

Summary of the Minutes

**Foot O Commission 2-11, Royal Holloway College near Heathrow (UK)
Saturday, 16 April 2011, 09.00 – 17.00**

WOC 2011 FRA status report:

To cope with the problems in map making, IOF contracted P.O. Derebrand (SWE) to work with Marian Cotirta. This cooperation should now make sure that the maps are drafted to the required scale and still be readable. Course setting is on its way.

There are financial constraints of the organiser with strong impact on TV production and GPS.

A project securing financial contributions to low income IOF members for travel and entry fees is on its way.

WOC 2012 SUI status report:

Preparations are on track.

WOC 2013 FIN status report.

Preparations are on track.

WOC 2014 ITA status report:

Preparations should start now.

WOC 2015:

There are applications from GBR and SWE. We shall have discussions by e-mail with respect to the evaluation report produced in the coming weeks in order to be in time for expressing our opinion before the decision is taken in Council.

IOF project WOC in the future (WIF)

FOC was asked to start a project to test the prologue and chase start set-up in Middle distance World Cup events. It is planned that (if chase start is agreed) this type of event will be part of WOC 2014 in Italy.

Looking at the programme of World Cup such races might be accommodated in the NZL round in World Cup 2013, and in NORT 2013 or 2014. It does not seem reasonable to include it into the 2012 programme.

With respect to the WIF proposal from the IOF project group, FOC reiterates that each IOF member federation should have one start place in the Long distance. Although this means that in the Long distance event the time span between the first and last start will be 4-5 hours, FOC believes that this is acceptable. Forming a "red start group" should make sure equal conditions for the top runners and a reasonable time span for TV coverage.

FOC also confirms its earlier statement that qualification (number of slots per federation) should be based on the World Ranking List and not on the performance in the WOC of the previous year (or several previous years). Qualification based on WRL is fair in that it allows "new" federations to get slots if their runners improve substantially, although they did not have a chance to compete in a previous WOC. Qualification based on WOC only tends to result in a static system where it is difficult for new federations to come in. The Regional Championships (held only every two years) are not very suitable to provide a basis for qualifications in the next WOC, and reserving slots for non-European competitors may turn out to be complicated and, in some instances, unfair.

The World Ranking List will be changed by removing the extra weight for WOC, World Games and World Cup, see below.

World Cup 2011

Everything is set up properly.

World Cup 2012

France withdrew its races from the World Cup programme. This is much regretted, but cannot be changed. It is too late to have an alternative set up.
The NORT programme is still not finalized.

World Cup 2013: status of planning

The provisional programme (published already in January) comprises
7.-12.1.2013 Oceanian OC, New Zealand (Middle, Sprint, Middle)
4.-12.5.2013 (date tentative) NORT, Finland/Sweden/Norway
8.-12.7.2012 WOC, Finland (Sprint, Long, Middle)
5.-6.10.2013 PostFinance, Switzerland (Middle, Sprint as World Cup Final)

World Cup 2014

Applications were received from Turkey (22.2., Middle, in conjunction with Antalya 4 days), Spain (Long and Middle near Murcia in March/April, NORT (SWE, NOR, FIN, 4-6 races in early May), WOC in Italy, and Switzerland (4.10. Middle, 5.10. Sprint as World Cup Final, near Zürich). An organiser for EOC has not yet been found.

The programme will be finalized at our next meeting 3-11 in August.

JWOC 2011 POL: status report

Preparations are on track. Bulletin 3 will be published in May.

JWOC 2012 SVK: status report

Preparations are on track. Mapping is moving forward. Accommodation (Hotel standard A and Student's Hostel standard B/C) will be close to each other in the city centre.

JWOC 2013 CZE: status report

The contact with the SEA was established, and an SEA visit is planned for June.

JWOC 2014

There is only one candidate (Bulgaria. ski resort Borovetz, 70 km from Sofia). FOC agrees to propose Bulgaria to Council for decision in August. The SEA will have to work particularly on choice of accommodation, terrain and maps.

JWOC guidelines

Julie and Ronan Cleary have agreed to draft these guidelines, but only after the JK Trophy (Easter).

WMOC 2011 HUN: status report

Preparations are on track. All public events will start after the WMOC races, as required. The number of registrations so far are disappointingly low. FOC feels that this may be partly due to the website, which is not very clear and makes registration difficult.

WMOC 2012 GER: status report

Next SEA visit is planned for May/June.

WMG/WMOC 2013 ITA: status report

Finally it was decided that WMG will take place in Torino as planned. This means that the WMOC will also be located in this area. It will take some time before the Organising Committee will be fully operational.

WMOC 2014

Applications arrived from Brazil, China, Czech Republic and Latvia. FOC discussed the bids extensively and proposes a shortlist to Council for decision at its May meeting. Evaluations on site of the shortlisted applications will be conducted in the coming weeks so that FOC can make a proposal to Council in August.

Regional Championships:

No further information.

World Games 2013

No further information.

WREs

There are 79 confirmed WR events in 2011 excluding World Cup and WOC. The forms for 2012 and 2013 have been sent out.

FOC decided that the weightings currently applied to World Rankings points at World Cup, World Games and World Championships should be removed completely. FOC proposes that this be done with effect from 1st January 2012.

The reasoning behind this includes the following points

- The weighting factors of 1.05 and 1.10 are arbitrary and cannot be logically justified.
- Good (largely European) runners know they currently get their best points from WCup/WOC races (because of the weighting) so there is little incentive to run well at, or even enter WREs.
- If a country has, say, 6 runners who regularly compete at WCup/WOC, then they all benefit from weighted points at the expense of the number 7 runner. There is then an artificially wide gap between the 6th and 7th runner in that country in the World Rankings which does not correctly reflect his/her standing.
- Good runners who, for geographic reasons compete rarely (if at all) at WCup/WOC races, have little chance of high World Rankings places as they receive little or no "boost" from the weightings.

FOC believes that it is much fairer that every race contributes equally to the World Rankings so that all runners, wherever they come from, have the same chance of acquiring high points for a good run.

SEA selection and training

The High Level Event Adviser Seminar was held on 5.-6.2.2011 in Prague. Speakers were Karel Jonak (CZE TV), Radek Novotny (discussing course setting taking the example of the Granåsen arena), and Björn Persson. There were 26 participants from 11 countries.

An EA clinic was held in TUR (Antalya, 22./23.3.2011),

Further EA clinics are planned during World Masters (HUN) 4.7.2011 and during O Ringen (SWE) 26.7.2011. They will be managed by David Rosen.

Guideline course setting

Göran Andersson has started to collect information from different sources. Existing national guidelines for course setting have a different goal in that they are explaining basic principles.

An IOF course setting guidelines should start from the information in the appendices to the FootO rules. Special weight should be put on questions of TV requirements and arena set-up. The first draft should be prepared such that it is ready to be used in the HLES in 2012.

AOB

FOC has had good experience with the software GoToMeeting, where not only can voice contact be made with remote members, but participants' screens can be shared too. FOC suggests that IOF buys a licence so that the commissions (and Council?) can make use of this software for their meetings, if the members cannot all be present at the meeting site.

Next meetings

3-11 Sunday/Monday 14/15 and Friday 19 August during the WOC week

4-11 Saturday 24 September (evening) and Sunday 25 September (afternoon), Liberec (CZE) in conjunction with the World Cup.