

## Minutes of Athletes' Commission - SkiO meeting

DATE 26th January 2016

PLACE Waldhotel Vogtland, Mühlleiten, Germany

PRESENT Erik Blomgren (EB) SWE, [erik\\_bloomgren@hotmail.com](mailto:erik_bloomgren@hotmail.com), coordinator of AC

Christian Spoerry (CR) SUI, [christian.spoerry@gmail.com](mailto:christian.spoerry@gmail.com), note taker of minutes

Daisy Kudre (DK) EST, [daisykudre@gmail.com](mailto:daisykudre@gmail.com)

Andrey Lamov (AL) RUS, [a\\_lamov@mail.ru](mailto:a_lamov@mail.ru), stand-in for TR

ABSENT Olga Novikova (ON) KAZ

Klaus Csucs (KC) ROU

Tatiana Rvacheva (TR) RUS

### 1) Opening

EB welcomes the AC to the meeting. AL participates as stand-in for TR.

### 2) Event development

EB summarizes the "IOF Competition Program Consultation Ski Orienteering" that was earlier sent out to all AC members. The plan was discussed and we came to the following conclusions and suggestions:

- The AC thinks of World Cup should consist of four World Cup rounds with at least 12 individual competitions in total. A double round with 7-9 competitions within 10-14 days is preferred. We had World Cup seasons like this earlier f. ex. 2010/2011 and 2013/2014. Double rounds are less travel (and thereby cost) intensive with venues in neighbouring countries. With four World Cup rounds we are also less vulnerable if one round is cancelled due to f. ex. lack of snow.
- If an annual World Cup and WSOC are organized, WSOC should be part of World Cup. In that case the participants per nation in individual competitions can be increased to 6. If possible WSOC should be the last event of the season.
- ESOC and other regional events can be integrated into World Cup.
- We are positive to annual WSOC and World Cup. However we would not like to see a decreased quality of WSOC. WSOC is the most important event we have and should always be of top quality.
- We think it's an interesting idea and that it could help raising the quality of the events. However, if a World Cup round is organised in the exact same area for more than 2 years in a row, we believe the athletes will get too familiar with the area. We would not like to compete in the exact same area more than two times within reasonable time. We therefore

suggest not too long contracts and maybe just biannual at the same place. If the same organizer can host events in different areas we believe longer contracts would be OK.

- We do not think a U23 quota is needed. In many cases young athletes can establish themselves early in the world top. We think it is the national federation's task to also select young athletes to international events. Only very few countries have the possibility to send more athletes to IOF events due to a quota. However a special price to the first U23 women/men in World Cup could be given.
- We do not have any concerns with officially integrating a youth relay at EYSOC, since it already has been successfully organized several times.
- We think World Cup events can be organized in conjunction with either JWSOC or Masters to make organizing these events sustainable for the organizers. However, we think WSOC should not be organized with other official IOF events (of course public races).

### 3) Event evaluation

- EB will prepare the evaluation form just as for World Cup round 1. He will ask for constructive feedback and we think we should especially encourage also positive points.

### 4) Next AC meeting

- Prepare for "Ski-O Awards" at ESOC.
- Discuss the composition of next year's AC.
- Discuss topics requested by Ski-O commission, IOF marketing director, etc
- The next AC meeting is scheduled to take place during the World cup finals/ESOC in Obertilliach, Austria.