

Summary of the Minutes of the MTBO Commission Meeting

Veszprém, Hungary, 26th August 2012

Decisions taken since the previous meeting

- Approval by the ESB of the 2013 World Cup programme and special rules
- Appointment of EAs for World Cup 2013: POL – Tage V. Andersen; POR – Christian Gigon
- Approval by the ESB of dates for WMTBOC 2014 in POL (24-31 August)

International Event Calendar

- WMTBOC 2015. The two applications received (CZE and POR) were analysed and recommendations were made to Council.
- The following 2014 programme will be submitted to Council for approval:
 - World Cup
 1. DEN late May
 2. SWE from 19 to 25 July in conjunction with O-Ringen
 3. WMTBOC in POL from 24 to 31 August
 - The 2014 WMMTBOC to be held in POL in conjunction with WMTBOC.
- The deadline for applications for the 2013 WRE calendar is 30th September. The calendar will be finalised by the commission during October.

Event advising and event quality

- Three clinics have been held during the past 9 months: November in DEN (13 participants), March in AUT (6 participants), May in POR (6 participants). The first two of these clinics were not restricted to event advising, also addressing event organisation.
- No dates have yet been set for the next clinic though there should be one held in the autumn.
- An SEA for WMTBOC/JWMTBOC/ WMMTBOC 2014 in POL was identified and proposed to Council.
- The event evaluation form has been online since April. For the WCup Round in CZE there were 16 responses and for POL 20. A flyer will be distributed at major events to encourage returning the form and it will also be put on the event websites. The event evaluation form is a very practical tool to assess the quality of an event, and analysis can be done easily as it is an online form. For the next season the form will be shortened.

Competition formats for IOF events

- The 2-rider mixed sprint relay has been approved by the European Working Group for inclusion in the 2013 European Championships to be held in POL. The specific rules proposed for this event are:
 1. *There shall be 4 sprint-type legs ridden alternatively by 1 woman and 1 man, the woman starting first;*
 2. *The 4 legs shall be approximately of equal length, each requiring a riding time of 10 to 15 minutes;*
 3. *A Federation shall be represented by only one team.*
- The question of the introduction of the 2-rider mixed sprint relay in future WMTBOCs will be addressed after the 2013 European Championships which are considered as a test.
- The commission proposes to abandon the qualification races for the Long distance format at WMTBOC and to replace them with selections based on the previous WMTBOC results and on the World Ranking list. This selection procedure could later be extended to the other formats where there are at present no qualification races. The proposed selection system is as follows:

1. *The maximum number of start slots for any one Federation is 4.*
2. *Every participating Federation automatically has 1 start slot.*
3. *The organising Federation automatically has the maximum of 4 start slots.*
4. *Start slots are added for each Federation on the basis of the first 15 finishers at the previous WMTBOC long distance event.*
5. *A maximum of 60 start slots is then made up from the World Ranking list as it stands three months prior to the championships. For this purpose the first 15 finishers at the previous WMTBOC are eliminated from the World Ranking.*
6. *In addition to the allocated start slots, the current Long distance World Champions may be entered by their Federation(s) provided they are members of the Federation's team.*
7. *No further allocation of start slots is made if a Federation does not take up its start slots or if the figure of 61 is not reached. An exception to this can be made by the organiser only in case of a late pre-entry; the Federation concerned would then be allocated one start slot.*

Mapping issues

- Permitted off-track riding areas: discussions showed that the time is not yet ripe for a definite decision on this question and it was deferred to the next meeting.
- Proposed symbol changes:
 - FootO symbol 522 in 70% black should be added to the standards to represent crossable fences such as cow fences.
 - Symbol 402 is unnecessary and should be removed.

Proposed rule changes (other than those concerning qualification races and the mixed sprint relay)

- *The Red Start Group text to be amended to:* A list of the members of the Red Start Group – based on the nominal entries – shall be published latest 4 hours before the deadline for entries for the first event. The list remains unaltered even if some of the riders on the list do not take part in any one of the events.
- *Control descriptions:* “No control descriptions are used in MTBO. Any off-path controls must be set so as not to require descriptions.”

Touch-free punching

The Commission recommends the following characteristics for touch-free punching systems used in MTBO:

- Punching range: at least 2m
- Feedback: both sound and light. The light should be visible for at least 5 seconds.

World-wide development

A development clinic is planned in South America with the help of the regional development contact person José Fernando Gomez Rueda. He has taken on the task of bringing together as many participating nations as possible and choosing a suitable venue.

MTBO documents that should be developed during the coming congress period

- The interpretation of mapping standards
- Map standards for sprint maps of urban or semi-urban terrain
- How to organise the first MTBO event (guidance for countries where MTBO is not yet known)
- Templates for the official information Bulletins

Next meeting

The next commission meeting will be held in Helsinki, Finland, in January 2013 in conjunction with the joint Council-Commissions meeting.