



INTERNATIONAL ROGAINING FEDERATION Inc.

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Newsletter No. 167 WRC Organisation

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www.rogaining.org
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IRF Team

President: Neil Phillips
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Secretary/Treasurer: Rod Phillips
Technical Manager: Lauri Leppik
World Rogaining Championships Manager: vacant

Members of IRF

Czech Republic (Miroslav Seidl, Jan Tojnar)
New Zealand (Alan Holdaway, Nick Collins)
Australia (David Baldwin, Richard Robinson)
Estonia (Lauri Leppik, Eduard Pukkonen)

Individual members

Murray Foubister - Canada
Bob Reddick, Eric Smith - USA
Guntars Mankus - Latvia
Sergey Yashchenko, Evgeny Dombrovskiy - Russia
Efim Shtempler - Ukraine

Observer status

Brazil: José Nilton Silva Vargas
Canada: Francis Falardeau, Allan Stradeski
Finland: Iiro Kakko
Germany: Marko Rößler
Great Britain: Jeff Powell Davies
Hong Kong: Patrick Ng
Ireland: Denis Deasy
Israel: Dan Chissick
Japan: Kazuhiro Takashima
Norway: Ross Wakelin
Poland: Magda Czapluk
Russia: Syropyatov Valeriy
South Africa: Lisa De Speville, Ian Bratt
Spain: Filip Gili
Sweden: Bengt Nilsson
Switzerland: Dieter Wolf
USA: Barb Bryant
4th WRC: Pete Squires
6th WRC: Peg Davis
9th WRC: Grant Hunter

This is an IRF Newsletter that has been compiled for the benefit of future organisers of World Rogaining Championships.

Organising a World Rogaining Championships, and inter-action with the International Rogaining Federation

The World Rogaining Championships are the rogaining championships of the International Rogaining Federation; the Championships are awarded by the IRF to formal groups of rogainers who take on the organisation.

The IRF's main interests in World Rogaining Championships are that they are safe and well organised, meet the criteria laid out for WRCs, and provide a positive experience for organisers, participants and community alike.

There are some aspects of World Rogaining Championships in which the IRF has a particular interest. These include:

- Basic format
- Publicity
- Entry criteria
- Rules
- Branding
- Finances
- Opening ceremony
- Closing ceremony

The aim of this IRF Newsletter is to ensure that future Organising Teams of World Rogaining Championships understand their obligations, the expectations and respective roles in the organisation of WRCs.

Guidelines for WRCs are laid out in the Strategic Plan for Rogaining, and reprinted below. These indicate that the basic format of world championships should not depart greatly from major rogaines already run by the Organising Team.

Publicity: the prime responsibility for WRC publicity is with the Organising Team but the IRF will assist in many ways especially by using its international contacts.

Entry criteria: the entry criteria are decided by the IRF Council in consultation with the WRC organisers. The application of the criteria is the role of the Organising Team.

Rules of Rogaining will apply for each WRC as agreed by the IRF Council. The Organising Team may seek IRF agreement to alter some of these rules for their WRC when it is necessary for safety, community or other reasons.

Branding and advertising material: the IRF has developed a brand for the sport, series of abbreviated event names, and logos, and Organising Teams are asked to follow these general guidelines and consult regularly with the IRF. WRC clothing and related items should follow the IRF brand scheme.

Finances: the world and international rogaining championships are a major source of revenue for the IRF that allow it to support each country and develop the sport. A levy per competitor is agreed early after each WRC is awarded and the Organising Team is to add this to normal event entries. The IRF is prepared to agree this levy in the local currency, and asks that it be paid at least one month before the WRC starts.

Opening ceremony: this is an occasion mainly for the Organising Team, and the IRF President might be asked to provide a one minute welcome and acknowledgement of organisers and the local community. New rules or changes must not be notified at this time, but must be in writing accessible to all participants—remembering that many languages will be represented at WRCs.

Closing ceremony: this is predominantly an IRF event with the IRF President as master-of-ceremony, and it could start 15-20 minutes before results are ready. It is about the only opportunity for the IRF to communicate with all rogainers, notify rogainers of future international rogaining championships and major trends in the sport, acknowledge leading

contributors, award prizes for leaders, and announce WRC results.

WRC timetable

Call for nominations and advice of decision-making process [7 months before Decision]

Preparation of submissions [7 to 3 months before Decision]. If an entry limit of at least 600 cannot be guaranteed at this stage it should be notified in the bidding documents.

Assessment of bids by IRF Council including clarification and seeking of additional information [3 to 1 month before Decision]

Voting for next WRC commences [one month before Decision]

Decision and announcement of award WRC to a country (an early decision gives more time for organisation of each WRC, more time for publicity and individual planning, and flexibility for selecting international rogaining championship sites such as NARC and ERC)

Preparation of press release by IRF announcing WRC award, in consultation with WRC Organising Team

Distribution of press release using list of media contacts established by Organising Team

Agreement of IRF levy before entries open

Publicity: continuing. This is initially aimed at potential participants, then towards the community and government

Branding

A short-form of the WRC name will be for internal rogaining usage

7WRC 2006 Sydney [example]

with the more formal version for external use including T-shirts and publicity information:

7th World Rogaining Championships

13-14th October 2006

**(regional location – optional) Sydney
Australia**

Include rogaining logo, and descriptor

Do not include organisations (e.g. IRF, ARA, NSWRA)

Event limit on entries: Organising Team to provide guidance as to the interim event limit.

Entry criteria: must be agreed by IRF Council well before entries open.

Rules of WRC: ideally agreed with IRF well before entries open, but could be modified later given extenuating local circumstances

Ceremonies—before and after: discussions between WRC Co-ordinator, WRC Manager, and IRF President.

Entries open: 12 months before WRC

Payment of IRF levy to IRF: 1 month before WRC

IRF meeting at WRC: probably 2pm Friday, requiring an agenda, room to meet, broad notification of the meeting, and minutes secretary. Likely duration is 1.25 hours.

IRF conference at WRC (alternative to meeting): this might be a half day series of presentations that includes exchange of ideas and sharing of best practices.

~World Rogaining Championships~

Local dignities should be hosted by the Organising Team with regular advice to the IRF and involvement of IRF personnel where feasible.

Participant survey by IRF: one month after WRC

World Rogaining Championships [guidelines from Strategic Plan for Rogaining]

As the sport's premier event, the World Rogaining Championship has significant drawing power for international entrants, sponsors, and elite competition. The World Rogaining Championships are for the benefit of everyone in the sport, for elite and non-elite competitors, for organizers, for administrators, and for the public: they also provide a meeting focus for rogaining enthusiasts. Three further international rogaining championships (Australia, North America, Europe) achieve similar

outcomes to the World Rogaining Championship, but on a regional scale.

Each two years, the IRF awards the World Rogaining Championships to a National association or group, taking into account many criteria including the experience of the organizing group and the benefits of holding the Championships in that country. The World Rogaining Championships remain the championships of the International Rogaining Federation. At present, the World Rogaining Championships are held each two years. Discussions have been held about whether an annual event is warranted. Award of the World Rogaining Championships should be restricted to groups with a track record of organizing major rogaines, who actively want to stage the event and who can nominate a suitably experienced co-ordinator: if these criteria cannot be met for any particular year, the WRC should not be awarded.

The IRF does not expect extra facilities or activities beyond those normal to championship rogaines run by the particular host association. However, this does not exclude any WRC organizers from going *a little further*. The intent is to bring the staging of the WRC within the grasp of all groups who can demonstrate a history of running a series of successful rogaines and who want to stage the WRC.

The focus of a World Rogaining Championship is:

- a. Interesting countryside in which to rogain
- b. Accurate, fair and challenging courses
- c. Friendly hash house atmosphere
- d. Excellent administration and presentation of events, and also:
- e. Wide cross section of participants,
- f. Elite and other levels of competition.

The first four criteria should be established features of rogaines run previously by a group before it is awarded the WRC. Significant departure from normal rogaines is not advocated for a World Rogaining Championship. The last two criteria (e and f) can be achieved by careful planning of the event date and location, taking into account overseas participants and possible linking to related activities at the time of the World Rogaining Championship. These activities need not be part of the WRC program and may be better organized by separate parties, e.g. major adventure race or orienteering meeting. The extra publicity to attract overseas and/or elite participants to a WRC should utilize IRF expertise and should target particular interest groups and countries. Organizers are expected to provide a profile to describe rogaining in their area, and may include a model rogain prior to the championship. The WRC will be run according to the IRF Code and Rules, and departure from these will require specific IRF permission.