

THE INTERNATIONAL AMATEUR RADIO UNION, REGION 1
AMATEUR RADIO DIRECTION FINDING
WORKING GROUP



To: all members of the IARU Region1
ARDF Working Group

Cc: IARU Region 1 EC
IARU Region 2 ARDF Coordinator
IARU Region 3 ARDF Committee

Chairman:
Jiří Mareček, OK2BWN
Obřanská 593
CZ-664 01 Bílovice nad Svitavou
CZECH REPUBLIC
phone: +420 602531222
e-mail: marecek@ok2bwn.cz
www.ardf-r1.org

Date: November 16th, 2019

MINUTES

42nd Plenary Meeting of the IARU Region 1 ARDF Working Group

held at the IARU Region 1 ARDF Championship, Rogla, Slovenia,
September 3rd and 6th, 2019 (15:00-18:00)

The agenda:

1. The meeting was opened by the ARDF WG Chairman on September 3rd, 2019 at 15:06.
2. The WG Chairman welcomed Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, IARU Vice-President
3. The present WG members and guests introduced themselves
 - see the list of participants (Appendix A)
 - out of 25 WG members, 24 were present (in person or by the proxy) which constitutes a quorum.
4. The agenda of the 42nd ARDF WG Plenary Meeting was approved unanimously.
5. The applications of new International Class referees from HRS and SRS (Stipe PREDANIĆ, 9A5SP, Željka KRUPKA, 9A3GZK, Dragan GAČPAR, YU3GD) and the change of status of Ivan TODOROVIĆ, YU0U to "Active" were approved unanimously. All candidates will be invited to serve in the World ARDF Championship 2020 International Jury.
6. Forthcoming IARU Youth ARDF Championships
 1. S56SON presented the report about preparations of the 4th WYAC 2020 to be hosted by ZRS:
Date and venue: June 26-30, 2020, Ajdovščina (SVN)
Fees: starting fee 40 EUR/competition, total package 240 EUR, visitors 140 EUR
Event website: <http://wyac2020.hamradio.si>, accommodation: <https://www.ddajdovscina.si/>
ZRS proposed Dusan Ceha, YU1EA, as the Chairman of the Jury, which was unanimously approved. The starting fee was approved by the e-mail voting.
 2. Preliminary information on the 5th WYAC 2021 to be hosted by Romanian society FRR: preparations proceed according to the schedule, no detailed information.
 3. UA3BL presented the SRR application for hosting an IARU WYAC2022: As the 6th WYAC 2022 was already assigned to PZK, who confirmed its willingness to organize this event, SRR accepted to apply for 2023 instead. The application from SRR for 2023 was approved unanimously.
 4. The venue and the hosting societies of Youth ARDF Championships in the years 2024+: Hungary expressed its interest to organize a WYAC.

7. Forthcoming IARU ARDF Championships

1. YT5DM presented the report about the preparations of the 20th IARU World ARDF Championship 2020 to be hosted by the Serbian society SRS:

Date and venue: August 20-September 5, 2020, Zlatibor (SRB)

Fees: starting fee 75 EUR/competition, total package 450 EUR, visitors 300 EUR

The training camp is planned during the week before the event.

Event website: <https://ardf2020.org/>, accommodation: <https://palisad.rs/en/home/>

SRS proposed Ole Garpestad, LA2RR, as the Chairman of the Jury., which was unanimously approved. The starting fee was approved by the e-mail voting.

2. LZ3NN presented the report about the preparations of the 23rd IARU Region 1 ARDF Championship 2021 to be hosted by the Bulgarian society BFRA
Date and venue: End of August/Beginning of September 2021, Bansko (BGR)
Competition areas within 20km from the centre. The training camp is planned before the event.
Expected fees: starting fee 50 EUR/competition, accommodation+full board 30 EUR/night (2-bed rooms)
3. Jakub Oma (CRC) presented the application for hosting of the 21st IARU World ARDF Championships 2022:
Date and venue: end of August/beginning of September 2022, Liberec (CZE)
Competition areas: Jizerske hory, Cesky raj (less than 45 minutes drive from the centre). These were not used for ARDF for a long time and will be embargoed immediately. The training camp is planned before the event.
Accommodation: University Halls of Residence, 2-bed rooms
Expected fees: Starting fee 50 EUR/competition, full package: approx. 475 EUR.

The WG approved the proposal unanimously for Region 1.

Note OK2BWN: Both IARU Regions 2 and 3 were asked for approval and they both immediately responded and approved the proposal as well. Currently neither of them expects hosting of the World ARDF Championship before 2026.

Remark JF1RPZ (IARU R3): there is a concern if WIA (Australia) would be acceptable as the host for R1 countries (long travelling distance)

Remark WM5R (IARU R2): prices in the USA are significantly higher than at recent events. If prices were 50% or 100% higher than 2018, for example, would Region 1 and Region 3 approve?

4. To discuss the venue and the hosting society of ARDF Championships in the years 2023+ Hungary expressed the interest in hosting an event. However, they might need to chose a date not before October. The WG had no objections.

8. Evaluation of the 3rd World Youth Championship 2019 hosted by UARL, Ukraine

The event went smoothly without serious problems. At the 3,5 MHz classic, there was a small problem of the antenna at one transmitter (which again highlights the need of high responsibility of transmitter operators), sprint and 144 MHz classic went without problems. The IARU Region 1 Child Protection Principles were followed throughout the whole event. 131 participants of 13 countries took part in the event. The event report is published at the ARDF WG and the event websites.

Note: HRS points out that competition maps are missing in the event report at the website - already fixed.

9. The ARDF WG budget, IARU R1 General Conference 2020

The WG chairman reported about recent ARDF WG budget reductions. The budget is used as efficiently as possible for covering travel expenses of Chairmen of Juries at IARU ARDF championships and the WG chairman. Another amount is intended for subsidies of IARU Championships. The detailed assignment was approved in previous years.

In the last years, we were unsuccessful in getting financial support for World Youth ARDF Championships from newly established IARU Region 1 Youth project budgets. However, the vice chairman reported that he received confirmation that these budgets were also meant to cover ARDF youth activities.

The WG chairman asked WG members to stay in contact with their national delegations to the General Conference to have them informed about the ARDF and ask them to support ARDF at the IARU ground.

The WG chairman proposed to create an ARDF presentation for the forthcoming IARU R1 General Conference. Jon, LA9NGA, volunteers to support the WG chairman. The WG proposed to focus the presentation on how ARDF helps member societies to recruit and retain members.

10. Ad-hoc groups output

1. Equipment used in ARDF and impact to fairness
The WG chairman and Jon, LA9NGA, shortly presented Jon's long report. The discussion continues in the second part of the ARDF WG meeting.
2. UA3BL presented his report containing number of proposals. These were widely discussed within the second part of the WG meeting (see below).
3. The information flow in ARDF: so far no conclusion reached. The ad-hoc group continues in its job.

11. ARDF Rules

1. Course definitions

Jiri, OK2BWN, introduces the idea of his proposal and stresses that this gives more flexibility to the siting referee. CRC seconds the proposal. Kai, DG0YT, expresses doubt that there are enough siting referees which are ready to apply this rule successfully.

Chermen, UA3BL, asks to fix and publish the count of transmitters in a bulletin long before the competition. As is past discussions, there is little support for this idea, due to the fact that even the chairman of the Jury receives information about courses only shortly before the event.

Conclusion: at the time no impact to the Rules, the idea will be further developed.

2. New categories

The chairman reported about the proposal to add categories W70 and M80. A non-representative poll found support for this idea in the ARDF community.

Kai, DG0YT, expressed a clear position against this proposal. Apart from the impact on the organization, he reminds the WG of unsolved issues with the existing categories, especially the overlong gap from W35 to W50. Adding new categories would complicate fixing these issues.

12. Any other business

1. ARDF WG website

The WG chairman reported that there is ongoing work to redesign the IARU R1 website. It's not just a facelift, the changes are thorough, in the technical aspect as well as in the internal structure.

Temporary address is: <https://beta.iaru-r1.org/>

The ARDF WG has also a separate (external) website (<http://ardf-r1.org/>) and at the same time it is incorporated within the R1 website — both contain the same info. In order not to duplicate all activities, it is planned to drop the external web (which, unfortunately, currently looks better and is more intuitive).

2. IARU Region 1 vs. European Championships event title

PZK reported that it has difficulties in getting public financial support for ARDF teams to Region 1 Championships and asked to brand them more clearly as "European Championships".

Kai, DG0YT, asked PZK to contact him in order to develop a new proposal which is acceptable for Region 1 by fairly dealing with the non-European countries in Region 1.

13. The first part of the ARDF WG meeting was closed at 17:50. The meeting continues on Friday, September 6th at 15:00 with informal discussions about the technical details (re points 10-12)

14. The second part of the ARDF WG meeting commenced on September 6th, 2019, at 15:00. This session was organized like some kind of brainstorming - an informal discussion about the technical details of particular topics and new ideas:

15. Technical equipment in ARDF (point 10.1). The discussion resulted in following general opinions:

1. It is absolutely necessary to make everything possible to prevent the information transfer from the competition area and finish towards competitors who did not finish yet. This means prohibition of all long range communication ways (mobile phones, radio handhelds, Wi-fi devices etc.)
2. GPS devices containing digital map of the terrain remain prohibited. As to other devices and features assisting competitors in their performance (wrist GPS watches, electronic compasses, receivers with additional features (memory, S-meter, ...), it is very difficult to judge, where is the line between advanced equipment and unfair advantage. Looking to the result lists, it seems that in the meantime the personal skill and performance outweigh the equipment finesses - which is the point.
3. the ad-hoc group continues in its studies. So far no impact to the Rules. Any comments and contributions are welcomed.

16. UA3BL presented his report (point 10.2) containing number of proposals. Many ideas will be considered later and get their place in guides and recommendations. Some general conclusions resulting from the discussion:
- Making monitoring of transmitter network audible to competitors at the starting area: Competitors should not do the job of TX operators or the monitoring. In addition, they should not be able to hear the signal quality (=strength).
 - The flag should not be close to some object blocking its visibility from some direction, easy access to the entrance of the finish corridor: Both of this belongs rather to guides than to Rules.
 - some proposals had common reason: to minimize the stress before and after the start (by getting maps well before the start, allowing to take initial bearing before the start, 1st mandatory control...). However, the common conclusion was that the taking bearings, map reading and decision making **within the running time and therefore under the competition stress** is an important part of the ARDF character and leaving it would reduce ARDF just to orienteering or running.
 - to allow the trainings in the competition area before the event: This should be strictly avoided in order not to give an unequal advantage to competitors.

17. Discussion about the participation of senior competitors

One day before the meeting (at the 1st classic competition) one competitor (M70) got lost and other (also M70) got serious health problems. Fortunately, everything ended well. However, a discussion about minimizing risks for senior competitors started and came to following conclusions:

- First, the ARDF, like every individual outdoor sport, is potentially risky by definition. All competitors participate at their own risk and must be responsible enough to evaluate his/her condition.
- Increasingly many sporting events require that the competitors taking part have a Sports Medical Certificate (example in Appendix B). For many competitors, particularly those who are very fit and exercise regularly this can seem like an unnecessary bureaucratic exercise. However, there is some sound reasoning behind this form filling.
- Several ways how to help to competitors in distress:
 - competitors are allowed to have a sealed mobile phone to be able to call for help and/or be contacted when lost
 - online GPS tracking, however expensive and complicated, can easily help to find injured or lost competitor or evaluate that he/she is not moving for a time. It also calls for a good mobile coverage of the area
 - to carry a whistle (obligatorily) is a cheap and effective way to help injured/lost competitors to call for help. Many outdoor competitions made this already mandatory by the rules (especially for older competitors)

Conclusion: so far no impact to the Rules. Some of the above points may be included into the Bulletins of the forthcoming events as the organizer's directive (which is also obligatory!).

The discussion about the W70 and M80 categories, in this atmosphere, was not very encouraging. Number of competitors belonging to these categories is not very large anyway.

Conclusion: so far no impact to the Rules. If at all, these categories should be established just with participation at, for example, 10 competitors out of 6 countries as a minimum.

18. Jozef Král (SARA) presented some ideas about changing the traditional composition of the Championships: to add sprint relays and/or team classification in Sprint. These and similar ideas will be further developed and discussed.
19. The ARDF WG Chairman thanked all WG members and guests for their contributions and closed the meeting at 17:40.
20. The Minutes were approved by the e-mail voting.



Jiří Mareček, OK2BWN

IARU Region 1 ARDF Working Group Chairman

APPENDIX A:

List of participants of the 42nd IARU R1 ARDF WG Plenary Meeting

name, callsign	society	Sep 3	Sep 6
Jiri Marecek, OK2BWN	IARU R1 ARDF WG Chairman	present	present
Ole Garpestad, LA2RR	IARU Vice President	present	present
Viktor Tsenkov, LZ3NN	BFRA	present	
Pavel Mokřý, OK2PMA	CRC	present	present
Kai Pastor, DG0YT	DARC	present	present
Villy Hansen, OZ6KH	EDR	present	present
Adrian Marcu, YO7LOI	FRR	present	
Ludmila Hudeaeva, ER1FRS	ARM	present	present
Stipe Predanić, 9A5SP	HRS	present	present
Alexandr Kochergin, UN2J	KFRR	present	present
Arunas Maršalka, LY4FOX	LRMD	present	present
Gábor Páp, HA8MGC	MRáSZ	present	present
Jon Sletvold, LA9NGA	NRRL	present	present
Harald Gosch, OE6GC	OeVSV	present	
Marek Kubisiak	PZK	present	
John Marriott, M0OJM	RSGB	present	present
Jozef Král	SARA	present	present
Kimmo Lehtosaari, OH2JKU	SRAL	present	present
Chermen Guliev, UA3BL	SRR	present	present
Dusan Čeha, YU1EA	SRS	present	present
Jan Palmquist, SM5FUG	SSA	present	present
Igor Lazarev, US0VA	UARL	present	present
Marc Vanhalst, ON6HI	UBA	present	present
Hans-Juerg Reinhart, HB9CFB	USKA	present	present
Dick Fijlstra, PA0DFN	VERON	present	present
Niko Gaberc, S56SON	ZRS	present	
Vlad Boev, 2E0VLB	BFRA		present
Michaela Bednaříková, OK2MWN	CRC	present	present
Jakub Oma	CRC	present	
Andrej Gomzyk	CRC	present	
Lajos Krajcár, HA2QN	MRáSZ	present	present
Agata Kulicka, SQ5AXU	PZK	present	
Dragan Gacpar, YU3GD	SRS	present	present
Dragan Manojlovic, YT5DM	SRS	present	present
Tom Kuschel, OE3TKT	OeVSV	present	present
Gerhart Lettner, OE6TGD	OeVSV		present
Ivo Jereb, S57AL	ZRS	present	

Sports Medical Certificate

Surname: _____

Names: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Athlete's Declaration

Before you ask the doctor to sign the certificate please read the following:

1. I am aware that Mountain Trail running is very demanding on the cardiovascular system, the respiratory systems and on the articulations.
2. I am in good health.
3. I will train well for the different trail events throughout the year.
4. I do not suffer from any cardiac problems, chronic muscular, joint or spinal problems or any other medical condition that could put me at risk during a race.

I certify that to the best of my knowledge, the above statements are true.

Athlete's signature: _____ Date: _____

Doctor _____ (Capital letters)

I am a Cardiologist Sport Medicine Doctor other _____

This is to state that I have examined the above named athlete today and that from the information available to me I can state that he/she is fit to take part in MOUNTAIN TRAIL RUNNING including at competitive level.

Date: _____

Doctor's Signature: _____

Compulsory Doctor's Stamp: