

Annual Meeting of the European Orienteering Federations Saturday, 25th June 2005 in Sumperk, Czech Republic

Part I: Summary of the discussion in the Workshop

The chair of the Working Group (WG), Bjorn R. Berntsen, opened the meeting at 14:15. He introduced the present WG members and presented the programme for the workshop. The aim of the workshop is to discuss the main items on the agenda of the Annual Meeting.

1. Working Rules for the co-operation between Orienteering Federations in Europe.

B. R. Berntsen handed out a revised version of the working rules for the co-operation between Orienteering Federations in Europe (EOF). This version had been reedited compared with the version distributed 4 weeks earlier.

Discussion:

Russia: If IOF Council will collect a sanction fee from an EOC, the IOF must also carry the cost of medals and controlling. (*Such cost is to-day paid by the organiser*).

2. IOF fee on European Championships.

The IOF secretary Barbro Rönnerberg had sent a letter asking for the views on the proposed sanction fee, including the idea of a higher fee to generate income for European development

Discussion:

Russia: Any sanction fees imposed must be differentiated between the disciplines. When an EOC is introduced in a discipline, the first two championships should be without any sanction fee in order to establish the championship.

Anne Braggins Trail O commission: There will be no sanction fee for the European Trail OC in 2006 and 2007.

Øivind Holt: The previous Annual Meeting has already decided that there will be no fee for European Youth championships. Youth is not the responsibility of IOF.

Sweden: We support the Russian view of differentiating a fee between disciplines. A level of 30 000 euro for a senior championship seems too high, and we don't support the idea to increase the sanction fee for funding development in Europe.

Russia: Even a level of 20 000 euro is too high. Imposing a fee should be done gradually.

Øivind Holt: We must remember the conditions given when the invitation for applications were sent out. Thus, any fee for EOC in 2008 should not be higher than the level of WC events. So far there are no applications for EOC 2008.

Juraj Nemeč: Fees cannot be introduced in retrospect. At the Congress in Västerås, the Council was asked to reconsider the whole policy on sanction fees.

Austria: The entry fees should be kept at a level to cover the actual cost of the event itself. However the experience is that organisers tend to increase the payments for participation to cover all kind of costs. Increased sanction fee will in the end be paid by the participating federations.

3. European championships in MTBO.

Alexey Kuzmin, member of MTBO commission, gave an overview of the work in the commission during the last half year. An event plan both for senior and junior had been discussed looking at the possibilities of introducing regional championships. To-day there is only one international championship in MTBO: the world championship organised

every year. Members of the commission want in addition to organise an annual European championship starting from 2006 in order to promote the sport. Such a championship could include junior classes. The policy of organising Regional Senior championships every second year, is based on Foot O and should not apply to a young discipline like MTBO.

Discussion:

Sweden: Is it a demand for so many championships already, the discipline has few athletes so far.

Poland: We are ready to organise a European Championship already next year.

Juraj Nemec: I support the idea of an annual championship. However we should carefully consider the greater risk of this sport for young athletes and not include the younger classes in such a championship.

Øivind Holt: We have not received a formal application for junior or youth championship in MTBO within the deadline, only the Special rules sent out to the federations. These draft rules were submitted by the chairman of the MTBO commission.

Alexey Kuzmin: I see a European championship as first step, that later may be converted into a JWOC in MTBO. The work to develop a more interesting event programme has started within the commission, but has not been completed.

Leho Haldna (Estonia): There is a new leadership of the commission and they need time to establish its routines. I would like to see the commission to prepare an event programme.

Bjørn R Berntsen: All disciplines should follow the recommendations by IOF that senior regional championships shall take place every second years only. But I support the idea when establishing a new championship, it could be good for promotional reasons to organise it every year to begin with.

4. Presentation of applications

EYOC 2007: 3 presentations were given from Estonia, Hungary and Italy

MTBO: Poland presented their application and was ready to organise next year if so decided.

There were two applications submitted from Italian organisers. The Italian federation supported the application from Tuscany and presented this application only.

The Trail O organisers have already been selected and no presentation was required.

No applications regarding Ski O Championships or EOC2008 in Foot-O had been submitted. A proposal was raised from the floor that the WG should be authorised to find organisers.

5. Members for the WG

The secretary had only received one proposal for a new member of the WG in beforehand: Erich Simkovic, AUT.

The following nominations came from the floor:

Bjørn R. Berntsen, NOR as Chair

Øivind Holt as Secretary

Alexey Kuzmin, RUS as member

Juraj Nemec, SVK as member

David May, GBR as member

Vitaly Petrov, UKR as member

The workshop was closed at 15:35

Part II: The Annual meeting

The meeting was opened at 15:45 by the chairman of the Working Group (WG), Bjørn R. Berntsen.

1. Opening and roll call

19 voting federations were present. The names of the federations and delegates are given in attachment 1.

Bjørn R. Berntsen introduced himself and the present members of the WG. Apologies had been received from David May and Hans Breckle.

The chairman also conveyed regards from the IOF President Åke Jakobson to the Meeting.

The proposed agenda was approved.

There were no new items suggested under item 12 - Any other business. Item 9 was withdrawn since no proposal had come from the member federations.

2. Election of chair and tellers and a person to take minutes

B. R. Berntsen was elected to chair the meeting. As tellers were Juraj Nemec, Vitaly Petrov and Thomas Bruce elected. Øivind Holt was elected to take the draft minutes.

3. Approval of the minutes from Västerås – actions taken by WG

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Øivind Holt gave a briefing of the work in the WG the previous period:

- EYOC 2005 is organised here in Sumperk this weekend.
- Ski O EYOC was organised in conjunction with the JWOC in Ski-O in Engadin, Switzerland

The following SEA has been appointed

- EYOC 2006 in Slovenia: Cesare Tarabocchi, ITA

The application forms to host championships in 2007 /08 had been distributed via IOF Secretariat. The deadline of 31st January had later been prolonged until 31st March.

The WG should have looked into new formats for the various races and disciplines, but has been waiting for the new IOF Event programme to be published. No official papers regarding this matter have been available so far.

The call for this meeting was sent out by the end of March and all papers distributed 4 weeks prior to the meeting via the IOF Secretariat.

4. Working Rules for a European Region of IOF

The revised version of the working rules after the comments given in the workshop has been included, were approved, see attachment 3.

5. IOF fee on European Championships.

The Annual Meeting approved the following summary based on the discussion in the workshop:

The Assembly wants to introduce sanction fee only on senior championships and emphasised that fees should be differentiated between the disciplines. New sanction fees should only apply to championships where organisers have not already been appointed and follow the conditions given in the call for applications. Introduction of any sanction fee must follow the procedure described in the approved working rules.

When a new European championship is introduced, a sanction fee should not be implemented for the first two championships in order to establish and promote the new championship.

The Assembly considered a level of 20 000 euro for EOC (in Foot O) to be on the high side, and it was no support for a general increase of sanction fees in order to find funding for European development activities.

6. Rules for the European Championships in MTBO

The proposed rules were approved with the following amendments:

a. Regarding the frequency:

For promotional reasons the championship is organised every year starting in 2006.

Vote: Every year 12, Every second year 1, Abstains 6

The Chairman stated that this decision is valid for 2006 and 2007, eventually 2008.

b. Number of counting relay teams:

Only the better-placed team will count in the prize list.

This proposal was unanimously carried.

Complete Rules, see attachment 4

7. Rules for the European Championships in Trial O

The proposed rules were approved with the following amendment regarding the frequency:

The event is organised in 2006, 2007 and 2008 and thereafter every second year.

Complete Rules, see attachment 5

8. Appointment of organisers

A: EYOC 2007

Vote: Hungary 14, Italy 3, Estonia 2

Hungary is appointed as the EYOC 2007 organiser.

B: ETOC

The assembly approved the appointment made earlier by the Trail O commission:
ETOC 2006 hosted by Lithuania and ETOC 2007 hosted by France

The deadline for applications for ETOC 2008 will be 31st January 2006.

C. EC MTBO

The following organisers were appointed

EC MTBO 2006 Poland

EC MTBO 2007 Italy (Tuscany)

The WG was delegated the authority to find and appoint organisers for the following three championships:

EOC 2008, Ski O EC 2008 and Ski O YEOC 2007.

9. Next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday 31st July 2006 in Århus in Denmark in conjunction with WOC2006.

10. Appointment of the WG

Øivind Holt did not accept the nomination as secretary. It was decided to elect all the 5 nominees as members of the Working Group (in stead of 4). A secretary should then be appointed among the Working Group members.

Elections of WG:

Chair: Bjorn R. Berntsen - NOR

Members: David May - GBR, Juraj Nemeč - SVK, Vitalij Petrov – UKR, Alexey Kuzmin – RUS, Erich Simkovic - AUT

Appointment of secretary:

No appointment

The Chairman concluded the Meeting by thanking Øivind Holt for the great work he has done as secretary of the Working Group since the establishment of this cooperation between the European Federations.

The Annual Meeting was closed at 16:20.

Attachment 1: Federations and their representatives in Sumperk

1. Austria	Erich Simkovics
2. Bulgaria	Lachezar Iliev
3. Czech Republic	Radan Kamenicky
4. Estonia	Leho Haldna
5. France	Vincent Papon, Andre Hermet
6. Great Britain	Bob Roach
7. Hungary	Arpad Nagy
8. Italy	Michele Franco
9. Norway	Bjørn R. Berntsen
10. Poland	Wojciech Dwojak
11. Portugal	Jose Carlos Pinas
12. Serbia & Montenegro	Irina Juhas
13. Slovenia	Andreja Anzur
14. Slovakia	Juraj Nemec
15. Spain	Omar Aluando Blanco, Jose Samper
16. Sweden	Thomas Bruce
17. Switzerland	Andreas Lüthi
18. Russia	Alexey Kuzmin
19. Ukraine	Vitalij Petrov, Viktor Biloshytskyy

Attachment 2: The Working Group 2005- 2006

Addresses:

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17 08

Secretary

No appointment

Attachment 3

Working Rules for the co-operation between Orienteering Federations in Europe (EOF)

1. The Purpose of the co-operation

The purposes of the co-operation between the European federations are:

- by delegation of the International Orienteering Federation (IOF) to ensure the organization of European Orienteering Championships (EOC) for different age classes in orienteering disciplines recognized by the IOF
- to prepare Special Rules for the EOCs
- to promote regional co-operation for the further development of the sport in Europe

The co-operation shall respect and abide by IOF Statutes, IOF competition rules and decisions by the IOF General Assembly.

2. Co-operating partners

EOF is made up of the European orienteering federations that are members of the IOF.

3. Working structure

- Annual meeting
- Working Group
- The Chairman and Secretary of the Working Group

4. The Annual Meeting

The decisive body of EOF is the Annual Meeting (AEOF).

The Annual Meeting shall be organized every year in conjunction with the IOF Congress / Presidents meeting. If the IOF Congress / Presidents' meeting is organized outside Europe another venue may be decided for the Annual Meeting. The Meeting shall be open to all European member federations of IOF. Only federations that are full members of the IOF may table proposals and vote.

An invitation to the Annual Meeting, together with a draft agenda, shall be sent to the member federations 3 months before the meeting. A final agenda and background documents shall be sent out 4 weeks before the meeting.

5. The Working Group

The Annual Meeting shall elect a Working Group for a one year term. The Working Group consists of a Chairman, 4 members and a Secretary.

The tasks of the Working Group is to prepare and lead the Annual Meeting, and to lead the EOF between the Annual Meetings, in liaison with the IOF Council and the relevant IOF commissions, in matters related to the co-operation between the European

orienteering federations, notably the organization of the European Orienteering Championships.

The Chairman of the Working Group decides if it is necessary to call a meeting in the Working Group. Communication shall normally be undertaken by e-mail or phone.

The appointment as Secretary is honorary. The Secretary is the connecting link between the IOF Secretariat, EOF members and the Working Group. The Secretary is responsible for distributing calls for meetings, organize taking of the minutes from meetings and being the contact point for members sending in proposals.

6. Rules of the Annual Meeting

At least the following items shall be included:

- roll call of participating federations
- establishment of the number of votes present
- election of chairperson for the Meeting, a person to take minutes, 3 tellers to count votes and observe elections.
- approval of the agenda. Additional items can be included on the Agenda with a 2/3 majority.
- approval of the minutes from the previous meeting.
- applications to host European Orienteering Championships
- proposals
- election of Chairman and members of the Working Group and Secretary
- time and venue for the next Annual Meeting
- any other business
- closure of the Meeting

Minutes from the Meeting shall be taken and distributed to the European member federations, and the IOF, within 6 weeks after the Meeting.

Decisions are made among the members present at the meeting during that item. Each European full member of IOF has 1 vote. All decisions concerning matters on the agenda are taken by simple majority of votes expressed (abstentions do not count). If a voting gives an equal number of votes for each alternative, the casting vote of the Chairman's federation will decide.

Proposals may be tabled by a member federation or the Working Group. Proposals other than a proposal to organize European Orienteering Championships (EOC) shall reach the Secretary within the time limit given in the call for the meeting. Proposals to host EOC shall be submitted to the IOF Secretariat within the deadlines given for IOF events (normally 31st January, 2-3 years prior to the event as described in the Special Rules.)

The Working Group may invite the members to a workshop in conjunction with the Annual Meeting in order to discuss matters of interest.

7. The European Orienteering Championships

The European Orienteering Championships (EOC) are IOF events and are organized under the auspices of the IOF. The Championships are organized in accordance with IOF's competition rules, unless Special Rules approved by the EOF.

Only full members may organize European Orienteering Championships.

8. Cost and fees

The work of EOF shall be carried out with a minimal cost to its members. Each member is carrying their own cost for participation at the Annual Meeting and the cost of members being appointed to the Working Group.

Federations hosting an EOC shall pay all cost for the International Controllers. The organizer shall also pay the cost of medals and other prizes decide by EOF. The organizer shall provide free of charge accommodation and local transport for official representatives of EOF (appointed by the Working Group) attending the championship.

If IOF will impose sanction fee on an EOC, this fee should be approved by the EOF. In this case, the costs of event advising and medals would be met by the IOF.

9. Changing the Working Rules

Member Federations and the Working Group may propose changes in these Working Rules. Changes must be approved by a 2/3 majority by the Annual Meeting. Such proposals must reach the Secretary 4 months before the Annual Meeting.

Attachment 4

Special Rules EUROPEAN MTBO CHAMPIONSHIPS

The European MTBO Championships (in short EC MTBO) is the official event to award the titles of European Champion in MTBO among men and women. It is organised under the authority of the Assembly of European Orienteering Federation / IOF and the appointed national federation.

These Special Rules are valid from 1st January 2006.

1. Principles for the MTBO EC

The championship shall be organised in accordance with the following principles:

- The best MTBO competitors of each European Federation shall be offered competitions of the highest technical quality.
- The event shall have a social atmosphere, allowing people the opportunity for social interaction, to share experiences and to meet new friends

2. Event programme

The event is organised every year starting from 2006. The programme should be kept within 4 days and shall include 3 races: a Sprint or Middle distance Final, a Long distance Final and a Relay with three legs.

The event shall follow the IOF Competition Rules for MTBO unless otherwise stated in these Special Rules. The dates of the EC MTBO shall be co-ordinated with other international events and finally approved by the IOF (MTBO Commission).

3. Event application and appointment of organiser

Any European Federation that is a full member of the IOF may apply to organise the EC MTBO. Applications should reach the IOF before March 31st, 2 years prior to the event. The Annual Meeting of the IOF will appoint the organiser. An IOF Event Advisor from another Federation shall be appointed to control the event.

4. Participation and Classes

Competitors representing IOF full member Federations and competitors representing European associate members of IOF can compete in EC MTBO.

In the individual events a Federation may enter a maximum of **6 runners** in each class (M/W 21) and 2 teams in the Relay, but only the better-placed team will count in the prize list.

There shall be no limit on the number of runners and leaders in a team.

5. Starting order, start interval, winning times,.

The IOF Competition Rules for MTBO World Championships shall apply to starting order, start interval, winning times, relays. If more than 100 competitors are entered for any distance, the results from the Middle distance results may be used as a qualification criteria for the Long distance, with first 60 runners to start in the A final, and the others in a B final.

6. Prizes

The organiser shall prepare and pay for specially designed medals (as decided by the European Working Group) for both the individual events (3 medals in each class / race), and for the Relay (9 medals - for each team member of the first three teams in each class). A diploma shall be given to the six best competitors in each class and race.

Attachment 5

Special Rules EUROPEAN TRAIL ORIENTEERING CHAMPIONSHIPS

European Trail Orienteering Championship (in short EuTOC) is the official event to award the titles of European Champion in Trail Orienteering. It is organised under the authority of the European Presidents meeting / IOF and the appointed Federation.

These special rules are valid from 1st of January 2006.

1. Principles for EuTOC

The championship shall be organised in accordance with the following principles:

- The participants shall be offered competitions of the highest technical quality.
- The organiser shall follow the design of a compact championship model in order to minimise transport time and cost and give competitors, leaders and other representatives of orienteering a possibility to enjoy a social atmosphere.
- The costs of participation shall be kept low and accommodation of different standard and prices shall be offered.
- There shall be the possibility to introduce new competitors to international competition

2. Event programme

The event is organised in 2006, 2007 and 2008 and thereafter every second year. The programme shall be kept within 5 days and include the following classes: Competition for those of any physical ability and competition for those eligible for the Paralympic class (Paralympic competitors may be entered for both classes); together with competitions for teams of 3 pre-declared competitors of any physical ability and 3 pre-declared competitors eligible for the Paralympic class (they may be declared for both teams).

The event shall follow the IOF Competition Rules unless otherwise is stated in these Special Rules. The dates of the EuTOC shall be co-ordinated with other international events and when possible be included in the programme with the EuOC of other disciplines and finally approved by IOF.

3. Participation

Competitors representing IOF full member Federations and competitors representing European associate members of IOF can compete in the EuTOC.

In the individual events a Federation may enter maximum **6 persons** in each class.

In the team competition a Federation may enter 2 teams in each class, but only the better-placed team will count in the prize list. There shall be no limit on the number of competitors and leaders in a team.

4. Event application and appointment of organiser

Any European Federation that is a full member of IOF, may apply to organise EuTOC.

Applications shall reach the IOF Secretariat before January 31st 2 years prior to the event.

The Annual Meeting of the IOF will appoint the organiser. An IOF licensed Event Advisor from another Federation shall be appointed to control the event.

5. Prizes

The organiser shall prepare and pay for specially designed medals (as decided by the European Working Group) for the individual events (3 medals in each class) and the team competition (3 medals in each class) and diplomas for places 1-6.