



September 17, 2026

To: IOF Member Federations

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS TO IOF COMMISSIONS and the IOF Disciplinary Panel

Dear Member,

The International Orienteering Federation (IOF) relies on voluntary work by passionate orienteers all around the world. Everyone from the IOF Council to Commission Members and Event Advisers offer their time and expertise on a voluntary basis. The IOF is now looking to strengthen its commissions with new members and volunteers and hereby invites Member Federations to nominate and re-nominate candidates for IOF commissions for the period 2027-2028.

Deadline for nominations is **18 October 2026**, and nominations are sent to the IOF Secretary General by email (sondre.gullord@orienteering.sport).

Digital working practices has greatly improved the opportunity for global participation in IOF Commissions. We would highly welcome applicants from Member Federations that in the past may have hesitated in nominating candidates for IOF Commissions due to having to reimburse travel costs for meetings. The use of digital meeting tools means that digital participation is always possible. When nominating candidates, you do however also confirm to undertake the financial obligations of any traveling costs should they occur. Up to two meetings may be held in a hybrid format each year.

An exemption from the financial obligations of any traveling costs should they occur is the IOF Disciplinary Panel. The IOF covers all costs for members of this Panel.

Please note that each Member Federation may nominate two candidates to the same commission.

Specific requests for the different commissions and current members of the commissions are presented on the next pages. You can also read more about the IOF structure and the different commissions at the IOF webpage under [Governance and Organisation – IOF Structure](#)

General requirements for Commission Members:

- To be able to communicate in English, both orally and in written form
- To attend and actively contribute in approximately four digital meetings during a year
- To work on assigned tasks and projects between the meetings – capacity to do this is essential
- To respond to commission related emails within seven days
- To work on behalf of the IOF and all its members, without national interests

What we offer:

- The experience of working in an international federation and team of enthusiastic and engaged volunteers
- A unique opportunity to exchange experiences and learn new things
- Influence on the development of international orienteering for the coming years
- Enjoyment and satisfaction of contributing to the development of orienteering worldwide



Discipline Commissions:

Foot Orienteering Commission

Webpage with remit: [Foot Orienteering Commission](#)

The Foot Orienteering Commission is seeking additional members to strengthen its capacity and bring new expertise and perspectives to its work. We are looking for candidates who are able to devote time to commission work and actively contribute to the development of Foot Orienteering worldwide. The Commission is seeking individuals with experience and expertise in regional development, education and training, World Ranking Events, and regional championships, as well as event organisation, event advising, athlete development, and the delivery of major international events.

Candidates must be willing to take responsibility for specific projects or work streams and through this contribute to the continued development of the commission's team structure. In particular, the Commission seeks additional expertise to strengthen its work on the World Masters Orienteering Championships (WMOC), regional championships, World Ranking Events (WREs), and the delivery of clinics, seminars, and other education and training initiatives.

Current members:

- Helge Lang Pedersen (DEN) - chairperson
- David Roach (LUX)
- Unni Strand Karlsen (NOR)
- Brett Weihart (AUS)
- Janos Manarin (ITA)
- Jan Fiala (CZE)
- Jari Kymäläinen (FIN)
- Ulrich Aeschlimann (SUI)
- Per Forsberg (SWE)
- Scott Collier (GBR)
- Sena Otlı (TUR)

MTB Orienteering Commission

Webpage with remit: [MTB Orienteering Commission](#)

We are looking for candidates with a strong interest in MTB Orienteering and a willingness to contribute to the continued development of the discipline internationally. Candidates should be prepared to take responsibility for projects and actively participate between meetings.

Experience in event organisation, athlete development, mapping, promotion, grassroots development, or other aspects of MTB Orienteering is valuable. We welcome nominations of individuals who are motivated by developing the discipline globally and who are willing to contribute practical knowledge and new ideas.

Current members:

- Ursula Häusermann (SUI) – chairperson
- Jiri Putik (CZE)
- Tiago Fernandes (POR)
- Keith Dawson (GBR)
- Henna Nurminen (FIN)
- Steven Hale (SWE)
- Giaime Origgi (ITA)
- Gregor Raj (SLO)
- Igor Blachut (POL)
- Craig Steffens (AUS)
- Pete Swanson (NZL)



Ski Orienteering Commission

Webpage with remit: [Ski Orienteering Commission](#)

The Ski Orienteering Commission is seeking additional members to strengthen its capacity and bring new expertise and perspectives to its work. We welcome nominations of candidates with a good network within the ski orienteering community and an interest in contributing to international event development, and long-term growth of the discipline. Candidates should be willing to actively contribute between meetings and help address current challenges facing Ski Orienteering, including event delivery and finding future event organisers.

Current members:

- Tatiana Kalenderoglu (TUR) – chairp.
- Adrian Wickert (AUT)
- Bernd Kohlschmidt (GER)
- Tatsuma Shibata (JPN)
- Sture Noren (SWE)
- Gunars Ikaunieks (LAT)
- Lea Widmer (SUI)

Trail Orienteering Commission

Webpage with remit: [Trail Orienteering Commission](#)

We are looking for candidates who are interested in shaping the future development of Trail Orienteering and improving the attractiveness, accessibility and fairness of the discipline. Candidates should be willing to contribute actively between meetings, including taking responsibility for specific projects and preparing proposals and materials. Experience as an athlete, organiser, official, mapper, educator or event adviser within Trail Orienteering is beneficial. Member Federations are particularly encouraged to nominate candidates under 35 years of age, P class athletes, and women, to help ensure diverse perspectives and broad representation within the commission.

Current members:

- Anne Straube (GER) – chairperson
- Martin Fredholm (SWE)
- Ilze Lapina (LAT)
- Eero Hakanen (FIN)
- Jana Kostova (CZE)
- Russ Myer (USA)
- João Pedro Valente (POR)
- Benjamin Kyd (GBR)

Disciplinary Panel

Webpage with remit: [Disciplinary Panel](#)

The Disciplinary Panel is seeking candidates with substantial experience from international event organisation, event advising, governance, legal matters or disciplinary processes. The panel handles sensitive matters requiring independence, sound judgement, discretion and an objective approach. Experience as an IOF Event Adviser or in similar senior roles is particularly valuable. Candidates should have the ability to analyse complex situations and contribute to fair and transparent decision-making.

Current members:

- Øivind Holt - chairperson
- Tony Thornley
- Christine Brown
- Sören Jonsson
- Tulla Spinelli

Development Commissions:

Global Development Commission	
Webpage with remit: Global Development Commission	
The Global Development Commission is looking for candidates who are interested in helping grow orienteering internationally and especially in part of the world where orienteering is a relatively new sport. Valuable competencies include development programmes, education, communication, leadership development, project management, delivery of clinics and training activities, and support to emerging federations. Candidates who enjoy working in an international environment and contributing to educational initiatives such as webinars, e-learning and clinics, and practical development initiatives are particularly encouraged to apply.	<u>Current members:</u> • Astrid Waaler Kaas (NOR) – chairperson • Lok-Hin Ma (HKG) • Jörgen Mårtensson (NOR) • Walther Rahbek (DEN) • Jaroslav Kacmarcik (CZE) • Zoran Milovanovic (SRB) • Abdelrahman Ismail (EGY) • Rehab Abdel Raouf S. Abdelrehim (EGY) • Ondřej Pipek (CZE) • Anders Björklund (SWE) • Jukka Kokkonen (COL) • Eugene Chow (SGP) • Damir Gobec (CRO) • Caner Kalin (TUR) • Gerardo Garcia (ARG)

Environment and Sustainability Commission	
Webpage with remit: Environment and Sustainability Commission	
The commission is seeking candidates with knowledge of environmental sustainability and a passion for both nature and orienteering. Relevant backgrounds may include ecology, biodiversity, forestry, climatology, conservation, environmental management, sustainability, education, communication, or related fields. We are particularly interested in candidates who are motivated to actively contribute to projects and educational initiatives between meetings and who can help strengthen the commission's capacity to deliver practical guidance and learning resources for organisers, athletes and Member Federations.	<u>Current members:</u> • Stefano Bisoffi (ITA) – chairperson • Eje Andersson (SWE) • Joshua Ho Kiu AU (HKG) • Liz Bourne (AUS) • Cem Gündoğdu (TUR)

Support Commissions:

IT Commission	
Webpage with remit: IT Commission	
The IT Commission brings together experienced specialists in information technology, event technology, timekeeping and digital services. We welcome nominations of candidates who are interested in improving the technological foundations of international orienteering and supporting organisers in delivering high-quality events. Experience in software development, IT infrastructure, data management, project management, timing systems, broadcast technologies, or digital services is valuable. Candidates should be willing to contribute actively to projects as well as strategic discussions on the future of IOF technology and digital infrastructure.	<u>Current members:</u> • Henning Spjelkavik (NOR) - chairperson • Finn Arildsen (DEN) • Björn Heinemann (GER) • Dmytro Miller (ITA) • Edoardo Tona (ITA) • Magnus Bengtsson (NZL) • Mickael Blanchard (FRA) • Zeynep Abali (TUR)

Map Commission	
Webpage with remit: Map Commission	
The Map Commission seeks candidates with expertise or strong interest in orienteering mapping. Commission members contribute to the development and maintenance of IOF mapping standards, educational activities, and mapping-related guidance. We particularly welcome candidates who can contribute specialised knowledge, support consultation and development processes, and bring perspectives from regions that are currently underrepresented. Nominations from candidates familiar with mapping challenges in Asia would be especially valuable.	<u>Current members:</u> • Luděk Krtička (CZE) - chairperson • Robert Ditz (AUT) • Christer Carlsson (SWE) • Fredrik Johansson (AUS) • Dušan Petrovič (SLO) • Agnar Renolen (NOR) • Ida Vår Kierulf Meyer (NOR) • José Manuel Gálvez (ESP) • Ivana Gobec (CRO) • Timo Joensuu (FIN) • Francesco Giandomenico (ITA)



Rules Commission

Webpage with remit: [Rules Commission](#)

The Rules Commission is looking for candidates who are interested in maintaining, reviewing and improving the rules framework for international orienteering. Members work closely with the discipline commissions and consider rule changes arising from event experience as well as proactive improvements to the rules.

Candidates should have analytical skills, attention to detail, and an interest in ensuring clear, practical and consistent rules across all disciplines.

Current members:

- David Rosen (GBR) – chairperson
- Felix Büchi (SUI)
- Alen Gavar (TUR)
- Jenny Casanova (AUS)
- (Discipline Commission Repr.)

Medical Commission

Webpage with remit: [Medical Commission](#)

The Medical Commission is seeking candidates who are interested in contributing to athlete health, safety and well-being in international orienteering. We welcome nominations from individuals with a broad range of professional backgrounds and expertise, including sports medicine, physiotherapy, exercise physiology, public health, emergency medicine, nutrition, psychology, epidemiology, research, health policy, athlete welfare, and environmental medicine.

The commission will support the IOF in matters relating to athlete health and safety, provide expert input to policies and guidelines, contribute to educational initiatives, and advise on emerging medical topics relevant to the sport.

We are looking for candidates who are willing to contribute actively between meetings, participate in expert discussions, and support project work and educational activities. Experience in commission work or similar roles within national federations, health organisations, or medical organisations is an advantage. A diversity of professional backgrounds, perspectives and areas of expertise is encouraged, as the commission will benefit from combining practical field experience with specialised medical knowledge and scientific expertise.

Current members (Medical Experts):

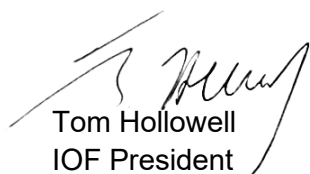
- Olli Heinonen (FIN)
- Ewa Maria Roos (DEN)



How to submit nominations

Nominations from IOF Member Federations must be sent to the IOF Secretary General (sondre.gullord@orienteering.sport) by the deadline on 18 October 2026. Please include the following information for each candidate:

- Name
- Age
- Gender
- Relevant personal and/or professional background, strengths and interests



Tom Hollowell
IOF President



Sondre Gullord
Sondre Gullord
IOF Secretary General