International Orienteering Federation

On-line Newsletter

Issue 2 – July 2011

## The IOF 50 Years



Imagine taking part in the first European Orienteering Championships in 1962. The map is not drawn in the way, nor at the scale, you are used to at home. The colours are different too. You turn to the control descriptions to see where the first flag is. Turns out, it is "Stein", or "Steinblock". Your language skills do not include German nor any Scandinavian language. And it does not get easier later on the course: what is "Grøftekne", "Myr-suppestasjon" or "Putt"?

Today you do not need to know these things. All you need to know are the map symbols and the pictorial control descriptions - the universal languages of orienteers. As the first IOF President, Erik Tobé, said: "The most important thing of all is that one should feel at home even when away. So the map must, now and forever, be drawn in the same way all over the world."

When the International Orienteering Federation (IOF) was founded 50 years ago, one of the very first tasks of the new

EM Orientering Løten 1962.

- I. Europamesterskap i orientering 22/9-1962.
- I. Europameisterschaft im Orientierungslaufen 22/9-1962.

#### Postbeskrivelse herrer.

- 1. Stein
- 2. Nord i myr.
- 3. Ende av grøft.
- 4. I utydelig grøft.
- 5. Ende av grøft.
- 6. Grøftekne suppestasjon.
- 7. Knaus.
- 8. Myr suppestasjon.
- 9. Øst i dråget.
- lo. Myrputt.
- 11. Myr.
- 12. Mellom 2 koller.
- 13. Putt.

(Fellespost for damer og herrer. Fellespost for damer og herrer. (Sammelposten für Damen und Herren. Publikum har adgang til posten) Zuschauerposten.) Løypelengde 16,5 km.

#### Kontrollangaben Herren.

- 1. Steinblock.
- 2. Nord-Ende von Moor.
- 3. Bachende.
- 4. An unauffälligem Bach.
- 5. Bachende im Moor.
- 6. Bachknie Verpflegung.
- 7. Felskuppe.
- 8. Moor Verpflegung.
- 9. Ost Rand der Mulde.
- lo. Offener Sumpf.
- 11. Moor.
- 12. Zwischen 2 Hügeln.
- 13. Offener Sumpf.

Bahnlänge 16,5 km.

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The O-zine is published by the IOF four times a year. You can receive an email notification whenever a new issue of O-zine is released: www.orienteering.org/o-zine. For current news, reports and interviews from IOF Events, please visit the IOF website: www.orienteering.org.

ANNA ZEELIG **EDITOR-IN-CHIEF** 



international federation was creating international specifications for map symbols (first published in 1969), and international competition rules for orienteering. Despite the many years that have passed since then, the map specifications and competition rules remain an important task for the IOF today. Even when they are away, orienteers should feel at home.

The IOF was founded on 21st May 1961 at a Congress held in Copenhagen, Denmark. The 10 founding members were Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, Finland, German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Norway, Sweden and Switzerland.

Besides mapping issues, the new federation concentrated on staging Championships in orienteering: firstly European Championships in 1962 and 1964, and then World Championships from 1966 – even though all the participants still then came from Europe.

The first World Orienteering Championships were organised in Fiskars, Finland in 1966, and this year's IOF World Orienteering Championships in France are the 28th to be held. World Championships have since been introduced in all official IOF disciplines: ski orienteering (since 1975), mountain bike orienteering (2002) and trail orienteering (2004).

The World Orienteering Championships have come a long way since Fiskars, where the only distances were long distance—then classic distance—and relay. We continue our efforts to shape the best possible World Championships for orienteering. For the latest news in that area, please read the article on page 3.

This year we celebrate the IOF's 50th Anniversary, and a special edition of the magazine Orienteering World will be launched at the World Championships in France in August. For more information on the Anniversary, please visit the IOF 50 Years website: www.orienteering.org/iof-50-years.

## Compasses for developing nations

We have come a long way since 1961 – from 10 founding members to 73 member federations – and we would not have managed this well without helping each other along the way. The more established orienteering nations have always been there to support the developing nations. This time we can all help, regardless of age, position, or home country!

To celebrate the 50 years of the IOF, we aim to collect (at least) 500 compasses during this summer. These compasses will be sent to developing orienteering countries all over the world.

To succeed in this project we need your help: if you plan to attend the World Orienteering Championships or the O'Festival ERDF Savoie Grand Revard in France, or the World Mountain Bike Orienteering Championships in Italy, either as a competitor or a spectator, please bring your old compasses with you to the event. There will be compass collection stations at all three events. Or if you know someone who is going to France or Italy in August, send your spare compasses with him/her to help the orienteers in the younger orienteering nations. You can write a greeting – or simply the name of your home country – on a piece of paper to go with the compass.

In addition to compasses, pin punches and control flags are also much ap-



preciated equipment in the newer nations.

If you want to help, but are not going to France or Italy, you can send your contribution directly to the IOF Secretariat: IOF, Radiokatu 20, 00093 SLU, Finland.

The outcome of the compass project, as well as follow-up stories on where the compasses ended up, will be published on the IOF website:

www.orienteering.org/compasses.

\_\_ www.orienteering.org



The World Orienteering Championships -

# A more attractive programme for TV and the runners

From 2014 or 2015 there will be a new programme for the World Orienteering Championships which will provide even more excitement for the runners and a more attractive sport for the viewers.

#### BY ERIK BORG

The WOC in the Future project group made its proposal for a new World Championships (WOC) programme in March 2011. Now it is the IOF Council that leads the process. The subject will be discussed at the Presidents' Conference at the World Orienteering Championships in France this summer, but the final decision is further ahead in time.

"The Presidents' Conference is a consultative, not a decision-making body, so the decision will be taken at the next General Assembly in Lausanne in July 2012. Had there been a common view on these matters, the Council could have taken the decision, but this is not the case right now. Council will listen to the views of member federations at the Presidents' Conference and after that form a proposal for the General Assembly in 2012", IOF President Åke Jacobson says.

There have been a lot of different views expressed throughout the discussion process. Some principles have become clear during that time:

- WOC should remain an annual event with the same programme from year to year
- The number of medal events should be limited to a maximum of five
- There should not be qualification during WOC week (except for sprint)

According to Åke Jacobson, the major reason for developing the new WOC programme is to make it more exciting and hence more attractive for spectators and

those following orienteering on TV or via web casting: "The proposed new formats are also more attractive to the coming generation of top elite runners. The most positive thing with the new programme is that it introduces different and new competition formats, such as the mixed relay", he says, and continues: "With a decision at the General Assembly in 2012, the new programme can be implemented, formally, from 2016. I believe, however, that at least some changes can be made earlier, maybe already in 2014, and certainly from 2015 since both applicants for WOC 2015 have declared a readiness to implement it."

#### Not an easy task

The task of developing a new programme for WOC has not been as easy as perhaps was expected. "The new programme was discussed at the General Assembly in Trondheim last year, and there was wide support for a change. Now, when the details are on paper, there are many different views, which make it hard for the Council to find a compromise that satisfies a majority of the member federations. There are always strong views on matters related to the WOC programme, but I believe our members trust in our ability to find a solution which is good for the sport, making it more and more attractive to both athletes and all those watching the events", Åke Jacobson says.

#### Only five formats

The rationale behind the initial proposal was renewal while keeping with tradition. However, several member federations expressed their view that this meant too many – six – medal events and recom-



Gernot Kerschbaumer, Austria, at the World Orienteering Championships sprint 2010.

mended a reduction to four or five. "The discussions at the Presidents' Conference will give guidance as to the number of events. Council is firm in its opinion that there must be renewal, so if events are to be taken out we will opt for dropping one or more of the existing events", Åke Jacobson comments.

## Many participating nations – finals for the best

The qualification models have not yet been decided on, and the Council will make up its mind on those during the World Championships in France. The main aim is that as many nations as possible should be able to take part in the World Championships. At the same time, the finals are for the best runners.

The final decision will be taken at the General Assembly in Lausanne in 2012. However, it will not be possible to vote on every single component in the package separately: "A decision can be taken at a General Assembly, but basically only as a 'yes' or 'no' to the proposal made. No-one would be able to see the overall consequences if one were to vote on every single component in the package. I am sure member federations understand this and will support the decision-making process. The challenge for Council is to present a proposal which can stand such a way of handling the matter", President Jacobson concludes.

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## **North South East West**

North South East West is a regular feature in the O-zine. In every issue, we focus on one of the IOF's 73 member nations. In this issue we showcase:

## **Cyprus – the newest IOF member**

#### BY RIIKKA TOLKKI

Cyprus was approved as an IOF member in May 2011. The Secretary of the Cyprus Mountaineering and Sport Climbing Federation, KOMOAA, Michael Savvides, agreed to give us some more insight into orienteering within his country.

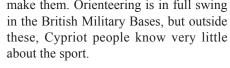
The Republic of Cyprus is located on the third biggest island on the Mediterranean Sea with around 330 sunny days each year. Cyprus has a history of being a British colony and the country became independent in 1960. Nowadays the republic has around 1,100,000 inhabitants.

#### Could you give us some background with regard to orienteering in Cyprus?

"The idea of introducing orienteering in Cyprus is not new. The Cyprus Athletic Organization attempted to start orienteering activities more than a decade ago, but unfortunately the efforts floundered due to lack of proper maps and able people to

make them. Orienteering is in full swing in the British Military Bases, but outside these, Cypriot people know very little

The idea of forming an orienteering club,



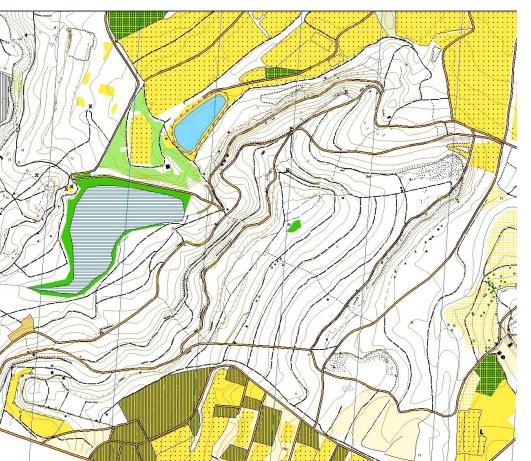


in order to get the sport outside the military domain, started floating around in early 2010. Within a few months the club was officially formed, mapping software was purchased and a website was prepared. Our first map was not really one of the best in the word but the quality of our maps has gradually improved, and we follow closely the IOF specifications in everything we do."

#### Which areas in Cyprus are the most suitable for orienteering?

"The terrain in Cyprus varies greatly from coastal undulating regions, cultivated areas and forested mountains. The plans are to have a minimum of one mapped area in each province of Cyprus so that people do not have to travel far to take part in a competition.

We have already finished a map of Athalassa National Forest Park (in big picture next page + map) near our capital Nicosia and this area is used for holding novice events and training. Other maps are under preparation and we hope to have at least four or five maps in the next two-three years to hold events in other parts of the



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PHOTOS: MICHAEL SAVVIDES

island. Cyprus is very hot in the summer, temperatures can reach 44°C, and orienteering is very difficult. As a consequence, maps of areas on the mountains where the climate is cool are selected so that we can run the sport in the hot seasons of the year."

## Could you give us some more information on the events coming up later this year?

"Public involvement in orienteering is still in its infancy in Cyprus. The aim at the moment is not so much to arrange competitions per se, but to make the sport known to the public. We want people to come, have a go, enjoy themselves and then spread the word. It is interesting to note that initially the parents "force" their children to come. From then on, the kids drag the parents. This is the main goal in the coming one or two years. At the same time we will try to form a core of athletes from people who have experience in the sport so that we can form a national team. Gradually, as time goes by and more and more people get to know the sport and get involved, we will have regional and national competitions."

## What does it mean for your federation to take part in international events?

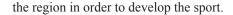
"To send an athlete to an event overseas a year after the introduction of the sport in our country is naturally very exciting for us. The participation at the event is success enough! Further to this, we are extremely happy and grateful to the French Orienteering Federation and the French Ministry of Sport for inviting a small delegation from Cyprus to attend the World Orienteering Championships in France. This important event will give us a chance to attend clinics and see how sports events are organized. It is also a great opportunity to meet coaches, organisers and sportsmen from different countries and share experiences."

## What are your thoughts about KOMOAA now being a member of the IOF?

"Joining the IOF was a top priority immediately after the introduction of orienteering in Cyprus. Our membership means that we are part of the wider orienteering community and gives us the right to take part in international events. Furthermore, we can develop regional and bilateral relations with other countries in







Participation with IOF is also important for us in our country in that it is now an official sport registered with the Cyprus Athletic Organization, which means than in time we can get financial support."

## What are your hopes for the future of orienteering in Cyprus?

"We shall strive in the years to come to put orienteering in the schools' curriculum. Map reading, together with swimming and first aid skills are an important part of education. There is no person that does not use maps in his lifetime, and orienteering is the best approach as it is fun and trains body and mind. Orienteering is a sport for all the



whole family and this is the best way to get people introduced to it.

As we build sufficient skills and maps, we will try and make Cyprus a place for visitors from other countries to hold competitions in winter time. The climate in winter is very temperate and the nature truly beautiful."

## How many members does club Orientaction have?

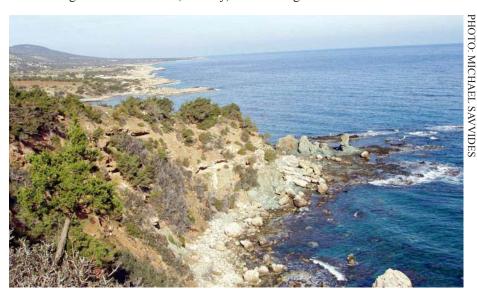
"Officially there are only 45 people registered with our club but we are confident that the number will rise steeply in the years to come. We have not advertised or written articles in the papers about the sport yet. We firstly want to learn, build our capacity and then expand."

## South East Europe: Cyprus is latest member

BY ZORAN MILOVANOVIC, SEEOWG CHAIRMAN

Recently after our South East European Orienteering Working Group (SEEOWG) meeting in March 2011 in Belgrade, where we set up some principles for our work and how to help to new members, Cyprus became the latest member of the IOF, and is now a full member of the SEEOWG. In September 2011, the first South East Europe Orienteering Championships will be held in Krusevo, Macedonia and we expect more the 10 countries from our region to take part, including Cyprus. Next, we shall try to organise several lectures and training camps, and produce new maps for developing countries and potential new members in the region. Recently also Montenegro joined the IOF, and Bosnia and Herzegovina is on its way to prepare for IOF membership.

For Cyprus, and some other countries in the region, becoming a member of the Confederation of Mediterranean Orienteering Federations (COMOF) is also a big step towards development in the region. The first COMOF Cup race will be held in February 2012 in Spain, and we are working hard to organise orienteering events in Mersin, Turkey, in conjunction with the Mediterranean Games in June 2013. The next COMOF Council meeting will take place during the World Orienteering Championships week in France where we expect to have further discussions about developing orienteering in the region.



World Ranking, Top 10 (as of 27 July 2011)

### **Foot Orienteering**

Women: 1) Simone Niggli (SUI) 6133, 2) Marianne Andersen (NOR) 6032, 3) Helena Jansson (SWE) 5992, 4) Minna Kauppi (FIN) 5932, 5) Anne Margrethe Hausken (NOR) 5685, 6) Annika Billstam (SWE) 5663, 7) Anni-Maija Fincke (FIN) 5621, 8) Signe Søes (DEN) 5613, 9) Vroni König-Salmi (SUI) 5588, 10) Merja Rantanen (FIN) 5574.

Men: 1) Thierry Gueorgiou (FRA) 5746, 2) Daniel Hubmann (SUI) 5683, 3) Olav Lundanes (NOR) 5669, 4) Matthias Müller (SUI) 5649, 4) Anders Nordberg (NOR) 5649, 6) Carl Waaler Kaas (NOR) 5631, 7) Emil Wingstedt (SWE) 5559, 8) Francois Gonon (FRA) 5544, 9) Matthias Merz (SUI) 5521, 10) Oleksandr Kratov (UKR) 5517.

## Federation League (for leading 20 athletes)

Women 1) Sweden 89499 points, 2) Finland 86795, 3) Norway 83816, 4)

Switzerland 80221, 5) Czech Republic 76716, 6) Great Britain 72249, 7) Australia 63098, 8) Russia 52790, 9) Denmark 47557, 10) France 43954.

Men: 1) Sweden 99901, 2) Switzerland 96221, 3) Norway 91670, 4) Finland 82053, 5) Czech Republic 77981, 6) Great Britain 75699, 7) Denmark 75254, 8) Italy 66211, 9) France 65592, 10) Australia 62731.

### MTB Orienteering

Women: 1) Christine Schaffner (SUI) 7417, 2) Marika Hara (FIN) 7214, 3) Michaela Gigon (AUT) 7189, 4) Rikke Kornvig (DEN) 7124, 5) Anna Kamińska (POL) 7053, 6) Ingrid Stengård (FIN) 6920, 7) Maja Rothweiler (SUI) 6880, 8) Ksenia Chernykh (RUS) 6857, 9) Martina Tichovská (CZE) 6821, 10) Hana Bajtošová (SVK) 6781.

Men: 1) Anton Foliforov (RUS) 7371, 2) Erik Skovgaard Knudsen (DEN) 7255, 3) Samuli Saarela (FIN) 7167, 4) Jiři Hradil (CZE) 7151, 5) Jussi Laurila (FIN) 7141,

6) Luca Dallavalle (ITA) 7129, 7) Beat Schaffner (SUI) 7123, 8) Ruslan Gritsan (RUS) 7104, 9) Radek Laciga (CZE) 7046, 10) Tobias Breitschädel (AUT) 6998.

### Ski Orienteering

Women: 1) Marte Reenaas (NOR) 1309, 2) Josefine Engström (SWE) 1286, 3) Polina Malchikova (RUS) 1279, 4) Helene Söderlund (SWE) 1278, 5) Tatiana Kozlova (RUS) 1275, 6) Kajsa Richardsson (SWE) 1258, 7) Alyona Trapeznikova (RUS) 1249, 8) Liisa Anttila (FIN) 1239, 9) Stine Olsen Kirkevik (NOR) 1230, 10) Natalya Tomilova (RUS) 1216.

Men:1) Staffan Tunis (FIN) 1309, 2) Andrey Grigoriev (RUS) 1289, 3) Peter Arnesson (SWE) 1276, 4) Kiril Veselov (RUS) 1274, 5) Olli-Markus Taivainen (FIN) 1246, 6) Andrei Lamov (RUS) 1243, 7) Lars Hol Moholdt (NOR) 1239, 8) Erik Rost (SWE) 1238, 8) Vladimir Barchukov (RUS) 1238, 10) Eduard Khrennikov (RUS) 1232.

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# Swedish ski orienteers finally "back home"

#### BY ERIK BORG

The upcoming winter season will see ski orienteering back within the orienteering federation in Sweden. Top ski orienteer Josefine Engström is looking forward to that. "I know it's going to be better for ski orienteering now", Josefine says.

When the Swedish Orienteering Federation decided to take ski orienteering back from the Swedish Ski Association, it was celebrated with a party. "All the Swedish national ski orienteering teams, the national coach and chairman and the Secretary General of the Swedish Orienteering Federation were there. We celebrated with information from the orienteering federation about the upcoming ski-O season, some bowling and lots of good food", Josefine says.

In most countries ski orienteering has always been part of the orienteering federation. Josefine is happy that the change has taken place in Sweden, too, where since 1st July 2011 ski orienteers have been 'back home' with the rest of the orienteering disciplines. "We have had a lot of information about the winter programme and what resources we have, and how they are going to be divided. It looks very promising", she says.

She feels that she is going to be part of a federation that cares more about ski orienteering and developing it. "Hopefully it will also be economically more beneficial for us - maybe not from the beginning, but in the long run. I can't see anything negative with the change at all."

#### Athletes involved

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Many elite ski orienteers are also active foot orienteers and some, like Josefine, are also competing at national level. They have had close connections with the orienteering federation over the years, and moving ski orienteering there is partly also an achievement by the athletes. "I think that almost all ski orienteers in Sweden have been involved in this change in one way or

another. I am one of many who tried to get our voice heard, and pushed for the change. We talked about the subject and pushed for this in the Swedish Ski Orienteering Committee", Josefine comments.

#### **Big ambitions**

The last World Championships were not a big success for Josefine. She had bad luck with both the weather and illness. She is now training hard for a good winter. "I want to improve my skills in ski orienteering by training my physical capacity to the maximum, and by developing my orienteering technique with a lot of high speed orienteering training. I have had some trouble with a twisted ankle, but it's

starting to get better," she says.

"Apart from that, I think my training has gone as planned. I will participate in the O-Ringen orienteering week, and I aim to be among the 15 best in the women's elite class. Goals for the winter are of course the World Cup and the European Championships. My goal is to finish in the top three in the overall World Cup, and win medals in the European Championships."

Josefine herself is not only moving to a new federation this year, she is also moving to a new country. "I have just finished my studies and I am going to work for some weeks. After that, I'll move to Finland with my boyfriend."



# Memories from the first North American multi-day event

BY COLIN KIRK, MEET DIRECTOR OF O'RING QUEBEC 1976

The first multi-day event in North America was the 1976 O'Ring Quebec held in conjunction with the 1976 Olympic Games. I believe it was the first 5-day event held outside of Europe. Montreal OC organized days 1 & 5, Ottawa OC organized days 2 & 4, Viking Ski Club organized days 5. We hoped to attract 200–300 Swedes to the event as one of the top Swedish orienteers was also the favourite to win the 3000 metres steeplechase at the Olympics. We actually got over 600 overseas competitors (mostly Swedes) and over 1000 in total.

Our headquarters were in the Laurentian High School in Lachute. Lachute is not a large town and the influx of over 1000 visitors for 10 days was probably the biggest single influx of visitors in the town's history. The pubs and restaurants did a roaring business. The city council were overwhelmed and wanted us to make it an annual or bi-annual event.

A major task was calculating and publishing the results every evening. There were

no computers available at the school. After the last competitor finished each day, Bill Anderson collected the control cards and time sheets and drove to Montreal (1 1/2 hours) to work on the results, then drove back to Lachute and posted the results on the school notice boards in time for the orienteers to observe the results over breakfast and before heading out for the next day.

The format was the same as the Swedish O'Ringen. Accumulated results of Days 1–4 were used to calculate Starting order for Day 5. Day 5 was a Chase Start with the leader in each category starting first and everyone else starting behind in the same time margin as they were behind after the first 4 days.

A top Swedish orienteer, Rolf Jakobsson, was second in charge of the Swedish contingent. Rolf had been a Swedish champion and later served as National Team Coach. He won the overall Elite category. He also volunteered to be my main source of

information as to how things were going, what changes should be made, comments among the Swedish group, et cetera. He was amazing and a major reason for things going as smoothly as they did.

One major memory I have from the 1976 O'Ring Quebec occurred on Day 1 at Camp Tamaracouta. Everything seemed to be going along extremely well until Rolf Jakobsson accompanied by a Swedish lady approached. He asked the lady to give me her map. I immediately noticed that the control circles were printed about 1 inch above where they were supposed to be. In those days we used hand printing presses and it was obvious that her map had not been properly set in the press. The COF rules stipulated that a course would be cancelled for any errors in control codes, control descriptions, map printing. I advised that the course for her class would be cancelled for that day. Rolf quickly responded: "No, no, that is not necessary. Errors happen at many events in Sweden, it is difficult to eliminate human error. We simply say sorry, give each other a hug, and forget about the problem. The

woman is here for her hug". We hugged and that was the end of the matter.

By sheer coincidence at a meet in the Gatineau Park last year one incorrect map had somehow strayed into the pile of good maps. One control circle on the map had been misprinted. The father of the junior who received the wrong map made some loud complaints (it was only a B meet but he never the less complained). In the meet report I recalled the incident from O'Ring -76 and referred to Rolf Jakobsson and the Swedish woman. I gave the item the title of "A Sporting Gesture".

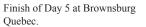




PHOTO: GORD HUNTER

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## **News in brief**

## IOF recipient of Jukola message

Since 1950, the competitors of the Jukola relay have figuratively carried a message with them throughout the relay. When the winning team reaches the finish, the last leg runner

reads the message out loud. This time the Jukola message was dedicated to the International Orienteering Federation in honour of its 50th Anniversary.

# Over 50 countries to the World Orienteering Championships

There will be over 50 orienteering nations celebrating the IOF 50th Anniversary at the World Orienteering Championships in France. This is the first time ever that over 50 countries have entered the World Champion-

ships – the previous record number of participating countries is 42. The World Trail Orienteering Championships also have a record number of entries, with 22 nations planning to send teams to compete in France in August.

# Historical middle distance at the Junior World Championships

In the Junior World Orienteering Championships in Poland on 7th July, Robert Merl, Austria, Dmitry Nekonechnyy, Russia and Topias Tiainen, Finland, all

finished with the time 25:43 in the middle distance final. This meant that, for the first time ever in an IOF Event, the gold was shared between three runners!

## Johan Granath new Athletes' Commission Chair

When Eivind Tonna, Norway, retired from top-level ski orienteering, he announced that he would step down from his position as the Ski Orienteering Athletes' Commission Coordinator. The Athletes' Commission has chosen Johan Granath, Sweden, as the new coordinator.

The IOF Council noted the decision, and expressed its sincere thanks to Eivind for his devoted work for ski orienteering in the Athletes' Commission since 2007.

The Ski Orienteering Athletes' Commission currently has five members.

# Sue Harvey appointed IWGA Honorary Member

On the occasion of the International World Games Association (IWGA) Annual General Meeting at the 2011 SportAccord in London, the President of IWGA, Ron Froehlich, appointed the IOF Honorary President Sue Harvey IWGA Honorary Member.

By awarding Sue the honorary title, the IWGA paid particular tribute to her achievements. At the same time, Co Koren from the Netherlands was appointed IWGA Honorary Vice President. President Froehlich thanked both Sue Harvey and Co Koren and said that their long-term commitment had contributed substantially to the successful development of The World Games.

Sue Harvey was on the IWGA Executive Board from 2002 to 2010. She was the President of the IOF from 1994 to 2004.

### Ski Orienteering in the next CISM Winter Military World Games

The International Military Sports Council (CISM) has decided to include ski orienteering in the 2nd CISM Winter Military World Games in Annecy-Chamonix, France, 24-30 March 2013.

The first Winter Military World Games took place in 2010 in Aosta Valley, Italy, and ski orienteering was part of the Games as a demonstrative sport. According to CISM, it was because of the success of the ski orienteering events in Aosta Valley that the decision was made to introduce ski orienteering as an official discipline in the programme of the next Winter World Games in France.

IOF President Åke Jacobson was pleased to receive the good news: "We are delighted about CISM's decision to introduce ski orienteering as an official discipline at the Winter Military World Games. Ski orienteering is well suited to multisports games. We have worked hard to develop the sport, and this decision shows that we are on the right track. We will continue our efforts together with the national federations to make our sport even more spectator and media friendly."

# Two new members for the Ski Orienteering Commission

The IOF Council has appointed two new members for the IOF Ski Orienteering Commission: Valentin Garkov, Bulgaria and Roland Hellberg, Sweden. The Ski Orienteering Commission now has eight members.

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