

**Minutes of  
the XXII IOF Ordinary General Assembly  
held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2004  
at Västerås, Sweden**

1. Opening of the General Assembly

The President of the IOF, Sue Harvey, GBR, opened the XXII Ordinary General Assembly.

2. Roll call

The Secretary General called the roll of those present (see APPENDIX I).

3. Voting members present

The President announced that the number of voting members present at the time of the roll call was 34 full member federations, each having one non-transferable vote.

4. Presidium

Sue Harvey (President), Åke Jacobson, Hugh Cameron, and Edmond Szechenyi (Vice Presidents) were elected to constitute the presidium during the proceedings of the Ordinary General Assembly.

5. Minutes witnesses

John Brammall, AUS, and Tomas Bruce, SWE, were elected to certify the minutes of the meeting.

6. Election of tellers

Hans Breckle, GER, Birthe Helms, DEN, and Dmytro Miller, UKR, were elected tellers.

7. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved, with the following amendments:

Item 11:

Applications for full membership: addition of an application for full membership submitted by COL (11.3).

The application for associate membership from PUR (11.3) was renumbered to become 11.4.

8. Open sessions

It was agreed that the sessions should be open.

9. Approval of the minutes of the XXI Ordinary General Assembly held on 5 July 2002

The minutes of the previous Ordinary General Assembly, at the XXI IOF Congress in Fontainebleau, FRA, were approved as a true record of that meeting.

## 10. Council's report

The report on the activities of the IOF since the XXI Ordinary General Assembly (see the Biennial Report 2002-2004) was unanimously approved by the General Assembly.

## 11. Applications for membership

Applications for full membership had been received from Liechtenstein, Turkey and Colombia. The General Assembly approved the applications by acclamation.

COL thanked the General Assembly for having been granted full membership of the IOF.

An application for associate membership had been received from Puerto Rico. The General Assembly approved the application by acclamation.

The IOF now has 63 member countries.

## 12. Proposals to the XXII IOF Ordinary General Assembly

### A. Proposals from the Council

#### 12.1 Activity plan 2004-2006

Åke Jacobson presented Council's proposal for Activity plan 2004-2006. In so doing, he said that, in the past 10 years, the IOF membership has increased by 40 %. The level of development in the 63 member countries, however, differs a lot. One of the three main objectives for the forthcoming Congress period therefore is to strengthen the IOF and its members in order to better promote the sport. The other two objectives are to improve the total quality of major events, and to develop all the four disciplines.

The General Assembly adopted the Activity Plan for 2004-2006 by 33 votes in favour, none against, and no abstentions.

#### 12.2 Regional structure

Hugh Cameron presented Council's proposal to establish six IOF Regions, namely Africa, North America, South America, Asia, Europe, and Oceania.

AUS expressed its wish that a mechanism for possible future change to the regions be established, and proposed an addendum to Council's proposal, i.e. that "These regions may be reviewed by the General Assembly following a proposal from a member federation."

The chairman's proposal for the General Assembly to vote on the amendment was unanimously carried.

Put to the vote, the amended proposal was approved by 33 votes in favour, none against, and no abstentions.

#### 12.3 Future Elite Events Programme in Foot Orienteering

Jan-Erik Krusberg presented Council's proposal for the future Elite Events Programme in Foot Orienteering. He stated that the proposed programme was aimed

at providing space for development and increased mobility between the regions. In response to the discussion at the seminar held the preceding day, Council had decided to slightly amend its third proposal to read: "A series of events (e.g. Grand Prix events) are introduced making use of existing international events".

Following a lively discussion, the General Assembly voted separately on each of the proposals.

Council's proposal that a schedule of biennial Regional Elite Orienteering Championships (ROCs) is established was adopted by 29 votes in favour, 3 against, and no abstentions.

The proposal that the World Cup as it exists today is discontinued from the end of 2006 was approved by 33 votes in favour, 1 against, and no abstentions.

The amended proposal that a series of events (e.g. Grand Prix events) are introduced making use of existing international events was carried by 32 votes in favour, none against, and 1 abstention.

The proposal that Council is asked to finalise the revised world event programme in consultation with the federations in order to implement the new event programme in 2007 was carried by 33 votes in favour, none against and no abstentions.

## B. Proposals from Member Federations

At this stage, the ISR delegate joined the meeting and the BLR delegate presented written authorisation from the Belarus Orienteering Federation, the new number of voting members being 36.

### 12.4 Event fees

SVK presented the proposals asking that the practices related to the costs for participating in IOF events, and the IOF event sanction fee system be reassessed.

In commenting on behalf of the IOF Council, Edmond Szechenyi said that Council supports SVK's proposals. He stated that the practices suggested in SVK's proposals 1 and 2 have already been introduced in the new Competition Rules for Ski Orienteering Events and Council proposes that the competition rules for the other disciplines be amended accordingly. The Council also agrees that the IOF sanction fees shall respect the specifics of each event and that they shall be kept as low as possible. It is, however, essential that Council has the right to determine the fees.

In reply to a question from the floor, Edmond Szechenyi stated that the Council would not make any retroactive decisions regarding the sanction fees.

SVK withdrew its proposals 1 and 2.

The General Assembly unanimously approved the proposal that the sanction fees for IOF events shall respect the specifics of each event, and that the fees should be kept as low as possible.

### 12.5 Changing the WOC concept

RUS presented its proposal for a new WOC concept, comprising team championships and individual championships.

Leho Haldna presented Council's view on the RUS motion. In so doing, he said that the format of the championships had recently been changed and the effects of these changes have yet to be seen. For this reason, the Council is not in favour of the proposal to change the programme at this stage.

Vote: 8 yes, 21 no, with 5 abstentions. The motion to change the WOC concept was not carried.

#### 12.6 Changing the JWOC programme

RUS presented its proposal to add a sprint event to the JWOC programme in foot orienteering and ski orienteering.

Marcel Schiess, commenting on behalf of Council, said that the Council is in support of the proposal. Already appointed JWOC organisers are being approached in order to find out their readiness to include a sprint event in the programme.

Vote: 31 in favour, none against, and 3 abstentions. The motion was carried.

#### 12.7 Participation in the World Games in 2005

RSA introduced the proposal expressing concern that the 2005 World Games orienteering event will not have world-wide representation. Acknowledging the time frame RSA, however, expressed its wish to amend the proposal to concern participation in the 2009 World Games instead of the 2005 edition.

Marcel Schiess commented that the qualification criteria for 2005 had been published in August 2003 and that they can no longer be changed. Although some vacant places still remain to be allocated, these will mainly be used to fill up relay teams. The Council, however, agrees that the possibility of continental allocations in the 2009 World Games qualification system be studied.

The General Assembly unanimously approved the amended proposal.

#### 12.8 Sanction fees for World Ranking Events

CZE presented its proposal not to introduce sanction fees for World Ranking events.

Edmond Szechenyi commented on the proposal saying that the Council agrees that the fees should be kept as low as possible. He stated that the fee to be paid for World Ranking events is very small, and it is meant to cover part of the costs incurred for the maintenance of the World Ranking system.

Vote: 12 yes, 18 no, and 4 abstentions. The motion was not carried.

#### 12.9 WOC relay teams

In presenting its proposal to revert to the previous relay format with teams of four competitors, CZE stated that, in their opinion, it would improve the fairness of the event.

Edmond Szechenyi commented that the decision that World Championship relay events would be for teams of three had been made in 2001. This decision had so far been implemented only once and Council is therefore not in support of a change.

Vote: 8 in favour, 25 against, and 2 abstentions. The proposal was not carried.

## 12.10 Scheduling of major IOF events

CZE presented its proposal not to organise any major IOF events in September, but to allow the member countries to organise their national championships and other important national level events in this period.

Edmond Szechenyi commented that the Council is not in favour of excluding any calendar periods for the organisation of major IOF events. Orienteering is practised world-wide and the event calendar differs in response to seasonal and climatic conditions.

By voting 4 in favour, 25 against and 2 abstentions, the motion to exclude September for the organisation of major IOF events was not carried.

## 13. International Championships and other IOF Events, appointment of organisers

Foot orienteering:

### 13.1 WOC 2008

Three applications to host the World Orienteering Championships in the year 2008 had been submitted, namely by CZE, FRA, and HUN.

A secret ballot was proposed and approved.

The representatives of the three applicants having made their presentations, Åke Jacobson advised the General Assembly of Council's view that all the three candidates would be able to organise a fair championship. The Council would, however, wish to further discuss the proposed event concept with the appointed organisers.

The chairman having explained the voting procedure, the vote was taken.

Vote: CZE 14 votes, HUN 8 votes, and FRA 12 votes.

As no candidate had received the required simple majority (more than 50 % of the votes expressed), a second round was needed. The candidate with the least votes, i.e. HUN, was excluded from this round.

Vote: CZE 21 votes, and FRA 14 votes.

CZE having received the required majority, the General Assembly appointed CZE organiser of the 2008 World Orienteering Championships.

CZE thanked the General Assembly delegates for their support and wished everybody welcome to the 2008 WOC.

### 13.2 WOC 2009

CZE having formally withdrawn its application, a vote was taken between HUN and FRA, the remaining two candidates to host the World Orienteering Championships in the year 2009.

Vote: HUN 21 votes, and FRA 14 votes.

The General Assembly appointed HUN organiser of the 2009 WOC.

## MTB orienteering

### 13.3 MTB-WOC 2008

Edmond Szechenyi informed the General Assembly delegates that no valid applications to organise the 2008 World MTB Orienteering Championships had been received. Therefore, he asked the General Assembly to authorise Council to appoint the organiser.

The General Assembly unanimously approved the proposal.

### 13.4 MTB-WOC 2009

Edmond Szechenyi advised the delegates that no applications to organise the 2009 MTB-WOC had been received and, accordingly, asked the General Assembly to give Council the mandate to appoint the organiser.

The General Assembly approved Council's proposal.

## Ski orienteering:

### 13.5 Ski-WOC 2007

One application, namely from RUS, to organise the 2007 World Ski Orienteering Championships had been received.

The General Assembly appointed RUS organiser of the 2007 Ski-WOC by acclamation.

### 13.6 Ski-WOC 2009

No application to organise the 2009 World Ski Orienteering Championships had been received, and Council therefore asked the General Assembly for authority to appoint the organiser.

The General Assembly unanimously approved the proposal.

## Trail orienteering:

### 13.7 Trail-WOC 2008

CZE, the appointed organiser of the 2008 World Orienteering Championships, reconfirmed its willingness to host the World Trail Orienteering Championships in conjunction with the WOC.

The General Assembly appointed CZE organiser of the 2008 Trail-WOC.

### 13.8 Trail-WOC 2009

HUN, organiser of the 2009 WOC, confirmed its willingness to host the 2009 Trail-WOC in conjunction with the WOC.

The General Assembly appointed HUN organiser of the 2009 Trail-WOC.

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At this stage, the IOF President Sue Harvey invited Mr. Henri Serandour, IOC Member and President of the French Olympic Committee, to address the General Assembly.

Mr. Serandour congratulated the newly appointed WOC organisers and stated that FRA will certainly reapply at a future Congress.

Mr. Serandour said that the International Olympic Committee is very keen on environmental issues and, being a nature sport, orienteering can assist with the development world-wide. He encouraged the participants to keep the spirit as he had experienced it during this congress, saying that it is the spirit of the Olympic Movement. Acknowledging that sponsor money is needed for the development of any sport, he stressed the necessity of staying masters of the game. Mr. Serandour concluded by thanking for the opportunity to address the IOF General Assembly and by wishing everybody well.

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#### 14. The 2006 IOF Congress and Ordinary General Assembly

One application, from DEN, had been received.

The General Assembly appointed, by acclamation, DEN organiser of the 2006 IOF Congress and XXIII Ordinary General Assembly. The Congress will be held in the first week of August 2006 in conjunction with the World Orienteering Championships at Aarhus, Denmark.

#### 15. Auditors' report, approval of accounts and discharge of the Council

Sue Harvey advised the delegates that Agneta Erfors, SWE, who had been appointed auditor at the 2002 General Assembly, had been unable to carry out the task and replaced by Lars-Erik Engberg, SWE.

The General Assembly unanimously approved the Auditors' reports and the accounts for the two fiscal years 2002 and 2003, and discharged the members of the Council from liability for the period concerned.

#### 16. Membership fees and budget for 2005-2006

Council's Finance Officer Edmond Szechenyi presented the proposal for membership fees and the budget for the calendar years 2005 and 2006. In so doing he noted, with satisfaction, that some member federations had indicated their willingness to assist with funding of development projects. He said that Council does not, however, want to propose any change to the membership fees. Instead, Council intends to prepare a plan for the realisation of development projects which the IOF cannot finance otherwise. The federations will then be asked to contribute to the implementation of these projects.

The General Assembly unanimously approved Council's proposal for membership fees (see APPENDIX II) and the budget for the coming two calendar years (see APPENDIX III).

#### 17. Any other business

None.

## 18. Election of the IOF Council

The following Council was elected for the Congress period 2004-2006:

President:                   Åke Jacobson SWE                   by acclamation

Åke Jacobson thanked the delegates for showing confidence in him. He stated that, in his future work for the benefit of orienteering, he will be directed by the activity plan. He aims to ensure that the IOF continues to respond to the needs of its members, that orienteering is developed in all parts of the world, and that the athletes are provided with high quality events.

Three Vice Presidents were elected by a secret ballot, among the four candidates nominated.

Result of the vote:

Edmond Szechenyi FRA	31 votes	elected
Marcel Schiess SUI	27 votes	elected
Hugh Cameron AUS	25 votes	elected
Jan-Erik Krusberg	22 votes	

Five members were elected by a secret ballot, among the seven candidates nominated.

Result of the vote:

Shin Murakoshi JPN	33 votes	elected
Leho Haldna EST	30 votes	elected
Iordanka Melnikliyska BUL	26 votes	elected
Brian Porteous GBR	26 votes	elected
Jan-Erik Krusberg FIN	22 votes	elected
Alexey Kuzmin RUS	18 votes	
Iain Rochford IRL	15 votes	

## 19. Appointment of auditors for 2004 and 2005

Mr. Seppo Tervo, Finland, and Mr. Finn Hother Madsen, Denmark, were appointed auditors, and Ms. Tiina Nummelin, Pricewaterhouse Coopers Ltd., Finland, substitute auditor for the fiscal years 2004 and 2005.

## 20. Awards of Honour

Vice President Hugh Cameron proposed to the General Assembly that Sue Harvey be appointed Honorary President for life. The General Assembly approved the proposal by acclamation.

Åke Jacobson presented the IOF gold pin No. 1 to Sue Harvey. The IOF silver pin was awarded posthumously to Hans Steinegger in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the development of orienteering worldwide. The IOF bronze pin was awarded to Roger Aerts, Colin Palmer and Knud Vogelius.



Sue Harvey thanked the delegates saying that she was extremely honoured by the awards. She said that the past ten years as the IOF President had been both rewarding and challenging and that, if anything had been achieved during her presidency, it was because of the team. Finally, she said that it had been a pleasure for her to work for the IOF and thanked everybody for their co-operation and friendship.

## 21. Closure

Sue Harvey extended thanks to all the General Assembly participants, in particular the tellers. She also thanked the Senior Vice President, the Vice Presidents and the Council members, all the members of the IOF commissions and the IOF Secretariat for their work.

Finally, Sue Harvey formally closed the XXII IOF Ordinary General Assembly and declared the new Congress period open.

Sue Harvey  
President

Barbro Rönnerberg  
Secretary General

Minutes verified by:



John Brammall

Tomas Bruce