

## Meeting Summary – Foot Orienteering Commission – Meeting 1–15

**Place:** Hotel NH Frankfurt Rhein Main, Germany

**Date:** Friday, 16 January 1400 CET – Saturday, 17 January 2300 CET

**Participants:**

Áron Less (AL)	Chairman
Göran Andersson (GA)	Member
Vincent Frey (VF)	Member
Kilian Imhof (KI)	Member
Helge Lang Pedersen (HLP)	Member
David May (DM)	Member – remotely through Skype
Janne Salmi (JS)	Member
Unni Strand Karlsen (USK)	Member
Blair Trewin (BT)	Member – remotely through Skype

**Invitations:**

Mike Dowling	IOF VP – FOC Council Contact – Item 8 in particular
Nik Suter	IOF Council Member – FOC Council Contact
David Rosen	Rules Commission Chairman – Item 15 Rules
Håkan Blomgren	IT Commission Chairman – Item 15 Punching System
Jørn Sundby	SEA WOC 2015-2018 – remotely through Skype

### OPENING

**1 Opening** AL

AL opened the meeting and especially welcomed the new Commission members.

**2 Follow up of Minutes FOC 5-14** AL

- #2 Follow-up of Minutes 4-14: it was noted that there was still no indication of who were SEAs on the IOF list of EAs. However, it was believed that a new office IT system was being introduced and that this might answer the question in the near future.
- #7 Major Event Evaluation Criteria was sent to other DC chairs.
- #7 Major Event Evaluation Criteria was published as part of the event requirement information for event bids.
- #9 World Cup: 2016 Sprint Relay World Cup during EOC is supported by the SEA. FOC to discuss as part of Agenda 10.
- #9 World Cup: Obtaining status reports permanently about high-level events. In progress.
- #10 JWOC: JWOC development project: not yet discussed by Council
- #11 WMOC: FOC proposes that the Latvian bid deadline is brought forward to end of

June 2015. [Followed up by AL & DM](#). See Agenda item 12.

- #14 Event Advising: SEA Guidelines have not been published on the IOF website
- #15 Rules: New rules are now published for 2015.

### TO NOTE DECISIONS / ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE FOC MEETING 5-14

- 3 SEAs** AL
- ESB approved the list FOC sent to them after FOC meeting 5-14. Appointment still pending from the IOF Office.
- 4 World Cup 2015 Special Rules** AL
- World Cup 2015 Special Rules were approved by ESB. Sprint Relay World Cup Special Rules were approved by Council.
- 5 World Cup 2016 dates** AL
- Dates for the Polish World Cup round in 2016 are changed to 30 April – 2 May.

### GENERAL BUSINESS MATTERS

- 6 FOC Remits and Working Procedures** AL
- Remits and Working Procedures to be discussed and approved.
- 7 FOC Responsibilities** AL
- Based on the Remits FOC discuss about responsibilities and decide that the following are the responsibilities for the next two years (the member in charge is marked with an asterisk\*):
- Focus on Key Outcomes – Strategic Planning: [AL\\*](#)
    - WOC and TWG: [AL\\*](#), [KI](#)
    - WCup (incl. EOC): [BT\\*](#), [JS](#)
    - WMOC: [DM\\*](#), [BT](#)
    - JWOC: [HLP\\*](#), [AL](#)
    - ROC (excl. EOC): [BT](#)
  - Focus on Key Outcomes – Rules: [USK\\*](#), [DM](#)
  - Focus on Key Outcomes – Event Quality and Advising: [USK\\*](#)
    - Event Advising: [USK\\*](#), [VF](#), [HLP](#)
    - Athlete’s Commission consultation: [KI](#)
    - Coaches Reference Group: [JS](#)
  - Increase the attractiveness of orienteering to young people – Youth Promotion: [VF\\*](#), [GA](#), [BT](#)
  - Strengthen the IOF position on the World Sporting Stage – Event Development: [GA\\*](#), [KI](#), [BT](#)
  - Increase the visibility of orienteering: [GA\\*](#)
    - Visibility of orienteering: [GA\\*](#), [JS](#)
    - WRE: [VF\\*](#), [DM](#)
  - Strong Management and Funding – Teamwork: [AL\\*](#)
    - Minutes: [HLP](#)

### FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – STRATEGIC PLANNING

- 8 IOF Competition Review Project** MD

Information from MD about how things are proceeding. Discussion.

9 **WOC**

AL

IOF Sports Director Björn Persson resigned from his position as of 31/12/2014. No new Sports Director was named, Jørn Sundby takes over as SEA for WOCs 2015-2018.

- WOC 2015, GBR: Status report. No new SEA Report available. Sprint qualification was moved one day ahead of the sprint final to enable the athletes enough rest. Rule deviation request concerning the use of SPORTident Air+ for the sprint relay and another request for a possible usage of 1.5 minute start intervals for the middle and 2 minute start intervals for the long distance event due to possible TV-coverage. Discussion.

FOC supports the request for WOC 2015 to apply SPORTident Air+. Furthermore FOC stresses towards ITC that it is of great importance to have the system formally approved as soon as possible.

FOC supports the request for WOC 2015 to have the choice between a 2 or 3 minute start interval in the long distance race, but only in case they secure live TV-production. The organisers should stay with the normal 3 minute start interval, if they can't secure a live TV-production for the long distance race.

FOC supports the request for WOC 2015 to use a 1.5 minute start interval.

- WOC 2016, SWE: Status report. New SEA Report available. Rule deviation request to lengthen the event by one day and thus move the sprint qualification one day ahead of the sprint final to enable the athletes enough rest. Discussion.

FOC decided to liaise with the coaches about whether a sprint programme with SQ and SF in one day and Sprint Relay on the following day is acceptable. The final decision is postponed until the coaches' point of view is known. JS to follow up.

- WOC 2017, EST: Status report. New SEA Report available. Dates are 1<sup>st</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> July – the WOC week is very early in the annual competition programme.
- WOC 2018, LAT: Status report. SEA to be officially notified by the IOF Office. Dates are 27 July – 5 August, which are being put forward to IOF Council.
- WOC 2019: No applications received. Discussion about how to proceed with the strategic planning concerning WOC applications.

The WOC application deadline was extended until June 30<sup>th</sup>.

FOC decided to prepare a questionnaire to all Federations on what IOF High Level Events they plan to apply for in the near future – with additional questions as to what possible obstacles they see if they are not interested. AL to prepare the questionnaire and prepare a report from the feedback by FOC meeting 3-15.

- Special Rules for WOC Qualification – “protected rankings”. Discussion. FOC supports the idea of protected ranking and sends a revised proposal for Council approval. AL to follow up.

**10 World Cup**

AL

- World Cup 2014: status report.
  - No new SEA Report available
- World Cup 2015: status report.
  - No new SEA Report available

Due to limited information received so far, FOC asks KI to follow up with the SEA for the Norwegian World Cup races.

FOC supports the proposal for the Swedish World Cup sprint race to combine the model event with the quarantine zone.

- World Cup 2016: status report
  - POL dates now changed to 30 April – 2 May (Sat – Mon)
  - CZE is proposing a new Sprint Relay World Cup event during EOC. SEA supports the proposal.

Regarding this Sprint Relay World Cup race, FOC can not accept using the rest day for another race. From experience, the programme will be too tough for both athletes and organisers. FOC will support the organisers if a programme can be made with both a rest day and a Sprint Relay World Cup event, and would also welcome the idea to include this extra race in the EOC programme. JS to follow up with the organisers.

- First draft of Special Rules to be prepared by FOC Meeting 3-2015.
- SEA report from CZE available.

- World Cup 2017: status report
  - Applications received from FIN and SUI. Programme for 2017 will be discussed in the light of the IOF Competition Review Project.

In light of the IOF Competition Project, FOC will seek clear advice from Council about the future of the World Cup before the 2017 World Cup applications can be handled. A decision should not be made later than FOC meeting 4-15 (at WOC 2015).

**11 JWOC**

AL

AL will coordinate JWOC 2015 and handed over all tasks for JWOC 2016 and onwards to HLP.

- JWOC 2015, NOR: status report, no new SEA Report available

The organiser intends to use EMIT Touch Free punching for the sprint event. FOC recognises that Emit Touch Free is approved for WREs, but not for IOF High Level Events. A rule deviation request should be prepared by the organisers. AL to follow up. Otherwise, preparations are on track.

- JWOC 2016, SUI: status report, no new SEA Report available. No comments. Everything is on track.
- JWOC 2017, FIN: status report. SEA to be officially notified by the IOF Office. Date to be put forward to IOF Council. No comments. Everything is on track
- JWOC 2018: No applications received. Application deadline extended until 15<sup>th</sup> March 2015.
- JWOC Development project: sent to Council after FOC Meeting 5-14. AL to follow-up. No information available yet.

## 12 WMOC

DM

- WMOC 2014 BRA: status report, new SEA Report available. FOC representative report available. WMOC survey report available.

This was a good World Masters, although the IOF had to bring in a lot of expertise to make it happen.

- WMOC 2015 SWE: status report, no new SEA Report available. Entries for Gothenburg seem to be way down on what is normally expected at this stage. The figures for mid-January 2015 showed 1768 Sprint entries and 1832 Long entries, i.e. about 1850 combined entry. By comparison, equivalent entries in previous years at the same stage have been 3110 (2008), 3300 (2007), 3185 (2010) and 3046 (2012). Based on these, final entries for WMOC 2015 are heading towards 2500, i.e. about the same as for the WMOC/WMG in Italy in 2013. A possible explanation can be that with the event being in a major Nordic city, people are less likely to travel with tour groups (who tend to get organised early) and more likely to travel independently.

These figures are still of much concern and it looks as if the event is paying the price of being sandwiched between O-Ringen and WOC/Scottish 6 Day.

The idea not to collect maps from the competitors in the qualification races is not supported by FOC.

- WMOC 2016 EST: status report, new SEA Report available. No further remarks.
- WMOC (WMG) 2017 NZL: status report, no new SEA Report available. Date to be put forward to IOF Council. Preliminary dates are 21-30 April. An assistant SEA should also be appointed. USK and DM to follow up.
- WMOC 2018 applications received. Information from DM. Shortlist.

Three applications from BUL, DEN & SVK. CRO announced a bid during the summer, but did not apply. FOC confirms that the Danish application only differs from the previous application by a new sprint area.

FOC recommends to shortlist Denmark and Slovakia and rule out Bulgaria due to inadequate forest terrain (too steep, too green, too stony). As Council agreed with this shortlist, FOC asks DM to assess DEN and SVK and make a report by FOC meeting 4-14. DM and the IOF Office to follow up.

- WMOC 2019 application process. Council minutes: "The final appointment of Latvia as organiser of the 2019 WMOC is still subject to receipt of an acceptable application by the application deadline." An evaluation visit is still necessary. DM & AL propose an earlier application deadline and evaluation.

FOC recommends to move the application deadline to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2015. [PMN: this is approved by Council]. DM to make an assessment visit and make a report by FOC meeting 4-14.

## 13 ROCs

BT

- Asian Orienteering Championships, 15-22 September 2014, Shchuchinsk of Akmola, Kazakhstan
- North American Orienteering Championships, 10-13 October 2014, Canada. SEA report available. Organiser's report available.
- Oceania Orienteering Championships, 2-11 January 2015, Tasmania, Australia
- European Orienteering Championships, 21-28 May 2016, Czech Republic

- North American Orienteering Championships, 23-25 September 2016, USA.
- Oceania Orienteering Championships 2017, New Zealand. It is likely that Oceania 2017 will take place in NZL over the Easter weekend (one week before WMOC). Concern was expressed over the capacity of NZL to organise two events of this size in rapid succession.

Regional Championships can be used as an excellent development tool in the future.

Oceania 2015 is recognised as a good event. Next ROC will be in 16 months. The new IOF Commission on Regional and Youth Development should work in this area. In this phase of development, official Regional Championships can not be held in Africa or in South America, as the sport is not practised on a high level in enough countries.

#### 14 The World Games

AL

It has now been confirmed that orienteering will be in the programme of the 2017 World Games in Wroclaw (POL). It is planned at this stage that the sprint will be held in the town centre, with the middle being a primarily forest race with an in-town finish. SEA is Daniel Leibundgut, who might need an Assistant. Jerzy Antonowicz is the technical delegate for TWG 2017 in orienteering.

The event dates have changed lately. The new dates are 20–30 July 2017 (previously decided dates were 3–13 August). The original dates were only communicated at the Competition Manager meeting held on 20–22 November, so the decision has been taken with very short notice. Fortunately this will not cause any timewise clash with WOC 2017.

Qualification rules for TWG 2017. To be approved by Council in August. Discussion.

AL and KI to prepare a draft for the qualification rules of TWG 2017 based on results from the Sprint Relay World Cup races in 2016 (best 2 of the races 1-3 to be included). Deadline is FOC Meeting 3-15.

### FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – RULES

#### 15 Rules

USK

- New rules for 2015 are now published. One major point is that a EUR 50 protest fee is introduced.
- Managing of late starts.

FOC supports the proposal from Rules Commission. FOC agrees that it can already be included in the WMOC guidelines as advice. DM to follow up.

- Rule deviation requests for WOC are received too frequently. It should be considered, whether the items considered should be merged into the rules instead.

Regarding rule 12.17, FOC proposes that these permanent rule deviation requests should be integrated into the rules: the WOC organiser can use a 2 or a 3 minute start interval for the long distance and a 1.5 or a 2 minute start interval for the middle distance. The shorter intervals are only allowable if this a requirement to secure full live TV-production from the respective event

- Discussion whether an organiser is obliged to read the SportIdent backup.

DR explained the issues with certain SI type-6 cards. No changes in the rules recommended.

- Request for provisional approval of the SFR punching system.

FOC supports a two year provisional approval for WRE's.

- Additional items raised by DR in the meeting
  - Do we want to give information about how far into the course, refreshment and coaching zones are placed. FOC finds the current information about where the refreshment stations should be placed in the course (Rule 19.8) sufficient.
  - FOC agrees to have templates for Bulletins and other central documents in the guidelines.
  - FOC agrees to add a bullet point for what punching system is to be used in Bulletin 2.

## FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – EVENT QUALITY AND ADVISING

### 16 Event Advising USK

Plan for EA Clinics:

- HLES in Tallinn (7-8 February 2015). FOC and EOF are the main organising bodies. [Proceeding according to plan.](#)
- EA Clinic in Prostějov, CZE (14-15 March 2015). Dusan Vystavel is the local contact with USK leading the Clinic. [AL to assist.](#)
- Possible other Clinics in 2015  
[USK suggests to hold an EA clinic in DEN or SWE.](#)
- Preliminary FOC extra meeting program during WOC 2015:
  - [Open FOC-meeting on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 17:00-19:00. Focus on Commission work. Target group: organisers, event advisers, coaches, other interested parties. AL& GA responsible for the organisation.](#)
  - [Seminar on middle and long distance competitions \(course setting\). Target group: course setters, event advisers, other interested parties. VF, HLP & USK responsible for the organisation.](#)

It is noted here, that the SEA Guidelines put through to the IOF Office are still not yet published.

SEAs are not indicated on the EA list (with an asterisk).

SEAs appointed by the ESB are still not officially informed by the IOF Office.

SEA appointments (NAOC 2016, etc.). [No formal proposals were made.](#)

### 17 Liaising with FootO Athletes Commission KI

William Lind is named the new FootO Athletes Commission Coordinator. [KI to liaise with Athlete's Commission.](#)

### 18 Coaches Reference Group JS

To ensure higher event quality (especially athlete representation) AL proposes to create a Coaches Working Group as an Advisory Group to FOC. A dedicated FOC member should select a group of 4-5 national team coaches whom he should liaise with about World Cup event dates, World Cup and WOC Special Rules and any other business.

[JS to form a group of 4-5 coaches and come back with the list by FOC Meeting 2-15.](#)

## YOUTH PROMOTION

**19 Youth Promotion** VF

Extended remit. Special tasks for 2015 are:

- to identify international youth games where orienteering may be included
- in cooperation with RYDC (Regional & Youth Development Commission) start to organise as soon as possible the academies in connection with WOC
- support RYDC and encourage IOF regions to conduct regional youth/junior competitions

**EVENT DEVELOPMENT**

**20 Prior Knowledge and Embargoes** BT

BT's discussion paper on prior knowledge and embargoes in the era of modern technology was published on the IOF website. **Due to a lack of answers from the competitors, discussion is postponed until FOC Meeting 2-15.**

**21 Guidelines** GA

Update & discussion:

- WOC Guidelines: Updating is needed with the new qualification formats and the introduction of the Sprint Relay. FOC currently has no capacity to make the updates and seeks help from the IOF Office. AL

- WCup Guidelines: David Rosen has reviewed the current WCup guidelines and stated that they are not ready for publishing.

- FOC decided that WOC and WCup Guidelines should be separate documents and that AL would find someone to update the WCup Guidelines. This has not happened. AL

**BT and JS is asked to establish a plan for updating the World Cup Guidelines. Discussion during FOC meeting 3-15.**

- JWOC Guidelines: New update March 2015. **AL to follow up.** BT/JS

- WMOC Guidelines: New update January 2015. AL

**Changes were agreed upon. FOC thanks DM for another stellar work. WMOC Guidelines to be published by the IOF Office asap – DM to follow up.** DM

- WRE Guidelines: David Rosen has updated these to include the mandatory use of Eventor. Still one item is pending: when classes different from the WRE class run the same course, is it possible for them to get WR points. This is not supported by Eventor. Discussion. VF

**The guidelines are adjusted and ready to be published. VF to follow up.** GA

- Sprint Relay Guidelines produced by GA. Discussion. **FOC recommends publishing the link: <http://np.netpublicator.com/netpublication/n52031639> GA to follow up.**

**VISIBILITY OF ORIENTEERING**

**22 Visibility of orienteering** AL

This is a new remit from Council.



**23 WRE VF**

From our Minutes 4-14: *“There will be a post-season review of the World Ranking. It is also expected that there will be a need for a detailed proposal on rebasing of points. BT will continue to liaise with Leho Haldna and the IOF Office on this.”*

Follow-up and other possible WRE matters.

**OTHER MATTERS**

**24 FOC representation in 2015 high level events AL**

Depends on the FOC budget. Information is not yet available.