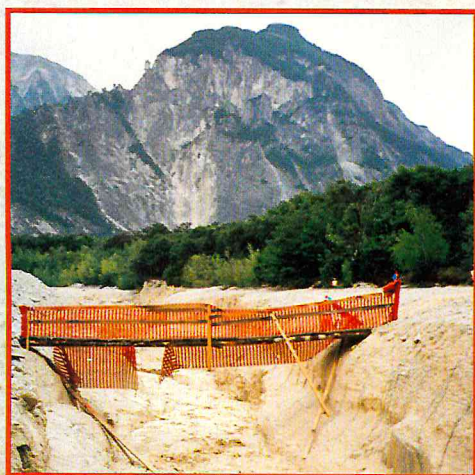


ORIENTEERING WORLD



1996 No. 5 - OCTOBER



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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 I.O.F. policy.

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96/6	5 December	11 November
97/1	6 February	13 January
97/2	11 April	17 March

The Editor apologises for the delay in publication of this issue, which results from a short period unexpectedly spent in hospital. Full recovery is well under way!

COVER PHOTO: The men's race in the mass start classic race in Leuk, Switzerland. Jörgen Mårtensson leads the race to the finish, but was beaten on the run-in by Håkan Eriksson (here 2nd) and Petter Thoresen (punching). Inset: the bridge near to collapse 30 minutes later (see p. 6) photos: Graham McIntyre

Editorial

Another World Cup season is over, and the champions applauded. This has been a particularly good year for Sweden, one in which the team and its leadership have been 'on song' throughout. But many nations will feel that they have something to cheer about, because a good number of non-Scandinavian runners have on at least one occasion broken into the top twenty in the results lists, once upon a time almost entirely Scandinavian domain.

Perhaps the multi-national look of the leading results in the Junior World Championships in the last three years will lead to a similar picture at senior level in a few years' time. Or perhaps not; success at top senior elite level still depends to a great degree on one's opportunities to train in the right places at the right times of year, with an expert coach guiding the preparation and build-up to the big events. Money, resources, infrastructure, expertise - more or less 'on tap' in the strongest nations, almost non-existent at the other end of the scale. Helping nations to narrow the gap should be a priority for the IOF in its objective to improve standards world-wide.

But what of these 'big events' which form the backbone of the elite season? This edition of *OW* carries criticism of a number of aspects of World Cup organisation. Both the IOF and the nations chosen to stage World Cup events need to ensure that the human resources allocated to the task are adequate in quality, relevant experience and quantity. The IOF should find out (if it has not already done so) which of the newer IOF Controllers who were appointed to IOF Elite events this year proved to be good at the job, because they are the people to whom we should be looking as future World Cup Controllers - people who are newly proving that they understand the requirements, in the widest sense, of international elite competition and are good at supporting organisers in achieving them. It is these people who hold the key to a future where greater consistency in World Cup standards can be assured.

I cannot agree with Janne Salmi (see page 8) that World Cup events should not be allocated to younger orienteering nations - in a nation such as Portugal there is in fact much more likelihood of good sponsorship and media coverage than in some of the longest-established orienteering nations. Such nations are unlikely to under-resource their event, either. The important essential is that these nations get expert support in choosing the best terrain, making fine maps and planning first-class courses.

Clive Allen

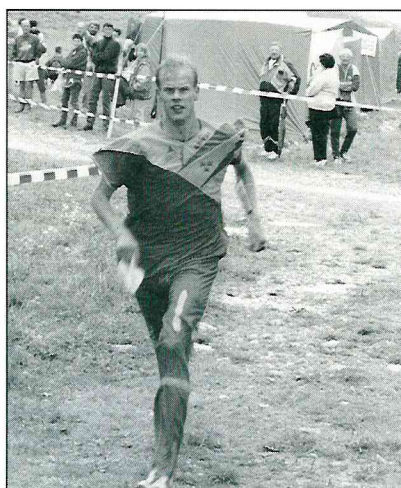
1996 World Cup

Sweden Dominates Top Places

Sweden's **Johann Ivarsson** and **Gunilla Svärd** are the 1996 World Cup champions. Both secured their overall victories in the final race at Villard-de-Lans, France, but neither were winners on the day. Of the top 10 men and women in the final rankings, 7 are Swedes.

Ivarsson was one of 8 runners in the final race with a chance of becoming champion, but not one of the favourites. He helped himself by placing second to Thomas Bührer, and was then dependent on others' performances. Pre-race leader and last starter Jörgen Mårtensson could manage only 7th, leaving him in second place overall, 3 points behind Ivarsson.

Svärd's 14th position in the final, on slippery limestone terrain which she said she found difficult, was adequate to give her victory by 3 points over Marlena Jansson; prior to the final she was the only woman to have won 2 of the year's races (in Sweden and Norway in early August) and had built up a significant lead. Hanne Staff had to win the final to gain top place.



Johan Ivarsson and Gunilla Svärd - World Cup champions
photos: Hazelle Jackson / CompassSport (l) & Kim Rud

Top 10 Individuals

Men

1	Johann Ivarsson	SWE	181
2	Jörgen Mårtensson	SWE	178
3	Timo Karppinen	FIN	176
4	Mikael Boström	FIN	174
5	Alain Berger	SUI	168
6	Håkan Eriksson	SWE	165
7	Rudolf Ropek	CZE	163
8	Sixten Sild	EST	162
9	Peter Jacobsson	SWE	156
10	Bjørnar Valstad	NOR	156

Women

1	Gunilla Svärd	SWE	192
2	Marlena Jansson	SWE	189
3	Hanne Staff	NOR	184
4	Anniina Paronen	FIN	168
5	Yvette Hague	GBR	168
6	Anette Granstedt	SWE	167
7	Hanne Sandstad	NOR	163
8	Sanna Nymalm	FIN	161
9	Sabrina Meister-Fessler	SUI	158
10	Johanna Tiira	FIN	155

Top 6 Relay Teams

Men

1	Sweden	40
2	Norway	35
3	Finland	33
4	Switzerland	32
5	Czech Republic	28
6	Great Britain	24

Women

1	Norway	40
2	Sweden	37
3	Switzerland	36
4	Finland	33
5	Czech Republic	27
6	Great Britain	24

**COMPLETE
WORLD CUP
RANKING LISTS -
SEE PAGE 7**

The World Cup in Switzerland

Switzerland staged 3 of the 4 races in the final round - a relay, a short distance race and a mass start classic race with loops. Sweden's runners were in top form and achieved a full quartet of individual victories, whilst Switzerland won both relay classes.

Sweden's 4 winners were Peter Jacobsson and Katarina Borg (short distance), Håkan Eriksson and Marlena Jansson (classic). Both Jacobsson and Borg won by clear margins

Borg Triumphs over Adversity

Sweden's Katarina Borg started first in the short distance final and emerged the winner by 52 seconds, but a few hours earlier it seemed unlikely that she would have a run in the A-final. Finishing only 24th in her qualification race (5 minutes slower than she needed to gain the final qualifying place - 16th), she was along with 3 others controversially given a place in the A-final following a protest by the Swedish team.

The situation arose when mistakes occurred at the qualification start in the allocation of map units to runners. Several runners including Borg had their maps changed seconds before their start signal,

from early placings in the start lists, whereas hectic sprint finishes were the order of the day in the classic with Eriksson ahead of Norway's Petter Thoresen by just one second.

All three races were held in fine, scenic locations and produced exciting competition on good, well-mapped terrain.

A number of problems and talking points arose, however, which are explored in other articles in this section.

and the Swedish claim that this had effectively ruined Borg's concentration was accepted by the organisers.

Another Swede, Karoline Arewång, went into the forest with the wrong map; she finished in a qualifying position and therefore gained an A-final place automatically despite running the wrong course.

Not everyone was happy with the organisers' decision to give the extra A-final places, but the short time period between the qualification and the final made it impossible for all who might have wanted a say to get a clear understanding of the circumstances and to make representations accordingly.



Thomas Bührer celebrates his win in France
photo: Hazelle Jackson / CompassSport

Grand Finale in France

The small ski resort of Le Vercors, in the delightful pre-alpine area around Villard-De-Lans not far from Grenoble, was the venue for the World Cup Final, a standard-format classic race. The underlying rock in the region is limestone, with a number of areas of 'pavement' - log-sized blocks of smooth rock with deep fissures in between: terrain familiar enough to most elite orienteers, who regard it as especially challenging because of the many small contour and rock features and its slipperiness when wet.

On a damp and misty morning mistakes were a-plenty in the darkness of the forest amongst the many boulders and small re-entrants. Fine conditions for a testing final - and testing it proved to be, with the known 'limestone experts' coming to the fore. None more so than

Switzerland's Thomas Bührer, who has proved himself before in these conditions and knew he was in form. He completed the 12.6km course more than two and a half minutes quicker than second-placed Johan Ivarsson.

Marlena Jansson enjoyed a similarly convincing victory over Sabrina Meister-Fesseler who had her best World Cup run of the season. Hanne Staff, who needed to win this race to become overall champion, placed third.

A few hours later, the prizegiving ceremony for the World Cup overall was held in the town square of Villard-De-Lans, attracting a large crowd of orienteers, locals and interested holidaymakers; what a pity there weren't more of them watching the races!

LEADING RESULTS - FRANCE

MEN: 1. Thomas Bührer SUI 1.30.48, 2. Johan Ivarsson SWE 1.33.24, 3. Mikael Boström FIN 1.33.52, 4. Per Olaussen NOR 1.34.55, 5. Alain Berger SUI 1.35.27, 6. Olivier Coupat FRA 1.35.55, 7. Jörgen Mårtensson SWE 1.36.00, 8. Carl Henrik Bjørseth NOR 1.36.12, 9. Per Ek SWE 1.36.52, 10. Bjørnar Valstad NOR 1.37.19, 11. Yuri Omeltchenko UKR 1.37.46, 12. Dominik Humbel SUI 1.39.00, 13. Rudolf Ropek CZE 1.39.02, 14= Janne Salmi FIN & Petter Thoresen NOR 1.39.07, 16. Petri Forsman FIN 1.39.28, 17. Kjetil Bjørlo NOR 1.39.50, 18. Christoph Plattner SUI 1.40.15, 19. Sören Nymalm FIN 1.40.39, 20. Peter Jacobsson SWE 1.41.40. **WOMEN:** 1. Marlena Jansson SWE 1.05.41, 2. Sabrina Meister-Fesseler SUI 1.08.04, 3. Anniina Paronen FIN 1.08.09, 4. Sanna Nymalm FIN 1.08.52, 5. Hanne Staff NOR 1.10.07, 6. Laure Coupat FRA 1.11.35, 7. Heather Monro GBR 1.12.11, 8. Kirsi Tiira FIN 1.12.43, 9. Hanne Sandstad NOR 1.13.51, 10. Marie-Luce Romanens SUI 1.13.57, 11. Johanna Tiira FIN 1.14.19, 12. Lucie Böhm AUT 1.15.16, 13. Anette Granstedt SWE 1.15.47, 14. Gunilla Svård SWE 1.16.18, 15. Yvette Hague GBR 1.16.31, 16. Gro Sandstad NOR 1.17.24, 17. Vroni König SUI 1.17.42, 18. Külli Kaljus EST 1.18.12, 19. Jenny James GBR 1.18.26, 20. Frauke Schmitt-Gran GER 1.18.30.



The men's mass start in the World Cup relay final in Switzerland

photo: Kim Rud

World Cup Classic Race, Switzerland

Close to Disaster

Twice a year on average the Illgraben stream near Leuk experiences a flash flood resulting from thunderstorms in the mountains upstream. To cross the ravine carrying this stream running down between the forest and the finish, the organisers built a sturdy log bridge, but knowing what the weather could do, they made a contingency plan to site an emergency finish on the forest side.

What this plan did not allow for was a flood occurring *during* the event. When the men's race leaders crossed the bridge the stream was dry, but a few minutes later it changed dramatically into a raging torrent. The bridge with its supports in the stream bed quickly became too dangerous to use, and the last third of the field - 31 runners - in this mass start race were then stranded beside the last control.

There was no-one manning the alternative finish site, and so a significant part of the field had no results to show for their efforts. Even the records from the Regnly system did not help,

because the competitors' electronic tags had been activated randomly at a recording point on the way to the start.

Had the flood occurred 30 minutes earlier, total chaos would have ensued!

It became known later that the IOF Controller, Jaroslav Dokoupil (CZE), had recommended in July 1995 that a meadow in the western edge of the forest should be used as the competition centre (see map on page 11), avoiding the need for a bridge and cutting out 'dead' running in the loops and to the finish. He described the area along the river as "quite awful".

This wasn't the only problem faced by the Leuk organisers. The forking system failed to separate the leading runners (see page 10), with the result that there were 30 finishers within a minute in the men's race and almost as many at one stage in the women's.

It was one day and many interviews later that the finishing order was finally determined and official results published.

World Cup classic race (mass start with loops), Leuk, Switzerland

LEADING RESULTS: MEN: 1. Håkan Eriksson SWE 1.20.38, 2. Petter Thoresen NOR 1.20.39, 3. Jörgen Mårtensson SWE 1.20.40, 4. Rudolf Ropek CZE 1.20.42, 5. Jon Tvedt NOR 1.20.43, 6. Allan Mogensen DEN 1.20.47, 7. Yuri Omeltchenko UKR 1.20.50, 8. Per Olaussen NOR 1.20.52, 9. Sixten Sild EST 1.20.54, 10. Christoph Plattner SUI 1.20.56, 11. Alistair Landels NZL 1.20.58, 12. Bjørnar Valstad NOR 1.20.59, 13. Olivier Coupat FRA 1.21.00, 14. Svajunas Ambrazas LTU 1.21.00, 15. Alain Berger SUI 1.21.00, 16. Kenneth Cederberg FIN 1.21.02, 17. Libor Zřidkavský CZE 1.21.03, 18. Grant Bluet AUS 1.21.04, 19. Edgaras Voveris LTU 1.21.06, 20. Thomas Jensen DEN 1.21.08.

WOMEN: 1. Marlena Jansson SWE 1.00.26, 2. Brigitte Wolf SUI 1.00.38, 3. Gunilla Svärd SWE 1.01.09, 4. Hanne Sandstad NOR 1.01.15, 5. Hanne Staff NOR 1.01.18, 6. Iveta Liberdova CZE 1.01.20, 7. Anniina Paronen FIN 1.01.25, 8. Reeta-Mari Kolkkala FIN 1.01.31, 9. Külli Kaljus EST 1.01.34, 10. Heather Monro GBR 1.01.36, 11. Jana Cieslarova CZE 1.01.38, 12. Sanna Nymalm FIN 1.01.41, 13. Johanna Tiira FIN 1.01.44, 14. Yvette Hague GBR 1.01.45, 15. Anette Granstedt SWE 1.01.47, 16. Torunn Fossli Sæthre NOR 1.01.51, 17. Alix Young AUS 1.01.52, 18. Olga Jirsova CZE 1.01.53, 19. Birgitte Nordahl Husebye NOR 1.01.54, 20. Marie-Luce Romanens SUI 1.01.58.



"It felt like the end of a cross-country race"; competitors discuss the close finish after the women's mass start classic race at Leuk
photo: Graham McIntyre

Short Distance Event Results

MEN: 1. Peter Jacobsson SWE 26.03, 2. Johan Ivarsson SWE 27.04, 3. Alain Berger SUI 27.11, 4. Carsten Jørgensen DEN 27.12, 5. Jörgen Mårtensson SWE 27.14, 6. Per Ek SWE 27.24, 7. Timo Karppinen FIN 27.25, 8. Jon Tvedt NOR 27.40, 9. Christoph Plattner SUI 27.44, 10. Rudolf Ropek CZE 27.52, 11. Alistair Landels NZL 28.11, 12. Håkan Eriksson SWE 28.19, 13. Jozef Pollak SVK 28.23, 14. Daniel Giger SUI 28.34, 15. Bjørnar Valstad NOR 28.35, 16. Allan Mogensen DEN 28.39, 17. Mikael Boström FIN 28.48, 18. Stephen Palmer GBR 28.53, 19. Dominik Humbel SUI 29.14, 20. Carl Henrik Bjørseth NOR 29.18.

WOMEN: 1. Katarina Borg SWE 24.43, 2. Gunilla Svärd SWE 25.35, 3. Anna Garin ESP 25.51, 4. Marie-Luce Romanens SUI 26.03, 5. Lucie Böhm AUT 26.16, 6. Yvette Hague GBR 26.40, 7. Sabrina Meister-Fesseler SUI 26.46, 8. Brigitte Wolf SUI 27.01, 9. Johanna Tiira FIN 27.26, 10. Hanne Sandstad NOR 27.27, 11. Anna Bogren SWE 27.29, 12. Vroni König SUI 27.48, 13. Kirsi Tiira FIN 28.00, 14. Karolina Arewång SWE 28.05, 15. Anette Granstedt SWE 28.06, 16. Heather Monro GBR 28.28, 17. Eija Koskivaara FIN 28.34, 18. Frauke Schmitt-Gran GER 28.37, 19. Torunn Fossli Sæthre NOR 28.52, 20. Reeta-Mari Kolkkala FIN 29.00.

World Cup Relay Final

LEADING RESULTS: MEN: 1. SUI1 (Dominik Humbel, Alain Berger, Thomas Bühner) 2.52.34, 2. NOR2 2.56.08, 3. SWE1 2.56.41, 4. NOR1 2.59.16, 5. FIN1 3.05.04.

WOMEN: 1. SUI1 (Brigitte Wolf, Marie-Luce Romanens, Sabrina Meister Fesseler) 2.04.57, 2. NOR 2.09.14, 3. FIN1 2.11.33, 4. SUI2 2.11.44, 5. CZE2 2.11.45.



Yvette Hague takes a drink at the spectator control in the World Cup final in France
photo: Hazelle Jackson / CompassSport

Who Were the Best in the World Cup?

Four classic and three short distance races made up the 1996 World Cup season, seven races in all. But only four races counted for the final score. If five had counted, the list of the top ten men's runners would have looked like this - somewhat different from the official rankings (numbers in brackets are the official positions):

1	Jörgen Mårtensson	SWE	219 (2)
2	Johan Ivarsson	SWE	212 (1)
3	Mikael Boström	FIN	203 (4)
4	Håkan Eriksson	SWE	199 (6)
5	Alain Berger	SUI	199 (5)
6	Rudolf Ropek	CZE	199 (7)
7	Sixten Sild	EST	198 (8)
8	Timo Karppinen	FIN	191 (3)
9	Bjørnar Valstad	NOR	190 (10)
10	Peter Jacobsson	SWE	185 (9)

Unlucky Mårtensson

Jörgen Mårtensson can consider himself the most unlucky victim of the 4-to-count rule, which emphasises top-place success over consistency of performance.

He was never lower than seventh place in all this year's World Cup events, and had one victory (Lithuania) and a third place.

This compares to Johan Ivarsson's one victory (Norway) and two second places, but no other placing higher than twelfth.

How much should consistency count?

Of the 20 leading men and women in the 1996 tables, only one man scored points in fewer than 5 events; the top orienteers all now attend the complete World Cup circuit. So accessibility need not be a factor in deciding on the number of events to count. Most important is the principle: to what extent should consistency contribute to the formula which decides the World Cup winners?

Clive Allen



Their faces tell the story; Mårtensson and Ivarsson after the World Cup final

photo: Hazelle Jackson / CompassSport

Complete 1996 World Cup Rankings

MEN: 1. Johan Ivarsson SWE 181, 2. Jörgen Mårtensson SWE 178, 3. Timo Karppinen FIN 176, 4. Mikael Boström FIN 174, 5. Alain Berger SUI 168, 6. Håkan Eriksson SWE 165, 7. Rudolf Ropek CZE 163, 8. Sixten Sild EST 162, 9. Peter Jacobsson SWE 156, 10. Bjørnar Valstad NOR 156, 11. Thomas Bühner SUI 155, 12. Petter Thoresen NOR 151, 13. Allan Mogensen DEN 150, 14. Jon Tvedt NOR 144, 15. Carl Henrik Bjørseth NOR 142, 16. Per Ek SWE 141, 17. Christoph Plattner SUI 140, 18. Kenneth Cederberg FIN 139, 19. Edgaras Voveris LTU 133, 20. Kjetil Bjørlo NOR 130, 21. Per Olauksen NOR 128, 22. Janne Salmi FIN 127, 23. Olivier Coupat FRA 123, 24. Carsten Jørgensen DEN 120, 25. Yuri Omeltchenko UKR 118, 26. Valentin Novikov RUS 116, 27. Alistair Landels NZL 114, 28. Dominik Humbel SUI 108, 29. Tommi Jölkö FIN 99, 30. Steven Hale GBR 94, 31. Jozef Pollak SVK 91, 32. Stephen Palmer GBR 91, 33. Daniel Giger SUI 88, 34. Libor Zřidkavský CZE 85, 35. Flemming Jørgensen DEN 84, 36. Chris Terkelsen DEN 79, 37. Petri Forsman FIN 73, 38. Svajunas Ambrazas LTU 72, 39. Håvard Tveite NOR 69, 40. Janis Ozolins LAT 69, 41. Grant Bluett AUS 67, 42. Ants Grende LAT 60, 43. Tomas Prokes CZE 59, 44. Jonathan Musgrave GBR 58, 45. Sören Nymalm FIN 56, 46. Frederik Löwegren SWE 56, 47. Vidas Armalis LTU 52, 48. Vladimir Koslov RUS 47, 49. Thomas Jensen DEN 44, 50. Gábor Domonyik HUN 42, 51. Rolf Breckle GER 39, 52. David Peel GBR 37, 53. Steve Nicholson GBR 35, 54. Sergei Sibilev RUS 35, 55. Dominik Haag SUI 33, 56. Jesper David Jensen DEN 32, 57. Vaclav Zakouril CZE 32, 58. Alexandre Mikhailov UKR 31, 59. Jean-Daniel Giroux FRA 27, 60. Steve Craig AUS 26, 61. Janusz Porzycz POL 25, 62. Alar Viitmaa

EST 25, 63. Igor Troukhan UKR 24, 64. Cristiano Simoni ITA 22, 65. Pierpaolo Corona ITA 22, 66. Martin Brantner AUT 22, 67= Thomas Krejki AUT & Ivars Zagars LAT 21, 69. Ovidiu Duca ROM 21, 70. Tore Sandvik NOR 20, 71. Robert Jessop NZL 20, 72. Torben Skovlyst DEN 20, 73. Aigars Leiboms LAT 17, 74. Bernt Bjørnsgaard NOR 16, 75. Rene Ottesson EST 14, 76. Andrey Sandalnev RUS 13, 77. Jamie Stevenson GBR 12, 78. Petr Utinek CZE 11, 79. James Pearce GBR 11, 80. Warren Key AUS 10, 81. Robert Banach POL 9, 82. Rémi Gueorgiou FRA 8, 83= Pavel Moskovicz POL & Michael Tobler AUT 7, 85. Gilles Perrin FRA 7, 86. Tomas Zakouril CZE 6, 87. Bruce McLeod NZL 6, 88= Neil Conway GBR, Gábor Pavlovics HUN & Michele Tavernano ITA 5, 91. Wolfgang Waldhäusl AUT 4, 92. Tom Quayle AUS 4, 93. Erik Aibast EST 3, 94. Stéphane Toussaint FRA 2, 95. Igor Gorbatenkov RUS 2, 96= Tarvo Avaste EST, Ales Drahonovsky CZE, David Farquhar NZL & Rado Jonas SVK 1.

WOMEN: 1. Gunilla Svärd SWE 192, 2. Marlena Jansson SWE 189, 3. Hanne Staff NOR 184, 4. Anniina Paronen FIN 168, 5. Yvette Hague GBR 168, 6. Anette Granstedt SWE 167, 7. Hanne Sandstad NOR 163, 8. Sanna Nymalm FIN 161, 9. Sabrina Meister-Fesseler SUI 158, 10. Johanna Tiira FIN 155, 11. Heather Monro GBR 155, 12. Marie-Luce Romanens SUI 151, 13. Vroni König SUI 146, 14. Kirsi Tiira FIN 144, 15. Reeta-Mari Kolkkala FIN 142, 16. Brigitte Wolf SUI 141, 17. Katarina Borg SWE 140, 18. Külli Kaljus EST 138, 19. Lucie Böhm AUT 135, 20. Anna Garin ESP 128, 21. Torunn Fossli Sæthre NOR 126, 22. Anna Bogen SWE 125, 23. Karolina Arewång SWE 121, 24. Käthi Widler SUI 115, 25. Gro Sandstad NOR 114, 26. Jana Cieslarova CZE 112, 27. Brigitte Nordahl Husebye NOR 104, 28. Frauke Schmitt-Gran GER 89, 29. Eija Koskivaara FIN 88, 30. Jenny James GBR 82, 31. Svetlana Gorbatenkova RUS 81, 32. Laure

Coupat FRA 75, 33. Judith Keinath GER 73, 34. Tine Rasmussen DEN 73, 35. Elisabeth Ingvaldsen NOR 72, 36. Maria Sandström SWE 71, 37. Iveta Liberdova CZE 66, 38. Zsuzsa Fey ROM 66, 39. Maria Honzova CZE 65, 40. Marcela Kubatkova CZE 65, 41. Ragnhild Bente Andersen NOR 64, 42. Olga Jirsova CZE 62, 43. Juliette Soulard FRA 62, 44. Natalia Pletneva RUS 57, 45. Brigitte Grüniger SUI 57, 46. Tania Robinson NZL 55, 47. Anke Xylander GER 51, 48. Marquita Gelderman NZL 50, 49. Alix Young AUS 48, 50. Danute Mansson LTU 45, 51. Iva Navratilova CZE 45, 52. Bernadette Kovács HUN 36, 53. Karin Schmalfeld GER 36, 54. Irina Michalko RUS 33, 55. Catarina Oberg SWE 32, 56. Kirsty Bryan-Jones GBR 31, 57. Anna Gornicka POL 28, 58. Nina Vinnitskaia UKR 28, 59. Tenna Nørgaard DEN 26, 60. Tracy Bluett AUS 23, 61. Dorte Dahl DEN 23, 62. Tatjana Yaksanova RUS 22, 63. Kirsten Rösler GER 18, 64. Véronique Renaud SUI 17, 65= Uli Hartinger AUT & Iraida Nikitina RUS 16, 67. Tatiana Iaksanova RUS 14, 68. Ieva Susta LAT 14, 69. Elena Kopitova RUS 14, 70. Jana Slamova SVK 13, 71. Emily Viner AUS 11, 72. Ianka Petrova BUL 10, 73. Maria Høyer DEN 10, 74. Jo Allison AUS 9, 75. Catherine Dickburt BEL 8, 76. Ieve Vegere LAT 8, 77. Jo Henderson NZL 7, 78. Lorna Eades GBR 7, 79= Renate Fauner ITA, Marianna Hornyák HUN, Meike Jaeger GER, Edith Madalik EST, Elo Saue EST & Bati Tobler AUT 5, 85. Marie-Violaine Palcau FRA 5, 86= Kim Buckley GBR, Eleonora Pavlova BUL & Ruth Vaher EST 4, 89. Katalin Lovasi HUN 4, 90= Ragnhild Myrvold NOR, Natasha Rowe AUS, Kristi Vassil EST & Giedre Voveriene LTU 3, 94= Lenka Cechova CZE, Inga Dambe LAT, Sanae Kiue JPN, Marianne Lyng Madsen DEN, Daiva Mazuolyte LTU & Katerina Ticha CZE 2, 100. Antonia Wood NZL 2, 101= Eniko Fey ROM, Yvonne Fjordside DEN, Laima Klauza LAT, Katarina Libantova SVK, Katrin Renger GER & Verena Troi ITA 1.

The World Cup - What do we Want, What do we Get?

by JANNE SALMI, Finland

The 7th bi-annual orienteering World Cup is over, and as we tend to say in Finland: "Onnea voittajille ja hävinneet harjoittellemaan"; freely translated: "Congratulations to the winners - losers (like me) go home and start training!". Before starting the new training season athletes spend some time evaluating the past season - what's been good and what went wrong? After a couple of weeks of hesitating, I now as an athlete want to write about my thoughts around the World Cup, something from past and present, but mostly worried about the future.

After my knowledge, the idea of the World Cup was presented by Peo Bengtsson together with a couple of others in the early 80's. He then, as he still is, was concerned about bringing the fascinating sport of orienteering more publicity both among the general public as well as in the media. Among the athletes the World Cup soon became the second most important race (series) after the World Championships.

The World Cup was sometimes even appraised as a better way of finding the "Orienteer of the Year" than WOC, because the series going through 3-4 months offered races in different terrain and in variable conditions.

The first round: Lithuania and Latvia

This year's World Cup was actually in two parts: in May we raced in Lithuania and Latvia, in August, more familiar for most of us, in Sweden, Norway, Switzerland and finally in France. Travelling to Balticum, many of us who were racing in these countries for the

first time probably had some scepticism in our minds. But I probably share the thought of many athletes and coaches in saying that we got more than we expected. Well-organised races in exciting, fine forests on - especially in Lithuania - brilliant maps. The accommodation and meals as well turned out to be of a very good standard even for the most choosy ones. But here as always the problem was the clear absence of media as well as public interest - only a couple of journalists travelled the 1st round on a trip organised by - Peo Bengtsson, who else.

Public Interest in the Park World Tour

In the summer in between the World Cup rounds, at least we nordic orienteers even got to experience some public interest towards our sport. The opening race of the Park World Tour was raced in Vaasa, Finland with one-and-a-half hours of direct coverage on Finnish TV. The race was no. 1 betting object in the Finnish betting-bureau Veikkaus's lists that week as well. The winners were rewarded with money prizes, which the group of 30-40 leading journalists mediated - at least over the nordic countries.

Just two days afterwards Jukola, together with the Swedish 5-Days the 'largest and most beautiful' race of the orienteering world was run in east Finland. Here as well as in 'O-Ringen' 30-40,000 orienteers together with the public joined together in the fascinating spirit of our orienteering sport. And together with more than one hundred journalists of course.

And again, just two days before the start of 'O-Ringen' we

raced in Laxå, the 2nd race in the PWT series with 3,000 people as enthusiastic spectators.

Back to the Depths of the Forest

Then the show went on. Just after 'O-Ringen' the 2nd World Cup Tour started in Gothenburg and continued in Asker. Technically good races, somewhat poor map quality in Asker and lots of transport problems in Gothenburg caused by two short-distance races in one day deep in the forest. Like orienteering races usually are, the race in Asker was in the middle of the forest as well.

Public? Orienteers running the spectator race, seemingly concentrating more on their own performances than the ones from the world elite. Media? In Norway good TV coverage on a commercial sport channel, in Sweden close to nothing because of the Olympics. Publicity? People driving on the nearest road would not have noticed that anything was going on, I dare to claim.

Switzerland and France

The final round then brought us to Switzerland. Same problems there - no posters telling people what's happening, races

the disaster complete.

In France we got a nice final for the World Cup 1996. Interesting terrain, some cartographical problems in the end loop, poor speaker service, but a nice prize-giving ceremony in Villard-de-Lans, where we could even notice the presence of this year's most important orienteering event. Still the taste in at least my mouth after the autumn series of the World Cup is that - as opposed to the spring - we were expecting more than we got!

Why I'm Concerned

So why am I writing about this? I'm concerned. The 'show' seems to go on as it has done for the past 6 years that I've been close to the orienteering elite and been racing in World Championships, World Cups and so on. The organisers too often don't seem to even try to get publicity for the races. The clearest example of the amateurist attitude was the (at least as intended initially) 'spectator-friendly' mass-start race in Leuk, where all except the race itself (even that was close!) went wrong tapering to the prize-giving ceremony, which those of us who were still there will never forget.



Desolate prizegiving at Leuk, Switzerland photo: Janne Salmi

very difficult to reach, clear failures in arrangements. Prizes for overall winners in World Cup relays - one (!!!) medal per country! I believe there were few people who were satisfied with our week in Lagnau and in Leuk - sorry, still maybe some, because the thunderstorm arrived half an hour 'too late'. An earlier arrival would have made

In the time period when most other sports have achieved large public and media interest, developed themselves in countries around the world and of course are benefitting economically, we orienteers still hide ourselves in the middle of nowhere, don't get publicity or media interest, and people don't give a damn and as a result we ath-

letes are suffering economic problems like no other top athletes in the world! And to me it seems that's what most of the people in leading positions want - I hope I'm wrong.

Elite Orienteers' Views

I'm sure that most elite orienteers would agree that:

- World Cup races shouldn't be 'a chance' for a new country or an enthusiastic person to try to show what they or he can do. Organisers should be experienced both in technical as well as PR questions. I must say I have some scepticism about the World Cup plans in 2000. Spain, Portugal, Ukraine, Belorussia...

- 'Very secret' attitudes should be prohibited! Instead, telling openly about the coming race, where, when and so on. Starting from the finishing area, not hiding ourselves for hours in the bushes so as not to get knowledge about the race. In France the coaches weren't even allowed to yell the split-times or cheer the athletes!!!



Janne Salmi approaches the finish at the World Cup final in France

photo: Kim Rud

This of course demands fair-play from all of us, but to me it seems like the only way of getting publicity and not seeming ridiculous to non-orienteers, if there happen to be any around.

- Races easy to reach and advertised in public as well as in the media.

- Money prizes for at least the 3 best in each race as well as in the total results surely will awaken interest in the media and make it easier for us to continue competing. If small national competitions in Finland can organise sponsors,

why can't the IOF?

- IOF Controllers should be former (close to) top orienteers, coaches and the like - people who have experienced races as active competitors and know what is important to make a good race. Please no more secrets, half-hour too long races and controls which were "almost there as they should be, yes, the stone was a couple of contours too low, but the flag was located high, wasn't it." (IOF Controller's explanation of the 3rd-last control in the ladies' race in the World Cup Final).

And maybe some experienced race organisers from the host country could be used as assistant controllers - because of economic difficulties the IOF Controller too often arrives at the event site just 3-4 days before the races.

This time I won't go into the race technical details, which also are much discussed among athletes...

Those were some quite critical thoughts gathered during and after the 1996 World Cup season. I'm sure all orienteers don't agree with me in all the critical comments, but surely in most of them. I know that much can't happen in one or two years, but I hope the World Cup Committee has seen the same problems as I have and will try to develop the World Cup and at the same time orienteering to be an interesting and fair sport, which maybe sometime in the (not so distant) future could be accepted as a member in the Olympic family. But before that, very, very much still must be done.



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The Mass Start Classic Race with Loops - *has it a future in serious elite competition?*

CLIVE ALLEN asks some searching questions

The mass start classic race, as a variant on the standard individual classic race format, was designed to provide extra spectator interest at little cost in technical quality. The objective of injecting more excitement into the race was certainly achieved at Illgraben, in Switzerland, where 28 male runners finished within a minute of the winner at the end of a hectic sprint finish the like of which has probably never been seen before in an elite orienteering race. A pity that spectators (and even the press) were not allowed to witness the mass start, or get within 50 metres of the spectator control - but that's another story, see below.

So was it therefore a success, with this mass-finish spectacle? It was a plus factor of a kind at this event, but other aspects of this race raise serious questions as to whether the finishing order reflected the true orienteering ability (on the day) of the participants.

Take a look at the all-controls map on page 11 and the course controls lists. A field of 83 male runners split into three to go initially to controls 34, 31 and 74. Note that control 31 is just 320 metres from the start; imagine the turmoil with 28 elite runners arriving within seconds and trying to punch!

Jostling at Controls

Even with the faster Regnly system there must have been some delays, and there were many tales afterwards of jostling at controls, not least at the final eight controls where up to 30 runners were arriving within a minute. One can imagine that some runners might have been held up, overall, for perhaps as long as their difference in time behind the winner!

Field Day for Followers

Then there is the other major fairness issue in elite orienteering - following. It is difficult to imagine that those renowned for this sort of thing did not

have a field day, latching on to those known to be expert at compass work and distance judgement in a forest which was short on big, clear features but had a lot of small detail. Indeed, conversation at the finish made it obvious that this had happened. It's a feature which is difficult to free our sport of in any kind of race - and almost impossible to prove - but is a format which is likely to increase its prevalence in the sport's best interests?

Re-divided 8 Times

Again, take a look at the course pattern for the men's course. Runners were re-divided, in their control combinations, eight times before embarking on the final run-in of 8 common controls. And some of the parallel combinations were very different - it wasn't a case of minor variations, just visiting different controls in a cluster. It looks good course planning - provided that the distances of the parallel sections were about equal, so that relative positions as seen at the spectator control were reliable indicators of progress in the race.

There must have been some huge changes in position over the final, common 8 controls, and in the closing stages those who were actually reading their maps were said to be few and far between. Clearly the forest was technically far too easy

and overall, more than one-third of the field was coping with the technical challenge successfully enough for the outcome - and the distribution of valuable World Cup points - virtually to depend on one's ability in a sprint finish.

Ten Seconds Slower - Nine Points Fewer

Christoph Plattner, 10th, 36 points; Edgaras Voveris, just 10 seconds later but 19th and only 27 points. Should the allocation of a huge range of points (50 down to 18 in a one-minute finish time band, in this case) depend on one's ability to charge the final kilometre? A number of World Cup ambitions must have bitten the dust solely on the basis of a minor hesitation in this final phase.

Planning for the Future

No doubt the orienteering runners' organisation will have its say as the season as a whole is evaluated and plans made for the future. Perhaps this kind of event does have a future, in the right sort of forest, one where greater physical and technical skills are needed for success.

But if I were good at bargaining in to controls, at hanging on to an expert navigator whenever the technical going gets tough, and could run strongly in the final quarter of a classic race and had a good sprint finish, I would be looking forward to the next World Cup race of this kind.

Press Denied Access for Photography

At the mass start classic race with loops held at Illgraben, press and media representatives were forbidden to enter the competition area, even to photograph at the 'spectator control' on the opposite side of a broad stream from the finish area, or at the mass start which took place inside the forest. The only reason given for the latter prohibition was a 'political' one - that photos of a mass of runners in a 'sensitive' area appearing in the Swiss press might be to the detriment of orienteering. Arguments that pictures taken by Scandinavian

photographers would appear only in Scandinavian orienteering magazines were to no avail.

In a letter of protest to IOF President Sue Harvey, a group of Scandinavian press and media representatives argued that the press must be able to cover a World Cup event in all relevant phases. The mass start, unusual for an individual competition, would have been spectacular to witness, and this event took place in terrain which the organisers themselves described as "very unusual". Having been denied

access to the forest, it was not possible to give readers an impression of the terrain. And it was not satisfactory to take pictures of runners at a control situated outside the forest more than 50 metres away, they said; only photographers with a large telephoto lens can take reasonably good pictures from this distance. They described the working conditions at this World Cup event as "the worst ever given".

Secrecy was the order of the day in other respects too; no one was told in advance how

many loops in the forest each runner would do.

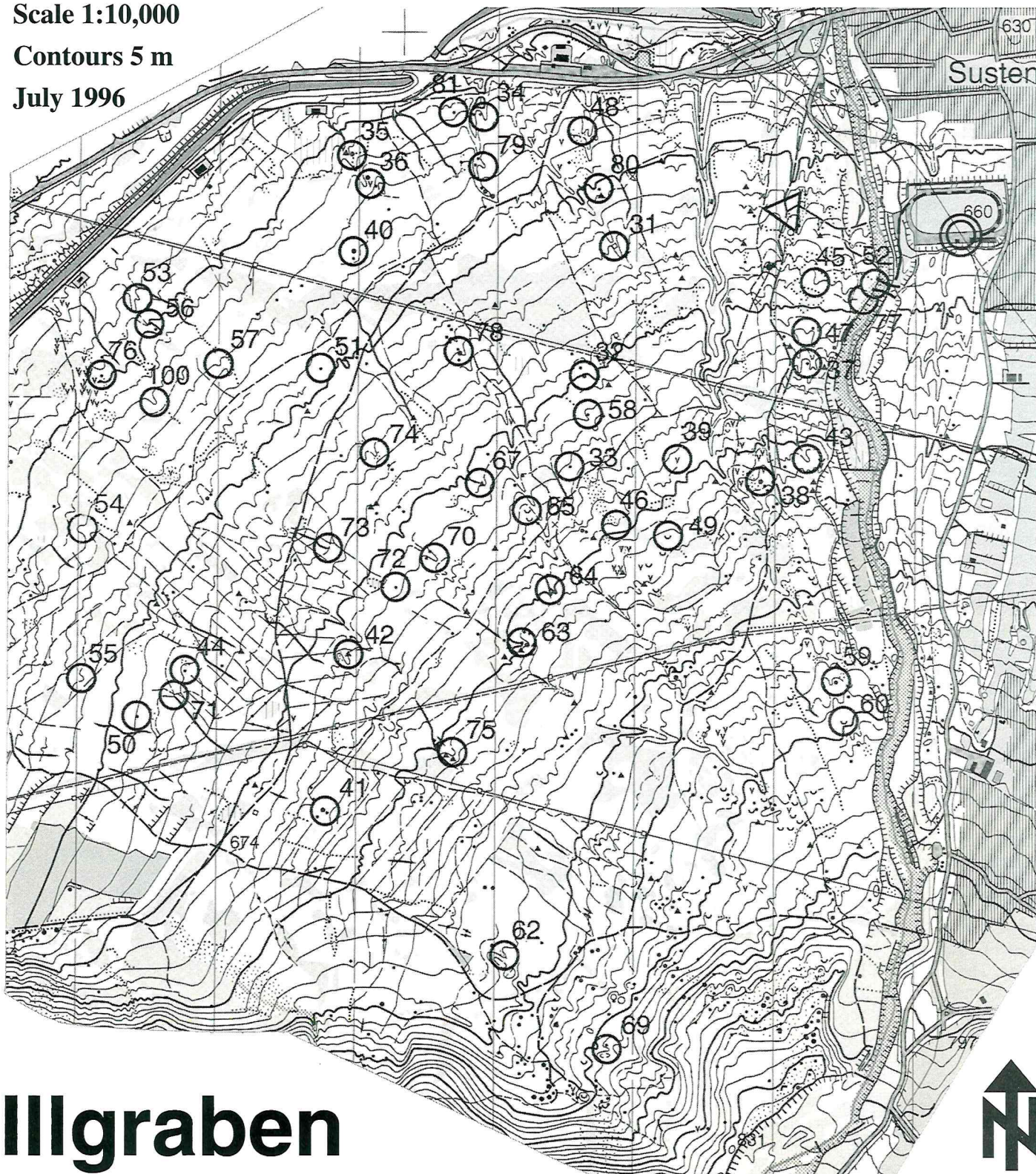
Sue Harvey, in her reply, acknowledged that the IOF is still not providing satisfactory conditions for the media at some of its major events and expressed the hope that the IOF can work together with journalists and the media to improve the situation for the future.

"In this particular instance", she wrote, "I believe the error was in the original choice of terrain. Given Illgraben's high profile on environmental grounds, it should probably have been ruled out for an event of this type."

Scale 1:10,000

Contours 5 m

July 1996



Illgraben

MEN: 14.4 km / 450 m

▷ -34-36-40-53-
-31-80-81-35- 100 -
-74-57-56-76-

54-44-67-65-
55-50-42-70- 64 -
71-41-75-63-

49-39-47-
77 - ▷

38-43-37-
59-60-69-62-46-32-45-52-◎

WOMEN: 9.1 km / 290 m

▷ -48-34-40-
-79-36-51- 74 -
-31-70-72-

78-58-65- -49-39-47-
64 77 - ▷
73-42-63- -38-43-37-
33-32-45-52-◎

The SG's Angle



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A new job is always a challenge and an adventure. You could compare it with a jungle to explore or even with new orienteering terrain, sometimes offering you firm ground with good runnability and sometimes suddenly a marsh - where you have to carefully watch your step. It is like finding your way through a forest you have never seen.

When writing these lines, I have been exploring the unknown terrain of the job as Secretary General to the IOF for nearly four weeks. After being with a national orienteering federation for quite some years before joining the IOF, some parts of the terrain seem to me very familiar - and still different. The angle is a new one, like looking through a pair of binoculars the other way round.

The main 'customers' of a national sports federation are the clubs, which need to have a common body offering a number of services which it is not possible for every single club to maintain. The main 'customers' of an international sports federation again are the national federations, which need to have a world-wide organisation providing services not specific for one single federation.

That is why it is so important for an international federation to have 'ears and eyes' in all its member countries - people who can keep their finger on the pulse of the national trends. The needs of a small club are different from those of a big one, and the needs of a small federation differ from those of a strong. The task of the IOF is to try to give service to every member federation, small or big, by promoting our sport in different ways and thus help the national federations to provide services to their clubs.

The 1996 IOF General Assembly unanimously approved the main objectives and activity directions of the IOF in the period 1996-1998. These objectives are:

- a higher profile for orienteering
- further the spread of orienteering
- a stronger IOF
- discipline development

It is crucial that we all have a common and clear sense of direction. The joint efforts of the member federations and the IOF will determine the fulfilment of our ambitions. As Secretary General to the IOF I have committed myself to work towards these objectives, but to be able to do that - and to be successful - I need the help of you all. The IOF is as strong and as successful as are her member federations and the national orienteering clubs.

News from the IOF

Rules Exceptions for WOC 1997

Two exceptions to the rules have been agreed by Council for the 1997 World Championships in Norway. The relay map scale will be 1:10,000 instead of 1:15,000, and the start interval in the classic distance final will be 2 minutes instead of 3. The 2-minute start interval was requested because of live TV broadcasting.

New Anti-Doping Rules

Valid from 1st January 1997, a new set of Anti-Doping Rules, approved by Council last April, have been published. These cover basic principles, the conduct of doping control at IOF events, doping control procedures, disciplinary and appeal procedures and sanctions, and recognition by member federations. Copies of the rules, along with the Anti-Doping Convention Monitor-

ing Group of the Council of Europe's recommendations on standard urine sampling procedures for doping control in and out of competition, are available from the IOF Secretariat, price SEK 20,-.

Brit Volden (Norway) has been appointed IOF Anti-Doping Controller for the next two years.

JWOC 1997 Extended

To allow for a qualification race and a final at short distance, the Junior World Championships in 1997 in Belgium has been extended to 6 days.

Pins of Honour - Correction

Sarolta Monspart (Hungary) was awarded the IOF Silver Pin of Honour at the closing ceremony of the IOF Congress, not the Bronze as stated in the last issue of *OW*.

Sarolta Monspart was awarded the IOF Silver Pin of Honour by IOF President Sue Harvey at the IOF Congress closing ceremony

photo: David Peregrine



Congress Reflections

The 18th Congress of the IOF is now over. Congress summed up the achievements of previous years and made plans for the future.

This was the first time that I have attended the Congress and I was impressed by the atmosphere. I felt very comfortable while communicating with delegates and members of the Council and committees.

The discussions during the General Assembly and during 'pre-GA Day' were led in a democratic way. Mrs. Sue Harvey and the other chairmen gave everyone the opportunity to share his/her point of view.

I am very thankful to Sue Harvey and to Council for their understand-

ing of the financial difficulties which young federations are facing just now. I appreciate their help in cancelling increased fees for these federations. All of us were like a big family, without the 'eldest' brothers pushing against the 'youngest'.

The Israel Sport Orienteering Association deserves the highest points for carrying out the Congress. I will never forget the good organisation, the perfect conditions for fruitful work, the culture programme, the MBO competition and the ceremonies of opening and closing the Congress.

Alexandre Sopov
President,

Ukraine Orienteering Federation

IOF Council Agrees New Structure

The new IOF Council, at its first full weekend meeting in Denmark in mid-September, agreed that four discipline committees and three other permanent committees together with Council and the Secretariat shall form the future basic structure of the IOF.

The permanent committees are Foot-O, Mountain Bike-O (MBO), Ski-O, and Trail-O covering the four official IOF disciplines, and a Map Committee, a Quality Control Committee and a Technology Development Committee. The new Quality Control Committee will deal with matters such as training and licensing of IOF controllers, controlling of events (in forest and out of forest) and maintaining and harmonising the rules system.

This new structure will take effect from 1st January 1997.

Chairpersons appointed so far are:

Foot-O	Geir Tveit (NOR)
Ski-O	Veli-Markku Kortenieniemi (FIN)
Trail-O	Anne Braggins (GBR)
Map	Björn Persson (SWE)
Quality Control	Barry McCrae (AUS)

The other appointments will be made later in the year. During the autumn the President's Working Group will be discussing with the appointed chairpersons the new division of responsibilities and the composition of their committees.

World Masters Orienteering Championships (WMOC)

No, not a new IOF Event - simply a re-named one. Council has for some time been unhappy with the name Veteran World Cup, and after considering the marketing aspect of the name, chose World Masters Orienteering Championships, in line with the names of similar events in other sports.

Change of Corporate Image under way

Council agreed to go ahead with a project which will work to create new corporate images for the IOF and for the sport as a whole, including new logos reflecting the unified sport of orienteering. Pictograms for the four disciplines will also be defined and standardised.

World Ranking System go-ahead

Council noted a report from the IOF Events Committee on a proposed ranking system, and agreed to ask the committee to continue with its plans. Although there is much work still to be done, the objective is to have the system in operation in 1997.

Orienteering in the Olympics

A decision on the IOF's application for ski-O to be included in the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City is still awaited - hopefully it will come this November. A detailed proposal for the ski-O events is being prepared, and opportunities for more lobbying have been identified.

Following the endorsement by Congress of the policy of working towards Olympic inclusion, Council decided that strategy must be developed further in this area.

Hong Kong to remain as IOF member

Following the practice of the IOC and after discussions with representatives from China and Hong Kong, it was confirmed that both will remain as separate member federations after 1st July 1997.

Official IOF currency to change

When the IOF Secretariat moves to Helsinki in January, the official IOF currency is to change to Finnish marks, FIM. The budget and all fees will be converted from Swedish kronor to Finnish marks at the exchange rate of 2/1/97.

IOF Controller appointments

Barry McCrae (AUS) has been appointed as the IOF Controller for the World Championships in Finland in 2001, and Ted Finch (GBR) as the IOF Controller of the WMOC (see note above) in the USA next year.

Portugal Congress dates fixed

The 1998 IOF Congress will be held from 7 to 12 July in Sintra, Portugal. The programme will be similar to this year's Congress in Israel.

Council's next meeting was fixed for 17-19 January 1997 in Helsinki, Finland.

International Orienteering Federation

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Mapping (MC)

Ski-Orienteering (SC)

Technical (TC)

Trail-O (Trail C)

Chairmen

DC: Birthe Helms, Denmark

EC: Geir Tveit, Norway

MC: Flemming Nørgaard, Denmark

SC: Veli-Markku Kortenieniemi, Finland

TC: Barry McCrae, Australia

Trail C: Anne Braggins, Great Britain

Member Nations (* - associate members)

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

SUE HARVEY'S President's Column Sport for All Abilities

The Paralympic Congress this year was sandwiched between the Olympic Games and the Paralympics. For the city of Atlanta the Congress acted as a breather between 2 gigantic festivals: "Higher, faster, further" (the Olympics) and the "Triumph of the human spirit" (Paralympics).



Sue Harvey with Peter Axelson, Co-ordinator for Outdoor Recreation at the Paralympic Congress photo: Anne Braggins

As I write, in this week when the modern world's first legal assisted suicide has taken place, one human opted not to triumph, rather to quit the race. That choice will be made by few. For the many people with disabilities, the challenge, and hopefully the triumph, remain. What the Paralympic Congress was all about was taking away the obstacles that inhibit that triumph, enabling people of all abilities to enjoy sport, working to eradicate the belief that a crooked body means a misshapen spirit, that paralysed limbs equal frozen ambitions that are best kept out of 'normal' society because the sight of someone in a wheelchair embarrasses the ambulant.

The closing speeches of the Paralympic Congress had the crusading tenor of other rights campaigns - anti-slavery, racial equality, gay rights, gender equity. It is a tribute to modern technology and human inventiveness that society can contemplate the possibility of achieving the

equality which will enable people with disabilities to get around and take a full part. Some of the inventions, adaptations and achievements I came across at the Paralympic Congress were quite an eye-opener: a sailing dinghy safely and skilfully operated by a paraplegic yachtsman; an artificial lower leg on which a man had ascended the highest mountain of every state of the USA.

Of what relevance is this to orienteering? The essence of our sport is practical navigation - the correct locating on the ground of points marked on the map. Traditionally our test of skill has been to visit all the points on foot (or skis) in the shortest possible time. Latterly we have added mountain bikes. For the athletic of the population, this is the most exhilarating and challenging of sports. But we have always been aware that there is a section of the population for whom running vigorously is a disincentive, not an attraction. Trim O has partially catered for this group in Scandinavia, Wayfaring in the UK.

Trail O - Orienteering Without Timing

My experiences at the Paralympic Congress have convinced me that Trail O should be seen as orienteering without timing, rather than orienteering for the disabled. In other words, it is a version of the sport for those who are looking for navigational challenge without excess physical challenge. Keeping Trail O as "handikapp O" relegates people with disabilities as pariahs of society, and ignores the needs of the less athletic able-bodied.

Re-focusing Trail O as orienteering without timing (whether on foot or on wheels) contrasts this version with timed orienteering - on foot, on skis, on wheels. Note that Rolli-O (timed orienteering in wheelchairs) would then find its place most naturally with MBO.

This change of view would assist us in 2 ways. It would enable us to embrace the modern belief that the right way forward nowadays is integration - people of all abilities doing things together, rather than segregation for the disabled as second class citizens. (There is now a form of basketball where each team has a mixture of abilities - a specific number of people on foot plus a specific number in wheelchairs.) Secondly, it allows us to cater for those who, though without disability, do not want to rush about. And by reaching a larger group we make more worthwhile the considerable organisation required for Trail O.

At the Paralympic Congress Anne Braggins and I made a presentation of Trail O and then organised a practical demonstration, with the help of Bill Farrell and other members of Georgia OC. Trail O was welcomed as a most attractive sports activity and drew considerable attention. A lot of people - of all abilities - came to our demo. (Actually, under the hot and humid Georgian sun, the lack of requirement to rush about was a major advantage!) Trail O was recognised as an outdoor sport with considerable potential and Anne came away with many valuable new contacts from a number of countries. Trail O is now clearly marked on the Paralympic map.

Ski-Orienteers Prepare for New Season

The new season starts with events in northern Scandinavia and Russia before Christmas, prior to the 1st round of the 1997 Ski-O World Cup early in the new year.

The World Cup programme is:

				IOF delegate
Round 1:	Sweden	9/1 Long distance	WC1	M. Brekke, NOR
		11/1 Short distance	WC2	
		12/1 Relay	WC1R	
Round 2:	Austria	26/1 Short distance	WC3	J. Flasar, CZE
		28/1 Relay	WC2R	
	Czech Rep.	30/1 Long distance	WC4	W. Eberle, AUT
Round 3:	Russia (Syktovkar)	1/2 Short distance	WC5	L. Haldna, EST
		2/3 Long distance	WC6	
	Russia (Kraznoyarsk)	3/3 Relay	WC3R final	P. Denev, BUL
		6/3 Long distance	WC7	
		8/3 Short distance	WC8 final	

Race 1 (SWE) will be a 'one man relay' with mass start.

A Junior World Meeting will be held in conjunction with Round 1 in Sweden.

On the Elite Trail

Although the World Cup held centre stage for much of August, other events also claimed the attention of elite runners. Perhaps the biggest concentration of elite competitors was at **Euromeeing 96**, held this year at Arendal, Norway, not far from the venue for the 1997 World Championships, writes *Christer Svensson*.

Many of the best nations in Europe took part, but Finland and Switzerland were notable absentees.

70 men and 54 women competed in the classic individual race. Winner of the men's race was Petter Thoresen (Norway), ahead of Steve Hale (Great Britain) by 2m 31s, both runners clearly back to form after early-season injury. Home runners Holger Hott Johansen and Kjetil Bjørlo were 3rd and 4th and Oslo-based Swede Johan Ivarsson was 5th.

Gunilla Svärd (Sweden) won the women's race, 31 seconds quicker than Katarina Borg, with Karin Craig (née Wollbrand; Karin and Australian O-star Steve Craig were married in July) 3rd. 4th and



*Reeta-Mari Kolkkala FIN, overall Park World Tour leader, finishes the race in Oslo
photo: Christer Svensson*

5th were Hanne Sandstad and Tina Junegård. Best non-nordic runner was Yvette Hague, 9th.

Norway won both classes in the relay, their men's team coming in 6m 27s ahead of Sweden, whilst the women's team finished 1m 37s ahead of Sweden.

Swedish champions at classic distance this year are Jorgen Mårtensson in H21 - his time was almost 2 minutes quicker than 2nd placed Johan Ivarsson's - and Anette Granstedt in D21, 50 seconds

quicker than Katarina Borg. Short distance champions are Johann Ivarsson and Karin Craig, and night-O champions are Tobias Andersson and Gunilla Svärd.

The final gathering of the world's top elite in 1996 will be at the **Park World Tour Final** in Prague on 29th October. Many of the runners will be going on to compete in the Ericsson Park Race and the autumn Spartacus Cup in the region of Budapest, Hungary, the following weekend.

Czech star Jana Cieslarova won two gold medals at this year's **World University Orienteering Championships** held at Veszprém, Hungary in late July.

Leading results were: **Short distance, men:** 1. Olivier Coupat FRA 24.10, 2. Juha Peltola FIN 25.44, 3= Gabor Domonyik HUN & Michael Jodlicka CZE 26.16. **Women:** 1. Jana Cieslarova CZE 25.09, 2. Külli Kaljus EST 25.39, 3. Juliette Soulard FRA 25.40. **Classic distance, men:** 1. Emil Wingstedt SWE 68.56, 2. Alexander Mihailov UKR 70.52, 3. Olivier Coupat FRA 71.14. **Women:** 1. Jana Cieslarova CZE 57.54, 2. Bernadett Kovacs HUN 60.44, 3. Martina Rakayova SVK 61.02. In the men's relay, Ukraine gained the gold medals just ahead of Hungary; the Czech Republic won the women's relay.

König Wins Australian Ski-O Championships

Urs König, a former Swiss team member at World Ski-O Championship level and the brother of well-known elite foot orienteer Vroni König, won the M21 class in the 1996 Australian Ski-O Championships in Perisher, New South Wales by just over 2 minutes from local resident Mick Sullivan. Sally Moten of Canberra beat Kerry Rim of Victoria by 13 seconds to take the women's title.

Mapper, planner and organiser was David Hogg, OFA's Promotion & Development Officer and the Editor of *The Australian Orienteer*. Next year's event will be held in Victoria.

Ski-orienteering activity in Australia is steadily increasing, and in September a ski-O newsletter was published for the first time.

News from Suunto

New Educational Material from Suunto

Suunto has designed new educational material, which will help make maps and compasses useful tools for everyone - whether they are teachers, competitive orienteers, or people interested in outdoor life. The material comprises four publications.

The complete map and compass handbook, *Map and Compass - Discover the Excitement*, is a colourful 144-page book which gives thorough instructions for using a map and compass. The book has been designed for educational purposes, and it includes interesting lessons and practical exercises. The book was written by orienteer Ekka Laininen and illustrated by Matti Lehtonen.

Explore the World with a Map and Compass - a Handbook for Teachers is a 32-page booklet containing lesson plans for

teaching the most important map and compass skills in different grade levels at schools. The booklet is intended for use with Suunto's instruction compasses.

The *Compass and Map Pocket Guide* is a colourful folder that introduces the basic map and compass skills. The small-size leaflet is easy to take along outdoors. The *Compass and Map Pocket Guide* is distributed by retailers and it is available in English and French.

Orienteering - an Exciting and Fascinating Outdoor Sport, a leaflet containing vital information about competitive and recreational orienteering, has been designed using the expertise of Finnish world champion Kari Sallinen. The leaflet includes tips which are useful even to experienced orienteers. The leaflet is available in English and French.

The above Suunto publications can be ordered directly from

your closest Suunto dealer.

ISO-9001 Quality Certificate Awarded to Suunto

The ISO-9001 quality system certificate was awarded to Suunto Oy in April 1996.

The certificate, awarded by the international accreditation organisation Det Norske Veritas Classification, guarantees that the company acts in accordance with the quality system in each phase of its production. Suunto Oy, the parent company of the international Suunto Corporation, manufactures and markets high-quality field and marine compasses, diving instrumentation as well as precision instruments.

Suunto on Internet

Suunto now features its own home-page on the Internet. Extensive information about the Suunto Corporation and its products can be found at www.suunto.fi.

'Best Practice' in Short Distance Competitions

by KJELL BLOMSETH, Leader of the Elite Committee,
Norwegian Orienteering Federation

I have noticed that there is a discussion going on about qualification in short distance. Some people say that the best short distance competitions are the ones with a qualification race and a final, both races on the same day. Aspects of this were discussed at an open meeting in C sis in May - see OW 96/3 page 15.

Last year the Norwegian Elite Committee evaluated the short distance: what challenges are we searching for which the classic distance does not give us and what should a short distance course look like? How are today's competitions compared to how they should be?

A Greater Technical Challenge

The physical demands in the short distance are not significantly different from the classic distance. It is not a *sprint* distance in the physical meaning of the word. This is obvious; just compare with athletics where 800 metres is not considered a 'sprint'. Running technique, speed, strength and even endurance are almost as important as in the classic distance. When the physical demands are almost the same in the two distances, we must give the short distance

new demands concerning orienteering technique and mental effort. The runners shall encounter more difficult map reading, and the O-technical challenges and variation shall come more frequently, and 'technique and rhythm' shall be more decisive.

And the possibility to 'correct' a mistake in a short distance race is not the same as at classic distance. A one minute mistake will usually exclude the runner from the top three.

One Race Per Day Only

The uncertainty is - because of these two factors - bigger. If the runners are fully fit - and not physically and mentally reduced by half-an-hour's exhaustion close to the end of the competition - the uncertainty will be even bigger. More runners will be able to have a good race, both physically and mentally. But holding a qualification race the same day contributes to making the difference between short and classic smaller. There are good reasons why they *never* have 5,000 or 10,000 metres qualification and final races on the same day in athletics.

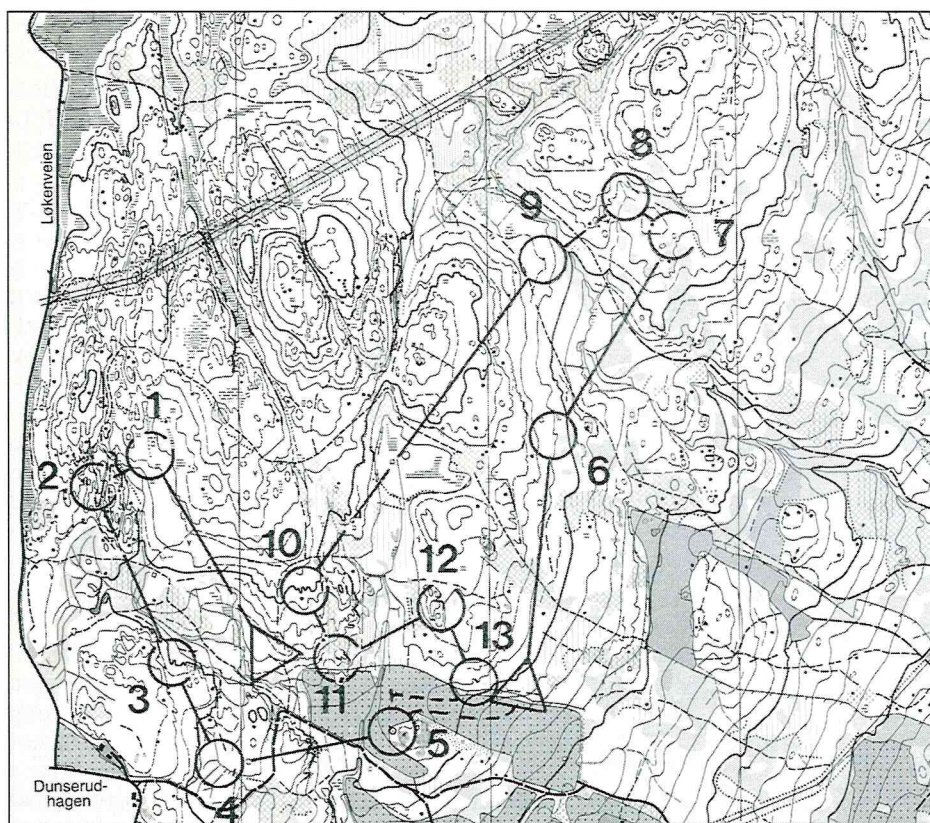
Our Ideal Formula

The Norwegian Elite Committee's formula for a good short distance race has been considered in detail and publicised widely. A good course has:

- *relatively many controls*
- with some *short route-choice legs*
- but more emphasis on good *map-reading legs*
- where there are *several direction changes*
- and *variation*
- at a '*high*' *speed* (related to the frequency of O-problems and strategy).

The best short distance competition is the one:

- with courses according to the principles of *high speed and variation*,
- on an *excellent map*,
- with ***no qualification*** (the qualification gives the competition an additional aspect when the runners have to prepare for two different kinds of competition on the one day. I think the support for this is small, and the pros are heavily outweighed by the cons),
- with the start list arranged with ***the best runners starting last*** (This is good both for media and spectators (those who might pass by..). Although a qualification race may have to be used, my hope is that we can find a way to use a World Ranking System both to pick out the runners and for seeding on the start list),
- and with not more than ***25 minutes winning time, maybe less***. (Why do almost all course setters seem to be afraid of a winning time less than 25 minutes? Remember - high speed and concentration!)



An example of a good short distance course:

The 1994 Norwegian Short Distance Championships

DARBU-D RJA

Map scale 1:15,000

H21 course: 4.95 km / 135 m

Positive features:

- + Start close to the finish area
- + course passes close to the finish
- + some route choices
- + variation
- + the winning time was 25 minutes

Could be better:

- more change of direction

The 1996 O-Ringen/IOF Development Clinic

Report by PETER PALMER

This year's O-Ringen clinics - as usual a running clinic, a development clinic and a trail-O clinic - had a superb venue on the island of Hamnerö, not far from Karlstad, the venue of the 5-Days.

The development clinic focussed on schools development and club orienteering, and this year it had a special Span-

ish-speaking section led by Manuel Perrilla which comprised mainly Brazilians.

Altogether there were 25 participants in the development clinic from 11 different countries - Brazil, China, Denmark, Great Britain, Hong Kong, Iceland, Israel, Kazakstan, Portugal, Spain and Sweden. A combination of indoor and out-

door sessions blended with evening social activities, and a trip to Laxå to watch the Park Race, to make a very stimulating 4 days just prior to the 5-Days week.

During the 5-Days the emphasis changed to personal performance and satisfaction, with the evening spent discussing the day's courses and listening to experts such as Jörgen Mårtensson talking

about their training and preparation for events. Other speakers included Peo Bengtsson on mapping around the world and the media and orienteering in the Olympics, and 92-year-old Bertil Nordenfelt describing the history of orienteering.

Anne Salisbury and I would like to thank Jan-Olov Andersson and his band of helpers for making the clinics such a success.



Chinese participants at the O-Ringen photo: Christer Svensson

Nordic Relay League 1997

There will again be seven events in the 1997 Nordic Relay League, despite a view that the number is too high - it was increased from four just this year. Future inclusion of the Spring Cup had been questioned, partly because it is too early in the year - many Nordic orienteers have done little outdoor training then because of snow.

The participating events are:

- Smålandskavlen, Sweden (October 1996)
- Spring Cup, Denmark
- Vårstafetten, Norway
- Isotonic, Finland
- 10-mila, Sweden
- Jukola, Finland
- Norsk O-Festival, Norway

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.

Modum O-camp congratulates Jörgen Mårtensson on his second WOC Gold. Jörgen trained for 5 weeks at Modum O-camp before this year's championships.

The Swiss O-Federation used Modum O-camp as its official training camp in Scandinavia in 1995. They won 2 WOC Golds - congratulations!

Modum O-camp is situated 80km west of Oslo. 30 courses with controls set out in 1996. 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



Orienteering around the World in 1997

CompassSport is Britain's national orienteering magazine and the largest selling English language O-magazine. We are currently planning our popular annual supplement *Holiday Guide to Orienteering in 1997*: international fixture list, event previews, travellers' tales, recommendations and tips for the touring orienteer. This will be published during December 1996.



We invite further editorial submissions from orienteers around the world: summary of events in your country, a preview of your own event if you are an organiser, accounts of successful trips, etc. Please include appropriate illustration - photos, maps, logos, cartoons, etc. Deadline 30th Nov.

The basic listing of international open events in 'classified advertising' form is free of cost. Larger display advertising space is available at very reasonable prices and we can create and typeset your advert to match your existing publicity or in a variety of attractive styles. Ask for our list of advertising prices. Look out for our joint offer with *Orienteering World*.



CompassSport Magazine, 37 Sandycoombe Road, Twickenham, TW1 2LR, England.

Tel: +44 181 892 9429 Fax: +44 181 255 0762

e-mail: compass.sport@dial.pipex.com

Check out more about *CompassSport* on our home page:
<http://dSPACE.dial.pipex.com/town/square/at44/index.htm>

Runnability - The Green Map Problem

by BJÖRN PERSSON, IOF Map Committee

The idea of depicting runnability on orienteering maps was introduced as early as the seventies. The reason for it, of course, was to make the sport fairer and to eliminate another of the 'bingo' elements, namely the possibility of unfavourable route choices due to 'bad' terrain.

At this early stage, runnability was not classified in degrees to any extent. This came at a later stage, and in the mapping standard of 1990, map-makers found themselves with 9 different classes of runnability in the yellow and green colours, distinguishing not only degrees of runnability but also between runnability and different 'sight' conditions. This was in line with evolution, to try to eliminate as much as possible the presence of 'chance' on an orienteering course; several elite runners had expressed their strong opinions in this matter.

Greener O-maps

But how has the use of the green colour developed since the 1990 ISOM standard was presented? There are several observations to be made. First of all, there has been a general tendency for O-maps to become greener as time passes on. It is not unusual to see maps where the 20% green seems to be the basic colour, with some white spots of runnable forest within it. The reason for this could vary, but a general feeling is that mappers underestimate the capacity of the runners, and do not test the terrain properly.

It is of basic importance to understand that it is not eyesight but runnability (= speed) that should be taken into account! On several occasions during recent years elite runners have stated that they pay little attention to the light green colour (if any at all).

Route choices from a (top coun-

try) national championship on extremely green maps showed that the runners in several situations preferred a 'through the green' route even if an obvious 'white' option existed. This means that the runner judged the runnability in a different way than the map-maker and did not bother with the light green.

Vegetation Screen Ignored

Another example could be seen from one of the 1996 World Cup events. The mappers put in a lot of effort to field-work the vegetation (IOF407 - sparse

other if they are reliably describing the actual runnability.

Testing Runnability in the Field

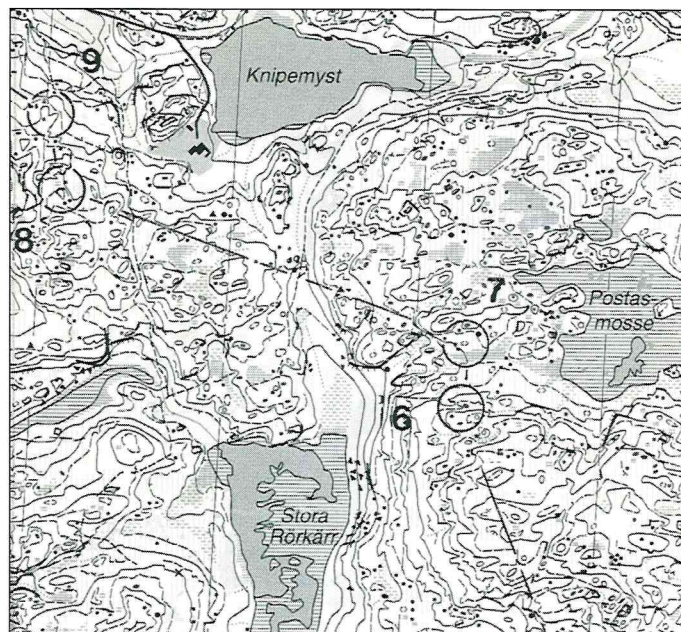
The only way to correct this error is for the map-maker to use a method to 'test' the runnability in different situations. One example of such a test was developed by the Danish Federation Map Committee. It was demonstrated and practised during the Instructors' Conference in Germany in 1995, and has been used on several other occasions thereafter. In a majority of cases, the test made it clear to the map-makers that they generally classify the green colour one degree 'too green'.

This means that when 20% green is used it should be white, and when 100% green is used it should be 50%. Since this

primarily intended for positioning purposes, however, and therefore it should be treated with less demand on accuracy. Its primary function is to give the runner the information he needs for route planning. This also means that there is no need to depict very small and isolated areas of this type.

Map-makers must Co-operate with the Runners

The introduction of the many classes of runnability has made maps more expensive to field work, and given them a shorter life span. On the other hand, this information adds a degree of fairness to the sport which has proved essential. Current trends on the use of green diverge from the original intentions when the detailed degrees of runnability were introduced.



A section of the map used for the World Cup short distance race in Sweden this year, with part of the women's course shown.

Map scale is 1:10,000.

Runners ignored the vertical green stripes ('slow run undergrowth') which proved to have little or no effect on running speed. On the other hand they reduce general map clarity in a number of areas.

(Note that the magnetic north lines are not aligned with the page edge!)

green stripes). When commenting on the event, one of the top runners said that he tested this map feature on the model event and immediately found out that he did not need to pay any attention to it! This shows again that the map-maker underestimated the runners and invested a lot of time and money into something that was never used.

The effect of the misuse of the green colours will be that the runners lose confidence in the runnability features, and do not know from one event to an-

other if they are reliably describing the actual runnability.

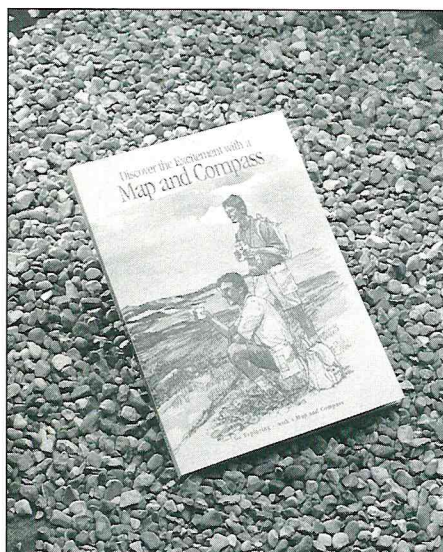
Border Accuracy Not Important

A second problem, especially with the light green colour (IOF406) has to do with size and accuracy. In many situations map-makers use a lot of time to field-work the borders of these light green areas with high accuracy. This sign is not

The problem seems to be for map-makers to understand better the needs and capabilities of runners. This is a co-operative effort which needs to be focused on in the coming years. The number and exact definitions of runnability symbols may have to be revised in the coming ISOM revisions, but the most important task for the future will be to develop and introduce methods to further standardise the classification. This cannot be done without close co-operation with the users, the runners.

BOOK REVIEWS

Map and Compass - Discover the Excitement, written by Erkkka Laininen with illustrations by Matti Lehtonen, published by Suunto 1996.
ISBN 952-90-7727-0. 240 x 170 mm, 144 pages, full colour throughout.



This book has been produced in English specifically for the American market, and is an attractive addition to the educational books currently available on the use of map and compass. The author is a 26-year-old competitive orienteer who has previously designed educational material for the Finnish Orienteering Federation, and he has put a lot of thought into designing a book which explains all the essentials of map and compass work in a practical outdoor context and provides a range of lesson plans for school teachers.

An introductory section highlights the many uses of maps and compasses, covering the history of direction finding, everyday, educational and professional uses, and an introduction to orienteering as an exciting recreational activity.

The chapter on maps describes and illustrates a wide range of maps available in the States from highway and city maps to specialist maps used by professionals, and of course orienteering maps. The emphasis is on practical usage, and there are sections on map scales, orienting the map, interpreting contours and distance estimation. The chapter ends with tips on route choice and information on public rights of access.

As might be expected from a book published by Suunto, the chapter on compasses is particularly thorough and covers topics such as declination in some depth as well as instructing the reader in how to take bearings and back-bearings and in the methods of triangulation.

The final two chapters are for the school teacher, although leaders of youth groups will find them almost equally useful. The approach is imaginative with an emphasis on practical activities. Chapter 4 is about themes and goals, the best teaching order of basic skills, and how to plan and set up orienteering exercises from simple ones in the classroom and school grounds up to quite complex forest situations.

In chapter 5, 9 lesson plans on maps, 6 on compasses and 5 'miscellaneous' lessons (e.g. measuring the height of a tree, and an environmental research project) are provided which cover a variety of age and skill levels and involve cross-curricular situations in almost all cases. There is also a U.S. bibliography and a glossary of terms.

This is an excellent book; the text is lively and always interesting, the many colour illustrations are of high quality and the layout is appealing. With its bias towards using orienteering as a learning tool, there should be some benefit to our sport in the United States and Canada if it achieves a good circulation. It deserves to!

Explore the World with a Map and Compass - a Handbook for Teachers, 32 pages A4, and **Compass & Map Pocket Guide**, multi-folded sheet, both published by Suunto 1996.

The booklet *Explore the World with a Map and Compass* contains 12 lesson plans to help students learn the skills of using a map and compass. The lesson plans are mainly taken from *Map and Compass - Discover the Excitement*, but have some additional activities and a 'further information' section in many instances. Methods of setting up and using orienteering courses are collected together within one lesson plan.

Each lesson has a recommendation for the suitable grade level and age group. The booklet, devised specifically for the United States market, is clearly written and well laid out for the busy teacher who is not a specialist in this area to pick up ideas and build them into a lesson programme.

Suunto has also produced a handy concertina-folded pocket guide to the use of map and compass which manages to pack a huge amount of essential detail into the space available without it appearing cluttered. All about maps, including "your four important map lessons" (symbols, scales, orientation and contours) on one side, all about compasses, choosing routes and "in case you get lost" on the other.

As with the other publications, this is designed for the United States market and is full of colour and life. Almost weightless in pocket or rucksack, it contains instructions on what to do in most situations, and is good for self-instruction. However I would not advise a novice to set out into wild country and expect to use this as a saviour when he finds himself lost!

Clive Allen

Letter to the Editor

Renaming of the Veteran World Cup

The IOF Council decision to rename the Veteran World Cup seems to have come as a surprise even to those who were at the Congress. Who proposed the change of name and whom did they consult?

While the term 'Masters' is commonly used in American road-racing parlance and also, I believe, in Australia, it doesn't seem to have much currency in

Europe. But there is a wider issue.

I believe that by naming the event the World Masters Orienteering Championships, Council are sending a subliminal message of exclusion to the average standard and below orienteers. The previous title Veteran World Cup bears an inclusive message, emphasising the festive aspects of

participation and quality of experience over the quality of competition. In simple English the new title says if you're not good enough, don't come.

I think we have made these changes for external not internal reasons, and if I were the organiser I would not like to drop the VWC title completely.

Finally, in this age of political correctness, can I point out that the term 'Masters' is, at least in its original English, a single gender term. What do we call our lady veteran champions - Mistresses?

Ned Paul
Twickenham, UK

Further letters welcome! - Ed.

Corrected Dates for the 1998 VWC / WMOC

The dates for the 1998 event in the Czech Republic were stated wrongly in OW 96/4; the correct dates are 1st to 5th July. The events will be based on the popular orienteering centre Nový Bor in Northern Bohemia.

The Development Needs of Central and Eastern European Countries

by
JURAJ NEMEC
Slovakia

a member of
the IOF
Development
Committee

The IOF Development Committee has formed a number of geographically-defined project teams, responsible for identifying and responding to development needs in their region. Juraj Nemec is Project Leader for the Central and Eastern European Countries (CEEC) project team, and here describes some of its findings

The Present Situation

The best situation concerning future development trends in orienteering is in the Czech Republic. This country has excellent results at international level, a sound economic situation and an important tradition in sport, and in orienteering as a family sport too.

The situation in other countries is mostly quite similar (although we have no information concerning Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia or Yugoslavia). All countries expect a marginal increase or decrease in orienteering activities; no important warning 'red light' has been signalled. The development of orienteering in these countries is strongly inter-connected with the general socio-economic situation in the country and the status of orienteering.

No country identified a lack of internal development capacity - experienced trainers, map-makers or organisers. However some countries found problems in involving these people in O activities, because of the need to earn a higher income somewhere outside orienteering.

State support for orienteering varies, and mostly depends on the general economic situation and is thus insufficient. The best possibilities to involve sponsors are in the Czech Republic and Russia. We can expect that financial barriers will be one of the most important factors limiting development in most if not all CEEC countries. The IOF should take into account the financial status of CEEC countries very carefully.

Some conclusions from this analysis are:

- Probably there are enough internal development resources in all examined CEEC countries, so *transfer of up-dated know-how* rather than *transfer of man-power* should be our aim.
- The economic situation of the countries and sports within it is a particularly important limiting factor on the development of orienteering at all levels.
- In all the examined countries, orienteering probably has only a marginal status; governments regard it as a minority sport.

Possible Actions

The next part of the project will be to draw up an exact list of proposed actions and their schedule. However, here are some of the **general possibilities** which are worthy of examination in this next phase:

- Improving the status of orienteering at international level and getting it into the Olympics could be a very important development boost, with a strong impact on the status of O in CEEC. Most CEEC countries have returned to the old system of ranking sports according to their status and on this basis distributing money to individual sports.
- Media promotion could improve sponsorship relations. Many CEEC federations cannot get good sponsors because of the low popularity of orienteering and its absence in important media.
- The IOF needs to be aware of the specific economic situation of CEEC federations. Very often the budget of a federation is so very limited, and some expenditure which is OK for a

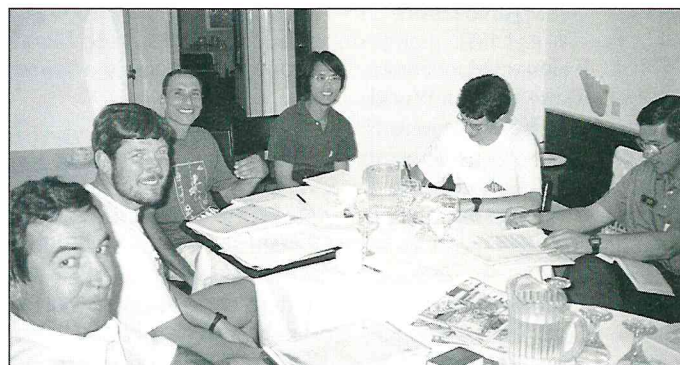
standard western country could have an important influence on a CEEC federation's budget.

The policy of the IOF has to include supervision of the level of entry fees for international events, especially for JWOC. Travel expenses should be taken into account too. Teams from most CEEC countries travel by car and cannot pay for air connections.

(One example - it is very nice to have the Ski-O WOC in 2000 in Krasnoyarsk, Russia, and probably with a 'good' entry fee, however the travel expense will limit participation - it is an important risk for the IOF and the local organiser. A WOC with 60 participants is inefficient in all respects, and the impossibility to participate causes demotivation for national elite runners.)

Possible Specific Actions

- increase the number of WOC, World Cup and JWOC events in CEEC countries - as a form of promotion of orienteering;
- create a 'development fund' to support selected activities in CEEC countries;
- organise some flows of cheaper O-equipment - shoes, compasses, O-suits, map-holders, skis, etc. - to CEEC countries, or (even better) between these countries if possible (a commercial activity for the IOF?);
- take especial care of young talent from CEEC;
- establish a 'twinning' system;
- organise more training camps in CEEC - with the help of local orienteers it is not a risky venture and could be very good 'sustainable development';
- provide for the transfer of up-dated know-how - local seminars could be an efficient way of doing this;
- make official contacts with the international scouts association - this could be the impetus for improving co-operation between orienteering and scouts associations at national level.



The IOF Development Committee meeting at the Congress in Israel. Juraj Nemec is on the extreme right photo: JCA

Eniko Fey from Cluj, Romania, had a sad ending to her successful week (3 gold medals, see OW 96/4 page 14) at this year's Junior World Championships. Whilst running the last leg for the successful Romanian women's relay team, she broke the meniscus in her knee and, by finishing the course, damaged the knee even more. But marvellous help was at hand - read on!



Eniko Fey (right) finishing the JWOC relay in pain

*photo:
Hugh Cameron*

Thanks, Czech friends!

It was on the 13th of July, at the Relay, JWOC '96. I came from the course with a broken meniscus, torn ligaments ...

After the awards ceremony, my Czech friend Eva Jurenikova came to me, together with the doctor of their team, Dr. Jaroslav Pilny. He set the same diagnosis as the doctor from Rm. Valcea, adding that I needed an operation as fast as possible. He offered me his help - an operation in the hospital where he works, in Memocnice Pardubice.

With an encouraging smile, Eva was adding that he is a specialist in my case, one of the best in the Republic... After a short discussion with my parents, we found out that this was the best solution: to join the Czech team, and get operated in Pardubice.

So I travelled with the team;

two hours after we arrived in Pardubice I was already in the hospital, getting operated on by Dr. Viktor Haltuch, assisted by Jaroslav. The following 4 weeks I spent in the home of Jan Kaplan, one of the junior team's and also Eva's trainer. I went daily to the Titan Rehabilitation Centre, where I got the best possible treatment from Mrs. Novotná and Mrs. Pataková - many thanks also to them.

Now, when I am already at home and I could already start with running, I realise: maybe these people saved my knee, my whole career as an orienteer! So once again, a lot of thanks to Jarda, Kipli, the hospital, the ladies from Titan, and also to the whole Czech team - and many others, all of those who helped me in one way or another!

Eniko Fey

CALLING ALL EVENT ORGANISERS!

The December issue of *Orienteering World* will carry a full list, with contact addresses, of the major events taking place around the world in 1997.

There will be discount advertising rates for events, and an extra discount if your advert. also goes into the pre-Christmas issue of *CompassSport*, the British national O-mag. with world-wide circulation.

Contact the Editor now for price details and to book your space! Please also send an entry form so that further details can appear in the Events Noticeboard section.

Final copy date for advertising - 18 November

Good Numbers at 'American Roundup'

Races on the 1993 World Championship maps were the lure for almost 600 orienteers from 17 countries to turn up for a possible 8 events plus a training day, the USOF annual convention and various clinics and social activities. The most visitors were from the UK (73) and Canada (68). Winners of the open courses in the 6-day event were Canadian team member Mike Waddington

(M21A) and US team member Kristin Hall (W21A).

Courses were at times over-long, but few competitors minded being out longer than usual in the picturesque and detailed terrain of Harriman State Park, using the highly acclaimed maps of Surebridge Mountain, Jackie Jones Mountain, Polebrook Mountain and Rockhouse Mountain.

Plans Progress for World Ranking List

A World Orienteering Ranking (WOR) could be a reality in 1997 if present plans laid by Bo Simonsen, one of the originators of the Danish Spring Cup and now living in Switzerland, come to fruition. The first proposals for the WOR were circulated amongst elite runners and coaches and to fed-

erations in May, and a second letter giving feedback on the technical aspects of the proposal and outlining further ideas for financing the scheme was sent out in August.

The IOF Council has asked the Events Committee for an early decision on adopting the plans.

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Events Noticeboard

A list of next year's IOF Elite Events and all the other major multi-day, individual and relay events taking place around the O-world in the 1997 season will be published in the December issue of *Orienteering World*, together with contact addresses. The peak of the elite season will be the World Championships at Grimstad, Norway, 9-17 August; in addition to the training camps, many elite orienteers will also be taking in the Norwegian O-Festival at Lillehammer, 27-29 June. One of the

other key events for the elite, the Nordic Open Championships, comes late in the season: 1-5 October in northern Jutland, Denmark.

The largest participation numbers seem likely to be at the O-Ringen 5-Days, to be held at Umeå in northern Sweden from 21-25 July, and the Swiss 6-Days in the areas of Thun and Fribourg from 26 July to 2 August. FIN 5, at Paimio and Sauvo in south-west Finland from 14-19 July, is also likely to attract large numbers.

INTERNATIONAL FIXTURES LIST

This list includes all open events in the IOF Calendar up to the end of 1996 with closing dates after 15th October.

- OCT**
19-20 **N. American Champs., Meramac State Park/Sullivan, MO, USA** 2I E Shafer, 7612 Stanford Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63130, USA T +1 314 727 2945
22 **Sass Peepre Memorial Event, Carbondale, IL, USA** 1 E Shafer, address as above
24 **GROW Midweek Meet '96, Brandenburg, KY, USA** J Distler, 5304 Old Heady Road, Louisville, KY 40299, USA T +1 502 266 9700
26-27 **US Individual Champs, Brookville, IN** 2I E Kennedy, 1628 Mears Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45230, USA T +1 513 232 0572
- NOV**
2-3 **Chpt de France de C.O. A VTT, Reims, France** 2MB Ligue de Champagne-Ardenne, 2 rue de la Barre, 51500 Sillery, France T +33 2649 1825
3 **Nov. Classic National Event, New Forest, S England** C D Bonser, 25 Carlyn Drive, Chandlers Ford, Hants, England SO53 2DT T +44 1703 266722
10 **Meeting Internazionale di Venezia, Venice, Italy** 1 Pol. Bissuola, Parco Albanese 18, Mestre-Venezia, Italy T +39 41 531 3405, F +39 41 426 6152
23-24 **BAOC 2-Day A Classic, Boulder Creek, CA, USA** 2I E & J Beuerman, 19839 Seagull Way, Saratoga, CA 95070, USA T +1 408 255 8510
24 **National Event, Alnwick, NE England** (10/11) C P Smyth, 31 South View, Hazlerigg, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England NE13 7BS T +44 191 236 4152
- DEC**
26-28 **Israel 3-Days, Jerusalem, Israel** 3C ISOA, P.O.B. 1392, Ramat Hasharon 47100, Israel T +972 9 981758, F +972 9 984323
26-30 **9th Sylvester-5 5-Days, Leopoldsborg, Belgium** 5I VVO, Heidestraat 100, B-3581 Beringen, Belgium T & F +32 11 34 39 06

Iván Skerletz

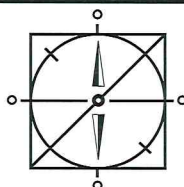
On October 7th Iván Skerletz, the Secretary General of the Hungarian Orienteering Federation for 25 years (see *OW* 96/1 page 15), died of cancer aged 58. He was 5 times Hungarian champion and ran for Hungary in the European Championships in 1962 (Norway) and 1964 (Switzerland).

There will of course be spectator races on the World Championships maps in mid-August, to cater for the ever-increasing numbers of orienteers who travel to support their national team - a welcome trend. Many veterans will have a visit to Minnesota in their competition schedule - the Veteran World Cup dates are 29 September - 4 October. The top juniors will have their sights set on the Junior World Championships at Leopoldsborg, Belgium from 8-13 July.

The first major international event of the year - and the first IOF Elite Event - is at Aveiro, Portugal on the weekend 1-2 March. As usual this event is expected to attract a lot of orienteers from northern Europe taking the opportunity to train in early spring warmth and sunshine.

The Danish Spring Cup, the first major northern Europe meet of the year, is on the weekend 14-16 March at Hillerød, north of Copenhagen.

9° SYLVESTER-5



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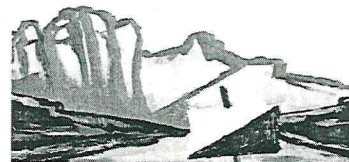
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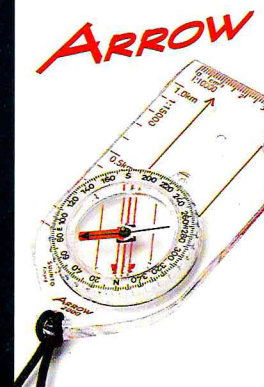
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