Minutes for Nordisk meeting Feb 20th - 21st 2015

There has been a discussion earlier about cooperation on belay cards. There are some differences between how our countries use cards. It has to be easy for the walls to use and issue, not to bureaucratic or people will not use them. All federations send Nikolai course material, test instructions and pictures of belay cards. Fin makes a document explaining the technical solution in their card system. Nikolai looks into UIAA standard and creates brief for the other federations regarding possible belay card cooperation. Each federation presents this for relevant committees and board.

Should further sharing of experiences in running federations be a topic at the next summit? We should look in to it. Someone needs to take responsibility for it.

How important is ownership of a climbing wall for a club? They get more members. Should the federations build walls? There are economical advantages.

Swe sent Nor letter about UIAA. What’s our attitude? Should we join FOEMA? No one is certain what the purpose of FOEMA is.

There is coordination between Nordic coaches. IFSC is heavy handed, and not transparent. Reps from each country need to be present at summits to know what’s going on. We need to find out how to organize this.

We might need to meet before summits to see where we have similar interests. Fin worried that some think such coordination will be taken as hostile action. Other countries are more positive. We should come up with names for nomination to IFSC. Niki will be nominated. We should lobby unofficially.

Swe, Den, Fin federations have UIAA voting right, Nor NKF has not. Norwegian Alpine club has vote. Both federation and alpine club has vote in Swe and Den. In all Swe has 3 votes and Den 2 votes. Nor will look into this and explore if Nor could get vote in addition to the Alpine Club's vote.

Swe says it’s difficult to get info from UIAA.

Bolting and ethics, should we unite? Swe has done lots of info-work online. Fin has problems with foreigners, mostly Russians. Some problems with city people also. No conclusion was reached.

Den sends the others info on Good bolting.

We should do more to get to know each other better. We should join forces for Nordic courses in some subjects. Route setter and judge courses are mentioned. Courses should be in English to include Fin if they participate. Need to make schedules early. All Nordic correspondence should be in English.

Swe hosts Nordic route setting course in 2016. Norway might host Nordic judge course in 2016. We need to see who has Nordic competitions for possible coordination. Federations holding relevant courses will invite the other nations.

Suggestion one rep goes to Korea to represent the other nations in General Assembly and federations split the cost. Danish is sending a rep to UIAA general assembly in Korea October and this might be an option.

Several federations have tried to get more info on FOEMA without success.

Swe has worked on standardizing policy and setting bolts, but feels they have not reached goal yet.

Should the federations involve the authorities’ trough owners when bolts are chopped without their consent? No conclusion was reached.

Swe has increasing problems with landowners. Other nations see this as possible future problem. Federations should join to secure access. Fin has tolls on some roads. Nor has payment demands for commercial actors on some crags.

It might be a good idea to have a «crag-rep», a person land owners and others could contact when there is a problem.

Climbers are visible and get the blame for any mess.

Who’s responsible if a bolt brakes? In Nor it’s probably the climbers themselves. Similar laws in other countries.

Swe are working on a brochure for landowners and counties.

Swe and Fin has endorsed UIAA declarations on mountain ethics (2002 and 2009). Decision made that all federations see if they can endorse these declarations. Look into the policy recommendation made by Doug Scoots group (available on UIAA file manager). Every federation to name a contact person on bolting policy and access issues to see if we can cooperate on information work on this topic.

Digital guides, who are responsible for what? Commercial interests are already in the field. Guides have been an important income for some clubs. Fin use 27crags.com.

What should the federations’ role be regarding access? Are there common ethics and problems in the Nordic countries? No conclusion was reached.

Via Ferrata is appearing in Norway. Is this a future problem for all countries? Nor and Swe most vulnerable to this. A way to make counties register Via Ferrata and bolting is to get it into national emergency info.

Should there be a license to bolt? This could go both ways depending on the county. To much bureaucracy will cause volunteer work to stop.

We should make same design for Nordic medals, everyone pays. New design should be ready for first Nordic competition in Swe. Karin and Swe takes care of it.

Mandatory participation is not practical in all events or for all countries. There was an agreement 3 years ago for 10 people min. See separate document in dropbox.

Need agreement on approximate dates for Nordic events. There could be problems for youth with different final exam times in different countries. Bouldering in April and lead in November/early December is an option.

Junior and senior lead is to have competition on the same date. Some worries that it will kill motivation. Agreement to join junior and senior into one class, youth class remains unchanged. Not suitable to combine classes in bouldering. Nordic lead competition should be held every year.

Fin request for last date for canceling events. Agreement is made on 4 weeks before event.

It was decided that Nordic competitions should be held only in central cities or arranging federation arranges busses paid for by fees.

It was decided that a joint account should be made by Fin. All four federations put in € 2500 every year. The three arranging countries take out money for their competitions. If someone takes over competition for another federation, they will get money. Fin hosts account. Start system 2016. Bouldering should be held every year.

In 2016 Nor takes lead, youth and senior, Den arranges bouldering.

Grid for championship dates can be found in in separate dropbox document.

Forum for discussions should be established as email is not convenient. Everyone befriends Kaisa on FB. Kaisa creates hidden FB group.

Fin not quite ready committee wise for Nordic youth-camp. Camp for ages 14-19 could be held in Norway. There will be 10 places for each country but no minimum requirement. More places can be used by one federation if less participants is sent from another. Get event published in climbing-magazines and on the web. Make FB event.

Decisions seem not to be followed up. Why is this? Participating federations could be better prepared and read previous minutes before meeting. Should meetings be split up into topics/groups/committees? If meetings are important, yearly meetings might be a good idea. Who should attend, should the same functions from everyone be represented? Competition-responsible should meet yearly, administration every 2nd? Political side also needs to be represented. One-day meetings might be better. Every second year, Friday for employees, sat for volunteers. Next time Swe hosts meeting.

Kari need contact info for Iceland. Swe provides.

Nordic competition rules and dates are in a separate Dropbox document. Is it possible to get a common sponsor for Nordic competitions? What do the separate nations want with the Nordic competitions? The competitions have been used for developing athletes towards international level. Different nations have different systems and needs. How to motivate participants? Money prices are possible with sponsor. Prize doesn’t have to go to winner. There was no conclusion, but Nor is skeptical to the idea.

End of meeting.