

Summary of the Minutes of the MTBO Commission Meeting

Helsinki, Finland, 20th and 21st January 2012

2012 Calendar - status

The 2012 calendar is composed of 18 WR Events, 3 World Cup rounds and the World Championships. This calendar was published on the IOF website in November.

World Cup 2013 - status

- POL 16th – 23rd June: EMTBOC
- EST 26th – 31st August: WMTBOC & JWMTBOC
- Application from POR for the World Cup round and WMMTBOC in September. This application is supported by the commission. Exact dates must still be fixed before the calendar is finalised.

World Cup 2014 - status

- An application for a World Cup round in June is expected shortly
- The WMTBOC and JWMTBOC will take place in POL from 24th – 31st August
- No application to organise the autumn World Cup round together with the WMMTBOC has been received, though if necessary POL would be willing to organise the WMMTBOC in conjunction with WMTBOC. A new deadline of 30th June 2012 has been set for applications.

WMTBOC 2015

No applications for the WMTBOC were received by the 1st January 2012 deadline. A new deadline of 30th June 2012 has been set for applications.

World Games 2017

The 2017 World Games will be held in Poland. This might provide an opportunity to seek the integration of the MTBO discipline in the World Games as POL is one of the most experienced MTBO organisers. The Council has been asked to support this.

Athletes' Commission Survey

The Athletes' commission conducted a survey among athletes and team leaders on a number of topics, of which notably the World Championship and World Cup events in 2011. The survey is currently being analysed and a summary of relevant points will be sent to Senior Event Advisers as guidance.

Event Adviser clinics

An Event Advisers' and Organisers' clinic was held in DEN in November. The large number of participants (13) from 8 countries was noted.

The next clinic will be held in conjunction with FootO in Graz (AUT) from 2nd to 4th March.

Senior Event Adviser appointments - Current status

WCup 2012 in CZE: Tamás Janko
WCup 2012 in POL: Jan Eg Pedersen
WCup 2012 in EST: Timo Laurila
WMTBOC/JWMTBOC/WMMTBOC 2012 in HUN: Wolf Eberle
WMTBOC/JWMTBOC 2013 in EST: Sandor Talás

Event Adviser's newsletter

A newsletter from the commission to all licensed MTBO Event Advisers will be published twice a year. The first edition will appear in March/April 2012.

SEA reports since the last meeting

- Final report for the EMTBOC in Russia. The main point arising from this report is that the normal traffic was not stopped during the urban sprint. In a case such as this the SEA should seriously consider cancelling the event as the risk of an accident is very high.
- Interim reports for the 2012 World Cup in EST and CZE and for WMTBOC 2012 in HUN.

Event evaluation

An event evaluation form has been produced. It will be tested for the first time at the WCup event in CZE by asking team members to fill out and return it.

Competition formats for IOF events

- The qualification event for the Long Distance at WMTBOC is not “cost effective” and, if possible, should be replaced by an automatic method for reducing the starting field. Simulations of methods for will be undertaken before the next meeting.
- The 2-athlete mixed relay that was tested at the EMTBOC in RUS was appreciated in its general format. It has the advantage of being potentially spectacular and accessible to weaker nations. The commission has the ambition to have the MTBO discipline included in some future World Games and this format would fit well into that context. So as to further develop and test the format, the commission proposes that from 2013 onwards it becomes an official new format for EMTBOC with a view to inclusion in WMTBOC in 2014 or 2015. The European Working group will be approached with this proposal.

Maps

The following changes to the map standards will be proposed for the next review in October:

- The map scale for the Long Distance should be fixed at 1:15000; the 1:20000 scale should only be an option that would need to be approved by the SEA.
- The control numbering on the map should optionally be printed surrounded by a white line to make it more legible to riders.
- Fences should have two standard features: small and large

There is no consensus yet on the representation of off-track areas where riding is permitted when otherwise it is forbidden.

Certain specific features for large scale urban maps still need to be developed. Proposals will be tabled at the next meeting.

Rules

The following rule changes will be proposed for the next review in October:

- Incomplete relay teams may compete in the World Cup relay events but must have a later start time than the official teams. At present, incomplete relay teams in World Cup events are not dealt with in the rules.
- Removal of rule 20.3: “Control cards or electronic punches must be connected to the cycle... etc.”. This requirement is difficult to enforce and is unnecessary in view of other rules, in particular rule 21.7.
- Rewrite rule 21.7 to say: “Riders must stay with their bikes throughout a race from start to finish, whether they ride, push or carry them”.

Touch-free punching

In principle the commission is favourable to touch-free punching. Documented trials will need to have been conducted before approval of any system. In particular systems must be robust with respect to passing speed.

Development strategy

A first report on development strategy was examined. The work is ongoing.

MTBO documents

- A flyer will be designed in the form of a template in which it should be simple to change the language. It will be made available on the website in some standard file formats.
- A new version of the Guidelines for Organisers of IOF MTBO events has now been published on the website. This version is not yet complete; the missing appendices are currently being prepared.
- An Event Advisers’ handbook has been written and will soon appear on the website. It will be sent to all SEAs when they are appointed.

Next meeting

The next commission meeting will be held in Veszprém, HUN, on Sunday 26th August 2012, the day following the end of WMTBOC.