



INTERNATIONAL ORIENTEERING FEDERATION

INTERNATIONALE ORIENTIERUNGSLAUF FÖDERATION

Minutes of the General Assembly  
held at the XVth IOF CONGRESS  
on Saturday 21st July 1990  
in Cambridge, England

1. The President of the IOF, Heinz Tschudin, SUI, wished all the delegates welcome and opened the meeting. In so doing, he reminded the General Assembly of the recent tidings on the international political scene, many of which may have positive repercussions in international sports, including Orienteering. Opening
2. A roll call of the delegates was taken. Present were: Roll call
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| AUS | Barry McCrae  |
| AUT | Christian Aichholzer, Wolf Eberle, Friedrich Woitsch  |
| BEL | Jean Pierre Bormans, Paul Chauveheid  |
| BUL | Evdeni Arabadjies, Ivan Sokolov, Evgeni Uzunov  |
| CAN | Jack Forsyth, Colin Kirk  |
| CUB | Roberto Panfet  |
| DEN | Birthe Helms, Poul-Erik Birk-Jacobsen, Gunnar Tamberg   |
| ESP | Miguel Borrero, Juan M Garcia Tutor   |
| FIN | Veli-Markku Korteniemi, Tuomo Peltola, Barbro Rönnerberg  |
| FRA | Alain Frangeul, Edmond Szechenyi  |
| FRG | Ernst Gruhn, Wilhelm Holz, Philipp Schneckmann<br>(Hans-Juergen Zacharias replaced PS during item 15.2 b) |
| GBR | Clive Allen, David Thomas   |
| GDR | Rolf Heinemann, Dieter Kirkamm  |
| HOL | Sietske Blasse  |
| HUN | Josef Hollo, Sarolta Monspart *)  |
| IRL | Faith White   |
| ISR | Michael Friedlander   |
| ITA | Benito Cavini, Hedy Cavini, Carlo Alberto Valer   |
| NOR | Magne Hagen, Egil Sønsterudbraten, Einar Undstad  |
| POL | Pawel Morawski, Lech Trzpił   |
| ROM | Nicolae Stroescu (from item 13 c onwards)   |
| SUI | Yvonne Caspari, Thomas Scholl   |
| SWE | Stig Carlsson, Ake Jacobson *), Sören Jonsson   |
| TCH | Roman Bem, Josef Krch *), Vladimir Mikan  |
| URS | Boris Ogorodnikov   |
| USA | Don Tall, Linda Taylor  |

Thus 25 Federations, among them 3 Associate members (CUB, ESP, HOL), were represented at the beginning of the meeting.

**Council Members**

Heinz Tschudin	SUI )	
Sue Harvey	GBR )	Members of the
Kalevi Tarvainen	FIN )	Presidium
John Pearson	BEL )	
Per Stensby	USA )	

\*) National delegates as indicated above

**Member of the Presidium**

Anne Braggins	GBR
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**Committee and Working Group Members**

Finn Arildsen	DEN	(Hi-Tech)
Gunnar Jonsson	SWE	(Ski-O)
Lars-Ake Larsson	SWE	(TC)
Geir Tveit	NOR	(TC)
Brian Watkins	GBR	(Hi-Tech)

**Observers**

Lars-Erik Engberg	SWE	(Auditor)
Peter Gehrman	FRG	(Editor, 'Orienteering World')
Louise Gruhn	FRG	
Berit Pehrson	SWE	(IOF staff)
Jiri Subrt	TCH	

**Secretary General**

Lennart Levin	SWE
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3. The Secretary General announced the voting rights (one non-transferable vote per full Member federation), the number of votes required for simple majority (12 out of 22), two-thirds majority (15 out of 22), and three-quarters majority (17 out of 22). Voting rights
- (Please NOTE that these figures were changed from item 14 onwards - see bottom of page 6).
4. The Presidium for the General Assembly was elected as follows: Presidium
- Heinz Tschudin, Sue Harvey, Kalevi Tarvainen, John Pearson, Per Stensby, Anne Braggins, Lennart Levin.
5. Don Tall, USA, and Friedrich Woitsch, AUT, were elected to certify the minutes, the English and German version respectively. Minutes  
Witnesses
6. Sietske Blasse, HOL, Barry McCrae, AUS, and Gunnar Tamberg, DEN, were elected tellers. Election  
of tellers
7. The Agenda was approved, with the following amendments: Czechoslovakia is to present a situation report in view of next year's World Championships in Orienteering (inserted as new item 15.3, before a similar report from USA regarding the 1993 WOC). Approval  
of agenda
- Council proposed as an urgent matter (requiring two-thirds majority to be accepted on the agenda) that the expulsion of one member (IND) and the confirmation of the resignation of another (SIN) be included on the agenda as new items 13.5 and 13.6. This was accepted by the General Assembly (21 votes for, 1 abstention).
8. It was agreed that the sessions should be open and observers admitted. Sessions  
open

9. It was announced that the auditors for the previous Congress period were Sweden and Great Britain, the auditing work being done by Mr. Lars-Erik Engberg, SWE, and Mr. Ronnie Sinclair, GBR. Auditors previous period
10. The minutes of the previous General Assembly, held at the XIVth Congress in Torbole, ITA, were approved as an accurate record of the proceedings. Approval previous minutes
11. Council's Report to Congress on the activities during the 1988-1990 period was briefly commented on by the IOF President. He noticed with satisfaction that the IOF magazine *Orienteering World* has steadily increased its readership as well as its pool of advertisers during the recent period. He was also pleased that overseas participation has increased in most IOF committees, an important aspect of widened participation in the decision-making process. HT pointed at the continued beneficial cooperation with other international bodies, such as AGFIS and CISM, and at some of the promising aspects, for Orienteering, of the dramatic political changes in Europe during the previous Congress period. Council's activity report
- Wilhelm Holz, FRG, commented that it might influence the possibility of receiving financial support from the German sports authorities for Peter Gehrman, the Editor of *Orienteering World*, if his formal position within the IOF structure were stated in a clearer way. The President answered that Council would take note of this.
- Council's activity report, thus introduced by the President, was approved by the General Assembly.
12. The Committee reports for the period 1988-1990 were approved. Committee reports

13. Membership issues: Membership issues:  
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- 13.1 Spain, associate member of the IOF, was unanimously elected full member. Spain
- On behalf of the new full member, Juan Garcia Tutor thanked the General Assembly. He also extended thanks to Peo Bengtsson, SWE, whose travel agency 'World Wide Orienteering Promotion' has greatly supported Spanish orienteering by producing maps in Spain.
- 13.2 Portugal, associate member of the IOF, was unanimously elected full member. Portugal
- 13.3 The IOF President commented on an application for full membership, submitted by Romania. Although Romania formed an independent Orienteering Federation only recently, the sport has been practiced for more than forty years in the country. Council, having gone through the necessary documents (Statutes, history of development of orienteering), strongly supported Romania's becoming full member. HT also informed the General Assembly that while visiting Romania earlier this year he had had extensive talks with many representatives of Romanian orienteering as well as with the Minister of Sports, who had expressed his willingness to back Orienteering in various ways. Romania
- Romania was unanimously elected full member of the IOF.
- Dr. Nicolae Stroescu, President of the Romanian Orienteering Federation, said this was a wonderful day for Romanian Orienteering and for him personally. He thanked the IOF for encouraging support during previous years and promised intensified efforts by the Romanian Federation and its Council in order to develop Orienteering, summer and winter.
- 13.4 Three applications for independent IOF membership had been forwarded by Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. The President informed that Council had had several discussions of 'the Baltic issue' during the previous Congress period. He mentioned the criteria adopted by the IOC, and in international sports generally, to define an autonomous state (membership within the UN, contacts at ambassadorial level with other countries), and maintained that the Baltic republics do not fulfill these criteria. However, the present political situation being fluid, HT said that Council would closely follow The Baltic republics



ow further development on the political scene. He informed the General Assembly about contacts taken during the Congress week with Boris Ogorodnikov, President of the Soviet Orienteering Federation, who had expressed sympathy with the position taken at present by the IOF.

The IOF President concluded by proposing that no vote be taken. He asked the General Assembly to delegate to Council to take appropriate action during the forthcoming Congress period, should the political situation change.

The General Assembly decided accordingly.

- 13.5 The Secretary General informed that The Orienteering Federation of Singapore had been dissolved and, in connection therewith, submitted its resignation as Associate member of the IOF. Attempts at offering the umbrella organisation for sport in Singapore, The Singapore Sports Council, the possibility to become IOF member, had given no result. Council therefore asked the General Assembly to confirm the resignation of Singapore as Associate member of the IOF. Singapore

The General Assembly decided accordingly.

- 13.6 The Secretary General informed that India had not paid her membership fee during the last five years, nor had there been any signs of ongoing activity. Several attempts at reviving the Orienteering Federation of India had proven fruitless. The SG and Clive Allen, DFC Chairman, mentioned that contacts had been established with 'Wild Ventures', a leisure and outdoor organisation in New Delhi expressing interest in obtaining information about Orienteering. In fact, this organisation and the Orienteering Federation of India had been asked to join efforts for the benefit of Orienteering. Although the DFC will continue its efforts to get Orienteering started again in India, Council proposed expulsion of the present Orienteering Federation of India as Associate member. India

The General Assembly decided to expel India as Associate member of the IOF.

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(ESP and ROM elected full members (POR absent), simple majority now changes to 13 out of 24, two-thirds majority to 16 out of 24, and three-quarters majority to 18 out of 24).

14. Proposals from Member Federations and Council:

Proposals:

## 14.1 Sue Harvey presented Council's proposals to the General Assembly

Statutes' amendments

- a) that the present Annexes to the IOF Statutes be abolished
- b) that the Statutes be amended so as to incorporate essential parts of the present Annexes
- c) that matters pertaining to the Secretariat/the Secretary General's role be contained in a separate document, the Secretary General's job description

The draft version of the new Statutes having been sent to all delegates in due time before Congress, SH asked the General Assembly for further amendments, section by section.

The new Statutes thus gone through were unanimously approved by the General Assembly (three-quarters majority required). The approval implies that the previous Annexes are abolished, and that the Secretary General's Job description will be drafted, in co-operation with the Secretary General, during the forthcoming Congress period.

The new Statutes come into effect immediately.

## 14.2 The President reminded the General Assembly about the decision, taken at the previous Congress, to introduce short distance orienteering as a new discipline at the World Championships in Orienteering as soon as possible; the nature of the new discipline was to be defined by Council.

New WOC Rules (including the short-distance event)

Geir Tveit, Chairman of the Technical Committee, gave an extended presentation of Council's proposal for amended WOC rules, the major changes being concerned with the introduction of the short-distance discipline and the abolition of qualification races for the classic event.

Magne Hagen, NOR, thereafter presented a Norwegian proposal opposing Council's on matters related to: a) placement, during the WOC week, of the 'short-distance' and 'classic' event respectively; b) the short-distance event utilized as qualification for the classic; c) number of runners to participate in the short-distance event.

The ensuing discussion revealed a variety of views on the matter of short-distance being introduced at the WOC.

AUS, although accepting the major part of Council's proposal, held that several ideas and suggestions voiced at last year's Presidents' Conference were not reflected in the proposal. AUS objected to the Norwegian proposal about short-distance as qualification for the classic event, but agreed with Norway that the short-distance should come before classic during the WOC week. AUS finally suggested minimum two participants per nation in the short-distance (+ two additional runners per nation to be identified from among the first 20 at the previous WOC) on grounds that it be easy to calculate.

FRA suggested 4 runners as a maximum per nation for the short-distance. FRA was much against using short-distance as qualification for the classic. They are intended to be two different types of events; using one as qualification for the other would be illogical and absurd.

GBR believed that the Norwegian proposal is supported by the elite runners and agreed that each nation should be allowed to enter 5 runners in the short-distance event.

SWE held that the organiser's view is as important as the elite runners'. Sponsorship is contingent upon publicity, which should be taken into consideration when staging a WOC. According to SWE, short-distance and the relay are the most spectacular events which ought to be held over a week-end; the optimal sequence would therefore be 1) classic; 2) short-distance; c) relay. SWE was willing to accept 5 runners per nation in the short distance on grounds that everyone on a national team should be able to participate in at least one event.

FIN was willing to accept the Norwegian proposal as presented.

AUS and DEN argued that short-distance as a new event, partly an experiment, should not become the cornerstone of the present discussion. According to AUS and DEN the effect of short-distance on media as well as on the WOC week at large is difficult to foresee; they were there-



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fore prepared to accept Council's proposal concerning placement of the short-distance (after the classic), assuming the matter would be discussed after next year's WOC. DEN also pointed out that using the short-distance as qualification for the individual would be wrong.

CAN accepted Council's proposal for 2 runners as a minimum per nation in the short-distance. The order in which short-distance and classic are held did not matter to CAN.

CAN and GDR asked whether the Norwegian proposal re number of runners in the short-distance (5 per nation) implied any change concerning minimum number of runners (2 per nation). NOR responded that this was not the case.

HUN preferred the order 1) classic 2) short-distance.

The IOF President, summarizing the discussion, said it had centered around three topics:

- a) format of WOC, mainly the sequence short-distance/classic
- b) selection criteria for the classic event
- c) maximum number of runners in the short-distance

He suggested that an indicative, i.e. non-decisive, vote be taken on these three issues; during a short break, clear-cut voting alternatives were to be drafted. The President's suggestion was accepted.

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After the break, but before the indicative vote, TCH, as organiser of next year's WOC, expressed her preference not to have the short-distance as qualification for the classic event.

Results of indicative vote:

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'Is the short-distance event to be used as qualification for the classic?'

10 for, 14 against



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'Classic event to be staged before the short-distance'  
or  
'Leave it to the organiser to decide sequence'

5 for, 8 against, 10: leave it to the organiser

'5 (five) runners per nation in the short-distance event?'

Yes: 15; No: 9

The indicative vote being taken, the President expressed his belief that it would be possible to draft a compromise Council-NOR proposal to be voted on. It was agreed that such a proposal be drafted during a brief intermission.

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The compromise proposal, presented by the President as Council's amended proposal, contained the following elements:

- a) Short-distance to be held during the 2nd day of the WOC week, the Classic event on the 4th day (amendment of par. 4.2 of the proposed WOC Rules).
- b) 5 men and 5 women from each Member federation have the right to participate. Five parallel semi-final races to be organised, each with a maximum of one runner per nation (amendment of par 5.8)

The proposal implies that 1) the qualification criteria for the classic event as originally proposed by Council prevail; 2) Norway withdraws her proposal regarding number of participants in the classic event.

Before the vote was taken, FRA proposed that a vote be taken on Council's original proposal regarding maximum number of runners in the short-distance, namely 4 (par 5.8 as originally worded). This was done ('Maximum 4 runners in the short-distance?')

Yes: 11; No: 12; Abstentions: 1