



INTERNATIONAL ROGAINING FEDERATION Inc.

A0040409P

Newsletter No. 153

Box 3, Central Park, 3145 Australia
www.rogaining.com
October 2009

IRF Team

President: Neil Phillips
Promotions and Development: Alan Mansfield
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
Canada: Murray Foubister
United States of America: Bob Reddick,
Eric Smith
Estonia: Andres Käär, Lauri Leppik
Latvia: Guntars Mankus
Russia: Sergey Yashchenko, Evgeny Dombrovskiy
Ukraine: Efim Shtempler
Members from Australia: Alan Mansfield, Rod Phillips,
Neil Phillips.

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: Sean Hassett
Israel: Dan Chissick
Japan: Kazuhiro Takashima
Norway: Ross Wakelin
Poland: Magda Czapluk
Russia: Syropyatov Valeriy
South Africa: Lisa De Speville, Pieter Mulder
Spain: Felip Gili
Sweden: Bengt Nilsson
Switzerland: Dieter Wolf
USA: Barb Bryant
4th WRC: Pete Squires
6th WRC: Peg Davis, 9th WRC: Grant Hunter

9WRC 2010 New Zealand

20-21 November 2010.

There is a new event web site at
<http://wrc2010.org.nz/> that includes entries
and timetable.

10WRC 2012 Czech Republic

31 August – 1 September 2012

The Czech Republic will host the 10th
World Rogaining Championships in 2012.

7ERC 2010 in Ukraine

14-15 August 2010

European members of the IRF granted
ERC2010 to Ukraine. Previously, Ukraine
has hosted the 3rd European Rogaining
Championships in 2006. We wish the
Ukraine team success in their preparations
and look forward to the event which will
be held in the foothill region of the
beautiful Carpathian mountains. The 2010
Ukraine Rogaining Championships will be
12-13 June 2010. www.erc2010.in.ua
www.rogaining.org.ua

31st Australian Rogaining Championships

27-28 March 2010. These will be hosted
by the ACT on the weekend before Easter.
The 2010 Australian Orienteering
Championships and Folk Festival will be
held nearby around this time. Field limit
550! <http://act.rogaine.asn.au/arc2010/>

Rogaining in Spain

Some photos of 2009 rogaining events in
Spain, from Felip Gili
[http://www.nlmt.com/index.php?mmod=st
aticContent&IDf=113](http://www.nlmt.com/index.php?mmod=staticContent&IDf=113)
<http://www.vallnord.com/index.asp>

25 July Pyrenees Mountains: 6 hrs.
rogaining: <http://www.elsarro.tk/>

Estonian rogaine celebrates its 10th anniversary

Lauri Leppik

10th TAOK rogaine was held on 20 September 2009 in the Lahemaa National Park in north Estonia. With 936 participants in 356 teams, the 8-hour TAOK rogaine remains the most populous rogaining event in the world.

TAOK rogaine was initiated by Andres Käär and Ilmar Kirjanen in 2000 signifying the start of the sport of rogaining in Estonia. However, before the first open event in 2000, there was actually a small training event in 1999 for members of the TA orienteering club. The first open event gathered 147 participants and to many of them this was “love at first sight”. 17 rogainers have participated in all ten TAOK rogaines and were awarded a souvenir wall plate with the TAOK rogaine logo at the closing of the recent event. Many other participants of the first event are still active in the sport and have just omitted one or two events over the decade. TAOK rogaines have been a valuable school of rogaining for many Estonian top rogaining teams. Practically all Estonian medal winners from the recent world and European rogaining championships have received their first rogaining experience at TAOK rogaines. Strong growth in participant numbers was seen over 2004-2007. In 2007, the number of participants reached 1157, forcing the organizers to apply an *ad hoc* entry limit. In 2008 and 2009 participant numbers have stabilized at around 900.

From the 4th TAOK rogaine held in 2003 the event has had international status with several Latvian and Finnish teams participating each year. In 2009, there were 24 teams from Latvia. Occasionally the event has also had visitors from Russia and Australia. Mikko Lamminpää, a chief editor of the Finnish outdoor magazine Retki, participated at the 7th TAOK rogaine in 2006. One year later Mikko had a key role in organizing the first Finnish 24-hour rogaine. One could suspect that he was influenced by the experience from TAOK rogaine!

The event has also been a good school for local organizers and course-setters. Members of the TA orienteering club have applied a rotation system in sharing the key organizational roles. Over the decade, six club

members have tried the role of the event coordinator, while five club members have been in the role of the course-setter. Many more have been engaged in mapping field-work, course vetting, secretarial tasks, catering and other organizational roles. The skills that TAOK club members had acquired over the years were demonstrated to the international rogaining community at the 8th World Rogaining Championships in 2008.

On a more personal note, I can say that TAOK rogaines have also been the source of my learning in organizing rogaines, giving me the opportunity to try various organizational roles. At the first TAOK rogaine in 2000, my duty was to take out checkpoints from the woods the day after the event. At the second rogaine, I was one of the judges checking on the course that teams remain together. Starting from the third rogaine, I have been involved with mapping fieldwork. At the 5th TAOK rogaine in 2004, I had the role of the event coordinator for the first time, followed by the same role in 2006 and in 2008 at the World Championships.

From small things big things one day come!

Australian Rogaining Association is 30

The ARA was formed in 1979 during preparations for the first Australian Rogaining Championships held near Tallarook north of Melbourne. At the time of its formation the ARA had a brief set of guidelines, the aim to run national championships and expand the sport, and one potential member association being the Victorian Rogaining Association. The presence from 1979 of an Australian association assisted formation of the Western Australian Rogaining Association in 1980, and shortly after, New South Wales. Growth was rapid for several years as the number of participants in the sport increased, the number of rogaines increased, and each state of Australia formed its own rogaining association. The focus was on participation, organizing rogaines, and establishing uniform rules for the sport. The ARA was a great assistance in the late 1980s and early 1990s in establishing the International Rogaining Federation and facilitating the spread of rogaining to other countries.