

Summary of Foot Orienteering Commission (FOC) Minutes

Helsinki, Finland, 10-11 January 2003

Regional events

Building on the start made at the Bendigo meeting, the Commission established a list of questions to which the national federations will be invited to respond. Amongst many other points, the IOF needs to know how the members view the concept of Regional Championships, what sort of structures they see as being sustainable and what they might look to the IOF for.

A meeting for non-European Federations will be held alongside WOC03 in August to carry the debate forwards.

Future Junior World Orienteering Championships (JWOC)

In response to proposals affecting the JWOC format, the Commission reaffirmed that there is no case for increasing team size and that the model agreed at Bendigo should be consolidated. If there is pressure for change in the future, the FOC should review the format maybe after this year.

World Masters Orienteering Championships (WMOC)

The Commission noted the success of the WMOC in Bendigo and supported the principle of combining WMOC with the World Masters Games, the next one occurring in Edmonton in 2005. A formal application has been received from the Alberta Orienteering Association on behalf of the Canadian Orienteering Federation to host the 2005 WMOC. The IOF now awaits confirmation from the Edmonton WMG organisers that they agree to include WMOC in the programme.

A letter had been received from the Swedish Orienteering Federation (SOFT) regarding new discipline formats/winning times and possible changes for WMOC. FOC agreed that there will be no changes to the discipline structure of WMOC.

Marathon Orienteering

The Commission will work with the Marathon-O working party and explore ways of incorporating traditional Long-O events with events such as Mountain Marathons and Rogaining into an IOF Marathon Trophy competition.

World Ranking List

It was agreed, in response to a request from SOFT, that certain nominated events in Sweden in 2003 could stage parallel elite courses, each counting towards the World Rankings.

The Elite Events Commission had asked whether WR points gained from World Cup races should be weighted to reflect the status of the World Cup. The FOC will investigate what effects this could have.

2003 Competition Rules

The Commission met the Rules and Elite Events Commissions for a joint discussion on the draft 2003 Competition Rules. There were many proposals for change, including the removal of references to Regional Events and changes to the timing of the issue of JWOC Bulletin 2, and it was clear that further consultation would be needed. It was agreed that the revised Competition Rules should be valid from 1 January 2004.

Event Advising

There should be a joint EEC-FOC event advisors meeting in Switzerland in conjunction with the World Championships. This would be a one-day meeting with the first half common to all Event Advisors and the second half involving specialist meetings with top level advisors.

Next Meeting

9-11 May in Glasgow, Scotland, UK.