

### **INWA WORLD CUP 7.7.2019**

## **LAHEMAA (ESTONIA)**

#### **INWA WORLD CUP 2019**



Report by Aki Karihtala, President of INWA:

INWA World Cup Estonia was a great success. Strongest performers were from Latvia, U.K., Russia and France.

The 2nd INWA World Cup event in 2019 was held in Estonia on the 7.7.2019.

World Cup competition was arranged in Lahemaa Natural Park, which is about one hour drive east from Tallinn in a beautiful area of Lahemaa Natural Park. Lahemaa Natural Park was established in 1971 and is one of the most important nature parks in Europe with wonderful wildlife of bears, wolves, moose, wild boar etc.

Competition trails were based on the large cross-country trail network offering a very challenging competition on a terrain with a lot of "Nordic" type of uphill and downhill walking. All the competition trails were in the forest, 99 % on natural ground.

Distances of the competition were 10 and 21 km. In addition there were distances of 10, 21 and 42 km for the recreational walkers.

Number of participants in competitor group was over 60 from 8 countries (Estonia, Latvia, Russia, Japan, U.K., Finland, Bosnia Herzegovina and France) and in recreational group there were over 400 people.

Mens 21 km was won by Melvin Oluwagbemi (France) time 02:36:20 and womens 21 km by Linda Kubilovica (Latvia) who was only 6 minutes slower than Melvin. Linda was competing in the age group of 40-59 years. Linda was actually the second fastest of all the participants.

In 10 km competition the fastest man was Maris Purins (Latvia), time 01:07:34. Fastest lady of all the women in 10 km competition was Lyudmila Kazakova (Russia) time 1:19:18 and it is worth mentioning that she competed in 60-69 year category.

I would also like to thank the team of JNFA from Japan and their tour guide Naohiro Takahashi. We respect very much the fact that they flew all the way from Japan to participate this event.

We would like to express our most sincere thanks to Estonian Nordic Walking Association, Elamusmaratoonid and Mr. Rene Meimer for the great work which he did with the planning of the competition trails and coordination of the referee work. The whole event was very professionally organized and we look forward to seeing Estonia also next year on our INWA World Cup calendar.

Our next INWA World Cup event will take place in Nagano (Japan), on the 13<sup>th</sup> of October.

Registration has started. If interested, please mail to: staff@1127.info

# **INWA World Cup events are open for everyone!**

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