

## Minutes – Ski Orienteering Commission – Meeting No: 2 – 2017

**Place:** Tartu, Estonia

**Meeting Schedule:** Wednesday, July 5<sup>th</sup> – 9:00-11:00  
Thursday, July 6<sup>th</sup> – 8:30-17:00  
Friday, July 7<sup>th</sup> – 8:30-11:00

**Participants:**

Tatiana Kalenderoglu (TK)	Chairperson
Antti Myllärinen (AM)	Member
Aleksandr Bliznevskiy (AB)	Member
Roland Hellberg (RH)	Member
Thierry Jeanneret (TJ)	Member (Skype, 6 <sup>th</sup> of July)

**Invited:**

Leho Haldna	IOF President
Tom Hollowell	IOF CEO
Erik Blomgren	Chairman of SOAC

### SUMMARY

#### 1. Meeting summary

SOC identified potential organizers for 2019-2021 seasons and event advisers for 2018-19 season, discussed about rules changes as well as SOC composition. In addition, several smaller issues were covered.

### TO NOTE DECISIONS TAKEN OR PUBLISHED SINCE THE SOC MEETING IN IMATRA 2017

#### 2. Council & ESB decisions

## ESB

26 October 2016: The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Lars Lystad (NOR) as Senior Event Adviser (SEA) and Sindre Haverstad (NOR) as Event Adviser for the SkiO World Cup round 1 in Finland in December 2017.

26 October 2016: The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Sixten Sild (EST) as Senior Event Adviser (SEA) and Arkadii Vedin (RUS) as Event Adviser for the European SkiO Championships/Junior World SkiO Championships in Bulgaria in 2018.

## Council meeting No. 183

Commission remits were presented which had been discussed and agreed with each Commission chairperson. Council approved the remits for all Commissions except SkiO Commission (SOC).

IOF President Leho Haldna proposed that World Ranking Event (WRE) service fees should be changed from a fixed fee to a fee based upon actual WRE participation figures. The intent of this would be to encourage more WREs to be organised in MTBO and SkiO, and in nations where smaller participation numbers could be expected.

Council discussed the application received from SWE for WSOC 2019. Council viewed the application favorably. However, since the application contained requirements regarding the appointment of other SkiO events to SWE as part of WSOC 2019, Council could not approve the application until SOC had evaluated the impact on the overall season 2019. SOC would do this at its scheduled meeting February 10, and Council would vote upon approval at the latest February 15, 2017.

## Council meeting No. 184

Council discussed the situation in the SOC where no Chairperson had yet been identified. Antti Myllärinen has agreed to continue as acting Chair until a new Chairperson can be found. Several members had also signaled at the SOC meeting in Imatra, FIN that they intended to retire from the commission. Council agreed the following actions:

- That the IOF Office send a request to all member federations to identify and nominate a potential SOC Chairperson.
- That SOC members who have stated that they intend to retire after the current SkiO season be polled to ascertain their continued involvement or not.
- That at least 3 new members should be identified and asked to join the SOC.

IOF Vice President Mikko Salonen presented the Remit for SOC 2017-2018 as finally agreed with SOC after their meeting in Imatra, FIN. Council approved the Remit with 2 minor changes.

Council approved the proposal from the SOC to appoint the European Ski Orienteering Championships (ESOC) 2019 to Turkey during the dates 4 – 12 February 2019. Council approved the proposal from the SOC to appoint the World Ski Orienteering Championships (WSOC) 2019, Junior World Ski Orienteering Championships (JWSOC), European Youth Ski Orienteering Championships (EYSOC) and World Masters Ski Orienteering Championships (WMSOC) to Sweden during the dates 19 – 24 March 2019.

Council also reviewed the letter received from SAOC regarding the award of several championships events to a single organiser. Council tasked TH with responding to SAOC to explain the background for the above decision.

RC was tasked to update the SkiO Competition Rules to include a clause which would not allow the elimination of a single leg from a competition course, as in FootO rule 24.15. Council further noted that this rule should be harmonized between all relevant disciplines.

Consistent with the new ISOM 2017, the ISSkiOM and SkiO rules should be aligned, i.e. rules regarding forbidden/uncrossable areas should not be defined in the map standards but in the competition rules. RC and MC were tasked with implementing this change.

## **SOC COMPOSITION**

### **3. Resignations**

SOC noted that Juraj Nemeč and Patrick Desbrest during SOC during spring 2017. Patrick still continues as a first point of contact to French ski orienteers.

### **4. SOC nominations**

SOC noted that IOF Council nominated Tatiana Kalenderoglu (TK) from Turkey as a new SOC chairman in their meeting in Tartu. Further, Adrian Wickert (AW) from Austria was nominated to a SOC member.

## **COMPETITION CALENDAR AND EVENT ADVISERS**

### **5. Potential event organizers for 2019/20 and 2020/21**

No new applications were received after Imatra meeting held in February 2017. SOC discussed about different possibilities regarding organizers for seasons 2019/20 and 2020/21. AM and TK were assigned to be in contact with IOF office that could approach officially potential organizer federations.

### **6. Other competitions and event advising**

Different possibilities for WUSOC 2020 organizers were discussed. A list of potential event advisers for 2018/19 IOF competitions was compiled and personal responsibilities to contact these persons were allocated.

## **EDUCATION AND TRAINING**

### **7. Ski Orienteering Clinics**

After Nemeč Juraj's resignation, a new SOC member to plan, design and arrange ski orienteering clinics is needed. RH expressed his interest. SOC unanimously appointed him to the task. The first clinic will be arranged in conjunction of Bulgarian WCup in 2018.

## **8. Organizer's Handbook**

Erik Blomgren from SOAC pointed out that an updated handbook for event organizers is urgently needed. Handbook would help organizers to achieve constant quality of the events. RH promised to go through the current material and create a work plan for the project. Further on, the purpose is to include also AW to the process.

## **RULES, GUIDELINES AND SIMILAR**

### **9. Rules updates**

Required rules changes were presented by RH. RH pointed out that WCup Special Rules for season 2017/18 needs to be updated. AM updated the rules during the Friday's meeting. RH also brought out the need to allow federations to point out 6 athletes to each individual WSOC distance instead of current 4 athletes. SOC decided to propose this change to Rules Commission.

### **10. Ranking system**

Erik Blomgren from SOAC brought to the knowledge of SOC that athletes consider current ranking system unequal. The main reasons are the following: (a) The differences in points are too high between WRE competitions and WSOC/ESOC, (b) mass start competitions are generating more even ranking points to athletes than competitions with interval starts and (c) the ranking system accounting results from two years is lowering the relative value of competitions for the ongoing year. RH will assess the situation and report to SOC.

### **11. Guidelines and other**

It was decided that starting from season 2019/20, WSOC rhythm should follow the rhythm of WOC. In other words, when IOF has a sprint year at WOC, also WSOC will have a sprint year. 2020 WSOC will be a sprint year.

RH presented the draft version of ski orienteering map symbols Map Commission had created. The main changes were done to wordings that now indicate more clearly which body of waters and roadsides are allowed and which are not. SOC accepted changes and authorized RH to work together with Rules Commission to find out the best wording for the changes.

## **FISU AND CISM RELATED MATTERS**

### **12. FISU and YOG**

TJ gave an update of the situation with the ski orienteering inclusion to Youth Olympic Games (YOG) organized in Switzerland in 2020 and Winter Universiades organized in Switzerland in 2021. Local YOG organizers had told about a possibility to include ski orienteering as a demonstration sport to YOG. AM proposed that Swiss Federation could apply for a WCup to be arranged simultaneously with YOG. This competition would then also act as a demonstration competition. TJ will analyze the situation.

TH also brought to a SOC knowledge that Universiade organizers need to first decide about the timetables of obligatory sports after which slots for additional sports will be granted. Local organizers are keen to find financier for extra costs caused by the potential inclusion of ski orienteering. The rough estimate for extra costs is 30,000 EUR. SOC together with Tom Hollowell and Leho Haldna discussed about different possibilities to cover these costs. IOF will cover technical costs of Universiades and Swiss Federation is negotiation with potential sponsors about the matter. Next meetings with potential sponsors are taking place in September. TJ continues to lead this process.

SOC also aligned that the target is to get ski orienteering to be included to Winter Universiade 2023. For this reason potential candidate cities should be contacted already now.

### **13. CISM**

AM pointed out that SOC needs a new responsible person to oversee CISM related matters. AM was pointed out to identify a person to be nominated for the task.

## **OTHER ISSUES**

### **14. Handbook for Organizers**

Erik Blomgren from SOAC stressed out that an updated handbook for event organizers is urgently needed. Handbook would help organizers to achieve constant quality of the events. RH promised to go through the current material and create a work plan for the project.

### **15. Miscancellous SOAC proposals**

Erik Blomgren pointed out that potential new WSOC disciplines after 2020 should first be tested in WCup.

Further, it was notified by Erik, that SOC and Athlete's Commission should communicate more actively.

## **NEXT MEETING**

### **16. Next meeting in Ylläs, Finland**

Next SOC meeting will be held in Ylläs, Finland in conjunction with WCup 2017 opening round.