



Bern, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2012

# IFF Central Board meeting 1/2012 03.03.2012

Place: Hotel Novotel Bern Expo, Bern, Switzerland

Am Guisanplatz 2, 3014 Bern

Participants: Tomas Eriksson President
Monica Bakke Treasurer

Greg Beaudin Hans Botman, Risto Kauppinen Stephen King

Filip Suman Vice president

**Edwin Wiedmer** 

Stefan Kratz Competition Manger Merita Bruun Information Manager John Liljelund Secretary General

**Excused:** Oliver Stoll

Lars-Gunnar Tjärnquist

# **Minutes**

#### § 1. Opening of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson opened the meeting at 09.30 and wished everyone welcomed to the first CB meeting of the year, in connection to the 2012 Swiss Cup finals and the WFC 2012 Ballot.

# § 2. Approval of the agenda

Mr. Eriksson concluded that there were three updated appendix, namely the

Appendix 3b, IFF Claims 29.02.2012

Appendix 11, Core Country Marketing Network Group meeting Appendix 16, IFF Report – SP meeting 29<sup>th</sup> of February.

#### § 3 Minutes from the CB meeting:

05/2011 in St. Gallen, (08.12.2011), (Appendix 1),

The minutes from the last meeting were scrutinized, approved and put ad acta

#### § 4. Economy

#### a) Financial report by the 31.12.2011 (Appendix 2)

Ms. Bakke presented the financial report and a deficit of 57.126 CHF, mainly due to the much higher cost for the WFC 2012 than budgeted for both TV and running the event itself. The basic economical situation is very good, since for example the office costs have been smaller than the budgeted and the 56.000 CHF budgeted for the Champions Cup, which came on top of the budget.



Mr. Eriksson explained that the main reasons for the deficit is the relative high TV costs, extremely low TV income with no coverage in Sweden from Champions Cup and only one from the WFC and no Swiss participation in the Champions Cup, high costs for running the WFC 2011 and the non-budgeted Champions Cup costs.

Mr. Kauppinen expressed that if there is no TV visibility there are no sponsors.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

#### Information on IFF claims - status February 29th, 2011 (Appendix 3a and 3b) b)

Ms. Bakke presented firstly the claims situation by 31.12.2011 (Appendix 3a) and then secondly the IFF claims as per 29.02.2011 (Appendix 3b) and the situation with the suspended member associations Malaysia as well as the actions to be taken in advance of the next IFF CB meeting.

The treasurer and the Office are to prepare a proposal on how to deal with the IFF Claims.

Mr. Kratz explained that a lot of the claims in connection to the year end and the WFC2011 have already been paid.

**The CB decided:** To approve the report and the proposal.

#### **World Championships** § 5.

#### WFC 2011 Switzerland a)

Mr. Wiedmer reported that the WFC2011 was well organised, with a sufficient number of volunteers, a good number of spectators, with sold matches. The framing of the playing field was also very good. There was a lot of positive contact made with Swiss politicians and sponsors during the Event. The cooperation with the city of St. Gallen was very positive. The economical loss of the WFC was over 200.000 CHF and the fact that the Swiss team did not make it for the Final was a clear turndown. Overall the event was a success.

Mr. Suman is gave a final Jury report, stating that the operations with-in the field of play was very well organised and the team have been satisfied. The size of the final arena could have been a little bigger, but the event was a good success.

Mr. Eriksson stated that a de-brief meeting was held with the WFC2011 & WFC2012 organisers and the result was very positive and a lot of concrete points were discussed and there is now a much broader understanding of what the needs and wishes of both parties are.

**The CB decided**: To approve the reports.

Mr. Liljelund gave an update report about the TV broadcasting and the visibility achieved in both spectators and airing time, with the different TV Companies and the host broadcaster Swiss TV SRF. (Appendix 4). There were a total number of 8 televised TV matches and over 1.8 million TV spectators.

The CB decided: To approve the report.



) WFC 2012 Switzerland

Mr. Wiedmer made a report on the preparations for the Men's WFC 2012 to be played in Bern and Zürich, Switzerland. (**Appendix 15**) The SUHV has now employed an outside secretary general for the WFC2012 Mr. Daniel Kasser, who has an experience of organising events in the Hallenstadion.

The organisation has been divided into six sectors; logistics, volunteering, venue Zurich, venue Bern, support and marketing. The budget is built on 60 % from ticketing, 20 % from sponsoring and 20 % public subsidy. On the cost side the most important cost will be the infrastructure & venues, which is around 50 %.

The plan is to play from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> of December, with the groups in Bern and Zurich, the final four matches will be played in the Hallenstadion, with 11.000 seats. The allocation of IFF personnel and the technical meetings will have to be discussed in collaboration with the IFF and decided by the IFF.

The volunteer organisation has now been developed, providing leading positions also for volunteers and the LOC is cooperating with the Swiss Olympic volunteer reserve. Of the budget over 32 % is covered at the moment, but sales look to be quite good. The ticket sales will be launched on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March.

The situation with the Swiss TV is really challenging and the SUHV has not got any confirmation of what Swiss TV will show. This situation will be very challenging for the organiser.

There have been a lot of changes made in the approach towards the organisation of the WFC2012, in respect to the learning's from the St. Gallen WFC.

Mr. Suman put forward a question about the financial forecast for the WFC2012.

Mr. Wiedmer explained that the target is to make a positive financial result and that the St. Gallen will have to be written-off.

Mr. Kratz made a report on the WFC qualifications played in beginning of February in Germany, Japan, Poland, Slovenia and the USA. (**Appendix 5**) The following team qualified from the qualifications:

AOFC: Japan and Singapore
Americas: Canada and USA
EUR 1: Germany and Norway
EUR 2: Estonia and Slovakia

EUR 3: Russia, Poland and Hungary

Mr. Suman expressed that there were serious problems with the North American qualifications, which has to be discussed within the RACC and the Office.

Mr. Suman reported about the ballot for the WFC 2012 groups, during the Swiss Cup Final on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March in Bern, Switzerland. There are still a large number of moving factors, which will have to be looked upon after the Ballot.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.



#### k) U19 WFC 2012 Slovakia

Mr. Kratz made a report on the preparations for the U19 WFC 2012 played in Nitra, Slovakia between the 1. - 5.5.2012 with fourteen participating teams. Four matches will be played in one arena per day and three in the other arena.

The CB decided: To approve the report

#### I) U19 WFC 2013

Mr. Liljelund reported on the negotiations conducted with Norway in order to clear the situation for the organisation of the U19 WFC 2013. The Norwegian federation is not in a position to organise the event and a settlement has been made between the parties.

Mr. Kratz reported on the ongoing discussions to find a new organiser for the U19 WFC 2013.

Based on the recent experience the IFF has had, there is a need to have some kind of a written confirmation from the organiser of IFF Events already when they apply for it, that they are in a position to organise them and by signing this waiver they commit to the organisation. Mr. Liljelund proposes that the IFF ExCo is given the task to prepare a proposal of such a written statement to be signed by all applicants of the Events for the CB meeting in May 2012.

<u>The CB decided</u>: To approve the report and appoint the ExCo to prepare a written waiver for the applicants of the IFF Events for the CB meeting in May 2012.

# § 6. EuroFloorball Cup

# a) EuroFloorball Cup 2012

Mr. Kratz reported on the actions taken to secure an organiser for the EFC Final round 2012 in Slovakia. The Slovak Floorball Association has agreed to host the event in the second week of October and the preparations for signing the agreement have been made. The event will be played in Kosice and the invitation will be sent out in April.

The CB decided: To approve the report

## b) Champions Cup

Mr. Liljelund reported on behalf of Mr. Tjärnquist on the Champions Cup 2012 host city Umeå and the preparations made by the Swedish Floorball Federation to organise the Event there in the first week of October.

Mr. Eriksson stressed that the TV situation is not satisfactory and there needs to be more flow of information from the organiser to the IFF.

Mr. Suman reported that the Champions Cup steering group will have a short meeting on Sunday the 4<sup>th</sup> of March in Bern to discuss the present topics of the upcoming Champions Cup.

The CB decided: To approve the report



# § 7. Committees and Function reports

## a) ExCo reports

Mr. Suman reported on the first IFF Associations Meeting held in St. Gallen on the 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of December 2011. (**Appendix 6**)

Mr. Suman started with thanking the Mr. Halonen and the rest of the Office for the organisation of the meeting. Mr. Eriksson also wanted to thank Mr. Liljelund and the office staff for the preparation of the Associations Meeting and to Mr. Suman for leading the meeting in the absence of Mr. Eriksson.

Mr. Suman expressed that the meeting was well prepared and the speakers was well selected. The feedback has been very positive from the participants, which were also very open and took active part in the meeting.

The main outcome can be defined in four main conclusions; firstly it was how to be able to close the gap between the top countries and the countries on the next level on a competition level, secondly how to find a platform to share best practices between the member associations in a number of issues, thirdly how to build tailored made education solutions for the Member Associations, as a follow-up for the Development Seminars and the finally the name question that all would use the name of Floorball.

Mr. Eriksson asked what kind of feedback was given by the speakers.

Mr. Liljelund expressed that Mr. Leonz Eder was very positively surprised that the member associations were very positive to the University Sport and a lot of one to one discussions. Mr. Jean-Laurent Bourquin felt that the IFF is on the right path, but need to get all the countries onboard and join the IFF direction.

Mr. King felt a number of countries now understood that it is their responsibility to develop their own operations. There was a lot of open discussion between the Member Associations. It is important to motivate the countries on a local level, like with the SEA Games in South East Asia, to move in the right direction.

Mr. Botman was of the opinion that the situation is the same in both big and small countries and the problem are the same. It could work that the member association can help each other, but the IFF must help to facilitate the platform

Ms. Bakke really liked the format of the meeting and it felt that the discussions were really honest.

Mr. Wiedmer saw and heard that most associations are asking how to proceed and develop, so it was understood that everyone needs to start to work themselves. It was a really good and positive event from the IFF.

Mr. Kauppinen felt that the participants understood and even welcomed the IFF Licence system and thanked that IFF has created the system, to get their own CB's to understand the need to move in the right direction.

Ms. Bruun thought that it is important that the member associations meet with their peers and exchange ideas, but the question is, whether there will actually happen anything. We need to steer the development even further and follow it in between the general meetings.

Mr. Kratz felt that it was a very positive and fruitful meeting.



Mr. Liljelund summarized that the actions we need to take in the future is to start building tailor-made solutions in the field of education and development to bring the countries forward. This process has already started. The second issue is for the CB to discuss how the IFF Licence System shall be implemented and in which ways the IFF shall support the member associations. The third action must be to bring together the associations to build a platform.

It is very important to also close the gap between associations participating in the events and the one which are not.

Mr. Suman expressed that the Associations Meeting is not a solution, but a start of a process and we need to define what we want to achieve from the process and what it will require from IFF.

Mr. Botman reminded that we now need to show how we are dealing with the feedback we have received in the Associations meeting.

Mr. Kauppinen stressed that it is important to remember that countries that have debts to IFF, should not be allowed to participate and organise in the IFF Events.

Mr. Eriksson made a conclusion that the CB will discuss the Licence System implementation in May. The ExCo is to bring a proposal of the topics to be discussed in the Nitra CB meeting.

Mr. King is to report on the present activities of the AOFC and the AOFC General Assembly held in Japan on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February 2012. (**Appendix 7**) The AOFC CB has now three new countries on the board, with Iran, New Zealand and the Philippines, which are all very active. The AOFC General Assembly was very positive. The Japanese three organisations will merge in April. During the APAC, Mr. Liljelund, Mr. King and Mr. Yoshino met with the President of the Japanese Olympic Committee, in a very positive and fruitful meeting.

The Iran Floorball Association has together with the Iran NOC, sent a letter to the Asian Games proposing the inclusion of Floorball to the Indoor Asian Games.

**The CB decided:** To approve the reports.

# b) Contacts to International Sports Organisations

Mr. Eriksson gave a short report on the actions taken in order to secure the participation of Floorball in the 2015 SEA Games in Singapore and the discussions with Singapore Sports Council and the possibilities to also host the first WUC outside Europe in 2014. (**Appendix 8**) In order to be able to participate there needs to be at least four nations participating, to be able to enter the program. These need to be approved by their NOC's. IFF informed the IFF members in the SEA Games countries in January to start the preparations. The IFF will do their utmost to secure a participation in the SEA Games in 2015.

The Singapore University Sports Council has sent the FISU a letter of interest for the WUC in Singapore in 2014.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

# c) RACC

Mr. Suman reported on the preparations made by the RACC, in connection to the coming RACC activities. There will be a preparatory meeting in March, preparing the Events in 2012, a meeting with the complete RACC in May and later in the summer the IFF RACC



Competition seminar. In addition the RACC is to discuss the process of the Evaluation of the WFC system.

Mr. Suman made a proposal as addition to the IFF Transfer Regulations, in order to support the development of overseas associations, giving them a possibility to use overseas students in their national series, if they are coming to the country to study for a fixed period outside the IFF Transfer window. The proposal is to allow such activities first only outside Europe and evaluate it later in 2013 to see if it can be enlarged. The addition would be as follows:

"If a player for reasons related to studies travel overseas for a period shorter than six months outside the transfer period (1.7. – 31.12.), the player can apply for a temporary transfer for the spring term. The player has to produce written proof of his/her studies in the country they are transferring to. The cost for the transfer is CHF 50 and it is valid for six months and expires automatically on the 30th of June even if the six months time period is not fulfilled."

Further Mr. Suman proposed a change in the EFC regulations concerning that the direct qualified teams where the organiser, as in the Champions Cup, shall have the possibility to include a second team from the organising country – however with the limitation that this can't be done if the country also has a team in the Champions Cup.

The IFF Rules Group has been nominated. The group is headed by Mr. Martin Wolmhed (SWE), Mr. Libor Gavlas (CZE), Mr. Ari Vehniäinen (FIN), Mr. Greger Sandell (SWE) and Mr. Philippe Renz (SUI) and the group will meet in Sweden on the 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> of March 2012. There have been proposals sent in from twelve different parties.

<u>The CB decided</u>: To approve the report and the addition in the Transfer Regulations and the EFC Regulations from the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2012.

#### d) RC

Mr. Botman informed that the IFF RC will on 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> of March have their next meeting in Berlin, Germany. On the agenda, there will amongst others, be the nominations for 2012, the procedure for the referee and observer proposals 2013-2014 and the evaluation of the new development group. The RC will bring forward a proposal to the CB for the Nomination system.

The RC will also have a meeting with the German RC to discus referee and observer development in German and strengthen the cooperation between the IFF RC and the German RC.

The RC proposes to nominate one new Swedish referee pair specialized in refereeing the female matches. The referees are Jonatan Lindberg – Jon Moberg. The referees will be nominated for the remaining time of the nomination period 2011-2012. (**Appendix 9**) The process for including more female

<u>The CB decided</u>: To approve the report and approve the nomination of the Swedish referee pairs for the remaining nomination period 2011-2012.

# e) Development function

Mr.Liljelund made a report on the visit of the Shanghai International Studies University Delegation in Helsinki in January and the co-operation agreement signed with SISU for building of a Floorball Development Center in Shanghai, China. (**Appendix 10**)



Mr. King informed about the activities AOFC is planning, in order to organise a full scale development programme seminar in Korea in April 2012.

The IFF is also organising a coaching Clinique in Toronto, Canada in connection to the Canada Cup in May and discussions are ongoing in order to organise a Development seminar in Holland during the spring.

Mr. Liljelund further informed that Mr. Janne Ögren is preparing a set of educational courses for an second level in coaching and is looking in ways to develop the IFF educational materials further.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

#### f) **Marketing function**

Mr. Kauppinen reported on the 3rd meeting of the Core Country Marketing Network meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of March in Bern and the results of the meeting (Appendix 11) The cooperation with-in the group has developed and the persons are really telling what is going on with-in the marketing sector in the different associations. The discussion touched upon the present marketing situation in the countries, the TV situation, the way to promote the IFF Events on a local level and the need to call the sport only Floorball.

Mr. Eriksson felt that it is important to have a network up and running in order to secure development.

Mr. Suman felt that Network group has not yet been able to change anything yet on the TV side, but there has been a start of a positive process.

Mr. Beaudin felt that the Core Country Marketing Network is not helping the marketing factor for the North American market, where the marketing factor is essential.

The IFF CB is to approve the IFF Corporate Image for the IFF Competitions based on the proposal made by the Swedish Federation for the Men's WFC 2014. (Appendix 12)

The CB decided: To approve the report and the proposal for the IFF Corporate Image for IFF Events.

#### **Medical committee** g)

Ms. Bruun reported about the present status concerning the IFF Medical Committee and the cooperation with WADA. The WADA has started the WADA Code review and the IFF will closely follow the process. The Medical committee has been asked to comment upon the proposal.

Two IFF Registered Testing Pool players have received a filing failure in the end of 2011 (one Swedish and one Swiss player). The Registered Testing Pool 1 has been chosen for 2012 and the initial contact has been taken with the players concerned and their respective National Associations and Anti-Doping organisation.

The Anti-Doping statistics has been asked for, but there are still some countries that have not returned their statistics.

The next Medical Committee meeting will be held on the 15th of May in Helsinki, Finland and the WADA Education Committee meeting will be held in the end of April in Montreal, Canada.



**The CB decided**: To approve the reports.

## h) Material function

Mr. Liljelund reported on the SP statistics for the sales of IFF approved equipment in 2011.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

#### i) Athletes Commission

Mr. Liljelund reported on behalf of Mr. Stoll on the discussions held with the Athletes Commission and the plans to include them in the Game Rules change process, after the Rules Group has made their decision to propose the rule changes to be tested. (**Appendix 13**)

The CB decided: To approve the report

## j) Equality function

Due to his absence Mr. Tjärnquist is to report on the plans the Equality function has for the upcoming year in the next meeting.

# k) ParaFloorball function

Ms. Bruun reported on behalf of Mr. Tjärnquist on the recent activities been made with-in the ParaFloorball sector. The IFF has received a lot of positive feedback from ICEWH and SO about the ParaFloorball day organised during the WFC 2011. The different organisations wish to continue the cooperation with the IFF and the communication is ongoing.

On the Special Olympics Winter Games 2013 in Korea, there are 8 countries on the program, with 4 countries on the waiting list, out of which Kazakhstan and Cyprus are not IFF members.

The Manual Wheelchair Floorball groups are being connected together, in order to develop the sport further.

The CB decided: To approve the reports

# I) Information function

Mr. Beaudin reported on the actions taken with-in the Information function for the year 2012. (**Appendix 14**)

The Floorball Application has been updated by the developer and a test will be made in Canada.

There was a record of visitors on the web page during the WFCQ.

Mr. Suman proposed that it should be included in the Event regulations that the organiser has to give the rights to check the web-site visitor statistics to the IFF administration.

IBAN: CH13 0481 8055 9200 1100 0



Ms. Bruun informed that all the IFF Educational material has not been included on Issue.

The task to have the member Associations to put the IFF RSS feed on their web page is a difficult task, at the moment only the Spanish Association has included it.

The CB decided: To approve the report

#### § 8. IFF Office

Nothing to report

#### § 9. Member Federations

## a) Members under suspension

Mr. Kratz reported on the situation of the suspended association Malaysia.

Mr. Eriksson hopes that there are more to discuss in May, if the Malaysian start to pay of the debts.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

# b) New Member Applications

Nothing to report

#### § 10. Next CB meeting

The next CB meeting will be held in connection to the U19 WFC 2012, in Nitra, Slovakia on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of May 2012. The CB members are to pass the travel plans to the secretary general until Wednesday the 7<sup>th</sup> of March.

# § 11. Closing of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson thanked the CB for a good and efficient meeting, ending the meeting at 15.00.

John Liljelund Secretary General Tomas Eriksson President