



MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING No. 194

Place	Budapest, Hungary			
Date	12-13 April 2019			
Schedule	Friday 12 April	Council Meeting (9:00 – 18:00)		
	Saturday 13 April	Council Meeting (9:00 – 13:00)		
Participants	Leho Haldna (LH)	President		
	Astrid Waaler Kaas (AWK)	Senior Vice President	(except 14.8, 15, 17, 18, 19, 21.1, 21.3, 21.4, 22, 23)	
	Michael Dowling (MD)	Vice President		
	Tatiana Kalenderoglu (TK)	Vice President		
	Owe Fredholm (OF)	Member		
	Vincent Frey (VF)	Member		
	Hannu Kottonen (HK)	Member		
	Dusan Vystavel (DV)	Member		
	Dominic Yue (DY)	Member		
	Laszlo Zentai (LZ)	Member		
	Tom Hollowell (TH)	CEO		
	Kirsty McIntyre (KM)	Office Administrator/Anti-Doping Officer		
	David Wästlund (DW)	Sports Administrator		
		<u>Excused</u>		
		Niklaus Suter (NS)	Member	

1. Opening

President Leho Haldna welcomed the members and declared the meeting opened.

2. Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved with the addition of item 21.4 regarding Participation of Macau at the World Cup in China in October 2019.

3. Approval of previous minutes

3.1. 193; 18-19 January 2019, Warsaw, Poland

The minutes were approved as a true record of that meeting. TH commented upon the following items from meeting 193 which were not on the agenda of meeting 194.

193 Item 9.3 – Based upon the previous Council discussions, LH had decided to nominate TK as the IOF representative for the FISU Disciplinary Committee, and this had been forwarded to FISU.

193 Item 9.4 – A proposal had been sent to the International Masters Games Association (IMGA) nominating LH for the available IMGA Board seat. However, IMGA management had answered that this was not in line with the IMGA Constitution and the nomination was therefore not accepted. TH and LH felt that the Constitution was unclear and would raise this issue at the upcoming IMGA Annual General Meeting.

4. To note decisions taken by e-mail since Council meeting no. 192

4.1. Decisions taken by Council

14 February 2019: Council unanimously appointed LAT as the organisers of the Junior World Ski Orienteering Championships 2020 (JWSOC), European Youth Ski Orienteering Championships 2020 (EYSOC) and one round of the Ski Orienteering World Cup in 2020. Note: TK did not participate in the decision.

4.2. Decisions taken by the Event Supervisory Board (ESB)

28 January 2019: The ESB unanimously approved the jury appointment for the European Ski Orienteering Championships 2019 (ESOC), as Frans Wickbom (SWE), Raul Kudre (EST) and Timo Sirola (FIN). Note: TK did not participate in the decision.

20 February 2019: The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Victor Kirianov (UKR) as Senior Event Adviser (SEA) for the World Masters Ski Orienteering Championships 2020 (WMSOC) in Austria. Note: TK did not participate in the decision.

20 February 2019: The ESB granted Final Approval for use of the Learnjoy Electronic Punching System in connection with IOF events at the recommendation of the Rules Commission, IT Commission and FootO Commission.

22 February 2019: The ESB approved the following Jury appointments for the World Orienteering Championships 2019 (WOC):

Helge Lang Pedersen (DEN)	all distances
Cristina Luis (USA)	all distances
David Rosen (GBR)	all distances
Cathy McComb (AUS)	Middle Qual/Final and Long
Andre Schoepfer (SUI)	Relay
Carl-Göran Strutz (SWE)	Middle Final and Relay
Peter Molnar (HUN)	Middle Qual and Long

22 February 2019: The ESB approved the following Jury appointments for the Junior World Orienteering Championships 2019 (JWOC):

Christine Brown (AUS)
Alan Gavar (TUR)
Száva Zsigmond (HUN)

28 February 2019: The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Dmytro Miller (ITA) as Assistant Event Adviser (AEA) for the World Masters Orienteering Championships 2020 (WMOC) in Slovakia.

5 March 2019: The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Dmytro Miller (ITA) as IT Assistant Event Adviser (AEA) for the World Orienteering Championships 2021 (WOC) in the Czech Republic.

5 March 2019: The ESB approved the appointment of Staffan Tunis (FIN) as Senior Event Adviser (SEA) for the Junior World Ski Orienteering Championships 2020 (JWSOC), European Youth Ski Orienteering Championships 2020 (EYSOC) and the Ski Orienteering World Cup 2020 in Latvia. Note: TK did not participate in the decision.

11 March 2019: The ESB approved the following Jury appointments for the various World Ski Orienteering Championships in SWE.

WSOC 2019/JWSOC 2019/EYSOC 2019

Hans Georg Gratzner (AUT)
Ken Walker (USA)
Gunars Īkaunieks (LAT)
Christian Hohl (NOR)
Mika Ilomaki (FIN, 20 and 21 March)
Veli-Markku Korteniemi (FIN, 22 – 24 March)

WMSOC 2019

Roland Hellberg (SWE)
Ossi Lakkala (FIN)
Hansruedi Haeni (SUI)

Note: TK did not participate in the decision.

4 April 2019: The ESB unanimously approved the appointment of Jan Furucz (SVK) as Senior Event Adviser (SEA) for the World Trail Orienteering Championships 2022 (WTOC) in the Czech Republic.

5. President's Report

LH reported on his activities since the previous Council meeting. The key activity during the period had been the participation, together with IOF Honorary President Brian Porteous, at the FISU Winter Universiade in Krasnoyarsk, Russia, where Ski Orienteering was included for the first time. This had given an excellent opportunity to have extended discussions with stakeholders, among them the Head of Winter Sports and IF Relations at the IOC, FISU Board and management, National Olympic Committees and the ARISF President. Many of the stakeholders had also attended the Ski Orienteering competitions with positive comments. Additionally, dedicated discussions were held with the future organisers of Winter Universiades regarding the continued inclusion of Ski Orienteering.

During the period LH and TH had also attended a meeting with the IOC Sports Department regarding the Olympic Games 2024 in Paris. It had been a good presentation and discussion, unfortunately a few days later it was revealed that orienteering was not shortlisted for inclusion.

In addition to these activities LH had initiated the process for the Council Working Group review of the IOF Organisation, with extensive e-mail activity.

6. CEO's Report/Correspondance

TH reported on the activities of the CEO and Office since the last meeting.

- Meeting with IOF Auditors 25 January/20 March (TH)
- Global Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF) Membership Committee meeting – Lausanne, 28 January (TH)
- Meeting with Swedish Olympic Committee – Stockholm, 30 January (TH)
- Meetings with TV producer Karel Jonak and WOC 2021 organisers – Prague, 31 January (TH)
- IOF TV Seminar and High Level Event Seminar (HLES) – Prague, 1 – 3 February (TH, DW, MF)
- Meeting with Verein Swiss Cup about future World Cup - Zurich, 11 February (TH)
- Meeting with IOC Sports Director about Paris 2024 – Lausanne, 12 February (TH, LH)
- Meeting with EBU about TV cooperation – Geneva, 12 February (TH)
- Meeting with Pfizer to finalize sponsor agreement 2019 – Stockholm, 13 February (TH)
- Meeting with Swedish television (SVT) about WOC 2019 productions – Stockholm, 5 March (TH)
- WADA Symposium – Lausanne, 13-14 March (KM, Jan Petrzela)
- ARISF meeting – Helsinki, 19 March (TH)
- WSOC Piteå - 20-22 March (KM, MF)
- Travel and meetings in China 25 – 29 March (TH, Blair Trewin, Jaroslav Kacmarcik)
- Travel, seminars and meetings in Nepal, invited by the Nepal Orienteering Federation 30 March – 2 April (TH)
- Future World Cup meeting (SOFT/Swiss Cup) Stockholm 5 April (TH, DW, HK, Aron Less)

Of interest from the above meetings (not otherwise on agenda of meeting 194)

- Meeting with Swedish OC – Discussion was about Swedish support for inclusion in Paris 2024 but also about the Swedish bid for Winter OG 2026 and the potential for the inclusion of Ski Orienteering if Stockholm is successful.
- Meeting with IOC Sports Dept about Paris 2024 – Good meeting where they acknowledged the thinking around our 2024 concept. Lead also to Head of Winter Sports Irina Gladkikh and Recognized Federation Liaison Andrew Hofer attending the SkiO event at the Universiade in Krasnoyarsk.
- Meeting with the EBU regarding IOF TV productions and future interest. Based upon the meeting the EBU was to produce a business case for orienteering.
- WADA Symposium – very informative meeting with some additional athlete focus. Very appreciated that the IOF had an athlete's representative, Jan Petrzela.
- China visits
 - Finalisation of the organisation of the World Cup this year, particularly final planning of TV productions and IT support. Very good summary meeting with the organising committee, it seems that issues are under control.
 - Worked on arrangements for the IOF Council Meeting in connection with the World Cup.
 - Met with the new Secretary General of the Orienteering Association of China, to discuss further development in China regarding events, development seminars and athlete development.
 - Met with a potential sponsor.
- Nepal visit
 - Met with the Board and Management of the Nepal Orienteering Federation and assisted them in making a development plan.
 - Conducted a 2 ½-day development seminar.
 - Looked at potential areas around Kathmandu and advised them on starting with school activities.

Other issues of interest

- Contact had been made, via FISO Italy, with the WOG 2026 candidate Cortina D'Ampezzo. A meeting to discuss the potential for the inclusion of Ski Orienteering was planned.
- Preparations were ongoing for SportAccord 2019, 5-10 May in Gold Coast, Australia.
 - Demonstration events were to be held in cooperation with Orienteering Australia
 - TH was on the speakers' program for the conference
 - Meetings were booked with other stakeholders, potential venues and partners
 - General Assemblies of ARISF, IWGA, IMGA and GAISF
- World Urban Games 2019 – GAISF had announced that the games would be moved to Budapest from Los Angeles. After investigations and discussions, it was confirmed that Orienteering was not included in this first version, as the organiser has limited capacity. If successful in 2019 the next version in 2021 was also to be in Budapest with orienteering on the program, according to GAISF.
- Erik Blomgren was to represent the IOF Athletes Commissions at the IOC International Athletes' Forum in Lausanne April 13-15.
- The Office had worked on improvements in medal designs and organiser awards. There had been some initial problems with the supplier's management of the new processes.

AMBITION: GOOD GOVERNANCE

7. Finance

7.1. Annual Report 2018

TH presented the audited Annual Report for 2018, and the Auditor's report to Council. TH commented that the level of detail in the accounts had increased in line with the Council's desire to continue to increase transparency.

Council approved and signed the Annual Report for submission to the IOF General Assembly in 2020 for final approval. The Annual Report was to be published on the IOF website as soon as the signatures of the Auditors also were obtained.

Council wished to recognize the work of the CEO and Office with financial diligence.

7.2. Forecast 2019

TH presented the financial result of the first quarter of 2019 and the updated forecast for 2019. There were no significant deviations from the budget approved by the General Assembly and the forecast result for 2019 remained in line with the budget.

Council enquired about the status of member debts to the IOF, and reiterated its delegation to TH to suspend members who had not met their obligations prior to the current year.

8. Commission and Council Remits

AWK had received final remits for approval from all commissions following discussions with each. Council approved the remits for all commissions for the year 2019. DW would prepare a more aesthetic version of the document to be published on the website.

AWK presented a proposed structure and contents of a remit for Council, in the same format as the commission remits. Council agreed that this was a good idea for clarity of responsibilities and review of progress.

Council discussed its own working structure and proposed several ideas for improvement

- delegating more decisions to the Presidents Working Group (PWG), the Office and to Commissions
- making the Council agenda more clear by denoting in it items for Decision, Discussion and Information
- looking at the structure of meetings also in light of climate issues. For example, could the number of physical meetings be reduced in favour of additional, shorter, digital meetings.

Council also reviewed the content of the Remit and agreed some additions and changes. It was agreed that the PWG should finalise the Council Remit for approval at the next meeting.

9. GAISF Governance Review

The IOF had participated in the independent governance review conducted by GAISF. TH presented the preliminary report of the findings for Council discussion. Overall the review was very complementary of the IOFs governance. The final report would be available following the GAISF General Assembly in May.

Three areas for improvements were identified in the preliminary report: athlete representation, education and gender balance.

Council was positive to increasing athlete representation and discussed possible ways of increasing athlete representation in Council and in discipline commissions. It was seen as important that the election process of athletes' representative(s) be carried out by the athletes themselves which would require a new type of election process. It was also seen as important to highlight desired competencies and that a commitment by an athlete to be in Council or a commission would require engagement.

Council agreed to the goal of presenting a proposal for improved athlete representation, including statutory changes to be approved at the GA in 2020. LZ and AWK were to work on a proposal for next meeting, with assistance from TH.

Council also discussed ways of improving gender balance. It was agreed that the Council proposal for statutory changes from GA 2018, which was not approved, should be repeated at GA 2020. Council also discussed about having active discussions with commissions and member federations to improve the gender balance among proposed candidates.

The governance review findings regarding education were discussed during agenda item 10.2.

Council decided that the GAISF Governance review and proposed statutory changes should be on the agenda at the 2019 Presidents' Conference in Norway.

10. Organisation

10.1. Current Commissions membership

Council approved the following commission members as recommended by the respective Commission Chairpersons. The candidates had received the support of their national federations.

- FootO Commission (FOC): Ulrich (Ulu) Aeschlimann (SUI)
- IT Commission (ITC): Edoardo Tona (ITA), Magnus Bengtsson (NZL)
- Regional and Youth Development Commission (RYDC): Cem Gondogu (TUR), Christine Wu (TPE)
- SkiO Commission (SOC): Bernd Kohlschmidt (GER)
- TrailO Commission (TOC): Ari Tertsunen (FIN)

This should complete the appointment of commission members for the period 2019-2020.

10.2. IOF Organisation – proposal

TH and LH presented the work done so far by the Council working group on the IOF organisation. This included a description of current strengths and weaknesses in relation to the Strategic Directions, and also took into consideration the GAISF governance review which had identified member education as an area for improvement within the IOF. They also presented a first draft of a proposed revised organisation structure. Key elements of this were defining more clearly responsibility and roles regarding development tasks, strengthening of the IOFs education offering, incorporating recreational orienteering into the organisation and more clearly defining organisation components.

Council discussed the work and proposals and agreed upon a number of changes. The working group would continue to refine these for presentation at the next Council meeting and for consultation at the Presidents' Conference.

11. Preparation for Presidents' Conference 2019

Council discussed and agreed a proposed agenda for the Presidents' Conference. This was to be sent out to Members with information about the practical arrangements.

GOAL: ATTRACTIVE TO PARTICIPANTS

12. Regional and Youth Development

12.1. New Member Application – Greece

TH informed Council that the remaining documents required for statutory approval of the Hellenic Federation of Modern Pentathlon, Greece, as an IOF Member had been received.

Council approved and welcomed the Hellenic Federation of Modern Pentathlon as a member of the IOF. This approval brought the number of IOF members to 74.

12.2. RYDC: Guidelines for International Youth Camps

The RYDC had prepared a set of guidelines for IOF recognition of International Youth Camps. Council were positive to this but suggested a few modifications to the document. The guidelines should refer to IOF values and policies and the target ages should be clarified to be aligned with regional youth championships, i.e. 15-18 years old.

12.3. RYDC: Report on crowdfunding for development projects

The RYDC had submitted a report on the possibilities of crowdfunding. Council took note of the report and asked that the RYDC continue to work with the IOF webpage to improve funding opportunities.

12.4. RYDC: Applications for sub-regional groups development projects

The RYDC reported on the applications received for grants for sub-regional development projects. Council noted the report.

13. Recreational Orienteering – Report and next steps

TK presented a report on the work being done around recreational orienteering. It was also noted that Recreational orienteering was now included within the remit of the RYDC and that members of the RYDC were appointed to work together with TK on this item.

Council decided upon the following actions to be reported back at the next meeting by TK

- Create a firm definition of Recreational Orienteering, based upon the initial group work done at the Joint Meeting in January, and in liaison with the RYDC.
- Define a method for collecting best practices in Recreational Orienteering among member federations and organisers and for sharing these with the global orienteering community.

14. Events

14.1. Updated report on received applications

DW gave a report of the current status of applications for IOF events.

HK proposed to reopen discussions regarding the possibility of appointing two consecutive championships. Council agreed to come back to this at its next meeting.

14.2. FOC: Organiser EYOC 2021

Council appointed Lithuania (LTU) as organisers of the European Youth Orienteering Championships (EYOC) 2021.

14.3. FOC: Organiser Sprint EOC 2021

Council appointed Russia (RUS) as organisers for Sprint European Orienteering Championships (EOC) 2021.

Note: TK was not present for this discussion or decision.

14.4. FOC: EYOC 2020 dates

This item was a follow up of item 6.1 from Council meeting 193 where the organiser of EYOC 2020 (HUN) had been requested to find new dates for the event. DW reported that the organiser had, following investigations of other potential dates, requested to keep the dates originally approved. Council confirmed the original dates, i.e. 19-22 June 2020.

Note: LZ and VF were not present for this discussion or decision.

14.5. MTBOC: Organiser EMTBOC 2020

Council appointed Portugal (POR) as organisers of EMTBOC 2020.

14.6. MTBOC: Organiser EMTBOC 2021

This item was tabled until the next meeting as a final recommendation from the MTBOC had not yet been received.

14.7. MTBOC: Sanction fees (tabled from meeting 191)

Council discussed the proposal from the MTBOC proposing that event sanction fees should be variable based upon IOF membership categories, citing that this would help in finding organisers of IOF events, improve quality and global development.

Council was not in favour of the proposal. Neither event entry fees nor sanction fees vary naturally with member categories, but rather correlate with each other. Also sanction fees are primarily set to offset the cost of necessary services provided by the IOF. These services are the same independent of membership category. Financial assistance could be granted to smaller or less MTBO experienced member federations in other more directly relevant ways.

The Council discussed other options for finding event organisers in MTBO such as reducing the number of events and/or reducing the program and complexity of current events.

Council tasked the IOF Office with discussing optional approaches with the MTBOC.

14.8. Update on Orienteering World Cup 2020-2024

TH gave an update on the progress of the World Cup consortium with Verein Swiss Cup (SUI) and the Swedish Orienteering Federation (SOFT)/O-Ringen (SWE). Discussions and agreements between the IOF and Verein Swiss Cup were completed and agreed. Discussions had been advanced, and a letter-of-intent received from SOFT in connection with the HLES at the beginning of February. A meeting between all 3 parties had been held in Stockholm April 5, where also HK and Aron Less (FOC) had participated, to try to reach a final agreement. However, since then a final agreement had not been able to be reached with SOFT/O-Ringen.

Council discussed the situation and decided that negotiations with SOFT/O-Ringen should be abandoned and that the formation of the consortium should proceed together with Verein Swiss Cup. For 2020 the World Cup program could include the World Orienteering Championships if no replacement venue could be found for the O-Ringen round.

TH was tasked with informing the relevant parties of the Council decision. The program for the World Cup 2020 should be discussed and finalized after consultation with FOC, and options for the future World 2021 – 2024 discussed together with Verein Swiss Cup.

Council also discussed the status of the O-Ringen Academy and this decision in relation to the IOF Policy on Conflicting Dates (for Events). Council would review this at a later meeting and following consultation with the RYDC.

14.9. SOC: Organisers SkiO World Cup 2020

Council approved the proposed programme for the Ski Orienteering World Cup 2019-2020.

14.10.FOC: Organiser JWOC 2022 – proposal

Council had received a report from FOC regarding the process for appointment of the organiser of JWOC 2022. Council decided, in line with the FOC proposal, not to appoint an organiser at the meeting, but to go back to both applicants with feedback to improve their respective bids. FOC was to then come with a final recommendation to Council for its next meeting.

14.11.SOC: ESOC 2020 – change of venue

Council approved the proposed change of venue of the European Ski Orienteering Championships (ESOC) 2020 (RUS).

Note: TK was not present for this discussion or decision.

14.12.SOC: Future event program

TK presented a consultation paper from SOC regarding a new competition programme for the future. This paper included several potential alternatives for the program. Council thanked SOC for its thorough review and realistic approach.

Council discussed and asked SOC to move forward with a revision of their second alternative program, with an annual World Cup consisting of 2 rounds, where one of the rounds would be the WSOC in odd years, and ESOC in even years. WSOC would consist of 4 competitions, ESOC of 5 competitions. Depending on if organisers could be found a 3rd annual World Cup Round could be considered as an optional event.

Council decided that all open applications for SkiO events would be modified in accordance with the proposal. SOC was to formulate a final proposal for discussion at the Presidents' Conference 2019 in Norway and for decision at the GA in 2020. This proposal should be consulted with the SkiO Athletes Commission prior to making the final proposal.

Furthermore, Council approved the SOC proposal to increase the number of athletes per nation in WSOC competitions to 6, from the current 4, to be consistent with all World Cup events. Council also approved that the number of Sprint Relay teams at WSOC be increased to 2 per nation.

Regarding the proposal that all starting relay teams be eligible to win medals, Council asked that this be consulted with the Athletes Commission.

14.13.SOC: Future WMSOC rules change

Council approved the changes to the competition rules for Ski Orienteering as proposed by the SOC and RC, i.e. that the medal competitions now were single-day Sprint, Middle and Long. Council however asked that the winning time for Middle Distance be stated in the rules as 30-40 minutes.

15. Innovation and Infrastructure

15.1. MC: Approval ISSprOM 2019

TH presented the draft International Standard for Sprint Orienteering Maps (ISSprOM 2019) from Map Commission. The specification had been consulted with FOC, TOC and RC and following some modifications all 3 commissions recommended approval. Council noted that unfortunately Athletes Commission input had not been received despite several requests.

HK raised concerns about the removal of the dark green colour used to denote vegetation which is “forbidden to pass” in the previous version of the specification.

Council also discussed the use of “impassable” and “forbidden” wording in the specification. Council agreed to keep the wording regarding forbidden areas as proposed but noting that this should be viewed only as informational text and that the symbols which show forbidden to cross or enter must be listed in the IOF Competition Rules.

Council, voting 8 FOR/1 AGAINST/2 NOT PRESENT approved the ISSprOM 2019 for use. The use of the new specification would be required for any IOF events held as of 1 January 2020 and after that date. IOF Events held prior to 1 January 2020 should use the ISSOM 2007 specification or ask for a rules deviation to use ISSprOM 2019 if desired.

Council would ask the Map Commission to consider if there was a need in the future to have separate mapping standards for forest and urban areas, or if the 2 specifications could be combined.

15.2. SEC: Decision about joining the “Sports for Climate Action” initiative

Council discussed the proposal from the Environment and Sustainability Commission (ESC) to join the Sports for Climate Action initiative.

Council approved the proposal and asked for recommendations of actions to implement from the ESC.

15.3. SOC/MC: Revised ISSkiOM

This item was tabled until the next meeting since the specification was still in discussion between the MC and SOC.

16. Report TrailO Working Group

Council discussed a report received from the TOC which was received very close to the meeting. The TrailO working group had not had an opportunity to review this thoroughly. Council decided that consultation on any changes in TrailO and the IOF approach to para sport must be consulted with the member federations. It was agreed that this would be a topic for presentation and discussion at the Presidents' Conference 2019 in Norway and that a formal consultation paper would be sent out after the PC.

AWK was tasked with preparing presentation background material and the consultation document. The materials should take into consideration the final report from TOC due for the next Council meeting.

GOAL: ATTRACTIVE TO EXTERNAL PARTNERS

17. Presentation and TV

17.1. Report from IOF TV Seminar

TH presented a report from the IOF TV Seminar which was organised in conjunction with the HLES in Prague. In total 36 participants attended from broadcasters, producers, technology and service providers, IOF major event organisers and experts in TV productions for orienteering. The seminar was successful in giving all a common understanding of the status of current productions and the way forward.

The seminar contained a development workshop aimed at incremental improvements in orienteering productions and had identified several hundred potential ideas. About 15 – 20 of the most promising would be implemented for the WOC productions in 2019.

The presentation from YLE (FIN) giving the broadcasters' view was very appreciated. They indicated that the IOF is on the right track and advised to make sure we continue to own our product.

As a follow up to the seminar work had continued in 2 areas

- Experienced Producer Karel Jonak had been contracted to lead the IOF development work and was in the process of creating both a TV Production Manual and a standardised IOF Graphics Manual to be used for all orienteering productions.
- An expert group of 12 had been identified and were willing to help in the development of productions going forward. As a first step they were supporting on defining the above manual contents. This group was also involved in the incremental developments going on.

TH also presented an overview of TV Rights sales for 2019. The sale of rights for WOC 2019 had been very good and there would be a record number of broadcasters with live broadcasts from WOC.

17.2. Report on World Ranking System implementation

MD updated the council on the implementation of the revised WRS as decided in the fall of 2018. Investigations were being carried out regarding the calculation of points for normal WRE events as it appeared that the strength of the starting field was not always reflected in the points.

18. New IOF Webpage/Live Orienteering

DW presented an update regarding the start-up of the IOF Webpage orienteering.sport and the integrated Live Orienteering page. The move from the old to the new page had gone relatively smoothly although there were still a few issues to be worked out, both technical and in content.

The fact that the new page was responsive to different devices was a significant improvement and statistics for the new page showed that approximately 50% of traffic was via mobile devices, a notable increase from the old page.

Unfortunately, Commissions had not yet taken advantage of the possibilities for them to update their own pages on the new website and the Office would continue to assist them.

Council commented on a number of aspects of the new website which might be improved, among them the visibility of sponsors, improving the search functionality and regarding the menu structure.

DW also presented an update about the new LIVE Orienteering services offered via the new website. The first trial event had been the WSOC 2019 in Sweden and the feedback from this first implementation had been promising.

19. Sponsorship Report

TH reported on the current status of sponsorships. Sponsor agreements for 2019 had been signed for a total of 106 000 EUR so far. This was slightly higher than the GA approved budget. In addition, several agreements had been signed regarding sponsorships via commissioned sales of products for World Orienteering Day.

TH had during his visit to China met with a potential sponsor and also with a potential cooperation partner to assist in sales of sponsorships in the Chinese market.

OTHER BUSINESS

20. Event Reports

20.1. ESOC 2019

TK had presented a written report to Council regarding ESOC 2019 in Turkey. Council noted the report.

20.2. WSOC 2019

TK had presented a written report to Council regarding WSOC 2019 in Sweden. Council noted the report.

21. Any other business

21.1. Council representation 2019

Council reviewed the list of representation for the remainder of the year.

21.2. Letter from Swiss orienteering - Winter Universiade Luzern 2021

Council discussed the letter received from Swiss Orienteering regarding the steps required for the inclusion of Ski Orienteering in the Winter Universiade 2021 in Luzern. LH also presented information received in meetings in connection with the Winter Universiade 2019. Ski Orienteering was the only optional sport still being considered for inclusion in Luzern and the Local Organising Committee (LOC) and FISU were positive to inclusion. However, due to financial pressures on the Event, the LOC requirement was that Swiss Orienteering, or the IOF, should be able to fund the inclusion of Ski Orienteering. The decision on inclusion was to be made in June 2019 and the request was that a funding guarantee of at least 200 000 CHF be made prior to the date. The funds did not need to be available until 2021 however.

Swiss Orienteering had in their letter to Council requested that the IOF assist with funding via the IOF budget and in creating contacts for seeking funding from IOF Member Federations with interests in ski orienteering.

Council was supportive of the efforts being made by Swiss Orienteering as inclusion in the WU 2021 was identified as one of the goals in the IOF Strategic Directions. Council discussed a response to their letter.

Council agreed to offer to Swiss Orienteering a guarantee to reserve a maximum amount of 25 000 EUR from the budget in 2020 and 2021 respectively towards the inclusion of Ski Orienteering in WU 2021. TH was tasked with finalising the response letter to Swiss Orienteering stating that they should find other funding to reduce the IOF committed maximum amount, and that the IOF could not in any case take on any financial risk towards the LOC.

HK raised concern about funding partner events before improving the IOF's own event programme and asked that this be noted.

AWK felt the amount being committed to this project was too large in relation to meeting the goal in the Strategic Directions and asked that this be noted.

21.3. Rules Database project proposal

MD presented a proposal to create a Rules Database to improve usability of the rules.

Council approved the project and MD would report back at a later meeting.

21.4. Participation of Macau at the World Cup in China

The Orienteering Association of China (OAC) had sent a written request to Council to allow for the participation of a delegation of athletes from Macau in the World Cup in China in October 2019.

TH updated the Council on the status of Macau. Macau cannot become an IOF Member, as the IOF Statutes state that members must come from countries or territories which are independent members of the IOC. There is an orienteering federation in Macau but sports in Macau fall under the jurisdiction on the Chinese Olympic Committee. In this case the sports body in China had approved of their being able to participate in the World Cup as a separate delegation.

Council decided to extend an invitation for a delegation from Macau to participate as guests at the World Cup in China with a maximum 5 male and 5 female athletes for the individual competitions, and maximum 2 Sprint Relay teams. The Office was tasked with working out a number of practical details together with the OAC, organisers and SEA.

22. Future Council Meetings, dates and venues

22.1. Meeting 195 – WOC/14-17 August, NOR

Wed 14/8 Arrivals	(WOC Long Distance)
Thu 15/8 Council Meeting 9-15	(WOC rest day)
	(VIP race and official dinner – afternoon/evening)
Fri 16/8 Presidents' Conference 9 -13	(WOC Middle Distance - afternoon)
Sat 17/8 Council Meeting 9-12	(WOC Relays - afternoon)

Office will send out a mail about booking of accommodations and accreditation.

22.2. Meeting 196 – 25-29 October, Guangzhou, CHN

Thu 24/10 Arrivals	
Fri 25/10 Council Meeting 9-17	(WC Opening Ceremony)
Sat 26/10 Council Meeting 9-12	(WC Middle Distance)
Sun 27/10 (TH/LH depart for IF Forum)	(WC Sprint Relay)
Mon 28/10 Activity	(WC rest day)
Tue 29/10 Banquet in evening	(WC Sprint & closing ceremony)
Wed 30/10 Departures	

Council members should strive to be in China for the entire period if possible.

22.3. Joint Meeting 10-12 January

Council set the dates for the next Joint Meeting to 10-12 January 2020.

23. Closure of the meeting

LH thanked the council members and office for their contributions and declared the meeting closed.

Council wished to thank the Hungarian Orienteering Federation, Aron Less and Laszlo Zentai for their hospitality and help in the organisation of the Council meeting.

Council also wished to send a special note of thanks to Tibor Erdélyi for organising the MapRun activity in the nearby park Városmajor. It was an appreciated morning and break activity.

Leho Haldna
IOF President

Tom Hollowell
IOF Secretary General/CEO