

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING  
OF THE EUROPEAN ORIENTEERING FEDERATIONS**

Wednesday, August 19, 2009 in Lillafüred, Hungary

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**1. Opening and Roll call**

The meeting was opened at 17.10 by the Chairman of the European Working Group (EWG), Helge Søgaaard.

**2. Establishment of the number of votes present**

20 voting federations were present, these being AUT, BEL, BUL, CZE, DEN, ESP, EST, FIN, FRA, GBR, HUN, ITA, NOR, POR, ROU, RUS, SUI, SVK, SWE, and TUR.

**3. Election of Chair, Minute-taker, and three Tellers**

Helge Søgaaard (DEN) was elected to chair the meeting and Erik Nielsen (DEN) to take the minutes. Elin Sjödin Drange (NOR), Marcel Schiess (SUI) and Pierre Durieux (FRA) were elected as tellers.

**4. Approval of agenda**

The agenda was approved.

**5. Approval of the minutes from Prostějov, Czech Republic 2008**

The minutes, which had already been submitted to the federations in accordance with the rules, were approved.

**6. Report on actions taken by the European Working Group**

The EWG Chairman Helge Søgaaard briefed the meeting on the work of the WG in the last 12 months, extended his warm gratitude to the organisers of the championships held since last meeting and wished the organisers of next year's championships good luck.

***a) European Championships Events 2008-2009***

- EOC 2008 (LAT)
- ETOC 2008 (LAT)
- EYOC 2008 (SUI)
- EYOC 2009 (SER)
- SKI-EOC 2008 (SUI)
- SKI-EYOC 2008 (BUL)
- SKI-EYOC 2009 (SWE)
- MTBO-EOC 2008 (LTU)
- MTBO-EOC 2009 (DEN)

***b) European Championships Events 2010***

- EOC (BUL)
- ETOC (SWE)

- EYOC (ESP)
- SKI-EOC (ROM)
- SKI-EYOC (ROM)

*c) Other Issues*

The Chairman further presented the following issues:

**Future EOC organizers**

We do see a rising numbers of proposals to establish more European Championships in the different ways to perform orienteering – for example SKI-O, MTB-O – and added to this, also to include all the different disciplines – for example SPRINT – to these championships.

On the other hand we do also see that is difficult to attract organizers of the European championships. From the planning scheme for future events it appears that we do have some open spaces.

So – my dear European friends: Please consider whereby your federation or some clubs in your countries do see the possibility to launch a bid for a future European Championship.

The equation is very simple: Without organizers – no events! Please come forward to the Working Group, not only submitting bids, but do feel free if you only would like to discuss possibilities or if you need additional information concerning future events and the demands to organize these.

**Regional Development**

One of the key issues for the IOF during the past numbers of years has been the spread of orienteering worldwide. I fully agree with this ambition.

But I would also like to add to this discussion, that perhaps we should focus more on developing orienteering in the countries where only a minor part of orienteers are active.

In other words: We can spend a lot of energy in developing orienteering on Iceland, in Albania or in Luxembourg, which to my knowledge, is the non-orienteering countries in Europe. These efforts could in the very best way only create a few hundred active orienteers.

But, if IOF did launch a project whereby we could increase the numbers of orienteers in all the European Federations with only 5 %, or persuade – only as examples – just 1% of the population in France or in Germany to do orienteering. That would be a remarkable increase of active performers in orienteering.

What is most important: To increase the number of member federations with 3, who would contribute with small and probably reduced member fees to the IOF? - or increase the number of participants in the international multi-days events all over Europe increasing the economy of the federations – and in addition to this, also the IOF.

I know these ideas are considered by members of the IOF Council. I would recommend that they could be upgraded as an essential part of the IOF activity plans.

**IOF acknowledgement of the EWG-work**

I do know that this item could be like entering a minefield.

During the last years work with the different tasks of the Working Group, Erik, I and some members of the Working Group have accumulated some experiences.

We have had an excellent support from the Secretary in Helsinki performed by Secretary General Barbro Rönneberg and her assistant Anna Zeelig. But when it comes to the political part of the IOF and the Council we do feel that things could be improved.

I have the following considerations concerning:

IOF do have a priority for regional development, but the regions are not represented directly in the Council.

IOF has never – according to the records for the last 5 to 6 years – had a meeting with representatives from the European Working Group. Except from the meeting I asked for in January this year. We had a very fine, positive and useful meeting, but I clearly got the impression, that this initiative was quite unusual.

IOF do establish different commissions to take care of different technical matters and disciplines. And they do establish regular meetings with these Commissions. The regional working groups do take care of a wide part of IOF events and other related matters, but we are living – so to say – in the outskirts of the IOF attendance.

I have seen from the minutes of the last Council meeting in May, *“that it was suggested that the working groups might be regarded as part of the IOF structure and be given specific terms of reference, including permanent and special task in a similar way as the commissions”*.

IOF has refused or failed to send representatives to a number of European Championships during 2008 and 2009, which is a disappointment to the organizers. The European Working Group would like to support the organizers and to represent the IOF, but we don't have the fund to support this and IOF has clearly stated that these tasks, is an IOF-matter.

So, the European Working Group do feel, that our work could be worthy a higher degree of acknowledgement from the IOF. We are ready to work for European orienteering as a regional part of the IOF, we are a part of the IOF, and should practically spoken have the same attendance as other IOF bodies.

### **MTBO-rules**

As it appears from the Annual Report we decided to approve the present rules for MTBO as a basis for the MTBO-EOC in Denmark this year. From a close cooperation with the event director, Mr. Tage Andersen, and in conjunction with members of the MTBO-Commission, the present rules covering every aspect and possible situation, were approved.

The procedure for this has been - in the past - that the European Working Group approved different wishes to new rules and changes to present rules on a more or less year-to year basis. This is not a proper way to handle rules matters, and by the actions now taken by the European Working Group, we have secured that the relevant IOF-bodies accomplish the work with a final revision of the MTBO-Rules.

This work should have been done in advance by these IOF-bodies, and not leaving the responsibility to the European Working Group. But anyway – we have now submitted a “ready-to-cook” set of rules, and expect that these are approved by the IOF in due time before next MTBO-event.

## **Budget for the EWG**

The lack of a budget to cover our work within the European Working Group is a remarkable problem.

Some examples:

**A:** We have to finance the buying of medals and production of diplomas for the European Championships. To reduce the cost per item and the administration of this task, we do place orders one year ahead.

The event organizers will of course pay for these medals, but we do have to finance the period from buying until the event organizers cover the outstanding amount.

Until now the Danish Federation has covered these costs.

**B:** Planning the annual meeting requires the print of some background materials.

Until now the companies of both Mr. Erik Nielsen and I have covered these costs.

I did bring this matter forward to the IOF at the meeting in January this year. The outcome was that the IOF, from the minutes of the Councils meeting in May “*decided that the matter of allocating, from within the IOF budget, some funds to the regional working groups*” and “*this was asked to be elaborated as a proposal for discussion and decision making at the next Council meeting*”. So - according to this the matter is still under consideration.

IOF do finance the work in the Council, the different Commissions and the work commenced by the Event Advisors. But I don't see any significant signs to support the important and huge work in the European Working Group, who in fact is taking care of a lot of IOF events and matters – on behalf of the IOF.

## **7. Appointment of event organisers**

### ***a) Ski-EOC 2010: Romania proposed by the Ski-O Commission***

The EWG Secretary reminded the meeting of last year's decision whereby the EWG was assigned to consult with the Ski-O-Commission for the appointment of an organiser. In accordance with this decision Romania had been appointed as organiser of the event which will take place together with the Ski-EYOC 2009. However, the Ski-O Commission wanted a vote from the assembly to confirm the decision.

**Voting:** For: 17 Against: 0 Abstained: 3

***Romania was appointed as organiser of Ski-EOC 2010***

### ***b) MTB-EOC 2011: No application received***

No formal application had been submitted however both Russia and Italy expressed their interest in organising the event but would need more time to discuss further before an official application could be submitted.

The meeting assigned the EWG to consult with the MTB-O-Commission and gave the EWG power of attorney to appoint an organiser.

### ***c) EYOC 2011: Applications received from Estonia and Czech Republic***

**Estonia:** The event was proposed to take place in July 2011 in Värskä, Estonia. Further information about the bid from EST is found in the PP-presentation in Annex 1.

**Czech Republic:** The event was proposed to take place during the last weekend in June (if not colliding with JWOC) in Jindřichův Hradec, southern Bohemia 120 km away from Prague and 100 km away from Brno. Further information about the bid from CZE is found in the PP-presentation in Annex 2.

**Voting:** Czech Republic: 13      Estonia: 5      Abstained: 2

***Czech Republic was appointed as organiser of EYOC 2011***

*d) Ski-EYOC 2011: No application received*

The meeting assigned the EWG to consult with the Ski-O-Commission and gave the EWG power of attorney to appoint an organiser.

*e) EOC 2012 and ETOC 2012: Application from Sweden received*

The SWE Secretary General, Jan-Anders Gredeskog, introduced a 4-person strong delegation from the local organisers from Falun and Mora who presented the details of their bid in a PP presentation found in Annex 3 and distributed hand-outs supporting the bid to the assembly delegates.

The event was proposed to take place in the be Falun/Mora/Orsa region, about 2 hours travelling distance from Stockholm from 14<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> May, 2012.

***Sweden was appointed as organiser of EOC and ETOC 2012***

*f) Ski-EOC 2011: Norway proposed by the Ski-O Commission*

Following the decision to have annual orienteering championships as from 2011 Norway was proposed as organiser of the event in 2011. Norway had not formally applied but declared that they accepted the challenge given to them by the Ski-O Commission and that the event would take place in Lillehammer in February 2011.

***Norway was appointed as organiser of Ski-EOC 2011***

## **8. Proposals from member Federations**

Five proposals were dealt with.

### ***1) MTB-EOC Yearly Competition (RUS)***

The EWG had received a proposal from Russia to make European MTB Orienteering Championships yearly competition from the Year 2011, with conjunction of one of World Cup's series.

The EWG informed that the assembly could not discuss the last part of the proposal, i.e. "conjunction of one of World Cup's series" as this was an IOF matter and thus outside the EOF jurisdiction.

The leader of the RUS delegation, Alexey Kuzmin, presented the proposal and argued that many federations that had participated in the recent EOC in Denmark in June had expressed their support to an annual competition.

Other federations argued that it was difficult to see the rationale of introducing annual championships taking into consideration the difficulties in finding organisers.

**Voting:** For: 3      Against: 15      Abstained: 2

**Decision:** *The proposal was not adopted*

## 2) MTB-EOC Format (DEN)

Denmark had submitted a proposal for a change of the format of the MTB-EOC consisting of several sub-proposals, i.e. inclusion of sprint, inclusion of a rest day, inclusion of qualification for the long distance final, and annual competitions.

As the previous vote turned down the proposal of annual championships, only the decision on the format remained to be taken

The EWG suggested a vote on each of the three elements, one by one.

As regards the inclusion of sprint in the programme the result was as follows:

**Voting:** For: 14 Against: 1 Abstained: 5

**Decision:** *SPRINT to be included in the programme of MTB-EOC*

After some discussion about the other two elements Sweden proposed that it should be optional for the organizers to include a rest day.

**Voting:** For: 15 Against: 2 Abstained: 3

**Decision:** *Rest day at MTB-EOC may be included at the discretion of the organisers.*

To allow maximum flexibility for the organisers Sweden again suggested that it should be optional to include Qualification for the Long Final. However, the majority wanted a vote on the inclusion or not of Long Qualification in the programme which was therefore conducted.

**Voting:** For: 0 Against: 14 Abstained: 6

**Decision:** *Long Qualification is not included in the MTB-EOC.*

## 3) MTB-EYOC (RUS)

Russia had submitted a proposal to establish MTB European Youth Orienteering Championships for **M17 & W17 age groups** as yearly competition from the Year 2010 or 2011. Bulgaria supported the proposal however others expressed their reservation.

**Voting:** For: 6 Against: 10 Abstained: 4

**Decision:** *MTB-EYOC (M17 and W17) not adopted.*

## 4) Sprint to be included in Ski-EYOC (Ski-O Commission)

Ski O Commission had submitted a proposal to include sprint as the new discipline into the SKI-EOYC program. If this proposal is accepted the SKI O EYOC would include following disciplines:

1. Sprint
2. Middle distance
3. Long-distance

This change follows developments in other disciplines (foot O EYOC program) and has been requested by the federations and athletes, too. It does not increase costs for organizers of the event, but increases publicity and status of the event. The extended program can be applied, if approved, already in Romania 2010 (organizers agree and will be happy).

Replying to a question from the floor the Ski-O Commission's representative Yuraj Nemec clarified that there is no Relay in the event due to a limited number of participants.

**Voting:** For: 13 Against: 0 Abstained: 7

**Decision:** *SPRINT to be included in the programme for Ski-EYOC*

#### 5) Ski-EOC as Annual Event (Ski-O Commission)

The Ski-O Commission had submitted a proposal to organize EOC in ski orienteering every year. According to our experience and discussion with member federations we felt that Ski orienteering federations in Europe need an annual Championship event every year to apply for /receive support from national governments and Olympic committees.

Technically the proposal means that the open Nordic Championships that are organized bi-annually will then be replaced with EOC every other year in Scandinavia/Russia, and every second year the EOC will be organized in conjunction with the World Cup in other part of Europe. Such development has already been agreed officially with the NORD federations.

The proposed change represents the compromise. Unfortunately organizing World Championships every year is too much of a challenge in ski orienteering at the moment, but replacing the open Nordic Championships with the European Championships status can be done and is also very strongly supported by the athletes. The decision does not increase the costs for the organizers, but only upgrades the status of the current events.

**Voting:** For: 8 Against: 1 Abstained: 11

**Decision:** *Ski-EOC will be an annual event as from 2010*

#### 9. Election of the Working Group

- a) Chairman: Helge Sjøgaard (DEN) re-elected uncontested
- b) Secretary: Erik Nielsen (DEN) re-elected uncontested
- c) 4 members of the EWG: Besides the 4 present members who had accepted to be re-elected two new candidates had been proposed, i.e. Dusan Vystavel (CZE) and Alexey Kuzmin (RUS). The secret vote gave the following result (the first four persons in the list are elected).

a.	Juraj Nemec (SLO)	16 votes
b.	Vincent Frey (FRA)	14 votes
c.	Erich Simkovics (AUT)	13 votes
d.	Dusan Vystavel (CZE)	12 votes
e.	Zoran Milovanovic (SER)	10 votes
f.	Alexey Kuzmin (RUS)	7 votes

#### 10. Decision concerning the next meeting

The next meeting will take place in association with WOC 2010 in Norway. The exact date and time will be fixed later depending on the IOF meeting schedule.

#### 11. Any other business

None

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**Meeting closed at 18.58**

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### **Working Group contact details**

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## ANNEX 1 – Estonia bid for EYOC 2011



# EYOC 2011

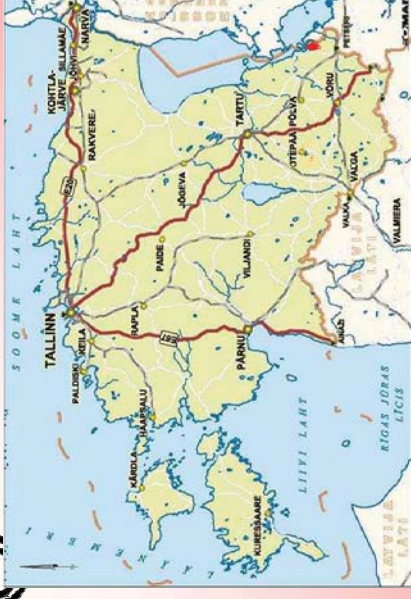
July 2011

Värška, Estonia

19.08.2008

Miskolc

2



## Concept

- Värška
  - EC in Värška SPA
    - Accommodation facilities up for 220 people in good standard
    - Cheaper accommodation available in questhouses or in school
  - Terrains 10-20 km (sprint 1-2 km) from EC

19.08.2008

Miskolc

3



## Maps



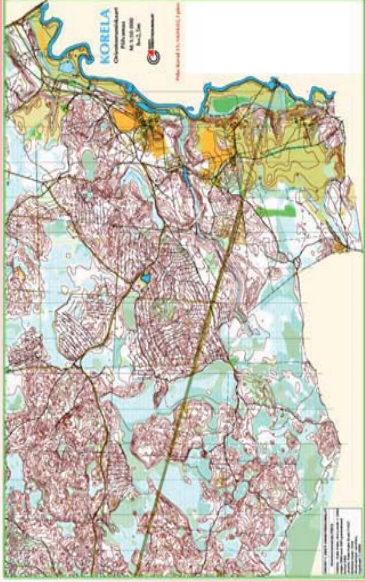
19.08.2008

Miskolc

4



## Maps



19.08.2008

Miskolc

5



## Concept

- Organiser – OK Peko, experienced local club with support from clubs from Võru, Tartu and Põlva (organisers JWOC'03, EuOC'06)
- Strong local support
  - Head of local municipality Raul Kudre (best Estonian male ski-orienteer)
  - Orienteering is well-known in region
  - Main sponsor – local mineral water company "Väraska Vesi"

19.08.2008

Miskolc

6



welcome to ESTonia

## ANNEX 2 – Czech Republic bid for EYOC 2011

## EYOC 2011

Bid by Czech Orienteering Federation

## EYOC 2011 – Location and date

- **Location:**  
*Jindřichův Hradec*, southern Bohemia  
120 km away from Prague, 100 away from Brno
- **Proposed date:**  
last weekend in June (if not colliding with JWOC)

## EYOC 2011 – Organization

- **Main Organizer:**  
Czech Orienteering Federation
  - **Local Organizer:**  
Magnus Orienteering + local o-clubs
  - **Event Director:**  
*David Aleš* (WOC 2008 tech. director)
- Key OC members from the succesful WOC 2008 and EYOC 2005 organization teams

## EYOC 2011 – Reasons Why 1

- New terrain for orienteering - so far uncovered by previous orienteering maps
- Variable, challenging and technical terrain  
*Sprint* – park + historical city centre  
*Long* – technical hilly mountain terrain  
*Relay* – undulating sandstone terrain
- Perfect and convenient location for European countries

## EYOC 2011 – Reasons Why 2

- Organized by federation with excellent media contacts (guaranteed edited coverage on national TV programme and news coverage by Czech Media Agency)
- Favourable price:
  - **LOW** start fees of **160 EUR/runner**
  - Proven and experienced organizers
  - EYOC in country where orienteering is gaining popularity

## EYOC 2011

*Thank you for your attention and possible votes.*

## ANNEX 3 – Sweden bid for EOC 2011

# EOC 2012

SWEDEN | FALUN/MORA/ORSA

EOC 2012 | 2012 EOC Event Falun/Mora/Orsa | Falun Kommun | Mora Kommun | Orsa Kommun



## Travel connections

Stockholm	Falun	Mora
Arlanda	Dala Airport	Mora Airport
	1 h X-train	1 h train
	2 h car highway	1 h car
	2 h bus	1 h bus

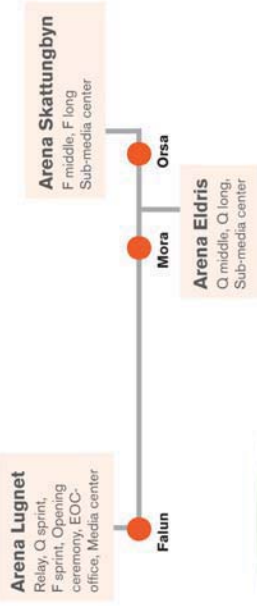
EOC 2012 | 2012 EOC Event Falun/Mora/Orsa | Falun Kommun | Mora Kommun | Orsa Kommun

## Accommodation facilities

EOC 2012 | 2012 EOC Event Falun/Mora/Orsa | Falun Kommun | Mora Kommun | Orsa Kommun



## Arenas



## Time and venue

The Organizing Committee for the EOC 2012 is prepared to change distances, disciplines and number of competition days.

14th may	Opening Ceremony	Q sprint	Falun
15th may	Q long		Mora
16th may	Q middle		Mora
17th may	F long	EOCT	Orsa
18th may	F middle	EOCT	Orsa
19th may	Relay	EOCT	Falun
20th may	F sprint	EOCT	Falun



## Sports Capital of Sweden

Just 2 hours car or train ride from Stockholm, Falun and Mora are a mecca for outdoor sports enthusiasts. Some would say that this is the sports capital of Sweden.



## EOC 2012 and orienteering have a lot of support in the region

# ANNEX 4 – Overview of European Orienteering Championships

IOF - European Working Group

European Orienteering Championships

EVENT		EOC	ETOC	EYOC	SKI-EOC	
2009	Organizer			SERBIA		
	IOF Event Adviser			Dusan Vystavel (CZE)		
2010	Organizer	BULGARIA	SWEDEN	SPAIN	ROMANIA	
	IOF Event Adviser	Karl Johan Clemmensen (DEN)	to be appointed	to be appointed	to be appointed	J
2011	Organizer			CZECH REPUBLIC	NORWAY	
	IOF Event Adviser			to be appointed	to be appointed	
2012	Organizer	SWEDEN	SWEDEN			
	IOF Event Adviser	to be appointed	to be appointed			
2013	Organizer					
	IOF Event Adviser					
2014	Organizer					
	IOF Event Adviser					
2015	Organizer					
	IOF Event Adviser					
Disciplines		Sprint, Middle, Long, Relay	2 individual, 1 team	Sprint, "Normal", Relay	Sprint, Middle, Long, Relay	
Classes		Women, Men, Relay	Paralympic, Any	W-16, W-18, M-16, M-18	Women, Men, Relay	
Number of participants		6 W, 6 M, 2 relay teams x 3 runners	6 persons in each class, 2 teams in each class	4 runners in each class*, team score	6 W, 6 M, 2 relay teams	4
Number of medals		36	24	n/a	36	

**Acronyms**

- EOC European Orienteering Championships
- ETOC European Trail Orienteering Championships
- EYOC European Youth Orienteering Championships
- SKI-EOC European Ski Orienteering Championships
- SKI-EYOC European Youth Ski Orienteering Championships
- MTB-EOC European Mountainbike Orienteering Championships

\* 3 W and 3 M in each class if the number of federations is more than 25