

**Minutes of
COUNCIL MEETING No. 174**

Place Istanbul, Turkey

Date 10-11 April 2015

Participants	Brian Porteous (BWP)	President	
	Leho Haldna (LH)	Senior Vice President	
	Michael Dowling (MD)	Vice President	
	Astrid Waaler Kaas (AWK)	Vice President	
	Owe Fredholm (OF)	Member	
	Tatiana Kalenderoglu (TK)	Member	
	Mikko Salonen (MS)	Member	
	Niklaus Suter (NS)	Member	(10 April)
	Maria Silvia Viti (MSV)	Member	
	Dominic Yue (DY)	Member	
	Laszlo Zentai (LZ)	Member	
	Tom Hollowell (TH)	Secretary General/CEO	
	Anna Jacobson (AJ)	Assistant Secretary General	(10 April)
	Riikka Tolkki (RT)	Sports Administrator	(10 April)

1 Opening

President Brian Porteous welcomed the members to Istanbul and declared the meeting opened.

2 Approval of the agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of item 5.4, correspondence from an organisation in India seeking contact and the support of the IOF.

3 Approval of previous minutes

The Council unanimously approved the minutes of Council Meeting 173 in Frankfurt, Germany as true records of that meeting.

BWP clarified the footnote in the previous minutes related to item 5.2, correspondence from FISU, where a procedural change was made related to the nomination of FISU TDs.

TH reported to Council that a request for nominations for new members in the RYDC and EnvC had been sent out to member federations in accordance with item 11.4 in the previous minutes. There had unfortunately been no responses relative to the EnvC. Council decided that a new request should be made specifically targeting federations where we know that activities in this area are being conducted to see if a networking approach can be utilized for the Commission's work.

TH reported that item 25.5 in the previous minutes related to the contract for the MTBO World Cup round 1 in Hungary had been resolved. The contract for the event was now signed.

4 To note decisions taken by e-mail since Council meeting No. 173

4.1 Decisions taken by Council

No decisions made between the meetings

4.2 Decisions taken by the ESB

26 February 2015: The ESB unanimously approved* the TOC's proposals:

- a. To appoint Lars Jakob Waaler (NOR) Senior Event Adviser and John Kewley (GBR) Assistant Senior Event Adviser for the 2016 European Trail Orienteering Championships in the Czech Republic.
- b. To appoint Ola Wiksell (SWE) Senior Event Adviser and Kyllikki Antilla (FIN) Assistant Senior Event Adviser for the 2017 World Trail Orienteering Championships in Lithuania.

*Note that these 2 approvals are contingent upon the TOC operating within the budgeted amount for TrailO Event Advising for 2015 and 2016.

26 February 2015: The ESB unanimously approved the SOC's proposal to appoint Juraj Nemec (SVK) IOF Technical Delegate (TD) for the inaugural World University Championships in SkiO in Tula, Russia, in 2016. This appointment will be communicated to FISU.

26 February 2015: The ESB unanimously confirmed the recommendations made by the IOF Office related to FISUs request for letters of support for FISU TD applicants. Letters of support have been sent for Ola Kåberg (SWE) and Juraj Petrinc (SVK) as FootO TD, and for Juraj Nemec (SVK) and Valentin Garkov (BUL) as SkiO TD. Note: In addition a letter of support has been sent for Shin Murakoshi (JAP) in accordance with the decision made at the Council meeting 173.

26 February 2015: The ESB unanimously approved the FOC's proposal to appoint Stefan Bergström (CAN) Senior Event Adviser for the 2016 North American Orienteering Championships in the USA.

26 February 2015: The ESB unanimously approved the FOC's proposal for Special Rules for Qualification and Starting Order at the World Orienteering Championships Long and Middle Distance Competitions, valid from 01 March 2015.

2 March 2015: By voting 3 in favour, 1 against the ESB approved the Rules Deviation Request from the organizers of WMOC 2015 related to the collecting of maps. The Event SEA was strongly in favour of this request while the recommendation of the FOC was to reject the proposal.

17 March 2015: The ESB unanimously approved the MTBOC's proposal for Special Rules for the MTBO World Cup 2016.

17 March 2015: The ESB unanimously approved the MTBOC's proposal to appoint Magnus Wallenborg (SWE) Senior Event Adviser for the 2016 World Cup Round to be held in France.

17 March 2015: The ESB unanimously approved the MTBOC's proposal to appoint Ludomir Parfianowicz (POL) Senior Event Adviser for the 2016 World Cup Round and WMMTBOC to be held in Lithuania.

17 March 2015: The ESB unanimously approved the MTBOC's proposal to appoint Ursula Häusermann (SUI) Senior Event Adviser for the 2017 WMTBOC and JWMTBOC to be held in Lithuania.

5 Correspondence

5.1 FFCO – Protection of IOF ISOM mapping standard

TH informed Council about correspondence between FFCO and the IOF Office where they desired to apply for intellectual property protection for the IOF mapping standards in France. After consultation with the Mapping Commission and some Council members encouragement was given for the FFCO to seek this protection as a member federation of the IOF, given that they only apply for protection in France and that this does not impede other IOF activities.

5.2 International University Sports Federation (FISU)

TH presented reports from FISU and the SkiO Commission related to the first technical meetings which had been held for the 1st World University Championships 2017 (WUC) in SkiO in Tula, Russia and for the Universiade 2019 in Krasnoyarsk, Russia. The reports were positive and the IOF involvement was appreciated.

5.3 IOC – Announcement of the 2015 IF Development Programme

TH informed Council about the application process for the IOCs IF development programme. Applications need to be submitted by July 15th 2015.

5.4 Letter from India, Mr Iqbal Mohammad

BWP informed Council about correspondence with Mr Mohammad, representing a group in India who wishes to establish an orienteering federation in India and become a member of the IOF. The IOF currently has India as a provisional member through another organisation however there is some doubt as to whether there is activity going on within India. The Council decided to ask the IOF Office to further investigate the status of the current member organisation in India, and also to ask this new group to provide more information about their activities in India so as to judge the seriousness of their request.

6 Membership applications

No new applications.

DY/TH reported that there are positive developments in Singapore where there is an active organisation which has now received approval of the national registry for non-profit organisations which should allow for a membership application to the IOF. They have requested assistance with mapping and resources from Hong Kong are involved.

7 President's report

BWP reported that most matters would be tabled under the respective items in the agenda, however he did wish to report on a few items at the start of the meeting.

BWP reported from his attendance at the ESOC in Switzerland in January and wished to extend a thank you to the Swiss organizers for an exciting event with a good presentation of our sport. He noted that invitations had been sent to a number of dignitaries from IOC and other bodies and that this should be pursued also for the upcoming WOC in Scotland.

BWP reported that the Presidents Working Group (PWG) had now started to hold regularly scheduled meetings prior to each Council meeting to prepare the agenda for the upcoming meeting and address any staffing issues.

Finally BWP reported briefly about the upcoming SportAccord conference and some of the targets to be achieved at the event in terms of establishing and maintaining contacts with other sports bodies.

COUNCIL WORKING PRACTICES

8 Implementation of the Activity Plan 2014–2016

No update of the assessment of the activity plan had been done for this meeting and this was tabled until the August meeting when a mid-term review would be presented by the CEO.

9 WOC 2015 week program

Council reviewed the current plan for meetings in connection with the WOC week in Inverness. The IOF Office was requested to make several changes in the program and to liaise with the organizers in Scotland about meeting facilities and transport during the week.

10 Finance

10.1 End-of-year 2014 financial report and Auditor's Report

The Council reviewed and approved the end-of-year 2014 Balance Sheet and the Income and Expenditure Account. The final accounts show a surplus of 47 302 EUR approximately 10 000 EUR better than the budget for the year.

In reviewing the accounts Council wished to note several items:

- The TV project result had been significantly improved from the first projections and Council wished to sincerely thank the member federations in Finland, Norway, and Sweden for their positive cooperation in making the TV broadcasts from WOC in Italy successful.
- The budget for Event Advising needs to be further reviewed to balance the financial commitments with the need for a high level of quality control for our major events.

Council noted that the situation with overdue payments from member federations had improved. However, it noted also that payment of the sanction fee for WMOC 2014 had still not been received from Brazil. Council discussed which actions had been taken so far and what further actions should be initiated. The IOF Office was asked to once again contact the Brazilian federation and agree a timeline for payment of all outstanding fees. If a timeline could not be agreed within 60 days, or was not upheld, Council agreed that a suspension of all membership rights would come in effect, including participation at WOC and other IOF activities.

10.2 Budget 2015 review

TH presented an updated Income & Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet for the period January – March 2015, as well as an updated budget forecast for 2015. Items to be noted were that the income forecast for WMOC 2015 had been reduced due to somewhat lower than expected entry numbers at WMOC, and that expenditures were increased primarily due to one-time staff costs in the first quarter of 2015 due to the transition of Secretary Generals.

10.3 Sponsorship issues

TH reported that a price schedule was being set for advertising spots in IOF Eventor and LiveCenter and would be offered to potential sponsors.

TH reported that contact has been made with Nokian Tyres related to the delivery of the agreement with them.

11 IOF structure

11.1 IOF Office and staff – organisation plan

TH presented detailed proposals for restructuring of the IOF professional organisation to improve the effectiveness of the organisation and address a number of forward-looking needs. Council discussed the proposal and agreed a number of adjustments to it. Because of the personnel implications of the decisions taken, it was agreed that the detailed decisions under this item should be maintained as a confidential annex to the minutes.

11.2 Regional and Youth Development Commission - membership

Council approved the following members as presented by AWK:

Astrid Waaler Kaas NOR (chair 2015) with support confirmed by NOR
 Walther Rahbek, DEN (chair 2016) confirmed by DEN
 Jaroslav Kacmarcik, CZE confirmed by CZE
 Tomas Yngström/Malin Yngström, SWE confirmed by SWE
 Vladimir Gorin, RUS confirmed by RUS
 Nermin Fenmen, TUR confirmed by TUR
 Patrick Kunz, SUI contingent upon the confirmation by SUI

It was noted that it would be desirable to have a member in the commission from Asia. AWK and DY would discuss potential candidates from the region.

11.3 Regional Working Groups, discussion of roles/responsibilities

AWK presented a proposal for Council discussion based upon a letter from the EWG Secretary requesting clarification about the EWG remit. Council decided that AWK and TH should discuss an updated EWG remit with the EWG Chair and Secretary for presentation and approval at the next Council meeting. Based upon this work remits for the other Regional Working Groups should be reviewed and updated recognising that each RWG had different objectives and priorities reflecting the stage of development of the region concerned.

11.4 Communications Strategy – Internal development process

TH presented a proposal to initiate an internal development process to update the current communications policy and develop a communications strategy and action plan for the IOF. The work is proposed be led by an external process leader, be carried out together with IOF commissions and will be initiated in connection with the WOC week in Inverness.

Council approved the proposal. Information about the external process leader (CV) will be forwarded to the Council.

12 Athletes' licence system and financing IOF Anti-doping program

LH presented updated proposals for an athletes' licence and for financing of the IOF A-D program. LH also updated Council on the status of consultations with athletes commissions (AC) and organizers at the High-Level Event Seminar.

Council decided that the documents were now at a level where a final consultation should be carried out with all discipline commissions and ACs. LH and TH shall create a consultation plan. Based upon the final consultations, Council will make an e-mail decision. Information about this will be presented at the upcoming President's Conference in Inverness.

FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES

13 Strategic initiatives in the Activity Plan

13.1 Provisional members

No activity up to this Council Meeting. The RYDC will be charged with the task of assessing provisional members' status.

14 Status reports on development in the regions

14.1 Greece

MSV presented a report from activities at the recent SEEOA meeting and the development seminar conducted by Zoran Milovanovic in Serres, Greece. There is new activity in the region which should be encouraged.

The IOF currently has 2 provisional members in Greece. One of the members has now requested that their provisional membership be terminated.

Council unanimously approved the request from the Hellenic Orienteering Club Tesseloniki to be removed as provisional members of the IOF.

14.2 Report regional clinics

TH presented a report on regional development clinics held as well as future plans by the regional development coordinators which are included in the current budget for development activities.

OF reported that a TrailO development clinic would be held in connection with the WTOC in Croatia.

14.3 African Working Group

TH informed Council about efforts being made by the Ugandan Orienteering Federation to establish an African Working Group and it was agreed to discuss this issue with the President of the South African Federation if he is present in Inverness.

15 Academies and Clinics

15.1 WOC Clinic 2015

AWK/TH informed Council about the participants list for the upcoming WOC Clinic and the status of the arrangements. 20 athletes from 9 nations are currently approved for the clinic.

AWK informed Council that following the WOC Clinic this year an evaluation will be carried out and reported to Council.

15.2 O-Ringen Academy 2015

TH presented the current list of participants signed up for O-Ringen Academy. 20 participants from 12 countries are currently signed up, among them 3 nations which are not currently IOF members.

YOUNG PEOPLE

16 World (School) Orienteering Day

MSV presented a proposal prepared by Göran Andersson (SWE) to expand the Swedish project "Skol-sprinten", aimed at setting a world record in orienteering participation on a single day, to a global project. Council decided to support this project and send it to the RYDC for planning and implementation as part of their commission remit.

Liaison will also be initiated with the World School Sports Federation (WSSF) relative to this project.

POSITION ON THE WORLD SPORTING STAGE

17 Political agenda for our Olympic ambitions

BWP reported that no new information was available at the current time, but a meeting with the IOC was planned in connection with the SportAccord Conference in Sochi April 21st. More information should be available after the meeting.

18 SportAccord Convention 2015

AJ reported about the IOF exhibition booth and TH reported about the status of currently planned meetings in connection with the conference.

19 IOF event organisers

19.1 Appointment 2017 Junior World Ski Orienteering Championships (JWSOC)

Council approved the Ski Orienteering Commission's recommendation to appoint Finland organiser of the 2017 JWSOC. The dates of the event were also approved 5-12 February 2017.

19.2 Earlier application dates for SkiO events 2017/2018

The SkiO Commission had proposed to Council an earlier deadline for applications for SkiO events in the 2017/2018 season, moving the date forward from January 1, 2016 to August 31, 2015.

The Council approved the proposal subject to a discussion about a rule change moving the date forward for all future years. The Council delegated the final decision in this matter to the ESB.

19.3 Principle of appointing multiple year World Cup organizers (SkiO)

Council approved the SkiO Commission request to be able to appoint and sign contracts with World Cup organizers in SkiO for multiple years to help development of the World Cup.

19.4 Proposal for a World Cup status sprint relay at EOC 2016

The FootO Commission (FOC), based upon an organizer proposal, proposed to Council to include a sprint relay with World Cup status in the program of the EOC 2016.

Council rejects this proposal. The Council decision is based upon the decision made at the meeting of the Orienteering Federations of Europe (OFE) in Italy 2014 not to include a sprint relay in the program of the EOC, and the AC feedback provided by the FOC in connection with the proposal that they were not in favour of adding this event if it was only a World Cup event.

Council refers the issue to the Competition Programme Review project to make recommendations related to the overall EOC program.

19.5 JWOC 2018 Applications - Status

The Council noted that at the close of the application deadline for JWOC 2018, March 15th, an application to host the event had been received from Hungary. The FootO Commission would now carry out an evaluation of the application.

20 Review of the IOF competition programme, status report

MD reported to Council on the status of the work done in the project group. The project group had prepared a proposal for Council Review related to the consultation with member federations and the expert group about the potential split WOC Concept.

As part of the discussion TH reported to Council about the meeting held to discuss the future World Cup with the World Cup 16/20 group and a potential commercial and broadcasting partner. TH presented a number of options for Council to consider related to the future of the World Cup based upon that meeting.

Following the discussion on this topic, Council agreed unanimously the following:

- A. Council agreed to the Project Groups proposal for a Split WOC program and to consider if an Extraordinary General Assembly should be called, in connection with WOC 2015, to have the proposal voted upon by the member federations. A decision on the calling of an Extraordinary General Assembly

will be taken at a later time when a formal proposal has been formulated and reviewed by Council. MD/LH/TH were tasked with formulating a proposal for consideration.

- B. Council agreed that the project group should be asked to prepare an informational paper to member federations with 1.) A description of the Spilt WOC decision, and 2.) Further consultation on the options for the remainder of the Competition Programme with the goal of having a final proposal for the overall competition programme ready for decision at the 2016 General Assembly.
- C. Council agreed that the future World Cup would be openly tendered to see if an agreement with a commercial partner can be reached. TH will consult with the Project Group and the FOC in formulating the tender documents.
- D. Council agreed that the implications for other disciplines would be worked upon further by the project group working towards a decision on the overall program for all disciplines at the General Assembly in 2016.

21 Event quality

OF presented a proposal for an Event Quality Guideline including an updated Event Advisers Guideline which includes the ideas presented at the Joint Meeting in January.

Council agreed that the document should be updated to include a section describing escalation processes for issues needing attention at events. Council also agreed that the updated document should be sent to the discipline commissions for formal consultation. Finally, it was agreed that a revised version of the document should then be submitted at the August Council meeting.

22 Competition rules

22.1 Qualifying rules The World Games 2017

Based upon the request from the IWGA that qualifying rules must be submitted before June 30th the FootO Commission (FOC) had presented a proposal to Council.

Council rejected this proposal since it does not fulfil the IWGA criteria for qualifying athletes. The proposal from FOC is largely focused on relay team performance. More focus needs to be put on making sure that the best individual athletes are present at The World Games. The Council asked the FOC to present a new proposal more closely aligned with previous qualifying rules.

22.2 Rules Deviation Request – WOC 2016

The Council, by voting 3 in favour/6 against with one member absent and one member abstaining, rejected the request from the organizer and the FOC to extend the WOC 2016 by one day, from 8 to 9 days.

22.3 Rules for GPS use MTBO/SkiO

The Council approved the rules for GPS use in MTBO and SkiO in accordance with the joint MTBO Commission, SkiO Commission and Rules Commission proposal.

22.4 Approval SI Air+ punching system

The Council approved the joint proposal from MTBO, SkiO, FootO, IT and Rules Commissions to give final approval of the SI Air+ punching system to be used at all IOF events.

23 Rules for sponsor visibility at ceremonies review

The Council rejected the proposal to do a review of the IOF Protocol Rules related to sponsor visibility at ceremonies. This had been requested by the FootO Athletes Commission. The necessary flexibility is provided in the IOF Protocol Rules in connection with Flower Ceremonies.

24 Evaluation of World Rankings

The Council rejected the FootO Commission and CEOs proposal to do a review of the World Rankings System. The Council noted that only one year has passed since the introduction of the revised system and that more time, at least 3 years, should be given to be able to properly assess the effects of the system.

25 Rules project

LH reported to Council on the status of the rules project. It has proven difficult to make progress and there is a need to re-think the implementation approach while maintaining the same overall basic objectives. LH proposed that he would report back at the August Council meeting with a revised plan for implementation of the rules project.

26 IOF Eventor

TH reported on the status of the IOF Eventor project. The system is not yet finally approved as it is still lacking functionality compared to the original requirements specification. Discussions about resolving this matter are progressing with SOFT and a plan for resolution is agreed. TH asked Council to note that certain necessary functionality will require additional investment by the IOF and that a long term support and system administration plan needs to be considered. TH also wished to commend ITC chair Håkan Blomgren and IOF Office employees Riikka Tolkki and Anna Jacobson for their extensive efforts in the introduction of IOF Eventor.

27 IOF LiveCenter project

LH informed Council of the current status of the project. LiveCenter use is progressing according to plan although the status of agreements for JWOC, MTBOC and WOC need to be checked. It has been agreed that paid ticket services will only be utilized for WOC and that price levels will be set at the same level as 2014.

INCREASED VISIBILITY

28 TV project, status report

TH reported on the status of TV agreements and prospects in connection with WOC 2015. Good progress has been made and in addition to the Nordic federations interest in TV rights products has grown. Based upon current offers, broadcasters in 8 nations are likely to purchase TV rights products. 3 additional nations are being pursued.

29 IOF Promotion and Marketing Strategy 2014–2016

This item is closely related to the organisational proposal made and will be developed further in connection with decisions about the professional organisation.

OTHER MATTERS

30 AOB

30.1 IOF representation 2015

The Council reviewed the list of IOF Representation at Events and Conferences. The updated list will be distributed.

30.2 Ruling on sanctions in connection with WRE in Israel February 21st

The FootO Commission and Mapping Commission had requested that Council rule on disciplinary sanctions on the organizer and EA of the WRE event in Israel in February since IOF map rules had not been followed and no rules deviation request was submitted.

Council ruled in accordance with the FOC proposal, i.e.;

- The EA shall have a 2-year suspension in his Accreditation from April 11th 2015.
- The Israeli Federation and Organizers will be informed about the reasons for the sanctions and the suspended accreditation.

30.3 Ruling on appeal from WSOC 2015

The organizers of WSOC 2015, via the Norwegian Orienteering Federation, asked the Council to rule on an appeal to correct the results lists from the middle distance race on February 14th. A competitor in M21 had received a valid result when he should in fact be disqualified for a missing control.

The Council approved the appeal and the results list for the WSOC 2015 middle distance should be corrected.

30.4 World Ranking rules changes

The FOC had proposed a revision of the World Ranking scheme rules asking that an additional paragraph be added to allow competitors running other classes, but the same course, as the WRE classes M21E/W21E to be included in the calculation of World Ranking points. This has been practiced in the past but has not been allowed by the rules.

The Council rejected this proposal to preserve the status of the WRE classes. The IOF Office was asked to determine if any currently approved WRE events were subject to this rule, so that organisers could be informed about correct practice of the rule.

30.5 Application process for the IOF General Assembly 2018

Council needed to determine application deadlines for the 2018 IOF general Assembly as this from that time on can be held separately from the WOC week.

Council agreed that the application deadlines should be harmonized to fit with the deadlines for the announcement of the General Assembly.

30.6 TrailO Relay proposal

The TrailO Commission proposed a relay competition to replace the current Team competition at the WTOC. This relay competition was proposed to be included in the program beginning with WTOC 2016.

Council approved the TrailO Relay competition as proposed.

31 Future Council meetings, dates and venues

- 31.1 1–7 August 2015, Inverness, GBR (in conjunction with the 2015 WOC)
- 31.2 16–17 October 2015, Vienna, AUT (to be confirmed)
- 31.3 15-16 January 2016, Copenhagen DEN or Frankfurt, GER (preliminary)

32 Closure of the meeting

President Brian Porteous thanked the Turkish Orienteering Federation and Tatiana Kalenderoglu for their hospitality and preparation work for the Council meeting, thanked the participants for their contributions and formally closed the meeting.

Brian Porteous
President

Tom Hollowell
Secretary General/CEO