



International versus National Orienteering Culture

Agenda

- General differences between international elite and common national events
- Particular parts of the race

Goal of the session: to understand, that international elite events have certain quality requirements exceeding national habits

General Differences Between International Elite And Common National Events

- Importance
 - WOC, JWOC, WCup, WMOC, WRE
- Number of participants and classes
 - E.g. WOC finals with 2 classes with 51 runners
 - “Technically seen an easy event”
 - “Extremely high requirements on everything”
- Extraordinary demanding and experienced participants
 - Consider the participating elite runners as professionals that require professional conditions
- High demand on facilities and environment

Particular Parts Of The Race (1/4)

- Transport
 - The most frequent topic at event secretariat or in team officials meetings
 - Safety, guarantee, accuracy
 - Leibnitz convention (LC) reduces some problems (common start and finish)

- Map
 - International standard
 - Scale according to particular discipline (1:15 000 for long mandatory)
 - Size as small as possible
 - Protected against moisture and damage ▶ plastic bag

Particular Parts Of The Race (2/4)

- Start
 - If start is at the finish ⇒ conflict between LC and fairness
 - Transfer of information
 - Quiet start (separate pre-start and start)
- Finish and event centre
 - Good conditions for spectators + media people, VIP
 - Easy accessibility
 - Spectator control
 - Finish may be in the event centre
- Refreshments
 - Preferable on the control, not on the leg
 - Right choice of refreshment control
 - Type of drinks (at least two)

Particular Parts Of The Race (3/4)

- Controls
 - Few controls (WOC, JWOC, WC) vs. many controls (WMOC, WRE)
 - Neutral type of features, no local specialities, no controls on special map symbols
 - Eliminate chance, preserve fairness \Rightarrow flag shall be visible to competitors when they can see the described position
 - Elite orienteering is not “flag finding”
 - No hidden flags
 - No flags down in deep depression, re-entrants, gullies, ditches, etc.
 - **Simple controls are always better than unfair ones !!!**

Particular Parts Of The Race (4/4)

- Course design
 - Discipline specific \Rightarrow long, middle, sprint have different requirements
 - Elite level
- Media
 - Media friendly event is the first priority
 - To plan facilities for media people
 - Press centre, dedicated areas at finish, public controls
 - Guide for journalist
- Minimum level of the Arena Concept standards
 - Good speaker
 - Familiar with the HW and SW used in the speaker booth
 - Supported by a team