

From: Sandor Talas
Chairman MTBO Commission

To: IOF Council,
IOF Office
Cc: Hungarian Orienteering Federation

21 December 2016

With this letter I would like to inform you that I am resigning from the MTBO Commission with immediate effect. Recent events made me realise that there is a serious gap between the Council's and my view on the role of the MTBO Commission, the optimal path to develop this discipline, and our responsibility regarding the use of the limited time and enthusiasm of our volunteers.

This has been sadly confirmed by the following recent Council actions amongst others:

- Setting live TV Broadcast standard for WMTBOC as key outcome by 2018 - without discussing the feasibility and possible negative consequences of this target beforehand with the MTBO Commission;
- Insisting on an annual evaluation of MTBO against IOC evaluation criteria - a purely formal pointless task considering that MTBO is decades behind FootO; and FootO could not even make it to the shortlist of candidate sports for the Summer Olympics so far;
- Insisting on seeking inclusion in the Youth Olympic Games - an unreasonable task considering that all the IOC publications clearly state that the Youth Olympic Games are open only to Olympic sports.

These tasks may become reasonable at certain stage of the development of MTBO, but not for the coming decades. Currently they would only divert precious resources from the imminent need of our sport, the development tasks also prescribed in the Statutes of the IOF that we should consider as ultimate priority. I was sad to see that the Council was not interested in discussing these priorities.

I was also astonished to learn recently from the Vice President representing the Council that commitment to the Olympic vision of the IOF is now considered to be more important than commitment to the development of our sport and responsible use of our resources, including the time and enthusiasm of our volunteers

My commitment remains with MTBO, the athletes, coaches, organisers and event advisers who sacrifice their energy and free time to develop this great sport.

I regretfully accept that this does not match the priorities of the Council.

Sincerely,

