

## JWMTBOC 2021

### Federation consultation paper

#### Introduction and proposal by MTBOC

Due to the cancellation of the JWMTBOC 2020, junior athletes born in the year 2000 could not compete for medals in their final year of junior eligibility, and athletes born in 2001 and 2002 missed out on one of the three World Championships they would normally have in M20/W20.

To make up for the cancelled JWMTBOC 2020, the MTBO Commission (MTBOC) proposes to **hold the JWMTBOC 2020 next year by integrating it into the JWMTBOC 2021 in FIN.**

The JWMTBOC 2021 in Finland could be organised in such a way that all junior athletes participate in the same class M20 or W20 but two sets of medals are awarded at each race - one set for JWMTBOC 2020 and one set for JWMTBOC 2021. Participants born in 2000 can only win JWMTBOC 2020 medals, whereas all participants born in 2001 and later can potentially win both JWMTBOC 2020 and JWMTBOC 2021 medals in the same race.

However, to have a worthy JWMTBOC 2020 it is important that there is a sufficient number of participants born in 2000. This will not be the case if most of these athletes decide to compete at the WMTBOC 2021 instead of the JWMTBOC 2020.

The IOF is hereby consulting the member federations to find out

1. if the federations wish to have the JWMTBOC 2020 integrated into the JWMTBOC 2021 and
2. if there are going to be enough athletes born in 2000 competing at the JWMTBOC 2020.

Based on this consultation, the Council will make a decision at its next meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> September. The IOF would be grateful to get the federations' feedback by Friday, **11<sup>th</sup> September 2020.**

#### Rules

If it is decided that the JWMTBOC 2020 is to be integrated into the JWMTBOC 2021, the following rules will apply:

- In each competition every federation may enter up to 9 men and 9 women. Of these participants, a maximum of 3 men and 3 women may be 21 years old on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2021 (born in 2000).
- There will be the usual two junior classes M20 and W20.
- The athletes born in 2000 and those born in 2001 and later will all ride on the same course, i.e. one course for M20 and one for W20.
- The start lists will be made according to the usual rules, regardless of the age of the athletes.
- Each competition is part of the JWMTBOC 2021 and of the JWMTBOC 2020, but a separate result list will be made for each World Championship race: one ranking for the JWMTBOC 2021 with the competitors born in 2001 and later and one for the JWMTBOC 2020 with the competitors born in 2000 and later.

- In the **Relay**, each federation may enter up to 3 men's teams and 3 women's teams. JWMTBOC 2020 medals will be distributed among all teams. For the JWMTBOC 2021, up to 2 men's teams and 2 women's teams per federation are entitled to win medals and the members of these teams may only be born in 2001 and later.

### **Why integrate the JWMTBOC 2020 into the JWMTBOC 2021?**

- Juniors born in 2000 will be given a chance to compete for medals almost as if they were in their final year of junior eligibility.
- Having the JWMTBOC 2020 combined with the JWMTBOC 2021 means a third Junior World Championship for all athletes born in 2001 and 2002. These athletes will indeed have two chances to win a medal: one at the JWMTBOC 2021 and one at the JWMTBOC 2020.
- The participation of the athletes born in 2000 will have no impact on the JWMTBOC 2021 because there will be a separate ranking and medal ceremony for the JWMTBOC 2020.
- Integrating the JWMTBOC 2020 into the JWMTBOC 2021 can be done easily and there will be no extra work for the organisers – apart from the additional medal ceremony for only two classes.
- With athletes born in 2000 and later, there will be a strong competition → medals will have a great value, but they will be distributed among the age groups in a fair manner all the same.
- With regard to participation numbers it is no problem in MTBO to have junior athletes of four years of birth in one class. (At a JWMTBOC there are usually around 40 starting athletes in each class.)