

## *Press Release*



# **International Rogaining Federation Inc. 2017 World Rogaining Championships Awarded to Latvia**

**22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014** - The International Rogaining Federation (IRF) has awarded the rights to host the 15<sup>th</sup> World Rogaining Championships to the Latvian Orienteering Federation in conjunction with Orienteering Club Ziemeļkurzeme. The Championships will be held on 18-19 August, 2017 and will attract many hundreds of elite and veteran endurance cross-country navigators from around the world. Rāzna National Park in eastern Latvia will host the event, which will see a return of the World Rogaining Championships to the glaciated forest terrain of Eastern Europe after an absence of three years. The technically complex and physically demanding nature of the area is sure offer a true challenge to the world's best rogainers.

The 2014 World Rogaining Championships were recently held in South Dakota, USA with the 2015 and 2016 events to be held in Finnish Lapland and Central Australia respectively.

IRF President, Richard Robinson, said that with the continued rapid growth of the sport in Eastern Europe and the large rogaining population in Latvia and neighbouring countries conducting the World Rogaining Championships in this area was ideal for the future development of rogaining. He also noted that holding the World Rogaining Championships in the navigationally complex forest of the Rāzna National Park provided a great opportunity for rogainers from across the world to test themselves in a terrain type not used for a World Championship for some years.

IRF WRC Manager Jan Tojnar, who leads the selection process for World Rogaining Championships, said that the award to Latvia is recognition of great depth of talent within the country for the organisation of major championship rogaines. The Latvia Orienteering Federation, through its affiliated clubs, has previously conducted two European Rogaining Championships (2007 & 2011) and the core organising team for this event were closely involved in both of those very successful events.

NOTE TO EDITORS: for additional information on Rogaining please visit <http://www.rogaining.com/> and <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rogaining>.

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