



SOUTH EAST EUROPEAN ORIENTEERING ASSOCIATION

SEEOA Minutes Meeting 9-10 Sept 2016, Strumica, Macedonia

Participants

	Country	Name of Representative	Status
1	Albania	Inge Bosina	observer
2	Bosnia Hercegovina	Zijad Deljo	observer
		Selver Ajrulahi	observer
3	Bulgaria	Atanas Georgiev	member
	Bulgaria	Valentin Garkov	member
4	Croatia	Damir Gobec	member
5	Greece	Karadimitrou Dimitris	member
	Greece	Vasilis Hortomaris	observer
6	Macedonia	Riste Kirov	member
7	Moldova	Veaceslav Isacov	member
		Andrey Severuhin	member
		Andreyi Golovei	member
		Roman Ciobanu	member
8	Montenegro	Uglesa Vulic	member
		Stefan Jeremic	member
9	Serbia	Stevan Roksandic	member
10	Slovenia	Ana Pribakovic Borstnik	member
11	Romania	Constantin Alexandrescu	member
		Arpad Tokes Arpad	member
		Dinu Gheorghe	member
12	Turkey	Nermin Fenmen	member
		Tatiana Kalenderoğlu	member

Session 1 - Friday, 09th September

1. Opening and welcome speeches:

The meeting was opened by SEEOA Vice Presidents Tatiana Kalenderoğlu (TK) and Damir Gobec (DG). Event Director Riste Kirov said a few words to welcome the participants.

2. The roll call was performed. 10 voting countries and 2 observing countries were determined present in the meeting.

3. Approval of the agenda:

Greece proposed to move the agenda item proposed for the 10th, "next meeting" to 9th (first session). Bulgaria suggested "possible if we have time today" which was put to vote and accepted.

4. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting from Slovenia, Cerknjo:

Put to vote and approved.

5. Report between two meetings and voting decisions according to Minutes from last meeting in Slovenia:

Secretary Zeynep Abalı was not present so nothing was discussed on this item

6. Event Calendar:

Each SEEOA country will nominate 3 foot-o competitions, 1 mtbo, 1 ski-o and 1 trail-o competition: which the country claims will be of high quality. These events will preferably not be at the same date. However, countries are welcome to send us as many competitions as they wish so that we see what is happening in neighboring countries at any time. Those 'extra' competitions will have a separate calendar. SEEOA Youth Summer Camp in Bulgaria should be added to calendar!

7. Official results for SEEOC-SEEMOC 2015:

TK reminded the fact that SEEOA has not received the official results yet. Bulgaria said that in the meeting in Slovenia all countries said they had received their medals and diplomas. The official results will be sent to TK.

DG gave information about the new Facebook page of SEEOA invited all to visit and "like" the new page.

8. Erasmus + project:

All countries were asked to send the name of the best person to deal with this topic at the name of Federation to SEEOA Secretary and also to Inge Bosina.

9. An introductory (non-competitive) Trail-O event during SEEOC:

If organizers are interested in doing this, Croatia is ready to help. All organizing countries are asked to try to organize something so that competitors can try it and maybe develop it when they go back to their country.

10. Youth Camp in Bulgaria:

Todor Pedev made a presentation. Money left from the past SEEOC-SEEMOC events amounts to about 3000-4000 Euros. This money seems to be enough to organize a camp for 16-18 year age olds. We can send a program but we need to think about the following: Some countries entered SEEOC with full teams but others brought only a few. Therefore all countries have not paid the same amount of fees and so should all countries bring the same number of participants to the camp?

Budget: 15-16 Euros for full board per person, we have 3 course setters working for free.

Will we go with equal number of participants? Bulgaria was asked to prepare a proposal how they plan to calculate the ratio of participants for the second session the next day.

11. Approval of start fee prices for SEEOC/SEEMOC 2018, 2019, 2020.

Continue with the same fees – 9 FOR, 1 AGAINST -> Bulgaria wants the fees to be 30 Euros instead of 40 to encourage more masters participation.

12. Approval of candidate for SEEOC/SEEMOC in 2018, Slovenia, Cerklje, and election of an EA:

Slovenia made a presentation. It was suggested that hotel prices should be reduced if possible since many of the countries in our region have financial problems. Another question was about lunch packages. Slovenia said they would work on this.

Dates: Is it better to hold SEEOC-SEEMOC in the last week of August instead of first week of September – most of the SEEOA countries prefer the last week of August.

Long distance map: The map looks scary since it is so steep. Maybe it could be shifted to the region of the middle distance to a terrain where it is not so detailed.

Votes: All voted FOR.

13. Approval of SEEOC/SEEMOC Rules:

TK reminded the fact that organizers should read these rules carefully. For example in SEEMOC 2016 it is observed that masters classes have been combined in some classes, whereas the rules explicitly say that classes shall not be combined. Also, a lot of time was spent in having a country draw during the team leaders' meeting whereas the rules say this draw shall be performed only once and shall be valid for all days. In this way, team leaders can have the start lists at the beginning of the team leaders meeting.

Bulgaria suggested an amendment to the start list procedure (except for WRE classes): Team leaders shall submit their preferred start block for the team members. Start blocks will be randomly drawn within each block for each day separately following the team leaders submitting their block preferences.

This suggestion was put to vote and accepted. The rules will be revised to include this procedure.

Bulgaria made another suggestion concerning medals and diplomas:

In SEEOC individual races the first 6 get diplomas, the first 3 get medals

In SEEMOC individual races the first 3 diplomas and medals, not 6.

In present situation in the relay, the first 6 teams get a diplomas and the first 3 get medals. Change this -> In the relay only the first 3 teams get medals and diplomas, not to have 6 teams at the podium.

This was put to vote and accepted. The rules will be revised to include this procedure.

14. Events Calender for 2017-2018 (events, seminars etc)-Damir Gobec

All countries must send their events to the SEEOA secretary.

15. Future spring meetings – continue or not?

Bulgaria proposed to cancel spring meetings. It is an additional cost for countries which attend, and not many countries do attend. All correspondence may be made through electronic channels in the meantime.

TK reminded that unfortunately countries do not read the minutes and proposals. We can open conference calls over skype for countries which can not attend. However we do need these meetings. Taking decisions during the championships is not effective. Everybody is tired, especially the organising country.

Greece: We are a small country. When a small country hosts a meeting like this then you can come to our country and visit us and get to know us. However we as a small country cannot attend every

SEEOA meeting. Therefore we are in favor of holding these spring meetings. Countries are free to choose whether or not to attend these meetings, but the meetings should continue.

During the meeting in Cyprus we as Greece asked for the meeting in 2017 to be held in Greece, but it has not been decided yet.

Montenegro: Spring meetings depends on how we look upon our association. I agree with Bulgaria that we have financial problems and cannot attend many of the meetings. However if we want our association to grow we need many more meetings and many more projects. If we have only just this meeting during SEEOC then it will develop into an association which organizes SEEOC and nothing else.

The question (Shall we continue to have spring meetings?) was put to vote:
6 votes (Greece, Slovenia, Turkey, Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro) FOR
4 votes AGAINST

16. Proposal for spring meeting in Tiran, Albania

Inge Bosina made a presentation.

TK inquired about prices for accommodation. Double room is about 30 Euro per person.

Greece objected saying they had proposed to have the meeting in Greece and it was accepted in the meeting in Cyprus. TK reminded that Greece had proposed to have the meeting in a place which was not reachable conveniently. Greece would propose for holding the meeting in a town close to Athens. However, now Greece will vote for Albania for 2017, and develop a written proposal for 2018.

The next spring meeting to be in Albania was put to vote and accepted.

Session 2 - Saturday, 10th September

1. Opening of the second session:

Vice Presidents TK and DG took their place on the Presidium and opened the meeting. It was reminded that Atanas Georgiev is our Honorary President and therefore was invited to join the two Vice Presidents on the Presidium.

2. The role call was made.

3. Presentation about progress in preparation of SEEOC and SEEMOC 2017:

General Secretary of the Montenegro Orienteering Federation gave a presentation.

4. Confirmation of applications for organizers of SEEOC/SEEMOC 2019:

Candidate Moldova made a presentation. Moldova was reminded that the presentation needs to include more about accommodation, terrain specifics and old maps if possible.

It was also reminded that 2019 is still open for bids until the 2017 spring meeting and the final decision would be taken during the championship in Montenegro.

5. Event quality:

TK made an introduction. We are taking start fees of 30 and 40 Euros. We need to increase the quality of our events. We have good maps and good course planning. However, information is very important. A person with very good English needs to be on duty to answer questions immediately. Advertisement and communication is very important. The EA or the mapmaker will not come and help in a subject of communication. The organizer must do this.

The quality of the medals are dropping. Diplomas need to be written with pens where the ink does not rub off as soon as they are handed out.

Excellent marking 'how to get there' in this competition, so thanks to Macedonian organisers for this.

Webpages: SEEOC2016 webpage is not user-friendly. Organisers should be careful about this.

VG: The increase of our skills in the technical side of the competition is important. We have advanced and now we have very few technical mistakes. Now we have good maps, good courses. We have had feedback that this association organizes one of the best regional championships in the world.

However, it was reminded that the organizational side must be of equally high quality.

Moldova suggested that a check-list be prepared by the organizers of successful events. Everybody can make an input.

6. New website for SEEOA:

Stefan has volunteered to make a new webpage. Now it is up to us to send information to be published on the SEEOA website. Send photos of our best runners. The webpage is mobile friendly too. Now it is important to send information about our events, to put in the calendar, a short history of our federations... Best pictures from the championships.

At the moment the website is not open to public. Stefan will send the link to SEEOA and everybody can comment on what else could be there.

The deadline is 31 December to send material and bring suggestions for the site.

7. Composition of SEEOA Council and our work plan –Zoran Milovanovic

We have received a letter of future the resignation of Zoran Milovanovic. So we have to prepare for a new president. We ask the Federations to come forth with new suggestions for names for President and 2 Vice Presidents sent together with this person's CV. We also ask Federations to think carefully who will be delegates to SEEOA. This person must respond to e-mails and contribute to decisions. We need a letter from the federation nominating this person as responsible and authorized to represent the federation within SEEOA. Deadline is end of January for nominations. The new President and vice-presidents will be decided in Montenegro. Another point for discussion, to settle what a country should do in order to apply for membership to SEEOA.

It is proposed to remove the item insisting on the country be a member of the IOF. Instead, the following is proposed:

- 1- Must have a national body for orienteering. This must be proved by the Ministry of Sports or some official body.
- 2- Must be a member of UN
- 3- Must have at least one national competition with sufficient competitors

We must discuss the position of Bosnia Hersegovina, Albania and Greece since they are not members of the IOF.

Greece is at present a member of SEEOA but has sadly lost their membership to IOF. Albania is not yet a member of IOF. Should we also accept members who are not a member of IOF?

Bulgaria: We need to first establish the minimum requirements to become a member of SEEOA. How many orienteering clubs do we have in Greece? None. In Albania how many orienteers are there? Without government help it is not possible to develop a sport in a country.

Croatia: We need to give countries a chance to start somewhere. For example in Croatia we have been a “national body” within Mountaineering Association not a federation until 1992. However status of a orienteering as a sport was recognized by the ministry.

If a country is not a member of IOF, 3 criteria stated above accepted -> Put to vote -> Accepted
If the country is not a member of the IOF they can run in WRE but they will not be ranked.

Bosnia & Herzegovina: President of the orienteering federation made a speech. Officially they are in all our meetings however not yet recognized as a member of SEEOA. They were recognized by the Ministry last year. At the moment they have 7 orienteering clubs. 89 competitors in all disciplines. Last 6 years they bring competitors to our championships. They fulfill all criteria we have decided.

If they give the formal application they will be accepted. Put to vote -> accepted, formal application pending.

Greece: Greece is no longer a member of the IOF nor do they satisfy the 3 criteria above. Should they be moved to being an “observing country”? We must contact Greece and ask them to submit, by the spring meeting, necessary documentation from an official national body that they are a recognized federation or national body for orienteering. Otherwise they shall lose their membership to SEEOA.

8. Proposals raised by the member Federations of SEEOA and observers

8.1. Bulgaria came up with the suggestion of participation in the outh Camps:

From each SEEOA country, 1 coach/team leader + 4 runners 16 – 18 years old will be able to participate free of charge. Additional runners may come but they will have to pay.

Bulgaria must send a written offer with date, prices (for extra runners) and location of a camp.

The proposal was put to vote and accepted.

8.2. Romania renewed their proposal for the SEEOIC. We are trying to prepare an international calendar of events. However, the main aim is to go to each other's events. The SEEOIC will motivate athletes to go to other SEEOA countries' events.

Questions we need to think about:

How will the cup work? Who will finance the medals? Who will be responsible for keeping the results? Which classes will be involved?

Various proposals were made:

- * SEEOIC should include classes 16 – 21 (SEEOC classes)

- * One competition in each SEEOA country to be announced as counted for the SEEOIC. Runners may participate in all or some of these but only the best 3 results count. SEEOC is the 4th to be counted.

- * Points: The system should be simple, such as the rank order (1, 2, 3, 4...) of each competition.

These could be added. The runner with the minimum points wins the cup.

- * The coefficient of SEEOC could be higher (with increased importance)

- * We need only give medals at the end (at SEEOC) so the intermediate races do not need to think of financing medals

Romania will develop draft rules for SEEOIC and send these to member federations and ask for input. The final decision will be taken in the spring meeting.

8.3. SR (serbia) SRB proposed we think about the WOC changing its format to include a mixed sprint relay as an official format. SEEOA might think of this too.

9. Any other business:

Vasilis from Greece expressed his wish to organize a training camp in Greece. How to introduce orienteering in schools. This would be a 1-2 week camp with seminars + practical training. Costs would be covered by Greece. Could SEEOA provide lecturers / trainers for this camp?

Official invitations should be made to SEEOA. Naturally all countries would be willing to help.

Minutes taken by Nermin Fenmen

Date 09-10.09.2016