

Sarolta Monspart – An especially influential orienteer

Sarolta Monspart, a Hungarian, was the first World Champion in orienteering from outside the Nordic countries. She has also held the position of IOF Vice President.

In 1972, Sarolta became the first European woman to run a marathon in under three hours. The same year she won the classic

distance at the World Orienteering Championships in sandstone terrain in the then Czechoslovakia. Four years later she won O-Ringen, and in 1978 she got silver at the unofficial women's World Marathon Championship.

"Becoming a World Champion was one of the greatest and happiest moments in my life. The race was technically very hard, and it was

a double success with being the first champion from outside the Nordic countries. Later in the seventies, when I was at O-Ringen each summer, it sometimes felt that I was a more popular sporting figure among the Scandinavians than at home in Hungary," Sarolta says.

Still, when the Hungarians realised that they had a World Champion, orienteering became much more widespread as a sport. In the 1970s, the number of registered orienteers rose from 3,500 to more than 5,000.

Sudden end to sporting career

Sarolta says that her success brought her recognition, but also placed high expectations on her, particularly in the years from 1972 to 1978. "I was expected to win everything – orienteering events, marathon and, in winter, cross-country skiing. Of course that was not possible, but sometimes I was successful. All champions also need a little

In 1972 Sarolta Monspart became the first World Champion from outside the Nordic countries.

Sarolta (third from the left) became IOF Vice President in 1994.

bit of luck", Sarolta comments.

When at the top of her sporting career in 1978, Sarolta suddenly suffered from serious encephalitis, acute inflammation of the brain, caused by a tick. The inflammation brought her career to an end as she lost the use of her right leg.

"In spite of my leg, I wanted to stay close to orienteering. I became coach for both women and men in Hungary. But I missed the international orienteering life. In 1982 I was very pleased to become a member of the IOF Council, but I also trembled at the thought of the English language and exchanging views with important decision-makers from the major countries".

New perspectives

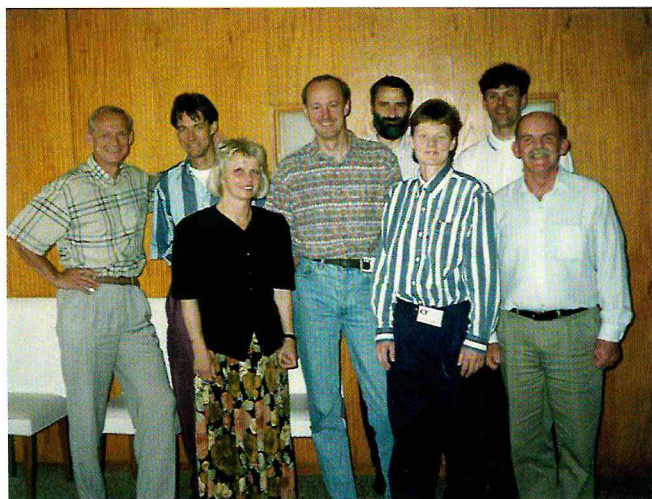
Sarolta's memories from the IOF, first as a Council Member from 1982 to 1994 and then as a Vice President from 1994 to 1996, are good. She saw the sport from a new perspective, made new orienteering friends and learnt to understand that Council work is not always simple.

In her home country, Sarolta still uses the skills she learned while in the IOF. She is the Chairman of the national Sport for All Association, which is a large sport umbrella organisation.

"We would like to have a healthier nation. Orienteering is a lifetime sport and as such will always be part of my Association and me", she says.

"Make orienteering more trendy!"

"In Hungary we have big challenges because many young girls and boys play little sport. Unfortunately, orienteering needs a lot of time! It is also question of money to travel, entry fees, quality orienteering equipment and good maps for events. The IOF needs to continue to do more to make orienteering appeal to youth, be trendier and be more attractive to the media, especially TV. There are many ways of doing orienteering and the media takes interest in extraordinary sports, and orienteering certainly has the potential to become one of them", Sarolta concludes.



Roberta Falda – Focusing on trail orienteering

Four years ago, Roberta Falda was the first female World Champion in Trail Orienteering. Now her main focus is to bring the sport to new heights. In her home country, Italy, she is the coach of the national team. Internationally she has been a member of the IOF Trail Orienteering Commission since 2009.

Experienced orienteer

Roberta began orienteering when she was 11 years old and took part in foot orienteering competitions for a long time. After an accident some years ago she was unable to run again, and she became a race organiser. In 2005 she had the opportunity to try trail orienteering and she found it very interesting. Only two years later the Italian became World Champion. "It was a wonderful feeling to be World Champion, especially the first woman and the first from Italy in summer orienteering. But things are still the same, so the title didn't change my life a lot."

"Together we find solutions"

At this point in time, Roberta's main sporting goal is to secure satisfying results for Italian athletes. "Last year, our team took 6th place in the European Championships. That was a good start! I'm also doing a lot in Italy to develop and improve the sport", she says.

Roberta also wants to support trail orienteering in other ways. She has done a lot of event organising, and that is her responsibility in the IOF commission. "It's interesting to co-operate with people from different countries who have had different experiences. We have differences in language, background, opinions, reality and goals, yet within the commission together we find solutions."

Roberta is currently responsible for Event Advising in trail orienteering, and she is working on a document about what is required to stage good trail orienteering events. She has a lot of motivation to work for the sport: "It's important to spread trail orienteering to more countries and, of course, work to help athletes become better", Roberta says.

Roberta Falda is the first female World Champion in Trail Orienteering. The Italian won in Ukraine in 2007. Here she is together with open class winner Krešo Keresteš, Slovenia.



A Professional organisation – Key to sustainable development

When history is recorded, especially in a sports organisation like the IOF, there is a tendency to focus on its Presidents as if they are the key to all achievements and successful developments. Nothing could be further from the truth, and this article would never have appeared here unless I had written it myself.

In an interview, at the age of 100, Erik Tobé, the first IOF President, said: "It was really Inga (Löwdin) who built up the IOF, using her brilliant language capability and leadership skills". I am sure that Lasse, Bengt, Heinz and Sue are in agreement with myself and Erik in that it is the highly skilled, competent staff at the IOF Secretariat that make things happen the way one as President at best may have hoped for. The achievements during these first 50 years of the IOF are not only the achievements of the Council and Commissions but very much the result of the work of all past and present members of the IOF Secretariat.

During the first 25 years, the IOF Secretariat had no independent home base, relying on voluntary services or services provided, on a part time basis, by member federations, in particular the Swedish Orienteering Federation (SOFT).

During the first 15 years, Inga Löwdin, the first Secretary General, managed IOF business from her home in Uppsala, Sweden. When she decided to retire at the time of the IOF Congress in Stockholm, Sweden in 1975, SOFT offered office space and part time services through the work of Lillvor Silander-Johansson and Inger Gärderud. When Sue Harvey took over as part time Secretary General in 1983, the Secretariat moved out of Sweden for the first time and was hosted at Sue's home in Scotland.

Lasse Heideman (President 1975–1982) had already identified the need for a stronger professional organisation but it was not until Bengt Saltin (President 1982–1988) took over that the plans started to materialise. Backed by a sponsorship deal with Silva Sweden AB, the IOF gained the opportunity to establish its first independent Secretariat in Sollentuna, Sweden. In early 1987, Lennart Levin moved into the premises and became IOF's first full time Secretary General. Part time staff were engaged to provide, in particular, administrative services.

Lennart succeeded in turning the IOF's focus towards the newer, smaller and less wealthy member federations making them feel fully part of the IOF family. The IOF Council listened and Lennart's era became very much characterised by policies aiming to make the IOF a truly worldwide organisation, a home to all federations no matter where located or how advanced in terms of the sport's development.

Lennart retired in 1996 and Barbro Rönnerberg was employed as his successor. With the engagement of Barbro it became quite natural to move the Secretariat from Sweden to Helsinki, Finland. Offices were rented from the Finnish Sports Federation and "the Sports House" became the new home for the Secretariat on 1st January 1997. In late 1997, the Secretariat was strengthened by the employment of a Development Assistant, and ever since the Secretariat has had a minimum of two full time employees with administrative services hired from the Finnish Sports Federation.

Barbro has successfully continued Lennart's work of caring for



"My role is more to act as the team leader than to be the IOF figure head."

Åke Jacobson, IOF President 2004

Birthe Helms (to the left), Clive Allen and Secretary General Lennart Levin (to the right) at the World Orienteering Championships 1995 in Germany.



all members. She has ably managed and led the Secretariat through a significant period of IOF expansion and has adeptly addressed the growing complexities facing a dynamic international sports organisation. Barbro has been instrumental in developing our relations with other sports bodies on the international arena. Together with Sue Harvey, Barbro has made the sport of orienteering, and the IOF, well known, and respected, in the most important sports circles and both became engaged at the supra-international level (ARISF, IMGA, IWGA) providing, in a natural way, opportunities to promote orienteering.

Being engaged on a voluntary basis in the IOF means a lot of work and responsibility. With 73 member federations and continuously expanding activity, the voluntary personnel need the support of a strong professional organisation to be successful, to ensure consistent quality and for development to become sustainable.

I am really satisfied and happy that we have been able to further strengthen the IOF Secretariat over the last few years. With the engagement of a Sports Director in 2006 and a fourth permanent member of the staff in 2010, the IOF Secretariat is stronger than ever. I hope we can continue along this route which is essential to build a lasting, stable, efficient and competent organisation ready to meet ever increasing challenges in the future.

As we mark our 50th anniversary, the IOF Secretariat is manned by a Secretary General, Barbro Rönnerberg, an Assistant Secretary General, Anna Zeelig, a Sports Director, Björn Persson, and an Office Assistant, Riikka Tolkki.



IOF Member Federations

ARG=Argentina, AUS=Australia, AUT=Austria,
 BAR=Barbados, BEL=Belgium, BLR=Belarus,
 BRA=Brazil, BUL=Bulgaria, CAN=Canada,
 CHI=Chile, CHN=China, COL=Colombia,
 CRO=Croatia, CUB=Cuba, CZE=Czech
 Republic, CYP=Cyprus, DEN=Denmark,
 ECU=Ecuador, ESP=Spain, EST=Estonia,
 FIN=Finland, FRA=France, GBR=Great
 Britain, GEO=Georgia, GER=Germany,
 GRE=Greece, HKG=Hong Kong,
 HUN=Hungary, INA=Indonesia, IND=India,
 IRL=Ireland, ISR=Israel, ITA=Italy,
 JAM=Jamaica, JPN=Japan, KAZ=Kazakhstan,
 KEN=Kenya, KGZ=Kyrgyzstan, KOR=Korea,
 LAT=Latvia, LIE=Liechtenstein,
 LTU=Lithuania, MAS=Malaysia,
 MDA=Moldova, MGL=Mongolia,
 MKD=Macedonia, MNE=Montenegro,
 MOZ=Mozambique, NED=Netherlands,
 NOR=Norway, NZL=New Zealand,
 PAK=Pakistan, PAN=Panama, POL=Poland,
 POR=Portugal, PRK=DPR Korea, PUR=Puerto
 Rico, ROU=Romania, RSA=South Africa,
 RUS=Russia, SLO=Slovenia, SOM=Somalia,
 SRB=Republic Serbia, SUI=Switzerland,
 SVK=Slovakia, SWE=Sweden, THA=Thailand,
 TPE=Chinese Taipei, TUR=Turkey,
 UKR=Ukraine, URU=Uruguay, USA=United
 States, VEN=Venezuela.



Office Assistant Riikka Tolkki became the fourth permanent member of the staff in 2010.



Secretary General Barbro Rönnerberg, Sports Director Björn Persson and Assistant Secretary General Anna Zeelig at the World Orienteering Championships 2008.

Speaking of 50 years

The early years of the IOF were dominated by the need to develop Statutes, elaborate rules and set down regulations and procedures. Development over the last 50 years has often been front **led by the Council** and its committees/commissions.

Map norms, control description symbols, new disciplines, the drive for greater media attractiveness, the striving towards high quality competition, the move to bring orienteering onto the world sports stage, have all been driven, I believe, by Council, amply supported most of the time by the strong orienteering nations and ultimately by Congress itself. A partial exception has been the development of new race formats, where considerable innovation has come from member countries. Perhaps one reason is that orienteering's administrators are **mostly** themselves also competitors so they are constantly exposed to what is happening at the grass roots level. That does not make it any easier to keep together the 73 countries with their different conditions and different needs.

Like most international sports federations, IOF has sought a balance between the centre of gravity (in this case Europe) and the rest of the world, and wrestled with how to develop the sport in the more distant lands. With this in mind a system of having certain Council places earmarked for candidates from outside Europe was created. Despite distance, some countries **have always been** strong supporters of the IOF, in particular Australia, which became a member of the IOF in 1973 and has had a Council member/Vice President continuously since 1988.

Compared to many other federations, the IOF has always seen the participation of both genders in its official organs. In 1994, the choice of a woman as the fifth President can be seen in such a context as a natural development. A milestone decision in 2010 changed the Statutes to make all members, large or small, full members with right of participation in the World Championships.

Technically, the first, and the key, milestone in the sport's development was the coloured **orienteering map**. These maps began to appear in the 1950s. Used at the 1962 European Championships, special maps spread rapidly

throughout the orienteering world, with orienteers themselves usually making them.

Early on, the IOF's Map Commission laid down norms so that maps would be the same worldwide – essential for fair international competition. The addition of the depiction of thick forest in the early 1970s made a significant difference to competition fairness.

Also in the interest of fairness and the internationalisation of the sport, **control description symbols** were introduced in the 1970s. Control descriptions expressed in words what had previously always given home competitors an advantage in international competition. On the down side, however, the change did mean the loss of some interesting translations: imagine hunting a hillside for 'the nose'. A 'bifurcation of ditches' must sometimes have left non-native (and some native) speakers of English nonplussed.

On the competition side, a significant milestone was the introduction of **electronic punching**. Instead of a train ticket style hole punch, use of electronic confirmation of passage through the controls allowed the rapid calculation of final times and also, and this is the key, precise split times so competitors could see how they fared along the way. Finally came electronic tracking, with potential for TV display, enhancing the spectator's experience as well. All this was clearly demonstrated in the highly professional presentation of the sport to the international sports world at The World Games in Kaohsiung 2009.

From 1966 onwards, formal international competition was based on the biennial World Championships. The addition of the World Cup and World Masters Championships in the 80s significantly expanded the international orienteering calendar. Alongside those competitions between national teams runs a mass movement of international **multi-day** events, mimicking the now legendary Swedish 5 Days, O-Ringen. The fixture list includes upwards of 20 annual and biennial events, each attracting 2,000-15,000 participants of all ages and levels of experience from all over the world.

In terms of competition at an **international level**, the major milestone is, in my view,

the introduction of new formats. Originally confined to a single long and gruelling race, the individual World Championships have, since introducing short distance in 1991, included a range of distances, requiring a range of strategies from the competitors, and providing spectator variety and interest. A long running and continuing controversy has been the tension between those who want orienteering to remain unchanged and stick to its classic roots, and those who have felt the need to make orienteering accessible to the **media** and more attractive to spectators. The result has been a compromise, with the World Championship programme retaining the long classic race while adding the sprint and middle distance and soon, perhaps, mass or chasing start formats, with their more immediately accessible appeal.

The first live TV coverage of a World Championship occurred as early as 1968 in Sweden. The first broadcast contrasts sharply with the entertaining and easy to follow broadcast from the recent World Championships. Staying with media, in 1981 and 1985 an orienteer - Annichen Kringstad - first achieved National Sports Woman of the Year in Sweden. More recently, Simone Niggli (SUI) was chosen Swiss Sportswoman of the Year in 2003, 2005 and 2007, and Minna Kauppi (FIN), Finnish Sports Personality of the Year in 2011.

As far as **disciplines** are concerned, over the past 100 years orienteering has been practised on skis in winter and on foot in summer. The introduction of mountain bike orienteering as an IOF discipline in 1996 added a new dimension, attracting a different group of participants. A few years earlier, in 1992, trail orienteering, a discipline also suitable for people with a disability, had been introduced.

Along with all other Olympic recognised sports, from the 80s onward, orienteering has had a programme of **drug testing**. The cost, especially in administration, is significant. That aside, orienteering is a sport of both body and mind and doping is fundamentally contrary to the spirit of the sport.

From 1976 on, it has been customary to hold a public race in conjunction with the World Orienteering Championships (WOC) so that spectators can also experience the local



Sue Harvey (to the left) at an ARISF Annual General Meeting.

terrain. In 1985, the WOC Carnival provided critical financial support for the World Championships in Australia.

That 1985 World Championship was significant as the first held **outside Europe**. Orienteering's heartland in the first half of the 20 century was the Nordic countries plus German speaking East and Central Europe. The founding of the IOF in 1961 had seen 10 countries as members. The sport spread in the 1950s and 1960s to Western Europe, but it was not till 1976 in Britain that the first World Championships outside the traditional heartland took place

By 1979, the IOF had 25 members. To support its growing membership, IOF first established a Secretariat with a full time paid **Secretary General** in 1986. This enabled greatly expanded activity and is clearly another milestone in the federation's development. A move to Finland and later the addition of a Sports Director, an Assistant Secretary General and an Office Assistant are what support the hugely expanded - 73 members from 5 continents - activity of the IOF in its 50th year.

In terms of the wider world of international sport, orienteering was accepted into the General Association of International Sports Federations, GAISF, in 1973. In 1977, the IOF was recognised by the IOC. Other significant milestones were the inclusion of the sport in the programmes of the World Masters Games (1998) and The World Games (2001).

Being a programme sport of **the World Masters Games** has brought significant challeng-

es to the IOF. The General Assembly, however, has recognised the political importance of being visible on the world sport stage.

At **The World Games** the challenge has been somewhat different: how to organise orienteering events close to the spectators and in a country that does not have a long history of organising orienteering. At the recent Games in Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei, 2009, the IOF spent considerable resources on providing major support to the organisers

of the orienteering event. This in fact proved very successful, with the event acclaimed as one of the best presentations for spectators and media. This is important from the point of view of any future inclusion in the Olympic programme. With no control over where an Olympic Games is held, orienteering has to be able to show that, whatever the location, a well presented orienteering event will be provided. This we managed well at The World Games 2009 in Kaohsiung, and this we will do again in 2013 in Cali, Colombia.

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“Over the last decade we have developed a strong Council with a firm worldwide view. Discussions have centred on what is best for world orienteering, as opposed to each Council member expressing national views. Of course there is also an important role for national views, but as a Council we are entrusted with the welfare of the whole orienteering world, and that must be our first consideration.”
Sue Harvey, IOF President 2004

Remember When...

When I took over as Secretary General, IOF news was published in the IOF Bulletin, a publication of a smallish format edited by a most energetic Scottish lady, Liz Mills. However, Liz had got another job offer and wanted to leave her editorial task, which brought me problems. Where to find a person willing to take over? It struck me that I had met the trainer of the German orienteering squad, Peter Gehrman. I knew he was also involved in orienteering for the disabled, but above all I knew that he was a prolific writer on sports issues. He accepted the task. We agreed that the bulletin should have a more magazine-like appearance and that it should be bilingual (English/German). The very first issue in 1987 was produced in haste, there was not even time for me to read the draft, and the English part of it contained a couple of hundred spelling mistakes. I was pleased that Council did not sack me for producing such a monster. However, a new printer was found in 1988, the front page became colour, the publication turned to monolingual (English) and its name changed to **Orienteering World**. This more appropriate name was suggested by Clive Allen, then member of the IOF development committee. He later took over as Editor. During the "formative" period of the publication Peter Gehrman did a marvellous job. His competence as Editor was surpassed only by his positive nature and idealism.

Lennart Levin, IOF Secretary General 1986–1996

An event, or rather, a series of events from the days of the Soviet Union come to my mind. At the time, the top orienteers of the **Baltic states** made a number of appeals to the IOF that they should be allowed to represent, at major events, what they considered to be their home countries rather than the Soviet Union. This was of course impossible for reasons of international law, but Council promised them that their plea should be granted the very first day they were "liberated". Now when the political liberation occurred, which happened to be on my birthday, the Baltic states were immediately registered as IOF members in the names of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. Imagine then the joy and exultation when Sixten Sild won the silver medal at the World Championships in Czechoslovakia in 1991, competing for Estonia.

Lennart Levin, IOF Secretary General 1986–1996

My wife still reminds me of the many overnight visits we had during my time as the Secretary General. She dutifully received orienteers from distant countries without complaint, but it happened that she asked me whether dining and wining them was part of my job. I am afraid I told her it was.

Lennart Levin, IOF Secretary General 1986–1996

The early days of orienteering in the United Kingdom coincided with the **World Championships in Finland** in 1966. At that time orienteering was not yet eligible for Sports Council grants.

I was on the Sports Council and one of my fellow members was a rich ex-Army man called Desmond Brayley. He took me aside and asked how much we needed to send a team. I said £850. He replied saying "Come to my penthouse flat tomorrow morning and I will give you the money." So we sent a team of 7 men to Finland - 4 for the individual races and 3 for the relay.

In Finland we met Lasse Heideman, the Event Director and later IOF President, and he welcomed us warmly to the fraternity of International Orienteering. He was a very nice man. But when we gave him our team nominations, four names for the Individual event and three more for the Relay, he was taken aback and explained that the Relay Team had to be selected from the individual runners. We said we couldn't accept this ruling - we wanted as many runners as possible to experience orienteering at this level.

There was a long discussion within the IOF Council. Finally, I asked where these Rules were written down. The reply was that it was not necessary to have them in writing as all the member nations knew them!

In the end all our seven runners were allowed to run. Our runners barely finished their various runs - some taking several hours to find their way home. But we learnt a lot and made some good friends among the other nations.

John Disley, IOF Council Member 1973–1984

First IOF Council in 1961: Standing from left: Olaf Andersen DEN, Edelfrid Buggel, GDR, Erkki Sorakuru, FIN, Ludvig Steff-Pedersen NOR, Miroslav Hlaváček, TCH. Sitting from left: Rolf Nüscheler, SUI, President Erik Tobé, SWE, and Secretary General Inga Löwdin.

During the early years the IOF was a bi-lingual organisation with German as the reference **language**. This meant that all official documents such as rules, minutes of meetings, competition bulletins, etc. had to be written in the two languages, German and English. Discussions in meetings could be in either language, each speaker using the language of his/her choice. Commission and Council members needed to be able to at least understand both languages, which considerably restricted their recruitment. Moreover, General Assemblies required professional simultaneous translators, a complicated and costly business.

When preparing the 1987 World Championships the French organisers experienced at first hand the complexity of this bilingualism. It prompted the French delegation to the 1990 General Assembly to table a motion to have English as the sole official language. The voting on this motion was interesting. The three German-speaking countries voted against and the six or seven English-speaking countries abstained, not wanting to appear to be imposing their language on the organisation. The statutes of that time required that for any statute change 75% of all votes expressed had to be in favour. In effect this meant that abstentions counted as negative votes and so, to everyone's surprise, the motion was arithmetically rejected.

Two years later, in 1992, the French delegation once again tabled the same motion, but by now the voters had been made aware of the statutory consequence of an abstention and the proposal was carried by a comfortable majority.

Few will disagree that this decision has not only facilitated the administrative side of international orienteering but also significantly improved debate and decision making in the IOF.

*Edmond Széchenyi,
IOF Honorary Member, former IOF Vice President*



It is a fact universally acknowledged that nothing excites the members of an organisation more than a change to its **logo**. So it was with the IOF in February 1997, when a new secretariat moved into new offices and change was in the air. Out went the old comfortable, easy to comprehend, compass and globe logo and in came this enigmatic, brightly coloured replacement. Admittedly the old one was rather dated in style but what to make of the newcomer? A straw poll asked non-orienteers what they thought the logo represented. The answers were something to do with sailing or fishing. But no, the red emblem is not a shark's fin or a lateen sail on a dhow but a merging of the colour segment of an orienteering marker flag with the letter 'I' in IOF. And the green of the other letters represents our forest arena.

Not unexpectedly such subtlety of interpretation was thought by some to be a step too far or a step too soon. But time soon proved otherwise. Within a year or so IOF documentation was enhanced by vibrancy of colour and sharpness of presentation, which demanded a logo to match. And there is more in our logo than we first thought. The sloping characters clearly indicate flow and movement, about the speed of a world class orienteer moving fluently through the forest, I'd say!

Brian Parker, IOF Environment Commission Chair

At the first EOC in Norway in 1962, the Allied Authorities of West Berlin refused to grant a Norwegian visa to the team from DDR (East Germany). According to the IOF Statutes, the organising country must guarantee that all members shall get **entry visas**. The East German orienteers solved the problem saying: "Carry on. We intend to run in the next Championships."

Then, when one of the Norwegian delegates to the 1969 Congress in Budapest was refused a visa by Hungarian officials, the Norwegian delegation insisted that the Congress be declared invalid. It was an awkward situation. All the other delegates were already in Budapest. Council discussed the matter, and after having described what had happened in connection with the 1962 EOC in Norway, the protest was withdrawn and the Congress took place.

Erik Tobé, IOF President 1961–1975



From Sugadaira in

77

“Like everyone else I hope that orienteering will get into the Olympic Games, but that will not be in my time. The World Games in Kaohsiung was like an Olympic Games for sports not part of the Olympics.” World Champion Andrey Khramov, Russia, 2009

The association, from 1998, of orienteering with major international multi-sport events has, with just a couple of exceptions, taken the sport far away from its birth-place: to Asia, Oceania and North America – and soon to South America.

In early 1998, ski orienteering was part of the cultural programme associated with the XVIII Olympic Winter Games in Nagano, Japan. The top 15 men and women in the 1997 Ski Orienteering World Cup, together with the 1998 World Ski Orienteering Championship medallists, were invited to participate in the events held in Sugadaira, a ski resort south-

east of Nagano.

Down-hill in full snowstorm

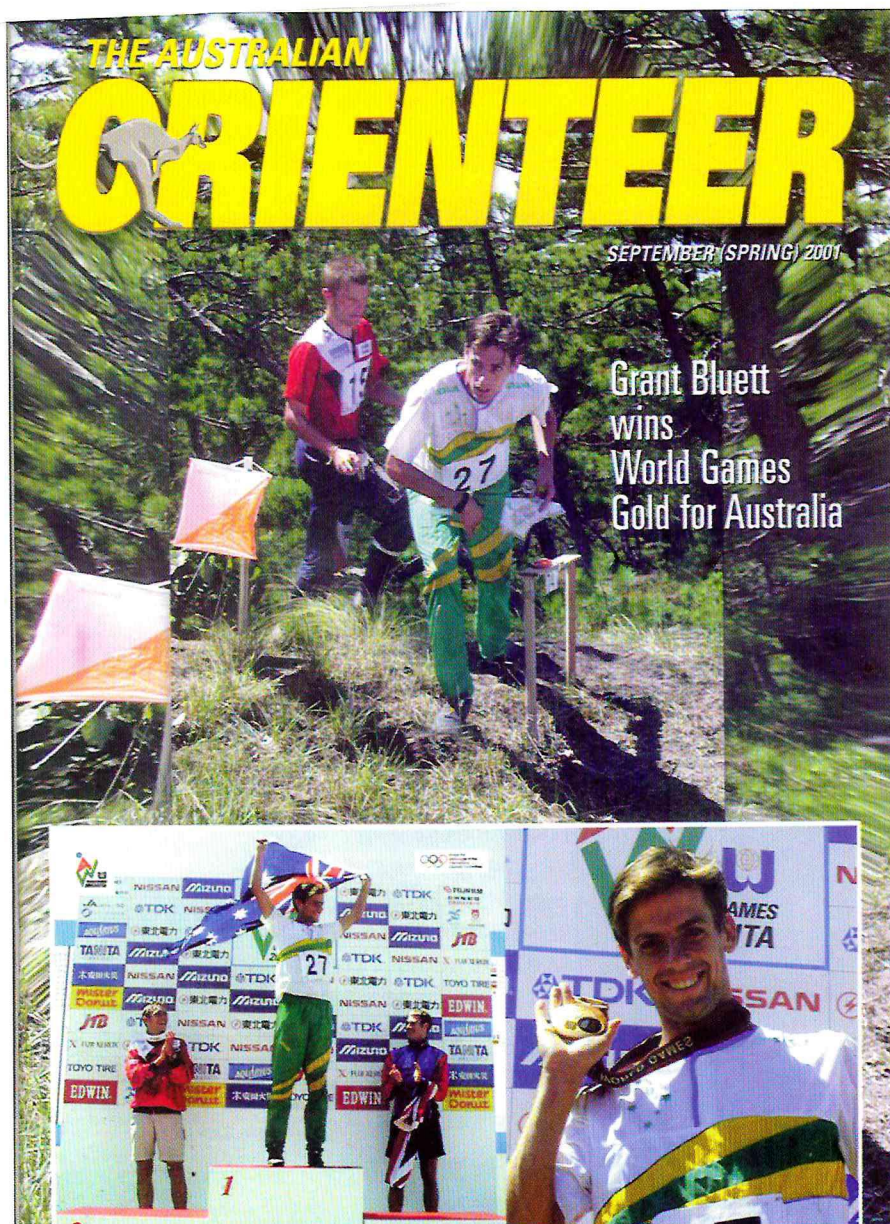
During the event days in Sugadaira, the weather varied from sunshine and temperatures above zero to a full snowstorm, testing both the ski orienteers and the organisers. On the last day, the sprint qualification race was held in good weather. A snowstorm in the afternoon completely changed the conditions. The final, a down-hill super sprint, was designed to be a very fast and public-friendly race. The organisers did what they could to beat the rough weather – for safety reasons, the start that was planned to be at the top of the mountain was moved a bit further down the course. Despite the poor visibility and the soft tracks, the athletes really enjoyed the race.

While in Japan, the Norwegian ski orienteers experienced a taste of pre-Olympic hype. At McDonalds in Nagano they were surrounded by enthusiastic tourists who screamed: “Oh my God! The Norwegian team! Which one of you is Bjørn Dæhlie?”

In 2010, ski orienteering was admitted to the 1st CISM World Winter Games in Aosta Valley, Italy, as a demonstration sport. In 2011, it was on the programme of the Asian Winter Games in Kazakhstan – an event with the atmosphere and organisation similar to that of the Olympics. These two events can be expected to have a far-reaching impact on the future of ski orienteering. A first sign of this is that, due to the successful debut at the 2010 CISM World Winter Games, CISM has decided to introduce ski orienteering as an official sport in the second of these Games to be held in Annecy-Chamonix, France in 2013.

Orienteering joins the World Masters Games

1998 was also the year foot orienteering for the first time joined a multi-sport event. Together with some 11,000 other master athletes from around the world, over 150 orienteers took part in the World Masters Games in Portland, USA and orienteering won its share of the limelight. ESPN (Entertainment Sports



Japan to Cali in Colombia

Programming Network) made a 5-minute TV-coverage from the short course event. The main focus of this video was on Peter Snell, former 800 and 1500 metre Olympic gold medallist from New Zealand. According to the reports, he ran his 3.75 km course wearing a wireless microphone and his time was 1:06:46. His wife Miki won gold in her own class, followed by the then IOF President Sue Harvey in second place.

Because of the rather low number of participants in Portland and as a means of ensuring that orienteering would retain its place on the programme, the IOF decided to combine the World Masters Orienteering Championships with the 2002 World Masters Games in Melbourne, Australia. Since then, orienteering has continued to have between 1,000 and 1,400 participants from approximately 30 countries and it has on each occasion been among the ten biggest sports represented at the World Masters Games. The sprint event introduced in 2009 and staged in Sydney Olympic Park provided the participating master orienteers with a unique experience, and spectators and passers-by with ring-side seats.

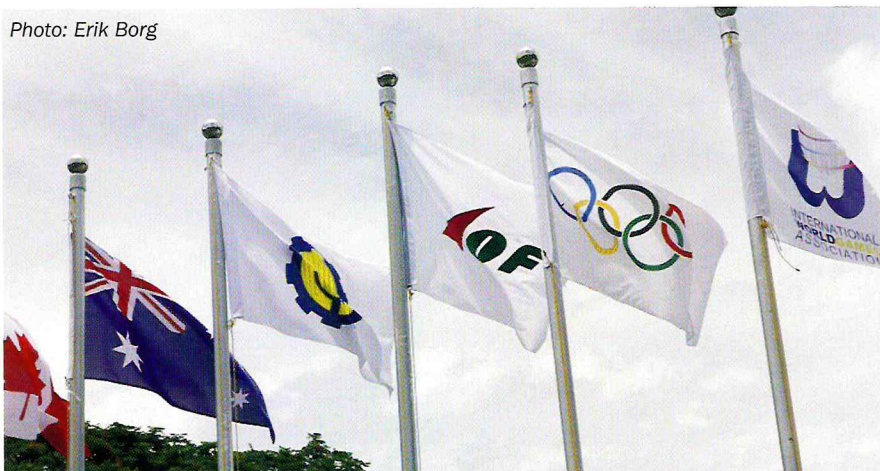
The fascinations of The World Games

In 1997, orienteering was invited to participate in The World Games as an invitational sport. Unfortunately, the dates of the Games coincided with those of the World Orienteering Championships in Norway, and the IOF therefore had to decline the invitation.

The second chance to join The World Games came when Akita, Japan hosted the Games in 2001. For the first time ever, orienteering athletes were present at an opening ceremony of a multi-sport event. Eighty of the world's best men and women orienteers witnessed the Olympic flag being hoisted in the arena and watched the programme of the grand opening ceremony.

One of the highlights of the Games was when Australian Grant Bluett won the men's individual competition and received his gold medal from IOC Member Kevan Gosper, who changed his plans for the day when he heard of his countryman's victory.

Photo: Erik Borg



Ski Orienteering at the first CISM Winter Military World Games. Photo: EMHM.

Via a detour to Europe in 2005 when the event – branded as the fasciNATIONS worldgames – was held in Duisburg, Germany, The World Games again moved outside Europe, to Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei, in 2009. This time, it was decided to provide tracking of the competitors and reveal the secrets of orienteering both to the spectators in the arena and to those following the event live on the internet. The effort indeed paid off. As one of the IWGA Executive Committee members commented when he visited the mixed-team relay event: "You have made the invisible visible".

Vehicle for development and increased visibility

Not only did the performance of orienteering at The World Games in Kaohsiung help orienteering retain its place in future editions of the Games, it was also an excellent vehicle for the development of orienteering in a country without a long tradition of the sport.



"You have made the invisible visible!"
Tom Dielen, IWGA,
at The World Games
Mixed Relay 2009

In 2013, The World Games will bring international level orienteering events to Cali, Colombia, which will hopefully also be a boost for the further development of orienteering in this emerging orienteering nation.

Where in the world will multi-sport games beyond 2013 take orienteering? Whether to young orienteering countries or to areas where orienteering has long traditions, it will further our vision that orienteering be recognised as a truly global sport, attractive to all, with presence and credibility on the world sporting stage and, ultimately, included in the Olympic Games.

Technology and orienteering



TV was present at the World Cup event in Salo Finland in 2009.

How the rapid development of Information Technology and the Internet have influenced orienteering.

In the nineteen sixties a computer network between universities was established, which came to grow to what today is known as the Internet. Orienteers who were working within universities asked the IOF to use this network

for communication to, from and within the federations. But at that time most of the federations had no access to this latest technology. As an intermediate step, a fax-network was introduced.

In the IOF Report 1983, the then Technical Committee wrote "member federations are requesting details of use of microcomputers in orienteering", but also indicated that only some individuals were working with the technology.

Development begins

Some within orienteering were working to ease the administration of an orienteering event; the 4th generation SW-languages helped a lot. By the early 1980s the electronic production of result lists based on a hit generated by a start card or number bib was in wide use in athletics.

Orienteers began to think how to further develop this basic concept for use in orienteering. Orienteers in Switzerland started to work on what was probably the first ever electronic punching system, called APOZA (Automatisierte Posten-/Zeiterfassung und Auswertung - automated control-time-registering and evaluation). Sperry Computer Systems sponsored the development. The idea was presented at the IOF Congress in Liege, BEL, 1982, by Heinz Tschudin and was successfully demonstrated, for the first time, at the Military World Championships (CISM) 1986 in Chur, Switzerland. The runner had to insert his personal key into a box at the control and the data was taken based on an infrared technology and transmitted to the finish by data link. In Switzerland, Hans Steinegger started thinking about software to assist in mapmaking. Others in Sweden, Denmark and other countries also began pioneering work that laid the foundations for the eventual large-scale roll-out of computerised orienteering map-production.

Having knowledge of these various initiatives, the Council, in 1985, introduced an IOF Computer Competition. 52 entries from 16 different countries were received. The judging panel, Heinz Tschudin, Rolf Heinemann and Brian Watkins, announced, in 1986, the overall winner - John Morris, GBR, for Planner's Assistant - a programme that

analysed course characteristics, control site traffic and punch requirements, written on a BBC 'B' microcomputer. The other winners were Stephan Kramer, GER, (event processing and administration) and Finn Arildsen, DEN, (control description). A further 7 entries were awarded "Highly Recommended" and a total of 24 software programmes were chosen for the IOF Software Library.

This, then, was the starting point for various ambitious software developments. The principle of 'open software' was widely accepted in order to get many of the skilled orienteers on board. At the same time, the Council recognised the need for what is known today as the IT Commission and split the High Tech Group from the Technical Committee.

Programmes in most use today

OCAD, developed by Hans Steinegger, is today the market leader when it comes to mapping programmes.

The early initiatives in Switzerland concerning electronic punching were soon followed by more commercially oriented projects in Norway led by the timing company Regnly AS. The System was called "Emit" or EPT (Electronic-punching and timing system for orienteering). Today Emit is produced and supported by Emit AS, the result of a merger between Regnly and Time Tech AS. The Norwegian and Swedish Orienteering Federations were consulted during the development process. The definitive breakthrough came in 1995 when EPT was used in all major international orienteering events, including the World Cup in Germany.

A little later, Siegfried Ritter developed another system for control punching, based on a different approach to that of EMIT: the "SPORTident" system. It is manufactured by AES (Angewandte Elektroniksysteme) GmbH in Arnstadt, Thüringen, Germany. The system is based on the SPORTident Card, in principle a memory stick. The card features a complete set of card-owner's personalised data including name, address, date of birth, email address and phone number. Both Systems, SPORTident and EMIT, work autonomously and under all weather conditions. The EPT-card is equipped with a battery, the SPORTident chip not. Both systems are used in other sports as well.



The exploding development and spread of the internet not only brought about significant positive consequences for IT but for the sport of orienteering itself. In the IOF Biennial Report 2002–2004, the IT Commission (ITC) mentions that it organised web casting of World Cup events in 2002. The aim was to have split times and intermediate results on-line during the competition. It turned out that establishing contact with the organisers and setting up cooperation was the most challenging aspect.

In the 2004 World Cup season, audio streaming of the speaker's voice and live pictures were included in the web casts. In order to ease the technical communication between the different systems in use, the ITC, in 1998, began a project to standardise the interfaces - the 'IOF interface standard'. The first version turned out to be too complicated. The 2002–2003 revision process started with a great deal of input from various software developers and progress was made. The standard is now as powerful as it was originally planned, simpler than, and compatible with the first version. Currently the standard has been revised to include all requirements which have been raised in usage over the last years.

At the end of the nineties, the military driven global positioning system - GPS - came into reach of civil usage. So the orienteering community tested the possibilities of such a

system. An online tracking system was used at the World Orienteering Championships 2001 in Finland.

The system uses GPS technology to track the position of the runner which is later transmitted to the central IT system via mobile phone. With that data it is possible to show the actual progress of the runners to the spectators, to TV and over the internet online while the runners were competing in the forest. This technique has been widely used at IOF events in the last years both on TV and on the big screen at the arena, and together with web casting, online results, and live interviews makes orienteering much more spectator friendly.

Today, the IOF website is the focal point for orienteering world-wide.

Since 1986 the IOF's High Tech Group, in these days the IT Commission, has taken on the important task of monitoring the ongoing rapid development in the field of Information Technology and testing what can be used in the world of orienteering. We are thankful to them and to all the orienteers in the world who have given their input to the IOF in this important field.

The author would like to acknowledge consultation with Rolf and Björn Heinemann during the writing of this article.



Multi-day events

All over Europe, living standards improved during the 1960s, and people had more spare time and money to spend on their holidays. As orienteering is navigation through unknown terrain, many orienteers started to look for terrain radically different from their home ground. An important creation of this period was the holiday competitions. These events are unique among sports in several ways: they are mass participation events and they span several days.

In 1965, the Swedish O-ringen 5-days took place for the first time with 167 starting. This competition introduced an important innovation – the chasing start. The times for the first four days were added and a new starting list produced with the first to the finish being the winner.

The number of participants grew rapidly. O-ringen 5-days in Sweden became the Mecca for orienteers from all over the world. From just 167 participants in 1965 it grew to 7100 in 1970, 10,000 in 1973, and reached 23,000 in 1985.

In other countries, northern summer competitions were started at the late 1960s and early 1970s, for example Sørlandsgaloppen (Norway), Swiss 5-Days (Switzerland), Ostseepokal (DDR), Jutland 3-Days (Denmark), 5-Days of Jicin (Czechoslovakia), Eötvös Pokal (Hungary), JK Trophy (Great Britain), Alpen-Cup (Austria), Pinkafeld-Pokal (Austria), Midnattsolgaloppen (Norway) and the Grand Prix of Slovakia (Czechoslovakia). The mass events grew tremendously in popularity. The first multi-day event organised outside of Europe

was a three-day event held at Easter 1973 near Sydney, Australia. This has since been held every year at Easter and is Australia's largest regular orienteering event. The first multi-day event in North America was the 1976 O'Ring Quebec held in conjunction with the 1976 Olympic Games in Canada. The event attracted over 1000 competitors.

The invention of multi-day orienteering events led to what Hungarian top orienteer, Sarolta Monspart, called, in 1971, "the orienteering gypsies": fanatical orienteers that spent their northern summer vacation taking part in one multi-day event after the other all over Europe. This in its turn led to linguistic problems: control descriptions at events were translated into several languages, often with fascinating results, as the translator had little



knowledge of the orienteering terminology in different languages. The course description also caused problems in the Nordic Championships. The Swedish spoken in parts of Finland was sufficiently different from the Swedish spoken in Sweden to cause misunderstanding, and several Swedish runners lost time when they did not interpret the control description properly. In mid-1970s the Swede Kjell Larsson came up with a solution to this: he suggested pictorial control descriptions. The idea was simple. Most details were given a symbol resembling the IOF map symbol, but with the restriction that it should be reproduced in black and white. Directions were given with arrows. With minor adjustments, the idea was adopted very quickly by the IOF and orienteers everywhere. It is now used for most events.

Left page: Whole villages of orienteers were built in a few days – and removed a few days later.

Above: Runners from all over the World converged at O-ringén 5-days. Several run-in lanes were filled from early morning to late afternoon.

Stickers became one way of marketing your event.

1976 O'Ring Quebec attracted over 1000 competitors. Photo: Gord Hunter.

At competition or at home – ADAMS will know where you are

Doping testing throughout the years

It is 6 a.m. when I suddenly wake up to the doorbell. It is dark outside, but I get out of bed and open the door. There are two people outside: "We are X.X. and Y.Y. from Anti-doping Switzerland." Actually, I am glad to hear this. This means that I haven't filled in my ADAMS whereabouts in vain. And I have nothing to hide.

Today's elite orienteers live the life of an elite sportsman. This includes reporting their whereabouts every hour of the day to the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA). This they do through ADAMS, a specifically designed WADA Online Anti-Doping Administration and Management System. Before ADAMS, orienteers reported their whereabouts on Excel forms, or even in hand-written letters. ADAMS allows the athletes to update their whereabouts online or via SMS.

Emma Claesson, long distance bronze medalist at the World Championships in Trondheim 2010, says it takes her about 3 hours every month to update the whereabouts: "Of course it is not the most fun thing to do, but I think it is a good system and I understand reporting is

needed for good anti-doping work."

The whereabouts are collected to enable an efficient out-of-competition testing programme: it is essential that the athletes can be tested without pre-warning. The IOF, WADA, and national anti-doping organisations conduct both in- and out-of-competition tests regularly.

First tests in orienteering

It all started with in-competition testing. One of the first orienteers tested in-competition was Jaroslav Kacmarcik, Czechoslovakia. He participated in all World Orienteering Championships between 1974 and 1987, and was first tested at the World Championships in Hungary in 1983. "It was funny, because it was the first time for us, and the instructions were not very clear. I think the best six from each class were there, and they kept us in one tent with no chance to go out. It took me longer to make the test than to finish my classic distance course", Jaroslav remembers. "We never discussed this item on my first training camps! Around 1980 we started to follow what happened in other sports, and after that it became a topic for us too."

Jaroslav is currently the coach of the Italian national orienteering team. "I was very surprised to hear how it all works now. In my time there was no whereabouts reporting. But it is good that doping testing has come to orienteering – not because I am afraid somebody uses doping, but because we are an elite sport like any other, and need to follow the same rules. I don't worry about orienteers; they are educated people and know what is allowed and what not."

Significant development during last decades

Shin Murakoshi, Japanese national team runner 1981–2006 also remembers his first test, at the World Championships in Australia in 1985: "I was astonished but also curious about

Jaroslav Kacmarcik was doping tested at the World Orienteering Championships 1983, where he ran the last leg in the silver-winning Czechoslovakian team.

how doping tests were conducted. The race day was warm and after the long distance race it was difficult to produce urine. There were a lot of canned drinks at the testing area, including beer. I remember that one of the athletes who was in quarantine for the test took some cans for his team mates! "

Shin says it was in the mid-1990s that the Japanese orienteers started to take doping matters more seriously. "Whereabouts reporting only started around 2005, so I did not have to take part in that. But when I used medication for pain or cough, I always checked it was not prohibited."

Since the foundation of WADA in 1999 anti-doping work has developed considerably. Today, the IOF collects whereabouts from 80 orienteers, many of whom are doping tested out-of-competition. During this time there have been no positive results in the tests the IOF has conducted.

Glad to be doping tested

For Emma Claesson testing has become routine: "I have been doping tested in-competition many times. The information is good and I have only met nice people, so I have no problem participating in doping tests. I have been tested out-of-competition on training camps, in the club house and at home. It is no problem for me, and actually, I was glad that I was also tested at home early one morning; when I write where I stay every day it is good that the information is used."



Anti-doping within the IOF

IOF Medical Commission, IOF Anti-Doping Controller, IOF Secretariat

Responsibilities: anti-doping rules, applications for Therapeutic Use Exemptions (TUEs), managing the IOF Registered Testing Pool (the athletes that are required to submit their whereabouts in ADAMS) and athlete whereabouts, doping test planning and conducting, test result management, ADAMS training, athlete outreach, anti-doping information distribution and training of the athletes, coaches and federation officials.



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World Championships 1966–



Photo: Pirjo Valjan

World Orienteering Championships

		Winners		
1–2 October 1966		Classic distance	Ulla Lindkvist SWE	Åge Hadler NOR
Fiskars, Finland		Relay	Sweden	Sweden
28–29 September 1968		Classic distance	Ulla Lindkvist SWE	Karl Johansson SWE
Linköping, Sweden		Relay	Norway	Sweden
27–29 September 1970		Classic distance	Ingrid Hadler NOR	Stig Berge NOR
Friedrichroda, Germany		Relay	Sweden	Norway
14–16 September 1972		Classic distance	Sarolta Monspart HUN	Åge Hadler NOR
Staré Splavy, Czechoslovakia		Relay	Finland	Sweden
20–22 September 1974		Classic distance	Mona Nørgaard DEN	Bernt Frilén SWE
Viborg, Denmark		Relay	Sweden	Sweden
24–26 September 1976		Classic distance	Liisa Veijalainen FIN	Egil Johansen NOR
Aviemore, Great Britain		Relay	Sweden	Sweden
15–17 September 1978		Classic distance	Anne Berit Eid NOR	Egil Johansen NOR
Kongsberg, Norway		Relay	Finland	Norway
2–4 September 1979		Classic distance	Outi Borgenström FIN	Øyvind Thon NOR
Tampere, Finland		Relay	Finland	Sweden
4–6 September 1981		Classic distance	Annichen Kringstad SWE	Øyvind Thon NOR
Thun, Switzerland		Relay	Sweden	Norway
1–4 September 1983		Classic distance	Annichen Kringstad-Svensson SWE	Morten Berglia NOR
Zalaegerszeg, Hungary		Relay	Sweden	Norway

4-6 September 1985 Bendigo, Australia		Classic distance Relay	Annichen Kringstad-Svensson Sweden	Kari Sallinen FIN Norway
3-5 September 1987 Gerardmer, France		Classic distance Relay	Arja Hannus SWE Norway	Kent Olsson SWE Norway
17-20 August 1989 Skövde, Sweden		Classic distance Relay	Marita Skogum SWE Sweden	Petter Thoresen NOR Norway
21-25 August 1991 Mariánské Lázně, Czechoslovakia		Classic distance Short distance Relay	Katalin Olah HUN Jana Cieslarová TCH Sweden	Jörgen Mårtensson SWE Petr Kozák TCH Switzerland
9-14 October 1993 West Point, United States		Classic distance Short distance Relay	Marita Skogum SWE Anna Bogren SWE Sweden	Allan Mogensen DEN Petter Thoresen NOR Switzerland
15-20 August 1995 Detmold, Germany		Classic distance Short distance Relay	Katalin Oláh HUN Marie-Luce Romanens SUI Finland	Jörgen Mårtensson SWE Juri Omeltchenko UKR Switzerland
11-16 August 1997 Grimstad, Norway		Classic distance Short distance Relay	Hanne Staff NOR Lucie Böhm AUT Sweden	Petter Thoresen NOR Janne Salmi FIN Denmark
1-8 August 1999 Inverness, Scotland, Great Britain		Classic distance Short distance Relay	Kirsi Boström FIN Yvette Baker GBR Norway	Bjørnar Valstad NOR Jørgen Rostrup NOR Norway
26 July - 4 August 2001 Tampere, Finland		Classic distance Short distance Sprint Relay	Simone Luder SUI Hanne Staff NOR Vroni König-Salmi SUI Finland	Jørgen Rostrup NOR Pasi Ikonen FIN Jimmy Birklin SWE Finland
3-9 August 2003 Rapperswil/Jona, Switzerland		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Relay	Simone Luder SUI Simone Luder SUI Simone Luder SUI Switzerland	Jamie Stevenson GBR Thierry Gueorgiou FRA Thomas Bühner SUI Sweden
11-19 September 2004 Västerås, Sweden		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Relay	Simone Niggli SUI Hanne Staff NOR Karolina Arewång-Höjsgaard SWE Sweden	Niclas Jonasson SWE Thierry Gueorgiou FRA Bjørnar Valstad NOR Norway
9-15 August 2005 Aichi, Japan		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Relay	Simone Niggli SUI Simone Niggli SUI Simone Niggli SUI Switzerland	Emil Wingstedt SWE Thierry Gueorgiou FRA Andrey Khramov RUS Norway
1-5 August 2006 Århus, Denmark		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Relay	Hanny Allston AUS Simone Niggli SUI Simone Niggli SUI Finland	Emil Wingstedt SWE Holger Hott Johansen NOR Jani Lakanen FIN Russia
18-26 August 2007 Kiev, Ukraine		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Relay	Simone Niggli SUI Simone Niggli SUI Minna Kauppi FIN, Heli Jukkola FIN Finland	Thierry Gueorgiou FRA Thierry Gueorgiou FRA Matthias Merz SUI Russia
10-20 July 2008 Olomouc, Czech Republic		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Relay	Anne Margrethe Hausken NOR Minna Kauppi FIN Dana Brožková CZE Finland	Andrey Khramov RUS Thierry Gueorgiou FRA Daniel Hubmann SUI Great Britain
16-23 August 2009 Miskolc, Hungary		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Relay	Helena Jansson SWE Dana Brozkova CZE Simone Niggli SUI Norway	Andrey Khramov RUS Thierry Gueorgiou FRA Daniel Hubmann SUI Switzerland
8-15 August 2010 Trondheim, Norway		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Relay	Simone Niggli SUI Minna Kauppi FIN Simone Niggli SUI Finland	Matthias Müller SUI Carl Waaler Kaas NOR Olav Lundanes NOR Russia

World Championships 1966–

World Ski Orienteering Championships



Photo: Paula Lehtomäki

Winners				
26–28 February 1975 Hyvinkää, Finland		Individual Relay	Sinikka Kukkonen FIN Finland	Olavi Svanberg FIN Finland
25–27 March 1977 Velingrad, Bulgaria		Individual Relay	Marianne Bogstedt SWE Finland	Örjan Svahn SWE Sweden
26 February – 1 March 1980 Avesta, Sweden		Individual Relay	Mirja Puhakka FIN Finland	Pertti Tikka FIN Sweden
8–12 February 1982 Aigen/Ennstal, Austria		Individual Relay	Arja Hannus SWE Sweden	Olavi Svanberg FIN Sweden
30 January – 4 February 1984 Lavarone, Italy		Individual Relay	Mirja Puhakka FIN Sweden	Anssi Juutilainen FIN Sweden
19–24 February 1986 Batak, Bulgaria		Individual Relay	Ragnhild Bratberg NOR Norway	Claes Berglund SWE Norway
2–6 March 1988 Kuopio, Finland		Classic distance Short distance Relay	Virpi Juutilainen FIN Ragnhild Bratberg NOR Finland	Anssi Juutilainen FIN Hannu Koponen FIN Finland
1–4 March 1990 Skellefteå, Sweden		Classic distance Short distance Relay	Ragnhild Bratberg NOR Ragnhild Bratberg NOR Finland	Anders Björkman SWE Anssi Juutilainen FIN Sweden
24 January – 1 February 1992 Pontarlier, France		Classic distance Short distance Relay	Annika Zell SWE Arja Hannus SWE Sweden	Vidar Benjaminsen NOR Vidar Benjaminsen NOR Finland
2–6 February 1994 Val Di Non, Italy		Classic distance Short distance Relay	Pepa Milusheva BUL Virpi Juutilainen FIN Sweden	Nicolo Corradini ITA Ivan Kuzmin RUS, Nicolo Corradini ITA Norway
19–25 February 1996 Lillehammer, Norway		Classic distance Short distance Relay	Annika Zell SWE Arja Nuolioja FIN Sweden	Nicolo Corradini ITA Björn Lans SWE Sweden
19–25 January 1998 Windischgarsten, Austria		Classic distance Short distance Relay	Liisa Anttila FIN Annika Zell SWE Finland	Victor Korchagin RUS Raino Pesu FIN Russia
29 February – 6 March 2000 Krasnoyarsk, Russia		Classic distance Short distance Relay	Arja Hannus SWE Tatiana Vlasova RUS Finland	Vladislav Kormtshikov RUS Nicolo Corradini ITA Russia
23 February – 3 March 2002 Borovetz, Bulgaria		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Relay	Lena Hasselström SWE Stina Grenholm SWE Lena Hasselström SWE Russia	Andrei Gruzdev RUS Eduard Khrennikov RUS Matti Keskinarkaus FIN Russia
9–16 February 2004 Åsarna/Östersund, Sweden		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Relay	Tatiana Vlasova RUS Stine Hjermstad Kirkevik NOR Stine Hjermstad Kirkevik NOR Finland	Eduard Khrennikov RUS Tomas Löfgren SWE Eduard Khrennikov RUS Russia
5–12 March 2005 Levi/Kittilä, Finland		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Relay	Stine Hjermstad Kirkevik NOR Tatiana Vlasova RUS Tatiana Vlasova RUS Norway	Matti Keskinarkaus FIN Eduard Khrennikov RUS Ruslan Gritsan RUS Russia
23 February – 3 March 2007 Moscow region, Russia		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Relay	Tatiana Vlasova RUS Tatiana Vlasova RUS Tatiana Vlasova RUS Russia	Eduard Khrennikov RUS Eduard Khrennikov RUS Eduard Khrennikov RUS Russia
3–8 March 2009 Rusutsu, Japan		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Relay	Hannele Tonna FIN Tatiana Vlasova RUS Anastasia Kravchenko RUS Sweden	Andrei Lamov RUS Olli-Markus Taivainen FIN Andrei Lamov RUS Finland
20–28 March 2011 Tännalen, Sweden		Sprint Middle distance Long distance Mixed relay Relay	Tove Alexandersson SWE Polina Malchikova RUS Helene Söderlund SWE Russia Russia	Olli-Markus Taivainen FIN Staffan Tunis FIN Andrey Grigoriev RUS Finland

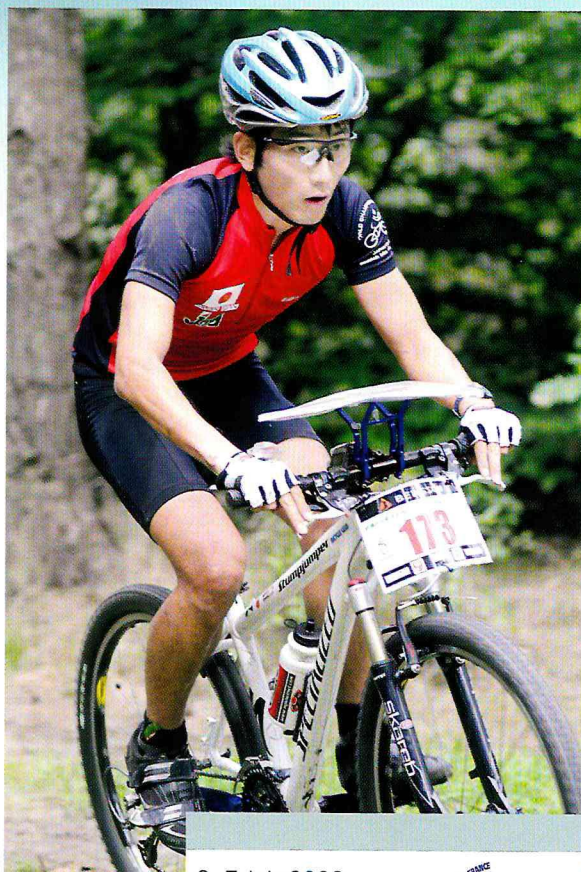


Photo: Paula Lehtomäki

World MTB Orienteering Championships

		Winners		
2–7 July 2002 Fontainebleau, France		Short distance	Laure Coupat FRA	Mika Tervala FIN
		Long distance	Päivi Tommola FIN	Jussi Mäkilä FIN
		Relay	Finland	France
18–23 October 2004 Ballarat, Victoria, Australia		Middle distance	Michaela Gigon AUT	Adrian Jackson AUS
		Long distance	Anke Dannowski GER	Alain Berger SUI
		Relay	Finland	Finland
5–11 September 2005 Banská Bystrica, Slovakia		Middle distance	Michaela Gigon AUT	Ruslan Gritsan RUS
		Long distance	Päivi Tommola FIN	Ruslan Gritsan RUS
		Relay	Germany	Finland
9–14 July 2006 Joensuu, Finland		Middle distance	Michaela Gigon AUT	Tuomo Tompuri FIN
		Long distance	Christine Schaffner SUI	Mika Tervala FIN
		Relay	Russia	Finland
5–12 August 2007 Nové Mešto na Moravě, Czech Republic		Sprint	Ksenia Chernykh RUS	Torbjørn Gasbjerg DEN
		Middle distance	Ksenia Chernykh RUS	Mika Tervala FIN
		Long distance	Michaela Gigon AUT	Ruslan Gritsan RUS
		Relay	Finland	France
24–31 August 2008 Ostróda, Poland		Sprint	Hana Bajtosova SVK	Lasse Brun Pedersen DEN
		Middle distance	Ksenia Chernykh RUS	Adrian Jackson AUS
		Long distance	Christine Schaffner SUI	Ruslan Gritsan RUS
		Relay	Finland	Denmark
9–16 August 2009 Ben Shemen, Israel		Sprint	Hana Bajtosova SVK	Adrian Jackson AUS
		Middle distance	Marika Hara FIN	Torbjørn Gasbjerg DEN
		Long distance	Christine Schaffner SUI	Adrian Jackson AUS
		Relay	Austria	Russia
11–17 July 2010 Montalegre, Portugal		Sprint	Anna Kaminska POL	Adrian Jackson AUS
		Middle distance	Michaela Gigon AUT	Samuli Saarela FIN
		Long distance	Christine Schaffner SUI	Anton Foliforov RUS
		Relay	Denmark	Russia

World Trail Orienteering Championships

Winners			
15-18 September 2004 Västerås, Sweden		Paralympic class	Jan Erik Haug NOR
		Open class	Ola Jansson SWE
		Team competition	Great Britain
9-12 August 2005 Aichi, Japan		Paralympic class	Evaldas Butrimas LTU
		Open class	Per Midthaugen NOR
		Team competition	Great Britain
9-14 July 2006 Joensuu, Finland		Paralympic class	Dave Gittus GBR
		Open class	Martin Fredholm SWE
		Team competition	Sweden
17-26 August 2007 Kiev, Ukraine		Paralympic class	Roberta Falda ITA
		Open class	Krěso Keresteš SLO
		Team competition	Sweden
12-16 July 2008 Olomouc, Czech Republic		Paralympic class	Lennart Wahlgren SWE
		Open class	Anne Straube GER
		Team competition	Lithuania
18 - 23 August 2009 Miskolc, Hungary		Paralympic class	Lennart Wahlgren SWE
		Open class	Vitaliy Kirichenko UKR
		Team competition	Ukraine
8 - 13 August 2010 Trondheim, Norway		Paralympic class	Ola Jansson SWE
		Open class	Stig Gerdman SWE
		Team competition	Sweden

”

“Yes, it was very much politics. One of the first challenges we met was to have West Germany accept East Germany as a country. So during the Congress in Leipzig in 1963 we included a clause in the Statutes guaranteeing freedom of participation on an equal basis to all IOF members.”
Erik Tobé



Photo: Pirjo Valjainen



*Mountain bike orienteering became
an official IOF discipline in 1996.
Photo: Jukka Liikari*



Hanny Allston, Australia, won the sprint at the World Championships in 2006 in Denmark. Frederik, Crown Prince of Denmark, congratulated the winner on the podium.

Photos: Mike Hubbert.

Toru Tanaka, Japan, at the World Trail Orienteering Championships 2010.

Photo: Pirjo Valjanen.





Olga Novikova, Kazakhstan, won four gold medals at the Asian Winter Games 2011.
Photo: Veera Honkanen.

Czechoslovakian ski orienteer Dana Tichácková in 1977.
Photo: COH.

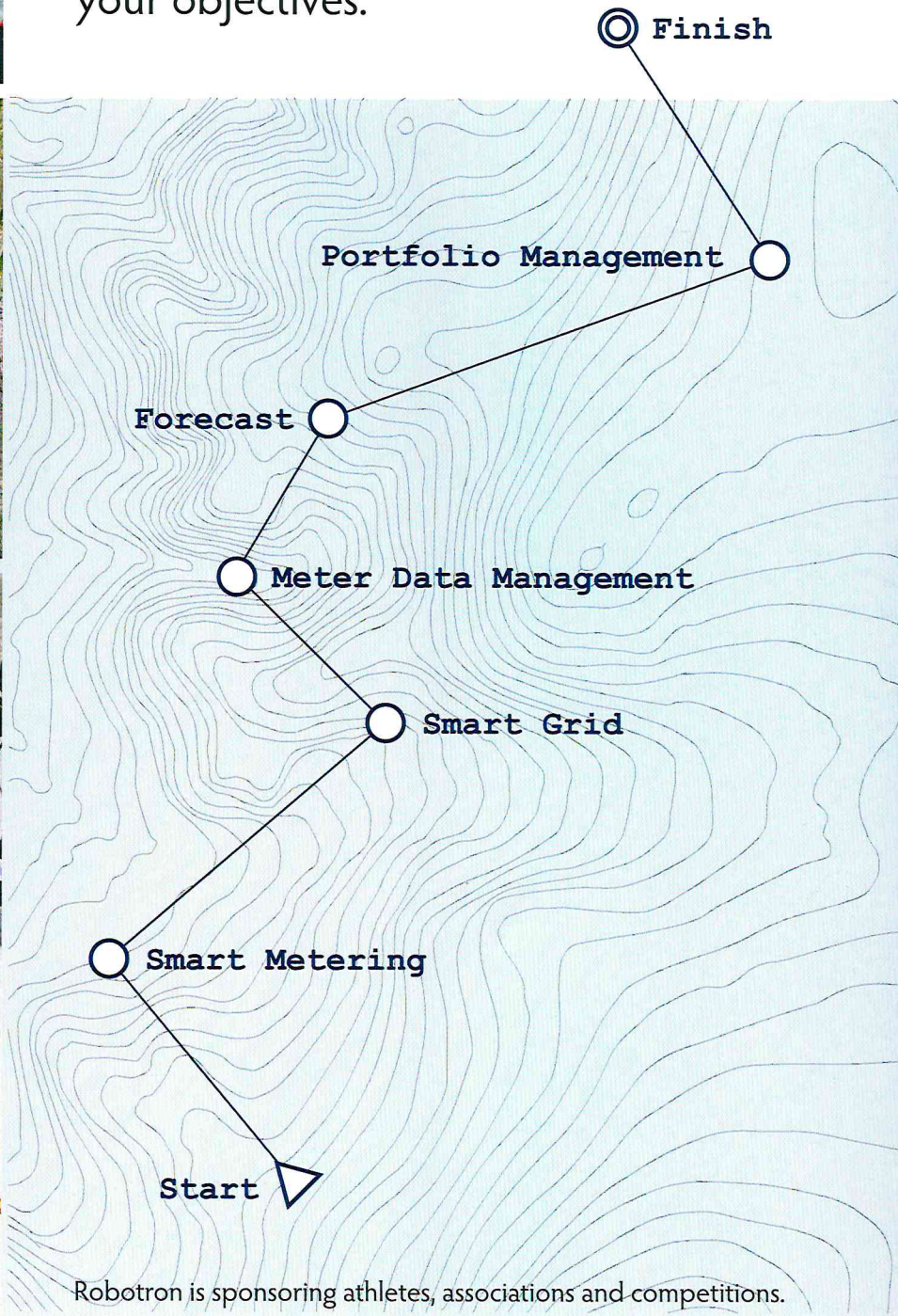




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The Next Fifty Years

