

SEEOA Meeting Minutes

March 3rd – 5th, 2017, Tirana, Albania.

Participation list

N	Country	Name of Representative	Status
1	Albania	Inge Bosina dr. Hans Spornbauer	observer guest
2	Bosna and Herzegovina	-	member
3	Bulgaria	-	member
4	Croatia	-	member
5	Cyprus	Christos Aliferis	member
6	Greece	Konstantinos Tsavadaris (left Saturday) Dimtris Konstantinos (left Saturday)	observer
7	Italy	-	member
8	Kosovo	Kristian Gashi (arrived Saturday)	observer
9	Macedonia	-	member
10	Moldova	-	member
11	Montenegro	Stefan Jeremić Luka Vulić	member
12	Serbia	Stevan Roksandić	member
13	Slovenia	Klemen Kenda	member
14	Romania	-	member
15	Turkey	Veysel Güler	member

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting
2. Approval of the minutes from meeting in Kruševo, Macedonia
3. Report about the work since the last meeting
4. Composition of SEEOA Council, new proposals from member countries
5. Membership in SEEOA
6. Financial report (SEEOA tax) from SEEOC/SEEMOC 2016 in Macedonia
7. SEEOA calendar
8. SEEOA Summer Youth Training Camps, Bulgaria – proposal
9. New website of SEEOA, development
10. SEEOC and SEEMOC 2017 – Durmitor, Montenegro, progress report
11. SEEOC and SEEMOC 2018 – Cerknjo, Slovenia, progress report
12. SEEOC and SEEMOC 2019 – presentation of bids
13. Discussion about possible candidates for 2018 spring meeting
14. Preparation in SEEOA countries for World Orienteering Day, estimations

15. Proposals by national federations

- a. Proposal by Turkey (adding max running times, daily fees for masters)

Session 1 – Friday, 3rd March – SEEOA issues

Ad 1 - Opening of the meeting

Inge Bosina (IB) opened the meeting. Like all other members of the group she agreed it was a pity, not to have the official representatives of the SEEOA present. Guest from Albania was present: dr. Hans Spornbauer, Managing Director of AIEEx-Austrian Institute of Excellence (training partner of WIFI International). He presented himself and his work as Austrian in Albania since 10 years. He also informed the group about the EU - Interreg Cross Border Cooperation program Italy-Albania-Montenegro and asked to propose a project for Orienteering Albania together with Montenegro.

All the participating countries presented themselves.

Veysel Güler (VG) proposed that the members of SEEOA council also hold positions in their federations, since only this way they can transfer information from SEEOA to home federations.

IB suggested for the present members to think of an alternative agenda that matters to the group, beside the official SEEOA agenda. Stefan Jeremić (SJ) suggested to allocate some time to EU projects and collaboration within the SEEOA.

Dimitris Karadimitriou (DK) asked what is the role of Greece in this meeting. KK and IB explained the decisions made in the meeting in Strumica. DK asked if Greece can still propose issues. The group agreed that since this is only consular meeting, they can participate just like any other nation.

The roll call of the countries was made. 5 members out of 11 are present. The meeting will not make final decisions.

Klemen Kenda (KK) proposed the agenda of the meeting. Agenda was changed to include 3 main blocks: SEEOA organization, youth work and collaboration, SEEOC/SEEMOC.

VG suggested to write a letter to council members (and members of SEEOA) as a protest of their attitude towards the SEEOA by not attending the meeting.

Christos Aliferis (CA) suggests that SEEOA should take care of lobbying, spreading our common interests. Stevan Roksandić (SR) said that it would be much easier to work under official organization.

Ad 2 - Approval of the minutes from meeting in Kruševo, Macedonia

There were no comments from the present members regarding the meeting minutes and they are passed to the meeting in Montenegro for final approval.

Ad 3 - Report about the work since the last meeting

There were no comments.

Ad 4 - Composition of SEEEOA Council, new proposals from member countries

SEEEOA council candidatures:

- Turkish proposal: Vice-president: Veysel Güler, Secretary: Sena Otlu
- Croatian proposal (not present, sent via e-mail): President: Damir Gobec
- Proposal of the meeting (Turkey, supported by Serbia and Montenegro): Klemen Kenda

CA candidates need to present strategy of development. We need internal rules.

SJ suggests that leaders of SEEEOA should show on SEEEOA meetings.

SJ suggests to introduce membership fee which will serve as some small money to pay the person to take care of website, organization ... SR suggests that SEEEOC/SEEMOC fee can be used for these purposes.

SJ suggests distributions of jobs. VG thinks, this might not work. SJ suggest formally transmit rights for SEEEOA to a member federation, which can then further manipulate this money.

Proposal:

1. SEEEOA must form strategy, purpose and rules of the organization. Are we organization for only one competition?
2. SEEEOA needs to specify the tasks, to be fulfilled in SEEEOA.
3. Membership fee; use this money for persons working in SEEEOA.

Ad 5 - Membership in SEEEOA

CA raised a question of military orienteering. SR offered help regarding good experience with their military team.

There was a long discussion about the situation in Greece. For Greece it is difficult to form a federation (20 member clubs).

We propose SEEEOA federations to write a support letter to Greece – to their ministry. IOF, COMOF write a letter of support.

VG suggested Greece to organize the country as an orienteering training destination.

Ad 6 - Financial report (SEEEOA tax) from SEEEOC/SEEMOC 2016 in Macedonia

There were no representatives and no material.

Ad 7 - SEEEOA calendar

SR proposed to add seminars into the SEEOA calendar. And SJ proposed that we should put SEEOC/SEEMOC into the calendar. IB suggested that there would be idea for clinic between Albanian O-days 2017 and Prilep competition.

Ad 8 - New website of SEEOA, development

SJ reported that to finish the job, we need materials. None were provided by the member federations, also nothing happened with an initiative led by SEEOA vice-president. SJ will prepare (on Tuesday) a list of needed data. Every country can have administration access (according to a defined policy).

KK suggested to have a person for checking SEEOA minutes and forcing the tasks to be accomplished.

SEEOA mailing list was created. SEEOA countries should send e-mails to KK to get registered in the list.

Ad 9 - Discussion about possible candidates for 2018 spring meeting

There are candidatures from Turkey, Montenegro also Croatia. Turkey's proposal (Antalya) is to connect the meeting with HESTOUREX. SEEOA meeting would be free (including travel expenses) – 2 persons/country. The group agreed that proposal is by far the most suitable.

VG presented participation at HESTOUREX coaching seminar for 2017.

CA presented the intent to organize SEEOC 2020 by Cyprus. Maybe a late SEEOC proposal.

Session 2 – Saturday, 4th March – Youth work and collaboration

Greece (DK and KD) would like to have their proposals considered as member proposals. With this condition fulfilled Greece would like to make the following proposals:

1. They proposed a more “relaxed” way to lead SEEOA activities, which would be more friendly to developing countries.
2. They work a lot with schools; and this has to do a lot with educational and not with competitive part of orienteering. They want to promote scientific activities of the impact of orienteering to development of children of various groups (also disabled).
3. Make SEEOC/SEEMOC races shorter and technically more demanding. Not to be on status of federations but between clubs. In this way we bring more clubs. They propose completely different programme.
4. The spring meeting needs to be decision making meeting; and summer to have celebrational character.

They send email with the proposals to the secretary and official address; it was not forwarded to others. Proposals are articulated and attached in an annex to these minutes.

VG commented that there exists Scientific Journal of Orienteering. VG commented on the programme proposals and said it was very good to promote orienteering, but SEEOC is a serious competition with fixed programme. We can have a rich side programme in the open event.

Greek contingent left the meeting after this as a consequence of lowering their status to observer country.

Ad 10 - Preparation in SEEOA countries for World Orienteering Day, estimations

VG reported that Turkey would like to break their previous WOD participation record. They work through their ministry (letter to all schools, all levels) to motivate all the schools to participate. An idea would be gather people in the football stadiums in big cities and perform labyrinth orienteering. In addition to this all the clubs will participate and organize events.

KK presented preparations for WOD, which are similar to last year. They lack the staff to organize WOD. They expect around 1000 participants, activities will mostly be organized by clubs. He also presented a booklet by Jernej Zorman on labyrinth orienteering, accessible at Slovenian Orienteering Federations pages.

SR presented their efforts at the Ministry of sports in Serbia, which are going well. He mentioned that they have been 13th country by WOD participation in 2016. They prepared quite some school maps (50 new maps). They expect 10.000 participants.

SJ mentioned they are a small country and can not compare to Serbia or Turkey. They will organize an event in a local park in Podgorica; they plan to involve local schools (4-5 schools) in the project. They hope to reach 500 people.

KG has presented their activities in Kosovo, based on labyrinth orienteering. He mentioned that they don't get much support from the official entities.

CA mentioned that they work a lot on educational materials for working with young. They present orienteering as a tool for a non-typical education. They are trying to educate a group of teachers to use these tools. They try to show benefits of orienteering for the character.

IB reported about being a lone organiser in Albania. Also Tirana and Shkodra are far apart.

Ad 11 – EU project collaboration

SJ is interested to collaborate in EU projects to get funds to develop/promote orienteering. SJ checked all the materials Erasmus+. For them this scheme is not the best solution; they have checked other options. Montenegro can not apply, but they can be a partner.

VG was involved in a project in Turkey. It was not totally orienteering; project with "orienteering" is usually not accepted. Theme should be: games, traditional activities ... youth topics. Turkey can share their project; another country can change it and submit.

SJ suggested to have SEEOA share the calls for which our associations are eligible.

IB described Erasmus+ possibilities. IB shall send information to Christos and Veysel/Elif.

Ad 12 - SEEOA Summer Youth Training Camps, Bulgaria – proposal

SR asked the technicalities about money transfer. He asked about how to transfer money for 2017. He also mentioned that camp is planned one week before SEEOC 2017. SEEOC starts 3 days after the camp.

The group agreed dates were far from optimal and suggests Bulgaria to move training camp to: spring 2018 or organize it earlier (June/July) 2017.

Ad 14 - SEEOC and SEEMOC rules, proposals from national federations

The group agrees with the changes in SEEOC/SEEMOC rules.

The group accepts Turkey proposals regarding start fees, SEEMOC participants in SEEOC relay and maximum running times.

CA mentioned that dates for SEEOC might influence the top performance of our athletes (since WOC is 1 month before SEEOC).

Session 3 – Saturday, 4th March

Ad 13 - SEEOC and SEEMOC 2017 – Durmitor, Montenegro, progress report

There was a long and vivid discussion about the situation in Montenegro. A lot has been said regarding the relations between all the actors in this story. Final conclusions were:

1. The conflicts needs to be resolved in a cultivated manner, ideally in one, which would result in a win-win situation for all parties involved.
2. We don't want conflict to get any deeper as this would have negative consequences for all the parties involved and in general for development of orienteering in this area.
3. We support the sovereignty of any SEEOA member in organization of any orienteering activities in their countries.
4. There are many gray areas when federations willingly and non-willingly cooperate with private companies with organization of their events (examples Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro), which are very sensitive. SEEOA needs to inform the IOF about the possible situations and ask IOF to prepare guidelines how to proceed in such cases. Many national legislations (example Turkey) give all the authority to national sport federations, however, this is not always the case (example Slovenia).

Finally SJ reported:

- Maps are ready (8km²)
- Bulgarian technical organizers are experienced
- Rui and Valentin will update the whole map in May/June

- Maybe map for the sprint will be slightly enlarged; main job is already done
- MOF will take care of marketing and other organizational tasks

Ad 14 - SEEOC and SEEMOC 2018 – Cerčno, Slovenia, progress report

KK informed the group about the accommodation prices – half board (19€ for hostel, 32€ for normal room, 44€ for better room). There were no objections. KK also presented their correspondence with IOF map commission. They were not successful in negotiating map scale for long distance and therefore finally decided to organize long distance in Ski center Cerčno / Blegoš terrain as originally planned. There were no objections.

The meeting was concluded in a positive spirit.

Minutes taken by: Klemen Kenda and Inge Bosina



PANHELLENIC
SCIENTIFIC AND ATHLETIC
TEACHERS' ASSOCIATION
FOR THE DEVELOPMENT
OF ORIENTEERING

Aridaia, Greece, 25-2-2017
Protocol Number : 24

Postal address:

42 Dimokratias str., Aridaia,
58400, Pella, Greece

Email addresses:

karadimitrioud@gmail.com and
psekp.o@gmail.com

To: SEEOA Secretary

Subject: Informing and Suggestions

Information on demand and requests

- What we would like to ask from you first is to please send us the statute of SEEOA establishment and operation.
- Mrs Inge Bosina informed us that Greece is no longer a SEEOA member, but only an observer. When was such a decision made, who suggested this and on what arguments?
- When is the election of the new SEEOA Board of Administration going to take place?
- Last but not least, we would like you to notify Mrs Kalenderoglou and Mr Gobec that although they received our message, they haven't answered yet. Is it maybe because our e-mail has been dealt as an undesirable one?

Suggestions for the SEEOA meeting

- Albania and Bosnia should both become full SEEOA members.
- We should define our own philosophy. There is no need for us to become Scandinavians, we are very proud of being Balcanian and Mediterranean.
- We should abolish national races and promote association races offering strong motivation for these associations. We should unite SEEOC and SEEMOC as well as increase the races designing them to be shorter, less tiring but more technically challenging, e.g. score event etc.
- We propose only races to take place as well as informative meetings during the summer meeting and also the whole event to have a celebratory character. So it's better for the decisions to be made during the spring meeting.

THE PRESIDENT

DIMITRIS KARADIMITRIOU