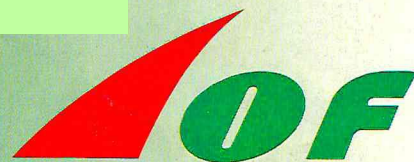


ORIENTEERING WORLD

97.3 June



OFFICIAL CARRIER



OFFICIAL COMPASS SPONSOR



FINLAND

1997



Triathlon European Championships 1997

**July 4 - 6, 1997
Vuokatti, Finland**

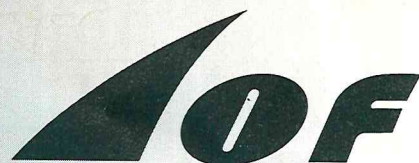
For more information please contact
your travel agent or local Finnair office:

AMSTERDAM	(020) 3316 4010
ATHENS	(01) 325 5234
BANGKOK	(02) 679-6671
BARCELONA	(93) 478 3878
BEIJING	(01) 6512 7180
BERLIN	(030) 885 4131
BOSTON	(617) 482 4952
BRUSSELS	(02) 218 2838
BUDAPEST	(01) 117 4022
COPENHAGEN	(33) 364 545
DUSSELDORF	(0211) 420 1141
FRANKFURT	(069) 2425 2510
GENEVA	(022) 788 5980
GOTHENBURG	(031) 131 621
HAMBURG	(040) 323 513
HELSINKI	9800-3466
ISTANBUL	(212) 234 5130
KIEV	(044) 229 4363
LONDON	(0171) 408 1222
MANCHESTER	(0161) 436 2400
MILAN	(02) 809 458
MOSCOW	(095) 292 8788
MUNICH	(089) 281 023
NEW YORK	(212) 499 9000
NICE	9321 4556
OSAKA	(06) 347 0888
OSLO	2250 8840
PARIS	(01) 4742 3333
PETROZAVODSK	(814) 227 6176
PRAGUE	(02) 2421 1986
RIGA	724 3008
ROME	(06) 923 734
ST.PETERSBURG	(812) 315 9736
SINGAPORE	(65) 733 3377
STOCKHOLM	(08) 679 9330
STUTTGART	(0130) 822 823
SYDNEY	(02) 262 2980
TALLINN	631 1455
TOKYO	(03) 3222 6801
TORONTO	(416) 222 0740
VIENNA	(0222) 587 5548
VILNIUS	(2) 619 339
WARSAW	(022) 695 0811
WASHINGTON	(703) 534 7512
ZURICH	(01) 221 1460



OFFICIAL CARRIER

Internet: <http://www.finnair.fi>



Published by: International Orienteering Federation,
Radiokatu 20, FI-00093 SLU, Finland
Tel. +358 9 3481 3112, fax +358 9 3481 3113
e-mail: iof@orienteering.org
home page: <http://www.orienteering.org>

Editor-in-Chief: Barbro Rönnerberg,
Secretary General, IOF

Editor: Clive Allen

Editorial Address: Denzel House, Crowcombe
Heathfield, Taunton, Somerset, U.K. TA4 4BT
Tel. & fax: +44 1984 667249

Advertising: contact the Editor or the IOF Secretariat

Subscriptions (6 issues yearly):

Europe and all surface mail - FIM 100,-

Air mail outside Europe - FIM 125,-

Send subscriptions to:

IOF, Radiokatu 20, FI-00093 SLU, Finland

Post giro no. 800016-70490763

or to one of the subscription agents:

Australia: The Australian Orienteer, P.O. Box 263,
Jamison Centre, ACT 2614, Australia. AUD 35,- (air
mail) or AUD 30,- (surface mail).

Czech Republic: HSH Sport, Gorazdova 5,
120 00 Praha 2, Czech Republic. CZK 600,-.

Denmark: Lars Simonsen, Ny Mårumvej 53,
3230 Græsted, Denmark. DKK 130,- (air mail outside
Europe DKK 160,-).

Finland: Kyösti Saksman, Worldwide Compass Oy,
PL 84, 01601 Vantaa, Finland. FIM 100,-.

France: Marcel Ponroy, 9 Rue Cais de Gilette, 06300
Nice, France. FF 115 (air mail outside Europe FF 140).

Ireland: John McCullough, 9 Arran Road, Drumcondra,
Dublin 9, Ireland. IEP 14,-.

Italy: Baroni Franca, Via Marmolaia 4, 38033 Cavalese
TN, Italy. ITL 35,000 (air mail outside Europe ITL 42,000).

Korea: Oh Jung-hwan, 1574-26 Shillim 11-Dong,
Kwanak-Ku, Seoul, Korea 151 021. KRW 23,000 (air
mail) or KRW 18,000 (surface mail).

Netherlands: Frans Vos, Buurtscheuterlaan 67,
6711 HS EDE, The Netherlands.

New Zealand: Bruce Collins, Otonga Valley Rd., RD1,
Raglan, New Zealand. NZD 40,- (air mail) or NZD 32,-
(surface mail).

Norway: June Bolstad, Sport Media, Postboks 96,
1801 Askim, Norway. NOK 140,- (air mail outside
Europe NOK 175,-).

Portugal: Higinio Esteves, Apartado 2, 2640 Mafra,
Portugal. PTE 3.400 (air mail outside Europe
PTE 4.300).

Spain: Mapa & Brujula, Parla 2, 28991 Torrejon de la
Calzada, Madrid, Spain. ESP 2.900 (air mail outside
Europe ESP 3.500).

Sweden: IOF, Swedish postal giro no. 84263-3.

SEK 150,- (air mail outside Europe SEK 185,-).

U.K.: CompassSport, 25 The Hermitage, Eliot Hill,
London SE13 7EH, England. GBP 14.50 (air mail outside
Europe GBP 17.50) or use VISA or Mastercard - accounts
will be debited 'CompassSport, Twickenham, UK'.

U.S.A.: Sidney Sachs, 6212 Thomas Drive, Springfield,
VA 22150-1220, USA. USD 28,- (air mail) or USD 22,-
(surface mail).

CONTENTS

Editorial; first round of the 1997 Park World Tour	4
<i>On the elite trail:</i>	
Vårspretten & Vårstafetten, Tio-mila, Østfold 2-days	6
<i>Profile: Juha Peltola - rising star from Finland</i>	8
The Baltic Sea Games described by Rimantas Mikaitis	8
Question marks over electronic punching system	9
The Olympic issue: readers comment	10
Sue Harvey's President's Column	12
New discipline pictograms	13
The SG's angle from Barbro Rönnerberg, and IOF news	14
Elite orienteering rankings; letters to the Editor	15
Louise Fairfax asks	
Do junior champions become successful elites?	16
Veterans look forward to Minnesota fall	
Sherry Litasi previews the 1997 Veteran World Cup	17
Promoting orienteering	
an individual outlook from Simon Beck	18
<i>Book review: 'Orienteering' by Tom Renfrew</i>	19
Greece - the first uncertain steps	
described by Kostantinos Koukouris	20
International Fixtures List	21
Events noticeboard; IOF events programme	22

PUBLICATION NOTES

All **contributions** should be sent to the Editor to arrive not later than the deadlines listed below. Text and graphics may be sent on floppy disk - please ring first to check compatibility and also send printed copy.

Readers' letters, articles and photographs for publication are welcomed. Permission from the Editor should be sought prior to reproduction of articles or photographs.

Outside IOF news sections, opinions expressed by Orienteering World's Editor and contributors do not necessarily represent IOF policy.

ISSUE	PUBLICATION DATE	CONTRIBUTIONS DEADLINE
97/4	5 August	8 July
97/5	11 September	18 August
97/6	5 December	10 November

COVER PHOTO: Portuguese elite runner Katia Almeida leaving a control beside a boulder in typical Portugal O-terrain
photo: Higinio Esteves

Printed by Simpson Drewett & Co Ltd, 70 Sheen Road,
Richmond, Surrey, England TW9 1UF

Editorial

At open events in my neck of the woods, orienteering would appear to the passing public as a sport mainly for veterans and families, with the participants having a wide range of fitness and also attitude - from the highly competitive to the purely recreational. These last two features are fine, showing that orienteering continues to appeal to and cater for all standards. The worrying element is the lack of youngsters and athletes in their prime.

It's not that there are no youngsters orienteering; in another wood in our region there may well be a schools league event taking place with over 200 young people keenly completing their courses. What we're failing at is getting these kids into mainstream orienteering - the fault of the clubs, which often have no youth policy whatever: no youth coach, no youth activity and social programme, no arrangements for young people to get to events.

In another neck of some other woods I know, the situation is different. The local club has an excellent youth policy and a devoted youth coach. But there is hardly any orienteering in the local schools, despite the existence of purpose-drawn school and local area maps. So the club has no base to draw on, and almost all the young people in the club are the children of older members.

Universities and colleges with orienteering clubs have shown that here there is a considerable potential source of new, keen, fit orienteers. Yet in many O-nations there are quite large universities with no O-club; new initiatives to form clubs and start inter-college competition could yield considerable benefits for our sport.

In many established orienteering nations the number of young orienteers has dwindled alarmingly in recent years, as competition from other pursuits heats up. Co-ordinated activity on several fronts can combat this trend, as has been well demonstrated in a few locations, whereas isolated initiatives as described above are not enough. Perhaps the centenary of orienteering could be marked by the start of a new campaign to attract many more young people to orienteering - and keep them.

Clive Allen

Zoo Setting for First Park World Tour Race

Mårtensson and Staff gain first-round victories

Leopards and tigers were among the 5,000 spectators at the first Park World Tour event of 1997, which took place in the zoo park at Eskilstuna, Sweden on the day before Tio-mila. And it was 1996 champion Jörgen Mårtensson who made the best possible start to his 1997 campaign with victory by one second over the Czech Rudolf Ropek, writes Christer Svensson. Norwegian star Hanne Staff won the women's race.



Winning smiles from Hanne Staff and Jörgen Mårtensson in Eskilstuna
photos: Christer Svensson

This year there are eight events in the PWT series, which is again sponsored by Eriksson Mobile Phones, with the final in Venice in early October. The total prize-money available is 500,000 Swedish kronor. A group of elite runners from 20 nations have been invited to compete in all the events, supplemented by some 'wild cards' at individual venues.

The men's and women's races were run over the same course of 3 km with 24 controls, with expected winning times of 12 minutes (men) and 15 minutes (women).

The women's race started one hour before the men's. The event was covered on Swedish radio and TV and also Norwegian TV; the radio sports programme transmitted the whole event.

The second race in the series takes place in the Finnish town Jyväskylä on 13th June, the day before the Jukola and Venla Relays, and will be televised as a direct broadcast (95 minutes) on Finnish TV2. You can also bet on the winners; as last year, the race is on the betting list of the Finnish Betting Agency.

Women's race
winner
Hanne Staff
being interviewed
by Swedish TV
after the
Park World Tour
race
in Eskilstuna



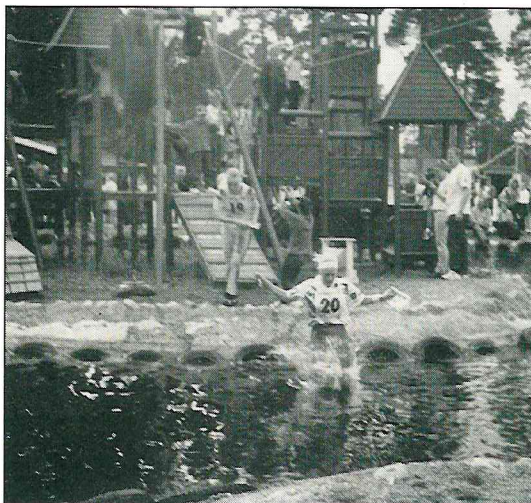
FULL RESULTS

MEN: 1. Jörgen Mårtensson SWE 12.22, 2. Rudolf Ropek CZE 12.23, 3. Kjetil Bjørlo NOR 12.26, 4. Janne Salmi FIN 12.28, 5. Allan Mogensen DEN 12.42, 6. Carsten Jørgensen DEN 12.43, 7. Petter Thoresen NOR 12.47, 8. Per Ek SWE 12.51, 9. Mikael Boström FIN 12.55, 10. Bernt Bjørnsgaard NOR 13.03, 11. Peter Jacobsson SWE 13.08, 12. Niclas Jonasson SWE 13.12, 13. Edgaras Voveris LTU 13.17, 14. Sixten Sild EST 13.18, 15. Grant Bluett AUS 13.19, 16. Håkan Eriksson SWE 13.24, 17. Yuri Omeltchenko UKR 13.28, 18. Valentin Novikov RUS 13.43, 19. Timo Karppinen FIN 13.46, 20. Alain Berger SUI 13.48, 21. Pierpaolo Corona ITA 13.59, 22. Gabor Domonyik HUN 14.04, 23. Johan Karlsson SWE 14.08, 24. Maricel Olaru ROM 17.27. Kenneth Cederberg FIN mis-punched.

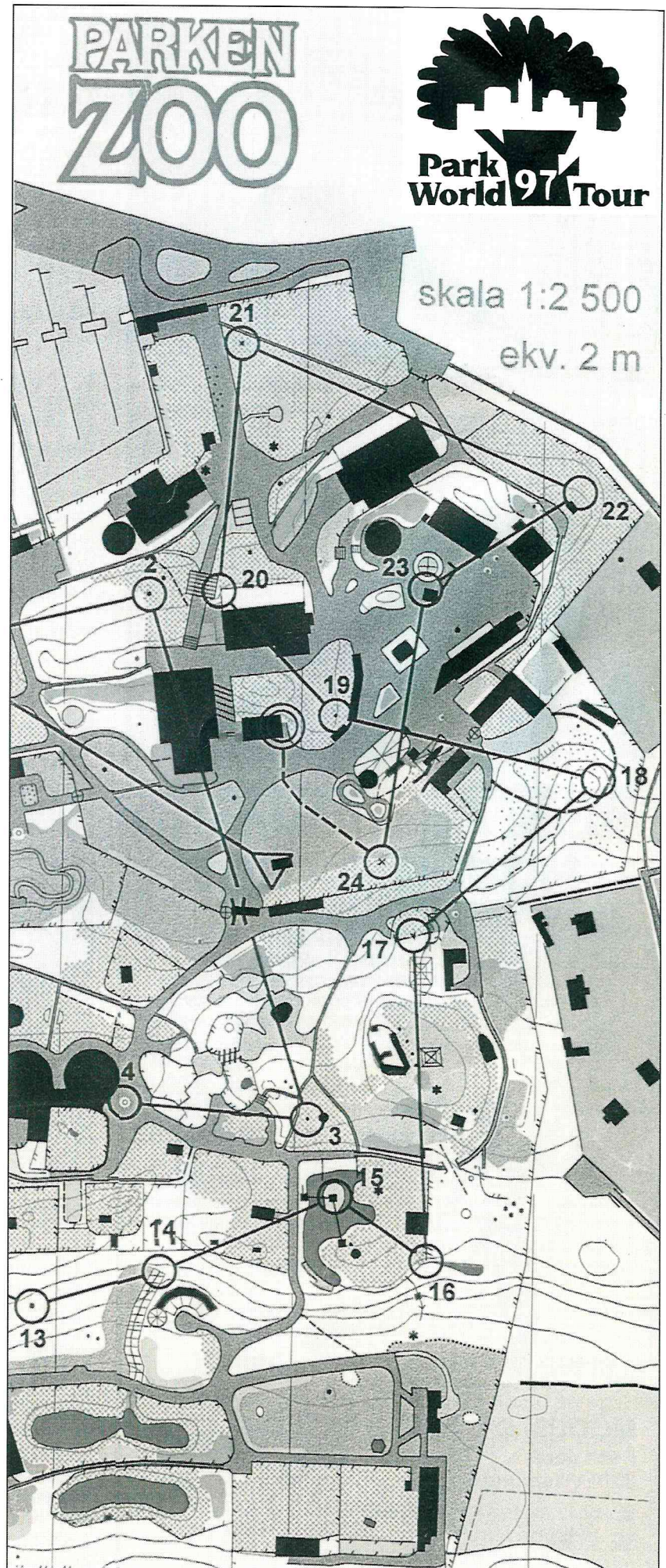
WOMEN: 1. Hanne Staff NOR 15.03, 2. Johanna Asklöf FIN 15.22, 3. Heather Monro GBR 15.43, 4. Dorte Dahl DEN 15.46, 5. Gunilla Svård SWE 15.51, 6= Cecilia Nilsson SWE & Reeta-Mari Kolkkala FIN 15.52, 8. Marlena Jansson SWE 15.58, 9. Jana Cieslarova CZE 16.01, 10. Marie-Luce Romanens SUI 16.07, 11. Hanne Sandstad NOR 16.13, 12= Annika Zell SWE & Sanna Nymalm FIN 16.19, 14. Katarina Borg SWE 16.20, 15. Anette Granstedt SWE 16.23, 16= Kirsi Tiira FIN & Anniina Paronen FIN 16.46, 18= Frauke Schmitt-Gran GER & Külli Kaljus EST 17.00, 20. Anna Garin ESP 17.07, 21. Anna Bogren SWE 17.08, 22. Emma Dahlstedt SWE 18.18. Torunn Fossli Sæthre NOR mis-punched; Lucie Böhm AUT & Yvette Hague GBR retired.

Customary Water Splash

The public was allowed into the zoo free of charge for the races, which had their start and finish near the centre of the zoo complex and covered a huge variety of terrain, including the now customary water splash (beware of crocodiles!) at control 15. Two exciting races resulted in 15 men within a minute of the winner; the women's race was less close but just as hard fought.



Heather Monro braves the crocodiles in Eskilstuna zoo



On the Elite Trail —————
with CHRISTER SVENSSON

Norwegians Dominate Halden Weekend

Halden SK's traditional international spring weekend was arranged on 19-20 April just south of the town, with 2,700 participants in the individual race and some 2,500 in the relay.

In the classic race Vårspretten, H21E was won by Norwegian international Bjørnar Valstad by the substantial margin of 1m31s over local runner and fellow international Petter Thoresen. With Jon Tvedt and Tore Sandvik occupying 3rd and 4th places, the first non-Norwegian was Fredrik Löwegren (Sweden) in 5th place. The one surprising name in the top rankings was that of the 25-year-old Finnish runner Jouni Mähönen, not up until

now one of the top Finnish stars but gaining an impressive 7th place in this race.

The women's race was a much closer affair with less than a minute separating the leading six. Fastest was Norwegian Torunn Fossli Sæthre, 12 seconds quicker than Kirsi Tiira from Finland. Third place was shared by Hanne Sandstad and the leading Swede in this race, Karolina Arewång, who were 10 seconds slower than Tiira. Finland's Katja Honkola helped her steady move up the world rankings by finishing 5th.

The third round in this year's Nordic Relay League, Vårstafetten, produced two nail-biting finishes in the elite classes, with

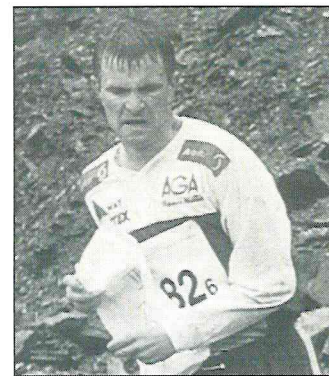
Norwegian club teams to the fore. Eight teams finished within 23 seconds in the men's race of five short legs, Kjetil Bjørlo just keeping ahead of Bjørnar Valstad to bring victory to Fredrikstad SK.

First non-Norwegian teams were Rajamaen Rykmentti (Finland) and IFK Göteborg (Sweden) in 5th and 6th places. A Czech team divided the Scandinavian ranks, finishing in 11th place.

The 4-leg women's relay brought victory for Bækkelaget SK, winners also of the Danish Spring Cup, but it was a close call with British international Heather Monro producing an amazingly fast time on the final leg for Halden to finish just 5 seconds behind Bækkelaget's Hanne Sandstad.

Nydalen SK were only 2 seconds slower than Halden, but there was then a gap of more than 5 minutes to the 4th team, IFK Lidingö from Sweden. In this race a Czech team was

12th, and Kolding OK (Denmark) came 24th, an impressive placing in this company.



Bjørnar Valstad - winner in Halden and Østfold events

VÅRSPRETTEEN, Halden, Norway, 19-4-97: H21E, 11.6km: 1. Bjørnar Valstad 70.15, 2. Petter Thoresen 71.46, 3. Jon Tvedt 72.01, 4. Tore Sandvik 72.10, 5. Fredrik Löwegren 72.51, 6. Kjetil Bjørlo 73.00, 7. Jouni Mähönen 73.14, 8. Allan Mogensen 73.28, 9. Håvard Tveite 73.55, 10. Henrik Ottesen 74.27.

D21E, 8.1km: 1. Torunn Fossli Sæthre 64.08, 2. Kirsi Tiira 64.20, 3= Karolina Arewång & Hanne Sandstad 64.30, 5. Katja Honkola 64.34, 6. Cecilia Nilsson 65.01, 7. Reeta-Mari Kolkkala 65.36, 8. Ann-Kristin Høgseth 65.58, 9. Hanne Staff 66.24, 10. Sabrina Meister-Fesseler 66.27.

VÅRSTAFETTEEN, 20-4-97: Men's open, 5 legs: 1. Fredrikstad SK (Bent Olav Aamodt, Dag Bjørnerød, Henrik Ottesen, Per Olaussen, Kjetil Bjørlo) 2.35.06, 2. Bækkelagets SK 2.35.09, 3. Halden SK 2.35.12.

Women's open, 4 legs: 1. Bækkelagets SK (Hanne Staff, Yvette Hague, Torunn Fossli Sæthre, Hanne Sandstad) 2.10.09, 2. Halden SK 2.10.14, 3. Nydalen SK 2.10.16.

JK Surprise

The relatively unknown Finn Mikko Knuuti won H21E at the 2-day Jan Kjellström Trophy individual event in Cornwall, SW England at Easter, over one minute ahead of Steve Hale. Both days were held on complex sand dune terrain.

Yvette Hague won easily by over three minutes in D21E.

Valstad and Staff Win

The elite classes in the traditional events 'Lørdagskjappen' and 'Solrenningen' held in mid-April were run this year as an IOF Elite event with final results based on the aggregate times, writes Christer Svensson. The first day was a short distance race with winning times around 25 minutes, and on the Sunday a classic race with winning times of around 85 minutes (men) and 65 minutes (women) was held.

A maximum of 75 entries per class was set.

Overall winner of H21E was Bjørnar Valstad, with fellow Norwegian international Kjetil Bjørlo second and Tore Sandvik third. The two Hannes from Oslo's Bækkelaget club, Staff and Sandstad, took first and second places respectively in D21E with Heather Monro (Great Britain) placed third; Hanne Staff's victory margin

Welcome to Norway

MODUM O-CAMP

For the last three World Champs I've done my final preparations at Modum O-Camp. They've got the best orienteering training opportunities in the world there.

In '97 it will be even more important to do the final preparations there, because of the WOC in Norway.

Several clubs, national O-teams and individuals have already booked training camps in 1997.

Modum O-Camp is situated 80km west of Oslo. 30 courses with controls set out in 1997. Various accommodation options.

MODUM O-CAMP
Bøen gård
3370 Vikersund Norway
☎ +47 32 78 39 66 ☎ +47 32 78 37 35
ELITE RECREATION YOUTH FAMILIES

WORLD WIDE
ORIENTEERING PROMOTION

Bækkerlaget Take Double in Tio-mila

The first weekend in May as usual meant the Tio-mila in Sweden, this year as 15 years ago held in Vilsta, near Eskilstuna. This was the first year of new organisational arrangements for this historic event, held this year for the 52nd time. The 7-leg event started with two day legs which were followed by a rest period and a chasing start after midnight.

Spectator interest was kept up by having a control beside the assembly area on the longest legs, plus split courses and map exchanges in the finish area which was overlooked by a ski slope used by the spectators. The start took place on the top of the hill above the ski slope.

Events for women's and junior teams were also held, with 1,074 teams in all taking part



Swiss star Marie-Luce Romanens running for Halden SK at Tio-mila

from 6 nations. 447 teams competed in Tio-mila, the open event.

The Oslo club Bækkerlaget wrote Tio-mila and 2-mila history, being the first club to win both open and women's events in the same year. Kristinehamns OK won the junior event. In the women's race Bækkerlaget dominated from the third leg onwards, with Hanne Staff bringing the team in first by almost 3 minutes (see photo on page 11). Five seconds then separated the next four teams, Heather Monro for Halden SK just getting second place.

The men's race resulted in a clear victory for Bækkerlaget with Bjørnar Valstad on last leg, but again an exciting sprint finish for the minor placings brought four teams in within 18 seconds. IK Hakarpspoj-karna (Sweden) just got ahead of Halden SK (Norway) for second place.

Leading results:

Men (10 legs): 1. Bækkerlagets SK 9.25.57, 2. IK Hakarpspoj-karna 9.30.02, 3. Halden SK 9.30.04, 4. IFK Södertälje 9.30.08, 5. Ronneby OK 9.30.20. **Women (5 legs):** 1. Bækkerlagets SK 2.51.11, 2. Halden SK 2.54.03, 3. OK Ravinen 2.54.04, 4. Nydalens SK 2.54.06, 5. Liedon Parma 2.54.08.



Start of the women's race at Tio-mila photos: Christer Svensson

Olli-Pekka Kärkkäinen to leave Danish Coaching Job

The National Coach for the Danish Orienteering Federation since November 1991, Olli-Pekka Kärkkäinen, has announced his intention to leave the post when his contract expires at the end of October this year. During his period as coach the Danish men's team in particular has enjoyed much success, with the pinnacle being Allan Mogensen's classic race victory in the 1993 World Championships in the USA.

Coaches interested in succeeding 'OP' can obtain details from DOF, Idrættens Hus, DK-2605 Brøndby, Denmark.

Orienteering Videos

New items from *CompassSport* mail order service include orienteering videos **THE FIRST STEPS** and **GOING FOR IT** (Mike's Eye Productions, Keswick, UK)

The First Steps

Level: beginner/intermediate. Running time ~25 minutes in two segments
PART 1: IN THE SCHOOL GROUNDS. Introduction to maps and orienteering. Setting the map. Following a course in the school campus.
PART 2: IN THE FOREST. Scale and distance. Map symbols and colours. Introductory compass. Following a novice course in the forest. Introductory route choice.

Great for teaching. Your students will learn quickly from the professionally shot video footage, graphics and accompanying orienteering songs.

Going For It New for May 1997!

Level: intermediate/advanced. Running time ~25 minutes in two segments
PART 3: OFF THE BEATEN TRACK. Intermediate & advanced techniques. Compass types and use, land form and contours, route choice, attack points, thinking big and small, relocation, step counting.
PART 4: GOING FOR GOLD Putting it all together. Race analysis, goal setting, orienteering flow, map reading on the move, planning ahead, speed control. Training exercises, fitness, mental preparation.

Follow up to The First Steps with similar high production standards. Suitable for advanced students or the club orienteer.

These videos cost GB £19.95 each. VISA/MASTERCARD accepted. Also available 'Trail Orienteering' video from same makers - special price £9.95. For all videos add postage & packing £1 per tape (Europe or Overseas Surface), £2 per tape overseas (Overseas Air). All tapes are in PAL/VHS format (please enquire if other formats are required).

CompassSport, 37 Sandycumbe Road,
Twickenham, TW1 2LR, Great Britain.
Tel: +44 181 892 9429 Fax: +44 181 255 0762
e-mail: compass.sport@dial.pipex.com

Østfold 2-Days

was almost 7 minutes. In the men's race, Steven Hale was the first non-Scandinavian in 7th place overall, and Denmark's Carsten Jørgensen deserves a mention for achieving a close second place in the classic race after a poor first day run.

Leading aggregate results:

H21E: 1. Bjørnar Valstad 1.43.27, 2. Kjetil Bjørlo 1.44.48, 3. Tore Sandvik 1.48.14, 4. Per Olaussen

1.48.17, 5. Bernt Olav Aamodt 1.48.20, 6. Asgeir Mjøsund 1.48.40, 7. Steven Hale 1.48.49, 8. Johan Ivarsson 1.49.09, 9. Carl Henrik Bjørseth 1.49.28, 10. Petter Thoresen 1.49.34. **D21E:** 1. Hanne Staff 1.41.53, 2. Hanne Sandstad 1.48.50, 3. Heather Monro 1.50.21, 4. Elisabeth Ingvaldsen 1.50.32, 5. Dorte Dahl 1.50.34, 6. Torunn Fossli Sæthre 1.50.39, 7. Sabrina Meister-Fessler 1.50.43, 8. Irina Mikhalko 1.50.46, 9. Birgitte Huseby 1.50.57, 10. Gro Sandstad 1.55.21.

Watch Out for Juha Peltola!

Twenty-two year old Juha Peltola from Finland hit the headlines at the beginning of the new season by winning the Spring Cup classic race in Denmark after a warm-up third at the Portugal O-Meeting.

A member of the Liedon Parma club, Peltola's best season so far is 1995, when he won the Nordic Open Championships classic race in H20 by more than three minutes, and was a member of the winning relay team.



Juha Peltola pictured immediately after his winning run in the H20 classic race at the Nordic Championships in Skellefteå, Sweden in 1995
photo: Christer Svensson

Juha Peltola's first major success was in 1990 when he won H15 in the national championships. He followed this with national championship victories at short distance in 1993 (H18) and long distance in 1995 (H20).

Last year his best result was second place in the short distance race at the World Student Championships, behind Olivier Coupat of France.

His immediate ambitions are selection for the Finnish teams at this year's World Championships and Nordic Open Championships; his flying start to this season has certainly improved his chances there.

Clive Allen

RIMANTAS MIKAITIS, Lithuania, describes orienteering's involvement in

The Baltic Sea Games

One of the IOF's intentions is to get orienteering into as many multi-sport games as possible. The general purpose of that is to raise the visibility of our sport. However, depending on the conditions, some games are more appropriate than others for orienteering. The countries around the Baltic Sea have for many years been strong in orienteering - especially the Nordic countries. Orienteering is one of 27 sports (and one of 5 not in the Olympic programme) included in the Baltic Sea Games programme.

The countries of the Baltic Sea region are strong not only in orienteering, but in the other participant sports as well. The members of the national teams of the countries taking part in the Baltic Sea Games gained 187 medals in the Olympic Games in Atlanta in 1996. That was more compared with the results of the countries in the other regions (Asian, Mediterranean, Pan-American) where traditional multi-sport games are organised.

More than 2,000 Participants

The first Baltic Sea Games took place in Estonia in 1993, and this year the second Games will be organised in Lithuania from June 25 to July 6. The Games will be held under the patronage of the IOC, which will be represented by the IOC member Dr. Jacques Rogge, President of European Olympic Committees. More than 2,000 sportsmen and women are going to compete in the second Baltic Sea Games in Lithuania.

Orienteers from 7 countries (Poland, Sweden, Norway, Estonia, Latvia, Belorussia, Lithuania) will be taking part. Not all the orienteering federations of the region decided to participate, joining the opportunity to present orienteering among the other sports. It's worth mentioning that in many other sports, more countries are participating, and this low activity could jeopardise the future of orienteering in the Baltic Sea Games.

Orienteering at Vilnius

The individual orienteering events (classic and short) will take place in the terrain surrounding Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania. The relay will be held in the park of Vilnius-Sapiegine, just 3 km from the city centre.

A number of conferences will be held during the Games. According to the Nordic-Baltic cooperation programme the conferences 'Funding and Finances of Sports' and 'Sport Psychology' will take place. The Lithuanian Olympic Committee is organising the meeting of the leaders of the Central and Eastern Europe Olympic Committees.

The Baltic Sea Games are getting more popular; three countries (Sweden, Finland and Russia) have applied to be the organisers of the third Games.

Having orienteering as a part of the Games will give orienteers wider opportunities for competition and will give our sport better exposure.

Orienteering in parks is one of the best ways to promote our sport. But in parks, stealing and vandalism are a big problem. Five to ten markers and punches (25FF each) may disappear in a single day. A small club cannot afford it.

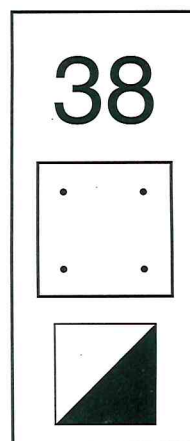
At first I used markers and punches of my own making. Stealing and vandalism continued. Then I posted markers out of reach (3 metres up) and punches out of view on the opposite side of the path. Finally I found the best answer to the problem: streamers (3 metres up) and mini punches.

New Mini Punch for Parks

This way you can offer informal events, permanent courses etc. at very low cost in a way which ensures promotion of the sport.

Marcel Ponroy

The mini punch is a piece of 4mm plastic sheet 2.5cm wide x 5.8cm high, with the control number at the top, a 1.8cm square pin base in the middle, and the O symbol in red at the bottom. Two nails are provided to attach it to wooden objects. Enquiries to Marcel Ponroy, 9 Rue Cais de Gilette, 06300 Nice, France.



actual size

Question Marks Raised over Electronic Punching System

From the early days of development of the Regnly - now Emit - punching system (EKT), there have been orienteers who commented that they would like to have some reassurance that their 'punch' had been recorded - a visible or audible signal of some kind. Recently, more widespread dissatisfaction amongst Danish orienteers with EKT's performance has led the Danish federation (DOF) to withdraw its support for use of the system at its major events.



The Emit (Regnly) system

"Confidence Lost"

The main alleged problems were at this year's long distance championships and Easter 3-days: unacceptable numbers of 'false' disqualifications for missing a control, resulting in many runners losing confidence in the system; intermittent failure of some of the electronic equipment; and faults and omissions remaining in the accompanying computer software even though they had been reported through 1995 and 1996.

DOF President Ove Gasbjerg, in his letter explaining DOF's decision, added that a wait in a queue for 5-10 minutes for split times immediately after coming through the finish, together with shortages of batteries and printer paper on one day at the Easter event, were not acceptable levels of service when for the hire price for the Easter 3-days 30 people could have been

employed for 8 hours to check control cards on each of the days.

Decision "a shock"

Møller Sport, the agents for Emit in Denmark, commented: "The decision taken by DOF to cease to recommend EKT came as a shock to us. We were not asked or consulted on any matters that might have caused this dramatic decision.

"We were present at the two events referred to, and none, we repeat none, of the participants was unjustifiably disqualified by the system.

When a runner's E-card is read into the PC system, a label for the results board and, in case he is disqualified by the system, a paper showing which controls he punched and at the bottom the correct course, is written out. With this paper the organiser can discuss and/or prove to the runner what he did wrong. To cross-check this, the back-up control card from the E-card supports the organiser and/or the runner if any discrepancies occur.

"At one of the events mentioned (the long distance championships) we experienced a number (11) of mechanical back-ups on four controls without the runner getting his 'electronic punch'. Later we found out that the new frame we had supplied had insufficient insulation between the control unit and the frame (must be 10mm!), so the signal from the control unit had turned downwards to earth instead of into the E-card. However in all cases the runners had the mechanical back-up and nobody was disqualified because of that. In other words, the system proved its worth.

"No Problems" with Software

"Software can (and will!) always be improved - however we experienced no problems whatsoever with the software used at both events. At the Easter 3-days we had 5,100 starts and the results were on the board before the participants had had their traditional after-race drink.

On the first day we tested a prototype mini time recorder and printer, both battery operated units, and handed each runner, before he left the finish area, his result including all split times. It was proved that the printer had insufficient capacity for an event of this size, but delays were not lengthy.

On the third day (chasing start) the runners had to wait 5-10 minutes to get their split times because of the pressure at the start and finish area. Something that can easily be regulated by spreading out the starting time,

but hardly anything that EKT can be blamed for.

"To sum up, we should mention that the Danish national team among a lot of others has been using a trial system consisting of 100 units at their test and training camps for more than 2 years now and have full confidence in the EKT system."

Norway Fully Committed

Norway is fully committed to the Emit system, with all regular orienteers there purchasing their own E-card. This year, 8,500 E-cards and 3,000 control assemblies had already been sold by mid-April. Denmark's main reason for progressing more slowly in adopting this system has hitherto been the cost, but now it seems that improvements will be demanded - and alternatives examined - before any further move will be made in the direction of electronic punching at all major events.

The Swedish View

The Swedish Orienteering Federation (SOFT) has been active in developing the use of the Emit system since 1992. SOFT has also developed a new method for organising O-races using the electronic system, and a special software programme has been produced. SOFT's policy is that clubs that are interested may buy and use the system, but there is no compulsory adoption of the system nation-wide. Several clubs or groups of clubs have bought Emit, and it has been widely used in small training races as well as in the Tiomila relay, Swedish Championships and World Cup.

Problems have generally occurred when competitors and organisers have not been familiar enough with the new routines that Emit requires. We believe that orienteers must spend time learning the system, in particular how to deal with the software programme - which needs to be further developed as we gain experience. This is a complex change for our sport, but we believe that orienteers in general are interested in technical innovations and it is important to give the electronic punching system a chance. It adds to the excitement and will most certainly become an important part in making our sport more visible.

For the future, we shall take every opportunity to encourage orienteers to try the system, learn more about it and thus make fewer mistakes. For example, there will be an 'IT corner' at the O-Ringen this summer where people can come and ask questions and discuss the system. We are also looking at other systems, e.g. SportIdent, although we believe it will be some time before it is approved in Sweden. The competition between systems is good for the whole orienteering world, although it would be easier in the long run if there were one single standard system for electronic punching.

Maria Nimvik, SOFT Information Officer

The last two issues of *Orienteering World* carried important articles about orienteering and the Olympics. What form of our sport should be put forward for inclusion, bearing in mind the IOC's demands for - in particular - sports where it is easy to tell who wins, which have TV appeal and which are demonstrably fair (i.e. the minimum of secrecy)? Responses were varied: outright opposition to the ideas put forward, doubts about priorities, and some thoughts about the format

Yes to the Olympics - but not on TV's Conditions

Of course orienteering must get on to the Olympic programme. It is every elite sportsperson's dream to go to the Olympic Games and be part of the Olympic community, and we owe it to our future elite orienteers to work to achieve this.

But the conditions which the IOF anticipates will be a prerequisite for the acceptance of orienteering into the Olympic programme are entirely unacceptable. We must not sell our soul, just because at the moment the TV companies hold power over the IOC.

The Park World Tour has become very popular and has gained great favour with the media. But is it the discipline itself or its novelty which has found the TV companies' interest? How will the

situation appear in a few years' time? Shall we find that by then, we will need to invent something quite different to fulfil TV's requirements?

Badminton is one of Denmark's 'display sports' and has been one of the biggest TV sports, but now it has almost completely lost its media coverage, even though Denmark is still one of the world's strongest badminton nations.

In many sports leaders' minds, the Olympic Games is synonymous with big money. Yes, that is certainly the case for the IOC, but for the smaller Danish sports federations the reality is a slightly higher Team Denmark (Danish Sports Council) grant every fourth year, and nothing else.

The Park World Tour - a short-lived novelty item for TV?

photo: Petr Hranicka



Orienteering must not sell its individuality for an unpredictable media and a future which is unknown.

In 20 years' time, the requirements for Olympic sports can be expected to be: simple facilities, little effect on the

environment, a sport free of doping, simple equipment, and similar.

Those are terms we *will* fight under.

Ove Gasbjerg, President, Danish Orienteering Federation

Mass Start Loop Format is Best

Having experimented with various forms of Sprint O with BOF, looked hard at Park O and tried other varieties of 'customer-friendly' orienteering with club, junior and school groups, I think I've come to a view now on what form of

orienteering can best appeal to the sporting layman and at the same time retain basic orienteering principles and philosophy.

I'm quite sure from work with TV promoters while working for BOF that for any

mass media audience, *first back through the finish* for the winner is an important principle. I think too that 30-45 minutes isn't too long to keep interest, especially if audiences can be kept in touch with progress, route choice etc. in a meaningful way.

This brings me to the mass start loop format on the Hagaby principle. I still think that the World Cup race near Örebro, Sweden back in 1992 is the most exciting form of head to head orienteering both for competitor and spectator that I have witnessed - a triumph for Arne Yngström's original idea.

My Olympic model would therefore be a mass start with 3 loops of 2-3 km to be run in random order and a winning time of 35-45 minutes. Because the format can use a relatively small area, it would be easier to 'police' for prior knowledge, though I don't think this is a vital factor. I think the loops need to be at least 2 km to allow some element of route choice and the testing of orienteering skills other than control picking. Because Park O is relatively so short it doesn't really test O skills like concentration - in fact, it can be more cross-country running than orienteering!

Peter Palmer, England



Mass start, Hagaby-style - a junior invitation event at Örebro, prior to its introduction to the World Cup in 1992 photo: Clive Allen

The Olympic issue - Have We Lost our Direction?

One of the most frequent current themes within the IOF is how we can get to join the Olympic Games - this is not so far away, if we follow the President's line of thinking in her Column in the last issue.

However there is something I do not fully understand with regard to this document. A continuing discussion on how and with which discipline we might get on the programme may be of high importance, but we must remember that the ski-O Olympic programme was approved at the highest IOF level (Congress and Council) several years



ago. What should we understand from Sue Harvey's article - is this some additional attempt with regard to the summer Games, or is this a clear justification for the IOF's Olympic programme sooner or later to be redesigned?

I fully understand that many countries do not have opportunities for ski-O and are indifferent with regard to this form of orienteering (the voting about the Ski-O Junior World Championships during the last Congress was a clear example of this). However, everybody has to understand that some kinds of cross-links will always exist, and by getting ski-O into the Olympic Games every country will benefit directly or indirectly! There are countries like my Slovakia where this new status would increase state support by about 500%, and there may be countries which will benefit very indirectly - but for sure, everybody will be better.

In Slovakia we often say: it is much better to have a small bird in the hand than to try to catch a pigeon on the roof. And we can add: who knows if this small bird will not grow to be a big eagle? This may be the case with the Olympic issue too.

There exists now a chance to include ski-O in the Winter Games schedule, and we have the targetted programme of



The couple start was a ski-O innovation designed to enhance spectator appeal - here in use at the World Cup in the Czech Republic in February. Pekka Varis FIN & Bertil Nordqvist SWE set off for the forest photo: Petr Hranicka

how to reach this goal. However it seems that we have missed the 2002 opportunity, because of individual, non-systematic activities and a lack of common action by all possible participants. Much stronger lobbying both on local (USA for 2002), national and international (International Olympic Committee) levels is necessary to become a member of the Olympic family. All members, but primarily the Council and the Ski-O Steering Group, have to act much more efficiently, to realise effective action and avoid failures. Much more should have been done with regard to USOF participation in supporting the 2002 Winter Games bid. To

increase the number of ski-O countries, much more attention has to be given to national specifics. We cannot expect that countries with limited budgets and limited quality of performance of their runners will participate in events as expensive as the Ski-O World Championships and World Cup events are becoming (see the example of Krasnoyarsk, OW 97/2 p. 17).

To develop orienteering, to move from the position of a relatively poor and hidden international sport federation, we cannot only continue to discuss how to get to the Olympics, but much more concrete action at all levels has to be performed!

Juraj Nemec, Slovakia

How About a Team Score Event?

With regard to Sue Harvey's appeal for an Olympic race format in OW 97/2 - perhaps someone could experiment as follows:

MASS START SCORE TEAM EVENT
5 per team (mixed sex is OK), all in mass start; no set course, but 50 posts in more or less 'score' format.

The winning team is determined by the time elapsed when the 5th finishing team member crosses the line - with the proviso that each team member must have visited 10 different posts each, i.e. 50 in all.

The posts' locations are secret until map issue at the moment of start, BUT the

post descriptions and map are available to all in advance.

Mike Down, England



A skilful team of five: Bækkerlaget (Oslo), winners of the women's race at Tio-mila. Ragnhild Myrvold, Torunn Fossli Sæthre, Hanne Staff, Hanne Sandstad and Yvette Hague photo: Christer Svensson

Editor's note:

Pluses: this idea provides some exciting tracking opportunities. If the electronic punching system can record and relay to base all visits to controls, and the computer software can identify the ten leading teams in terms of number of controls punched and, towards the end, the controls left to be visited and their distance from base, there is scope for considerable spectator (via a display screen) and armchair audience excitement.

Minuses: TV utilising tracking technology is wasted, as you cannot show skills of orienteering such as route choice; for spectators, there is nothing to see until the event reaches a sudden climax and then slowly 'dies'.

Keeping It Simple

It has been exciting recently being in contact with new countries interested in joining the IOF or in starting orienteering. Orienteering seems to be growing buoyantly in the world. Kenya, Lebanon and Mexico are three of the latest. Meanwhile, within some 'old' countries there have been ups and downs in growth in the last 5 years.

This is to be taken seriously, but it's no panic. All products have ups and downs, as any manufacturer will tell you. Orienteering is a product like any other. People choose to buy it. If a product doesn't sell, it means the customer doesn't like it. Falling sales are customers saying they do not like it.

(If all this talk of products and markets makes you uneasy, it is just that it saves re-inventing the wheel to apply marketing knowledge to help us.)

The classic marketing answer to falling sales is to do market research to find out why. Some in orienteering have already done this, others are doing it now. Reasons can be grouped in three categories: the product itself, competing offerings (available alternatives), and the social forces behind why it was once desired. Actually these all amount to the same thing when talking about what to do to reverse a downward trend: the product no longer provides the benefits people want (or will pay for at the price offered) better than alternatives available. It doesn't matter too much if society has changed, or the product has changed, or the alternatives on offer have changed; either way, **the hard fact is that folk don't like it enough.**

In this circumstance, either you continue to lose sales, or you change the product, or you wait for society to change.

Continuing in this marketing vein, the IOF is, among other things, in the business of selling orienteering to the sports world, to new countries and to the media. From this perspective, one possibly fruitful line is to investigate 'keeping it simple'.

Most people acknowledge that orienteer-

ing is a fairly complex sport. But there are a number of other sports which manage to be both complex, technical, widespread in the world, popular and well covered in the media. So these are not incompatible. But there are good reasons why we should concentrate on 'keeping it simple', especially now when our goals are more media coverage, more member federations, and greater strength in our existing federations.

1. Complex organisation puts off newcomers - both newcomers to the sport in the 'old' countries and newcomer countries.
2. Complex organisation requires lots of people to organise an event. One reason for the decline in numbers in an advanced country may be that people get tired of 'cooking'. We all like to eat good food, but cooking meals every day gets tedious. Few resent cooking once a week (!). Similarly, most orienteers get fun from competing, not organising. So the simpler the organisation (the fewer organisers) the more often we can all run rather than help.
3. Complex events are hard to make comprehensible on TV. Neither the journalists and programme producers nor the audience can easily grasp what is happening.

"Changes should reinforce the nature of the sport"

When we look at how to 'keep it simple', we need to make sure that we don't change the nature of the sport itself. Any changes should *reinforce* the nature of the sport. This applies both when we consider adapting present forms of orienteering and when devising new forms.

Take some examples from other sports: for the spectators' sake, one-day cricket has replaced some 5-day matches. When previously the batsmen (batspersons?) often chose not to run after hitting the ball, now they have to take more risks because the total number of balls is limited. It makes for more exciting cricket, and also requires tighter judgement of ball speed, position of the fielders and own running speed - all essential cricketing skills.

In tennis, for TV and the spectators' sake the tie-break now forces the players to put everything into winning the deciding game. The match becomes less a marathon and more exciting tennis.

When it comes to the penalty shoot-out

in football I am less convinced that this is a good solution. Certainly shooting, and saving shots, is crucial to the game, but the shoot-out leaves out teamwork - which to me is part of the essence of football. The Golden Goal used in Euro 96 (first team to score during extra time) fulfils the criteria much better.

So in looking critically at how we organise orienteering, we should seek simultaneously to simplify the job of organising and increase media/spectator interest, while enhancing the 'orienteeringness' of the competition. Let's look at an example. A long run-in enables the spectator to see more of the competitors, but, like the football penalty shoot-out, emphasises one aspect (running) over equally important others (route choice, navigation). On the other hand, a course which brings the competitors to a control within view 4 legs from the end (as in the 1996 World Cup Final in France), and then sends them out of sight again, increases pressure on competitors both in running and navigating. This, correctly, enhances the orienteering while improving spectator interest.

That last example is, however, no simplification. If we seek to simplify, we should do so in those things which cause the organiser most problems, or have the biggest likelihood of mistakes that could ruin an event. Control codes may be every controller's nightmare. Removing control codes for elite relays would remove that nightmare. It would also force the competitors to navigate singly by taking out the possibility of following and then using the control code to check if this is the right marker. In that way it could enhance the 'orienteeringness' and simultaneously simplify the controller's job. It wouldn't do much for the spectator, though, to cheer in an apparent winner, only to find them disqualified 2 minutes later for mispunching. So it fails on that criterion.

Taking the jargon out of the information we supply to newcomers is a simplification we *can* achieve. This would be helpful to new countries and to newcomers in 'old' countries.

If we find it hard to make changes that fulfil these criteria, we should at least make sure that any proposed new rules changes do not *increase* complexity. Our rule book is long and thick already. It would be nice to reduce it. In this way the glorious simplicity of the concept of orienteering (to see who can navigate themselves about quickest) can be enhanced, not buried.

Membership of IOF Committees

The lists alongside show the membership of the IOF Committees within the new organisational structure set up by the Congress in Israel last year.

New Pictograms for Separate Orienteering Disciplines

TRAIL O



FOOT-O



MB-O



SKI-O



Copies of these pictograms are available from the IOF Secretariat or national federations.

They can also be downloaded from the IOF internet page: <http://www.orienteeing.org>

Foot-O

Geir Tveit NOR (chair)
Andras Hegedus HUN
David May GBR
Iordanka Melnikliyska BUL
Lasse Niemelä FIN
Marcel Schiess SUI

Ski-O

Veli-Markku Korteniemi FIN (chair)
Lars-Petter Lystad NOR
Tullio Mancinello ITA
Juraj Nemec SVK
Tord Nilsson SWE
Daniel Säggerer SUI

MB-O

Jean-Paul Hosotte FRA (chair)
Colin Palmer GBR
Jesús de Miguel Rey ESP
Jan Semik CZE
Michael Wood NZL

Trail O

Anne Braggins GBR (chair)
Patrick Ng HKG
Faith White IRL

Map

Björn Persson SWE (chair)
Andreas Dresen GER
Søren Nielsen DEN
Chris Shaw GBR
Laszlo Zental HUN

Events Standards (ESC)

Barry McCrae AUS (chair)
Øivind Holt NOR
Ivan Kuzmin RUS
Lars-Åke Larsson SWE
David Rosen GBR

Technical Devt. (TDC)

Finn Arildsen DEN (chair)
Marko Häkkinen FIN
Bruce MacAllister USA

Development in relation to geographical spread is attached to the Council-led Olympic Project. Birthe Helms DEN has been appointed Development Project Coordinator.

Trail Orienteering Clinic

associated with the 1997 World Championships

Monday 11 August, 18.00, Grimstad, Norway

This clinic will introduce the principles of Trail Orienteering, and there will be some practical work in the nearby forest

Attendees will also take part in the public Trail O competitions on 13th and 15th August.

Intending participants should register with the IOF Secretariat by **July 1st**.

Cost of participation (including competitions): FIM 200

Copies of the book and the video entitled 'Trail Orienteering' may be ordered for FIM 80 each

International Orienteering Federation

Secretariat

Radiokatu 20, FI-00093 SLU, Finland

Telephone: +358 9 3481 3112 **Fax:** +358 9 3481 3113

Secretary General: Barbro Rönnerberg

IOF Council 1996-98

President

Sue Harvey, Great Britain

Senior Vice President

Åke Jacobson, Sweden

Vice Presidents

Hugh Cameron, Australia

Edmond Széchenyi, France

Council Members

Thomas Brogli, Switzerland

Higino Esteves, Portugal

Rimantas Mikaitis, Lithuania

Flemming Nørgaard, Denmark

Bruce Wolfe, USA

IOF Committees and Committee Chairmen

Foot-O - Geir Tveit, Norway

Mountain Bike-O - Jean-Paul Hosotte, France

Ski-O - Veli-Markku Korteniemi, Finland

Trail-O - Anne Braggins, Great Britain

Events Standards - Barry McCrae, Australia

Map - Björn Persson, Sweden

Technology Development - Finn Arildsen, Denmark

Member Nations

(* - associate members)

Argentina*	ARG	Ireland	IRL
Australia	AUS	Israel	ISR
Austria	AUT	Italy	ITA
Belgium	BEL	Japan	JPN
Belorussia	BLR	Kazakhstan	KAZ
Brazil*	BRA	Korea	KOR
Bulgaria	BUL	Latvia	LAT
Canada	CAN	Lithuania	LTU
Chile*	CHI	Macedonia*	MKD
China	CHN	Malaysia*	MAS
Croatia	CRO	Netherlands	NED
Cuba*	CUB	New Zealand	NZL
Czech Republic	CZE	Norway	NOR
Denmark	DEN	Poland	POL
Ecuador*	ECU	Portugal	POR
Estonia	EST	Romania	ROM
Finland	FIN	Russia	RUS
France	FRA	Slovakia	SVK
Germany	GER	Slovenia	SLO
Great Britain	GBR	South Africa	RSA
Hong Kong	HKG	Spain	ESP
Hungary	HUN	Sweden	SWE
India*	IND	Switzerland	SUI
		Ukraine	UKR
		United States	USA
		Yugoslavia	YUG

IOF Activities During WOC Week

All federations are invited to take part in the Presidents' Conference to be held in conjunction with the 1997 World Championships. The conference is scheduled for Wednesday 13th August in 2 sessions: 15.00-17.00 and 18.30-20.30. The focus of the Conference is on development towards the Olympics.

The IOF Map Committee invites mappers to an International Conference on Orienteering Mapping on 9th

and 11th August (see advert. below) and the Technical Development Committee will organise an open meeting provisionally scheduled for Friday 15th August. A Trail O Clinic will be held on Monday 11th August.

There will be an IOF tent in the competition centres of the classic and short distance finals and the relay event, and the IOF invites everybody to meet the Council members and the Committee Chairs.

7th International Conference on Orienteering Mapping

9 & 11 August 1997, Grimstad, Norway

Topics will include:

- mapping for a World Championship
- GPS, including field demonstration and exercise
- 4-colour and digital printing
- new instructor's kit based on CD-ROM
- elite views on map scales and levels of detail
- the ISOM/2000 Project

Participation fee: NOK 130, payable on the first day

Application deadlines: Conference: July 31st.

Accommodation: May 25th.

Applications should be sent by mail or e-mail to:

IOF Map Committee, Björn Persson, Hotellgatan 2, SE-827 31 Ljusdal, Sweden. E-mail: bjorn@absos.se.

Map Exhibition at World Championships

As part of the start of the celebration of the centenary of orienteering, a map exhibition will be held in conjunction with the Mapping Conference, showing '100 Years of Orienteering Mapping'.

The idea is for the participating

countries to bring samples from the 'early days' as well as from modern production.

Those willing to contribute should contact Søren Nielsen of the IOF MC at Gadeledsvej 2B, DK-3400 Gadevang, Denmark, fax +45 422 68 455, e-mail dof-kort@post4.tele.dk.

Scientific Symposium

The 6th International Scientific Symposium on Orienteering takes place in Oslo from 17th to 20th August. For details, see OW 97/1 page 14 or contact Asbjørn Gjerset, Norges Idrettshøgskole, P.B. 4014 Ullevål Hageby, N-0806 Oslo, Norway, fax +47 2218 5791.

Ski-O Closing Date Change

The closing date for applications to organise the Ski-O JWOC 1999-2001, the Ski-O World Cup 1999-2001 and the Ski-O WMOC 1999-2001 has been changed to 30th June 1997, to allow more time for the preparation of applications.

The SG's Angle



BARBRO
RÖNNBERG

Land access is a pre-condition for us orienteers. No land access, no maps, no orienteering. Good co-operation with landowners, government and local authorities, hunters and environmental organisations is a necessity. We live in environmentally-conscious times. Does orienteering meet the requirements? Are we well enough prepared to answer questions about the environmental impact of orienteering?

There is no evidence that orienteering causes significant damage to the environment. On the contrary, the results of research done show that it has a very low environmental impact. Orienteering is a 'green' sport. That is, however, not always so easy to communicate. Many people have pre-conceptions about orienteering - they seriously believe that it causes damage to the flora and disturbance to birds and animals. We orienteers need to have a common view on the matter and we need to base our arguments on facts, not on hearsay and subjective judgement.

At the 29th GAISF Congress in Seoul in 1995, the international sports federations adopted a resolution on the environment. In accordance with the GAISF resolution, the IOF Council approved a resolution on good environmental practice in orienteering in April 1996. One of the principles adopted in the resolution is 'to recommend that the national federations prepare environmental good practice guidelines specific to their own countries'.

Guidelines issued by the IOF can only be of a general nature,

not specific to any particular region. It is not possible to apply similar guidelines on environmental practice in the whole world - e.g. in Australia, in Germany and in the Scandinavian countries. All regions - all countries - are unique and have their own culture and their own requirements. It is therefore a task of the national orienteering federation to prepare its own guidelines specific to its own country.

In several countries the national orienteering federation already has an environmental policy. In some countries it is still 'a piece of paper', whilst in other countries it has been put into practice in a number of ways - by issuing guidelines, organising events, and by educating e.g. course planners and controllers.

"Promoting the principle of good environmental practice is a means of increasing the recognition of orienteering ..."

In my previous SG's Angle column I touched upon the subject of raising the profile of our sport. Promoting the principle of good environmental practice is a means of increasing the recognition of orienteering and a way of changing common pre-conceptions about its impact on the environment. Because of our Olympic ambitions, we should of course also remember that the IOC wants sports that are environmentally friendly...

I do, however, believe that you all agree that Olympic ambitions should never be the main reason for our efforts to maintain the environmentally friendly nature of orienteering. As practitioners of the orienteering sport in all its different forms we are in a privileged position: we use the most magnificent of all sports arenas - mother nature.

Take good care of her!

Towards an International Ranking List for the Elite

One of the first decisions of the new IOF Foot-O Committee was to commission trials of a ranking system for the world's elite, sophisticated enough to enable elite-standard orienteers all over the world to have their successes recognised. Events counting in the new system would be the annual series of IOF Elite Events (IOFE's), run for the first time last year and much expanded in number this year, plus other events of similar standard to ensure that every country has a number of events counting which is related to the strength of that nation in elite orienteering.

Although there is a view around that the system should be simple enough for all those participating to understand it, it is at least equally necessary that the formula used takes account of all relevant factors so that the results are credible, i.e. the best runners get the highest points.

World Orienteering Ranking©

It was in autumn 1965 that Bo Simonsen, a Danish elite orienteer then living in Hillerød (and now in Switzerland), and Olli-Pekka Kärkkäinen, Danish national team coach, first put forward a formula

which is based on that used for the Finnish ranking lists. An extensively circulated letter in spring 1996 brought several suggestions on improvements and how the system should be operated and the lists published. Now their proposal is one of those being trialled this year, and soon we should see the first unofficial lists produced on the basis of this year's early-season IOFE's and data from the 1996 IOFE's and World Cup and other events where there was a strong elite presence.

How Many Events?

It is anticipated that a minimum of 40 events per year will be included, and the number could be 10 times greater. Inclusion of the Park World Tour, where entry is by invitation only, has been a keen debating issue; this kind of problem exists in other sports, and it would be a pity if a series carrying such great public interest was excluded. Safeguards have been planned against duplication of names and problems arising from variable quality of events.

The first lists will be awaited with critical interest!

Clive Allen

The Formula

$$RP = \frac{CT}{RT} \times RVP \times (1 - F \times \frac{P - 1}{N - 1}) \times IP$$

where

P = Runner's position

N = Number of starters

RP = Race Points: what a runner scores in a single event. Can be more than 10,000 points if the standard, winning margin and IP are ideal.

RVP = Race value point: point value which you get if you run the exact 'par time' which is calculated according to the standard of the competition. From the results list the 7 highest ranking points from the last list (of starting runners) are taken. The RVP is the average of these points. There shall always be at least 10 listed runners for the competition to be included in WOR©. When there is a chasing start or a start interval of less than 1 minute, all race value points are reduced by 5%. See also 'increased point'.

F = Factor: factor for individual start = 0.15, factor for all kinds of collective start = 0.30.

IP = Increased point: All A events (WOC, NOC, World Cup) are assigned 5% higher race value points; this means IP=1.05, for other events IP=1.00.

CT = Comparison time: 'par time' for the competition. Runners' times are related to this time, which is the average of the 5 best times.

RT = Runner's time

WOR© - The runners' points, which are the average of (in the first year) their 5 best competition points. Subsequently the points are the average of the 7 best competitions in the last 12 months. If a runner is short of the required number of counting events, the points are reduced by 3% for each event short, up to a maximum of 12% in the first year and 18% in year 2.

Letters to the Editor

MTBO or MBO?

During the last five years, there has been booming growth of the new sport called MTB (Mountain Bike). The abbreviation MTB has become generally known and is the accepted term. Naturally, activity in sport disciplines related to MTB were exclusively the domain of cycling in various forms: MTB cross-country, MTB downhill, etc.

The anticipated introduction to orienteering occurred with only a little delay. In many countries (mainly European), orienteers who enjoy riding mountain bikes have 'played' at the sport of mountain bike orienteering (MTBO) for some years.

In countries like the Czech Republic and France, national competitions have already been taking place for some years, and in 1996 this discipline came under the IOF - but with the abbreviation MBO. This abbreviation has the logic of 3 words = 3 letters, but says nothing to the public at large.

As the abbreviation MTB is clearly and unmistakably known throughout Europe and America, why then use the hybrid MB? Is it not a step backward in the intense growth of this sport to use the abbreviation MB?

Marian Kazik, Slovakia

Welcome to Japan!

Welcome to Japan! We Japanese elite orienteers have decided to invite the winners of the World Championships in Norway to Japan. In the recent 10 years, several elite runners have been invited to Japan, but this time will be completely different.

Since 1976 we have been enthusiastic participants at major international events, including the World Championships and World Cup. We have learned a lot from participation but it has been costly. Not all promising orienteers have had the money or the time to go abroad. Therefore we have decided to invite the World Champion(s) so that he/she/they may stimulate Japanese orienteers who cannot afford to go abroad, such as juniors. This invitation will be supported by donations from elite orienteers in Japan, and full expenses will be paid.

Besides us learning a lot, we hope the invited champion(s) will enjoy orienteering in a different atmosphere and terrain. The details will be negotiated with the champion(s).

Shin Murakoshi

Do Junior Champions Become Successful Elites?

LOUISE FAIRFAX, Australian elite orienteer, looks at the difficult transition from junior to senior level

More frequently than we would ever care to have it happen, aspiring teenagers from the athletics squad that Bruce and I coach realise that, with more frequent or more intense training, they could reach some goal - maybe a national qualifying time; maybe even a national junior medal.

All too often, however, we think that the teenagers in question are training as hard as is appropriate for their age and that they should save some energy for growth and development, and save some motivation for the goals that really matter - achievement in the open class.

I remember a conversation with one such determined youth who could see no further than 6 months away and wanted us to work him harder. The year was about 1994. I asked him to take a good look at the Tasmanians who had made it to the Barcelona Olympics, and I challenged him to find their names in the junior record books, and to look up the names of junior record holders and see how many of them had made it through to being accomplished elites.

He didn't like my line of argument and found himself a different coach, someone ambitious and greedy who saw quick glory in the possibility of being a coach to an Australian Junior Champion. He pushed the boy hard, and indeed he did very well until sidelined with recurring injuries.

Every year it seems the same. Our major problem in coaching is not getting the kids to work, but rather getting them to find the brake pedal; teaching them not running technique but patience - patience to build slowly over the years so they can achieve where real achievement is to be had - at open level.

Australian press and Australian philosophy do little to help in this tuition. Rather than hailing the heroes of today, Australians prefer too often to idolise the maybe heroes of tomorrow. Perceptive juniors, realising that a win at junior level receives far more attention than a classy senior performance, want their victories *now*. Unfortunately many of those talented juniors don't hang around long enough to enter the tough world of an unacknowledged senior.

"Teenagers ... should save some energy for growth and development, and save some motivation for the goals that really matter - achievement in the open class"

This concern led me to take a good look at orienteering history from two different perspectives. Firstly, how many of our sub-junior and junior champions have made it through to becoming accomplished elites? Secondly, how many Australian WOC representatives have won junior titles?

I have not examined the totally separate issue of how many accomplished elites have come up through the junior ranks; it is my thesis that many of the achievers at open level were not necessarily winners in their junior years. More than often they were 'there' but they were losing, and the losing taught them to fight. It's my belief that someone who is a winner the whole way through is the exception rather than the rule.

I believe that only 6 Australian orienteers can lay claim to having been both sub-junior heroines/heroes and 'accomplished elite' - Ljubov Simpson, Eddie Wymer, Blair Trewin,

Rob Walter, Jo Allison and Tracy Bluett. The current stars, Tom Quayle (winner of the 1996 Australian Championships titles in his first year as a senior and twice on the podium at JWOC), Grant Bluett (gallant performer at elite level both in Australia and Europe) and Emily Viner (1996 Australian Champion and two times WOC representative at the age of 23) have just one junior victory in the Australian Championships between them.

Is this article intent on rubbing junior winners? By no means. The six mentioned above have shown that it is possible to achieve at both junior and senior levels. Rather, the message is two-fold. Firstly, there should be a message of hope to juniors who are not winning now. Persevere, be patient, build sure foundations, because the people who seem so brilliant today may be beatable tomorrow.

The second message is to the adult orienteering 'gardeners'. The first plants to sprout, the tallest plants in their infancy, are not necessarily those that will grow strongest and produce the best fruit. Water and fertilise all the plants, because hiding in the shadow of the big ones may be the one that has the finest fruit of all later.



Tom Quayle - current Aussie star

And perhaps I should throw in a third message to all gardeners. If you ignore the grown plants that are producing fruit now and only tender the seedlings, maybe you'll find yourself without any fruit at all. To use a drastic anthropomorphism, maybe intelligent seedlings, perceiving the neglect of the fruit-bearing plants, will never aspire to fully fledged adulthood.

ADVANCE NOTICE

**5-days of Valle di Non - Trentino - Italy
7th - 11th July 1998**

***We await your visit to the
first Italian 5-days!***

The beauty of the woods of Valle di Non are known all over the world. In fact, our valley entertained a 3-day competition in 1990 and ski-orienteering's pre-World and World Championships in 1993 and 1994.

All IOF classes will be offered.

Information:

Orienteering Club Predaia

Via delle Albere, 50

38010 Taio (Trento), Italy

tel. +39 463 468310, tel. & fax +39 463 467194

Tourist Office: A.P.T. - Valle di Non

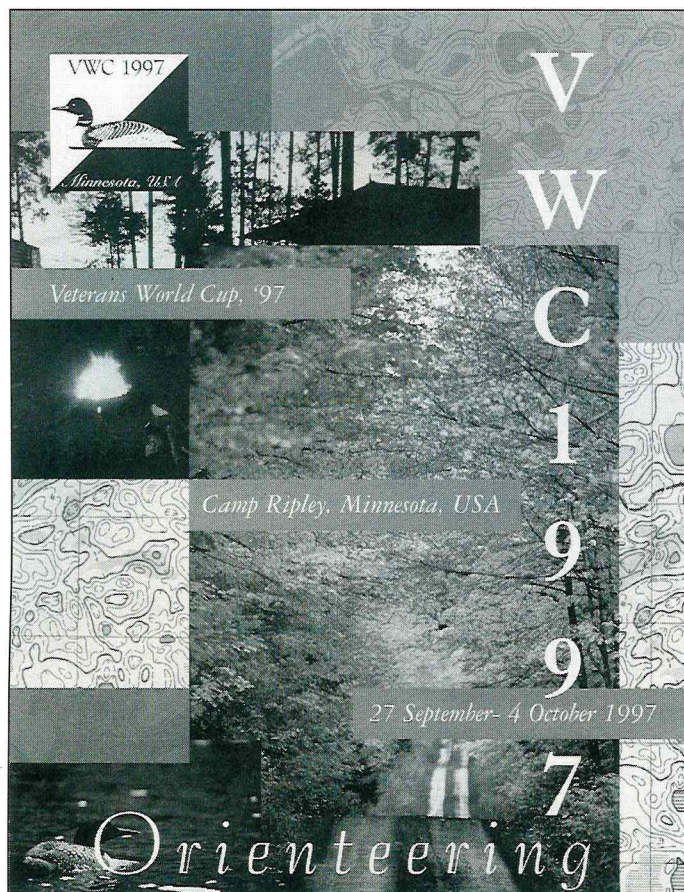
Piazza S. Giovanni, 14

38013 Fondo (Trento), Italy

tel. +39 463 830133, fax +39 463 830161

e-mail: predai@mbx.vol.it

Veterans Look Forward to Minnesota Fall



Sherry Litasi, Executive Director of the 1997 Veteran World Cup, invites fellow orienteers to join what is likely to be the largest O-event ever held in North America

With fond memories of Spain and the 1996 Veteran World Cup still fresh in their minds, orienteers from all over the world are now getting excited about VWC '97, to be held in Minnesota at the end of September. More than 2,000 orienteers have now registered for their stay in our beautiful north country. European tour operators have been busy organising groups in Sweden, Norway, Germany, Scotland and Finland. Even Tasmania is sending a group of 50 from 'down under'.

Part of the interest in VWC '97 must be because it is the first time it has been held in the US. We think the rest of the interest is due to the promise of truly world class orienteering on what Stirling Surveys has called some of the most complex glacial terrain ever mapped for orienteering.

VWC '97 will be held in the heart of Minnesota's resort country, home for more than 12,000 lakes, vast wetlands, clear rivers and covered by natural hardwood forests that will be ablaze with brilliant fall colours. The event will be held on the grounds of Camp Ripley, a 53,000 acre training centre for the National Guard and Army Reserve. Competitors should look out for the unique wild-life. Bears, deer, wolves and coyotes are common due to the limited public access to the area.

Programme of Events

Fri	26 Sept	VWC registration (Twin Cities)
Sat	27 Sept	Warm-up 'A' event
Sun	28 Sept	Warm-up 'A' event finals, Mall-O
Tues	30 Sept	Model event, opening ceremony, barbeque
Weds	1 Oct	VWC qualifying race 1
Thurs	2 Oct	VWC qualifying race 2
Sat	4 Oct	VWC finals

Central Minnesota is a land shaped by the glaciers which covered the area more than 10,000 years ago. When the ice sheets receded, they left a unique rolling landscape of glacial moraines, or low gravelly hills. Although the woods are very runnable, it is difficult terrain to orienteer in because of the subtle and patternless contours. Orienteers will find the Minnesota terrain to be a very unique kind of challenge. Each day of the VWC competition will feature a different part of Camp Ripley's landscape to test the skills of the best veteran orienteers in the world.

Full Programme of Entertainment

We've planned a full week of orienteering events, social events, entertainment and fun. The programme begins in the twin cities of Minneapolis and St. Paul with a 2-day warm-up orienteering event for all ages, which will provide a relaxing introduction to Minnesota terrain and climate - and help overcome jetlag.

We're planning a unique 'Mall-O' at Mall of America as part of the warm-up events. Mall of

America is the largest indoor shopping and entertainment complex in the USA and now also the number one tourist attraction. We think this fun event will be really special and should generate some good publicity for our sport.

Plenty to Do and See After the VWC

Stay on after the VWC! A short drive from Camp Ripley, you can step across the headwaters of the Mississippi River at Itasca State Park near Bemidji; or stand on the shore in Duluth and gaze out on to Lake Superior, the largest natural reservoir of fresh water on earth. Rent some bikes and ride the new 50 mile Heartland Bike Trail. You can camp in the wilds of the Boundary Waters Canoe Area along the Canadian border, or tour the vast open pit iron mines of the Mesabi Range at Hibbing.

Entries close on June 30th, so if this article stimulates you into putting in an entry, do act quickly! Event information is available from:

VWC '97, P.O. Box 23044, Richfield, MN 55423, USA, tel. & fax +1 612 869 4043, e-mail VWC@aol.com

Read all about the 1997 Veteran World Cup in

ORIENTEERING NORTH AMERICA

the only magazine to cover the sport for the US and Canada

RATES (8 issues per year):

Overseas surface mail	\$US 27.00
Overseas air to Europe	\$US 45.00
Overseas air elsewhere	\$US 51.00

SM & L Berman Publishing Co., 23 Fayette St., Cambridge, MA 02139, USA. Payment in US funds.

Promoting Orienteering

An individual outlook from SIMON BECK, Great Britain

Promotion of orienteering is getting a lot of attention at present. My concern is that it is too easy to concentrate on shouting about what a great thing orienteering is, and so lose sight of the fact that nothing will be achieved without a strong infrastructure of maps and events to follow up the publicity.

"The worst thing you can do is advertise something you haven't got"

I am of the opinion that publicity can actually achieve a negative effect. One of the senior managers where I used to work once said "the worst thing you can do is advertise something you haven't got". An example of this in orienteering happened when I was in the USA 10 years ago; the Los Angeles Times printed an article on orienteering which resulted in 200 enquiries being received by the USOF national office. Those potential orienteers will have discovered that there were 1 or 2 events per month taking place somewhere in the whole of southern California; the message received will have been that unless you are seriously into long distance travelling, forget it. Positive thinkers would point out that a few extra members joining LAOC is better than nothing, but in reality it will have made future attempts to promote orienteering more difficult. How many of those 200 would bother to put pen to paper next time?

Resources First

One alternative might be to be more selective about where and how orienteering is promoted. Publicity should actually be avoided until the resources are made available for a big effort in mapping and holding a large number of events in a short timescale. So whoever decides to do a big promotion in, say, Anchorage (Alaska), should send in 1 or 2 full time mappers with a brief to map small easy

areas close to Anchorage, set up permanent courses - and then when (and only when) things are ready, launch the publicity, events hotlines etc. I suggest 24 maps would be a sensible number, so that the new club doesn't have to keep returning to the same area, yet everyone gets some events close to home.

It is a pity that what has happened too often in the past has been that just 1 or 2 big time maps have been produced in order that an elite event can be held that will attract people from afar. This may be very good for generating publicity in the short term, but if the only people this can attract are other people prepared to travel some hours when they compete, orienteering will remain a tiny minority sport.

Start with the Young

My own view is that the best way to start orienteering in a new country is to persuade schools to do it, from where it will spread to the wider community. However I do accept that there may be countries where another way will be better. One advantage of starting with the young is that the orienteering doesn't have to be so technical to offer a suitable challenge, and areas don't need to be so large. My definition of

a 'novice area' is roughly one I can map in 1 day, yet covers an area of at least one third of a square km. 24 such areas mapped around a city of, say, a quarter of a million would allow a useful schools league to be established, and by the time the best youngsters were progressing well enough to find it too boring and easy, (2-3 years?) the likelihood is that parents would be getting involved, and the development would naturally expand into new areas.

An ideal combination could involve the 24 novice areas, along with a high profile elite event on technical terrain coinciding with the launch of the publicity drive. But too often one sees this sort of thing attempted when funds haven't stretched to enough novice areas, and certainly not to providing for someone spending a year full-time visiting schools, holding an event every Saturday on one of the novice areas, etc. The result is that a lot of money is spent and little achieved. In short, if there aren't the funds available to make a proper job of it you're probably wasting your time, money and energy.

Since money is so vital and scarce, it may well be that the

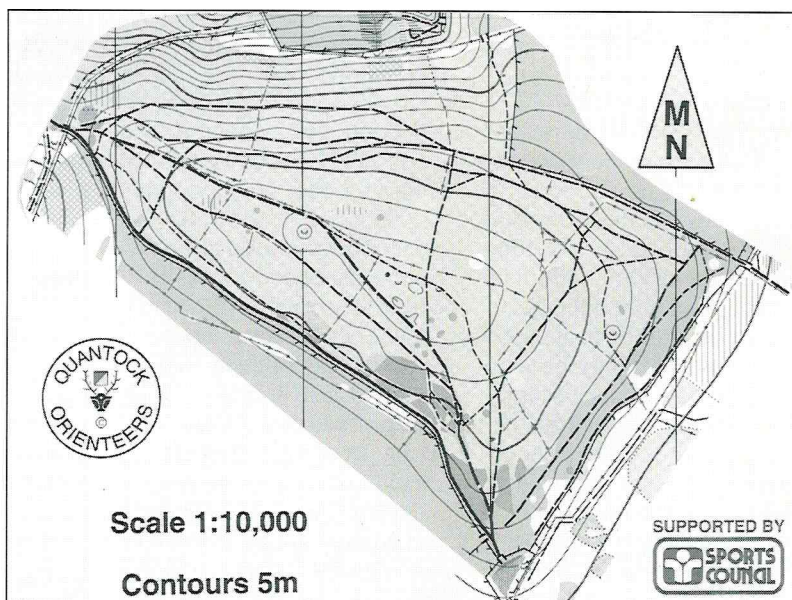
compromise will have to be the one dictated by limited finance and the need to attract sponsors. If this means rather more park-O than many would prefer, spectator controls that (arguably) compromise the fairness aspect or gimmicks like controls on the top of the local supermarket, then this may have to be the case. To get orienteering established it needs to have more mass appeal; it needs TV appeal, photo opportunities and perhaps most of all, it needs to be more novice-friendly.

More Novice-friendly

Maps (overprinted), descriptions and control card should for preference be in one package which is bought at registration, and the principle of keeping the course a secret until one has started seems (to me) completely unnecessary for a lot of youngsters and certainly novices. I find it very hard to believe that knowing the course in advance would stop the best youngsters from winning - although it would be a simple matter to prove me wrong on this point (if I am wrong)! Rather, the effect would be that the less able youngsters would be less far behind the best youngsters, which in my opinion would be good for both lots of youngsters. It would also engender more team spirit within a school group, as the best youngsters would be able to instruct their less able peers in how to tackle the course.

*A novice area which
can be mapped
in one day -
ideal for youngsters
learning the basics*

*Scale 1:10,000,
5m contours;
original in full colour*



No Compromises Required for 'Serious Elite Orienteering'

Nothing in the above paragraph requires compromises in serious elite orienteering. Park-O, or TV-O as it could be called, need not take over from forest-O in its present format. If this meant that TV didn't follow forest-O, this might be something we would have to live with. I'm sure people like Jörgen Mårtensson aren't going to lessen their attempts to win the World Cup just because they aren't going to see themselves on TV!

Some people will moan that opportunities to promote orienteering are being lost because forest-O isn't TV-friendly. But if what I've written above about how to develop orienteering in new countries is correct, park-O is the sort of orienteering most people will be doing for the first few years, after which people will be naturally progressing into forest-O as they look for new challenges. Since orienteering in the new country will be well established by



"Park-O is the sort of orienteering most people will be doing for the first few years..."
Heather Monro and Sanna Nymalm park orienteering in Oslo
photo: Christer Svensson

this time, with a secure foundation built on large numbers of easy events aimed at the local population, it wouldn't matter if forest-O didn't receive media coverage on a large scale.

My view is that park-O will continue to have appeal for many people, who will continue to take it seriously. Park-O is just a different form of orienteering, just as cross-country is

a different form of running to, say half marathon running. The fact that a lot of road runners never run cross-country doesn't make either invalid.

Who will Do the Work?

Coming back to our new country initiative, I have glossed over one issue: who is going to organise the large numbers of events required? I am assuming that in the first year, outsiders being paid by some funds from elsewhere(?) will do this, after which the new enthusiasm will take over. Clearly ease of organisation (good parking, access, etc) will be a consideration in selecting which areas to map in the first place, but easy areas, local areas, not too many people who have travelled from afar and want an event that will justify the journey, and the concept of schools' leagues where each school is expected to organise a 'home' match once a season will all help. After all, running round your local area hanging controls isn't difficult or time consuming, I started doing this at the age of 11.

Review

For the tenth book in their Outdoor Pursuits Series, the American publishers Human Kinetics ('the premier publisher for sports and fitness') turned to Scottish orienteer and coaching expert Tom Renfrew to write about orienteering. Aimed primarily towards Americans looking for new ways of enjoying the great outdoors, it has colour on every page, a strong design style and 70 photos, maps and illustrations.

A book like this needs to provide the reader with, as the blurb on the back cover puts it, "all the knowledge and skills necessary to participate safely and successfully in one of the world's fastest-growing activities". Safety certainly gets plenty of emphasis - the obligatory 'if you lose your way' paragraphs are supplemented by a 15-page chapter headed

Orienteering Fitness and Safety.

First try the '1-mile run test': time yourself on a 1-mile run on a mild, windless day on a flat surface, and read off from the age-group charts your fitness rating and therefore how you should orienteer - 'walk around the course' or 'compete'. Then come warming up and stretching exercises, avoiding and coping with injury, and 'staying safe' - avoiding hazardous areas, coping with nasty vegetation, rocky ground, sunburn and so on.

So far, so good, in the American fashion. So will the reader easily learn how to orienteer successfully as well as safely? This, I fear, is less certain. There is as early as page 8 a table of 'Technical and Physical Characteristics of Difficulty Levels' which is meaningful only to

someone thoroughly familiar with orienteering - especially as terms such as line and point features do not appear in the 'orienteering lingo' section at the back of the book. Map symbols are introduced along with scales in just four paragraphs, but the only map legend in the book appears nine pages later. Without exception the maps used are highly-contoured affairs with lots of small detail. And there are some errors and ambiguities in the sections on recognising control features and contour interpretation.

On the plus side, 'Orienteering Correctly' does provide a sound outline of the basic navigational and route-choice techniques and skills used by orienteers, taking the reader round a short course of steadily increasing technical difficulty.

The chapters 'The Best Places

to Orienteer' and 'Pursuing Orienteering Further' bring out well the delights and challenges of orienteering and the opportunities for progression and for competition in many foreign lands. The photos are mostly clear and appealing, enabling readers to identify with those pictured orienteering simply and exercising, and also to appreciate the high athleticism of the world's best. Within the pages, orienteering is portrayed as an exciting activity for all the family and there are many sound tips about technique, equipment and safety alongside the main text.

In this book, events are meets and tracks are trails, but otherwise this is a book clearly written by a Briton, and it is a valid introduction to orienteering in all English-speaking countries.

Clive Allen

Greece - "the First Uncertain Steps"

During the past year many strides forward have been taken in getting orienteering started in Greece, and I am delighted with the progress.

Orienteering has made the first uncertain steps forward in this country. The main obstacle for the development of the sport in Greece was the lack of maps. The only maps available (after application to the Army Geographical Service in Athens) were military ones dating back to 1970! This presents mountaineers as well as other interested people with the unusual task of finding their way around a mountainous country without map and compass. Thanks to the efforts of the editorial board of *Korphanes* magazine, we are now able to use maps with sufficient information for walking activities.

The first detailed map based on scientific information was published in 1986 by the magazine. Having refused access to maps for many years, the Army Geographical Service finally agreed to permit the reproduction of maps (excluding areas near borders). However, these maps at 1:50,000 scale are inadequate for orienteering purposes. But the countryside in Greece is particularly suitable for orienteering!

How O Started in Greece

Scouts have used simple orienteering games for educational purposes for many years. But the first event was in July 1994, when I organised an orienteering event for people with learning disabilities using official control markers and control

by
**KOSTANTINOS
KOUKOURIS**

cards. In January 1996, disabled people took part in an event for recreational purposes, held near a refuge in snowy conditions. In June last year, 51 children from a primary school took part in an orienteering event in the grounds of a camp site. Following this occasion, and having been equipped with proper flags, the private company Alma organised two recreational events (with 300 and 350 children respectively) during the summer.

In December, the Ex-Commando Club of Salonica invited me to organise an event in the forests of Salonica. Although the map was simple, depicting only the main paths in the forest, the event was a great success. As a follow-up the Physical Education Department of Salonica and the Greek Commando Club organised the first open national orienteering event in Greece. Prior to the event I gave two introductory talks, and the event was announced on the radio and advertised in newspapers. Although only 30 competitors took part in the event (two dif-

ferent courses) it was very successful. The event was covered by state television and presented on the evening news. All the participants were very enthusiastic about the sport and promised to run again.

The Next Steps

However the members of the Commando Forces have a military attitude towards the sport which I believe deviates from the standards. On May 23rd I am going to organise another open event during the athletic week of the Physical Education Department. The race might be sponsored by the organisation *Thessaloniki, cultural capital of Europe 1997*. In the meantime, I have published several articles about orienteering in a Greek mountaineering magazine and sports newspapers.

Those involved in introducing orienteering to Greece have not yet formed an organisation for management and administration, and so Greece is not yet an IOF Associate member. Hopefully soon! Kostantinos Koukouris is a lecturer in the Department of Physical Education at the University of Thessaloniki, and spent several years in Great Britain where he discovered orienteering and became a member of the British club Offa's Dyke Raiders.



JASTREBARSKO - CROATIA

7th ALPE-ADRIA CUP

international orienteering event

3-6 July 1997

ENTRIES:

POK HV "Jelen"
Zrinskih Frankopana 13
10450 Jastrebarsko - Croatia
tel: ++385 1 186 839
fax: ++385 1 186 934
++385 1 186 933

DEADLINE:

10 June 1997

**Small country for
a great holiday**



People in the News

Colin Kirk has been elected President of the Canadian federation in succession to Jack Forsyth who held the post for 9 years. Colin continues as Executive Director of COF.

Stig Carlsson has been appointed Secretary General of the Norwegian Orienteering Federation. He has held the same post in SOFT, the Swedish federation.

26TH WHITE ROSE ORIENTEERING FESTIVAL

23-25 AUGUST 1997



Duncombe Park, Helmsley, N. Yorkshire, England

2 Day Individual event + Relay; also Trail-O, night event

Terrain: Intriguing woodland, valleys with narrow rocky gorges

Event campsite with a short walk to each day's event

The White Rose is traditionally a family event which marks the end of the summer holidays

Entry forms from: Ann Smith, Kirkmoors, Main Street,
Huby, York, England YO6 1HS

e-mail: tonyk@globalnet.co.uk

INTERNATIONAL FIXTURES LIST

This list includes open events in the 1997 IOF Calendar up to the end of August with closing dates after 10th June, plus some late summer events. The entry closing date, where known, is shown at the end of the event name. Then follows the type of event: I - individual, C - classic, S - short distance, R - relay, R(N+D) - relay (night + day). A number shows the number of days, e.g. 2I/R means 2-day individual followed by relay. Line 2 gives the contact address and telephone and fax numbers. A * indicates that the event is designated an IOF Elite Event.

JUNE

- 20-22 **Shamrock O-Ringen, Castletownbere, SW Ireland 3I**
B & M Creedon, Mount Prospect, Douglas, Co. Cork,
Ireland T +353 21 361824, F +353 21 361825
e-mail: bcreedon@indigo.ie
- 25-28 **4 Jours d'Orientation 97, La Roche en Ardenne, Belgium (10/6) 4I** J-N Debehogne, 31 avenue Général
Bernheim, 1040 Bruxelles, Belgium T +32 2 640 6922
- 27-29 **Norwegian O-Festival, Lillehammer, Norway S/C/R**
Nor. OFest., Box 555, N-2601 Lillehammer, Norway T
+47 88006017, F +47 92570043, e-mail: ofest97@sn.no

JULY

- 1-5 **Midnattsolgaloppen, Tromsø, Norway 4I**
P Hansson, Box 74, N-9320 Silsand, Norway
- 3-6 **Ilvesteade, Tartu, Estonia (12/6) 3I/R**
Pille Tabla, pk 161, EE2400 Tartu, Estonia
F +372 7 420651, e-mail: pillet@cut.ee
- 3-6 **7th Alpe-Adria Cup, Jastrebarsko, Croatia S/C/R**
POK HV Jelen, Zrinskih Frankopana 13, 10450
Jastrebarsko, Croatia T +385 1186839, F +385 1186934
- 3-13 **Colorado Multi-day, Colorado Springs, USA 4I +**
USA Long, Short, Night & Relay Champs.
M Platt, 1516 Grand Ave, #208, Laramie, WY 82070,
USA T +1 307 721 9711
- 4-6 **HOLLand 97, Eindhoven, Holland 3I**
M Heikoop, Dominicusshof 80, 4133 AP Vianen, The
Netherlands T +31 347 322102, F +31 347 322107
- 4-6 **XVI Wawel Cup, Zloty Potok, Poland (18/5) 3I**
WKS Wawel, Sekcja BnO, ul. Bronowicka 5, 30-901
Kraków, Poland T +48 12 514 465, F +48 12 370 645
- 5 **Kaleva Relay, Oulu, Finland (25/6) R**
V Karhu, Pentti Ingeritilä, Koulu, FI-92810 Pelsonsuo,
Finland T +358 8 810 7162
- 6-12 **Sørlandsgaloppen, Larvik, Norway 6I**
T Eikenes, KJose, N-3268 Larvik, Norway
T +47 33180182, F +47 33183238, e-mail: galopp@sn.no
- 6-12 **Kainuu O-week, Kajaani, Finland (31/5) 4I**
KRV Office, PL 12, FI-88901 Kuhmo, Finland
T +358 8 655 6271, F +358 8 655 6266
- 9-12 *** 4EST, Aegviidu, Estonia (25/6) 4I**
J Vendelin, Kivipõllu 30a, EE-0902 Saue, Estonia
T +372 2 591482, F +372 2 430623, e-mail: orion@rk.ee
- 9-13 *** Takas '97, Moletai, Lithuania (15/5) 5I**
OK Takas, PO Box 558, 3031 Kaunas-31, Lithuania
T & F +370 7 205733
- 9-13 **5 Jours de France, Bourgogne 5I**
G Venon, 8 Square du Patis, 21160 Perrigny-les-Dijon,
France T +33 3 8052 3174, F +33 3 8059 9908
- 10-13 **Grand Prix Slovakia, Pezinok, Slovakia (15/6) 3I**
P Polacek, Kupeckeho 47, 90201 Pezinok, Slovakia
T +42 805 501511
- 14-19 *** FIN5, Turku, Finland (16/6) 5I**
FIN5 Office, PL 51, FI-21531 Paimio, Finland
T +358 2 473 2208, F +358 2 473 2209
- 15-20 **Nordvestgaloppen, Bergen, Norway (1/7) 4I**
P Vold, Bjøllebotn 113, N-5050 Nesttun, Norway
T +47 5510 0569, F +47 5550 5004, e-mail: nv97@sn.no
- 18-20 **Jysk 3-Days, Thisted, Denmark (31/5) 3C**
G Johannesen, Møllebakken 4, Kjeldbjerg,
DK-7800 Skive, Denmark T +45 97 54 53 15
- 18-20 **Botas Cup 97, Budislav, Czech Republic (26/6) 3I**
J Matras, Chrasice 632, 538 51 Chrast, Czech Republic
T +42 455 666140, F +42 455 667179
- 26-2/8 *** 6 jours de Suisse, Thun/Fribourg, Switzerland 6I**
6 jours de Suisse, Postfach 1367, CH-3601 Thun,
Switzerland T & F +41 33 223 6655

JULY

- 27-31 **Hungária Kupa, Pécs, Hungary (10/6) 5I**
Dr. Gábor Pavlovics, Lahti u. 14, H-7633 Pécs, Hungary
- 27-3/8 **Canadian Championships week 6I** in all
Manitoba OA, 200 Main Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba,
Canada R3C 4M2 T +1 204 925 5706,
F +1 204 925 5792, e-mail: pat_connors@techsoft.ca

AUGUST

- 1-3 **Kobras Cup, Palojärve, Estonia (8/7) 3I**
K Ojasoo, Ehitajate 11-33, EE2600 Põlva, Estonia
T +372 79 97559, F +372 79 95555
- 1-3 **Pivrnec Cup, Smržovka, Czech Republic (9/7) 3I**
M Wurz, Udolní 954, 468 51 Smržovka, Czech Republic
T +42 428 402692
- 2-3 **43-kavlen Relay, Boxholm, Sweden (20/6) 2R**
R Fritz, Rydsvägen 40 C, 582 48 Linköping, Sweden
T +46 1310 4801, F +46 1315 1836
- 3-9 *** Scottish 6-day, Aberfeldy, Scotland (25/7) 6I**
Breadalbane 97, PO Box 14754, Alloa, U.K. FK10 2ZA
T +44 1505 613094
- 10-16 **World Champs. spectators' races, Grimstad, Norway**
4I WOC '97, PO Box 233, N-4890 Grimstad, Norway
T +47 37 04 96 11, F +47 37 04 94 12
- 15-17 **3-Daagse van de Kempen, Hechtel, Belgium (30/6) 3I**
J Bylemans, Kruisblokken 20, 2491 Olmen, Belgium
T +32 14 309263
- 15-17 **3 Jours de Haute-Provence, France 3I**
D Andre, 39 ave de la Durance, 04200 Sisteron, France
T +33 4 9261 0092
- 20-24 *** Bohemia 5-Days, Novy Bor, Czech Republic 5I**
M Béranek, Sadová 745, 473 01 Novy Bor,
Czech Republic T & F +42 424 32058
- 22-24 **7th Cerkno Cup, Cerkno, Slovenia (1/8) 3I**
OK Azimut, p.p. 27, 5282 Cerkno, Slovenia
T & F +386 6574 5030
- 23-25 **White Rose O-Festival, Helmsley, England 2I/R**
A Smith, Kirkmors, Main Street, Huby, York,
England YO6 1HS T & F +44 1347 810348,
e-mail: tonyk@globalnet.co.uk
- 27, 30-31 **French Championships S/C/R**
Ligue de Champagne-Ardenne, 2 rue de la Barre,
51500 Sillery, France T +33 3 2649 1825,
F +33 3 2649 1864
- 29-31 **Grand Prix Polonia '97, Duszniki Zdrój, Poland (13/7) 3I** Okregowy Związek BnO, ul. Laciarska 4,
50-104 Wrocław, Poland
T +48 71 354 2507, F +48 71 448 543

SEPT

- 13, 14 **Queen's Castle Iwamura 2-day, Japan R/C**
I Takahashi, 458 Aichi, Nagoya-shi, Midori-ku,
Narumi-cho, Ochaya 105, Japan T & F +81 52 622 9299
- 20-21 **YU Open '97, Zabljak, Yugoslavia (1/9) 2I**
Z Milovanovic, P.Fah 33, 11420 Smed. Palanka,
Yugoslavia T & F +381 2631 3031
- 29-4/10 **Veteran World Cup, Camp Ripley, Minneapolis, USA 3I** USOF, Box 1444, Forest park, GA 30051,
USA T & F +1 404 363 2110

OCT

- 4, 5 *** Suunto Games, Võru, Estonia (9/9) 2I**
Estonian OF, Regati 1, EE0019 Tallinn, Estonia
T +372 2 237021, F +372 2 238387

NOV

- 1-3 **Nagano 3-days, Sugadaira, Japan (20/9) 2I/R**
R Toshimitsu, Greentown 2-403, Misumi 1-4, Higashi-
Murayama, 189, Japan F +81 423 94 91 55
e-mail: sdm88249@pcvan.or.jp

Events Noticeboard

1998 World Masters Games

The 1998 Nike World Masters Games will take place in Portland Oregon, USA, August 9-22 1998. The World Masters Games, the largest participatory multi-sport competition in the world, is expected to bring together 25,000 athletes aged 30 and above from over 100 countries to compete in 25 Olympic-style events - including orienteering.

There will also be a number of arts and cultural celebrations.

The 1998 Games will also feature 'reunion' competitions in several sports to give spectators a chance to watch their heroes of yesterday compete.

The orienteering competitions in the Games are scheduled for 10th, 11th, 13th and 14th August and are for competitors 35 years of age and older.

Official registration and travel

materials for the 1998 Games can be obtained by telephoning free to +1 800 984 2637 or writing to 1998 Nike World Masters Games, 55 S.W. Yamhill St., Ste. 300, Portland, OR 97204-9650, USA.

Follow the Park World Tour

The final four Park World Tour events this year take place within a week in early October - in Cesky Krumlov (Czech Republic), Budapest, Graz (Austria) and Venice.

It is expected that this series, building up to the final in Venice, will attract a band of travelling supporters, and Jörgen Mårtensson (overall 1996 winner, and winner of the first race in the 1997 series) is organising a tour bus starting from Göteborg on 5th October and returning on the 13th.

Details from Jörgen, tel. +46 152 513 25 or e-mail: jorgen.martensson@wwop.se.

ENJOY ORIENTEERING BETWEEN
THE ALPS AND THE ADRIATIC COAST
ON THE BIGGEST
EVENT IN

SLOVENIA

7th CERKNO CUP

22nd - 24th of August 1997

Meeting place: Hotedrška/Črni vrh nad Idrijo

Terrain: Karsty

Classes:

Women

12,14,16,18,20,21A,21B,21E,35,45

Men

12,14,16,18,20,21A,21B,21E,35,45,50

Entry fee:

before 1st of August:

10 DM/1day and 25 DM/3days

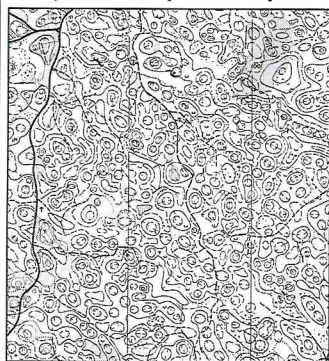
after 1st of August:

15 DM/1day and 37 DM/3days

Accommodation:

hotels, camping place, sport hall, inn, private rooms

Part of competition map:



Information:

OK AZIMUT, p.p. 27, 5282 CERKNO, SLOVENIA

Tel. & fax.: **386 65 745 030

Fax.: **386 65 75 727

E-mail: ok.azimut@eunet.si

Internet Home page: http://www.arctur.si/ok_azimut

WE ARE SURE YOU WILL BE BACK ALSO IN 1998

Programme of IOF Major Events 1997-2001

Events	Date	Location, Country
1997		
JWOC	7-13 July	Leopoldsborg, Belgium
WOC	10-16 Aug	Grimstad, Norway
VWC	29 Sep-4 Oct	Minnesota, USA
1998		
Ski-WOC	19-25 Jan	Windischgarsten, Austria
Ski-JWOC	23-28 Feb	Velegozh, Tula, Russia
World Cup round 1	22-25 May	Killarney, Ireland
	28-31 May	Lake District, England
round 2	20-24 July	Gävle, Sweden (O-Ringen 5-days)
round 3	12-15 Sep	Krakow, Poland
	18-20 Sep	Tetranska Lomnice, Slovakia
round 4	26-29 Sep	Otepää, Estonia
	1-3 Oct	Hämeenlinna, Finland
WMOC	1-5 July	Novy Bor, Czech Rep.
JWOC	13-19 July	Reims, France
1999		
Ski World Cup,		
round 1	23-26 Jan	Switzerland
	27-30 Jan	Italy
round 2	12-16 Feb	Finland
	17-20 Feb	Estonia
round 3	2-6 Mar	Bulgaria
JWOC	July	Varna, Bulgaria
WMOC	27-30 July	Aarhus, Denmark
WOC	1-8 Aug	Inverness, Scotland
2000		
Ski-WOC		Krasnoyarsk, Russia
JWOC		Czech Republic
WMOC		New Zealand
World Cup programme still to be finalised		
2001		
WOC		Tampere, Finland

WOC, ski-WOC = World Championships (foot, ski)
JWOC, ski-JWOC = Junior World Championships (foot, ski)
VWC = Veteran World Cup, re-named World Masters Orienteering Championships (WMOC) from 1998.

Advertise YOUR event in Orienteering World!

Your message goes to more than 50 countries

Contact the Editor for more details on +44 1984 667249 (tel. & fax)

Publications from the IOF

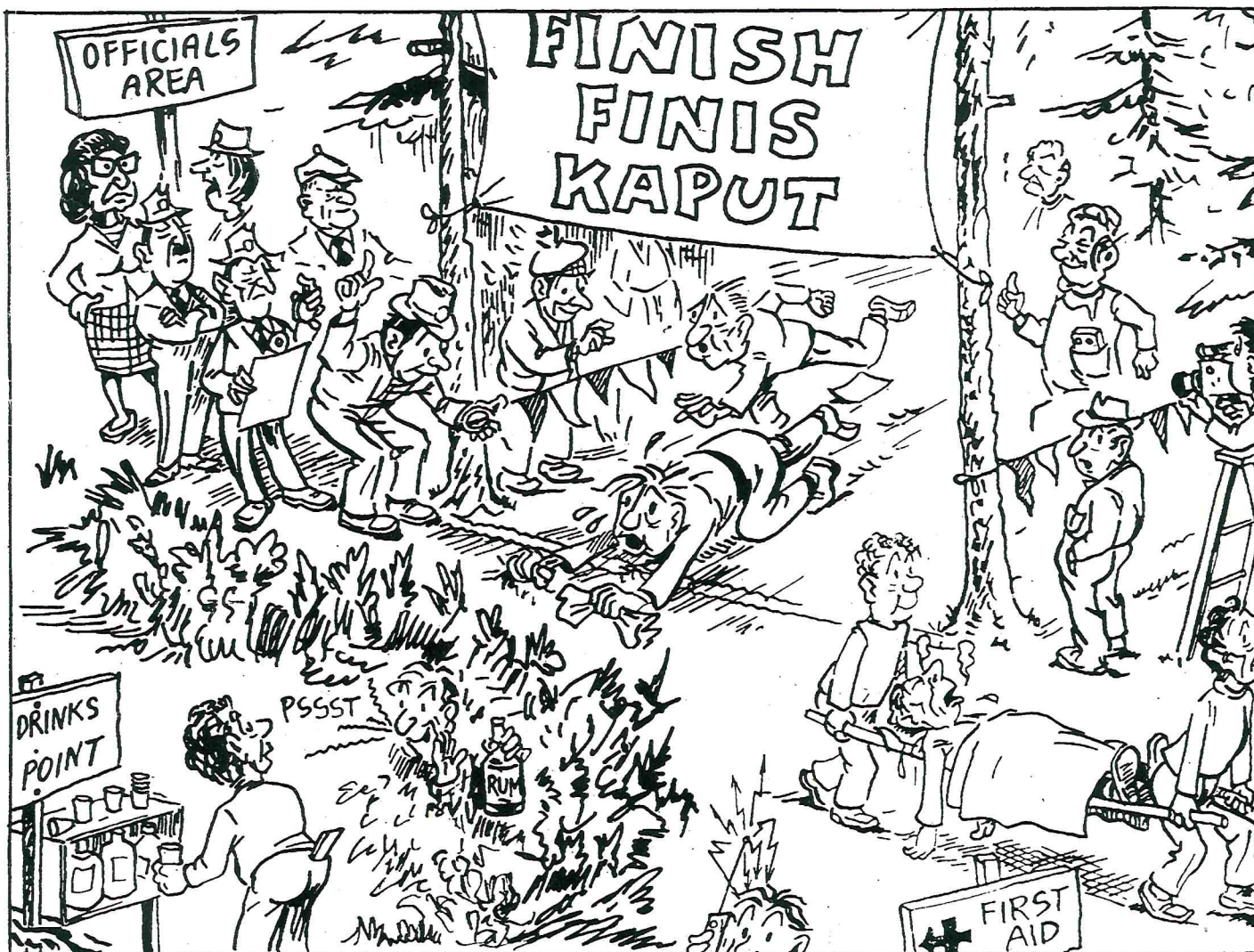
Eight classic guides to orienteering technique and practice

Orienteering Technique from Start to Finish (Bertil Norman, Arne Yngström)	FIM 46,-
Orienteering for the Young (Tom Renfrew, Carol McNeill, Peter Palmer)	FIM 21,-
Developing Orienteering (Peter Palmer)	FIM 11,-
Orienteering - Take it to the World (Per Sandberg)	FIM 39,-
Orienteering on Permanent Courses	FIM 12,-
Photogrammetry in Orienteering (Robin Harvey, Flemming Nørgaard)	FIM 18,-
Simple Maps for Orienteering	FIM 14,-
Media Coverage and Orienteering (Christian Aichholzer)	FIM 14,-

PRICES INCLUDE PACKING, POSTAGE EXTRA; STATE SURFACE OR AIR MAIL WHEN ORDERING
POST GIRO 800016-70490763

IOF SECRETARIAT, RADIOKATU 20, FI-00093 SLU, FINLAND

TEL. +358 9 3481 3112, FAX +358 9 3481 3113, E-MAIL: IOF@ORIENTEERING.ORG



From a Russian orienteering magazine

NEW! The top of thumb compasses with an extra-large magnifying lens. Special model for left-handers.



Arrow 2/R and 2/L

Another top-class thumb compass in the Arrow family. Easy to use, clearly visible scales, rotating capsule.



Arrow 1

A top-of-the-line compass that fits the hand. Ergonomically designed with rounded edges, hole for control marking, etc.



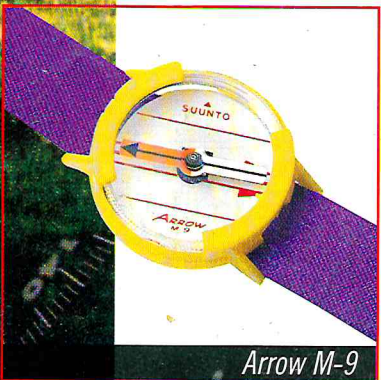
Arrow 2000

Similar to the Arrow 2000, with a TV-shaped magnifying lens.



Arrow 2200

The world's only double-bearing wrist compass. Can also be used for taking exact bearings as with a baseplate compass.



Arrow M-9

SUUNTO
ARROW

Five Find the Trail

A new member just arrived in the **Suunto Arrow** family of compasses: a thumb compass with a special model also for left-handers. Now there are five models in the Arrow family, each equipped with the unique double-bearing construction developed by Suunto.

That is why every Arrow compass gives you the right direction quickly and steadily. While the others are still spinning around.

SUUNTO