

Summary of Foot Orienteering Commission (FOC) Minutes

Rapperswil, Switzerland, August 2003

Junior World Orienteering Championships (JWOC)

Following feedback from the team leaders' meeting at JWOC 2003 in Estonia, the Commission accepted the need to revisit the issue of the event programme. A discussion paper will be circulated to Federations in time for the team leaders' meeting at JWOC 2004 and will explore ways of integrating a Sprint race into JWOC.

The Commission received presentations from applicants to host JWOC in 2007 and made its recommendation to IOF Council. The successful applicant is Australia and the event will be based on the town of Dubbo (New South Wales) in early July.

World Masters' Orienteering Championships (WMOC)

The 2003 event in Norway had attracted some 3600 competitors and was agreed to be successfully staged. The IOF Senior Event Advisor made recommendations for the future regarding competitor numbering, start arrangements and the banquet and it was agreed that the next version of the WMOC Guidelines would be updated to reflect these issues.

The Commission received presentations from applicants to host WMOC in 2007 and made its recommendation to IOF Council. The successful applicant is Finland and the event will be based on the town of Kuusamo in July.

Rules revision

The Commission met with the Elite Events and Rules Commissions to finalise the 2004 edition of the Competition Rules. These were presented to IOF Council for approval directly afterwards.

Regional Development

Feedback from the Presidents' Conference debate on the regional issue produced three clear recommendations:-

- FOC should set up a mentoring system so that stronger Federations can assist the development of weaker ones.
- FOC should set up a web-based information system - a library of resources - which will assist Federations to find out how, for example, to develop schools' orienteering in their area.
- FOC should promote contacts between Federations so that, for example, one Federation could advertise for mapping help from nearby countries.

The Commission will now work on ways of implementing these and a sub-group will produce a report for further consideration at the next meeting.

Event Advising

The Commission considered the need to strengthen the IOF Event Advising System and the Chairman agreed to make recommendations about this (and on the role and qualifications of National Controllers too) in time for the next meeting.

It was agreed that there should be an annual Event Advising seminar to be held in conjunction with the World Championships, following the successful meeting before the Rapperswil WOC week.

Next meeting

16th -18th January 2004 in Helsinki: joint meeting with other Commissions and IOF Council.