports Administrator – through Skype

**OPENING****1 Opening AL**

AL opens the meeting. He thanks the Latvian Orienteering Federation for acting as hosts for the today's meeting.

AL mentioned that Göran Andersson has informed that he will leave FOC in order to concentrate on his work in RYDC. AL expressed his acknowledgement of the great work performed by Göran in his years as FOC member. AL has asked TH to start the process of identifying two new members for FOC.

**2 Follow up of Minutes FOC 4-15 AL**

All follow-up topics are discussed under the various agenda items below.

**TO NOTE DECISIONS / ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE FOC MEETING 4-15**

### 3 Council & ESB decisions

AL

Information from Tom Hollowell: The decisions below are communicated to the relevant bodies.

**25 August 2015:** The ESB unanimously decided to set the new dates for applications for the World Orienteering Championships (WOC) 2019 to 1 January 2016.

**25 August 2015:** The ESB, voting 2 for and 1 against, approved the Rules Deviation Request from the SEA and organisers of the World Cup Final 2015 in Arosa, Switzerland, related to mapping.

**1 September 2015:** The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Olivier Benevello (FRA) as Assistant Senior Event Adviser for the European Orienteering Championships 2018 (EOC2018) in Switzerland.

**1 September 2015:** The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Jari Kymäläinen (FIN) as Senior Event Adviser for the Junior World Orienteering Championships 2018 (JWOC2018) in Hungary.

**1 September 2015:** The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Lachezar Iliev (BUL) as Senior Event Adviser for the Orienteering World Cup Round 1 2017 in Finland.

**1 September 2015:** The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Rimas Jovaisas (LTU) as Senior Event Adviser, and Vitalijus Paulauskas (LTU) as Assistant Senior Event Adviser for the Orienteering World Cup Round 3 2017 in Latvia.

**1 September 2015:** The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Eike Bruns (GER) as Senior Event Adviser for the Orienteering World Cup Round 4 2017 in Switzerland.

## FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – STRATEGIC PLANNING

### 4 Strategic planning

HLP, JS

The Competition Review Project Group asked FOC to develop further the ideas of the Event programme proposal made by HLP and JS in August.

**JS and HLP will consult with CRG about their requirements for contents and form of a paper and talk about possible milestones in the work.**

Points to include in the proposal:

- Forest competitions to generally take place in the Northern Hemisphere summer
- Allowing for Sprint Championships in either the Spring or Autumn period
- Take World Cup final with all disciplines into account
- Stay away from important competition periods for the National Championships

From 2015 onwards, FOC has to make an annual report about the year's major events.

We need to identify purpose, target group, contents, format and size of this report. The purpose is to collect information to use for IOC reporting.

Request to IOF Office: Could FOC have access to organisers' reports from the HL events. **DW confirms that these reports will be made available to FOC.**

JS proposes to have input from the coaches reference group for this report.

### Major Event Summary

DW presented an Excel sheet containing the plan for all events – the list is updated by the office. FOC agreed that this is great and that the link to the list should be shared with all FOC members and, apart from that, kept confidential - if the FOC members have changes to the list, we should e-mail David and Tom about this. DW invited all FOC members to look at the list and give feedback to IOF Office about the structure and contents.

## 5 WOC

AL, KI

- **WOC 2015, GBR:** IT & Timing report, punching analysis available. Final SEA Report available.
- **WOC 2016, SWE:** New SEA report available.  
USK gave status: Henning Spjelkavik will support the organisers in IT matters. TV meeting with Karel Jonak took place.
- **WOC 2019/2020 application process.** New applications are due by 1<sup>st</sup> January 2016.
- **WOC in the future.** The IOF Extraordinary General Assembly in Inverness decided that from 2019 onwards, WOC will be split to a "forest WOC" and a "Sprint/Urban WOC". FOC decided to form a subgroup chaired by KI – including members from outside FOC – to work with subjects related to the organisation of the split WOC. BT and DM volunteered to join the group. Special tasks are to define
  - a single qualification format for the forest WOC
  - a third discipline for the Sprint WOC

The subgroup should come back to FOC with an interim report by our October meeting and concrete proposals for our January meeting.

KI discussed this issue with some key persons last weekend. KI presented a structure for the discussion

### Discussion about the third sprint discipline in the Urban WOC

MD: Shortlist with few (hopefully two) formats should be presented to the Federations during the General Assembly in Sweden 2016. It

might be possible to test these two for a test period before making a final decision later.

KI presented his ideas. KI will update the presentation with feedback from the meeting and add a summary on the discussion in FOC – and send it to MD for use in the Council meeting 16-17 October.

### Single qualification format for forest WOC

There is agreement in FOC that we cannot have one qualification event for two different formats in WOC.

The work in this area should be focused on having one qualification race for middle distance – having several heats. Start order in the Final should be strictly based on the qualification result. We should consider models with 3, 4 or 5 runners per nation as indicated in the table below:

Default # of runners/nation	3	4	5
No. of runners in finals	45	60	60
Start interval	2 minutes	1,5 minutes	1,5 minutes

FOC agrees to The Competition Review Group Proposal that Long distance qualification should be based on national quota. And that regional champions, and World Cup winner and reigning World Champion should have their own places.

The possibility of having a quota for qualification into the Long Final from top results in the middle distance qualification and final (possibly from a reinstated B final) was discussed. It was agreed to further consider this option.

## 6 World Cup

JS, BT

- **World Cup 2015: status report.**
  - New SEA report available from SUI.
  - Two issues reported by VF from the World Cup Final:
    - (Initially) Wrong map given to one competitor
    - One control unit fell over, with the control stand not having any number and thus not identifiable.
  - KI proposed to find a better prize for the final sprint relay World Cup in the future. The request was given to DW for further consideration.
- **World Cup 2016: status report**
  - Special Rules to be discussed and sent to Council. Thanks to BT for some excellent work!

- The current prize money level makes money prizes to 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> place of less importance. It is proposed to concentrate the prize money to only the three first overall.
- World Cup Special Rules 2016 were approved by FOC to send to Council for final approval – action AL.
- Sprint Relay World Cup special Rules 2016 were approved by FOC to send to Council for final approval – action AL.
- The SEA in Poland has some challenges in sending reports.
- **World Cup 2017: status report**
  - Task is to fix the programme and send it for Council approval.
  - Round 1 (WCup 1-4): FIN has agreed to have four competitions between 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup> May (Ascension Day week). Venue will be close to Turku and Helsinki (accommodation in sports centre between the two cities). Hiidenkiertäjät and Turun Suunnistajat will be local organisers:
    - SQ + SF on the same day
    - JS volunteered to investigate the possibility of testing one of the proposed new Sprint formats for WOC in this event
    - Sprint Relay (With the option of having a forest relay)
    - Middle distance
    - Long distance with probably chasing start based on both Sprint and Middle
    - YLE is keen on broadcasting if TV broadcast of the entire World Cup series is guaranteed
  - Round 2: WOC 2017 (WCup 5-9) EST – 30 June - 7 July 2017.
  - Round 3 (WCup 10-12): Latvia. JS negotiated details with the organisers during our meeting:
    - Middle distance in Cēsis – Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August
    - Forest relay in Cēsis – Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August
    - Sprint Q+F in Cēsis – Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August
    - With possibilities of a WOC 2018 training camp before or afterwards
  - Round 4 (WCup 13-15) : 29 September – 1 October in Canton Bern. Friday: Middle or Long; Saturday: Middle / Long / Sprint, Sunday: Sprint Relay.
  - After the programme is finalised, Council should be asked to appoint the SEAs asap.

JS will support all organisers in TV matters in WCup 2017.

- **World Cup 2018: status report. Update.**
  - WCup 2018 is currently not the business of FOC as the programme will depend on an open tender

- Tender documents sent for comment to two groups of possible World Cup “owners”. Later a formal tender will be held.

**7 JWOC**

HLP

- **JWOC 2015, NOR:** status report, final SEA Report available. AL and HLP expressed their acknowledgement of an excellent event and great work performed by the SEA and national controllers.
- **JWOC 2016, SUI:** status report, no new SEA Report available. FOC agreed to clarify and adjust the roles of the SEA and Assistant SEA.
- **JWOC 2017, FIN:** New SEA Report available. No comments.
- **JWOC 2018, HUN :** AL covers the work until Jari Kymäläinen has finished work on WMOC 2016.
- **JWOC 2019:** application process. No FOC actions until DW has sent out the call for applications.

**8 WMOC**

DM, BT

- There have been a number of questions to Council/Office about the competition formats of WMOC. This issue will now be included in the remit for the Competition Review Project Group and liaison will be needed with FOC.
- Relative to the 2016 EST SEA Report the office reports that development work for improving Masters functionality in IOF Eventor is underway. Some of the issues raised by the organiser have been implemented already, some require further development.
- **WMOC 2015 SWE:** WMOC survey report available, final SEA report available.
  - The usual online competitor survey was conducted in August and a report was circulated to FOC on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. Future WMOC organisers also have copies.
- **WMOC 2016 EST:** new SEA report available. Update.
  - Jari Kymäläinen (FIN, SEA) has circulated his recent update (dated September 6<sup>th</sup> 2015).
  - More recent feedback from Jari is that all technical aspects of the event (maps and courses) are progressing as expected. However, setting up Eventor properly is still work in progress.
- There are 57 entries so far, which is fewer than expected at this stage. However, the first deadline for entries is at the end of December and a big surge is expected just beforehand.

- Nevertheless, promotion remains a key issue. Little or no promotion took place in Inverness so it is vital that good publicity is achieved before the end of the year. The organisers plan to insert "advertorials" into national O magazines and last year's competitors will be reminded about 2016 by email soon too.
- **WMOC (WMG) 2017 NZL:** Update on the connection between AWMG and the WMOC.
- It has now been confirmed, that WMG2017 accepts the payment of sanction fee to the IOF. Hence, the planning process can continue.

## 9 ROCs

BT

- **European Orienteering Championships**, 21-28 May 2016, Czech Republic. Update.
- **North American Orienteering Championships**, 23-25 September 2016, Hanover, NH, USA. Update.
- **Asian Orienteering Championships 2016**, 27 July – 2 August 2016, Chai-Yi & Tai-nan, Chinese Taipei. Update.
  - Middle uses 1:10:000, Rules deviation request will probably be handed in to have Relay in scale 1:7.500.
- **Oceania Orienteering Championships 2017**, 14-17 April 2017, Auckland region, New Zealand. Update.
- The new IOF Commission on Regional and Youth Development should also work in this area. In this phase of development, official Regional Championships cannot be held in Africa or in South America, as the sport is not practised on a high level in enough countries.
- **EOC 2018 – Switzerland 5<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> May**  
 From our Minutes 3-15: "KI presented the proposed programme by SUI, which was supported by FOC. The details about how to handle qualification can be decided later on when we know more about the qualification rules for future WOCs. The OFE meeting will decide about this proposal during WOC."
  - The date clash between 10Mila 2018 and EOC2018 has now been resolved.
  - The OFE handed over all responsibility concerning EOC to the IOF / FOC. Thus FOC can make a proposal for the programme. The EOC 2018 programme will be discussed in our October meeting.
  - The EOC dates and programme was approved by FOC to be sent to Council for final approval. How the one qualification race should be used – as mentioned above – is to be discussed later. We would probably like to use the future forest WOC qualification regime, but this will be decided at a later stage.

## 10 The World Games

AL, KI

- **TWG 2017 POL:** status report, no new SEA Report available. Update.

## FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – RULES

### 11 Rules

USK,  
DM

- Feedback time for EMIT TouchFree. AL liaised with the IT Commission that FOC would like to see a feedback time of 3 seconds for EMIT. The other disciplines would like to see 5-10 seconds.
- Rule changes proposed by Jørn Sundby were discussed. AL made notes of the decisions made and will take action to communicate the decisions to the relevant parties.

## FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – EVENT QUALITY AND ADVISING

### 12 Event Advising

USK,  
VF, HLP

Plan for EA Clinics:

- HLES in Riga (6-7 February 2016). IOF (FOC) and LOF are the main organising bodies. AL to liaise with the Latvian organisers during the FOC meeting in Riga. Preliminary information to be published asap. AL volunteered to be overall responsible for the HLES. The planning process started.  
  
AL, USK and HLP had a planning meeting on Sunday morning. AL will ask DW to send out announcement for the meeting and AL and USK will notify the proposed key speakers. Further planning will be made early November.
- Clinic in 2016: EA clinic in DEN in conjunction with Danish Spring (18-19 March). Invitation published and sent out by the IOF Office.
- Quality control for IOF events. Discussion based on David May's paper. DM presented his paper. FOC proposes to:
  - Put the (a) and (b) recommendation into the SEA guidelines. DM to propose a text
  - Elaborate further on this subject in the HLES 2016
- SEA nominations. Update. AL to communicate these with the Office.

### 13 Liaising with FootO Athletes Commission (FOAC)

KI

Update. The Athletes Commission has decided to work on making recommendations about embargoed areas, i.e. how they see this issue. They have promised Tom Hollowell a presentation after the World Cup final. According to Tom, depending on what they come up with, maybe inviting William Lind to present at the HLES could be a good idea.



KI reported from the Meeting with the FootO Athletes Commission in Arosa. FOAC is working on a checklist for organisers. KI will bring this list to FOC when it is ready.

FOAC strongly support strict embargos whenever possible.

**14 Coaches Reference Group (CRG) – “Entourage reference group” JS**

- The address list of the coaches is ready.
- The Facebook group should be created within days.
- A questionnaire will be put together for the coaches to answer. FOC suggested JS to ask DM to help him in formulating a questionnaire. JS to liaise with DM.

**YOUTH PROMOTION**

**15 Youth Promotion VF, BT**

Extended remit. Update. Special tasks for 2015 are:

- to identify international youth games where orienteering may be included
- in cooperation with RYDC (Regional & Youth Development Commission) start to organise as soon as possible the academies in connection with WOC. Liaison with WOC 2016 organisers is ongoing.
- support RYDC and encourage IOF regions to conduct regional youth/junior competitions.

Council has indicated a desire for regional youth championships to become official IOF events. BT tabled a report on the current status of regional youth championships in Europe, Asia, North America and Oceania as part of the ROC report.

VF to liaise with the new Regional Development and Youth Commission.

Regional youth championships may be part of FOC remits some time in the future. We will wait for Council decision about this.

**EVENT DEVELOPMENT**

**16 Guidelines KI, BT**

Update & discussion:

- **WOC Guidelines:** Updating is needed with the new qualification formats and the introduction of the Sprint Relay. FOC currently has no capacity to make the updates and seeks help from the IOF Office. Tom Hollowell to contact Jørn Sundby to do the job.
- Jørn Sundby has agreed to do this job, but no deadlines are currently known. AL will give input from FOC to Jørn.

- **WCup Guidelines:** BT and JS were asked to establish a plan for updating the World Cup Guidelines. Discussion. **BT proposes to postpone this work until after the WOC Guidelines are updated. And then establish a group with recent WCup organisers involved.**
- **JWOC Guidelines:** New update was published in May 2015.
- **WMOC Guidelines:** New update was published in January 2015.
- **WRE Guidelines:** New update was published in May 2015.
- **Sprint Relay Guidelines:** was published in February 2015.
- The currently used guidelines are sometimes too long and hard to read. They should have more figures, pictures. GA proposed a web book structure with “Rules – Guidelines – Illustration”. Discussion.
- **Embargoed areas:** The paper was approved with the comment that strict embargo should be applied as much as possible. **Each guideline responsible now has the task of entering these embargo guidelines into the relevant guidelines.**

## VISIBILITY OF ORIENTEERING

- |           |  |        |
|-----------|--|--------|
| <b>17</b> | <b>Visibility of orienteering</b>  | JS     |
|           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• FOC should have this in mind in every decision.</li><li>• We must keep our ambition to increase the visibility to an audience who are not already orienteers.</li></ul>  |        |
| <b>18</b> | <b>WRE</b>   | VF, DM |
|           | <p>Update. From our Meeting Minutes 4-15:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• DM to talk to IOF Office about the lack of information in Eventor about who is the EA.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>DW/DM mentioned that this is going in the right direction</b></li></ul></li><li>• DM proposes to have EA evaluations written from each WRE and uploaded to Eventor. Discussion based on DM’s paper.<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ <b>We agreed that DM will organise a pilot operation: DM will develop a list of questions and liaise with DW in order to use an online form available from IOF office. And then later evaluate whether we will cover the probably quite extensive cost of implementing the questionnaire in Eventor.</b></li></ul></li><li>• TH informed about a Council discussion about WRE – where different classes run the same courses:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ FOC will get a request from Council to provide guidance as how to have more classes on the same courses – having all M/W 18-, 20-, 21 classes being able to get WRE points. M/W 35+ can only get WRE points running classes M/W 21.</li></ul></li></ul> |        |

VF will liaise with David Rosen asap to propose modifications to the WRE Guidelines sections 8 and 20.

Other WRE matters (VF)

- One map scale deviation request received
- Australia will ask permission for a mass start event

Statistics delivered by DW:

- 111 WREs currently applied for in 2016
- DW will contact BT who volunteers to support in doing statistics

**OTHER MATTERS**

**19 Next meeting – FOC 1-16** all

- Joint Council – Commissions meeting (FOC meeting 1-16): 22-23 January 2016, in Malmö. Meeting should be scheduled in order to allow arrival on Friday morning.
- Arrival FOC Friday at noon. FOC Meeting planned to start around 12:00. Meeting ends Saturday evening.

**Long term meeting planning**

- Idea: A meeting during the second part of EOC in Czech Republic
- It is proposed to have a FOC meeting during WMOC – around the Sprint races (5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> August is proposed)
  - JS volunteers to secure accommodation for FOC members.
- KI volunteers to arrange a meeting in October during the World Cup Final weekend.

Final decision about meeting schedule 2016 to be made in the January 2016 meeting.

Legend:

- black (normal) letters: original text from the agenda
- blue text: text added during the meeting
- red text: action items

AL 30/09/2015 – HLP 11/10/2015 – AL 2/11/2015