

ORIENTEERING WORLD

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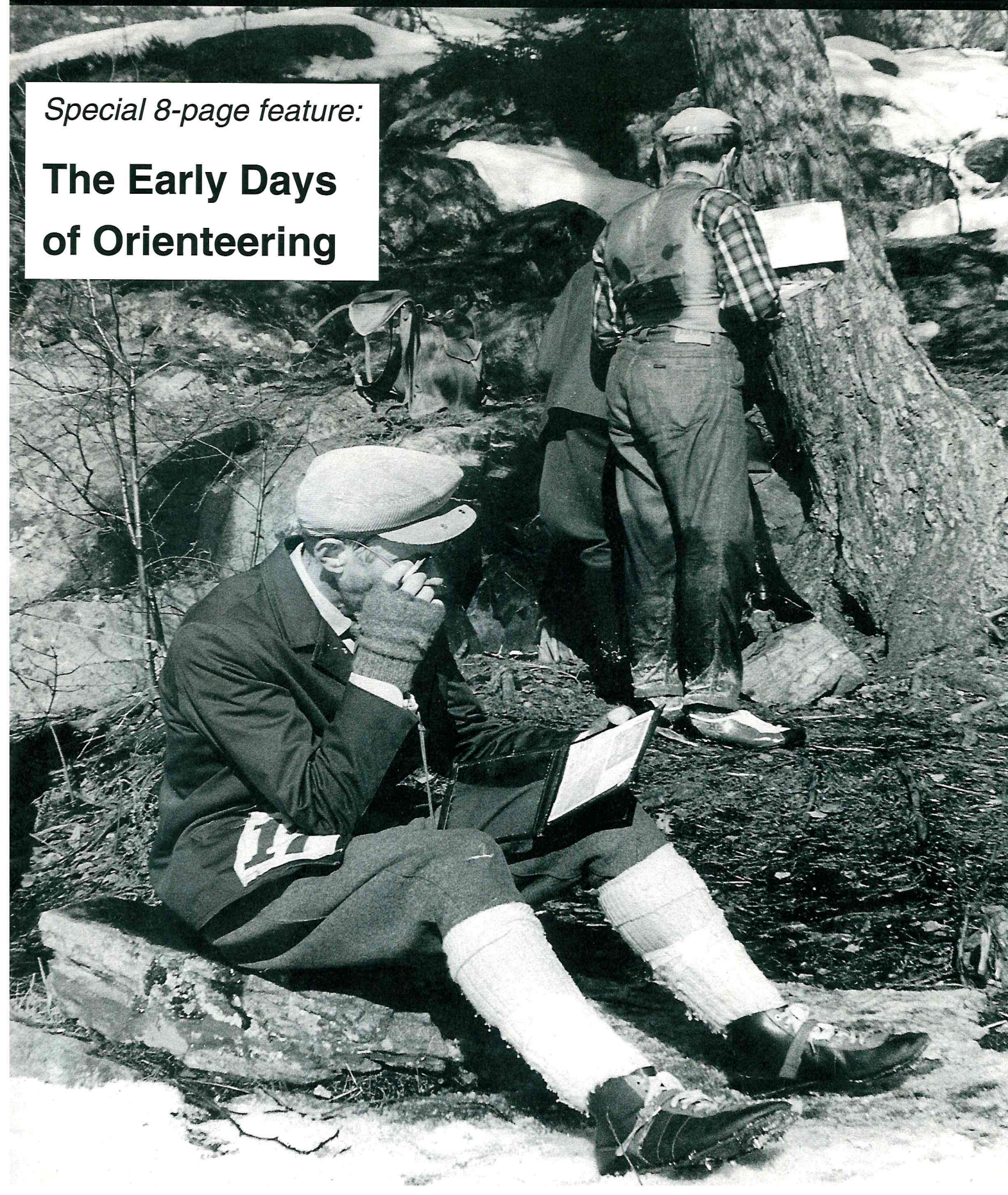


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PUBLICATION NOTES

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97/5	11 September	18 August
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COVER PHOTO: The early days of orienteering in Sweden. Photo courtesy Swedish Orienteering Federation

Editorial

Another World Championships is eagerly awaited, this time in the challenging Nordic terrain around Grimstad in the delightful south Norway coastal area. Close, exciting competition can be expected, but of a very different kind from that offered in the 'continental' terrain around Detmold just two years ago. Such is the fascination of orienteering; no level playing fields for us! Those who make it to the podium in mid-August will have proved themselves orienteers of the highest technical and physical ability.

The skills required for top-level elite orienteering are hidden not only from the spectator and 'armchair' audience we are striving to reach, but from the average club orienteer too. It is even hard to find planners and controllers with the experience to produce good elite courses. So it is perhaps not surprising that the way to bring orienteering 'out of the forest' is not clear, and we are in the process of defining the essence of orienteering so that we can experiment with new forms of competition with our ultimate Olympic objectives in mind.

The Presidents' Conference at the World Championships will be considering this very topic, and if the range of opinion published so far this year in *OW* is anything to go by, it will be a lively debate indeed.

But there is one development which we have not yet seen in reality, and which should be allowed to reach technological dependability before we go too far down any particular road. The technology I have in mind is that for tracking competitors through the forest, with its potential - when allied with good TV presentation - for making our existing forms of competition 'visible' in a way not possible at present.

Experience over many years has proved that it is in the standard classic and short distance formats that technical and physical skills and stamina are tested to the full. By the time orienteering makes it to the Olympics, these could be brought to a TV audience, in a manner which keeps viewers as spell-bound as any sport could.

When we are talking about the pinnacle of O competition, let us not waste time seeking out new, diluted forms of our sport for mass consumption, but instead concentrate on making the tried and tested ones more visible - a line taken first by ski-O some years ago. We should ensure that the public can view orienteering in its most challenging form, and that the elite get the ultimate in competitive satisfaction, when Olympic and World Championship medals are at stake.

Clive Allen

Sørland Welcomes the World Championships



The terrain varies from open undulating forest with fast kilometre speeds to tougher, steeper areas. Some areas have patches of thicker oak forest, but generally runnability is good. The forest is mixed with large areas of pine, spruce and oak with heather and grass undergrowth. There are relatively few open areas, and these are small. The terrain is technically demanding, requires good map reading ability and provides good route choice legs. The organisers promise the best orienteering terrain this part of Norway can offer!

The WOC Map Scales are:

Classic distance	1:15,000
Short distance & relay	1:10,000

The 1997 WOC is based on the Norwegian south coastal town of Grimstad, which has a population of 17,000. It is a small, picturesque town with many narrow streets between wooden houses built in the last century. It is close to a beautiful coastline and has a mild climate - Grimstad is the place in Norway with most sun in the summer time.

The organisation is centred round the three sports clubs IL Express, IL Imås and Lia IL, all based in Grimstad. All three clubs have extensive experience of organising major orienteering races.

World Championships Race Programme

Monday 11 August:

Classic distance - qualification

Tuesday 12 August:

Classic distance - final

Thursday 14 August:

Short distance - qualification and final

Saturday 16 August:

Relay event

WHO ARE THE FAVOURITES?
SEE PAGES 6-8

1997 JUNIOR WORLD CHAMPIONS

Belgium, July 9-12

SHORT DISTANCE

Men, 5.00 km

Gold	Jørgen Rostrup NOR	23.31
Silver	Rikard Gunnarsson SWE	23.33
	Per Oberg SWE	23.33

Women, 4.20 km

Gold	Hanna Heiskanen FIN	24.17
Silver	Katerina Miksova CZE	24.43
Bronze	Heli Jukkola FIN	24.46

CLASSIC DISTANCE

Men, 11.92 km

Gold	Johan Modig SWE	1.00.51
Silver	Vladimir Lucan CZE	1.03.33
Bronze	Marian Davidik SVK	1.04.10

Women, 7.82 km

Gold	Simone Luder SUI	53.36
Silver	Hanna Heiskanen FIN	54.42
Bronze	Regula Hulliger SUI	56.00

RELAYS

Men

Gold	Sweden 1 (Jonas Pilblad, Johan Modig, Per Oberg)	2.09.42
Silver	Czech Rep. 1 (Lukas Prinda, Michal Horacek, Vladimir Lucan)	2.14.34
Bronze	Slovakia 1 (Frantisek Libant, Igor Patras, Marian Davidik)	2.14.51

Women

Gold	Sweden 1 (Emma Engstrand, Jenny Johansson, Catarina Asp)	2.06.59
Silver	Czech Rep. 2 (Zuzana Macuchova, Vendula Klechova, Michaela Skoumalova)	2.10.47
Bronze	Switzerland 1 (Sara Wegmueller, Regula Hulliger, Simone Luder)	2.11.33

On The Elite Trail

Borg and Valstad Lead World Rankings

In the build-up to the World Championships, Katarina Borg (Sweden) and Bjørnar Valstad (Norway) are the leaders in the world ranking lists which are being trialled for the first time this year. Both have achieved several impressive results in the spring and early summer international races. Whereas Valstad has a clear lead in the men's rankings, Borg is the first of five closely spaced leaders in the women's list.

MEN'S RANKINGS

1. Bjørnar Valstad NOR	98,102
2. Petter Thoresen NOR	96,720
3. Kjetil Bjørlo NOR	96,534
4. Jörgen Mårtensson SWE	95,848
5. Johan Ivarsson SWE	94,874
6. Allan Mogensen DEN	94,356
7. Rudolf Ropek CZE	94,258
8. Carsten Jørgensen DEN	94,197
9. Håvard Tveite NOR	94,064
10. Janne Salmi FIN	93,628

WOMEN'S RANKINGS

1. Katarina Borg SWE	99,754
2. Gunilla Svärd SWE	99,677
3. Hanne Staff NOR	98,950
4. Johanna Asklöf FIN	97,071
5. Hanne Sandstad NOR	97,040
6. Cecilia Nilsson SWE	94,826
7. Marie-L Romanens SUI	94,386
8. Marlena Jansson SWE	94,197
9. Katja Honkala FIN	94,174
10. Heather Monro GBR	93,874



Katarina Borg - leading women's rankings
photo: Lukas Jenzer

Lists are updated to 13th July. The scores for this trial ranking list have been worked out by Bo Simonsen using the formula given on page 15 of the June issue of *OW*. Results in IOF Elite Events, the Park World Tour and other major international races in 1997 have been used together with a score from an analysis of 1996 races. The full lists include 2,570 men and 1,058 women.

Park World Tour - round 2

Showtime in Jyväskylä

The second round of this year's Park World Tour took place in the central Finland town of Jyväskylä, the day before the Venla and Jukola Relays. The event was televised live on Finnish TV2, with the programme lasting 90 minutes. Entertainment was provided before the races by a number of well-known former ski-racers taking part in the 'Karpaasi Show'.

The serious business took place over a 2.6km course with 100m climb using a 1:5,000 scale map. Winner of the women's race was Gunilla Svärd of Sweden, 8 seconds quicker than home runner Johanna Asklöf (née Tiira), with Heather Monro

third. Dane Carsten Jørgensen completed the course in 11.45 compared to the planner's estimate of 15 minutes; 7 seconds faster than Finn Janne Salmi; the surprise of the day was the 3rd place achieved by former Junior World Champion Gabor Domonyik from Hungary.

Leading results - Men: 1. Carsten Jørgensen DEN 11.45, 2. Janne Salmi FIN 11.52, 3. Gabor Domonyik HUN 11.54, 4. Petter Thoresen NOR 11.59, 5. Kjetil Bjørlo NOR 12.00, 6. Jörgen Mårtensson SWE 12.02, 7. Timo Karppinen FIN 12.04, 8= Grant Bluett AUS & Mikael Boström FIN 12.11, 10. Allan Mogensen DEN 12.12. **Women:** 1. Gunilla Svärd SWE 13.53, 2. Johanna Asklöf (Tiira) FIN 14.01, 3. Heather Monro GBR 14.19, 4= Katja Honkala FIN & Hanne Sandstad NOR 14.23, 6. Külli Kaljus EST 14.26, 7. Vroni König SUI 14.34, 8. Hanne Staff NOR 14.45, 9. Anniina Paronen FIN 14.46, 10. Lucie Böhm AUT 14.51.

Park World Tour - round 3

Svärd's Huge Win

In Flisa, Norway on 26th June, the 1996 World Cup Champion Gunilla Svärd from Sweden produced a top-class performance to win the third round of the Park World Tour by 27 seconds - a huge margin for this kind of event. By contrast, just 2 seconds separated the two Danes Allan Mogensen and Carsten Jørgensen at the head of the men's results.

This was Gunilla Svärd's second win in succession, giving her a 3-point lead in the overall rankings over the consistently high-placed Finn Johanna Asklöf. Heather Monro from Britain is in 3rd position, 17 points further behind. Carsten Jørgensen leads the men's rankings with an 11-point advantage over Kjetil Bjørlo of Norway.

Leading Results - Men: 1. Allan Mogensen DEN 14.31, 2. Carsten Jørgensen DEN 14.33, 3. Yuri Omeltchenko UKR 14.38, 4. Kjetil Bjørlo NOR 14.42, 5. Petter Thoresen NOR 14.45, 6. Bjørnar Valstad NOR 14.51, 7. Janne Salmi FIN 14.53, 8= Chris Terkelsen DEN & Rudolf Ropek CZE 15.02, 10. Bernt Bjørnsgård NOR 15.09. Last year's overall winner, Jörgen Mårtensson, was 13th. **Women:** 1. Gunilla Svärd SWE 17.28, 2. Johanna Asklöf FIN 17.55, 3. Marie-Luce Romanens SUI 18.00, 4. Marlena Jansson SWE 18.01, 5. Külli Kaljus EST 18.04, 6. Hanne Sandstad NOR 18.10, 7. Heather Monro GBR 18.11, 8. Dorte Dahl DEN 18.15, 9. Cecilia Nilsson SWE 18.32, 10. Reeta-Mari Kolkkala FIN 18.45.

Park World Tour - Standings after Race 3

Women

1	Gunilla Svärd	SWE	63
2	Johanna Asklöf	FIN	60
3	Heather Monro	GBR	43
4	Hanne Staff	NOR	37
5	Hanne Sandstad	NOR	31
6	Dorte Dahl	DEN	24
6	Külli Kaljus	EST	24
8	Marlena Jansson	SWE	23
8	Marie-L Romanens	SUI	23
10	Reeta-M Kolkkala	FIN	21

Men

1	Carsten Jørgensen	DEN	56
2	Kjetil Bjørlo	NOR	45
3	Janne Salmi	FIN	44
3	Allan Mogensen	DEN	44
5	Jörgen Mårtensson	SWE	40
6	Petter Thoresen	NOR	37
7	Rudolf Ropek	CZE	27
8	Yuri Omeltchenko	UKR	21
9	Gabor Domonyik	HUN	18
10	Mikael Boström	FIN	15

WOC 1997 - Favourites on Home Ground

Who will be the medal-winners at WOC 97?

BO SIMONSEN, creator of the World Ranking List being trialled this year, gives his predictions of the individuals and teams who will make it to the podium

The reigning World Champions from Detmold, Germany in 1995 now have only a few days more glory until they must present themselves to defend their titles, and this in wholly different terrain. Several surprising medal-winners climbed up the world elite ladder in the fast and hilly German terrain, with its need for lightning decisions, high-speed running and 100% error-free orienteering. Extreme terrain, it was said, but at the top level in sport the demands on winners are extreme - and the Norwegian Sørland also offers extreme terrain, but of another kind. Whilst Johan Ivarsson and Gunilla Svärd (96 World Cup winners) have been dubbed the 'world's best all-rounders', this year the specialists have their chance.

All nations have attempted to prepare themselves for the course planners' challenges, either directly at training camps and participation in competitions in the Grimstad area, or by seeking out similar terrain at home, so no-one will be surprised to find difficult route choices in the often slow and tight coastal terrain. It is highly likely that the 1997 World Champions will have had some years' experience in the world's elite, and physically have had the necessary years at world class to 'get the right legs'.

This year's relay will be - as always - a thriller, and with the Grimstad-area terrain being a major factor, it is experience and steadiness in orienteering which will prove decisive. Teams which are not fully made up of runners with these qualities will find it hard to keep in

touch. At the 'pre-WOC', Sørsprinten, this was very obvious, and once a team lost touch with the leading pack, it never came back into the competition despite good performances by its later runners.

Norwegian Dominance Anticipated in Men's Medals

After a spring where Norwegian orienteers have dominated the Nordic elite scene, with wins in all the big relay races as well as most of the individual events held on Nordic land, coach Egil Iversen has brought his team into his desired position as favourites. A strong Norwegian bias therefore appears in my choice of favourites, and I am sure Norway will also prove to be dominant in Grimstad in August.

First in the world rankings since 1st May, Bjørnar Valstad opened the season knocking out all competition, and was also close to the top in the last international test in Sørlands terrain, Sørsprinten. Bjørnar has demonstrated both strength and technique, but also mental steadiness in decisive situations (e.g. Tio-mila), which makes him one of the hottest tips for more than just one medal. We can anticipate his bronze from Germany to be bettered this time.

Petter Thoresen, for many years Norway's challenge to Jörgen Mårtensson, has again found his rhythm outside the Norwegian official team with

wins in Portugal and at the Jukola relay. Kjetil Bjørlo, winner of Sørsprinten, has many high placings on Norwegian soil this year and plenty of WOC experience, but lacks consistency at the highest level. In addition, the experienced Håvard Tveite showed good form at the recent O-Festival, and if Jon Tvedt can overcome his achilles problems he completes a group of 5 Norwegian men all with much experience and good form. Many see the Norwegian selection race being very close - but also close to a good picture of the WOC-week's medal-winners.

The colony of top runners from other nations resident in Norway have not gone there just to help Norwegian clubs to relay victories in the Nordic Relay League. The Oslo club Bakkelaaget is the base for 2 of the best tips for a World Championship gold at classic distance, namely Allan Mogensen and Johan Ivarsson. Ivarsson was the best in the world when the travelling World Cup circus reached its conclusion, and Mogensen

places, and the same two runners, Janne Salmi and Timo Karppinen, are again candidates for gold. Like Chris Terkelsen, Karppinen has suffered injury but at Sørsprinten showed his liking for Norwegian terrain. The final member of my favourite group is the reigning classic distance champion Jörgen Mårtensson. In 1996, second in the World Cup and winner of the Park World Tour, but also 37-years-old. This season, Jörgen has kept more in the background and has limited himself to winning a PWT race and a Swedish elite test. A lot of training and many business commitments may be the reasons for his results being more modest - or is age becoming Mårtensson's biggest competitor?

Several nations and runners feature in the chasing group behind those with a chance of gold. The Swiss men have had a difficult spring with no big successes for the established stars. Tom Bührer is continuing to suffer injury, Alain Berger hasn't lived up to expectations despite hard training and many races, and the

Janne Salmi -
Finnish contender
for a gold medal

photo:
Lukas Jenzer



was the last WOC winner in hard 'Nordic' terrain - in the USA in 1993. Ivarsson has had a slow start to this season, but a win at WOC would be no surprise.

The youngest in my 'favourite group' is Chris Terkelsen, living in Halden, south of Oslo. He has earned this status with his shared victory at Sørsprinten, after a year's rest to get rid of an injury.

In Germany in 1995, Finnish runners achieved 2nd and 4th

younger runners haven't yet found the necessary consistency. Britain with Steve Hale still have hopes of an individual medal, but the physically strong Czechs have still not produced the results in extreme terrain. The dark horses of the WOC are again the Russians, who have trained and competed in Norway this spring but haven't yet achieved their real potential. The defending short distance champion, Yuri Omeltchenko, is a very strong runner but he is strongest on continental terrain.

The Women Favourites - Five Stand Out

Amongst the women, five runners have stood out from the rest this season, and have shared victories between them in everything worth winning. In contrast to the men, they have had outstanding victories in both spring and summer races, and therefore it will be no surprise if one of these five distances herself from

Cup, and was most recently at the front on the first day of the O-Festival. The combination of winner-instinct and consistency which Sandstad has shown this season make her the strongest Norwegian candidate for gold if the others make mistakes.

Torunn Fosslı Sæthre is the other Norwegian who could



The sweet taste of victory for Gunilla Svärd in the World Cup last year. Will a WOC medal follow?

photo: Kim Rud

the rest in Grimstad. There is little to separate no. 1 in the world rankings, Katarina Borg (Sweden) from no. 5 Hanne Sandstad (Norway), but after that there is a gap to 6th placed Cecilia Nilsson. Just as with the men, there are naturally several others who can be considered favourites, but who haven't shown the same consistency or activity as these five. The quintet is completed by Gunilla Svärd (SWE), Hanne Staff (NOR) and Johanna Asklöf (FIN).

The favourites on home ground are the Bækkelaget trio Hanne Sandstad, Hanne Staff and local star Torunn Fosslı Sæthre, who have together achieved a string of relay wins. **Hanne Staff**, no. 3 in the rankings, has won the Østfold 2-days, Norwegian Long Distance Championships and finally the Saturday race at the O-Festival, plus a Park World Tour race. She also achieved some success in the 1996 World Cup, but as last year the perfect run is still not the norm for her, and perfect it will need to be for a win at Grimstad.

Hanne Sandstad opened the season with a win at the Spring

achieve a gold, but only if the planners have chosen technically demanding terrain. Brought up and taught to orienteer in WOC-type terrain in the forests around Arendal, a win at Vårspretten is the basis for her gaining a gold medal before she retires from the national team at the end of this season. Her O-technique is perfect, but the question is whether her business career has left enough time for the necessary physical training.

The Finns **Liisa Anttila** and **Johanna Asklöf** have masses of Norwegian experience, and **Reeta-Mari Kolkkala**, **Anniina Paronen** and **Katja Honkala** are also all capable of a medal position. Asklöf (née Tiira) is the Finn who has produced the best overall performance so far this season; all her results have been good, and not least her second place at Sørsprinten makes her the most likely medal winner of this group.

Kata Borg (Sweden) is apparently better than ever, and has this year run faster than her opponents can understand, but sometimes she still runs too fast to find the controls first

time. She won Sørsprinten, where almost all other gold candidates competed, in superb style, but on a course which did not present the big route choice challenges expected at WOC. At the World Cup final in 1996 the situation was similar, and the question is whether the gold-standard run will come in the qualification race or the final.

The last woman in the top 5 group is **Gunilla Svärd**, who with her World Cup win last year showed that it is not just in Sweden that she is the best. But this year her performances away from Sweden have been more modest, and she has only run in Norway at Sørsprinten, where she must have been disappointed with her result.

As last season the Swiss girls are very strong, and **Marie-Luce Romanens** and **Sabrina Meister-Fesseler**, both running for Halden this year, both have the ability to achieve a gold. Romanens, surprising gold medal winner at short distance in 1995, knows that Grimstad will offer an even greater challenge, and only if she again finds the right rhythm will she stand a chance of retaining her crown. Sabrina Meister-Fesseler has been plagued by injury in the spring, but nevertheless achieved 4th

place in Sørsprinten. Not the fastest of runners, but her technique is sublime and she usually makes the right route choices. If it's hard in Grimstad, it will be hard to beat Sabrina if her physical form holds up.

Two silver medals in Detmold, a couple of good World Cup runs last year and several strong relay performances for Bækkelaget make **Yvette Hague** (GBR) the last woman in my favourite-group. Wins at the JK and British Championships this year, but otherwise a more limited involvement in international races during the spring - which is most likely because she has chosen alternative forms of training to be sure of being at her best form by WOC.

A number of others do, of course, have medal chances, including **Marlena Jansson** and **Cecilia Nilsson** (SWE), **Lucie Böhm** (AUT), **Frauke Schmitt Gran** (GER), **Vroni König** and **Brigitte Wolf** (SUT) and **Heather Monro** (GBR).

The defending classic distance champion, **Katalin Olah** (HUN) hasn't been seen at an international race this season, and the question is whether her running strength will be enough for her in Norway.

Yvette Hague, Great Britain will be striving to improve on her two silver medals in 1995

photo: Ota Gavenda



WOC '97, Grimstad, Norway

The Relay Prospects

Norway hasn't won gold since 1989, and has said that only gold medals will satisfy them this time. Norwegian teams have won most of this year's big relays, with the exception of Sørstafetten where the Norwegian men's club teams could not at all keep up with the competition. But the victories have only come with the help of foreign stars who now become keen opponents.

their form yet, and although the next-best are showing considerable consistency and ability, it will be a sensation if they win the gold again. The mantle of favourites instead goes to Norway, who have the depth to cover the loss of a couple of runners through injury - which unfortunately will be a big risk in the stony terrain. The Swedes, who won the World Cup relay competition in 1996,



The Swiss team will be highly motivated to win yet again - can they do it for a fourth time?

photo: Kim Rud

The natural Norwegian women's team is identical with the Bækkelaget team, and this means that they are well accustomed to each other's company and the pressure on the team which follows from their status as WOC favourites. The Finnish team which performed well at Sørstafetten is also without a weak link and several of its members have the talent to dominate the relay - and the team are the defending champions.

The Swedish girls come this time as outsiders for gold, since several in their team appear to have difficulty in maintaining the tempo of the two teams above. Switzerland has four girls who all have individual quality, and other teams to watch out for will be the Czech Republic and Russia.

In the men's race, the Swiss are 3 times defending champions, and have shown the capacity to deliver a fine team performance with a team which on paper looked too weak, but this time it will be more than hard. The team's top stars have not found

continue as warm medal candidates with many consistent and disciplined runners, but gold will become possible only if Jörgen Mårtensson again finds his best WOC form.

The Finnish team won the relay at the 'pre-WOC' in Kristiansand, got the silver in Germany and has a team full of good relay runners. This team can achieve anything from a gold medal to disappearing into oblivion - depending on how long they stay with the leading bunch. Any team which drops away from this good company will find it hard to come back!

Denmark could be the team to put a spoke in their competitors' wheels; the Danish men's team is extremely well motivated and has a bag full of fine relay results from their individual clubs in Sweden and Norway. They can use this relay to say a meaningful thank you to their coach Olli-Pekka Kärkkäinen who from the autumn is seeking new challenges. The Czechs and Brits will most likely not keep up with the pack through to the end of the race.

More than 11,000 at Jukola Relay

One thousand, one hundred and ninety-four 7-man teams lined up for the Jukola Relay on 14th June, based this year at the racecourse just outside Jyväskylä in central Finland. A further six hundred and sixty-six teams, 4 ladies in each, took part in the Venla Relay earlier in the day.

Norwegian teams came out on top in both races - Halden SK in the men's with a victory by more than 6 minutes over Pargas IF of Finland, and Bækkelaget in the women's, asserting their dominance this season after wins at the Spring Cup and Swedish Tio-mila. On this occasion they won with a 3 minute lead over IFK Södertälje, Sweden, winners in 1991.

The Jukola relay seems likely to have more competitors than O-Ringen this year.

Leading results:

Jukola Relay: 1. Halden SK, NOR (Dickie Jones, Torgeir Snilsberg, Joacim Carlsson, Anders Bjørnsgård, Chris Terkelsen, Bernt Bjørnsgård, Petter Thoresen) 8.04.46, 2. Pargas IF FIN 8.10.55, 3. IFK Lidingö SWE 8.11.01, 4. Delta OK FIN 8.12.00, 5. SK Pohjantähti FIN 8.12.04, 6. Nydalens SK NOR 8.12.23, 7. IFK Göteborg SWE 8.12.35, 8. Espoon Suunta FIN 8.12.56, 9. OK Kolmården SWE 8.13.28, 10. Bækkelagets SK NOR 8.13.32.

Venla Relay: 1. Bækkelagets SK NOR (Torunn Fossli Sæthre, Yvette Hague, Hanne Staff, Hanne Sandstad) 2.47.32, 2. IFK Södertälje SWE 2.50.56, 3. Sundsvalls OK SWE 2.51.05, 4. Angelniemen Ankkuri FIN 2.51.07, 5. Domnarvets GOIF SWE 2.51.12, 6. Liedon Parma FIN 2.51.27, 7. Nydalens SK NOR 2.51.27, 8. OK Orion SWE 2.53.42, 9. Tullinge SK SWE 2.53.47, 10. Kalevan Rasti FIN 2.54.04.

Terkelsen, Bjørlo and Borg win 'pre-WOC'

Chris Terkelsen and Kjetil Bjørlo were joint winners of the men's Sørsprinten race held at the beginning of June on terrain in southern Norway very similar to that being used for this year's World Championships, with Bjørnar Valstad in third place, 15 seconds slower. Terkelsen and Bjørlo completed the 11km course in 1.28.14. Katarina Borg had a 39 second lead on the women's 7km course over Johanna Asklöf, in consistently good form this season, with Liisa Anttila in third place.

In the men's Sørstafetten relay the finishing order was Finland, Denmark, Sweden, but it was a close race with 6 teams in contention at the start of the final leg. All the Nordic nations were in the lead at some stage. Mikael Boström ran the fastest leg of the day to bring the Finnish team home first by 5 seconds after going out 6th.

An all-Norwegian Bækkelagets SK team of Torunn Fossli Sæthre, Hanne Sandstad and Hanne Staff triumphed in the women's race, beating two Swedish teams by 4 and 8 seconds respectively with Finland's first team in 4th place. This win was even more remarkable since Hanne Staff had set off in 9th position, 1m 26s down on the leader.

Sara Thörn

Leading results: Men's individual: 1= Kjetil Bjørlo NOR & Chris Terkelsen DEN 1.28.14, 3. Bjørnar Valstad NOR 1.28.29. **Women's individual:** 1. Katarina Borg SWE 56.39, 2. Johanna Asklöf FIN 59.11, 3. Liisa Anttila FIN 1.00.34. **Men's relay:** 1. FIN1 (Sören Nymalm, Kenneth Cederberg, Timo Karppinen, Mikael Boström) 3.34.57, 2. DEN1 3.35.02, 3. SWE1 3.35.23. **Women's relay:** 1. Bækkelagets SK (Torunn Fossli Sæthre, Hanne Sandstad, Hanne Staff) 1.44.15, 2. SWE1 1.44.19, 3. SWE3 1.44.23.



The First Orienteering Events

Although there is well documented evidence of an 'orienteering race' - known to include route choice, but not maps - organised near Bergen on 25th June 1897, it is widely accepted that the first real open orienteering event was held on 31st October 1897 by IK Tjalve, Oslo, at Grøttum in Sørkedalen. This event became the model for orienteering races not only

in Norway, but also the rest of Scandinavia and later the rest of the world.

At this first event, compasses and maps 'were allowed to be used'. Four different maps of the terrain were available, at scales of 1:100,000, 1:25,000, 1:30,000 and 1:60,000. The last two were maps with ski trails marked on. In invitations to

The centenary of the start of orienteering as we know it today is being celebrated by the IOF and its member federations for one year starting at the World Championships in Norway, where the first orienteering race was held, in August. In this special feature we look back at the early days of orienteering and also - in Sue Harvey's *President's Column* - look forward to the developments we can anticipate in the next 100 years

later events, competitors were asked to provide the map.

Participants were given details of the course half an hour before the start. The course length was given as 15 km, but in fact it was about 10.5 km. The winner from the eight starters was Peder Fossum of Glimt, a marathon runner, who completed the course 12 mins. faster than his

nearest rival in 1.41.07 - less than 10 mins. per km.

Orienteering-style activities amongst soldiers in Scandinavia started as early as the 1870's when soldiers were first instructed in the use of map and compass. The first known use of the term 'orieringsløb' was at a military competition in summer 1895.



The 1:60,000 map with course used for the first event in 1897.
After 100 years the quality has deteriorated somewhat!
print courtesy COH

Some Early Orienteering Landmarks

- 1897 First orienteering race, in Norway
- 1900 First ski-O relay, Sweden
- 1919 First modern-style O-event in Sweden
- 1923 First O-event in Finland
- 1925 First real O-event in Norway
- 1928 SK Gothia, Sweden was the first O-club
- 1932 First O-event in Switzerland
- 1934 First O-event in Hungary
- 1946 First competition in the USA
(on the initiative of Björn Kjellström)
- 1948 O introduced to Canada
- 1950 First O-event in Czechoslovakia
- 1953 First East German championship in team ski-O
- 1953 O-event organised in Yugoslavia
- 1955 O introduced to Bulgaria
- 1957 First O-event in USSR
- 1961 Formation of IOF
- 1962 First European Championship
- 1965 First Army (CISM) Championships
- 1966 O introduced to Israel
- 1969 Japan O Federation formed
- 1969 O started in Australia
- 1971 US O Federation formed
- 1975 First Ski-O World Championships, in Finland

Source: 'O International' by Beat Renz, via Jan Zemlik

Orienteering's First Steps

In some countries, orienteering started quite early in the present century. Here are some early landmarks in the history of four of the IOF's founder members

FINLAND

1904 - A ski-orienteering relay, 'Helsinki-Porvoo' with 4-man teams was held on 13th March 1904, arranged by 'Helsingin Hiihtoseura'. The relay was won by 'Polyteknikkojen Urheiluyhdistys' (the Polytechnic sports federation) with the team of Heikki Huttunen, Hand Grimberg, Hannes Saxbäck and Kelpo Wohlonen. The winning time was 4hrs 40 mins. Polytechnic teams won the relays in 1905 and 1906 as well.

1923 - Whilst in Helsinki, Göstar Holmér made the suggestion of arranging the first foot orienteering competition, which was organised by a sports club (IFK Helsingfors). The competition was held at Kauniainen on 4th November 1923.

1929 - The first sports club having orienteering on its programme was founded. The club was called 'Gräsvikens Idrottsförening' but it was never registered. It was the forerunner of the club IK Örnén, which was founded in 1934. IK Örnén was the first club in Finland specialising in orienteering.

1935 - The Finnish Athletic Federation decided to take orienteering into its programme, and founded an Orienteering Committee.

1945 - The Finnish Orienteering Federation was founded on 24th March 1945.

Pirjo Valjanen & Johanna Nieminen



Part of the relay map, scale 1:25,000, from the first World Championships, held in Finland in 1966 photo courtesy COH



The early days of orienteering in Sweden photo courtesy SOFT

SWEDEN

1901 - The first orienteering event was held on 17th March, organised by the club Sundbybergs IK, Stockholm. It was a club event with 5 men participating. They used a map at scale 1:100,000 made in 1845-66 and printed in 1873. The controls on the 14km long course were two well-known churches (Bromma and Spånga) and two well-known farms (Vällinby and Duvbo). Lacking compasses, the runners had the direction to controls and the finish pointed out by an organiser. The terrain was open with many paths. The winner was 24-year-old Victor Dahl, who ran the course in 1.15.14 (i.e. 6.49 mins per km).

1919 - The world's first big national orienteering event. Between 1901 and 1914 there were a number of small club orienteering events in the Stockholm area. They all led to the fact that a young lieutenant, Ernst Killander (born 1882) became very interested in this new sport. After the war in 1918 he, at the time President of the Stockholm Sports Federation, organised the first large event. It took place in Saltsjöbaden, east of Stockholm, on 25th March 1919. At the event 155 men ran the 12km long course with three controls, map at scale 1:100,000. The race went on between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. and the winner was 32-year-old O.B. Hansson, time 1.25.39. At this place, a special orienteering statue (a rotating steel O runner) was erected, and unveiled by the Swedish king in 1975, to commemorate how orienteering has been spread from there all over the world.

The Swedish newspapers published several articles about the 1919 event, including maps, interviews and analyses, and articles about the new sport in general. Suddenly there was a large interest for this new exotic sport! This is the background to why Ernst Killander has rightly been called 'the father of orienteering'.

1938 - The Swedish Orienteering Federation was founded.

Maria Nimvik

HUNGARY

The first O-event in Hungary

The first Hungarian O-event was in 1925. The organiser was Mr. RIPSZÁM Henrik, who came home from being a Russian prisoner of war through Scandinavia and brought the sport to Hungary. He was a painter and an athlete.

The terrain used was Fazekas-hill, on the edge of Budapest; the distance 11km with 5 controls. The start was at 1010 at the Balázs Restaurant in Hűvösvölgy, 208m above sea level.

The racers started every thirty seconds with start number and specially drawn map. The highest point of the course was at the look-out tower of János-hill (529m).

The winner was BELLONI Gyula, athlete, 54.23, second STRAUCH Gyula, skier, 57.28 and third MATURA Mihály,

wrestler, 1.00.51. There were thirty competitors, by far the greatest number athletes and tourists. Prizes were given to the first ten competitors, the first over 40 years old and the oldest. There were teams of five people.

The first race with women competitors was the autumn orienteering competition of the MTE (Sport Club of Workmen) on 15th November 1925.

After some years of break - when tourism was more dominant - BEREND Ottó and the tourist section of Duna Sport Club restarted orienteering in Hungary. For many decades orienteering developed and functioned as a discipline of tourism.

The independent O-federation was born in 1970.

Ludvig Agnes



Competitors in the first-ever event in Czechoslovakia in 1950
photos courtesy COH

CZECH REPUBLIC

1950 - 22nd October, the first Zlín Cup, for 3-person teams in three classes : men, women and junior (mixed). 42 teams, i.e. 126 participants, map 1:75,000, men's course 13.4km with 5 controls.

1950-1968 - Orienteering was part of the Tourist Section of the Czechoslovakian Sports Federation.

1966 - Formation of the first club dedicated to orienteering - TJ Gottwaldov, today SKOB Zlín.

1969 - Formation of the CSFOB, Czechoslovak Orienteering Federation; the first President was Frantisek Skrobánek.

1992 - Formation of CSOB, the Czech Orienteering Federation, President Petr Klimpl. It now has 8 regions, 210 clubs and 8,300 members.

Jan Zemlik

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.

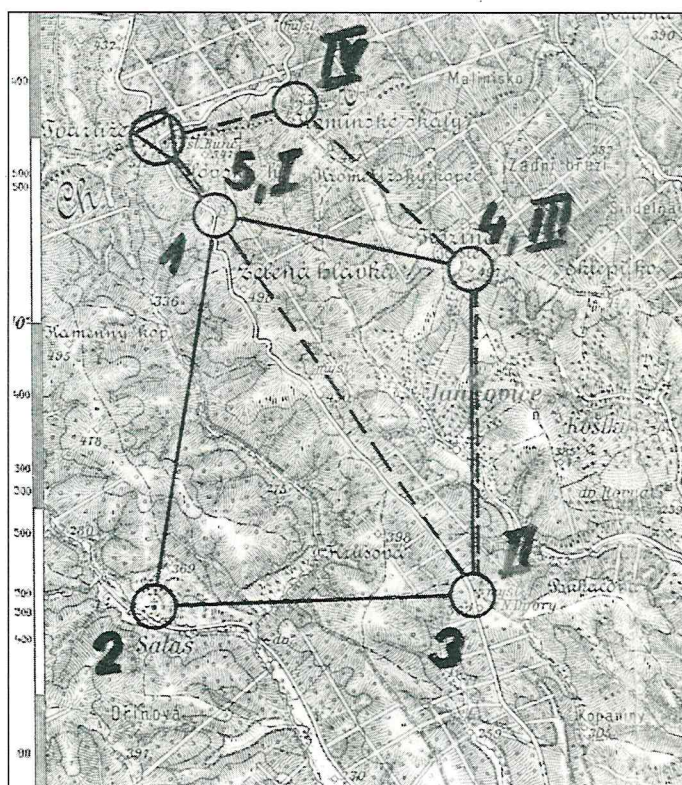
Going For It

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 - price £9.95. For all videos add postage & packing £1 per tape (Europe or Overseas Surface), £2 per tape overseas (Overseas Air). Tapes are in PAL/VHS format (please enquire if other formats are required).

Check out our web site for our full list of O-books available.

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Part of the map (1:75,000) used at Czechoslovakia's first event

The Start of the IOF and the First WOC

One of the milestones in orienteering's growth was the foundation of the IOF in 1961. The first IOF President, ERIK TOBÉ (Sweden), celebrates his 90th birthday this year, and in this article he writes about his early days in orienteering and the build-up to the IOF's formation and the first World Championships

My Early Days in Orienteering

Once upon a time, in 1920, I was leader for the Fox Patrol in the Boy Scout association of my home town, at that time Lidköping. In the course of a ten days camp we had to start with training for outdoor life, but on the last 3 days there were competitions in some activities such as swimming, first-aid bandage, orienteering etc.

Czechoslovakia, Great Britain and East Germany, and founding an international federation came up at NORD meetings. So in 1959 the first International Conference took place in the Swedish steel town Sandviken. The leaders from 12 nations learned orienteering in theory and practice.

At a NORD meeting in Norway in 1960 it was at last decided to found the IOF and to



Erik Tobé (right) with Lennart Levin and first Secretary General Inga Löwdin, on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the IOF in 1991

celebrated her 80th birthday on 1st May this year - Ed.) and I as the first President of the IOF left the Council in 1975, the IOF had 23 members.

The First World Championships

The first two IOF Championships, in Norway in 1962 and Switzerland in 1964, were called European Championships in order to demonstrate modesty at the beginning of the IOF, since our members were all Europeans.

For the third Championships, in Finland in 1966, the organisers made a proposal that the competitions should be called World Championships, as it was generally believed in Fin-

land that it would be easier to get contributions from the national sports association and from business for a WOC than for an EOC. The IOF Council agreed to the Finnish proposal, but only European competitors took part in WOC '66. Nevertheless, the winners were called World Champions. The first 'real WOC' with competitors from outside Europe was arranged in 1968 in Sweden.

Personally I have never accepted this assumed boundary between Championships before and after 1966. The standards were the same, right from 1962; the task was to find the World Champions. The feeling of a boundary in the year 1966 is only an illustration of the power of language over thought!



Winners of the first European Championships in 1962: Ulla Lindkvist SWE and Magne Lystad NOR photo courtesy COH

The Fox Patrol was the winner in orienteering, and from that day my interest in orienteering has been with me for 77 years. But some ability in first-aid bandage has been useful for me many times after several competitions!

The Lead-up to the Foundation of IOF

In 1946 NORD was founded as a body for developing orienteering in the Nordic nations. Common rules for competitions were drawn up, and team competitions and later on Nordic Championships were organised.

In the early 50's some Nordic orienteers visited Switzerland, West Germany, Bulgaria,

invite all orienteering nations to join it. Switzerland fairly quickly joined this federation. At the same time, however, the Eastern nations had themselves begun an initiative to form an International Association. The Scandinavian group then tried to bring East and West together through an invitation to a common meeting for all orienteering nations in Copenhagen in May 1961. Delegates from ten nations were present and decided to found the 'real' IOF. The ten founding nations were Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, East Germany, Finland, Hungary, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland and West Germany.

When Inga Löwdin as the first Secretary General (she cel-

The History of IOF Competitions

The first IOF Championships in 1962, called the **European Championships**, were held at Løten, Norway. The winner of the men's individual race (16.5km, 13 controls) was Magne Lystad NOR in 1.48.32, and winner of the women's (8.0km, 7 controls) was Ulla Lindkvist SWE in 1.03.20. The first relay races were held at the 1964 EOC at Le Brassus, Switzerland; Finland won the men's race and Sweden the women's.

In 1966 the Championships were called the **World Championships** for the first time. Åge Hadler NOR was men's champion and Ulla Lindkvist recorded the second of her 3 victories. Sweden won both relays.

The first official **World Cup** was in 1986, with overall winners Kent Olsson SWE and Ellen-Sofie Olsvik NOR. The first official **Junior World Championships** were held in Sweden in 1990, when the winners were Mikael Boström FIN and Torunn Fossli NOR - both current international stars.

The first **World Championships in Ski-Orienteering** were held at Hyvinkää, Finland in 1975. The first champions were Olavi Svanberg FIN and Sinikka Kukkonen FIN, and Finland won both relay races.

SUE HARVEY'S President's Column

Growth and Development

In the June issue I wrote that I believe we need to keep the organisation of our events as simple as we can. That makes it easier for new countries to take up the sport, and for newcomers in existing countries to start the sport.

Whenever we talk of newcomers - whether individuals or countries - we are discussing growth. For any sport, growth is important. For the IOF just now, it is particularly so. There are many reasons, of different importance to different people.

The first reason is a phenomenon well known to all in business. If you don't strive to get new customers, your business shrinks. Inevitably from time to time you lose customers (if only because of death) so as time passes, unless you try to get new ones, you gradually have fewer and fewer customers and eventually shrink to nothing. It is the same in sport.

Secondly, for some people, growth is important because if we wish to join the Olympic Games programme we have to fulfil certain conditions, among these a minimum number of countries practising orienteering. To reach that number we have to increase IOF's membership by 50%.

For other people, it is simply that orienteering is a great activity. Should we not show it to more people in the world so they have a chance to try it too?

For others again, it is the likelihood that we can go faster if there are more people pushing us forward. And it could mean more resources. If each member contributes a little, then the more members, the greater the total resources.

For the IOF, for all the above reasons, growth is important - growth in the number of member countries and growth in the number of orienteers within existing members. Later this month, therefore, we shall be appointing a full-time Development Officer. The Council has concluded that this is the best way to achieve progress on two of the objectives set by Congress. It will help to ensure a stronger IOF - both by getting more

member federations, and strengthening existing members - and it will assist our work towards getting orienteering into the Olympic Games.

I have heard people say that these two objectives (development and the Olympics) are mutually exclusive and that we have to choose between them. The Council believes that this is not so. On the contrary, the growth that will make us a stronger federation is also what is required if we are to fulfil the criteria for inclusion in the Games programme. Growth and development therefore form one of our prime objectives for the near future. Indeed, I believe that for the 3 years to the end of the century we must draw up a programme which can achieve significant growth. This programme must use our resources wisely, but it can also exploit the wonderful variety that orienteering offers - foot-O, bike-O, trail-O, ski-O, classic, relay, mountain-O, park-O. Then each place, each new country, can enjoy the form that is most suited to its conditions and terrain.

For this programme we need resources. This underlines the importance of our campaign to improve the media coverage that will draw in the sponsors and the state funding - which is another of the objectives set us by the last Congress. Indeed, our various objectives are all closely tied together. We need resources to get development. We need development to get into the Olympics. We need media coverage to get resources. We need media coverage to get recruits. We need recruits to get resources.

Above all, we cannot split off getting into the Olympics as a separate objective. It is one important part of the total development of orienteering.

We must also not forget that there are other Games besides the Olympics: Pan American Games, Asian Games,

Commonwealth games, World Masters Games, Baltic Games, Deaf Games, World Games, to name but a few examples. Where these are regional it is not for the IOF to seek inclusion for orienteering. But regional or not, it is important that IOF member countries strive to get orienteering into them, and to support them by sending teams when orienteering is on the programme. They are all part of the world sports stage. If we are self-centred, if we ignore opportunities to have our sport on this stage, if we plan our calendar without regard for clashes of dates so that our teams cannot take part, and if we generally show no interest in the wider world of sport, we cannot expect the wider world of sport to have much interest in us. These other Games are important for orienteering's development.

For orienteering now to come out of the forest and join the wider world of sport is a natural next stage. This year is orienteering's 100th birthday. In our first century we have grown from an activity invented in a small corner of Northern Europe to a highly developed sport practised in countries widespread over the globe. About a quarter of the world's countries are now members of the IOF. Our aim in the first decade of our next 100 years could be to double that.

This centenary, it seems to me, comes at a significant point in orienteering's history. After a period of consolidation it is a moment when we are turning outwards: towards new countries, towards opportunities for being part of multi-sport Games, towards the new openings given by digital television, towards forms of the sport which add options while not threatening the traditional ones. I see orienteering's next 100 years building on the firm base provided by our first century. I see it beginning with a strong period of successful growth and development.

As at WOC 95 (pictured here), the IOF will have a tent at each of the main race venues at WOC 97. Come and meet the IOF Council and discuss the issues of the day!

*photo:
Karin Tibbelin*



The Invention of the Compass

The compass is not as old an invention as the map. The attractive force of magnetite, a magnetic oxide of iron, was well known to ancient Greeks as early as 800 BC. However it is not known where and when magnetic materials were first used to build a simple compass. It is often suggested that the discovery was made in China. There are also some references that suggest that the compass was known to Italians or Arabs even before the time it was adopted by the Chinese.

According to some records, a sure proof of the use of an instrument classified as a compass goes back to 235 AD. It has been found that in those days the Chinese used a doll in their vehicles inside of which was put a piece of naturally

magnetic material (lodestone) that made the doll always turn and point to the south.

The antecedent of the compass, the wind rose, is said to have come from the Tower of the Winds, built in Athens in the 1st century B.C. and still standing. A vane on the roof indicated the wind direction and at the top of the walls of the octagonal tower there are reliefs depicting the eight principal points.

When the ship compass developed in the Mediterranean countries in the 13th century it was a circular wind rose with 8 points, which gradually expanded to indicate 16, and finally 32 points. Northern Europeans call it a compass rose, while the Mediterranean coun-



*The type of orienteering compass used 50 years ago
photo courtesy COH*

tries still say wind rose. The invention of the compass was a great break-through for sea-going navigation, because it enabled ships to follow a certain fixed direction without the help of the sun and stars. Before the age of the compass, ships usually had to stay close to the coastlines.

It is recorded that the compass was used for navigation in the 12th and 13th centuries at least in China and Western Europe,

and a bit later in Arabia and Scandinavia.

The modern hand held compass with a liquid-filled capsule was not introduced until the first half of the 20th century. This invention significantly improved the accuracy of the compass, because the liquid-filled capsule made the magnetised needle remain still.

From 'The Many Uses of the Map and Compass', Suunto

The 1962 European Championships Map

The map for the first European Championships, at Løten, Norway in September 1962, was in four colours - yellow, brown, blue and black - no white or green. The scale was 1:25,000, contour interval 10m with 5m form lines. Reproduction here is with slight reduction.





The First IOF Council

Elected at the first IOF Congress in 1961, the Council members were (sitting, from left) Rolf Nüscheler, Switzerland, Erik Tobé, Sweden (President) plus Inga Löwdin, Secretary General; (standing, from left) Olaf Andersen, Denmark, Edelfrid Buggel, East Germany, Erkki Sorakuru, Finland, Ludvig Steff-Pedersen, Norway and Miroslav Hlavacek, Czechoslovakia

photo
courtesy
COH



IOF Centenary Products For Sale

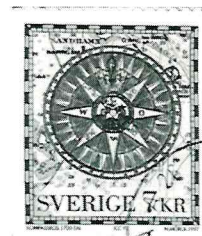
Clique T-shirt, pre-shrunk 100% cotton
taped neckline, double collar
Colour: light grey (ash), 4-colour design.
Sizes: S - XXL



Metal pin 20 x 9 mm, 4-colour design,
limited edition.

*Both products can be obtained from national
federations and all good orienteering shops -
and from the IOF tent on race days
at the World Championships*

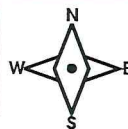
Compass Stamps in Sweden



In 1997 the Cartographic Society in Sweden is hosting the eighteenth International Cartographic Conference, ICC 97, and two new Swedish stamps have been produced to mark the occasion.

The compass on the 8kr stamp is from an atlas compiled in Venice by the Portuguese cartographer Diego Homem in 1568, now kept in Dresden. The compass on the 7kr stamp is from the 18th century signed Sven Billing, Stockholm.

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P.fah 33, 11420 Smed. Palanka
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The castle in Zlín, a medium-sized town in the eastern part of the Czech Republic, has been the setting for a comprehensive collection of orienteering artefacts and memorabilia for many years. One of the founders of the Centre for Orienteering History, JAN ZEMLÍK, here describes some important new developments

Bringing Orienteering's History to Life

The town of Zlín, a cradle of Czech orienteering situated near the present Slovak border, can boast a new permanent orienteering display since April this year. Why this town, why a permanent display?

The answer is obvious. The very first orienteering event in Czechoslovakia was organised by the Zlín O-club in 1950. This event, the Zlín Town Cup, ranks amongst the oldest O-events in the world, being held for the 48th time this April. Probably only the Tio-mila in Sweden and the Jukola in Finland, dating back to 1945 and 1948 respectively, are older. The records of all 48 Cups have been professionally archived, and so the entire development of Czech orienteering is available here. Many former and present outstanding Czech competitors - Svata Galík, Jindrich Novotny, Nadezda Mertová, Martin Sadílek, Tomáš Podmolík etc. - were or are Zlín O-club members.

The Centre for Orienteering History (COH) has been an integral part of the regional Museum for South-East Moravia in Zlín since 1984. It was established by an agreement between the Czech O-federation and the Museum as the only museum in the world which documents and archives the world's orienteering history. It provided displays at WOC '91 in Mariánské Lázně, Czechoslovakia and WOC '95 in Detmold, Germany and also at the 1994 World Cup finals and some ski-O events. Maybe you have seen these special displays - or some of them at least.

Our original long-term displays were housed in the town's castle in the heart of Zlín. With the chance to update our displays came the offer of space in the nearby medieval castle at Zlín-Malenovice, and it's here where our new long-term display on orienteering can be seen, under the name "Orienteering - a sport for today's people".

the castle's surroundings is available with fixed control points, to make it possible for every visitor to put his/her orienteering abilities to the test 'in the terrain'.

At the display's opening ceremony, the latest COH innovation was also presented: a Results Database System which carries more than 12,000 items including the results of all World Championships and



What is the difference between the original display and the new one?

The first was meant largely for 'O-people'. Today's display is situated in two rooms of the medieval castle, which many school excursions head for, and addresses not only 'insiders' but all visitors. The artefacts have been displayed in an up-to-date form, bringing visitors into the full arena of the world of orienteering - even with a little exaggeration! Why couldn't the children, say, play 'O-ludo' on a 2 x 2 metres map? Even a stuffed bear can be seen here, having made one competitor climb up a tree. 'Insiders', on the other hand, are attracted by the map and course from the world's first-ever O-event, held at Kristiana (Oslo) in 1897. A start number from the first European Championship held in Norway in 1962 is also exhibited. The whole history of the Zlín Town Cup can be studied here too, as well as competitors' clothing, maps, compasses, the electronic punching system and so on. And last but not least, a map of

World Cup events in foot and ski orienteering, and many other key orienteering items. With the aid of a mouse you can find your or your friend's place and position, the course, maps, details of each competition, photos etc.

Unfortunately this program has not been installed for permanent operation here; it's a matter of lack of high-quality electronic equipment, i.e. a question of finance. Maybe there will come some sponsor in the future who will make it possible for everyone to become acquainted with this system.

At the opening ceremony on 29th March more than 200 people of all age groups viewed the display, played the game and asked questions, and looked very pleased with their experience.

The display is part of the visitors' castle tour open from April up to October, 10-17h. daily (except Mondays). So if you make plans for your holidays in the Czech Republic and you are an orienteering enthusiast - don't miss Malenovice Castle!



Sections of the new display, with (above right) the author showing visitors some of the history of orienteering in Czechoslovakia

photos: COH

The SG's Angle



BARBRO
RÖNNBERG

The latest edition of SporTVision - the official magazine of GAISF, the General Assembly of International Sports Federations - indeed provides interesting reading. Features include the shortlisted five 2004 Olympic Bid Cities, a table presenting the WTN (Worldwide Television News) sports output in 1996, and an article about the 5th World Games to be held in Lahti, Finland on 7-17 August.

From orienteering's point of view, these three subjects are all connected with one another. We want orienteering to be on the programme of the Olympics. To achieve that goal we need publicity, especially TV coverage. And one way of getting TV coverage is to be on the programme of the World Games.

The article on the 1997 World Games is particularly interest-

ing since orienteering could have been on the programme of those Games. The IOF is a member of the International World Games Association (IWGA) and the local organiser was eager to include orienteering in the programme. Then why aren't we in? Because of one unfortunate thing, namely a complete clash with our own World Championships.

The IWGA has an arrangement with the TWI granting extensive TV coverage. The host broadcaster will produce 15 hours of daily highlights packages for international distribution, and over 9 hours of special transmissions and daily highlights for the Finnish audience. TWI has packaged the Games into 90-minute highlights (one for each of the ten days).

Live coverage will be available from six events: floorball, bowling, aerobics, squash, karate and water skiing. Just imagine, highlights of all the 29 sports on the programme will be transmitted all over the world, including some which - I have to admit - are for me rather unknown sports like faustball, floorball, tug of war, lifesaving and casting. To quote

Ron Froelich, President of the IWGA: "Many World Games sports are not very well known in certain countries - and this is an invaluable opportunity for them to receive exposure they might not otherwise have had - with the obvious impetus to their development and popularity."

Can orienteering really afford not to grasp this opportunity? There are other multi-sport events as well: the Asian Games, the Pan American Games and the Commonwealth Games, to name some of them. Among all the multi-sport events just below the Olympics, the World Games is,

however, the outstanding one - a display window for non-Olympic sports and a stepping stone on the path to the Olympics. Many World Games sports have gone or will go on to become Olympic events. Badminton, taekwondo, beach volleyball, softball and triathlon have all been World Games sports in the past, and are now on the Olympic programme.

Dance sport, bowling, squash and water skiing are on the waiting list. Will orienteering join them in the near future? The next opportunity to be on the programme of the World Games will be in 2001. Let's start the preparations now!

New Foot-O Rules in 1998

The IOF Events Standards Committee, meeting in Finland in late June, decided that **revised rules for foot-O** will come into effect on 1st January 1998. It is anticipated that the new version will be available on the IOF's web site from mid-September.

more people with recent elite experience to future IOF Controllers Clinics. The following new IOF Controllers have been appointed: GBR: Ted Finch, Dave Gittus; HKG: Yan Kin Kong, Lam Leung, Patrick Ng, Geoff Peck; NZL: Rob Crawford.

Clinics for licensing **IOF Controllers** have been held in 1997 in New Zealand, Japan and Slovakia. Further clinics are planned for Finland later this year and Austria early next year. Federations are to be encouraged to send

New developments in electronic punching are being closely monitored in conjunction with the IOF Technology Development Committee. If new punching systems are proven to be reliable, they can apply for IOF approval.

International Orienteering Federation

Secretariat

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Secretary General: Barbro Rönnerberg

IOF Council 1996-98

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Senior Vice President

Åke Jacobson, Sweden

Vice Presidents

Hugh Cameron, Australia

Edmond Széchényi, France

Council Members

Thomas Brogli, Switzerland

Higino Esteves, Portugal

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Foot-O - Geir Tveit, Norway

Mountain Bike-O - Jean-Paul Hosotte, France

Ski-O - Veli-Markku Kortenieniemi, 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
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Canada	CAN	Lithuania	LTU
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China	CHN	Malaysia*	MAS
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Cuba*	CUB	New Zealand	NZL
Czech Republic	CZE	Norway	NOR
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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

Continuing the debate initiated by IOF President Sue Harvey earlier this year, Italian orienteer SERGIO GRIFONI presents his views on the way forward for orienteering as it sets its sights on inclusion in the Olympics

It seems to me that most of the debate in the IOF is about the question: how can we make our sport more television friendly, and then get more sponsors, and then more money, and, perhaps, more supporters and participants all over the world.

I don't agree with the current trend. In the problem 'popularity of the sport versus media interest' the terms must be in-

especially when they consist of 2 legs, yet any orienteer would consider one-tenth of the coverage obtained by alpine skiing a success for us.

Rather than talking about it, why don't we ourselves try to report an O-event without inventing anything new, with exactly what is available nowadays, in just the same way that any other sport does it? One TV crew would be enough,

match, I can understand 99% of what is going on. The fields and rules are more or less the same, and small changes in team tactics can be quickly understood. What about orienteering in this time? Dramatic changes! If a present-day elite orienteer should compete on the fields used 50 years ago with an elite orienteer of 50 years ago, he would have no chance! The essence of orienteering is not only navigation

be no exceptions to the standards set down for IOF events.

I perfectly understand that some of the opinions expressed here may be considered too conservative (after all, you have quickly added 14 to 44 to make 58), but I strongly feel that we must make an effort to preserve what we have, rather than sacrifice it to television.

When TV comes to us, the main reason will probably be that we have gained enough popularity to interest sponsors. Our purpose must then be to increase our popularity further, and TV should be regarded as a means, not an end. I think I can hear my critics protesting already: "No-one has ever suggested that TV should be our end!". But then, why are new proposals coming out just for the sake of being accepted by television?

Our Enemy is Complication

How should we spread our sport? I strongly feel that our main enemy is complication. Simpler maps, simple rules, simple competition organisation: that will help to spread our sport and, as a consequence, increase our popularity. So, please, let us cudgel our brains to take complications out, rather than add new ones. After all, this was in the programme of our President three years ago in Varna.

When we become popular, we will have TV and sponsors; the idea that we can reverse this process is hopeless. There is another insane idea in the air: that being Olympic will automatically solve most of our problems (including popularity). There are a lot of Olympic sports which are not popular, that did not become popular from being or becoming Olympic and some of them are even shrinking. To become an Olympic sport is surely a great thing, but here again as for television, it should be regarded as a means, not an end.

A Ghost Wanders Through the O-World - the Ghost of 'Televisionism'

verted: our sport (any sport) does not interest the media if it is not popular, *not vice versa*. There are innumerable examples of sports which are totally unfriendly to TV and still get coverage: one of them is a close relative of our ski-O, cross-country skiing. Another one was the Americas Cup in sailing. The simple secret with the latter was a great investment both in technical support (boats, helicopters and the like) and human skills (very experienced TV directors, famous skippers etc.) and, of course, advertisements. In a word: money. To say it better: money to produce more money. Nobody asked to make the competition more TV friendly; the helicopters went to the boats, not the boats to the television.

One of the opinions expressed by the IOF is that spectators must be able to tell quickly who is the winner. And from this notion come the proposals of mass start, chasing start and so on. However there are many sports where competitors start at intervals, for instance alpine skiing. You don't know who wins until the last competitor arrives, the same as in orienteering. The competitions take hours (another wrong point in the IOF argument - the general opinion that our competitions are too long). Alpine ski competitions take many hours,

managed by ourselves and selling the coverage to the TV companies.

Not Orienteering Any More

I don't agree at all with the President's proposal of an 'Olympic Chase'. If a chase competition should make sense, the starting times must be set on the basis of a previous competition over the same distance (as in alpine skiing). This is the only way to give chances for the result to change in the final race (otherwise why do it?). But if the competition is 10 or 15 minutes long as proposed, strong elite runners will be seconds apart from each other. What kind of orienteering is that? And what fairness? The only one who needs to orienteer is the first one, all the others can save their energy to try to beat him in the final rush. What I fear strongly is that we will some time or other become Olympic, with great TV coverage, but it will not be orienteering any more.

The Essence - Navigation, Plus Rules, Terrain and Maps

Let me come to a second point. What is the essence of orienteering? When I was 14 years old (unfortunately, 44 years ago) I played ice hockey. If nowadays I watch an ice hockey

but, as in any other sport, is made also of rules and of where you play it. Our field is the terrain plus the map. If the rules for the maps change, the field changes and the sport too. We can talk of standards if you prefer this word.

We will never become Olympic if we keep changing the standards of our sport. All this anxious pursuit of new rules to become more friendly to spectators or TV brings us in exactly the opposite direction, because it makes us unreliable. When a sport has been newly invented it may be reasonable that the rules should be adjusted, but we claim to be 100 years old!

No Exceptions to the Standards

If somebody asks what our sport looks like, when we come to details, nothing is granted. Map scale, contour interval, map symbols, competition types, number of controls. The trouble with us orienteers is that we are all very smart people and we all have very smart ideas, and we all hope our ideas will become world-wide religion. But why don't we stick to what we already have? If I should have to decide whether or not to admit orienteering to the Olympic Games, the thing I would recommend is to make our minds up first - there should

An Australian Approach to Gaining Sponsorship

Spending analysed at Australian 3-days

Participants at the Australian 3-Days at Easter this year were given a questionnaire where they were asked to record their accommodation choice and their spending levels during their stay around the New South Wales outback town of Broken Hill. Around 40% responded, and the results have been analysed, projected for a 100% response, and used on an eye-catching colour poster designed to attract sponsorship and publicity for future major events in Australia.

1,100 orienteers went to Broken Hill, spending 4,788 overnights. Most orienteers stayed 3-4 nights in the event area, but one fifth stayed an average of 9 nights and accounted for 1,880 overnights. 28% used a motel or hotel, 4% bed and breakfast, 6% youth hostel, 32% camped and 30% used other commercial or private accommodation.

“Orienteers brought over AUS\$200,000 into the area”

More than AUS\$65,000 was spent on accommodation, \$62,000 on meals and drinks, \$31,000 on petrol, \$19,000 on sightseeing, almost \$12,000 on event catering and almost \$15,000 on sundries. Average expenditure was \$186, so orienteering brought over \$200,000 into the area. At Broken Hill, local organisations catering at events grossed \$8,100 for their funds.

As the poster points out, the whole region undoubtedly benefits from the number of visitors who would not otherwise have gone there. A significant number will return and there will be valuable word-of-mouth advertising.

Advertising Feature

SUUNTO ARROWS - *The Fast Way of Orienteering*

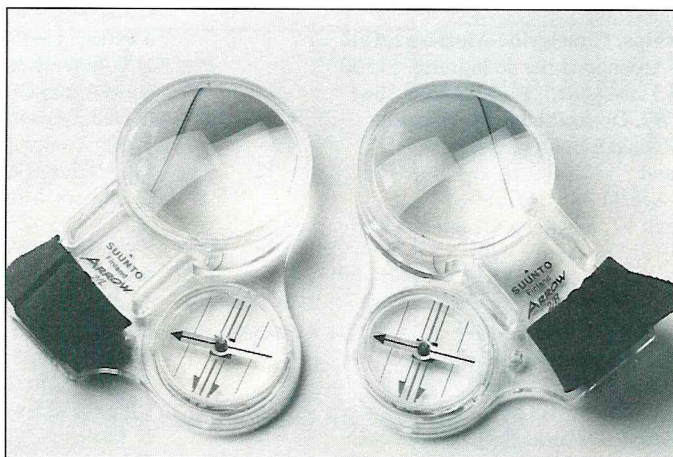
In summer 1996 SUUNTO launched a new series of competition compasses called the Arrow series. The SUUNTO ARROW series - the ARROW 2000 and ARROW 2200 base plate models, a wrist model ARROW M-9 and the thumb compass ARROW 1 have achieved great success especially among top competition orienteers.

As a new member of the ARROW family SUUNTO is now introducing another thumb compass called the **ARROW 2**, which is a result of cooperation with Recta AG. It features a big magnifying lens, and is available both for right and left-handed people.

The new feature which characterises the entire

ARROW family is the double-bearing of the lightweight compass needle. The neodymium magnets on both sides of the pivot ensure low inertia and thus make the needle move very rapidly. Thanks to the new ingenious assembly of the double-bearing needle, it also settles fast. At the same time, sideways swing of the needle has been eliminated. The graphic and ergonomic design make the ARROW series easy to read.

The combination of these features with the over-all high quality of SUUNTO products make the ARROW compasses unbeatable. A sign of the fact that SUUNTO is to be taken seriously within this field is also the sponsorship agreement with the IOF since 1995.



*SUUNTO Arrow
2/L and 2/R (left);*

*SUUNTO Backpack
(below)*

*Equipment for Outdoors: **SUUNTO Backpack and Weekend Bag***

SUUNTO, known as the world's leading compass manufacturer, also provides other equipment for the outdoors. The SUUNTO backpack and weekend bag have been designed with the special needs of the outdoorsman in mind; something you want to carry on your shoulders and still enjoy it.

The **SUUNTO backpack** with folded chair is suitable for orienteers, hunters, hikers and sport spectators alike. Several unique features include easily detachable and ergonomically designed chair frame and a separate shoe compartment with ventilated opening. In addition to several mesh pockets both in and outside, the backpack comes with a thermos holder and detachable pouch for personal toiletry.

The rain cover for the seat and the pack is provided as standard. The durable and versatile pack is made of nylon with a lightweight



aluminium chair frame. Available in dark green with black details and red zipper cords.

The large **SUUNTO weekend bag** has two easily detachable side pockets, which convert into a shoulder bag and a backpack respectively. The bag is equipped with a shoulder strap and name tag, and comes in the same material and colours as the above-mentioned backpack. Together these two bags provide campers, orienteers and others a complete set for day trips or longer tours.

INTERNATIONAL FIXTURES LIST

*This list includes all open events in the 1997 IOF Calendar with closing dates after 1st August. 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, L - long 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, telephone and fax numbers and e-mail address. A * indicates that the event is designated an IOF Elite Event.*

AUGUST

- 15-17 **3-Daagse van de Kempen, Hechtel, Belgium** 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 Béránek, Sadová 745, 473 01 Novy Bor,
Czech Republic T & F +42 424 32058
- 22-24 **7th Cerklno Cup, Cerklno, Slovenia** 3I
OK Azimut, p.p. 27, 5282 Cerklno, Slovenia
T & F +386 6574 5030
- 23-25 **White Rose O-Festival, Helmsley, England** 2I/R
A Smith, Kirkmoors, Main Street, Huby, York,
England YO6 1HS T & F +44 1347 810348,
e-mail tonyk@globalnet.co.uk
- 27-31 *** French Championships, Charleville-Mezière 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, Duzniki Zdrój, Poland**
(13/7) 3I Okregowy Związak BnO, ul. Laciarska 4,
50-104 Wrocław, Poland
T +48 71 354 2507, F +48 71 448 543
- 29-31 **Cena Vychodnich Cech 97, Kocbere, Czech Republic**
(7/8) 3I P Behoun, Milady Horakove 420,
500 06 Hradec Kralove, Czech Republic
T +42 49 612407, F +42 49 25664
- 31 **5th National Event, Bern, Switzerland** I
P Fritschy, Bergweg 10, CH-3075 Rüfenacht,
Switzerland T +41 31 839 7141

SEPT

- 6, 7 *** Swiss Championships, Lausanne, Switzerland S/C**
B Remo, Jurastrasse 101, CH-2540 Grenchen,
Switzerland T +41 65 551 412
- 7 **4th National Event, Berendrecht, Belgium** (15/8) I
M Van Bruggen, Oude Vaartstraat 58, 2300 Turnhout,
Belgium T +32 14 414502
- 7 **XVIII Dunavski Kup, Nestin, Yugoslavia** (30/8) I
Asak Slavko, P. Fah 1, 21 314 Nestin, Yugoslavia
T +381 21 769 105
- 13, 14 **Slovakian Championships & Cup, Kosice, Slovakia**
(28/8) S/C J Pollak, Ruzinska 15, 04001 Kosice,
Slovakia T +42 95 423211
- 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
- 14 **Belgium Short Distance Champs., Hal, Belgium** (1/9)
S M Biron, 85 ave. Van Becelaere, 1170 Bruxelles,
Belgium T +32 2 672 7765
- 14 **6th National Event, Luzern, Switzerland** (14/8) I
S Aschwanden, Luegisland 18, CH-6410 Goldau,
Switzerland T +41 41 825691
- 20, 21 **YU Open '97, Zabljak, Yugoslavia** (1/9) 2I
Z Milovanovic, P.Fah 33, 11420 Smed. Palanka,
Yugoslavia T & F +381 2631 3031
- 20, 21 **Czech Championships, Lipno, Czech Rep.** (5/9) C/S
P Horak, Leopoldova 2040, 149 00 Praha 4, Czech Rep.
T +42 2 795 2329, fax +42 2 6603 7207
- 27, 28 **Slovakia National Cup & Relay Champs., Bratislava**
(12/9) C/R D Formanko, Tematinska 2,
851 05 Bratislava, Slovakia T +42 7 834953
- 27, 28 **Czech Relay & Club Champs., Brno** (10/9) 2R
J Dittrich, Novomestska 3, 621 00 Brno, Czech Republic
T +42 5 514 0255

SEPT

- 28 **7th National Event, Aarau, Switzerland** (28/8) I
M Hürzeler, Wartburgstrasse 18, CH-4663 Aarburg,
Switzerland T +41 62 791 3466
- 29-4/10 **Veteran World Cup, Camp Ripley, Minneapolis,**
USA 3I VWC 1997, P.O. Box 23044, Richfield,
MN 55423, USA T & F +1 612 869 4043,
e-mail VWC97@aol.com
- OCT**
- 4 *** Australian Championships C**
OFA, P.O. Box 740, Glebe NSW 2037, Australia
T & F +61 2 660 2067
- 4, 5 *** Suunto Games, Võru, Estonia** (22/9) 2I
Sixten Sild, Jüri 31, EE-2710 Võru, Estonia
T & F +372 78 21546
- 11 **25-manna Relay, Stockholm, Sweden** (1/9) R
L Stigberg, Engvallsvägen 19, SE-147 63 Uttran,
Sweden T +46 8 5303 4495, F +46 8 5303 36626
<http://www2.passagen.se/25manna/>
- 11, 12 **Raid Azur, Côte d'Azur, France** 2L
G Deli, Maison Départementale des Sports, La Rode,
83000 Toulon, France T & F +33 4 9408 1784
- 12 **5th National Event, Dilsen, Belgium** (15/9) I
C Addiers, Motstraat 51, 3570 Alken, Belgium
T +32 11 314538
- 18 *** Blodslitet, Fredrikstad, Norway** L
P Stenseth, Morenevn. 6 B, N-1609 Fredrikstad, Norway
T +47 6931 6031, F +47 6931 8205
- 18, 19 **8th National Event, Chur, Switzerland** (18/9) 2I
C Wetzstein, Signinastr. 17, CH-7000 Chur, Switzerland
T +41 81 284 2362
- 19 *** National Event, Forest of Dean, SW England** (28/9)
C I Stirrups, Cloud Harrow, Madam Wood, Painswick,
Glos., U.K. GL6 6SZ T +44 1452 812923
- 25, 26 **Høst-Open, Bornholm, Denmark** (30/9) 2I
O Hansen, Bedegadevej 24, DK-3782 Klemensker,
Bornholm, Denmark T +45 5696 6038
- 25, 26 **Smålandskavlen, Ljungby, Sweden** (1/10) R(N+D)
F Carlsson, T +46 372 13330, F +46 372 81635,
<http://www.smsk.slu.se/personliga/s5carsve/fkfinn.htm>
- NOV**
- 1, 2 **Oszi Spartacus Kupa, Budapest, Hungary** (1/10) 2I
Tabáni Spartacus SE, Attila u. 2, H-1013 Budapest,
Hungary
- 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
- 9 **Jættemilen, Copenhagen, Denmark** (20/10) L
J Nørsgaard, Baunevej 126, DK-2630 Tåstrup, Denmark
T +45 4252 3995
- 9 **National Event, Lake District, England** (3/10) I
A Tarr, 23 Clifton Road, Runcorn, Cheshire,
U.K. WA7 4SX T +44 1928 575599
- DEC**
- 25-27 **Otzma Cup 97, Galilee, Israel** 3I
Israel Sport Orienteering Association, P.O.B. 1392,
Ramat Hasharon 47100, Israel F +972 9 748 1758
- 26-30 **10th Sylvester 5-days, Leopoldsborg, Belgium** (15/11)
SI L Vanhees, Heidestraat 100, 3581 Beringen, Belgium
T +32 11 343906

SKI-O: 'First Snow' International Event, Syktyvkar, Russia 3I
Between 2 & 9/12/97. Enquiries: Vladimir Golov, Kutuzova st. 15-9,
Syktyvkar, 167011 Russia T +821 2 445099, F +821 2 424196

Trail O Flourishes in Sweden

by Christer Svensson

Trail orienteering, or 'Præcisions-Orientering' as it is known in Scandinavia, is most developed in Sweden, where the elite in this sport now have a high level of competence and several years' experience. Trail O events take place frequently, and there is a 5-day competition every year as part of the O-Ringen 5-Days.

On 17-18 May the Swedish Open Championships took place over 2 days around Århus in South Sweden, with the Pan-Kristianstad club as organisers. They were delighted that almost all the Swedish handicapped elite took part, with some 40 participants in all. There were also A and B classes. The competition followed the classic Trail

O 'multiple choice' format, where at a sequence of sites in the forest, competitors view a group of control markers from a fixed point and decide which one is in the position marked on their competition map. At certain sites, competitors are timed from the moment they receive the map to the moment they make their decision.

Competitors used a variety of means of getting round the course: in wheelchairs, on foot with assistance, and even by bicycle.

Victory in the elite class went to the favourite, Jarl Åkesson from the home club.



WE DELIVER WHERE TIME COUNTS

More than 100 events with a total of 80.000 runners including the Ski-O World Championship, World Cup, Park World Tour, Tio-Mila and O-Ringen used our Electronic Punching and Timing system (EPT) in 1996. More than 10.000 e-cards sold as per April 1997.

Regnly-Timeteck AS has recently changed name to Emit AS. Look for our new logo where time counts.



time after time

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Internet

E-mail: emit@emit.no
WWW: <http://www.sol.no/emit>

New Time Recorder from Emit

Emit's new Mini Time Recorder (MTR) is a reading/storage unit used solely together with the Electronic Punching and Timing system (EPT) when electronic timing is used. The MTR is water-resistant, has a replaceable 9V battery and an internal memory of about 2,500 e-cards.

The MTR is made as a cheaper and safer alternative to the well-known RTR2 Time Recorder. MTR gives a receipt in the form of a light/sound signal whenever an e-card is read. The communication protocol is open and fully documented to enable software developers easy implementation of EPT into their applications.

The MTR can also be used together with a fast thermal printer in order to make a simple and quick printout of the contents of an e-card after having finished a race. Since the printer is rechargeable this solution is ideal for smaller events with 'flexi-start' and events where electricity and a PC/printer are not available. The MTR can also be emptied into a PC after the race in order to make complete results. The MTR connected to a thermal printer is also ideal for larger events if the organiser wants to give each runner a personal split time printout; the e-card is then first read out against the main timing system and thereafter on an MTR connected to a thermal printer.

A special version of the MTR can be used at the start in order to register who is starting in a race. By placing the e-card on this MTR, information from the previous race will be erased, the runner will get confirmation (light/sound signal) that the e-card is working and the organiser will get a register of who has started. After the last start this MTR is connected to a PC for transfer of stored information to the main result system.

International Ski-O in Japan

In late January 1998 a further step towards the recognition of ski-orienteering as a Winter Olympics sport will take place when an international ski-O competition is held in Sugadaira, Japan, just before the opening of the 18th Winter Olympic Games in nearby Nagano.

The programme is:

- Jan 28 Opening ceremony
- Jan 29 Model event
- Jan 30 Short distance
- Jan 31 Super-Sprint elite event with qualification & final Relay
- Prizegiving ceremony

Every nation can enter 2 men and 2 women in the elite classes; the closing date for entries is 15th December 1997. It is intended that all the best ski-orienteers should participate. Therefore those who were among the 15 best in the 1997 World Cup total scores and those who will be among the 15 best in the 1998 World Championships individual races will have the right to take part. However the total number of competitors from each nation is restricted to 6 men and 6 women.

Costs Paid for 30 Competitors

The organisers will pay travel and accommodation for 15 men and 15 women. The IOF has decided that the selection of these participants will take place as follows:

(1) The basis of the group is those who were among the 15 best in total scores in the 1997 World Cup.

(2) There is a limitation that a maximum of 3 men and 3 women from one Federation can be in this paid group. When the maximum of 3 competitors is reached, the list of this group is filled by the next competitor in the World Cup ranking.

(3) Those who finish amongst the 6 best in long distance or in short distance in the World Championships in Austria, but are not in that 'best 15' group, will get a paid place, and the last qualifying on the ranking basis will then be excluded.

The system for selection in the case where a Federation has more than three competitors for the individual place in the paid group, or more than six with placing among the 15 best, is as follows:

Ranking is that best placing in

total scores of the World Cup 1997 or the WOC individual races is decisive. If the best placing is the same, the next best placing will be compared, etc.

If for any reason a competitor who is selected will not or cannot go to Japan, the IOF will find the substitute according to the above rules.

Selected Competitors after the 1997 World Cup

The following competitors will be paid for by the organiser. For those not in this list, a place among the six best in the WOC individual races will give a place in this group and the last in the list will be excluded.

Men: Vesa Mäkipää FIN, Pekka Varis FIN, Bertil Nordqvist SWE, Raino Pesu FIN, Björn Lans SWE, Vladislav Kormochtchikov RUS, Claes Thuresson SWE, Nicolo Corradini ITA, Viktor Kortchagin RUS, Lars Lystad

NOR, Nikolai Bondar RUS, Jan Pecka CZE, Raul Kudre EST, Andreas M Edvardsen NOR, Nerjus Sulcys LTU. **Women:** Hilde G Pedersen NOR, Liisa Anttila FIN, Terhi Holster FIN, Valborg Madslie NOR, Mervi Anttila FIN, Svetlana Khauoustova RUS, Mall Alev EST, Lena Hasselström SWE, Natalia Frei RUS, Tatiana Naumova RUS, Arja Hannus SWE, Ulrica Swärd SWE, Hanne Sletner NOR, Maret Vaher EST, Laura Bettega ITA.

The following competitors have the right to participate because of their place among the 15 best in the 1997 World Cup, but their travel and accommodation will be paid by themselves or their Federation:

Men: Kalle Junnikkala FIN, Pär-Ove Bergqvist SWE, Matti Keskinarkus FIN, Arto Lilja FIN. **Women:** Arja Nuolioja FIN, Oksana Isavnina RUS, Ann-Charlotte Carlsson SWE.

More information on internet:
ski-info@orienteering.com or
vyeo1114@niftyserve.or.jp

Events Noticeboard

Plan your Christmas Break Now!

European orienteers looking for an active holiday in the Christmas period could do worse than consider one of the two now well-established northern hemisphere multi-day events held between Christmas and New Year.

In Belgium the **Sylvester 5-Days** starts on 26th December and promises the usual mixture of good competition and social activity, whilst in Israel the three-day **Otzma Cup** breaks new ground this year, visiting the lower Galilee area not far from the city of Nazareth. For the Otzma Cup, the event and

accommodation centre is at Kibbutz Beit-Keshet, 25km from Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee, and about 150km from the international airport at Tel-Aviv.

Three contrasting mixed forest and open areas are being used, two of them new to orienteering. Competition here can be combined with memorable sightseeing trips to Jerusalem and the Dead Sea in temperatures similar to those in Europe in spring or summer.

Contact addresses are given in the fixture list on page 21.

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





5 Days of Valle di Non

TRENTINO - ITALY

5 DAYS INTERNATIONAL ORIENTEERING COMPETITION

7-11 JULY 1998

C.O.N.I.  F.I.D.A.L.
F.I.S.O.

AZIENDA DI PROMOZIONE TURISTICA


Valle di Non

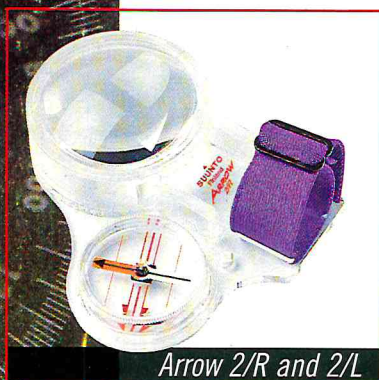
INFORMATIONS

ORIENTEERING CLUB PREDAIA - Via delle Albere, 50 - I - 38010 TAIÒ (TN) Italy

Tel./Fax (int) + (0) 463 467 194 - E-mail: predaia@mbx.vol.it - Internet: www.datas.it/orienteering_predaia

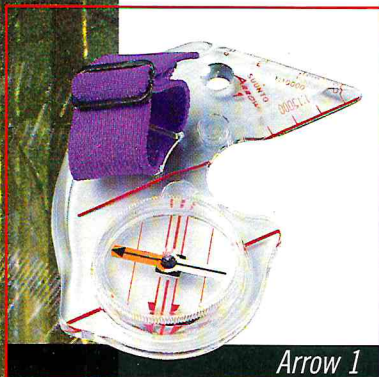


NEW! The top of thumb compasses with an extra-large magnifying lens. Special model for left-handers.



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.



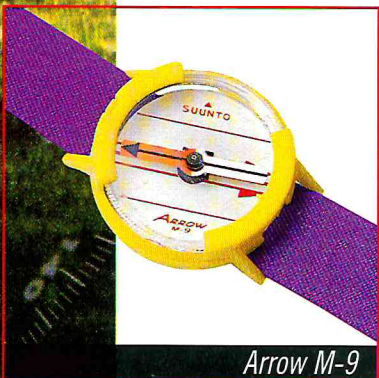
Arrow 2000

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 ways to find a 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