

From: Neil Phillips <oria@enternet.com.au>
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Subject: IRF Constitution accepted: further details

The rules of the International Rogaining Federation were accepted on 30th June 2000. The IRF is now constituted and has a clear path ahead for democratic elections.

The Rules of the IRF are based on the ARA Orange forum, an IRF subcommittee of 1998, the 1999 ARA subcommittee, and wide circulation of the April 2000 draft which was well received by the majority.

Finalization of this process is something most people wanted to see happen quickly, and it allows the IRF, the ARA, and overseas groups to focus on the key issues for rogaining including 5WRC.

The agreement puts in place a protocol for discussion and behaviour that ensures the IRF will aspire to world-best practices for an international sporting association. The initial Members who have given us this set of Rules will either be up for election shortly, or be stepping aside.

Several significant changes have been made to the April constitution draft on the basis of feedback from all parties (see IRF Newsletter 57). Members of the IRF are now individuals and rogaining associations, with the latter in general acting through the former. A balance has been struck between the value of retaining rogaining experience, and the objections to different rogaining associations having different representation. A fair compromise has been reached.

The breakthrough in establishing agreed Rules owes much to David Stephens' experience setting up non-profit associations, the ARA and Phil Holman for on-going efforts and support, discussion with Nigel Aylott, Richard Robinson, Richard Matthews and many others, and the tying up of many loose ends by Rod Phillips.

The current position has a further advantage. Anyone not happy with the present Rules of the IRF now has a clear process to seek election, modify Rules, and then influence the course of international rogaining.

Neil Phillips
President
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