



INTERNATIONAL ORIENTEERING FEDERATION

IOF Event Adviser Clinic Selected Items

Event adviser seminar

November 2024

David Rosen Chair of IOF Rules Commission

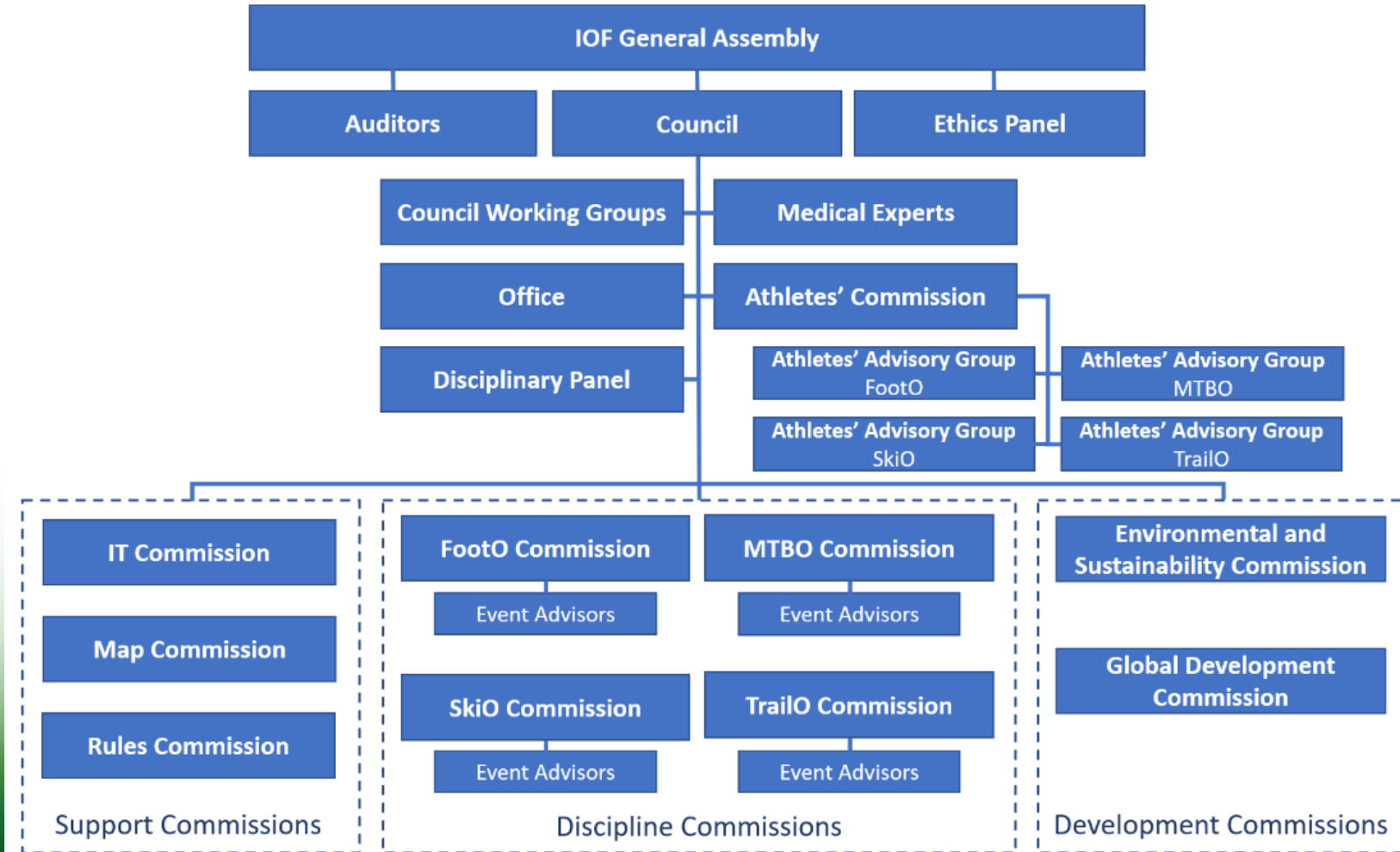
Topics

- IOF Structure
- Key documents
- Rule deviations
- The Start
- The Finish
- Courses
- Sprint (legibility, OOB, multi-level, safety)
- Final map check
- Fair play
- Complaints and Protests
- Results
- Re-accreditation

IOF Structure



IOF Structure



IOF Structure



- The biennial IOF General Assembly was held in Edinburgh in July
- Leho Haldna (EST) retired as IOF President.
- The new IOF president is Tom Hollowell (USA). Tom has lived in Sweden for many years. His roles have included:
 - Event Director for the Swedish O-Ringen
 - Secretary General/CEO of the IOF from 2015 – 2022
 - IOF Vice President

Key documents for a WRE Event Adviser



- IOF FootO Rules (WRE Version)
 - <https://orienteering.sport/orienteering/competition-rules/>
- WRE Manual
 - <https://orienteering.sport/orienteering/internal/event-organising/organising-wre/>
- ISOM/ISSprOM
 - <https://orienteering.sport/iof/mapping/>
- IOF Control Descriptions
 - <https://orienteering.sport/iof/rules/control-descriptions/>

Rule deviations

- 2.11 The IOF Council may allow deviations from these rules and norms. Requests for permission to deviate from them must be sent to the IOF Office at least 6 months prior to the event.
- Please try to obey the rules!
- If the organiser wants a rule deviation, try to persuade them to follow the rules.
- If necessary, discuss it with the IOF FootO Commission.

Rule deviations (continued)



- The IOF does not always approve requested rule deviations.
- In that case, the organiser can either:
 - Follow the rules
 - Not follow the rules and forego WRE status for the event

The start

- At a WRE, starting times should be allocated on the basis of World Ranking scores with the best starting last.
- Those without a World Ranking score start earliest in random order.
- 12.17 For an interval start, the start interval is:
 - 1 minute for Sprint
 - 2 minutes for Middle distance
 - 2 minutes or 3 minutes for Long Distance

The start (continued)



- 22.9 Competitors who are late for their start time must be permitted to start. Their new start time must be recorded.
 - In a mass or chasing start, the competitor must be started as soon as possible.
 - In an interval start, if the competitor is at the start line less than half the start interval after their start time, they must start immediately.
 - In an interval start, if the competitor is at the start line more than half the start interval after their start time, they must start at the next available half start interval.

The start (continued)

- 22.10 Competitors who are late for their start time through their own fault must be timed as if they had started at their original start time.
- Competitors who are late for their start time through the fault of the organiser must be timed from their new start time.
- There should be no discussion with late starters about why they are late and who is at fault.
- Their start time must be recorded and any discussion can take place after their run.

The finish

- 23.5 The finishing time must be measured at one of the following times:
 - when the competitor's chest crosses the finish line
 - when the competitor punches at the finish line
 - if a light beam is used for timing, when the competitor breaks the beam which must be mounted between 0.5 metres and 1.25 metres above the ground
 - when a transponder, carried by the competitor, crosses the finish line
- A punching finish can be used for a WRE

The finish (continued)



- 23.5...In interval start races, times must be rounded down to whole seconds.
 - A measured time of 14 minutes 23.8 seconds must be recorded as 14 minutes 23 seconds.
- Orienteering is not a “tenth of a second” sport.
- In races with mass or chasing starts, the results may show tenths of a second in order to correctly represent how competitors crossed the finish line.

The finish (continued)



- 23.8 Two independent timekeeping systems, a primary and a secondary, must be used continuously throughout the competition.
 - For a WRE, video recording at the finish line is recommended.
 - A dashcam connected to a powerbank can work well. Dashcams can display GPS time on the video.

Courses

- 31.6 The IOF Event Adviser must ensure that rules are followed, mistakes are avoided and that fairness is paramount. The IOF Event Adviser has the authority to require adjustments to be made if he or she deems them necessary to satisfy the requirements of the event.
- Course planners often want to make the most technically challenging course.
- Try to avoid anything unusual that requires special explanation or extra complication and which might cause problems.

Courses (continued)



Some things to ensure:

- The area around control locations must be well mapped
- Features which are forbidden to cross must be very clear on the ground and on the map
- Control descriptions are correct
- Winning times:
 - Long Distance 88-92 minutes
 - Middle Distance 30-35 minutes
 - Sprint 12-15 minutes

Courses (continued)

- Minimum control separation
 - Forest:
 - Controls must not be sited within **30 metres** of each other. When the control features are similar (not distinctly different in the terrain and/or not distinctly different on the map), the minimum straight-line distance between controls is **60 metres**.
 - Sprint:
 - The minimum running distance between controls is **25 metres** and the minimum straight-line distance is **15 metres**.

Courses (continued)

Some things to avoid:

- Controls on non-standard features such as those mapped as a cross, circle or triangle
- Legs which tempt competitors to go Out-of-Bounds
- Butterflies
- Bingo controls
- Hidden controls. When the competitor is at the indicated part of the feature, the flag must be clearly visible.

















Courses (continued)

- **Check before the first competitor starts:**
 - Controls in the correct location
 - Control units working properly
 - SPORTident punching units are time-synchronised
 - SPORTident punching units are active (and will stay active for the duration of the race)
 - Controls have a back-up punch available
 - Have there been any unexpected changes in the terrain e.g. new building work, gates locked, gates open
 - Are the Out-of-Bounds tapes in position?
 - Are the run-in tapes present?
 - Are the refreshment controls in place?
 - Are the marshals in place?

Courses (continued)

- Plan and delegate the checking
 - The EA can't do it all!
 - Use the local controller, pre-runners etc.
- In IOF Events, it is not allowed to remove legs where there has been a serious problem:
 - 24.15 The results must be based on competitors' times for the whole course. It is forbidden to eliminate sections of the course on the basis of split times unless the section has been specified in advance (e.g. a short section containing a busy road crossing).
- 26.13 The organiser must void a race if circumstances have arisen which make the race significantly unfair.

Test

WRE Event 01/01/2025							
M21		11.8 km					
							
1	101						
2	102						
3	103						
4	104				2.0m		
5	105						
6	106				8x10		
7	107						
8	108						
	230 m						

14 “errors”

Test answers

WRE Event 01/01/2025							
M21		11.8 km					
▷							
1	101	∩	~				
2	102	≡				⊥	
3	103		●			○	
4	104	▲		2.0m			
5	105	≡		Y			
6	106		⊖	8×10			
7	107	○					
8	108	≡				○	
⊗		230 m				⊗	

WRE Event 01/01/2025							
M21E		11.8 km			220 m		
▷							
1	101	∩					
2	102	≡		2.5		○	
3	103	●		3		○	
4	104	▲		2.0		○	
5	105	≡		Y			
6	106	⊖					
7	107	○					
8	108	≡				⊗	
⊗		230 m				⊗	

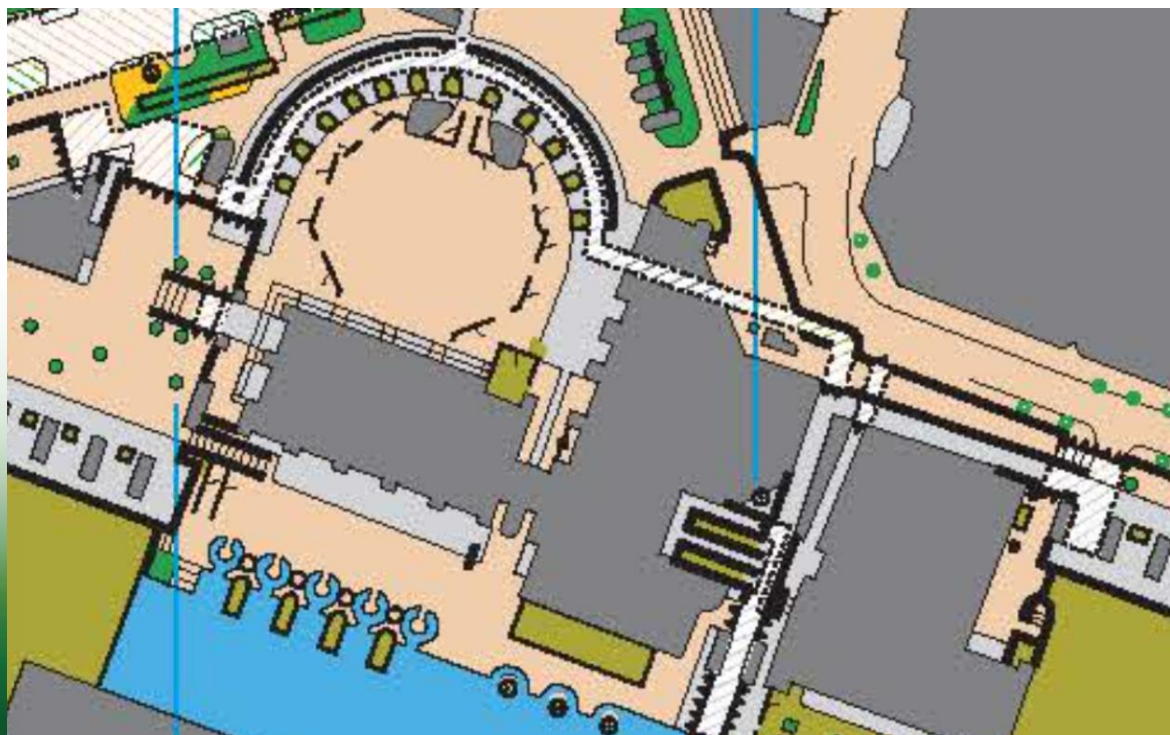
- **Map legibility is very important**
- **Minimum dimensions:**
 - Passages between symbols representing uncrossable features should be 0.4 mm
 - Gap between two line symbols of the same colour: 0.15 mm
 - Gap between line symbols and area symbols of the same colour: 0.15 mm
 - Opening of fences, hedges and walls: 1.0 mm
 - Uncrossable wall (515) Minimum length 1.0 mm

Sprint (continued)



Sprint (continued)

- Be very careful with multi-level features
- Is the map clear to someone who has never been there?



Sprint (continued)



- **Safety must always be a consideration in Sprint races**
 - Safety of competitors.
 - Plan the courses to minimise head-to-head collisions around corners
 - Keep competitors away from moving vehicles
 - Avoid the temptation to include spectacular but dangerous features e.g. steep drops
 - Safety of the public
 - Avoid areas that are normally crowded with members of the public
 - Use marshals to help runners and pedestrians avoid each other

Final map check



- Positioning of control numbers
- Circle and line cutting (don't overdo it!)
- All necessary information on the map
 - Scale
 - Contour interval
 - Grid lines
 - IOF Logo
- Get proof maps printed before the final print run

Fair play



- Fair Play has always been a vital component of orienteering
- To a large extent we rely on competitors and officials to act fairly
- As orienteering develops:
 - The rewards for success are greater and so are the incentives to cheat
 - Orienteering takes place in new regions with different cultures; some education may be required about fair play
- The orienteering world was shocked by cheating at CISM, China in 2019.

Fair play (continued)

Checklist prior to a competition

- Embargoed areas: Be clear about where they are and what is/is not allowed (especially Sprint)
- Ensure security of course information
- Old maps – provide access
- Autogenerating maps – publish lidar data?
- We can't prevent use of Google Maps, Street View etc.
- When should a competitor be excluded for unfair knowledge?
- Provide training/model opportunities, especially if it is unusual terrain

Fair play (continued)

Checklist during a competition

- Quarantine?
- Forbidden symbols and areas - passing intentionally/unintentionally
- Use of electronic equipment – GPS, mobile phones etc
- Use of big screens/live streaming

Fair play (continued)



- Following - is it allowed?
- 26.2 Except in the case of an accident, seeking to obtain or obtaining assistance from other competitors or providing assistance to other competitors during a competition is forbidden
- Communication
 - between competitors
 - between competitor/coach/spectator
 - Speakers information
- After the race, if there is no quarantine, how to prevent late starters gaining information about the courses.

Complaints and Protests



- The organiser must have copies of the Complaint/Protest Form available
<https://orienteering.sport/orienteering/internal/event-organising/plan-and-organise-an-iof-event/>
- The organiser decides about Complaints. The Event Adviser advises the organiser.
- The jury should consist of three IOF Event Advisers
- The IOF Event Adviser leads the jury but has no vote
- The jury meets to consider protests. Avoid consulting the jury on complaints.

Results



- There should be a suitable way of publishing results at the arena. Nowadays, that can be by a frequent (every 2 minutes) upload to the web so that people can see the results on their smartphones.
- The results must be uploaded to IOF on the day of the race
- Ensure that someone has
 - The Eventor permissions
 - The technical ability
- Any ineligible people must be removed from the results before the export file is created
 - Those without an IOF ID
 - Men running the women's course

Re-accreditation



- Accreditation as an IOF Event Adviser now lasts for 4 years.
- The current accreditation period ends on 31st December 2024
- A link to a Microsoft Form will be sent out in December to allow current IOF Event Advisers to apply for re-accreditation for the period 2025-2028.

Re-accreditation (continued)



REQUIREMENTS FOR STAYING ON THE LIST OF IOF EVENT ADVISERS:

- 1. Have successfully been an event adviser/controller at an international or major national event in the last three years.*
- 2. Have the continued endorsement of your Federation.

* This requirement may be waived on a once only basis if you have organised a event advisers' / controllers' Clinic or played a leading role in the organisation of major events in the last three years and continue to have your Federation's endorsement.

Finally



- Comments/Questions?