

**International Rogaining Federation Inc.
Roles and Responsibilities – IRF Executive
January 2012**

10WRC 2012 Czech Republic (31 Aug-1 Sep 2012 Prebuz), IRF levy will be 9 Euro.
See entry criteria: http://www.rogaining.cz/wrc2012/files/entry_criteria.pdf
Entries opened on 1 December 2011 at <http://www.rogaining.cz/wrc2012/en/>
Lauri Leppik is working with Jan Tojnar to oversee the registration process. At the end of January there were 830 entries.

11WRC 2013 Russia (27-28 July 2013 Pskov). Arrangements between IRF and 11WRC organisers need to follow soon (Alan Mansfield, Sergey Yaschenko)

12WRC 2014 USA (16-17 August 2014 Black Hills, South Dakota). Arrangements between IRF and 12WRC organisers are underway (Barb Bryant, Alan Mansfield, Peg Davis)

13WRC 2015 expressions of interest will be called, with a decision by the end of 2012.

9ERC 2012 European Rogaining Championships Lithuania (5-6 May 2012 Poviliskis)
Bulletin 1 has been published at <http://erc2012.lt/> Registration open, IRF levy 5 Euros.

2012 European rogaining calendar: <http://www.rogain.ee/en/events/>

Call for expression of interest to host 10ERC2013 has been announced (Lauri Leppik)

WRC Qualifying events

The Council needs to make a decision regarding Qualifying Events for 11WRC 2013 Russia and 12WRC 2014 USA, so that we can advise teams of their qualifying options. This needs to include a process for events to be added and removed from the list by both invitation and request. The following list of qualifying events for WRC2013 is suggested:

World Rogaining Championships, 2010 and 2012
European Rogaining Championships, 2011 and 2012
North American Rogaining Championships, 2011 and 2012
Australian Rogaining Championships, 2011 and 2012

and the following national championships:

Russian Rogaining Championships 2012
Czech Rogaining Championships 2012
New Zealand Rogaining Championships 2012
Finnish Rogaining Championships 2012
Ukrainian Rogaining Championships 2012

United States Rogaining Championships 2012

It is suggested that a Rule is required to guide WRC qualifying events and should include:

- a) the IRF Rules of Rogaining are followed and any adjustments are explicitly outlined in the pre-event information,
- b) the event is open to nationals of other countries and all event information to competitors is provided also in English.

IRF Meetings at World Rogaining Championships: see September 2011 R&R

Rogaining event calendars for 2012 are being compiled, and inputs have been invited (and received) from Members and Observers (AM, LL).

Sub-committees

Sub-committees in general: The IRF has several active and planned sub-committees to address major issues. The IRF Executive invites rogainers from outside the IRF Council to volunteer for these sub-committees, and where appropriate, the IRF Councillors should approach their associations to extend this invitation. Councillors are encouraged to participate in sub-committee proceedings by either having input at an early stage when the terms of reference are announced, or by contacting the sub-committee chair at any time but earlier rather than later.

Age criteria for championship sub-categories

Junior: Lauri Leppik provides the following summary to assist decisions for the Junior class, and he provided an accompanying table on 19/12. The summary is based on WRCs from 2002, ARCs and ERCs from 2005. At NARCs there have been virtually no junior teams, and so NARCs have not been included in the analysis.

- At ERCs, MJ and XJ categories have been competitive (within the meaning that at least 5 teams compete for 3 medals) from 2006 (except ERC2009 in Finland).
- At WRCs, only the MJ category has been competitive and only in those years when WRC has been held in Europe.
- At ARCs, junior categories have not been competitive, and increasing the age limit to 23 has had no significant effect towards increasing participation.
- As a rule, most of the junior teams have been from the host country/state (except WRC2008 Estonia and ERC2011 Latvia).
- Most of junior teams at ERCs are from Ukraine.
- From 16 junior teams that have signed up for WRC2012, nine teams come from Ukraine.
- At ERC2010 and ERC2011 there have been some issues with fair play - coaches assisting some junior teams in course planning and collaborating for extended periods on the course - which has led to warnings and disqualifications.

Ultra-veterans: Data in support of an ultra-veterans class is in IRF Newsletter #159. Analysis of historical data about age-entries in major rogaines (LL) follows -

There has been a steady increase in the number of superveteran teams at WRCs from 14 teams in 2002 to 50 teams in 2010. For WRC2012, 71 superveteran teams have already signed up. This reflects the ageing of competitors: active rogainers stay in the sport and competition in superveteran category increases. At ERCs and ARCs, the number of superveteran teams in recent years has been 20-30. At WRC2008, there were 22 competitors who at the time of the event were 65 years or over. We are likely to observe an increase in these numbers in the future similar to the increase in superveteran category in the past. Note that any ultra-veteran teams would also automatically participate in superveteran category.

Could Members discuss this issue internally and advice the Council about their position on the following:

- 1) do you support the introduction of a new age category for teams 65 years and over?
- 2) if so,
 - a) should it be one class, or three gender classes?
 - b) it is expected that this age category would be for WRC and regional championships (ERC, NARC, ARC) which are qualifying events to the WRC?
 - c) should it be called "ultra-veteran category" or would you have alternative proposals about naming it?

One proposal is to introduce a single age category for all teams 65 years and over, and have a single category for those under 20 years (junior). An alternative proposal might be to raise the junior age to reflect physiological development for rogaining, i.e. base the age limit for the junior class on the age at which rogainers reach their full capacity for these events.

We would like to reach a decision by March: replies to IRF list, and Lauri Leppik.

Rogaining checkpoint markers and description clues

A review (David Baldwin, Bob Reddick, Lauri Leppik): report due soon. Terms of reference: see October R&R.

Procedures for announcing results at WRCs and protests: Alan Mansfield is leading the development of guidelines for the release of preliminary results and then final results at World Rogaining Championships. These guidelines will be integrated with potential WRC protests and appeals (AM, LL, others, end February).

Rules of rogaining: It is likely that three components of rules changes (see above) will be brought before Council (i.e. junior and ultra-veterans age category, control placement, protests and appeals). Lauri Leppik will co-ordinate a combined proposal to Council.

Wikipedia entries for rogaining: Lauri Leppik is reviewing and updating Wikipedia entries for rogaining in several languages.

Executive Structure sub-committee

Draft guidelines issued 7 October 2011, sub-committee overview October R&R.

A subcommittee comprising Richard Robinson, Lauri Leppik and Neil Phillips has been reviewing the size and composition of the IRF Executive and has recommended that the Constitution be changed to provide for the following:

1. The Executive be expanded from the current five members to seven members with the following changes:
 - a. A position of Vice-President is added. The protocol will be that the Vice-President will take over the role of President when the then current President steps down albeit this will not be stated in the Constitution
 - b. The current Secretary/Treasurer role will be split into separate Secretary and Treasurer positions
 - c. The current; WRC Manager, Promotions & Development Officer and Technical Manager positions are retained
2. The term of all Executive positions shall be three years
3. There will be elections for Executive roles annually to permit staggering of the change of Executive positions:
 - a. The President and Vice-President shall be elected in the same year
 - b. The Secretary and Treasurer shall be on different elections cycles from each other and from the President (and Vice-President)
 - c. The other three Executive positions shall be elected in different years
4. None of the; President, Vice-President, Secretary or Treasurer may hold the same office for more than two consecutive terms (i.e. six years)
5. The President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by the IRF Council and do not need to be members of Council prior to their election. They will become full voting members of Council upon election
6. The WRC Manager, Promotions & Development Officer and Technical Manager shall be elected by Council but must be either IRF Councillors or Observers prior to election and will have no IRF Council voting rights beyond those they may already hold as an IRF Councillor. Nothing in this requirement prevents Council from appointing an individual as an IRF Observer for the express purpose of having them elected to one of these three executive roles
7. The quorum for IRF Executive meetings shall be four.

Finances sub-committee

Draft guidelines – 12 October 2011.

Background: see October R&R for sub-committee overview.

Membership: Rob Gardner (chair), Bob Reddick, Rebecca Shaw, Richard Robinson.

Progress: the plan for the IRF banking arrangements were sent to Council (27/12) and changes are being made so that Rebecca Shaw can be responsible for the banking. This will require a change of the IRF Constitution relating to signatories.

Timeframe: Contribution into 2012 IRF budget (budget to be finalised before February)

Draft plan for future financial system and activities (end February 2011)

Responses from Council (end February 2012)

Final suggestions for finances (end February).

Define options on the calculation methods of membership fees. Discuss the calculation base for regional roganing championship fees and introduce a NARC fee similar to ERC (Bryant, Leppik, others welcome).

ARA International Development Fund

The Australian Rogaining Association (ARA) has generously established an International Development Fund (IDF) to assist the development of rogaining globally by providing access to grants or loans for rogaining groups that could assist them with the development of rogaining in their areas. Whilst the total amounts available will be modest, the ARA hopes that support from the ARA IDF will assist further the development of rogaining throughout the world. The details of the ARA IDF and how to apply for support are available at: <http://rogaine.asn.au/ARA-Council/International-Development-Fund.html>. The first round of applications for support from this fund close on 30 April 2012. Please distributed this information across your rogaining networks to ensure that the availability of this support is well known. Further details: Richard Robinson, President, ARA.

IRF Membership sub-committee

Alan Holdaway (chair), Rod Phillips, Richard Robinson, Lauri Leppik, Jan Tojnar. sub-committee overview October R&R. All IRF Observer positions except Gediminas Trimakas (representing Lithuania) and Rebecca Shaw (as the VRA-IRF Liaison Officer) will lapse on 31st March 2012 (see December 2011 Roles & Responsibilities). It is the role of the Membership sub-committee to consider applications for new Observers and renewals. Contact the sub-committee chair Alan Holdaway holdaway@xtra.co.nz.

Annual reporting by IRF to Department of Justice – Consumer Affairs

The IRF reports annually to the Department of Justice as part of maintaining its incorporated status. Much of this process is being transferred to the VRA-IRF Liaison Officer (Rebecca Shaw) during the coming months. Financial report went to auditor (NP 8/1). President's Report for 2011 is in preparation. Previous President's Reports are assembled to make them more available on the re-designed website.

Trademarks and domain names: some intellectual property transactions are being made so that the IRF becomes the formal custodian of trademarks and domain names (Rod Phillips). This process will incur a cost and also require a stringent custodial role within the IRF, i.e. any oversight in renewing these rights could be either very expensive or involve loss of intellectual property.

Website: A renewal of the IRF website and transfer of the site to a content management system is underway (Alan Mansfield, David Baldwin, Lisa de Speville).

IRF Newsletter #173 WRC entry criteria (13/1); President's reports #174-180, #181 Europe (13/1).

Executive: Neil Phillips, Lauri Leppik, Alan Mansfield, Rod Phillips.

Neil Phillips