

**Minutes – Foot Orienteering Commission – Meeting 5–16**

**Place:** Gold Hotel Budapest, Hungary

**Meeting schedule:** Saturday, 29<sup>th</sup> October – 09:00-19:00 CET

**Participants:**

Áron Less (AL)	Chairman
Tomáš Dlabaja (TD)	Member
Kilian Imhof (KI)	Member
Maria Krafft Helgesson (MKH)	Member
Helge Lang Pedersen (HLP)	Member
David May (DM)	Member – through Skype
Janne Salmi (JJS)	Member
Unni Strand Karlsen (USK)	Member
Blair Trewin (BT)	Member – through Skype

**Invitations:**

Nik Suter (NS)	FOC's IOF Council contact person
Hans Jørgen Kvåle (HJK)	IOF Sports Administrator

**OPENING**

**1 Opening** AL

AL opened the meeting.

**2 Follow up of Minutes FOC 4-16** AL

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

**TO NOTE DECISIONS / ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE FOC MEETING 4-16**

**3 Council & ESB decisions** AL

- 21 August 2016: The ESB unanimously approved the rules deviation request from the organisers of WMOC 2017 to use map scale 1:7.500 for the classes MW60 and older, in accordance with the recommendations from both FOC and Map Commission (MC).

- 21 August 2016: The ESB unanimously rejected the rules deviation request from the organisers of WMOC 2017 to use digital printing instead of offset printing, in accordance with the recommendations from FOC and MC.
- 21 August 2016: The ESB unanimously approved the appointments of Ulu Aeschlimann (SUI) as Senior Event Adviser (SEA) and Kuno Rooba (EST) as Assistant Senior Event Adviser (ASEA) for the World Masters Orienteering Championships 2019 (WMOC 2019) in Latvia.
- 21 August 2016: The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Nermin Fenmen (TUR) as Senior Event Adviser for the European Youth Orienteering Championships 2018 (EYOC 2018) in Bulgaria.
- 11 October 2016: The ESB approved the rules deviation request from the OAC for WRE events in China, voting 2 for/1 against. The rules deviation request was to allow use of the LearnJoy punching system, which has not yet been approved by the IOF. Note! The ESB pointed out that any further rules deviation request for use of LearnJoy as an unapproved system will not be given. Either LearnJoy must gain IOF provisional approval for punching systems or another approved punching system must be used for any future events.

All other topics are discussed under the various agenda items below.

## FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – STRATEGIC PLANNING

### 4 World Orienteering Championships (WOC)

AL, KI

- **WOC 2016, Sweden:** Final SEA report available. WOC 2016 in Sweden was a successful event with very good terrains and courses, large crowds and high standard TV-production. The event was very well organised and was very visible locally.

The main concern in the build-up to the event was the generalisation of maps and the difficult cooperation with the WOC mappers, who lacked the necessary respect for the mapping standards. During the event it became clear that the offset printing of the maps was not of the quality required. The organisers acted quickly to organise map changes on the long distance and printed new maps for the relay.

The decision to have the start for the Long Distance race in the arena was discussed. FOC found that an arena start should not necessarily be given priority in future forest WOC finals.

- **WOC 2017, Estonia:** Status report. New SEA report available. Everything seems to be on track, the SEA report is very positive. Dates are 30 June - 7 July, 2017. Bulletin 2 was published in July 2016. The next SEA report should have more focus on out of forest issues. Action AL to inform the SEA.
- **WOC 2018, Latvia:** Status report. No new SEA report available. No SEA visit has taken place this year, that's why Bulletin 1 is delayed and not yet

issued. Euromeeting was a big success. Dates are 4-11 August 2018. An SEA meeting should be carried out asap and Bulletin 1 should also be published this year. Action AL.

- **WOC 2019, Norway:** Sarpsborg, Østfold was appointed as organiser by Council. Dates are 13-18 August. Preparation is already well underway. Lars Forsberg was appointed as Assistant SEA. USK to discuss with the organisers about how to make sure map norms are abided by from a very early stage.
- **WOC 2020:** Denmark (Vejle, Kolding, Fredericia) was appointed by the General Assembly. The dates are 7-11 July, still awaiting Council approval. Action AL.
- **Knock-out sprint.** A test plan was presented for Council (appended to the last FOC Minutes). O-Ringen it's too late for them to get on board for 2017 testing. Council asked FOC to ensure that the WOC 2020 organisers in Denmark should be involved in the testing of the new format.

This subject was discussed in detail. Jørn Sundby (JS) was appointed as project manager. NS clarified the role distribution: FOC will define the remits for JS and monitor the progress. KI volunteered to be the responsible person on FOC's side. Action HLP to talk to the Danish WOC 2020 organisers about the process. Action All to comment on the current version of the remits to AL before Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> November. Then AL & KI will present the remit to JS.

- **Strategic planning.** The subject was discussed in detail. FOC proposes to structure EOC and World Cup around the split WOC given the assumption that WOCs will from 2020 onwards be organised in July – probably 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> week of July, with JWOC being organised in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week and O-Ringen (World Cup) in the 4<sup>th</sup> week of July. The idea is to have a 12-month sprint season with EOC and World Cup ending in the sprint WOC and to have a 12-month year forest season with EOC and World Cup ending in the forest WOC. This will mean that EOC is organised in late summer/autumn. It is assumed that the programme for EOC will be the same as for the corresponding WOC. If a programme like this is established, it would make sense to start thinking around these ideas from autumn 2019 – even though it is not planned to have an EOC in 2019. Instead it could be an idea to let the World Cup Final in 2019 be a last test of the WOC 2020 programme – or at least a final test of the new WOC format if it is felt that there should also be forest races in the World Cup Final. It was agreed that AL will develop a paper based on these ideas and consult with TH if a process should be established to discuss these ideas with the stakeholders, primarily the future World Cup organisers, Federations, athletes and coaches.

## 5 World Cup (WCup)

JJS, BT

- **World Cup 2016:** The World Cup in 2016 did go down without any major problems, unlike in 2014 and 2015.
  - Polish round: some problems with time-keeping and the start draw for the Sprint Qualification race. Very good Sprint Final courses.
  - Czech round (EOC): time-keeping problems in the Sprint, thus the wrong results were announced. Complaints about mapping in the middle distance. Exciting sprint relay, relay and long distance courses.
  - Swedish round (WOC): sprint courses on the easy side, problems with paper quality in the long. Very good middle distance concept and a great event. Time-keeping worked well.
  - Swiss round: easy sprint relay, a new pair-start long distance in simple terrain and a great sprint race to wrap it all up as usual. Some problems with the individual sprint map, including printing. This was a very spectacular event.
- **World Cup 2017: status report**
  - Round 1 (WCup 1-4): Finland. No new SEA report available. [Bulletin 1 has been published. Dates are 24-28 May 2017.](#)
    - Sprint Relay
    - SQ + SF on the same day
    - Middle distance
    - Long distance with a chasing start based on both Sprint and Middle results
  - Round 2: WOC 2017 (WCup 5-9) EST – 30 June - 7 July 2017.
  - Round 3 (WCup 10-12): Latvia. No new SEA report available. Bulletin 1 has not yet been published.
    - 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
  - Round 4 (WCup 13-15): 29 September – 1 October in Grindelwald, Switzerland. Bulletin 1 has not yet been published. Friday: Long distance; Saturday: Middle distance; Sunday: Sprint Relay.
  - Special Rules were approved by Council.
- **World Cup 2018: status report**
  - Round 1: Switzerland, as part of EOC.
  - O-Ringen is cancelled from the World Cup 2018 programme due to negative competitor feedback. [WOC 2018 should be](#)

considered to be part of the World Cup (as round 2) since O-Ringen is not an option any longer.

- Round 3: Pre-WOC in Norway will be held from 31 August until 2. September 2018. SEA must be appointed soon. The new SEA team or Lars Forsberg should do this work. Action USK+AL.
- There can be room for another round either after the Norwegian round or probably in June.
- **World Cup 2019: status report.** Round 1 would be ideal in Finland (8-12 June – no answer yet), round 2 during O-Ringen and round 3 in Switzerland in early October.
- **World Cup in the future:** From 2019 and onwards the intention is that the World Cup will be held with 3 fixed rounds, one of them being O-Ringen. From 2019 IOF Swiss Cup is fully on-board. Both O-Ringen and Swiss Cup are really supportive about IOF's ideas.

## 6 Junior World Orienteering Championships (JWOC)

HLP

- **JWOC 2017: Finland.** Status report. No new SEA report available.
- **JWOC 2018: Hungary.** Status report. New SEA report available. Bulletin 1 was published. Jari Kymäläinen took over SEA duties from AL in September.
- **JWOC 2019: Denmark.** Status report. No new SEA report available. Silkeborg was awarded JWOC 2019. Dates to be confirmed. Hannu Pyy is SEA.
- **JWOC 2020: No candidates are known yet.**
- **HLES 2017** will have JWOC as one of the main themes.

## 7 World Masters Orienteering Championships (WMOC)

DM, BT

- **WMOC 2016: Estonia.** Final SEA report available. FOC rep report available. This was a very well-organised event.
- **WMOC (WMOG) 2017: New Zealand.** Status report. No new SEA report available. Rule deviation requests – see above. DM informed that there will be no spectator races during WMOC 2017.
- **WMOC 2018 Denmark:** Status report. No new SEA report received. Due to the situation about the Middle Distance (see below) it was agreed to postpone the issue of Bulletin 1 until 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017 at latest. DM will seek confirmation from TH and HLP will inform the Danish organisers.
- **WMOC 2019 Latvia:** Ulu Aeschlimann nominated as SEA, Kuno Rooba as Assistant SEA. The Latvians have agreed that the first week of August will be an acceptable date and now have to decide whether to start on the 3<sup>rd</sup> or the 4<sup>th</sup> August.

- **WMOC 2020:** There are indications that at least one application can be expected for this event.
- **WMOC 2021:** assuming the WMG/WMOC connection is continued, WMOC 2021 will be combined with WMG and will go to Kansai in Japan during May.
- **WMOC middle distance:** Council discussed the proposal and found that it lacked sufficient analysis and consultative basis to be able to make any decisions. Council asks FOC to consult with further stakeholders, and specifically with the major tour organisers who are of significance for WMOC participation, as well as past and future organisers. FOC should prepare a new proposal for Council approval. Council agreed that the proposed qualification method based upon km/h speed in different finals would not be acceptable as it would be very complex.

FOC discussed the feedback from Council. It was agreed that DM will prepare a new questionnaire for participants in Estonia and Tour operators to get additional feedback about the possible ways of introducing Middle Distance into the WMOC programme. The result of the questionnaire will lead to an additional report for Council to discuss in their January meeting. **Action: DM**

## 8 Regional (Senior) Orienteering Championships (ROCs)

BT

- **European Orienteering Championships, 5<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> May 2018, Ticino, Switzerland.** Programme now approved by Council.

Discussion about BT's model for long qualification. It was agreed that the analysis work done was quite impressive. The discussion was centred around how to balance the possibility for many nations to participate with the desire to have all the best runners present without having too big a start field. The target is to have 70-80 runners at most, with all the best athletes starting and a maximum of 6 participants per Federation. **Action BT to update the paper accordingly.**

- **North American Orienteering Championships 2018.** FOC recommends to Council, that NAOC 2018 will be organised in Canada (Whitehorse, Yukon) between 18-23 August 2018.

## 9 The World Games (TWG)

AL

- **TWG 2017 POL:** status report. A change of the SEA team has been carried out, David Aleš (CZE) is the new SEA with Daniel Wolf (CZE) as Assistant. Former SEA Daniel Leibundgut continues as head of IT and timekeeping.
- Council approved the proposal to make the discretionary qualification choices based upon a "global" approach for TWG 2017. FOC is tasked with naming the additional federation teams and individuals who qualify, as outlined in the proposal, and creating a list of reserves in case qualified national teams or individuals could not participate. **Action BT & AL to make a proposal to the IOF Office.**

## FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – RULES

### 10 Rules

USK,  
DM

- Council has approved the IOF Competition Rules for 2017 in their recent meeting. Major changes to the Rules:
  - 7.2 Late payment may be subject to an additional fee.
  - 7.3 Late entries and changes shall be accepted by the organiser if possible
  - 8.7 WOC JWOC Bulletin 3 shall be published 3 months before the event
  - 9.6 & 9.7 WOC WCup JWOC Standard charges for late entries and changes.
  - 9.11 In relays late changes may only be made with a valid reason (e.g. accident or illness)
  - 12.15 WOC JWOC Requirement for heat allocation to be kept secret has been removed.
  - 12.20 WOC Sprint Qualification start interval may be 1 or 1.5 minutes
  - 12.21 JWOC Middle distance qualification race start interval is 3 minutes.
  - 13.1 WOC WCup JWOC Team officials' meetings do not have to be held the day before a competition; they can be earlier and can cover more than one competition.
  - New Appendix 8 The European Youth Orienteering Championships
  - New Appendix 12 The South American Orienteering Championships
- In the latest IOF Council meeting, Leho Haldna presented a proposal to re-write the rules sections regarding the use of GPS equipment, with the general principle that less restrictive rules be introduced for the use of GPS equipment for data logging and tracking. Organisers should still be allowed to restrict the use. Council agreed to the principle and noted that the rules section could be clarified further, with the inclusion of terminology regarding "no active guidance" from GPS or other equipment. **Action USK to discuss with David Rosen.**
- Protocol Guide update: Council approved to having 3 individuals / teams on the podium for flower ceremonies and 6 for prize-giving ceremonies.
- ISOM 201x: Council agreed that there were 2 issues in the specification which should be consulted further with stakeholders:
  - The consequences of the specifications' descriptions regarding impassable features. **The majority of FOC is not in favour of defining the dangerous features to be out of bounds by definition. We would like the out of bounds definition to stay the way it is. In FOC's opinion, it's the course planner's rather than the mapmaker's responsibility to define out-of-bounds areas. We see**

the characteristics of ISSOM and ISOM areas to be very different – hence it is in FOC’s opinion acceptable and desirable to have different map standards for sprint and forest maps. **Action AL to inform TH and Map Commission with TD responsible for any further correspondence.**

- The specifications’ wording regarding Map scales and Map enlargements. Council would therefore task FOC and RC with consulting and commenting on these two issues. **FOC agrees with Council’s view on this to leave out the unnecessary sentence and paragraph. The map scale issues should only be handled in the rules. Action AL to inform TH and Map Commission.**
- The usual newsletter for the Event Advisers will be sent out in the next weeks.

## **FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – EVENT QUALITY AND ADVISING**

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|-----------|--|-------------|
| <b>11</b> | <b>Event Advising</b>  | USK,<br>HLP |
|           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● EA Clinics:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Clinic in 2016: EA Clinic in EST, 9 August (WMOC 2016 rest day).</li> <li>○ Clinic in 2016: EA Clinic in BRA, 30 September – 2 October.</li> <li>○ High Level Event Seminar 2017. Dates are 4-5 February 2017, venue is Warsaw. <b>AL informed about the work about planning the HLES. The final invitation will be issued in November 2016 and the final programme should be sent in January 2017. The planning group will have a Skype meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> November. Action AL.</b></li> <li>○ Clinic in 2017: EA Clinic in New Zealand during the World Masters Orienteering Championships. David Rosen to organise.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |             |
| <b>12</b> | <b>Liaising with FootO Athletes Commission (FOAC)</b>  | KI          |
|           | <p>FOAC had two meetings during WOC &amp; EOC. They made the research for the women’s long distance estimated winning times and a list of best practices for organising high-level events. FOAC coordinator Ida Bobach will be invited for the Joint Council &amp; Commissions meeting in January.</p>   |             |
| <b>13</b> | <b>Coaches Reference Group (CRG) – “Entourage reference group”</b>   | JJS         |
|           | <p>A meeting with coaches was held during WOC. From the IOF side, JJS, AL &amp; Tom Hollowell took part. The atmosphere was not very positive, mainly because of the inclusion of O-Ringen in the future World Cup. Tensions have significantly eased since then.</p> <p>Swiss coach Patrik Thoma started an initiative about an action plan steered by the coaches to make IOF high level events better.</p>  |             |



FOC looked through the document and agreed to most of the points and will bring them further into the guideline work. **Action JJS to answer on Facebook.**

## EVENT DEVELOPMENT

### 14 Guidelines

BT

- **WOC Manual:** Updating is needed with the new qualification formats and the introduction of the Sprint Relay. Jørn Sundby is responsible for the update. Clive Allen also offered proofreading. Deadline: end of 2016.

From the discussion about WOC 2016, FOC concluded that map quality and map handling before the event should be clearly described in checklists in the WOC manual. The successful practice of letting expert commentators test courses prior to the event could also be described in a section of the manual where also confidentiality handling could be mentioned. FOC agreed to study the revised manual in detail when it is delivered from the editor.

- **WCup Guidelines:** It was agreed to postpone this update until after the WOC Guidelines are updated. And then establish a group with recent WCup organisers involved.
- **JWOC Guidelines:** Updated March 2016.
- **WMOC Guidelines:** Updated January 2016.
- **WRE Guidelines:** Updated January 2016.
- **Sprint Relay Guidelines:** was published in February 2015.
- FOC agreed that it is desirable to change the term “Guidelines” into “Manuals”. The process of doing this will start now but should be coordinated with an update of the Rules since they refer to the “Guidelines”.
- From our Minutes 4-16: HLP mentioned an initiative with the joint intention to raise the profile for SEAs and combine the Event Guidelines and SEA Guidelines in a way that will eventually provide the SEAs with better checklists of how to monitor the events and report progress back to FOC. The concept was presented to USK and MKH and will be discussed further during the Joint Meeting in Warsaw in January. Part of the concept will be introduced at HLES in February and will be presented to FOC at a later stage. **Action HLP to proceed discussions with USK and MKH.**

## VISIBILITY OF ORIENTEERING

- 15 WRE** DM
- 91 applications were received for 2017.
  - From our Meeting Minutes 5-15:
    - DM proposed to have EA evaluations written from organisers in each WRE and uploaded to Eventor.

## OTHER MATTERS

- 16 AOB** AL
- A proposal for the FootO Commission remit for 2017-2018 was presented to AL by Mikko Salonen.
  - FOC is expected to get one or two new members. AL thanked JJS for his contribution to FOC over the last two years.
- 17 Next meetings** all
- FOC Meeting 1-17: IOF Council and Commissions Joint Meeting in Warsaw, 20-21 January 2017. Proposed start of the meeting at 15:00 on Friday, end of the meeting on Saturday evening. Practical information will follow from the IOF Office.
  - Further plans (preliminary):
    - FOC Meeting 2-17: It was agreed to have the meeting on 24-26th March in Hillerød, Denmark. Arrival on Friday, meeting on Saturday and departure on Sunday. **Action HLP to organise the meeting.** It will be possible to participate in Danish Spring on Friday (Sprint) and Sunday (Long Distance) close to Hillerød.
    - FOC Meeting 3-17: will be held during WOC. HLP and KI proposes to have it around the first WOC weekend as this will suit their other commitments.
    - FOC Meeting 4-17: the plan is to have the meeting in late September. One proposal is to have the meeting in Grindelwald in conjunction with the World Cup Final.
    - No full FOC Skype meetings are planned for 2017.

### Legend:

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