



INTERNATIONAL ROGAINING FEDERATION Inc.

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Brazil: José Nilton Silva Vargas
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South Africa: Pieter Mulder
Sweden: Bengt Nilsson
Switzerland: Dieter Wolf
USA: Barb Bryant
6th WRC: Peg Davis

Strategic plan for rogaining

Part D, Annual plan for countries

Requests for input and feedback upon the IRF Strategic Plan Part D were made in July 2007 and closed in October 2007.

The [IRF Strategic Plan](#) can be found on the IRF web site. Part D states briefly “D. Programs: Choice of annual programs. To be decided on an annual basis for the International Rogaining Federation, and for individual rogaining associations and rogaining nations.”

Summary from Alan Mansfield

Promotions and Development, IRF

It is my intention to contact all IRF Members and Observers separately in early 2008 period to ask what assistance you might need, and how the Strategic Planning Part D process could be used as a practical tool to Develop and Promote your association and rogaining in general.

I am still forming my own understanding about what contribution the Promotion and Development role can make to the IRF and to your associations –whether you are a formal body, a group or an individual. Would a survey addressing some of the items and issues raised in the strategic plan responses help to identify how to develop and promote the sport of rogaining? Subjects that come to mind are how did you as an individual discover and play the game of rogaining, how do you think your members and competitors discovered rogaining, why rogaining, what are competitors’ backgrounds, can you differentiate between your competitive entrants and your participatory entrants? Probably many other questions!

Annual Plan for Rogaining in Israel

Dan Chissick

Rogaining in Israel is organized by the Israel Sport Orienteering Association, and most of the participants are active orienteers. The options for rogaining are limited by the small size of the country and available open areas, and by security and safety considerations which make it very difficult to hold activities at night. Previous rogaines attracted 240 participants (2005) and 310 participants (2006), in both foot and mountain bike categories.

Plans for 2007-8

We are continuing to organize one 8-hour Rogaine each year using a new area each time. The rogaine is planned as a central event by the ISOA and from now on will be organized by one of the orienteering clubs each year. The 3rd Israeli Rogaine will take place on 3rd November 2007 in Ramot Menashe and will be organized by Izrael Valley O-Club. Tentative plans for 2008 include a rogaine in the Northern Negev desert, which will enable utilization of a larger area than before.

Annual Plan for Rogaining in Finland

Iiro Kakko

We held our first 24h rogaine in September 2007, and this went well. There is also an 8hr event, and around 50 teams will participate. The major problem for this event is that September is full of other similar type of events (on same weekend is the orienteering relay national championships, next weekend is the final event for 6 events of an endurance race series, and that happens to be orienteering), and there are many other outdoor races around then.

Plans for 2007-8

We have no plans to put up an association for rogaining. We do plan on having several teams participate in ERC in Russia as well as WRC in Estonia. Both events are very close to majority of Finns (less than 200 km away!). So we continue take part in the rogaining society as individuals.

Rogaining in Norway

Lars-Åke Svenk

For Norway I have to report that there has not been any rogaines in this country to my knowledge and none is planned. There is regular orienteering activity of course but not any rogaining activity. I will be moving back to Sweden by year-end so will not continue the observer role for Norway.

Annual Plan - Rogaining in Czech Republic

Miroslav Siedl

About the Czech Association of Rogaining: CAR has 31 official members (clubs) and some independent members (in the CAR it is not compulsory to be a member of a club). The CAR holds an Annual CAR conference at which a CAR presidium is elected. The CAR presidium meets twice a year; most of items are solved via Internet. The CAR presidium is responsible for the determination of CAR strategy, allocation of national or international competitions and collaboration with the IRF and other foreign partners. The CAR has existed for 10 years. During this period keen membership has varied at around 200 persons during the last ten years. The CAR closely collaborates with the Czech Association of Extreme Sports (CAES).

CAR has two IRF representatives who provide coordination of Czech and IRF goals and activities.

Program of Events in Czech Republic

CAR holds at least two rogaines a year (one 24-hour race and further short events, such as one-day race 6 or 8 hours or two-day race 6 and 5 hours). Below is the 2007 to 2008 program. Annually on the last weekend in June, we hold one twenty-four hour rogaine, the Czech Championships. It is our opinion that in central Europe there is room to hold one or two 24-hour rogaines a year. We would like to found 'The European Trophy' as an international rogaine competition, which could be held by other countries every year (e.g. Czech Republic, Poland, Austria, and Germany). We will try to get financial support from European Community, government agents and municipality authorities. We are going to tie the rogaining events with the state campaign "Sport development for everybody".

Date	Name	Location
2007		
23 - 24 June	Championships of the Czech republic - 12 and 24 hour rogaine + 6 hour rogaine for public and beginners	Kremze
2008		
March	Brutus cup – two-day rogaine (Saturday 6 hours, Sunday 5 hours)	Sedlcany
June	Common Championship of the Czech and German republic - 12 and 24 hour rogaine + 6 hour rogaine for public and beginners	Oberwiesenthal, Germany
5-6 July	5th European Rogaining Championships	St. Peterburg Russia
13-14 September	8th World Rogaining Championships	Estonia

CAR has experienced a growth of entrants at events every year. The reason for the growth could be a combination of advertising of the rogaine as a good sport and social event on CAR and orienteering websites, popularization of rogaine among orienteering runners and last but not least effort to allocate the CAR competitions to attractive terrains.

Publicity: We publicize events on the CAR website, the CAES website, the Czech Orienteering Association website and occasionally on other webs.

Membership Secretary: The membership is compulsory for all entrants of the Czech Championships 18 years or older. Current keen membership is about 200. A member of

CAR presidium runs the management of the membership database.

Archivist: All results and archived on the CAR website. In addition the managing committee organizes an archive of event maps and associated documents.

Equipment Officer: CAR nowadays has no particular material for organizing of events; organizers usually rent it from friendly orienteering clubs.

Webmaster: <http://car.shocart.cz/> has been functional for many years. It has provided information about all CAR events and activities. Since April 2003 the CAR members can subscribe to the CAR e-mail conference to be well informed about news and rogaining events.

Land access: All organizers of the CAR activities are in contact with landowners and nature conservation authorities.

Conclusion: CAR is planning to hold the 2008 Czech Championships and to prepare the first steps of foundation of the international rogaine competition 'The European Trophy'.

Annual Plan for Rogaining in Canada

Francis Falardeau

I agree with the idea of forming US and Canadian national rogaining associations. The timing is great for national associations as rogaining activities are booming in America. I like also the idea of a World Rogaining Championship in eastern Canada. However, I consider there are very few skilled individuals in eastern Canada capable of organizing a WRC in near future. The situation may slowly change, but it takes time to develop-form-skilled event officers. Meanwhile, I will offer my support and expertise to any serious group for a bid on a WRC in Canada or USA.

Annual plan for Rogaining in Germany

Marko Rößler

Rogaining in Germany is organized by a loose group of enthusiasts of the sport located in Saxony. The first 'Saxony Rogaine' over 6 and 12 hours was held in 2007 under the name of a local orienteering association. The participants were active orienteers and people attracted by press articles. The first competition attracted 120 people from 5 countries. The option of large scale 24 hour rogaining in Germany is limited by scattered

land and forest owners and the small number of active organizers. Hunters oppose the occupation of the huge (in German scale) piece of land required for a 24 hours rogaine.

Since 2007, we have a web site at www.rogaine.de. In 2008, we will send two teams to the Czech rogaining championships.

Plans for 2008-9

The second 'Saxony Rogaine' will be hosted jointly as the Czech-German Championships in 2008. It will take place across the German/Czech border in the area of Oberwiesenthal in Saxony. There are plans for a Czech/German 24 hour rogaine in 2009. We hope to introduce rogaining to a broad public by these competitions in order to enhance the German Rogaining community. Founding a German Rogaining Association would lead to a sustainable development of the sport, once a critical mass of active people is reached.

Annual Plan for Rogaining in Sweden

Bengt Nilsson

The strategic plans for Sweden are to continue regular rogaines, form a national web site, and encourage further 24 hour rogaines.

Annual Plan for Rogaining in Latvia

Guntars Mankus

Annual action plan for Latvia (2008)

- 1) Continue co-operation with Latvian Orienteering Federation to obtain government support and financing for rogaining events and to attract the best rogainers
- 2) Continue to advertise rogaining in the media to get more people involved into the sport
- 3) Prepare new rogaining map and organize the 5th Latvian Championships (24h event)
- 4) Pass on the knowledge and experience to involve more local clubs and individuals in rogaining event organization.
- 5) Develop/improve IT technologies to organize 'fair play' events / electronic punching, every single competitor using his own chip card (fixed on wrist, non-removable), special software checks if the whole team has visited Check Points at the same time.

Annual Plan for Rogaining in Estonia

Lauri Leppik in consultation with Andres Käär

Rogaining events in Estonia have been organized from 1999. Since then, TAOK (TA Orienteering Club) holds annual 8-hour rogaines. The number of participants at TAOK rogaine has steadily increased and reached 914 participants (357 teams) in 2006.

TAOK Rogaines:

Year	Format (hours)	Teams	Participants
1999	8	13	32
2000	8	50	147
2001	8	82	216
2002	8	90	245
2003	8	139	398
2004	8	233	629
2005	8	300	763
2006	8	357	914
2007	8	410	1157

Orion OK has organized four 24-hour rogaines in years 2003-2006, including European Rogaining Championships in 2005 (in co-operation with Sports Club Peraküla Kompass). The number of participants at the latest Estonian 24-hour rogaine in 2006 was 91 (36 teams).

Orion rogaines:

Year	Format (hours)	Teams	Participants
2002	8/3	40	84 (72+12)
2003	24/8/3	76	168 (59+84+25)
2004	24/8	74	174 (55+119)
2005 ERC	24/8/3	183	409 (199+165+45)
2006	24/8/3	100	218 (91+103+24)

Note: The 2005 European Rogaining Championships included 51 teams and 108 participants from abroad. ERC was organized by OK Orion in co-operation with SK Peraküla Kompass

From 2004, an NGO Aktiivikeskus is organizing 6-hour youth rogaines, which follow the rogaine format, but include some additional exercises (elements of adventure

race) in some of the controls. These events target in particular youth in 14-18 age group, the number of participants being around 100 (25-30 teams).

Aktiivikeskus youth rogaines, Estonia:

Year	Format (hours)	Teams	Participants
2004	6	21	79
2005	6	28	108
2006 I	6	21	87
2006 II	6	38	147
2007 I	6	28	83

Estonian teams have participated at WRCs from 2002, but the number of teams involved has been relatively small (2-5 teams). Participation is more extensive at European Rogaining Championships where 33 Estonian teams (71 participants) took part in the latest ERC held in Latvia 2007.

Nevertheless, there are relatively few teams who consider rogaining as their main discipline. Participants regard rogaining as a side sport and their main disciplines to be orienteering, running, adventure race, trekking or cross-country skiing.

In organizational terms, rogaining is regarded in Estonia as a branch of orienteering and as such falls under the scope of the Estonian Orienteering Federation. Orienteering competition rules of the EOF include a chapter on rogaining events. Events are organized mainly by orienteering clubs, which are members of the EOF. Professionalism in organizing rogaining events has steadily increased over years. Electronic punching (SportIdent) has been used at rogaining events from 2002. To produce rogaining maps, specific fieldwork is carried out. An Internet page www.rogain.ee includes a forum, which is rather actively used, indicating the development of a rogaining community.

The number of registered participants of the 2007 TAOK 8-hour rogaine exceeds 1100, breaking the previous record. This indicates that rogaining has become a mass sport in Estonia and TAOK rogaines appear to be the biggest rogaining events in the world. However, there are clear limits to this growth. Further increases in the number of participants could have detrimental effects on environment (considering the terrain types), would reduce

the competitive aspect of the race, and put special requirements on hash-house infrastructure (e.g. parking space), which can not always be met on available sites. Therefore, TAOK has set a maximum number of participants at 1200.

In broader terms, instead of further growth on a single event, the development should go in the direction of diversification, i.e. initiating more events, possibly with different formats, e.g. 3 and 6 hour events. The idea of introducing 3-hour evening rogaines combined with the existing 'Orienteering Thursdays' series has been discussed.

For 2008, the main challenge is hosting the 8th World Rogaining Championships. The organizing team aims at producing a high quality event on the best rogaining terrain available in Estonia. The target is to attract at least the same number of participants as the previous WRC, but with a wider geographical representation. The event is promoted via <http://8wrc2008.rogain.ee/>, by including the event on various calendars (<http://cal.worldofo.com/>, <http://www.sleepmonsters.com/calendar.php>), advertisements at major rogaining and orienteering events.

Nevertheless, in the longer perspective shorter rogaines remain the main format in Estonia, mainly determined by available terrains. Annual 24-hour rogaines do not seem realistic and sustainable in the longer term, due to a limited number of suitable terrains. Therefore, instead of aiming at introducing annual 24-hour rogaines in Estonia, co-operation with other Baltic countries (Latvia, Lithuania) could be extended, e.g. by setting up rotating regional 24-hour events, each country hosting a major 24-hour rogaine once in three years. Estonian rogaining community would benefit from the development of rogaining in the Nordic countries (Finland, Sweden, Norway) as these countries are geographically close and have many excellent terrains which are well suitable for 24-hour events.

(Considering that the population of Estonia is only 1.3 million, the ratio of rogainers to the total population in Estonia is probably the highest in the world.)