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The decisive vote on Council's amended proposal gave the following result:

Yes: 19; No: 3; Abstentions: 2

The President thanked the General Assembly for treating this complicated matter with an open mind and willingness to find a compromise solution. He asserted that the next Congress, having gained experience from the 1991 WOC in Czechoslovakia, will come back to the issue.

14.3 Gunnar Tamberg, DEN, briefly commented on the Danish proposal to amend par. 4.1 of the present Rules for the Junior World Championships in Orienteering. The main reason for suggesting that the event be held every second year is financial; the Danish proposal is also in line with the Swedish proposal regarding lower costs in relation to the World Cup, according to GT. He said that the open letter on the future of the JWOC sent to Congress by the Dane Finn Johannsen might have surprised Congress because the views expressed therein were opposed to the Danish proposal. However, FJ had written his letter in his capacity of IOF contact person at the recent JWOC and not as a representative of the Danish Orienteering Federation.

JWOC
Rules

Sarolta Monspart, HUN, commented that the main concern behind the Hungarian proposal (4 participants per nation rather than 6) was costs. However, HUN, was in favour of annual JWOC's.

John Pearson, expressing Council's view on the matter, said that Council favoured JWOC's every two years out of cost considerations. If the General Assembly decided accordingly, the first year without a JWOC would be 1995. Regarding number of participants, Council considered 6 + 6 (boys/girls) acceptable.

AUT objected to the proposal. JWOC's ought to be held 'as often as possible', i.e. every year. AUT pointed at the development and publicity value inherent in the event.

FRA agreed to the views expressed by AUT and added that participating nations need not send 6 + 6 participants.

ITA, agreeing with the two former federations, held that 'money spent on young people is money spent well'.



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AUS, strongly supporting JWOC every year, argued that the event is not a mini-WOC but a learning experience. Costs are not an important factor, at least not to the Australian federation, since the juniors have to pay for themselves anyway.

NOR was in favour of the Danish proposal and stressed the similarity with the Swedish proposal regarding costs in relation to the World Cup. According to NOR the competition program for juniors is demanding; there is a risk that the junior elite may be burned out. NOR stressed that the team-leaders' meeting at the JWOC's is not the proper forum for treating JWOC Rules.

The IOF President responded that the team-leaders are just a discussion partner; the Technical committee will take responsibility for the JWOC Rules.

SWE agreed to the views expressed by NOR.

POL thought that annual JWOC's would not do any harm to the juniors and agreed with those who favoured annual events.

USA said that JWOC's every year would provide an incentive for the juniors to train and keep fit.

A suggestion to postpone voting was turned down (7 for postponement, 11 against, 6 abstentions).

SWE expressed uncertainty about what in the Hungarian proposal should be put to the vote. This was made clear by the President (see propositions below).

Voting procedure:

'Are the Junior World Championships to be held every year?'

Yes: 17; No: 7

'Are 6 + 6 runners to be allowed from each participating federation?'

Yes: 12 No: 12

The IOF President, using his tie-breaking vote, voted 'yes'.

'Is short-distance to be introduced as a new discipline at the JWOC?'

Yes: 17; No: 5; Abstentions: 2

The President thanked the General Assembly for the interesting discussion. Rolf Heinemann pointed out that there may still be some uncertainty concerning rules for the JWOC's to be organised in the near future. The President answered that Council will cooperate with the Technical committee in preparing rules which reflect the decisions just taken.

- 14.4 Sören Jonsson, SWE, briefly commented on the Swedish proposal for reducing costs for participation in the World Cup. According to SJ, the proposal is a frame or model for developing the World Cup in the direction intended; the IOF Council should be given the task to implement the ideas as soon as possible.

World Cup
in the
future

Einar Undstad, Chairman of the World Cup Group, verified by using an example from the first three rounds of this year's World Cup, the necessity of lowering costs for travel to these events.

The President said the World Cup Group would be given the task to suggest to Council a model for future World Cup series in line with the Swedish proposal, should the General Assembly be in favour of the idea.

The General Assembly unanimously supported the proposal.

- 14.5 AUT reminded the General Assembly of a proposal put forward by AUT at the previous Congress concerning a sixth region, a Mid-Europe region. On that occasion no vote was taken since five regions had already been decided on, but Council was asked to consider the possibility of a sixth region during the coming Congress period. AUT now reiterated her proposal.

IOF
regions

GBR also reminded the General Assembly that GBR suggested a change in the regional structure at the Torbole Congress. GBR was aware that political changes during the period had complicated the issue, but now wanted Council to prepare a proposal for next Congress.



John Pearson said that Council had given the matter of regionalisation considerable thought during the period. However, in view of the present fluid political situation, Council had decided not to present any proposal for structural change. The matter will be under continuous review during the forthcoming period.

The General Assembly unanimously supported Council's proposal not to implement changes in the regional structure for the time being, but to prepare a proposal for next Congress.

- 14.6 The IOF President presented Council's proposal regarding official language to be used within the IOF. He said that English is the language by far most frequently used in all IOF forums to-day. Those Member federations to whom he had written a special letter regarding the proposed changes, had generally answered in the positive. The changes are relatively small anyway, according to the President: the two languages, English and German, are both still accepted for communication in committees, working groups, etc. However, according to the proposal, minutes and other documents will be written in English only (exception: Congress minutes in English and German). The latter change would imply considerable saving of IOF money, according to the President. IOF language

AUT agreed that English is more frequently used but held that German must not disappear as language permitted within the IOF. AUT stressed that the present order at Congress (English and German + simultaneous translation) be maintained.

ITA also supported the idea that German be kept as IOF language.

GBR informed that costs for simultaneous translation at the present Congress would be in the order of GBP 2,000-3,000.

The General Assembly decided to vote on the matter of simultaneous translation at Congress (being a Statutes matter, a change requires three-quarters majority: 18).

Voting procedure:

'At Congress, simultaneous translation English-German (and vice versa) shall be retained'.

Yes: 7; No: 12; Abstentions: 5

The proposal for change ('No') is lost (18 votes required). Simultaneous translation to be retained.

A vote was thereafter taken as follows: 'English is to be the official language of the IOF. However, German is permitted as discussion language in all IOF forums and as source language for minutes.'

Yes: 16; No: 5; Abstentions: 3

The proposal is lost (18 votes required). English and German to remain the official languages of the IOF.

15. Major IOF events:

The IOF President opened this part of the session by reminding the General Assembly of par. 2.4 of the Statutes which states that 'the IOF shall have the right to establish special financial regulations for the events which it commissions'. He informed that the IOF Executive had taken the decision to establish a 'price tag' for each major event which is announced open for application to organise. He said the 'price tag' is the value at which the Executive is prepared to sell all sponsorship rights in each individual case. This of course implies that the value varies depending on the status and size of the event. The price tag is not to be considered a sum written in stone but is negotiable. However, in each case the value estimated by the Executive is intended to be a reasonable portion of the total sponsorship revenue that will accrue to the local organiser.

Major
IOF
events

15.1 Lars-Ake Larsson, SWE, briefly commented on the final report, handed out to all Congress delegates, from the 1989 World Championships in Orienteering. L-A L remarked that the idea of staging spectator events around and during the WOC week had proven very fruitful. He thanked the IOF for having given Sweden the privilege of organising the WOC a second time.

WOC
1989

The President thanked the Swedish organisers for the report and for staging the first large-scale WOC ever, utilising all the computer services and refined technology that characterize a modern sports event. He thanked L-A L for the report and congratulated the organisers on having succeeded in obtaining ample sponsors' support and impressive media coverage.

- 15.2 Gunnar Jonsson, SWE, reported on the 1990 World Championships in Ski-Orienteering, organised near the city of Skellefteå in northern Sweden. Copies of the final report will be sent to all delegates and all Member federations shortly (a limited number were distributed at Congress). GJ said a last-minute snowfall rescued the event, which would otherwise have been moved to a reserve venue at considerable extra cost and labour. According to GJ, the common judgement from the competitors, coaches, leaders and the media was that the events were superbly organised. GJ forwarded the organisers' gratitude to the IOF for allowing the event centre (the trotting stadium at Skellefteå) to be announced somewhat earlier than the WOC Rules permit; this measure greatly facilitated cooperation with the media, not least TV. Ski-O
WOC
1990

The President, himself present during the events, verified that they were of the highest quality. He thanked GJ for the report, and the Swedish organisers for staging the events so competently.

- 15.3 Josef Krch, TCH, gave a situation report from ongoing preparatory work in view of next year's WOC in Czechoslovakia. He noticed that, during the present Congress, many comments had been made concerning the political changes in Eastern Europe. The implications in his home country for the planning of the 1991 WOC had been several. The Orienteering Federation had recently gained independence which, among other things, meant that the Federation itself would have to finance the WOC, rather than receive support from the state. The Organising committee, chaired by JK, now has to work under conditions which differ from those originally WOC
1991



given. He was confident, though, that Czechoslovakia would stage a worthy WOC. He mentioned that Bulletin No. 1 has been distributed and that the Technical Adviser will make his second visit to the competition area next week. JK was pleased that the General Assembly had taken decision about short-distance as a new discipline at the WOC, which greatly facilitates further planning.

- 15.4 Per Stensby, USA, gave a situation report of preparatory work in view of the 1993 World Championships in Orienteering. He said the WOC is planned to be a 'bare bones' event rather than of the grand-scale type just reported for the 1989 WOC. The catchword for the 1993 World Championships is 'simple but fair'. It will be staged 10-17 October; PS presented a detailed schedule for the WOC week. The embargoed competition area is located north of New York city with different airports within 200 kilometers. Main income sources are: a) the Orienteering festival to be held in connection with the WOC; b) US Olympic Committee - size of grant to be decided on in November 1990; c) sponsorship revenue (the organisers and IOF will co-operate in obtaining sponsorship). PS concluded his presentation by 'respectfully requesting, on behalf of USOF, that USA be confirmed as organiser of the 1993 World Championships in Orienteering'.
- WOC
1993

The General Assembly unanimously confirmed USA as organiser.

- 15.5 Three applications to organise the 1995 World Championships in Orienteering had been forwarded, namely by Denmark, The Federal Republic of Germany, and Italy. ITA, who had not responded to a questionnaire sent out by the Technical Committee, confirmed her withdrawal of the application. Sue Harvey informed that the Technical Committee, in evaluating the technical aspects of the two remaining applications, had come to the conclusion that both applicants, DEN and FRG, could competently organise the event.
- WOC
1995

Poul-Erik Birk Jacobsen, DEN, reminded the General Assembly that DEN had withdrawn her application two years ago in favour of USA as organiser of the 1993 WOC. He also mentioned the recent World Cup event successfully staged near the intended area for the hoped-for 1995 WOC; the map used was produced by advanced Danish computer-aided design (CAD) technique, also to be employed for the 1995 event.



Hans-Juergen Zacharias, FRG, informed that Deutscher Turner Bund, the organisation formally responsible for the application, counts 4 million members. It is thus a strong organisation, with a serious intent behind the application. He was confident that, in 1995, there will be only one German state. In fact, co-ordination and cooperation between the main sports organisations in FRG and GDR have already started, according to H-J Z.

During the ensuing brief discussion USA claimed that DEN had been waiting long and ought to be awarded the WOC.

GBR said it was a difficult decision, two excellent organisers applying for the event. GBR asked how long the unification of the two German states would take, and if the uncertainty concerning the political situation might complicate planning of the event. In other words, is 1995 the proper time?

FRG responded that GBR's concerns were unwarranted. If they were not, why should FRG organise the World Cup final later this year and the Junior World Championships in 1991? FRG finally stressed the importance of a 1995 WOC for the further development of Orienteering in the country.

The discussion concluded, the General Assembly voted with the following result:

DEN: 11 votes FRG: 13 votes

Voting completed, Poul-Erik Birk Jacobson, on behalf of the Danish Orienteering Federation, congratulated FRG on being appointed organisers of the 1995 World Championships in Orienteering.

15.6 Edmond Szechenyi, FRA, informed that planning of the 1992 World Championships in Ski-Orienteering proceeds according to schedule. No particular problems are foreseen at the moment. 1992
Ski-O
WOC

The General Assembly unanimously confirmed France as organiser of the 1992 World Championships in Ski-Orienteering.