



Minutes – Foot Orienteering Commission – Meeting 2–17

Place: Danhostel Fredensborg, North Zealand, Denmark

Meeting schedule: Saturday, 25th March 2017 – 09:00-18:00 CET

Participants:	Áron Less (AL)	Chairman
	Tomáš Dlabaja (TD)	Member – through Skype
	Kilian Imhof (KI)	Member
	Maria Krafft Helgesson (MKH)	Member
	Helge Lang Pedersen (HLP)	Member
	Janos Manarin (JM)	Member
	Petteri Muukkonen (PM)	Member
	Unni Strand Karlsen (USK)	Member
	Blair Trewin (BT)	Member – through Skype
Invitations:	Nik Suter (NS)	FOC's IOF Council contact person
	Emily Kemp (EK)	IOF FootO Athletes' Commission Member
	Daniel Leibundgut (DL)	WOC SEA / Project Manager
Apology:	David May (DM)	FOC Member

OPENING

1 Opening AL

AL opened the meeting and welcomed especially new member Petteri Muukkonen. AL thanked the Danish Orienteering Federation for their hospitality, which HLP agreed to pass on.

TO NOTE DECISIONS / ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE FOC MEETING 1-17

2 Council & ESB decisions AL

- Council approved the organisation of a 4th and final World Cup round in 2018, and appointed the round to the Czech Republic on the dates 4-7 October 2018.

- Council approved the proposed program which would be introduced from WMOC 2018 in DEN:
 - Day 1 Sprint Qualification
 - Day 2 Sprint Final
 - Day 3 Rest day
 - Day 4 Forest Qualification
 - Day 5 Middle Final
 - Day 6 Rest day
 - Day 7 Long Final

Council voted to not approve the proposed qualification method for the long final based upon min/km speed in the middle final (alternative 3 in the FOC report), but instead approved qualification based upon the alternative with a fixed number of qualification spots per middle final based upon historical performance data and number of competitors (alternative 2 in the FOC report). FOC was tasked to now finalize the implementation at WMOC in accordance with these principle decisions.

- Council approved the dates of WOC 2019 in Norway as 13-18 August 2019, with August 17 the last day of competition.
- Council approved the dates of WOC 2020 in Denmark as 7-11 July 2020.
- Council appointed CAN the organiser of NAOC 2018 and approved the dates 18-23 August 2018. The event will be held in Whitehorse, Yukon.
- Council approved the proposal from FOC regarding the removal of the EOC long distance qualification race and to instead base qualification on national quotas determined by World Rankings.
- Council did not approve the proposed dates for WMOC 2019 in Latvia due to their non-adherence to the IOF Conflicting Dates Policy, and requested that a new consultation with LAT be conducted.
- Council approved the dates of JWOC 2019 in Denmark as 6-12 July 2019.
- Council approved the Organiser and FOC proposal to remove B-finals from the EOC 2018 program.
- Council appointed AUS the organiser of OOC 2019 and approved the dates 28 September – 6 October 2019.
- Council approved the dates of the European Youth Orienteering Championships (EYOC) 2018 in Bulgaria as 28 June – 1 July 2018.
- The ESB approved the appointment of Lars Forsberg (SWE) as Senior Event Adviser for the Orienteering World Cup 2018 in Norway.
- The ESB approved the appointment of Péter Molnár (HUN) as Senior Event Adviser for the Orienteering World Cup 2018 in the Czech Republic.

- The ESB approved the appointment of Unni Strand Karlsen (NOR) as Senior Event Adviser for the North American Orienteering Championships 2018 in Canada.

FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – STRATEGIC PLANNING & EVENT QUALITY

3 Strategic planning

MKH,
HLP, AL

The strategic planning paper we sent out in February had got quite a few responses, most of them very positive. The next step is to finalise the paper according to the feedback, send it to Council for approval and build it into the application documents. However, the implementation is expected to be even more difficult than the initial analysis.

MKH summarized the contents of the 14 feedback answers and this was a basis for the discussion.

AL will make sure that the feedback answers are published on the IOF webpage.

Based on the feedback and the discussion in the meeting, it was agreed that AL will finalise the paper on 26th March, liaise with MKH and then send the paper for Council approval on Tuesday 28th March in order to reach the Council in due time before their next meeting.

Among the comments to incorporate was

- It will be clarified that national championships can be organised whenever the Federation wants
- It will be clarified that regional championships outside Europe, that are not World Cup rounds, can be organized whenever the region wants
- Planning of CISM and WUOC is generally excluded from the planning table
- To add the following adjustments to the annual calendar proposal:
 - Period 1 is removed
 - Period 6 will be in weeks 39 – 40 – 41.
- Make World Games dates visible in the calendar to the extent possible

A next step can be to restructure the application process to enable applying for multiple (3-5) years at the same time. This could be done by asking Federations what events they plan to apply for during the next 5-10 year period. If the proposals were then deemed feasible, an application process leading to the allocation of several events to a country in one procedure could be made.

4 The World Games

AL

- **TWG 2017 POL:** status report. AL had a meeting with organisers and controllers during HLES. Everything seems to be on track for now. One question is the exact financing of the arena production, but that does not affect the core of the event. AL will be present at the event.

5 World Orienteering Championships (WOC)

TD, AL,
PM

- **WOC 2017, Estonia:** Status report. No new SEA report available. AL had a meeting with SEA Jørn Sundby. Everything seems to be on track, the main work is now done with the TV-production. Bulletin 3 should be published within a few days.
- **WOC 2018, Latvia:** Status report. No new SEA report available. DL has now taken over the SEA / Project Manager role (for WOC 2018 and onwards) and plans a visit in May 2017.
- **WOC 2019:** The program is now fixed. Per Bergerud was appointed General Manager a few weeks ago, who has tremendous experience. FOC expressed concern that NOF is not represented in the steering group for the event. It was agreed that DL will talk to the NOF representatives about this.
- **WOC 2021:** Two applications received from Brazil and the Czech Republic. Both applications will be evaluated. AL will do the field assessment. Evaluation reports are due for FOC meeting 3-17. The fixed WOC programme will be communicated to the applicants as a requirement during the onsite visits.
- **Fixed forest WOC programme:** Based on competitor feedback, AL & DL propose a fixed programme for the future forest WOCs, which was coordinated with FOAC and the WOC 2019 organisers:
 - Day 1: middle distance qualification
 - Day 2: long distance competition (one-off final)
 - Day 3: rest day
 - Day 4: middle distance final
 - Day 5: relay competition

This schedule should enable competitors to run all competitions, would be interesting to media and relatively easy to organise. AL to send the proposal to Council.

- **Fixed sprint WOC programme:** It was discussed if a fixed programme is also required for Sprint WOC. But this is not considered to be an issue at this moment.
- Qualification for WOC long distance. The WOC middle distance qualification system has been approved for the new split WOC era. We still don't have such a system for the WOC long distance. BT's proposal is very similar to the current system with divisions. Exact details are in the attached document. AL to send the proposal to Council.
- In FOC meeting 1-17, Leho Haldna presented an idea to restructure the WOC entry fees to allow more countries to participate in future WOCs, as this is an IOF key goal. The initiative was started by SkiO Commission. FOC discussed the idea and decided that the entry fee structure should be determined by the organiser and approved by the SEA.

6 World Cup (WCup)

BT, MKH,
PM

- **World Cup 2017: status report**
 - Round 1 (WCup 1-4): Finland. No new SEA report available, an SEA visit took place between 18-20 March. Some issues with forest map quality, otherwise preparations are on track. Dates are 24-28 May. **Several technical issues were discussed and approved in the meeting, which shall be published in bulletin 3. BT to relay these towards the SEAs.**
 - Round 2: WOC 2017 (WCup 5-9) EST – 30 June - 7 July.
 - Round 3 (WCup 10-12): Cēsis, Latvia – 25-27 August. No new SEA report available. **JM will be present on behalf of FOC.**
 - Round 4 (WCup 13-15): 29 September – 1 October in Grindelwald, Switzerland. Bulletin 1 has been published, with this World Cup round having the potential to be one of the cheapest ever. No SEA report has been received.
 - Request from Finland to include a National group in the World Cup competitions. In each individual competition (sprint, middle, long) the national group would be max. 10 women + 10 men. The start position of these groups would be before or after the WCup competitors; this to be decided by the organizer and SEA. Competitors in national group would get World Ranking points even though they are not competing in World Cup. **PM clarified that the primary objective was to allow for having this race as a WOC test race. The WRE points were actually of less importance. Given this information, the FOC advice is to have informal pre-running of the courses. The organiser is free to do this without official permission.**
- **World Cup 2018: status report**
 - Round 1: Switzerland, as part of EOC (5-13 May). **JM gave a brief status report. Bulletin 2 will be ready soon. Courses are more or less ready. Everything seems on track.**
 - WOC 2018 as round 2 in Latvia (4-11 August).
 - Round 3: Pre-WOC in Norway will be held from 31 August until 2 September 2018. **USK informed that the Norwegian Federation wants to test a first to finish forest race in the event. In order to have this idea evaluated, Norway must present a programme proposal by 15th May to BT – with SEA backing obviously. USK to liaise with the Norwegian Federation about this prior to their next board meeting.**
 - Round 4: Czech Republic. Dates are 5-7 October, with a Middle Distance on Friday, sprint relay on Saturday and a Sprint on Sunday. BT & AL talked with the organisers to include a test

event for the 3rd WOC sprint format, but due to lack of experience with this new format, this can only be done outside the World Cup programme.

- **World Cup 2019: status report.**
 - Round 1 would be ideal in Finland (8-12 June – still no answer). It was agreed, that PM will liaise with the Finnish Federation if they will organize a WC round. PM commented that in this case it would probably be around Helsinki. Deadline 29 June.
 - Round 2 should have been O-Ringen, but this idea was cancelled.
 - Round 3 will be the Swiss Cup round (25-29 or 27-29 September)
 - It was agreed to propose that WOC 2019 will be part of the World Cup 2019. AL to liaise with TH about this.
 - If anything else fails, we can accept three World Cup rounds, but we should try to find an additional World Cup round.
- **World Cup in the future:** From 2020 and onwards the intention is that the World Cup will be held with 3 fixed rounds, one of them being O-Ringen. From 2019 Swiss Cup is fully on-board. Both O-Ringen and Swiss Cup are supportive about our strategic planning ideas. The FOC role in the World Cup from 2020 and onwards was clarified:
 - FOC will appoint SEAs and follow their work as previously
 - FOC defines Special Rules - after input from organisers
 - The Swiss and O-Ringen organizers are not required to apply each year

Each year, IOF has the responsibility to organize one World Cup round. Given the statement about EOC in the strategic planning section, EOC is expected to be a World Cup round. This leaves years where EOC will be in SUI to stage World Cup rounds outside Europe.

7 Junior World Orienteering Championships (JWOC)

HLP

- **JWOC 2017: Finland.** Status report. No new SEA report available.
- **JWOC 2020:** One application from Turkey. The proposed area east of Istanbul has a limited record for orienteering activities. We have therefore collected additional information from the Turkish Federation. The answers were satisfying, but we have, however, decided to accept a proposal from the Turkish Federation to make a field visit 10th – 15th May 2017. HLP will conduct the visit.
- JWOC was among the main themes of HLES 2017. Each organiser 2017 – 2019 gave a brief presentation and we had very fruitful discussions.

- 8 World Masters Orienteering Championships (WMOC)** DM, BT, JM
- **WMOC (WMG) 2017: New Zealand.** Status report. No new SEA report available. Almost 1800 entries on the homepage. All seems on course at the moment and Bulletin 2 is currently in its final stage of preparation. [DM will represent FOC at the event. BT and PM will also be on site.](#)
 - **WMOC 2018 Denmark:** The paper regarding details of how the new Middle race would be implemented into the WMOC programme was sent in mid-February. SEA reports that it's OK with the organisers as far as he is aware. Details of the Qualification system for the Long Final will be worked out later.
 - **WMOC 2019 Latvia:** Proposed dates were 4-11 August 2018, which overlaps with Swiss O Week. Council did not accept the date proposal at their concurrent meeting. [\[PMN: the Latvians can indeed organise WMOC in July, with the proposed dates being 5-12 July 2019. There is still work to be done, but the Latvians are confident about these amended dates. The now proposed dates conflict with JWOC 2019. AL to communicate this towards Council.\]](#)

Jurgis Krastiņš has been appointed as National Controller.
 - **WMOC 2020:** Three applications received from GBR (Swansea, Wales), ITA (Gargano) and SVK (Košice). It was decided to shortlist and visit all three candidates. [Reports are expected at the FOC meeting during WOC from AL.](#)
- 9 Senior & Youth Regional Orienteering Championships (outside Europe)** BT, JM
- **Oceania Orienteering Championships 2017,** 14th – 17th April 2017, Auckland, New Zealand. Update.
 - **Asian Junior & Youth Orienteering Championships 2017,** December 2017, China. Update. [These championships will be unofficial.](#)
 - BT asks FOC approval for the integrated SAOC rules. BT suggests that FOC looks to come to a common position on the open questions and then submit to David Rosen for consolidation in Rules Commission's capacity. [FOC agreed that BT and David Rosen can liaise further about the rules and make progress.](#)

FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – RULES

- 10 Liaising with FootO Athletes Commission (FOAC)** TD, KI, PM
- [Emily Kemp represented FOAC during this agenda item.](#) Cooperation about event planning and the new sprint format testing are the main issues right now from FOC's side.

- 11 Coaches Reference Group (CRG) – “Entourage reference group”** KI, TD
Update.

It was discussed when to have a 2017 meeting with CRG. One possibility is during the World Cup Final. [3rd Sprint format and Strategic Planning are the most important topics from our side.](#)

- 12 Map Commission** JM, KI

- ISOM 201x is very close to being finalized, it should be valid from 2018 at latest. There will be no major changes compared to ISOM 2000.
- IOF Map Commission Chairman Håvard Tveite stepped down from his position. The new MC chairman is Christer Carlsson.
- [It was agreed to ask to join one of the MC meetings during WOC.](#) **Action JM.**

FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – EVENT ADVISING

- 13 Event Advising** USK, HLP

- **EA Clinics:**
 - **High Level Event Seminar 2017.** This was once again a successful HLES with 69 participants from 20 countries. AL thanks USK, HLP & MKH for the planning. [Feedback was primarily positive. USK mentioned that alternating JWOC and WMOC topics might be an option. Groupwork on Saturday could also be considered.](#)
 - **Clinic in 2017:** EA Clinic in New Zealand during the World Masters Orienteering Championships (one of the rest days). David Rosen to organise, DM to assist.
 - **High Level Event Seminar 2018.**
 - **A possible Clinic in China,** financed by Orienteering Association of China was postponed to 2018. USK coordinates this with Jaroslav Kačmarčík.
 - [USK informed about dialogue with Swedish Federation about SEA appointments. It was agreed to investigate the possibility of having a Clinic in SWE in 2018. MKH to assist USK in the dialogue about this.](#)
- **SEA nominations.**

INCREASE THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF ORIENTEERING TO YOUNG PEOPLE

- 14 European Youth Orienteering Championships (EYOC)** AL
- EYOC 2017: Banská Bystrica, Slovakia. Dates are 29th June – 2nd July 2017 (overlapping with WOC). AL had a meeting with the Event Director on 28th January and preparations are on track.
 - EYOC 2019: six applications received from Belarus, Czech Republic, Hungary, Lithuania, Serbia and Turkey. **The result of a preliminary evaluation by HLP & USK was discussed at the meeting. The scoring of the applications were approved with minor changes. HLP will update the report with a FOC recommendation to appoint the applicant with the highest score to become organiser and send the report to IOF Office for further treatment.** HLP

STRENGTHEN IOF POSITION ON THE WORLD SPORTING STAGE – EVENT DEVELOPMENT

- 15 Organisers’ Guidelines (Manuals)** HLP, MKH, USK
- **WOC Manual:** Updating is needed with the new qualification formats and the introduction of the Sprint Relay. Jørn Sundby is responsible for the update. Clive Allen also offered proofreading. Deadline was end of 2016.
 - **Manual transformation project:** HLP mentioned an initiative with the joint intention to raise the profile for SEAs and combine the Event Guidelines and SEA Guidelines in a way that will eventually provide the SEAs with better checklists of how to monitor the events and report progress back to FOC. Part of the concept was introduced at HLES 2017.
DL has tested several collaboration tools that might be applicable to use for the implementation. DL to liaise with TH to purchase a 5 user license in order to test the idea.

- 16 Knockout-sprint format development** KI, JM, TD
- Jørn Sundby stepped down as project manager on 12 March and was replaced by DL with assistance from Matthias Niggli on 15 March. A successful test round was carried out in Italy in early March. Feedback is currently collected by DL. Further tests are planned. The overall timeplan – to produce a proposal for Council decision in October – still looks realistic. **DL informed FOC with more details during the meeting.**
- The next important milestone will be a report due in September containing the final recommendation about whether the Chase or the NORT format should be proposed as the third sprint WOC format. The possible use of mazes should also be clarified at that time.**

After this decision, the work enters a new phase with fine-tuning and identification of possibilities to have competition testing with spectators and media production.

STRONG MANAGEMENT AND FUNDING – TEAMWORK

18 AOB AL

- JM processed the application from the Learnjoy punching system and recommended it to Rules Commission for provisional approval. The application is now awaiting Council approval.

19 Next meetings All

- FOC Meeting 3-17: will be held during the first weekend of WOC in Tartu, Estonia. Provisional meeting times (local time): Friday (30/06): 16:00-18:00 & 20:00-22:00, Saturday (01/07): 09:00-15:00, Sunday (02/07): 09:00-15:00. AL to organise the meeting.
- FOC Meeting 4-17: 16th of September was fixed as a date with the venue to be decided later.
- Preliminary meeting schedule for 2018:
 - FOC Meeting 1-18: Joint Meeting in January
 - FOC Meeting 2-18: Spring meeting in late April in Northern Italy
 - FOC Meeting 3-18: During WOC in Latvia
 - FOC Meeting 4-18: During General Assembly in Czech Republic in early October

Legend:

- black (normal) letters: original text from the agenda
- blue text: text added during the meeting
- red text: action items

AL 18/03/2017, HLP 25/03/2017, AL 28/03/2017