MINUTES OF THE 2019 ORIENTEERING AUSTRALIA TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETING
Scotch College, Perth, Saturday April 20th, 2019

Chair: Jenny Casanova (OA Director, Technical)

Present: Jenny Casanova, Robin & Adrian Uppill, Greg Hawthorne, Kathy Liley, Neil Barr, Bill Jones, Nick Dent, Hilary Wood, Tony Simpkins, Russell Wade, Edward Plummer, Carl Dalheim, Chris Naunton

Apologies: Andrew Lumsden, Anna Sheldon, Alex Davey, Richard Matthews

Meeting opened: 14:45pm

Minutes of Previous Meeting: unavailable

Standing items:

(1) Contact details for each State for 2019. See attached list. All states are asked to nominate a technical contact who can provide and distribute technical information to their state and a second person to be their backup. Additional interested persons can be added to the mailing list but commonly when a technical matter is to be voted upon, each state/territory association will have only one vote.

(2) Level 3 controllers for Group A events in 2019:
Hill End NOL races – Andrew Lumsden
Easter WA - Richard Matthews
Aust Sprint/Middle WA – Russell Candy
Cowra NOLs (WOC trials) – Rob Vincent
Aust/Oceania Champs - Nick Dent, Bill Jones, Tim Hatley, Jon Sutcliffe

(3) IOF Event Advisers for WREs in 2019:
Jenny Casanova – Aust Sprint, Middle
Jon Sutcliffe – Aust Long
Jon Sutcliffe as National Controller for Oceania Championships (Graham Teahan SEA from NZ)

(4) Level 3 controllers for Group A events in 2020:
Nick Dent – Australian 3-Days
Roger Harlow – Australian Championships

(5) Controllers' Reports for NOL and National Events from 2018/19 need to be submitted to the Technical Committee's Chair for compilation and distribution to all controllers (form available from JC)

(6) IOF Event Advisers for 2020 WREs: applications to IOF to host WREs will likely be required in September 2019. The Director, Technical, will call for hard copy applications in August, so that these can be uploaded to IOF Eventor by the deadline.

(7) Controllers' workshops in 2019: NSW held L1 April 16, WA advertised L1 but no takers, Vic considering L1 +/-L2, Tas will hold L2 between now & 2020 Aust Champs. L3 workshop in Oceania

week is unlikely because the only rest day will involve travelling between Wagga & Beechworth. Possibility of holding a L3 workshop in Tasmania over summer in advance of 2020 Aust Champs and inviting controllers from mainland states.

Matters Arising from the 2018 agenda:

(1) Technical pages on the OA website will be reviewed at the time of the intended upgrade to the OA website.

(2) Process for endorsement of MTBO Level 1 Controllers Curriculum and Foot O L2 Curriculum in a post-ASC world – see curriculum update section below

(3) Guidelines for Major Events and Event Management are being prepared by David Hogg and will be available after the Oceania Carnival.

(4) NOL guidelines have not yet been updated by the High Performance Management Group

(5) ASSOC rules are now hosted in the Operational Manual on the OA website

(6) **Maximum 40 minute winning time per leg has been incorporated into Aust relays** (OA Rule 16.13). M/W 75+ has not been included as a compulsory class although this can be revisited in future.

(7) Minimum 30-minute winning time so that middle distance courses are not too short for older age classes; OA rule 16.15 has been amended to say: For Middle distance races, winning times for those classes not specified in 16.10 shall be 25-35 minutes, or the winning time in 16.9, whichever is the lesser. **Course planners should aim for the majority of classes on a particular course to have approx. 30-minute winning times.**

(8) Changes to IOF Control descriptions: Richard Matthews had produced an Australian 1-page sheet based on the 2018 IOF version but since then there have been further IOF changes:
      1) Optional extra line showing the distance to the start triangle from the timed start.
      2) New symbols introduced for Trench, Out of Bounds Area.
      3) Bend moved from Column G to Column F.
      4) Removal of symbol for Radio or TV control.
      5) Names and descriptions brought into line with the ISOM 2017 terminology where appropriate.
      6) Renumbering of symbols to cater for additions and deletions.
      7) A number of minor changes throughout the text in order to provide further clarification as to the use of specific symbols.
Jenny to check with Richard whether an updated summary sheet is pending.

New Business:

    1) **IOF rule changes affecting OA rules** and which can automatically be copied over:
- Minimum control separation 25m in a sprint and that the start counts as a control for separation purposes
- Middle & relay distance shall have 1: 10 000 scale maps for 18 & 21 classes, i.e. 1: 15 000 is only for long races (noting that IOF is having a trial period of 1: 10 000 for WREs).
- Timing to 0.1 sec for the Sprint is NOT allowed any more. Timing is always to 1 sec accuracy.

2) **Change to IOF rule 20.5** regarding interrogation of SI units in the field as per the 3rd dot point:

A competitor with a control punch missing or unidentifiable shall be disqualified unless it can be established with certainty that the punch missing or unidentifiable is not the competitor's fault. In this exceptional circumstance, other evidence may be used to prove that the competitor visited the control, such as evidence from control officials or cameras or read-out from the control unit. In all other circumstances, such evidence is not acceptable and the competitor must be disqualified. In the case of SportIdent, this rule means that:
• If one unit is not working, or appears not to be working, a competitor must use the backup provided and will be disqualified if no punch is recorded.
• If a competitor punches too fast and fails to receive the feedback signals, the card will not contain the punch and the competitor must be disqualified (even though the control unit may have recorded the competitor's card number as an error punch)
• It is permitted for the organiser to read the backup from any control. A competitor can require the organiser to read the backup from a control, subject to a payment of 20 EUR (or the equivalent in local currency). If the control is found to contain a complete (non-error) punch; the competitor shall be recorded as having punched that control correctly and the fee will be returned; otherwise the fee shall be retained by the organiser.

Orienteering Australia needs to decide whether to write this 3rd point into the OA rules and if so, with what wording? Discussion about this at the technical meeting was inconclusive. It was noted that with the use of SI Air, there is no record on the unit, only on the SIAC, so this change to the rules would not help competitors (the only way to be certain of a punch being recorded would be to require them to carry a second SIAC as backup). On the other hand, if we do not adopt point 3, then for the classes to which IOF rules apply at WREs and regional championships, we could find ourselves having to allow it anyway. There was agreement that if we do adopt this, a fee should be charged.

3) **Map scales for older age classes** – IOF has WMOC-specific rule 15.8 which applies to ages 35+ "The map scale for Middle and Long distance races shall be 1:10 000 or 1:7 500. The map scale for Sprint shall be 1:4 000 or 1:3 000."

We can amend OA rules to match what IOF allows but need to decide which age classes can have 1: 7500 for middle/long & 1: 3000 for sprint (any junior classes?). Note that we already allow under-16s and over-40s to have 1: 10 000 for long races. There was not time for discussion on this at the meeting, so it can be held over until the 2020 rules update, noting that the Director, Technical, has already been asked for a rule variation to allow M/W50+ to have 1: 7500 for the Oceania Long.

4) **Other OA rule changes for 2019** – add M/W85 to Aust Sprint Champs

5) **Relative Speeds Table** - David Hogg has put a lot of effort into reviewing relative speeds for different age classes, based on national carnival results from the past few years (spreadsheet available on request). The paper which was submitted to the meeting will be included in the Major Event Documents which he is currently compiling. It will also be used to inform an updated relative speeds table to be incorporated into the OA Rules Appendix 1. The main point for discussion was whether the relative speed for W21E in long races should be 0.80 or 0.85 – the technical committee agreed upon 0.85.

6) **Course-Class Combinations** - currently the OA Rules Appendix 1 has relative speeds tables with suggested course-class combinations for Aust long, state long, Aust sprint

championships. The OA Director, Technical recommends deleting the state long champs table and replacing it with tables for Aust Middle and Aust Relays. David Hogg will prepare these.

7) **Use of mixed punching with SI Air**. The OA guidance prepared 2 years ago as an appendix to the rules allowed for mixed punching to be used but recommended that Air cards be made available for hire if SI Air is to be activated. Some states now want to offer SI Air without SIAC hire being available; we would need to canvas whether there is now wide enough acceptance of the possibility that people without access to SIAC could be significantly disadvantaged. By 2020, this may be the case?

Points made during the discussion: It is relevant to have SI Air technology available for elite classes to simulate international race conditions. At Aust Champs in 2017, 148 people hired SIAC. Chris Naunton spoke about the financial investment required, as a purveyor of SIAC, and that it is difficult being asked to quarantine a number of SI Air cards in case people may decide to hire, when he could otherwise be making them available (and making money) for other non-orienteering races.

8) **Controllers' Curricula Update** - Kathy Liley has kindly agreed to review/update the OA Controllers' curricula now that ASC is no longer overseeing these. The details of the new curricula and their requirements are to be determined by the Working Group which Kathy will convene, with assistance from Hilary Wood and Robin Uppill. The meeting supported the concept of a handbook where all the common information between the controller levels can be collated, and agreed that we need to make the process of getting a foot in the door at L1 simpler - but the progression from L1 to L2 also requires states' buy-in, and actual use of their L1 controllers to get experience at state level events.

9) **Accreditation for other types of event officials**, e.g. course planners and organisers. Because this came up at the OA Conference, it has been included in the strategic plan. But there is no simple strategy for how to implement it at national level – OA would need both funding and personnel…probably the best option is to broaden the L1 controllers' curriculum so that a L1 workshop is also applicable to event organisers and course planners. This often happens in practice when the states hold a workshop, anyway.

10) **MTBO controlling** – L1 controllers' curriculum finalised (focuses primarily on course planning event management; provides a pathway for foot-O controllers to become MTBO accredited. L2 curriculum in development; MTBO will not have a separate L3. IOF Event Advisers' workshop to be held October 2019 during Aust MTBO Champs in Vic, has received IOF regional development funding. It's not clear yet

11) **ISOM 2017 implementation and compliance** – Neil Barr touched upon the practical aspects of this, and commented that "we are only now starting to understand the new specification". This is in relation to its impacts on the rock and goldmining terrain which has been mapped in Australia; existing maps can't easily be converted into ISOM 2017 because they fail the compliance tests for minimum lengths/areas in many cases. While it's not compulsory to convert all Australian maps immediately, maps used for WREs and regional championships need to be compliant with the new standards. Maps re-used for

national championships should be upgraded where possible/appropriate and of course new maps are to be made to the new standard.

It is expected that the mapping committee will prepare an OA statement on practical implementation of ISOM 2017 and circulate it to all Australian mappers. This would not be a hard & fast policy but give some guidance on compliance tools and for which level of event the upgrades should be prioritised.

12) **ISSOM 2019 has been released.**
Implications of this are yet to be clarified, especially now that forbidden symbols are no longer in the mapping specifications and will presumably need to be added to the rules in due course. Also the darkest green available in ISOM (physically uncrossable; try it if you dare) has become the forbidden-to-cross green in ISSOM and the ISSOM-specific blackish green no longer exists.

13) **Format of Australian 3-Days and Good Friday events.** There is no current proposal before OA to change the status quo and there was no time at the end of the meeting to discuss this informally.

Any Other Business:

1) OA Technical committee chairperson required to fill casual vacancy for 2019.
2) Two nominations were received by OA for the David Hogg Medal for Services to Event management – the majority vote went to Ted Van Geldermalsen & Margi Freemantle.

Meeting Closed: 16:05

Next meeting: Easter 2020 in NSW