



# INTERNATIONAL ROGAINING FEDERATION Inc.

A0040409P

~1976-2006 30 years of ROGAINING~

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Box 3, Central Park, 3145 Australia  
www.rogaining.com  
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## IRF Team

President: Neil Phillips  
World Rogaining Championships Manager: Peter Taylor  
Promotions and Development: Brad Hunt  
Secretary/Treasurer: Rod Phillips  
Technical Manager: vacant

## Members of IRF

Czech Republic: Miroslav Seidl, Jan Tojnar  
New Zealand: Pete Squires  
Canada: Murray Foubister  
United States of America: Brad Hunt, Bob Reddick,  
Eric Smith  
Estonia: Andres Käär, Lauri Leppik  
Latvia: Guntars Mankus  
Russia: Sergey Yashchenko  
Ukraine: Efim Shtempler  
Members from Australia: Rod Phillips, Neil Phillips,  
Peter Taylor.

## Observer status

Brazil: José Nilton Silva Vargas  
Canada: Francis Falardeau, Alan Stradeski  
Finland: Iiro Kakko  
Germany: Marko Rößler  
Hong Kong: Patrick Ng  
Ireland: Sean Hasset  
Israel: Dan Chissick  
Japan: Kazuhiro Takashima  
New Zealand: Michael Wood  
Norway: Las-Åke Svenk  
Russia: German Shestakov  
South Africa: Pieter Mulder  
Sweden: Bengt Nilsson  
Switzerland: Dieter Wolf  
6<sup>th</sup> WRC: Peg Davis  
7<sup>th</sup> WRC: Alan Mansfield  
8<sup>th</sup> WRC: Lauri Leppik

## Membership

The IRF has completed its most thorough overhaul and updating of its Members, Observers and representation since its formation in 1989. All members have been confirmed, either by vote amongst Members

onto the IRF Executive, selection by their national rogaining associations, or selection according to our Constitution by representative groups of rogainers from their country.

IRF Observers join the IRF on a less formal basis when they start the sport in a new country, or act as key correspondents.

The procedure for IRF representation is outlined in the IRF Constitution at [www.rogaining.com](http://www.rogaining.com).

There are five positions on the IRF Executive, one of which is vacant at the moment. These positions are for a period of four years, and to retain continuity, these are voted on a revolving cycle with different positions up for election each year. Elections due for 2006 have been delayed until the IRF membership is finalized (to give new Members an opportunity to vote). It has already been announced that these elections for 2006/2007 can take place once the membership issues are finalized.

## IRF Members: Basis of their membership

- Members from Czech Republic and New Zealand are nominated by their national rogaining organizations.
- Members for Canada, USA, Estonia, Latvia, Russia and Ukraine have been selected by their national rogaining groups (as these countries do not currently have a national rogaining association).
- Neil Phillips, Peter Taylor, Brad Hunt and Rod Phillips have all been elected to the IRF Executive team by the IRF.

Each comes up for re-election after four year (in some cases less).

- Although Peter Taylor, Rod Phillips and Neil Phillips are all former presidents of the Australian Rogaining Association, they are on the IRF as individuals, not as representatives of the ARA Council. The ARA is seeking some constitutional changes to the structure of the IRF before joining, mainly relating to the presence of individual members. These changes will be discussed later this year after the elections.

### **National Rogaining Associations**

The IRF has a clear preference that countries are represented on the IRF via their national rogaining associations. This is the position taken by the founders of the IRF in 1989 when the first Strategic Plan for international rogaining was developed and has been reinforced subsequently.

A national rogaining association provides a focus for the sport in a region. It provides a means to promote the sport, to fund development and to obtain grants for these purposes. Other types of groups can run highly successful events but potentially have a variety of interests that divert members' time and resources away from rogaining.

In 1990/1991, Andy Newson, one of the founders of rogaining in Canada, made a strong case for the IRF to place less emphasis on national rogaining associations and a greater emphasis on the small groups of people who were prepared to organize rogaines in new territories. [Interestingly, this same Canadian group made strong representation that the International Rogaining Association, as it was then branded, should become the International Rogaining Federation, to avoid any confusion with the Irish Republican Army: international rogaining adopted this change based on the Canadians' comments, and became the IRF thereafter]. The proposition regarding associations and membership from the Canadians was that we should focus on growing the sport through rogaining events

and let national rogaining associations evolve. The value of this approach is seen by the strong growth of rogaining to new continents and countries since 1990.

In the 1990s, Czech Republic developed a national rogaining association and this move was strongly supported by the International Rogaining Federation: in 2002, the World Rogaining Championships were held in the Czech Republic.

Over the last decade, the IRF has offered support to every group who has been working to form a national rogaining association.

During the 1990s, the Australian Rogaining Association and others suggested that membership of the IRF might be extended to other national sporting associations who run many rogaines. The IRF has discussed membership with both the United States Orienteering Federation (USOF) and the New Zealand Orienteering Federation (NZOF). NZOF expressed a preference for observer status and USOF has not formally made a decision. It is important that any association representing rogainers on the IRF meet basic requirements as determined by the IRF. These requirements might include rogainers having autonomy with their finances and with decisions such as event scheduling, selecting IRF representatives and voting on WRCs.

All voting IRF Members can be dismissed by those they represent on the IRF. This democratic position has been achieved through hard work and much negotiation over recent years following the IRF Constitution.

As we go forward, we ask each of our major rogaining national leaders to provide their support when new national rogaining associations take their first steps. This support might be financial, it might be administrative or logistical, but most importantly it needs to be supportive of the initiative and where the new association is heading.