

## Minutes – Foot Orienteering Commission – Meeting 4-18

**Place:** Scandic Plaza Borås, Sweden

**Meeting schedule:** Friday, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – 16:00-19:30 CET  
 Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – 08:30-10:30 CET  
 Saturday, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2018 – 14:00-19:00 CET

**Participants:**

Áron Less (AL)	Chair
Maria Krafft Helgesson (MKH)	Member
Helge Lang Pedersen (HLP)	Member
Janos Manarin (JM)	Member – through Skype
David May (DM)	Member – through Skype
Petteri Muukkonen (PM)	Member
Unni Strand Karlsen (USK)	Member
Blair Trewin (BT)	Member – through Skype

**Invitations:**

Nik Suter (NS)	IOF Council responsible contact person
Daniel Leibundgut (DL)	WOC Project Manager
Gustav Bergman (GB)	IOF FootO Athletes' Commission
Tomas Stenström (TS)	SOFT Sports Director

**Apology:** Adam Chromý Member

### OPENING

**1 Opening** AL  
 AL opened the meeting.

### TO NOTE DECISIONS / ACTIONS TAKEN SINCE THE FOC MEETING 3-18

**2 Council & ESB decisions** AL

- 6 August 2018: regarding the process and timeline for news sports to be considered for inclusion at the Paris 2024 Olympic Games. The timeline has moved forward, for previously communicated information, with the Organising Committee for the Olympic Games (OCOG) Paris 2024 to suggest sports already in the autumn of 2019. The key issue now is to make sure that Orienteering is shortlisted for consideration by OCOG. Hence no World Cup will be scheduled in France for 2020.

- 22 August 2018: The ESB unanimously approved the dates of the World Orienteering Championships 2021 (WOC 2021) in CZE as 4-8 July 2021.
- 22 August 2018: The ESB unanimously approved the rules deviation request from the organisers of the European Orienteering Championships 2020 (EOC 2020) in EST to allow B-finals for the Middle Distance competition.
- 22 August 2018: The ESB unanimously appointed the Japan Orienteering Association (JPN) as the organisers for the Asian Junior and Youth Orienteering Championships 2019 (AsJYOC 2019).
- 22 August 2018: The ESB unanimously appointed Jan Fiala (CZE) as the Senior Event Adviser (SEA) for the European Youth Orienteering Championships 2020 (EYOC 2020) in HUN.
- 7 September 2018: The ESB unanimously appointed Stefan Bergstrom (CAN) as the Senior Event Adviser (SEA) for The World Games 2021 (TWG 2021) in USA.
- 4 October 2018: 0.1 Second Timing – proposal. Council discussed the joint proposal from FOC, RC and ITC. Council felt that there was need for consultation with the athletes’ commission. Decision on the matter was tabled until after consultation with athletes’ commission.
- 6 October 2018: Council appointed Tom Hollowell, Nik Suter, Tatiana Kalenderoglu and Hannu Kottonen as the Event Supervisory Board (ESB). TK was elected chairperson of the Board, TH Secretary.

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

### **3 Strategic Planning**

MKH,  
HLP,  
AL

Several applications were received for most of our High Level Events. At least two applications are being prepared for WOC 2023, so at the moment the focus should be on realising the strategic planning calendar that was set out in 2017 and fixing dates – especially for World Cup events – as soon as possible. The only major event currently missing an organiser is EOC 2021. AL spoke with several Federations, but no interest so far.

### **4 The World Games (TWG)**

AL

- In mid-April, orienteering was confirmed to be a part of The World Games 2021 in Birmingham, USA. Cristina Luis (USA) was appointed as Competition Manager. Stefan Bergstrom (CAN) is the SEA. AL presented the draft qualification criteria. The proposed qualification competitions are the WOC 2020 Individual Sprint, the WOC 2020 Sprint Relay and a third competition, for which FOC’s preference is either the WOC 2019 Middle Distance or the (forest) World Ranking as of 31/10/2020. Action AL to finalise the document and liaise with BT, Tom Hollowell and David Rosen on how to proceed towards a decision.

## 5 World Orienteering Championships (WOC)

DL, AL.  
PM

- **WOC 2018, Latvia.** No final SEA report available. After overcoming several challenges in the sprint competitions, the forest races were much better. [DL presented findings from the event and FOC discussed how to use the experience to improve future WOCs.](#)
- **WOC 2019, Norway.** Status report. No new SEA report available. Venue is Sarpsborg, Østfold. Dates are 13-18 August. Bulletin 2 is published. Progress seems to be on track.
- **Sprint WOC 2020, Denmark.** Status report. No new SEA report available. Dates are 7-11 July. Bulletin 1 is published. The programme is Sprint Relay on Day 1, Knock-Out Sprint on Day 3 and Individual Sprint on Day 5. The organiser seems to be making very good progress.
- **WOC 2021, Czech Republic.** Approved dates are 4<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> of July. After discussions with the organiser, FOC approved the programme as Middle Q (day 1), Middle Final (Day 2), Rest day (Day 3), Forest Relay (Day 4), Long Final (Day 5). First SEA visit scheduled for February 2019.
- **Sprint WOC 2022, Great Britain:** Some challenges with embargoed areas already. DL to make a visit this month to agree on dates, venues and embargoed areas with the organiser.
- **Special Rules for WOC:** These will be part of the main rules from 2019 onwards.

## 6 European Orienteering Championships (EOC)

AL, PM

- **EOC 2020, Estonia.** Dates are 19-23 August. Proposed programme is the same as the fixed WOC programme (forest). Council approved EST's request to allow "B"-finals in the Middle Distance competition.
- **EOC 2021.** The event will have the same formats as the sprint WOC. New application deadline is 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019. This should be World Cup round 3. AL started discussions with several potential organisers, but they all failed. [Action AL to contact Russia about staging EOC 2021.](#)
- **EOC in the future:** FOC established a Working Group to adjust the rules for EOC after the split in forest and sprint EOCs. Members of the Working Group: AL (chair), USK, JM and BT. [FOC discussed the paper and agreed to the timeline:](#)
  - [November 2018: FOC discussion round 1](#)
  - [January 2019: FOC discussion round 2 with input from Athletes' Commission](#)
  - [April 2019: Federation responses](#)
  - [May 2019: FOC proposal to Council](#)
  - [August 2019: IOF Council decision](#)
  - [November 2019: Rules modification](#)

[The key issue is to decide the future direction for EOC. One option is to have the same ambition level as WOC and maybe have the same](#)

number of entries per nation. Another option is to use the WOC programme as a basis and maintain the maximum number of entries per country as 6 and then do the necessary changes derived from that.

Currently FOC supports the idea to have EOC to be the 3<sup>rd</sup> WCup round of the season – unless in those cases, when it's feasible to do a WCup round outside Europe. **New paper is due for the January meeting.**

## 7 World Cup (WCup)

BT,  
MKH,  
PM

### • 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 Norway: Pre-WOC in Østfold. The organisation was good, however the programme was reportedly too tough for the athletes. There were mixed comments from the chase start competition.
- Round 4 Czech Republic: Final SEA report available. Once again a tough programme, especially with the Knock-Out Sprint as the first competition. The organisation was good, with invaluable experience regarding the Knock-Out Sprint competition. The Middle Distance on sandstone terrain offered extreme route-choices, which is something we very seldom see in the World Cup.
- A letter had been received from Swiss Orienteering pertaining to the World Cup programme, in which they voiced concerns that this year's World Cup programme (NOR + CZE especially) had been too taxing for the athletes. **FOC took notice and agreed to what was stated in the letter. Apart from O-Ringen, the WCup rounds will be less tough in 2019 and 2020.**
- **Internet connections for media were not strong enough in some World Cups. This should have more attention. Alternatively, it is better to announce before the competitions if the connection is weak in order for media representatives to be able to plan for alternative solutions.**

### • World Cup 2019: status report

- Round 1 Finland, in the Helsinki metropolitan area, the week before Jukola (8-11 June). New SEA report available. Two forest competitions on the weekend and one Sprint Relay competition in central Helsinki on Tuesday. **FOC and FOAC jointly recommend not to use a labyrinth section in the Sprint Relay competition.**
- Round 2 Norway, as part of WOC (13-18 August).
- Round 3 Switzerland: (Laufen, near Basel). Dates are 27-29 September. The programme is a Middle Distance competition on Friday, a Knock-Out Sprint on Saturday and an (Individual) Sprint competition on Sunday.

- Round 4 China: The Partnership Agreement is signed. The province of Guangdong (around Guangzhou) will host the event. Jaroslav Kačmarčík is a part of the organisation. The dates will be between 25-29 October with one individual Sprint competition (without qualification), one Sprint Relay and a Middle Distance (similar to that in The World Games in 2009 and 2013). The September typhoon (Mangkhut) did not affect the terrains.
- Special Rules for World Cup 2019 were discussed and BT was tasked to update the paper and submit it to ESB for approval.
- DL noted that it's sometimes an issue to have the correct WCup points calculation published. BT agreed to check the calculations in 2019.
- **World Cup in the future:** From 2020 and onwards the intention is that the World Cup will be held with 3 fixed rounds. The 3<sup>rd</sup> World Cup round in 2020 will be the EOC (forest). Discussions with O-Ringen AB and Verein Swiss Cup regarding the World Cup for the years 2020 – 2024 had reached the stage that a written agreement had been proposed and was being discussed between the parties. The goal is to finalise the agreement as soon as possible. A proposal on scoring was sent to the consortium parties, designed by AL, HLP and BT. **Action BT to agree with DL about the scoring for the future Knock-Out Sprint World Cup rounds.**
  - Swiss World Cup in 2020 between 21-24 May. BT asked the organiser to consider changing the Sprint Relay in the programme to an Individual Sprint competition. <https://www.swiss5days2020.ch/worldcup-en>

## 8 Junior World Orienteering Championships (JWOC)

HLP

- **JWOC 2018 Hungary:** From the August Council Minutes: “Nik Suter reported to Council that JWOC 2018 was a very good event. Nicely organized and well appreciated by the participants. Council discussed some of the details in the report from NS noting the following.
  - JWOC arenas were too spacious, something which was also noted last year.
  - There had been complaints and discussions about control placements, i.e. too hidden controls.
  - JWOC maps were not in accordance with ISOM 2017.Council noted that this must be followed up with FOC and future organisers. Furthermore, a review of the Event Controlling process is needed as errors seem to reoccur too often.” **FOC noted Council's guidance. Action HLP to go through the JWOC Guidelines and make the appropriate updates.**
- **JWOC 2019 Denmark:** Status report. New SEA report available. Dates are 6-12 July. Preparations are on track.

- **JWOC 2020 Turkey:** No new SEA report available. The Event Plan was signed by JM in March. The Event Centre is moved closer to Istanbul, to Gebze University. Dates are 28 June – 5 July. [JM gave an update.](#)
- **JWOC 2021:** POR was appointed as organiser, with HLP appointed as the SEA. [With WOC ending on 8<sup>th</sup> July, FOC proposes to have the Model Event and Opening Ceremony on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> July and the first competition on Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July.](#) [Action HLP to liaise with the organisers and eventually have the dates approved through ESB.](#)
- **General Assembly resolution regarding the JWOC programme in the future.** The IOF received a proposal for the General Assembly from NOR regarding a program change for JWOC, adding a Sprint Relay competition in place of the Middle Distance Qualification. This proposal was carried, so the programme will change from 2022 onwards. The 2020 and 2021 organisers were contacted if they are willing to implement the change already, but as POR – 2021 organiser – chose to stay with the current programme, the new programme will be implemented from 2022 as planned. [FOC will start working on the details in 2019.](#)
- **IOF Policy on Sexual Harassment Policy and Abuse in Orienteering.** There was an ethics issue at JWOC 2018, see details [here: https://orienteering.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/IOC-Ethics-Commission-2018-1.pdf](https://orienteering.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/IOC-Ethics-Commission-2018-1.pdf) As the IOF Ethics Panel was not able to issue sanctions, the above Policy was created: <https://orienteering.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Policy-on-Harassment-1.pdf> [FOC took notice of the Ethics Commission decision.](#) [HLP will liaise with TH about what future measures shall be taken.](#)

## 9 World Masters Orienteering Championships (WMOC)

DM,  
BT, JM

- **WMOC 2018 Denmark:** Final SEA report available. This was a very well organised event. Council noted the following issues which were to be followed up by the FOC for inclusion in rules and guidelines:
  - Issues regarding parking logistics at the first forest race
  - Clarification of the qualification rules based upon the experiences from the first year with the new WMOC competition model (Forest Qualification, Middle Final and Long Final). [These were noted and the WMOC Manual will be updated.](#)
- **WMOC 2019 Latvia:** Status report. New SEA report available. Approved dates are 5-12 July. Some concerns about a lack of manpower. In particular, no individual day controllers had been appointed. Most key officials were also working with WOC, i.e. they most likely started working late. Some challenges regarding transport to the forest events are still to be resolved. Bulletin 1 was published in March.
- **WMOC 2020 Slovakia:** Status report. New SEA report available. SEA Francesco Giandomenico and Assistant SEA János Sűmegi approved

by Council. Dates approved by Council: 7-15 August, 2020. [Preparations are on track.](#)

- **WMOC 2021:** Japan was appointed as organiser. FOC identified the candidates for SEA and Assistant SEA, [they were recently approved by ESB.](#)
- **WMOC Long Distance Qualification:** Minor changes are proposed for the 2019 FootO Competition Rules. [Update.](#)

**10 Senior & Youth Regional Orienteering Championships (outside Europe)** BT, JM

- **North American Orienteering Championships 2018 (Senior & Junior),** 18<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> August 2018, Whitehorse, Yukon, Canada. Clarification for the 2018 edition: Final SEA report available. This was a good event.
- **South American Orienteering Championships 2018 (Senior & Youth),** 5-11 November 2018, Uruguay. [The Championships are progressing at the time of the meeting.](#)
- **Asian Orienteering Championships 2018,** Hong Kong. Dates are 21-26 December. Bulletin 2 published in July. [The September typhoon \(Mangkhut\) seems not to have affected the event.](#)
- **Asian Junior & Youth Orienteering Championships 2019:** Japan will organise the event. [From 2020 onwards this event will be organised annually, as a standalone event in odd years and with the senior AsOC in even years, if supported by the Asian Working Group and Council.](#)
- **Oceania Orienteering Championships (Senior, Junior & Youth) 2019,** 28<sup>th</sup> September – 6<sup>th</sup> October 2019, Wagga Wagga, NSW, Australia.
- **Asian Orienteering Championships 2020:** South Korea had shown interest in applying to organise. Formal application to be expected after AsOC 2018.
- **North American Orienteering Championships 2020 (Senior & Junior):** Lake Tahoe (CA), USA. Dates are 25-27 July. NAOC 2020 will also include Junior and Youth Championships.
- **South American Orienteering Championships 2020 (Senior & Youth):** rumours are that Brazil will be the only candidate with the proposed event venue to be the area of Foz do Iguazu.
- **Oceania Orienteering Championships (Senior, Junior & Youth) 2021,** January, Canterbury region, New Zealand. A formal application still needs to be lodged with IOF.

## FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – RULES

### 11 Rules

USK,  
DM

The 2019 FootO Competition Rules will be approved by ESB. FOC should aim to get the changes ready by 15<sup>th</sup> November. USK conducted the process. The rules are ready, but some additions are needed when the Knock-Out Sprint format description is finalised.

DL submitted some rule changes late. His most important points were discussed during the meeting. USK to discuss with David Rosen what changes can be proposed for the 2019 version of the rules.

### 12 Liaising with FootO Athletes Commission (FOAC) & Coaches Reference Group (CRG) – “Entourage reference group”

AL, PM

AL & DL organised a meeting with coaches and athletes during the final World Cup round in 2018 in Prague, with the main focus on the evaluation of the Knock-Out Sprint format. The meeting was well organised and got very good feedback. FOC and FOAC agreed to organise a similar meeting also in 2019. Action AL to organise a meeting, probably on the Friday evening of the SUI WCup round.

GB presented feedback for the FOC meeting from the Athletes' Commission, which was discussed in detail. AL thanked GB for the valuable feedback from the FOAC. Several of the recommendations are now proposed by FOC to be implemented in 2019. AL encouraged FOAC to continue the good work and submit proposals for future FOC meetings also.

### 13 Mapping issues

JM,  
ACh

- FOC had proposed to Council to initiate a test period for allowing the use of map scale 1:10.000 for Long Distance competitions (in WREs and Regional Championships only). The test period would commence immediately and run until 31 December 2018. Event Advisers would be given the opportunity to approve the use of 1:10.000 but would in such cases be required to report back to FOC and the MC following a set of specific questions. Council approved the FOC proposal for implementation. Only one competition applied until now. FOC proposes to extend the test period throughout 2019 with the same criteria. Action ACh to proceed.
- The IOF Map Commission proposed to publish a revision of ISOM 2017. According to AL, the biggest proposed change is to terminate using the impassable vegetation (100% green, 50% black) symbol. FOC supports this change. PM noted that the new forbidden area symbol hides too many features on the map. This is in particular a problem when the border of the forbidden area is not marked in the terrain. No further action required from FOC.

## FOCUS ON KEY OUTCOMES – EVENT ADVISING

### 14 Event Advising

USK,  
HLP

- **EA Clinics:**
  - **Event Advising Clinic in Hong Kong** will be held on 22-23 December, in conjunction with ASOC (21-26 December 2018). OAHK is the organiser, with USK responsible for the content.
  - **High Level Event Seminar 2019.** Venue is Prague, dates are confirmed as 1-3 February. Friday will be a closed TV seminar, Saturday and Sunday a HLES. Planning group consists of USK, HLP, AL, MKH. Preparations are on track.
  - **Planned Clinics for 2019:**
    - An EA Clinic in Sweden in March 2019 is increasingly likely. [USK responsible for liaising with SOFT.](#)
    - BT to check if there is interest for a Clinic in conjunction with the Oceania Championships.
    - Possible Clinic in SUI during Swiss-O-Week (3-10 August). [David Rosen may lead this Clinic.](#)
    - AL can organise an EA Clinic in the late autumn of 2019 in Central Europe, probably in CZE.
    - [It was decided that no more than two Clinics should be held in Europe in 2019.](#)
- **SEA nominations.** No SEA nominations this time.
- **Event Supervisors.** FOC discussed Owe Fredholm's paper to Council last year and why the paper was turned down. Council then asked Owe to enter a dialogue with FOC to clarify certain aspects of the paper but now it appears to be up to FOC to work on the paper to present a version which better meets Council's requirements. [FOC discussed a revised paper made by DM, which gives an appropriate introduction to the issue. Feedback was given to DM about the paper. Action DM to provide a new version and send it to Tom Hollowell on behalf of FOC.](#)

## INCREASE THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF ORIENTEERING TO YOUNG PEOPLE

### 15 European Youth Orienteering Championships (EYOC)

ACh

- **EYOC 2018:** Veliko Tarnovo, Bulgaria: From the SEA report, the competition was well organised. The feedback of several coaches was also positive, showing only minor lacks in insufficient number of toilets and tents in the quarantine.
- **EYOC 2019:** Grodno, Belarus. New SEA report available. Dates are approved as 27-30 June 2019. Bulletin 1 was published in July.

- **EYOC 2020:** Salgótarján, Hungary. Council approved FOC's recommendation, with the dates set as 19-22 June.
- **EYOC programme revision:** ACh will collect input about a possible programme revision. Some coaches asked for a less crowded program to allow for more socialising.

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

### **16 Organisers' Guidelines (Manuals)**

HLP,  
MKH,  
USK

- **WOC Organisers' Manual:** DL & HLP set up a milestone plan about when this can be finalised. [First draft should be ready by February 2019](#). C-G Strutz assists in creating the WOC Manual. MKH volunteered to assist in proofreading the chapters.
- **JWOC Organisers' Guidelines:** The 2018 version of the Guidelines are published in the Event Overview Tool format. The contents can be accessed from here: <http://orienteering.org/event-overview-tool-jwoc-woc-manual/> [Small updates prepared for January 2019](#).
- **WMOC Organisers' Manual:** The 2018 version was published in February. [Updates prepared for January 2019](#).
- **WRE Organisers' Manual:** The 2018 version was published in late April.
- **EYOC Organisers' Guidelines:** Brand new guidelines were published on the IOF website. The EA for EYOC 2018 used the document and proposed improvements after the competition.
- **Manual transformation project:** The JWOC Guidelines are already published in the Event Overview Tool as a Manual. The WMOC Guidelines was renamed as a Manual as were the WRE Guidelines. The FootO Competition Rules for 2019 are also proposed to be updated with this new term and it will eventually be merged into the WOC manual project.
- **Course Planning Guidelines:** BT earlier suggested to have a review of the course planning principles – especially for Sprint. Inspired from WOC courses – how difficult should Sprint be? The document shall also contain more recent map examples. PM volunteered to manage the revision. [PM to give an update in the January meeting](#).

### **17 Knock-Out Sprint format development**

DL, JM

FOC's remaining tasks for 2018:

- update the format description document paper by 30<sup>th</sup> November (annual update to be published on the IOF website with the findings of the World Cup in CZE). [The paper was discussed. A new version shall be further developed by DL and AL and sent to the IOF Council asap.](#)

It was previously agreed that the “Why” document (a “discussion paper” explaining the choices made) could be further developed. This is still missing.

It was also previously agreed that the Milestone plan (a plan showing the milestones and the test and development competitions that will be held until the format is finally ready for WOC 2020) document could be further developed.

## VISIBILITY OF ORIENTEERING

### 18 World Ranking Events (WRE)

DM, BT

Update.

The World Ranking Scheme Rules were updated in October 2017.

World Ranking System (WRS) review project: the IOF Council discussed and decided on a number of issues regarding the various recommendations from the group.

FOC was pleased to see that almost all the recent WRS proposals were accepted by Council but was disappointed that the most critical one, that regarding the percentage bonus weighting system, was not approved. FOC felt that the analysis done by the Working Group clearly showed that, whilst both systems under consideration gave similar results for the leading runners, the fixed weighting method depresses the position of some runners in the next tier of ability. A good (but non-national team) runner from e.g. a Nordic country would always be placed well below an equally good (but national team) member from a smaller nation, clearly an unfair aspect of the fixed weighting system. **FOC asks Council to reconsider this aspect of the WRS.**

## STRONG MANAGEMENT AND FUNDING – TEAMWORK

### 19 Any Other Business (AOB)

AL, DM

**Commission manning** and FOC task distribution for the next General Assembly period 2019-2020. AL announced that some task redistribution should happen in the January meeting – at the same time as FOC will hopefully get new members. **Action AL to liaise with BT and HLP to set up a questionnaire in order to get feedback from the current FOC members which focus areas they want to work with.**

**Athlete of the year.** FOC was asked to propose candidates for the Athlete of the Year. Tove Alexandersson and Maja Alm were proposed as two candidates. AL reported back to IOF Office.

### 20 Next meetings

all

- FOC Meeting 1-19: 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> January, as part of the IOF Joint Meeting in Warsaw (POL). IOF Office to organise.

- FOC Meeting 2-19: 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> May. Venue: Italy.
- FOC Meeting 3-19: 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> August in Norway.
- FOC Meeting 4-19: 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> November. Venue TBD.

Legend:

- black (normal) letters: original text from the agenda
- blue text: text added during the meeting
- red text: action items

AL 29/10/2018, AL 06/11/2018, HLP 11/11/2018, AL 15/11/2018