



## Minutes – Foot Orienteering Commission – Meeting 3–17

**Place:** Dorpat Convention Centre, Tartu, Estonia

**Meeting schedule:** Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> June 2017 – 16:00-18:00 EET  
Saturday, 1<sup>st</sup> July 2017 – 09:00-14:00 EET  
Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2017 – 09:00-15:00 EET

**Participants:**

Áron Less (AL)	Chairman
Tomáš Dlabaja (TD)	Member – through Skype
Kilian Imhof (KI)	Member
Helge Lang Pedersen (HLP)	Member
Janos Manarin (JM)	Member
David May (DM)	Member – through Skype
Petteri Muukkonen (PM)	Member
Unni Strand Karlsen (USK)	Member
Blair Trewin (BT)	Member – through Skype

**Invitations:**

Tom Hollowell (TH)	IOF CEO / Secretary General
Nik Suter (NS)	FOC's IOF Council contact person
Daniel Leibundgut (DL)	WOC Project Manager
David Wästlund (DW)	IOF Sports Administrator
David Rosen (DR)	IOF Rules Commission Chairman

**Apology:** Maria Krafft Helgesson Member

### OPENING

- 1 Opening** AL  
AL opened the meeting.
- 2 Follow up of Minutes FOC 2-17** AL  
All follow-up topics are discussed under the various agenda items below.

## TO NOTE DECISIONS / ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE FOC MEETING 2-17

### 3 Council & ESB decisions

AL

- 1 February 2017: Council unanimously approved the dates of the European Youth Orienteering Championships (EYOC) 2018 in Bulgaria as 28, 29, 30 June and 1 July 2018
- 14 February 2017: The ESB unanimously approved the Rules Deviation Request from the organisers of WOC 2017 to use the ISOM symbol 527 Settlement to indicate out of bounds areas.
- 29 March 2017: The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Carl-Göran Strutz (SWE) as Senior Event Adviser - Competition (SEA) for the World Orienteering Championships 2020 in Denmark.
- 29 March 2017: The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Száva Zsigmond (HUN) as IOF Senior Event Adviser (SEA) for the European University Orienteering Championships 2019 in the Czech Republic.
- 1 April 2017: Council approved the proposed standard programme from FOC regarding WOC from 2019 as: 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. Council noted that this programme should be maintained for at least WOC 2019 and 2021 before being evaluated.
- 1 April 2017: Council approved the recommended method for WOC long qualification for WOC 2019 and that it should then be re-evaluated for 2021.
- 1 April 2017: Council approved the FOC proposal for a long-term international planning calendar and its use in upcoming applications for FootO events.
- 1 April 2017: Council approved the dates of WMOC 2019 in Latvia as 5-12 July 2019.
- 10 April 2017: The ESB unanimously approved the updated Special Rules for the Orienteering World Cup 2017.
- 21 April 2017: Council unanimously approved the status of the Asian Junior and Youth Orienteering Championships (AsJYOC) in China in August 2017, as an official IOF event, contingent upon the final approval of rules by Council meeting 185 at the latest and upon the approval of the SEA following his site visit. As part of this decision Council unanimously appointed Dominic Yue (HKG) as SEA for the AsJYOC 2017.
- 22 May 2017: The ESB agreed actions to be taken due to a breach of embargo for WOC 2018 in Latvia. A Team Official had been in contact with the WOC SEA and organisers to inform them that he had unintentionally entered one of the embargoed areas for WOC 2018 while

sightseeing. He enquired about consequences of this breach. The ESB agreed the following sanction and actions:

- The Sanction should be personal for the Team Official only (no reason to sanction any team or athlete he is currently working with)
  - Any accreditation request for the Team Official as a Team Leader, Coach or any other position for WOC 2018 be rejected (including participation in official training camps, etc.)
  - In a letter to the Team Official strongly suggest that he refrain from taking on any national team or personal coaching positions (for runners who may be potential WOC2018 competitors) until after WOC2018, to avoid any perceived wrongdoing.
  - In the letter, point out that he should not divulge any information he may have gained to any runners he is currently coaching or dealing with.
  - Further, a reminder was to be sent to all national federations regarding the embargoed areas for WOC 2018.
- 5 June 2017: The ESB unanimously approved the proposed method for creating start lists at The World Games 2017 as proposed by the SEA and Organisers. The starting order was to be based upon the IOF World Rankings with best ranked starting last.
  - 7 June 2017: The ESB unanimously approved the rules deviation request from the organisers of NAOC 2018 that the format of the relay competition be a normal forest relay, not sprint relay.

All other topics are discussed under the various agenda items below.

## **FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – STRATEGIC PLANNING & EVENT QUALITY**

### **4 Strategic planning**

MKH,  
HLP, AL

The Strategic planning paper was approved by Council.

**From our last Meeting Minutes:** 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.

FOC discussed the subject with TH, DL and DW from IOF Office. TH informed that IOF Council is positive towards taking further the idea to be more proactive in finding the right future applicants for High Level Events.

The ambition is to do further work to establish a fair, open and transparent process towards high quality event applications that are geographically distributed as much as the overall objective allows.

It was agreed, that FOC should develop a proposal about how to proceed and send this proposal to Council. A first draft should be available for the October Council meeting. **Action AL.**

## 5 The World Games

AL

**TWG 2017 POL:** status report. AL had a meeting with the SEAs during his WOC assessment visit in CZE. Everything seems to be on track for now. Bulletin 3 was issued in early June. AL will be present at the event.

- **TWG 2021, Birmingham, Georgia, USA:** 15-25 July 2021. The decision about which sports will be on the 2021 programme will be made after an evaluation following TWG 2017. TH has visited the area in 2016 and identified suitable terrain.
- TH gave a status report. The current challenge is to find the right balance in the dialogue with the IWGA about the quality of the TV production Joey Ciza – orienteer from Birmingham – will be present at TWG 2017. Forest terrain is fantastic – but temperature can be very hot there. Date synchronisation between WOC 2021, O-Ringen and The World Games will be a challenge.

## 6 World Orienteering Championships (WOC)

TD, AL,  
PM

- **WOC 2017, Estonia:** Status report. No new SEA report available.
- **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 planned a visit for May 2017. Finance is one of the concerns. Dates are 4-11 August.
- The progress in planning was discussed. All “in forest” activities (both forest and sprint) are well on track, but everything outside the forest is behind schedule. Currently all the effort is put into the World Cup round in August 2017. Event plan is still missing. Not enough English speakers in the organisation. It is also a concern that only a few persons from LAT were present during WOC 2017.
- **WOC 2019, Norway:** Status report. No new SEA report available. Sarpsborg, Østfold was appointed as the organiser. Dates are 13-18 August. Per Bergerud was appointed General Manager a few months ago and communication improved subsequently. An SEA visit took place in the middle of June.
- It is also a concern here that only very few persons from NOR attended WOC 2017. It is strongly recommended that future WOC organisers have to be present at previous (same format) WOCs.

- **WOC 2020, Denmark:** Status report. No new SEA report available. The Triangle Region (Vejle, Kolding, Fredericia) was appointed as the organiser. The dates are 7-11 July, after Council approval. Organisers attended HLES. [A group of approx. 15 representatives from the Danish organisers visited the Sprint competitions here at WOC in Estonia.](#) DL plans to have his first visit in spring 2018.
- **WOC 2021:** Two applications received from Brazil and the Czech Republic. AL assessed the bids, evaluation reports are available. [FOC recognised AL for his great work in doing the assessments.](#) [FOC recommended the Czech Republic to Council for being appointed as WOC 2021 organisers, which Council approved.](#)

## 7 European Orienteering Championships (EOC)

TD, AL,  
PM

- **EOC 2018,** 5-13 May 2018, Ticino, Switzerland. Programme now approved by Council. Bulletin 2 published. JM gave a brief update.
- **EOC 2020:** the call for applications should be published at any time. The application notes now contain useful information with regards to the contract also. Application deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> August 2017. This will be a forest EOC.
- [EOC 2021: Will have the same formats as the sprint WOC. Call for application deadline will be 31st December 2017.](#)

## 8 World Cup (WCup)

BT,  
MKH,  
PM

- **World Cup 2017: status report**
  - Round 1 (WCup 1-4): FIN – 24-28 May 2017. The event was organised without major problems. The situation between the organiser and the SEAs was tense. FIN complained about the TV-coverage being too expensive, with no other Federation willing to purchase the production.
  - Round 2: WOC 2017 (WCup 5-9) EST – 30 June - 7 July 2017.
  - Round 3 (WCup 10-12): Latvia. New SEA report available. Bulletin 1 has been published. JM will be present on behalf of FOC. Dates are 25-27 August.
  - 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. BT has been in contact with the SEA.
- **World Cup 2018: status report**
  - Round 1: Switzerland, as part of EOC (5-13 May).
  - Round 2: Latvia, as part of WOC (4-11 August).
  - Round 3: Pre-WOC in Norway will be held from 31 August until 2. September 2018. Forest relay on Friday, a prologue (9:00) and a

pursuit (16:00) on Saturday and a shortened long distance on Sunday is on the programme according to the organisers. They propose that the prologue lasts 22-25 minutes and the pursuit approximately 40 minutes. They propose that the long distance winning times to be 60-62 minutes for women and 75-80 minutes for men. SEA team would like to see a traditional middle distance instead.

- Council decided that the organisers can choose the format for the competition to meet the requirements of the broadcasting company. The decision needed to be made prior to publishing the next Bulletin at the end of August 2017.
- Round 4: Czech Republic. New SEA report available. Dates are 4-7 October, with a Middle Distance on Friday, Sprint Relay on Saturday and a Sprint on Sunday. A knockout-sprint will be included in the official World Cup programme, most probably on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> October in Prague.
- **World Cup 2018 Special Rules.** The paper from BT about in principle decisions for Special Rules for the 2018 World Cup was discussed in detail and recommendations were made. **Action BT to draft the WCup 2018 Special Rules for our September meeting.**
- **World Cup 2019: status report**
  - Round 1: Finland, somewhere in the Helsinki metropolitan area, the week before Jukola (8-11 June). **Two forest competitions on the weekend and one Sprint based competition on Tuesday.**
  - Round 2: Norway, as part of WOC (13-17 August).
  - Round 3: Switzerland (Laufen, near Basel), Sprint-based round. Dates are 27-29 September. The actual plan is to have three competitions with forest (Middle or Long), Sprint, and the new WOC sprint format.
- **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 IOF's ideas. The 3<sup>rd</sup> World Cup round in 2020 should be the EOC (forest).
- **World Cup relay weighing between Forest and sprint relays:** BT finds it acceptable that the forest relays have more weight in the overall relay World Cup in the season leading towards a forest WOC – and vice versa. DW informed that in the future the Relay World Cup will be branded as a "Team World Cup".

- Junior World Orienteering Championships (JWOC)** HLP
- **JWOC 2017: Finland.** Status report. No new SEA report available. The organisation is progressing, the event is only a few days away. No major problems foreseen.
  - **JWOC 2018: Hungary.** Status report. No new SEA report available. SEA visited the venue last week. Dates are 8-14 July.
  - **JWOC 2019: Denmark.** Status report. No new SEA report available. Dates are 6-12 July.
  - **JWOC 2020:** One application from Turkey. Upon FOC's recommendation, Council appointed Turkey the organiser of JWOC 2020 and approved the dates of the event as 28 June – 5 July, 2020. The appointment is contingent upon the Event Advising Team, to be appointed by the IOF, finding adequate terrains together with the organisers during the autumn of 2017.
- 10 World Masters Orienteering Championships (WMOC)** DM, BT, JM
- **WMOC (WMG) 2017: New Zealand.** FOC representative' report available. This was an exceptional WMOC, a fine event with around 1800 participants.
  - **WMOC 2018 Denmark:** Status report. No new SEA report received. Bulletin 1 is now published. Dates are 7-13 July.
  - **WMOC 2019 Latvia:** Status report. No new SEA report available. Approved dates are 5-12 July.
  - **WMOC 2020:** Three applications received from GBR (Swansea, Wales), ITA (Gargano) and SVK (Košice). FOC recognized AL for his great work in doing the assessments. Upon FOC's recommendation, Council appointed Slovakia (SVK) the organiser of WMOC 2020 and approved the dates of the event as 7 – 15 August, 2020.
  - **WMOC 2021:** open bid is expected after Council decided to disconnect WMOC from the World Masters Games.
  - **WMOC middle distance:** with assistance from MD, the original FOC proposal (qualification from the middle final to the long final based on min/km speeds) was tabled at the concurrent Council meeting. Council confirmed its prior decision on re-qualification methodology stating that the method would be evaluated after 3 years, i.e. following WMOC 2020. BT & AL to make a proposal for the detailed qualification system for the next FOC meeting upon consultation with DR.
- 11 Senior & Youth Regional Orienteering Championships (outside Europe)** BT, JM
- **Oceania Orienteering Championships 2017,** 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> April 2017, Auckland, New Zealand. Final SEA report available. This was a fine event with some communicational challenges and map printing process issues.

- **Asian Junior & Youth Orienteering Championships 2017**, December 2017, China. Council decided that this will be an official IOF event, with Dominic Yue as SEA. [FOC suggests to have AsJYOC and AOC in the same event in the future. IOF Office encourages this as well.](#)
- **Asian Orienteering Championships 2018**, Hong Kong. Preliminary plans are for holding this event in December.
- **North American Orienteering Championships 2018 (Senior & Junior?)**, 18<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup> August 2018, Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada.
- **South American Orienteering Championships 2018 (Senior & Youth)**, October (?) 2018, Uruguay.
- **Oceania Orienteering Championships (Senior & Youth) 2019**, 28<sup>th</sup> September – 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019, Wagga Wagga, NSW, Australia
- **SAOC rules.** These are now finalised by Rules Commission.
- **Application process:** DW announced that the process of appointing organisers and SEAs for ROCs outside Europe will be simplified.

#### FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – RULES

- |           |  |               |
|-----------|--|---------------|
| <b>12</b> | <b>Rules</b>   | USK,<br>DM    |
|           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The final proposal for Control Descriptions is now available. <a href="#">FOC agreed to the proposal from DM that “edge” could be removed from the descriptions.</a></li> <li>• DR has now started drafting the new rules for 2018. <a href="#">It was agreed to fix a final submission date for change requests for Rules to 10th September 2017. Rule change requests should be sent to USK (FOC).</a></li> </ul> |               |
| <b>13</b> | <b>Liaising with FootO Athletes Commission (FOAC) &amp; Coaches Reference Group (CRG) – “Entourage reference group”</b>  | TD, KI,<br>PM |
|           | <p><a href="#">KI has identified the following topics to discuss with FOAC:</a></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategic Planning</li> <li>• 3rd Sprint Discipline (Knock Out Sprint)</li> </ul> <p><a href="#">KI and AL will participate in a meeting during the WCup Final in SUI. <b>Action KI to organise the meeting.</b></a></p>  |               |

#### FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – EVENT ADVISING

- |           |   |             |
|-----------|---|-------------|
| <b>14</b> | <b>Event Advising</b>   | USK,<br>HLP |
|           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>EA Clinics:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <b>Clinic in 2017:</b> EA Clinic in New Zealand was held during the World Masters Orienteering Championships with 9 participants (including</li> </ul> </li> </ul> |             |



2 from India). DR was responsible for the organisation, while DM assisted.

- **High Level Event Seminar 2018.** The process of defining the program for HLES should start at FOC meeting 4-17. DM/AL agreed that this HLES should have a WMOC section. DL has also proposed some topics for HLES 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 a 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:**
  - **ASOC 2018 in Hong Kong:** Official appointment of Hong Kong will be done by Council now. The identified SEA will get official confirmation from DW.
  - **SAOC 2018 in Uruguay:** Official appointment of Uruguay will be done by Council soon. The identified SEA will get official confirmation from DW.
  - **Oceania 2019:** Graham Teahan (NZL) has been appointed as SEA.

## INCREASE THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF ORIENTEERING TO YOUNG PEOPLE

### 15 Youth promotion

BT, KI

Extended remit. Special tasks for 2017 (all with partial responsibility):

- Seek inclusion in the Youth Olympic Games
- Support the RYDC to introduce orienteering in new countries and territories, and encourage IOF regions to conduct regional youth/junior competitions

An update was given at the FOC meeting 3-17.

### 16 European Youth Orienteering Championships (EYOC)

AL

- EYOC 2017: Banská Bystrica, Slovakia. Dates are 29<sup>th</sup> June – 2<sup>nd</sup> July. New SEA report available. Preparations are on track.
- EYOC 2018: Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria. Dates are 28<sup>th</sup> June – 1<sup>st</sup> July. New SEA report available. Bulletin 1 was published. Website is now up and running.

- EYOC 2019: six applications received from Belarus, Czech Republic, Hungary, Lithuania, Serbia and Turkey. [IOF Council appointed Belarus to be the organiser](#). **An SEA needs to be identified, action AL & USK.**
- AL proposed that an EYOC Organisers' Guidelines / Manual is produced. AL to be responsible. Deadline: January 2018.

## STRENGTHEN IOF POSITION ON THE WORLD SPORTING STAGE – EVENT DEVELOPMENT

### 17 Organisers' Guidelines (Manuals)

HLP,  
MKH,  
USK

- **WOC Manual:** Updating is needed with the new qualification formats and the new split WOC. Jørn Sundby was responsible for the update. Clive Allen also offered proofreading. Deadline was end of 2016. No update was made by Jørn Sundby. [AL asked DL to have a new draft manual ready by 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018.](#)
- **WCup Guidelines:** It was agreed to postpone this update until after the WOC Guidelines are updated. And then establish a group with recent WCup organisers involved.
- **JWOC Guidelines:** Updated March 2016.
- **WMOC Guidelines:** Updated February 2017.
- **WRE Guidelines:** Updated February 2017.
- **Sprint Relay Guidelines:** was published in February 2015.
- **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.
- FOC agreed that it is desirable to change the term "Guidelines" into "Manuals" since "Guidelines" signals "giving advice", whereas "Manual" more clearly signals that a lot of things are mandatory. The process of doing this will start now but should be coordinated with an update of the Rules since they refer to the "Guidelines". The wording of contracts with Organisers should be updated accordingly. DR mentioned that the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 could be a suitable date to change the word consistently.

### 18 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 timeline – to produce a proposal for Council decision in October – still looks realistic. DL to update FOC.

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.

## VISIBILITY OF ORIENTEERING

- 19**      **Visibility of orienteering**      MKH, BT
- FOC should have this in mind in every decision.
  - We must keep our ambition to increase the visibility to an audience who are not already orienteers.
- 20**      **WRE**      DM, BT
- Update. A new WRE service fee proposal was handled recently.
- It was discussed if the 3+3 limit per nation should be set free. FOC rejected this proposal: people should compete in countries other than their own to have a complete score.

## STRONG MANAGEMENT AND FUNDING – TEAMWORK

- 21**      **AOB**      AL
- The role “Supervisor” was introduced by IOF Council through Owe Fredholm’s proposal in January 2016. It is currently not clear what the status of the implementation of this role is. IOF Office should implement the role. DM suggested that the role should be defined in contracts and the rules.
- 22**      **Next meetings**      all
- FOC Meeting 4-17: 16<sup>th</sup> of September was fixed as a date with the venue near Zürich.
  - Preliminary meeting schedule for 2018:
    - FOC Meeting 1-18: 19-20 January 2018, Warsaw, POL (Joint meeting, location is preliminary).
    - FOC Meeting 2-18: Spring meeting in late April in Northern Italy.
    - FOC Meeting 3-18: During WOC in Latvia, probably during the first weekend. AL to organise.
    - 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 28/06/2017 – HLP 05/07/2017 – AL 16/07/2017