

Results of the AC poll on adding a 5th format to the World Champs programme

Question 1: Which format should be included?
Mixed Sprint Relay: 41% (25 votes)
Mass Start: 43% (26 votes)
Neither: 16% (10 votes)
Other: 0%

Question 2: How many teams should start the MSR?
1 team: 14% (8 votes)
2 teams: 44% (25 votes)
3 teams: 35% (20 votes)
other: 7% (4 votes)

Question 3: Which format should be included (JUNIORS)?
Mixed Sprint Relay: 45% (14 votes)
Mass Start: 39% (12 votes)
Neither: 13% (4 votes)
Other: 3% (1 vote)

Interesting points to note and questions raised:

- Both Mixed Sprint Relay and Mass Start are equally favoured amongst athletes (give or take a vote or two!). The difference isn't enough to state 'Format X is favoured over format Y'.
- In a MSR, more teams seems to be preferable over 1 team. Were those in a first or 2nd team for the MSR more likely to vote for the Mixed Sprint Relay over the Mass Start?
- How many 'spectator athletes' still voted for the MSR despite not having a team for those races?
- Would more athletes vote for MSR if two or more teams were allowed to start?

A number of athletes voted that neither format should be added. Could this be because these head-2-head races are unappealing?

Is the current programme too compact, and the addition of one more race in a World Champs week too much?

Or do these athletes feel that more work needs to be done to prepare these races to a level worthy of a World Champs (eg, certainty of excellent forking, safety and fairness)?

Thanks for your input!

Emily Benham, 19th July 2015 / uh