



Dear IOF MTB Orienteering Event Advisers

One of the main purposes of an international sports federation is to offer its athletes competitions of the highest quality and utmost fairness. The IOF Event Advisers' task is to ensure that the events are of the expected standards.

Your task as IOF Event Adviser can sometimes be challenging. To draw together the community of IOF Event Advisers and to help you with your work, the IOF MTB Orienteering Commission will publish a newsletter twice a year. This is the very first issue and we hope you will find it useful. Please feel free to give us your feedback as well as ideas and suggestions of how the quality of IOF MTB orienteering events could be further improved.

New documents for MTB Orienteering Event Advisers

There are now quite a number of documents available on the IOF website which are useful to Event Advisers and organisers. The following documents have been published most recently:

- *Guidelines for Organisers of IOF MTB Orienteering Events* (including the Competition Rules)
- *MTB Orienteering Event Advisers Handbook*
- *Event Adviser's Report Form with checklist* (visits and final report)
- Jury Guidelines

The brand-new Handbook for MTB Orienteering Event Advisers also contains an index to the Competition Rules for IOF MTB Orienteering Events and is aimed at supporting you in your work as IOF Event Adviser. Please have a look at the document at <http://www.orienteering.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/12/IOF-MTB-Orienteering-Event-Advisers-Handbook-March-2012.pdf>.

Rules changes

The Competition Rules for IOF MTB Orienteering Events are valid from 1st January 2012. Significant changes to the previous version (January 2010) relevant to your work as Event Adviser are the following:

- 3.8 New programme Masters (WMMTBOC): Sprint, Middle, Long Distance
- 16.8 Winning times Masters: identical to WMTBOC and the same for all age classes
- 16.9 Winning times for Juniors (JWMTBOC)
- 21.5 Start numbers must reflect the starting order in each race.

Other news

An event evaluation form has been created. It will be initiated at the first World Cup round in 2012 and the returns will be analysed by the MTB Orienteering Commission.

Event Advisers – clinics and appointments

Successful MTB Orienteering Event Advisers' clinics were held in Denmark (November 2011, 13 participants) and Austria (March 2012, 6 participants).

A joint Foot and MTB Orienteering Event Advisers' clinic will take place in Portugal during 19-20 May 2012.

The following Event Advisers are at work for current or future events:

- 2012: World Cup in CZE: Tamás Janko (HUN)
World Cup in POL: Jan Eg Pedersen (DEN)
World, Junior World and World Masters Championships in HUN: Wolf Eberle (AUT)
World Cup in EST: Timo Laurila (FIN)
- 2013: European Championships in POL: Tage Andersen (DEN)
World and Junior World Championships in EST: Sandor Talás (HUN)
World Cup/World Masters Championships in POR: Christian Gigon (SUI)

Learning from experience

In this section we describe particular incidents where the IOF Event Adviser had to take an important decision. We hope that these examples of past experiences will help you in possible similar situations in the future.

- *Example 1:* The sprint was to take place in an urban area and the organiser was assured that the competition area would be closed for other traffic. However, on the day of the sprint, it turned out that the normal traffic would not be stopped in spite of the promises. In a case such as this the IOF Event Adviser should seriously consider cancelling the event (according to rule 26.13) as the risk of an accident is very high. Be aware that as Event Adviser you are also responsible for the outcome of an event and safety is a crucial issue!
- *Example 2:* The organiser asked the IOF Event Adviser to shorten the start interval for the Long distance to 2 minutes and the Event Adviser approved. As this is a rule deviation, this was not the correct procedure. Requests for permission to deviate from the rules must be sent to the IOF (rule 2.11).

Good luck with your event advising work!

For the IOF MTB Orienteering Commission,
Ursula Häusermann