



Treasurer

Vice president

Helsinki, November 5th, 2012

IFF Central Board meeting 4/2012 03.11.2012

Place: Hanasaari Culture Centre

Hanasaarenranta 5, 02100 Espoo, Finland

Participants: Tomas Eriksson President

Monica Bakke Greg Beaudin Risto Kauppinen

Oliver Stoll Filip Suman

Lars-Gunnar Tjärnquist

Edwin Wiedmer

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

Excused: Hans Botman,

Stephen King

Minutes

§ 1. Opening of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson opened the meeting at 13.30 and wished everyone welcomed to the CB meeting.

§ 2. Approval of the agenda

Mr. Eriksson concluded that there was one updated appendix, namely the Appendix 25 – Athletes Committee nominations

§ 3 Minutes from the CB meeting:

03/2012 in Frankfurt, Germany (31.08.2012), (Appendix 1)

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

§ 4. Economy

a) Financial report by the 26.10.2012 (Appendix 2)

Ms. Bakke reported that there have not been any surprises with the IFF economy, but we have to be cautious since we don't yet know what the outcome of the WFC will be.



Mr. Eriksson agreed with the report made by Ms. Bakke.

The CB decided: To approve the report

b) Information on IFF claims – status 26.10.2012 (Appendix 3)

Mr. Kratz presented the claims situation as per 26.10.2012 and the situation is under control, since over 15.000 CH has been cleared during the last three months. Discussion has been held with a number of member associations with heavy debts.

The CB decided: To approve the report

Mr. Kratz presented the proposal for a solution made by the President and the Office, that should be seen in the light of the licensee system that is underway to be implemented, for writing off a number of old unsecured debts mainly membership fees from Associations having not participated in IFF events but also participation fees when unforeseen circumstances beyond members' control that have prevented Associations from participation and also Associations where an agreement is made. Further the remaining debts from 2007-2009 is proposed to be moved to 2010. The total effect for this is 32350 CHF for the outcome of the financial result for the year 2012.

Mr. Suman supports the proposal but at the same time feels that it is always a little problematic to write off old debts.

Mr. Eriksson reminded that the IFF has only a few times written off some old debts.

Mr. Wiedmer was worried about the practical effect of the proposal.

Mr. Tjärnquist was supporting the proposal

Mr. Liljelund reminded that with the implementation of the Licence System the whole system will be removed, since no member association will be able to participate in any Event if they are in debt to IFF.

The CB decided: To approve the report and the proposal

Mr. Kratz presented the adjusted proposal for the system of the new Daily Allowances for the period 2013 – 2016 for International Referees, Jury and Referee Observers, based on the original RC proposal made for the last CB meeting (**Appendix 5**)

Mr. Eriksson stated that all has been taken into consideration and this four year proposal will give all concerned parties the knowledge for the coming four years.

Mr. Wiedmer stressed that this decision is for the four year period.

Mr. Suman reminded that it is very important that we are very carefully when it comes to raising the fees. The raise affects especially the raise of the Friendly Internationals. We are on a level from which we cannot be exceeded. Regarding the Friendly Internationals this stipulates that there is a need to be able to use also domestic international referees.

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

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c) IFF General Assembly 2012

Mr. Liljelund is to report on the preparations of the IFF General Assembly 2012. The General Assembly will be held in the Final Arena, the Hallenstadion, starting at 08.30, ending at 13.30.

The final Agenda needs to be sent out no later than the 8th of November which is 30 full days before the General Assembly, approved by the CB first. **(Appendix 6).** The IFF CB needs to approve the Final Announcement of the General Assembly. **(Appendix 7)**

The CB discussed the Final Announcement of General Assembly and the Agenda of the General Assembly.

The following documents were to be approved by the IFF CB and put forward to the General Assembly:

- Annual report 2011 2012 (**Appendix 8**)
- Plan of Action 2013 2014, (Appendix 9)
- IFF Statutes (Appendix 10)
- Financial report 2010 and 2011(Appendix 11a and b)
- Auditors reports 2010 and 2011 (Appendix 12a and b)
- Budget 2013 and 2014 (Appendix 13)
- Proposal for IFF Membership fees for 2013 and 2014 (Appendix 14)
- Nominations for the IFF GA (Appendix 15)

The CB discussed the proposals and made some minor changes to the documents. It was pointed out that there needs to be some visualization of especially the Plan of Action for the General Assembly.

The CB discussed the proposal for the budget, concerning the raised office support, which is due to the support from the Finnish Federation for the rent of the office and one employee and the support from Unihoc for the Development Coordinator.

The CB discussed the proposal of the raise of the membership fee thoroughly and the implications to the member associations. There is a clear need to increase the income of the IFF and a part of this must come from the membership fee, which has not been raised since 2004. There are a number of arguments both in favour and against the raise of the membership fee and the CB is aware of the situation, but still feels it is vital to make the proposal.

IFF has received one nomination for IFF President and nine members of the CB in accordance with the IFF Statutes by the 9th of October, 60 full days of the IFF General Assembly. The United States Floorball Association informed the IFF on the 30th of October that they will nominate the present Canadian CB member Mr. Greg Beaudin as a CB member. IFF received a signed nomination for Mr. Beaudin on November 3th 2012. In accordance with the IFF Statutes the nominations had to be at hand of the IFF no later than the 9th of October. Based on the Swiss Civil Code the CB is not in a position to accept the nomination, it is only for the IFF General Assembly to accept the late arrived nomination. The CB decided to bring the late arrived nomination of Mr. Beaudin to the IFF General Assembly to decide upon whether it will be approved or not.

Mr. Beaudin didn't not participate in the decision making of this issue.

The IFF has invited the leading sport leaders to the WFC in order to strengthen the image of our sport. The following invited have replied that they are not in position to attend for a number of different reasons, amongst others class of dates with IOC meetings in Lausanne same dates and the SportAccord Mind Games in Shanghai, Mr. De Kepper (IOC), Mr.



Verbruggen (SportAccord), Mr. Gaillard (SportAccord), Mr. Fransoo (ARISF), Mr. Baumann (FIBA), Mr. Blatter (FIFA), Mr. Oswald (IRF) and Mr. Fasel (IIHF).

The CB decided: To approve the reports and approve the proposed documents for the IFF General Assembly to be sent out to the member federations with the Final Announcement and inform the General Assembly of the late nomination of Mr. Greg Beaudin (USFbA)

IFF Association audit 2012 d)

Mr. Liljelund reported on the status of the conducting of the Association Audit. So far four audits (Canada, Finland, France and the Philippines) have been made and the questionnaire is working guite well. The invitation for the Audit has been sent to the member associations and some ten federations have already set the timing for the audit interview. The office is trying to conduct a majority of the interviews before the end of the year. The interviews have been made by Mr. Lilielund, Mr. Halonen and Mr. Ögren. The interview takes around two hours.

Mr. Suman felt that this process will be very valuable for the IFF and the way we build for the future.

The CB decided: To approve the report

World Championships § 5.

WFC 2012 Switzerland a)

Mr. Wiedmer reported on the preparations of the Men's WFC 2012 to be played in Bern and Zurich, Switzerland. (Appendix 16) The LOC secretary general Mr. Daniel Kasser wanted to thank the IFF Office for a smooth and positive preparation. The ticket sale has gone well and a total of 13000 tickets have been sold, with just 2000 unsold for the final. The LOC is now going in to the last phase of the marketing with focus on the local market. The Opening Game has been sold out and there have been slow ticket sales for the Saalsporthalle, where a number of school kids are participating. The budget for marketing sales has been met and a marketing program Floorball Fever has been started, where over 40 clubs have run cliniques in schools.

Mr. Suman felt that it is very important to have the audience in the TV matches.

Mr. Liljelund reported on the status of the situation of the TV broadcast from the WFC 2012. The Swiss TV (SRF) is producing high lights from the Swiss group games and will show the Swiss possible quarter and semi final and medal match. Swiss TV is producing the final four matches from the Hallenstadion.

IFF is producing all group matches and the guarter finals from Saalsporthalle in Zürich, with its partner Eurovision and all the Czech, Finnish and Latvian group matches and possible quarter finals will be broadcasted by their respective TV's. Negotiations are ongoing with the following countries of using the produced TV signal - Germany, Japan, USA and Canada.

The situation with Russia is still under investigation. (Appendix 17)

Mr. Suman felt that the overall picture looks very good, apart from only two matches in Swedish TV. Mr. Kauppinen agreed that it is a good situation, but it should have been closed already a year ago.

The Ministry of Sport of the Russian Federation has decided not to give certification to any of the two applicants the Russian Floorball Federation or the National Floorball Federation of



Russia. Instead the Deputy Minister of Sport Mr. Pavel Kolobkov decided to give the handling of Floorball to the Committee of National and Non-Olympic kind of Sports in Russia (CNNSKR) for the next six months. The CNNSKR Chairman Mr. Aleshin confirmed the participation of the Russian men's team in the WFC 2012 in December. It is still unclear who will run the team in Switzerland. (Appendix 18)

The CB decided: To approve the report

b) U19 WFC 2013 Germany

Mr. Stoll reported on the preparations of the organisation of the U19 WFC in Hamburg, Germany, were the German organiser has asked to change the dates to be between the 8. – 12.5.2013. The organiser will announce the B-arena in the coming weeks. The LOC has received a support of 30.000 € from the City of Hamburg. There will be a junior and recreational tournament incorporated into the tournament.

Mr. Kratz gave a brief report regarding the European qualifications played in Ciampino, Italy from the 5th to the 9th of September with 7 teams, after team Ukraine had been denied visas by the Italian authorities, with no real reason given. The participating teams were Austria, Belgium, Great Britain, Italy, the Netherlands, Slovenia and Spain. Slovenia won the tournament and advanced to the final round in Germany.

The Office is proposing not to take any further actions towards Ukraine, since the member association tried their outmost to secure the visas for the team. IFF needs in the future to secure the visa question with the organiser and the local authorities at least four – five months prior to the event.

The CB decided: To approve the report and agree to the proposal.

c) WFC 2013 Czech Republic

Mr. Suman informed that the WFC 2013 will be played in Brno and Ostrava.

Mr. Kratz gave a short report on the negotiations with the organisers for the WFCQ's

EUR 1 29.01-02.02.2013, Latvia, EUR 2 30.01-03.02.2013, Poland, Americas 01-03.02.2013, Canada and AOFC 19-24.02.2013, Korea

The contracts have been closed with Latvia and Korea. The negotiations are in the final stages with Poland and some issues open still with Canada.

The CB decided: To approve the report

d) Applications for organisation of coming WFC's

Mr. Suman reported that the IFF has in accordance with the decision of the CB sent out the bid questionnaire for the U19 WFC's 2015 and 2016. The applicants are to hand in the applications by the 30th of October and the CB will appoint the organiser in its meeting during the WFC 2012.



Mr. Liljelund reported that the Czech Floorball Federation has informed that they need some more time to hand in their bid for the 2016 WFC, based on the fact that the Czech Ministry of Sports have not yet been able to provide a decision for support for the WFC 2016. (**Appendix 19**)

The CB decided: To approve the reports

§ 6. EuroFloorball Cup

a) EuroFloorball Cup 2012

Mr. Kratz gave a short report about the EFC Final round 2012, which was played in Kosice, Slovakia from the 10. – 14.10.2012. The tournament is quite well needed for the teams ranked 5th to 10th. Lielvarde, Latvia, won the Men's tournament and Sveiva IB, Norway, won the Women's tournament and are therefore qualified for the Champions Cup 2013.

The CB decided: To approve the report

b) Champions Cup

Mr. Tjärnquist presented the report concerning the 2nd edition of the Champions Cup, played between the 03. – 07.10.2012 in Umeå, Sweden. The tournament was well organised, with some issues related to the number of spectators. There were overall a total of 14.000 spectators during the Event. The LOC will present a final report by the end of November.

Mr. Suman gave a Jury report from the Champions Cup played in Umeå 2012. The Champions Cup is one of the competition priorities of the IFF. The organisation of the event worked well, despite of some technical issue. There were some communicational issues between the LOC and the IFF Office.

The evaluation of Champions Cup is made on three dimensions, the sport level, the media level and the spectator level. The sport level of the event is very high and is an excellent window to promote the sport. The international cooperation improved on the media level, with TV coverage in three countries and the common Champions Cup web-site. The expectation was really high, when it comes to the number of spectators for the home team's matches. One reason could be that the local fans are not that interested in the international Floorball. It will be interesting to know what the financial outcome will be. An evaluation meeting will have to be scheduled in January-February.

Mr. Beaudin asked about the Floorball Fair. Mr. Liljelund answered that after having moved the exhibition to the main arena, every one of the four exhibitors were happy with the event.

There was an incident of disturbance by the team RTU/Inspecta at the team hotel during the night between Saturday and Sunday. The case has been given to the IFF Disciplinary Committee to handle, which will give it's decision in the coming days.

Ms. Bruun reported on the outcome of the use of the new Champions Cup web-page, which is now in use by both the LOC and the IFF. The LOC was quite pleased with the outcome, with an additional +3000 unique users than last year. This model forces the organisers to cooperate with previous organisers and the IFF.

Mr. Beaudin asked if there were any negative comments due to the change of the front page.



Mr. Liljelund gave a short to report that the TV4 broadcasted 4 matches live on TV4 Sport, The Czech TV showed Tatran's semi final and the both finals and YLE broadcasted all the five televised matches on their internet based channel. All matches were streaming the matches on IFF's YouTube channel.

Mr. Suman informed that the Czech TV was not pleased with the level of the production

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

§ 7. Committees and Function reports

a) ExCo reports

Mr. Eriksson reported on the IFF ExCo activities taken place after the previous IFF CB meeting. The ExCo has handled the unclear situation related to the Russian membership and the present problematic situation with the Great Britain Floorball and Unihockey Association (GBFUA), which has been challenged by an organisation called the United Kingdom Floorball Federation (UKFF).

Mr. Beaudin gave a report on the present activities in the Americas region (Appendix 20a) The sport activities continue to grow, which is a positive sign. However the situation on the structural level in both countries is preventing the sport to advance in the way it should. In Floorball Canada three persons out of seven have a vote, which is a problem when governing a national sport organisation. The growth is mainly coming from outside the national structure, which has to be solved. It is only the BC Floorball Federation is the only officially recognised Floorball authority, which has just received funding for spreading the sport. Floorball Canada and the Ontario Federation are not recognised and can't receive official funds. The organisations in Alberta and Nova Scotia are not yet recognised by Provincial authorities.

The USA situation is quite similar with their political situation, when it comes to their organisational structure and bye-laws. There is a lot of question to be solved. It would be in the interest for the IFF to look outside the fence of the National Association to solve the situation. The problem is that the base of licence players are quite small, so finding models for national series is a key for the organisations.

The national teams are in life support state, with a 70 per cent drop-out, for various reasons of finance, lack of support, poor management. The conclusions are that there is need to enhance the governance and funding of the organisation and that all are valued and respected in the region.

Mr. Eriksson gave a short report on behalf of Mr. King on the AOFC report (Appendix 20b) Mr. Eriksson stressed that he is very pleased in the way the AOFC is dealing with the development in the region.

The CB decided: To approve the reports

b) Contacts to International Sports Organisations

Mr. Eriksson reported on the contacts taken with the organiser of the World Games 2017 in Wroclaw, Poland. So far there has been no response from the organiser and IFF will follow-up the situation during the IF Forum in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.



c) RACC

Nothing to report.

d) RC

Mr. Liljelund reported in the absence of Mr. Botman on the recent activities of the IFF RC. The RC held its meeting in Copenhagen, Denmark on the 29.-30.09. (**Appendix 21**)

The IFF RC has based on the proposals for the international referees and referee observers from the IFF member associations for the period 2013-2014, decided to nominate the list international referees and referee observers for the period 2013 -2014. (**Appendix 22**) The IFF CB is to approve the nomination. There are 76 ordinary referees from 15 IFF member associations and 21 referee observers from 10 IFF member associations nominated. The list also includes 6 referees for the IFF referee development group from 3 member associations.

The IFF RC published the international referee classification system after the CB meeting in May 2012. The purpose of this classification is to give the IFF referees the information where they stand and also to make it easier for the RC to make the nominations for the tournaments. There are different kinds of requirements for the IFF events based on the level of the tournament. The RC has updated the classifications in its last meeting in September 2012 based on the performances of the referees. (Appendix 23)

Mr. Tjärnquist wondered if there have been any discussions of increasing the number of female international referees.

Mr. Eriksson answered that the objective still remains and it has to be put into focus in the future.

Mr. Suman pointed out that the Men's WFCQ is already of a level that probably needs Gold level referees.

The CB decided: To approve the report and decide upon the proposed compensation of the International Referees.

e) Development function

Mr. Liljelund reported that IFF has conducted a country specific development seminar for refereeing in for the Slovenian Federation in the end of August. (**Appendix 24**)

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

f) Marketing function

Mr. Kauppinen gave a short report that the IFF Core Country Marketing group will have its meeting on Friday the 7th of December, during the WFC 2012 in Zürich. The plan is to follow the approved marketing strategy and discuss about the question of the fan culture.

The CB decided: To approve the report

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g) Medical committee

Ms. Bruun gave a report on the present development in the field of Anti-Doping and the Medical Committee.

The IFF has provided comments and recommendations on the WADA Code 2015 to WADA, through Sport Accord's Doping Free Unit and FIFA. All submissions will now be considered and the next and last consultation phase will begin December 1st 2012 and end on March 1st 2013. During this time IFF will have the opportunity to provide feedback on the drafts and also review comments from earlier in the process.

The Collection of Injuries in IFF events started during the CC 2012 with a pilot test and the Injury Form Floorball was tested, 8 forms received and only small adjustments made based on the feedback (need to include team category also for club team events). The WFC 2012 teams have now been informed about the process and the updated form is to be downloaded from the IFF web page under Materials and forms.

The WADA Education Committee held a telephone conference on October 12th and decided to propose funding for 5 social science research projects (32 applied). The SNTD campaign will continue in the WFC 2012 in cooperation with the Swiss Cool & Clean program.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

h) Material function

Nothing to report.

i) Athletes Commission

Mr. Stoll gave a report on the nomination made by the member associations for the male candidates for the Athletes committee members, to be elected by their peers during the WFC 2012. (**Appendix 25**) There is a total of 5 candidates.

Mr. Kratz shortly reported on how the election will be conducted during the WFC. There is a voting station in both venues, where the player can vote for one to three players.

The CB decided: To approve the report

j) Equality function

Mr. Tjärnquist reported shortly on the meeting to be held with the EFT countries upon a Women's Floorball Project, during Friday the 7th of December 2012.

The CB decided: To approve the report

k) ParaFloorball function

Ms. Bruun reported that there were both Manual Wheelchair Floorball and Special Olympics Floorball demonstration matches played during the semi-final day of the Champions Cup 2012 in Umeå. An article about SO Floorball Girl Power was published on the Special Olympics Europe page.



There will be both Special Olympics Floorball demonstration and Electric Wheelchair Hockey Floorball demo matches played during the semi-final day of the World Floorball Championships 2012.

Special Olympics have in cooperation with the IFF and 3 IFF Member Associations approached four players for becoming the first Special Olympics Floorball Ambassadors. (**Appendix 26a-b**). The preparations for the SO World Winter Games continues.

The CB decided: To approve the reports

I) Information function

Mr. Beaudin reported on the present status of the web page and social media visibility.

Ms. Bruun informed about the status of the IFF Event Mobile Application and the activities made in order to upgrade the IFF web page and statistical servers, hosted by Planetta **(Appendix 27).** The aim is to have a total of 10.000 likings on Facebook before the start of the WFC 2012.

The CB decided: To approve the report

§ 8. IFF Office

Nothing to report.

§ 9. Member Federations

a) Membership issues

Russian Floorball Federation

Mr. Liljelund reported that the Committee of National and Non-Olympic kind of sports in Russia has been given the authority to lead any development of Floorball in the Russian Federation for the coming six months. The office proposes that IFF will wait until the end of March 2013, to further determine the membership statues of the Russian Floorball Federation.

Great Britain Floorball and Unihockey Association

Mr. Liljelund informed that the IFF membership status of the GBFUA has been challenged by an organisation called the United Kingdom Floorball Federation (UKFF), which have applied for membership of the IFF (**Appendix 28**).

In line with the policy IFF has defined earlier, discussions have started to sort out the real situation in the GB/UK and try to find a compromise between the two organizations.

The organisations have been asked a number of questions and been summoned to a set of meetings. So far it has been difficult to find a date and time for the meeting. If the meetings are not held before the IFF General Assembly, then the IFF CB needs to take action based on the present situation.

It isn't really possible to say that the GBFUA would have done anything wrong as such, but they have lost a number of clubs and teams to the new organization. The issues have been ongoing since 2010 and the federation has not gained the SportEngland recognition which was the requirement for granting them ordinary membership in 2010.

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INTERNATIONAL FLOORBALL FEDERATION (IFF)

Ordinary member of AGFIS/GAISF

Mr. Liljelund proposes that the CB should set a time frame until end of March to try to find a solution to merge these two organisations and then if we can't solve it by then, we have to first suspend GBFUA and then move to replace them.

In order to speed up the process the IFF CB is to propose to lift the ordinary membership of the GBFUA and return GBFUA to a provisional member by the IFF General Assembly, since they have not got the SportEngland recognition.

Mr. Eriksson felt that it is hard to understand how it is possible not to arrive to a meeting planned in the UK. Further Mr. Eriksson is in favour of raising the issue of the ordinary membership at the IFF General Assembly.

<u>The CB decided</u>: To approve the report and propose to replace the status of ordinary member for the GBFUA, which will be confirmed at the CB meeting on the 7th of December 2012.

b) Members under suspension

Mr. Kratz reported that there are no developments on the situation of the suspended association Malaysia.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

c) New Member Applications

Mr. Liljelund reported that Mozambique Floorball Federation has applied to become IFF members. The office has analysed the applications and find them to be in order, apart from the lack of the recognition of the National Sport Confederation, but the organisation is legally registered with the governmental sport organisation. (**Appendix 29**)

Further the re-formed Japan Floorball Federation, after the merger of the three different Floorball organisations in Japan, is applying to replace the IFF membership with the Japan Floorball Federation. (**Appendix 30**) Mr. Liljelund proposes to accept the application

<u>The CB decided</u>: To approve the report and accept Mozambique as IFF provisional member nr 55 and accept the transfer of the membership for the Japan Floorball Federation.

§ 10. Next CB meeting

The next CB meeting will be held on the 7.12.2012 in Zürich, Switzerland starting with a reception by the city of Zürich at 08.30 and with CB meeting starting at 12.30.

§ 11. Closing of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson closed the meeting at 18.15 thanking the members for a good and proactive meeting.

John Liljelund Secretary General Tomas Eriksson President