

Agenda of the MTBO Commission Meeting

Place: Warsaw, Poland

Date: 20-21 January 2017

Participants:

Keith Dawson (KD) – member (GBR)

Hélène Ediar (HE) – member (FRA)

Ursula Häusermann (UH) – member and acting chair of this meeting (SUI)

Ludomir Parfianowicz (LP) – member (POL)

Jiri Putik (JP) – member (CZE)

Magnus Wallenborg (MW) – member (SWE)

Thomas Wieser (TW) – member (AUT)

Giaime Origgi (GO) – member Athletes' Commission (ITA)

excused: Carlos Simões (CS) – member (POR)

1 Opening

The meeting opened at 3.00 pm on Friday, 20 January 2017. A special welcome was given to the new members KD, HE and JP.

2 Approval of the agenda

The agenda that was circulated before the meeting was approved.

3 Approval of previous minutes

The minutes of the last meeting in August 2016 were approved.

4 Matters arising and decisions taken since the last meeting

4.1 SEA appointments for 2018-19 & WMTBOC 2020

(current SEAs at work: see www.mtbo-commission.com/event-advising.html)

4.2 The major event programme was approved (in *italics* = new):

- WMTBOC / JWMTBOC: annually with 3 individual interval-start competitions (Sprint, Middle and Long), *1 Mass start competition* and 1 relay
- EMTBOC: *annually*, as an embedded part of one round of the World Cup, with *up to 3* competition days (format see 4.3)
- WMMTBOC: annually, consisting of 3 individual interval-start competitions (Sprint, Middle and Long) and *1 Mass start competition*

4.3 New EMTBOC format from 2019 with 3 European Championships:

- Short Individual (Sprint or Middle Distance)
- Long Individual (Mass Start or Long Distance)
- Mixed Relay (3 riders per team, team must include at least 1 woman)

4.4 **New application forms and guidelines**
<http://orienteering.org/mtb-orienteering/event-organising/event-application-forms>

4.5 **WMTBOC Long Qualification 2017**
To allocate the start slots for the Long distance at the WMTBOC 2017, the MTBOC proposed to use Middle and Mass Start for on-event qualification.
Notes after the meeting: The Council approved the proposal.
The qualification procedure can be found at www.mtbo-commission.com/info-for-organisers--eas.html (→ Resources).

5 **MTBO Commission working methods**

5.1 **New Commission members**

In autumn 2016 the Council appointed Keith Dawson, H el ene Ediar, Jiri Putik and Carlos Sim oes as new commission members.

Timo Laurila has been nominated by the Finnish Orienteering Federation to be elected as a member of the MTBOC. The MTBOC would be happy if Timo Laurila joined the MTBOC as a member.

Notes after the meeting: The Council appointed Timo Laurila, FIN, as a new commission member.

5.2 **New Chairperson**

- The MTBOC expressed huge thanks to the former Chair Sandor Talas for his great and much appreciated work for the MTBOC. All members of the MTBOC deeply regret his resignation from the commission.

Sandor will continue running the clinics for event advisers and organisers. He has also offered to take on other tasks if needed and will support the MTBOC when called upon.

- All present members of the MTBOC agreed on UH as the new chairperson.

Notes after the meeting: The Council confirmed UH as the new Chairperson of the MTBOC.

- The decision whether or not to have an internal Vice Chair was postponed to the next meeting in August.

- If needed, KD will represent the MTBOC at the EMTBOC 2017 when UH cannot attend due to her work as a SEA of the WMTBOC 2017.

5.3 **Commission Remits 2017-18**

Tasks and responsibilities were allocated. All specific tasks, responsibilities and deadlines will be listed in a working plan.

5.4 **MTBO representative for the Rules Commission**

UH will be the MTBOC representative in the Rules Commission.

Notes after the meeting: This was confirmed by the Council.

5.5 **Contact with Map Commission**

LP is responsible for mapping matters.

5.6 **The contact people for the other commissions are as follows:**

- Environment: KD
- IT: JP
- Ethics: HE
- Regional and Youth Development (RYDC): MW

5.7 **Working groups** (see 8.2 last minutes)

Responsible MTBOC members for the working groups:

- Map Working Group: LP
- Masters Working Group: KD

- 5.8 **Website MTBOC** www.mtbo-commission.com (webmaster = UH)
 New sites for *Youth Promotion* and *World Orienteering Day* were added.
 - Youth Promotion: www.mtbo-commission.com/young-people.html
 - World Orienteering Day: www.mtbo-commission.com/world-o-day.html

6 International Event Calendar

6.1 Applications

- **World Championships 2020**

One application was received from CZE.

- **World Cup rounds 2019**

GER, ITA and POL applied for Round 3, but there was no application for the EMTBOC/Round 1. The MTBOC will evaluate these three applications and check with the applicants who could move to spring (no later than middle of June) and organise the EMTBOC.

- **World Masters MTBO Championships 2019**

Applications were received from DEN (in conjunction with the WMTBOC), GER and POL, both in conjunction with the third World Cup round.

6.2 The MTBOC approved the **calendar of the World Masters Series 2018** proposed by the Masters Working Group:

| | |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| October 2017 | Australian Championships |
| October 2017 | German Championships |
| April 2018 | Portugal |
| April 2018 | MTBO Camp Denmark |
| June 2018 | WMMTBOC Hungary |
| 21-27 July 2018 | O-Ringen Sweden |
| July 2018 | Finale Czech Republic |

6.3 Status of upcoming events

6.3.1 World Cup Events (incl. World Championships) 2017

- AUT: no major problems expected, most of the courses and maps are ready, problem with sprint because of new road being built in the area, visibility?
- FRA: everything is going according to plan
Notes after the meeting: Due to a 'call for help' from the Finnish team, who have been trying to get accommodation for their large team since November 2016, it became clear that the booking procedure is difficult and not user-friendly. A temporary solution could be found.
- LTU: UH as the SEA reported that preparations were behind schedule during her second visit in Oct 2016. There were no maps available and the terrain for the relay was changed after the visit.

6.3.2 World Cup Events (incl. World Championships) 2018

- HUN: Date had to be changed to 27 June - 1 July 2018
 EMTBOC 29 June - 1 July (3 days)
 EJMTBOC & WMMTBOC 27 June - 1 July (4 days with rest day)
- AUT: WMTBOC 4 - 13 August 2018
 The event programme is in the process of being finalised. Organisational and other restrictions have to be considered.
- POR: Date has been fixed for 20 - 23 September.

Notes after the meeting: The Council approved the dates and the programme of the World Cup 2018.

6.3.3 **World Masters Series 2017:** Competitors who ride in a younger age class will have to register if they want to get points in this class. The registration procedure will be explained at www.mtbo-commission.com/world-masters-series.html.

6.4 **Plans for 2020 - 2023**

Possible candidates to hold a major IOF MTBO event were discussed.

7 **Event advising and quality**

7.1 **Evaluation of the 2016 international events**

- The **feedback** received from the participants via the online questionnaire is published at www.mtbo-commission.com/event-evaluation.html.
- **Learnings**
More information for competitors and organisers regarding SI Air+ might be useful. At the moment there are instructions from the vendors which can be found at www.mtbo-commission.com/info-for-organisers--eas.html (→ IT).
Other learnings will be described in the next EA newsletter (see 7.2).
- UH will prepare the **online questionnaires** for the events in 2017. The form will consist of only one part and there will be fewer questions. For Master participants there will be a separate questionnaire.

7.2 **Newsletter for Event Advisers** (see www.mtbo-commission.com/event-advising.html)

The next newsletter is planned for spring 2017. As usual, it will be sent to all event advisers and will be published on the MTBOC's website.

7.3 **EA Clinics**

Sandor Talas is commissioned to continue running the clinics for event advisers and organisers.

- EA Clinic notes will be published on the MTBO Commission website.
- In November 2016 a clinic took place in FRA with 5 participants, 4 of them are key people in the organisation of the EMTBOC 2017. The clinic was very useful with many discussions about EMTBOC related questions.
- Clinics in 2017:

An EA and organisers on-line clinic is being considered for the education of out-of-Europe people.

There is no date or location set yet for a European clinic in 2017. If there is sufficient interest, a clinic could be offered in Austria before the season. It could also be useful for the organisers of the Austrian World Cup events in 2017 and 2018.

Notes after the meeting:

- *On 31 January a clinic for event advisers and organisers taking place in Austria on 4-5 March 2017 was announced.*
- *An online presentation on rules of major IOF MTBO events is planned on 26 February 2017, please see www.mtbo-commission.com/rules.html.*

7.4 **Injury and accident database** (see www.mtbo-commission.com/various.html)

KD will make sure that injured riders report noteworthy injuries by filling in the form.

7.5 **KD will keep records of disqualifications & jury cases.**

8 Rules and mapping standards

- 8.1 The **Special Rules for the World Cup 2017** were finalised by the commission. There will be a Mixed Sprint Relay at the EMTBOC 2017 as these championships are conducted to previous rules when this competition format was part of the EMTBOC programme. The MTBOC and the AC agreed that it would be best if two teams per federation instead of only one would be allowed to start. HE, event director and course planner of this competition, assured that 2 teams per country would not be a problem with regard to safety, so it was decided that 2 teams may take part.
Notes after the meeting: The Council approved the rules with the amendment that the Mixed Sprint Relay is to be called Sprint Relay (to be in line with other disciplines). The Special Rules can be found at www.mtbo-commission.com/rules.html.
- 8.2 **Special Rules for the World Cup 2018:** The competition formats will have to be discussed.
- 8.3 **Rule change proposals / questions**
Rule changes for 2018 will have to be proposed to the Council by 15 October 2017. This means that the MTBOC will have to finalise proposals at the next meeting in August. Several rules were discussed, among others:
- **Rule 15.2:** Should larger scales be allowed for Middle, Relay and Long, subject to the approval of the EA?
Depending on the terrain, smaller scales are sometimes not appropriate.
 - **Rule 5.7** classes at WMMTBOC: For the classes W/M65+ the Masters Working Group suggested lowering the number of entries that determine whether two adjacent classes in the same decade shall be merged or not. Masters will have the opportunity to take part in a survey which will be published on the MTBOC's website.
 - Should a penalty be defined in the rules to punish a competitor who starts early in a mass start race? The MTBOC will check with SkiO to find out to what extent early starting is a problem before making a rule about it.
 - The MTBOC feels that the abbreviations denoting the status of an athlete's result should be standardised. Sometimes an athlete is shown as DSQ (disqualified, which implies he/she broke a rule) when in fact he/she simply mispunched or did not finish for example.
David Rosen, Chair of Rules Commission, will investigate the way that results are submitted and whether the statuses are defined.
 - At the moment **Rule 22.17** about quarantine does not limit the time the athletes must spend there. Possible rule: *No athlete shall be required to spend more than 2 hours in the Start quarantine, unless special circumstances require a longer quarantine time.*
It was decided that a maximum time of 2 hours will be included in the *Guidelines on quarantine* for the time being.
 - **Rule 19.5** control codes: Is 3 cm the correct minimum height, and 5 mm the correct minimum line thickness, for the code for MTBO where speeds may be high?
→ Point out in Organisers' Guidelines and EA's handbook for the time being that control codes should be as large as possible.

8.4 Mapping matters

Review of ISMTBOM (International Specification for MTBO Maps)

The current ISMTBOM dates from 2010 and does not include specific mapping standards for Sprint. The MTBO Map Working Group has reviewed the ISMTBOM and in January 2016 delivered a proposal with standards for Sprint maps but also with improvements for better map reading and interpretation. This proposal was published on the MTBOC's website and it was informally asked to be tested. No feedback has been received.

The Map Working Group also produced two very helpful documents on *Common errors and solutions* and on *Scales and Symbol sizes*, see www.mtbo-commission.com/map-working-group.html.

The MTBOC agreed on another testing phase until the end of October 2017 at events with a world ranking status or lower. To do this, organisers will have to be informed formally and the new and changed OCAD symbols will have to be available.

The Map Commission will be involved accordingly.

9 Strategic development

9.1 **MTBO strategic plan**

A working group called *MTBO Strategy 24* was set up. Its members LP, KD and JP will update and review LP's draft of the strategic plan for the next meeting in August.

9.2 **MTBO on World Orienteering Day (WOD) on 24 May 2017**

KD will promote it and a separate site on the MTBOC's website was set up for WOD, see <http://www.mtbo-commission.com/world-o-day.html>.

9.3 **How to organise the first MTBO event**

A working group with Sandor Talas and 1-2 other people under the lead of UH will take care of creating this document.

9.4 **Development questions**

▪ Youth

The MTBOC would like to have 2-3 international training camps organised per year. In 2017 camps for young people are offered in SUI (25 - 28 May), in SWE (29 June - 3 July) and in CZE (1 - 5 July), the latter aiming explicitly at young people from different countries. Information on the camps for young people can be found at www.mtbo-commission.com/young-people.html.

▪ Masters

Although development for Masters is not in the Remits, the MTBOC and its Masters Working Group are trying to cater for the needs of people older than 40. The unofficial Relay for Masters is one result of these efforts.

9.5 **Broader geographic base**

▪ North America: MW will follow up the idea to have a major MTBO event in the USA.

10 MTBO documents and support materials

- 10.1 JP will try to make a draft for an **MTBO flyer** (see 9.1 in minutes of meeting 2016-2).
- 10.2 The **EA's handbook** will be updated shortly (UH).
- 10.3 The **Organisers' Guidelines** need reviewing as they date from 2012. Sandor has offered to do this job and the MTBOC is happy to accept his offer.
- 10.4 **Guidelines mass start and relay** are to be published shortly.
- 10.5 **Guidelines quarantine zones**: A remark about minimising the time the athletes spend in quarantine (see 8.3, rule 22.17) will be added. Publication follows soon.
- 10.6 **Templates for bulletins**: UH will finish them, with help from HE if needed.
- 10.7 **Guidance for athletes new to MTBO** (see 9.6 in minutes of meeting 2016-2): JP will have a look at it.

11 AOB

- 11.1 Anti-doping: It must be checked if the MTBO contributions (from events and athlete's licences) to the AD fund correspond to the costs for the tests carried out on MTBO athletes.
- 11.2 JAP submitted a proposal with the aim to grow MTBO from the ranks of XC MTB riders. Although the commission was supportive of the initiative to increase MTBO numbers from the MTB community, the proposal to limit the number of controls and eliminate forking was deemed inappropriate.
- 11.3 Register of Interests: UH reminded the commission members to fill in the Declaration of Interests document.

12 The next meeting is planned to be held in Vilnius on 24 August 2017, rest day of the WMTBOC 2017.

The meeting closed at 11.50 pm on Saturday.

Ursula Häusermann
(acting) Chair

8 February 2017