

## WRE Discussion Document 2016

### Purpose

There are three aims behind our hosting of WREs

- Attract international elite runners.
- Provide world ranking points for local athletes and help improve our international ranking.
- Ensure high-quality events on high-quality maps.

### Assessment 2016

Since 2009 South Africa has hosted 11 WRE's. These events cost the SAOF EUR250 per event in sanction fee to the IOF. With the possible exception of the Big Five events, the WRE status has not attracted additional entrants to our events.

A number of the recent WRE's held in South Africa have not been of the required standard. We must not use the knowledge that no elite overseas orienteers will come to our WREs as a justification for substandard map and event quality.

The non-appearance of many of our own elite orienteers is further evidence that they do not value these events and the ability to gain international ranking points.

With these facts in mind the SAOF management committee will propose that we no longer apply to host WREs. The only exception would be for the Big Five event where the WRE status is potentially beneficial. We aim to find other mechanisms to ensure that the quality standards associated with WREs are reached for SAOF sanctioned events.