



INTERNATIONAL ROGAINING FEDERATION Inc.

A0040409P

Newsletter No. 185 European update

Box 3, Central Park, 3145 Australia
www.rogaining.org
May 2012

IRF Team

President: Neil Phillips
Promotions and Development: Alan Mansfield
Secretary/Treasurer: Rod Phillips
Technical Manager: Lauri Leppik
World Rogaining Championships Manager: vacant

Members of IRF

Czech Republic (Miroslav Seidl, Jan Tojnar)
New Zealand (Alan Holdaway, Nick Collins)
Australia (David Baldwin, Richard Robinson)
Estonia (Lauri Leppik, Eduard Pukkonen)
USA: (Barb Bryant, Bob Reddick)

Individual members until end 2012

Murray Foubister - Canada
Guntars Mankus - Latvia
Sergey Yashchenko, Evgeny Dombrovskiy - Russia
Efim Shtempler - Ukraine

Observer status

Canada: Francis Falardeau
Finland: Miia Hovi
Germany: Marko Rößler
Lithuania: Gediminas Trimakas
Spain: Felip Gili
Sweden: Bengt Nilsson
VRA-IRF Liaison Officer: Rebecca Shaw

2nd Czech-German 6 hour skirogaining

Jan Tojnar: 14 January 2012 in Klíny, Ore Mountains, Czech Republic.

There were 138 skirogainers including 41 from Germany; and 63 teams started, but only 60 reached the goal. 29 teams were late finishing due to the final climb up a ski slope, but all spoke well of the rogaine.

<http://skirogaining.tojnar.cz/>
http://skirogaining.tojnar.cz/files/Mapa_Skirogaining_2012.jpg

Rogaining in Canary Islands

Lauri Leppik: The Canary Islands, a popular holiday destination for Europeans, are

emerging as a rogaining destination. The first Gran Canaria Rogaine was held on Saturday 25 February 2012 in the central mountain area of Gran Canaria Island. There were 120 participants at this 12hr and 6hr rogaine in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. As well as teams from Gran Canaria Island there were participants from neighbouring Tenerife and Fuerteventura Islands, and the Catalonia region of mainland Spain. Four Latvian and one Estonian team gave the event an international dimension. The event was held around the highest peaks of the island, at heights of 1500-1900 metres. The course required some strenuous climbing, but offered spectacular views. The vegetation varied from a very pleasant long-needle pine forest on hilltops to nearly impassable scrubby bushes on northern slopes. Temperatures varied from minus 1 Celsius at the time of the start to plus 12-14 C in the middle of the day. For the last two hours of the 12-hour rogaine headlamps were needed. The effort of the Club Deportivo Orientagc as organisers is much appreciated. A special rogaining map was drawn for the purpose of the event at scale 1:25000 with 20 metre contours. The overall winners were Valters Kaminskis-Anita Liepina from Latvia.

<http://www.rogaining-grancanaria.com/index.html>
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/77482247@N03/sets/72157629486526057>

Czech Rogaining Championship 2011

The 15th Czech Rogaining Championship was held near the western border with Germany. After World War II this area was site of the Iron Curtain, and the rogaine area provided a test of navigation and strategic skills. The terrain was difficult to run, and small bushes made navigation harder because of low

visibility. There were beautiful running sections along the border and in pure deciduous forests in the upper parts of the course. The highest point was at 869m altitude. There were options of one big circle, or several smaller ones.

The rogaine attracted 97 teams, and organisers were especially pleased with the traditional large group of Latvian participants and those from Germany. Showing promise for the future are the junior teams. The performance of the first place junior team showcased the talent of the new generation that could possibly surpass that of the legendary Czech pair Miroslav Seidl and Petr Bořánek. Overall winners, Radovan Čech and Ondřej Skripnik, and mixed veterans Latvian Anita Liepiņa and Valters Kaminskis, will be fancied in the upcoming World Championships which will be held in August in the Czech Republic. This national championship has been held regularly in the Czech Republic since 1997. Complete results, including a map are on the competition website:

<http://rogaining2011.cz/cz/vysledky>

Rogaining in Ireland

South Africa's Nicholas Mulder and Ryno Griesel have won the 24hr Rogaine Ireland 2011 event. This pair placed second at WRC in New Zealand in 2010. "We had a stronger run than in New Zealand. We got all the controls and made it to the finish with 10 minutes to spare. Mixed weather: not too cold, slight drizzle and some strong winds" says Mulder.

The first 24hr rogaine was held in Ireland in 1998 in the Wicklow Mountains near Dublin.

Wikipedia

Rogaining is now represented in Wikipedia (an open source Internet encyclopedia) in 14 languages: English, Russian, Portuguese, Spanish, French, Finnish, Swedish, Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Hungarian, Japanese and Hebrew. You can find links to the different language versions through <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rogaining>

Recent additions are the Lithuanian and Polish articles and our thanks to Gediminas Trimakas for writing the Lithuanian article and Jacek Wieszaczewski for writing the Polish article as well as to all others who have previously

contributed to other language versions. The articles are not identical and that is not necessary. On the contrary, it is good that each article has some local flavor.

Wikipedia is a good point of entry to information for newcomers, but also for journalists and any other who may want some quick overview on what this sport is all about in their native language. It is therefore a good publicity tool to spread the word about rogaining and potentially attract new countries and new participants.

While the current articles are a good start, there are certainly several possibilities to develop these further: to expand the text and to add photos to make the sport look attractive. There is also the possibility to add links to national rogaining websites and major championship events.

Wikipedia is open source which means that anybody can edit, correct and add text (while it is advisable to register as a user). May I ask you to review the article in your native language, check whether the information is up to date, add information, details and photos. Should you have difficulties in uploading tables, photos or text, you can send the relevant information to me and I will do the uploading.

It would be great if we could also have articles in more languages. Considering our current membership, we are missing Czech and Ukrainian language articles on rogaining. However, just for comparison, the sport of orienteering is described in 36 different languages, so there is certainly a way to expand to new territories and information in the native language is a key in this respect. Should you be able to write (or translate) a short description of rogaining in any other language, let me know.

PS. Note that there is also a Wikipedia article on the IRF, but this is currently only in English:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Rogaining_Federation

Lauri Leppik
Technical Manager IRF