

## Minutes of Athletes' Commission - SkiO meeting 2/2014

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DATE	9 <sup>th</sup> March 2014	
PLACE	Pearl of Siberia, Tyumen, Russia	
PRESENT	Hans Jørgen Kvåle (HK)	NOR, coordinator, note taker of minutes
	Klaus Csucs (KC)	ROU
	Tatiana Rvacheca (TR)	RUS
	Christian Spoerry (CR)	SUI
	Staffan Tunis (ST)	FIN
ABSENT	Alison Crocker (ALC)	USA
	Olga Novikova (ON)	KAZ

### 1. Opening

HK opened the meeting and present the agenda. A special thought was sent to our fellow Ski Orienteer, Arsen Zhuravel UKR that not could take part at this event in Russia due to the situation in Ukraine.

HK also thanked the Russian organisers for holding this event at such a high level and hoped this would set the standard for coming SkiO Championships.

### 2. Input from SkiO Commission

HK had quickly visited the SOC in their meeting in Siberia the day prior to the AC meeting. In addition to our topics they wanted feedback on what we think of the forking formats used in SkiO today. HK also raised a question about the recruitment of members in the AC after some small comments from one of the team leaders. The SkiO Commission and represented Council members answered that they would not put any criteria on the Athletes Commission and that we were free to decide how we wanted to do this. For them it is better having a well working AC than a political correct and non-working one.

ACs answer to SOC is that we find the current practise of forking used in SkiO mass-starts for the men works well. The normal practice is three forked rounds with a common last part (according to the Mass-start guidelines in the Ski Orienteering Rules). We do not see any needs for changes to this practice, which both give the athletes individual navigation challenges at the same time as we have the head to head racing. For the women we often find it inadequate with only two forked laps before the common part.

About the recruitment of AC members we also find it most important to have a practical and well working commission where all are burning for fairness and development of the sport. We will try to publish some kind of “criteria’s” which we will look for when there are changes to the AC members

### 3. Athletes and nations development

#### 3.1. IOF Ski Orienteering Academy

HK presented that the first the Ski Orienteering Academy had been successfully held in Turkey with 121 participants from 10 countries. We would like to thank the Turkish organisers for their cooperation.

The next academy will be tried to held during Military World Championships in Finland. Here appr. 50 participants are expected.

If this project is going to be continued there should be prepared some materials that could be handed out. For example by folder of a simplification of the Ski Orienteering training handbook that could be handed out to the participant. Also having diplomas for the participants would be an idea.

#### 3.2. Low cost possibilities at events

Nothing to report. KC will continue to work on this for the major competitions next season.

#### 3.3. Eastern Europe

Nothing to report

#### 3.4. Middle Europe

CS brought the a question from the Ski-O Tour organisers what we thought of a compact Ski-O Tour in the south Austria/northern Italy with only 4 competitions. AC where positive to this and hoped that many athletes would take part.

France were supposed to have taken part at the ESOC in Russia, but due to Visa trouble they could not take part.

#### 3.5. Baltic

ST could gladly report that all the Baltic countries were represented at ESOC and that these countries were more active than the last years. To continue their development it is important that their top athletes are inspired to continue and develop, for example by being invited to training camps with other nations.

#### 3.6. Asia, Russia and parts of Eastern Europe

Nothing to report

#### 3.7. North and South America

Nothing to report

## 4. Event Development

### 4.1. Event evaluation

HK informed the event evaluations from the World Cup round in Norway and Sweden. There were a negative trend of having less answers on the form and some of the responders answered they found the form taking too long time to answer. For next season the form should be remade to make it less time consuming for the responders.

### 4.2 Charter for event organisers

HK asked the commission how we can make the quality of the major SkiO competitions reach minimum standards expected without and at the same time making the organisation of and event less complicated. HK asked what AC thought of creating a "Charter for event organisers", almost as a checklist of what need to be done, checked of known by the organisers at certain times. HK showed a sample of how a charter taken from cross country skiing adapted to Ski Orienteering could look like. The charter could be made in to sections so the personal with different responsibilities only would have to read their section.

The question came up if this would make it easier for the organisers or just for them feel like bigger demands. AC where neither sure if the IOF already had such a "checklist". HK would check out the details with the IOF and discuss with experiences EAs if this could improve the quality of the major events. If such a charter were found beneficial HK will together with experiences EA come up with a proposal for a charter.

## 5. Rules and guidelines

HK presented a proposals for changes in the competition rules, special rules, world ranking, sanction fees and the mapping standards as the AC had discussed in earlier meeting and via email through the winter. Smaller changes were applied. HK will make the changes to the proposals and follow them up with the SOC

## 6. Anti-Doping matters

ST informed he have now got access to ADAMs and is on the email list from WADA even though he is no l longer in the ADAMs reporting system. He can therefor now follow the development and report if there is anything the AC should be aware of.

It was noted that during the WSOC there had been conducted AD tests in both the men's and women's classes. It was also noted the IOF Anti Doping responsible was present at the event, making it very obvious there would be tests as there normally will be conducted tests when this person is present.

It was raised a question about the routines for eating and drinking at AD tests. The AC members could report quite a wide range of different experiences on the procedures AD controllers apply. No one in the commission could say what was the correct procedure, but that this should be followed up.

## 7. Communication

### 7.1. Social medias

HK informed about the activity on the AC accounts on Facebook and Twitter.

### 7.2. Ski Orienteering Awards

AC decided for nominees and winners of the Ski Orienteering Awards

### 7.3. SkiO Dream Team Competition

HK informed about quite a good response to the SkiO Dream Team Competition. This is something that should be continued at the World Champs next season.

## 8. Future AC meetings

- Preferably in December 2014 or at the European Champs in Switzerland 2015.

Work to have accomplished by this meeting:

- Get better contact with the countries in your responsibility region. Find out how we can support them to increase the SkiO activity in their country and get them more active at international events– All
- Event evaluation for ESOC and World Cup Final- HK
- Prepare proposals for rule changes and a organising chart and work with SOC on these matters– HK
- Communication – HK
  - Continue spreading information on Facebook and Twitter
- Prepare next meeting - HK