



INTERNATIONAL FLOORBALL FEDERATION (IFF)

Ordinary member of AGFIS/GAISF

Helsinki, September 5th, 2005

IFF Central Board meeting 4/2005 27.08.2005

Place: Hotel Scandic Grand Marina, Helsinki

Participants: **Tomas Eriksson** President
Renato Orlando Vice President
Risto Kauppinen
Peter Lindström
Thomas Gilardi

Merita Bruun Assistant
Stefan Kratz Head of Technical Department
John Liljelund Secretary General

Excused: **Per Jansson**
Tomas Jonsson Treasurer
Martin Vaculik

Minutes

- § 1. **Opening of the meeting**
Mr. Eriksson greeted all heartily welcome, giving some overall comments regarding the IFF RACC workshop, which was held the previous day and opened the meeting at 09:00.
- § 2. **Approval of the agenda**
The agenda was scrutinized, completed and approved.
- § 3. **Minutes from the CB meeting in Singapore (04.06.2005) – Appendix 1**
Mr. Eriksson proposed to go thru the decisions from the last CB meeting (3/2005) in Singapore. Mr. Orlando pointed out that the minutes have been distributed to the CB already earlier before it was published and therefore it is no longer necessary to go through item by item.. The minutes from the last meeting were scrutinized, approved and put ad acta.
- § 4. **Economy**
- a) **Preliminary financial report 24.08.2005 - Appendix 2a and 2b**
Mr. Kratz presented the preliminary financial report per the 24.08.2005.

On the income side, IFF is doing quite well and we are well on track also with the costs. At the moment we show a surplus of 252.000 CHF, but the estimate for 2005 will land on plus/minus 0. This due to smaller marketing income and smaller office costs than budgeted. At the moment a large number of invoices have not yet arrived to IFF.

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§ 4. (cont.)

b) **Information on IFF claims – status August 24th, 2005 (Appendix 3)**

Mr. Kratz presented the IFF claims per 24.08.2005.

The total claims (including invoiced membership fees for 2005) are 64.160 CHF; out of which 7.500 CHF are membership fees for 2005.

The federations, which have more outstanding debts, are Singapore, which made a substantial loss from the WFC2005. The CB gave instructions that discussions will take place in order to settle the debt. Other federations are Slovakia, France and Georgia.

Mr. Orlando stressed that starting from the next General Assembly no federation not paying participation fees could participate in the event.

Mr. Orlando is of the opinion that the fine given to Rubene is far too little in comparison with infringements committed by other clubs! Cheating on opponents, on the organiser and on IFF by using non qualified players is one of the biggest offences in sport.

The CB decided to approve the financial reports.

Also the CB decided that a federation not having paid the participation fee of an event is not allowed to take part in the event. The present associations will be informed accordingly. The deadline for the payment for the upcoming U19 WFC 2005 and European Cup 2006 is 16th of September.

The IFF CB decided to start discussions with the Singaporean association to settle the debts due to the WFC 2005.

§ 5. **World Championships**

a) **WFC 2005 – Report**

Mr. Orlando and Mr. Kratz reported on the WFC 2005 in Singapore and the present situation with the abstention of Georgia. Georgia was allowed to participate in the EC Qualifications.

Mr. Orlando reported that the Singapore Association made a good championship and proved that the WFC can be organised in Asia.

When it comes to Georgia Mr. Orlando stated that after everything which has happened concerning the Georgian federations, we need to meet with them and speak with them. We also need to ask the Georgian officially why they didn't come to the WFC 2005.

Mr. Eriksson proposed to take to the minutes that we invited the Georgian Association to the ECQ, but due to visa problems no Georgian representative was present. The IFF office worked with the Danish federation to help the process for the Georgian to enter to Denmark

Mr. Liljelund reported that there was TV coverage from the WFC 2005 in at least five countries and that this was very good, with a total of over 2 million spectators on the European TV's. **Appendix 4**

The CB decided to approve the reports

The CB decided to ask the Georgian federation for their reasons for not participating in the WFC 2005. The IFF will invite to have a meeting with the Georgian Association to discuss the situation.

b) **WFC U19 Men 2005**

Mr. Kratz reported on the organisation of the U19 WFC 2005.

Mr. Kratz gave some information concerning accommodation of the IFF CB and office in Hotel Cesis, Referees will be placed in another hotel. The team accommodation seems to be in order.

The hall in Valmiera is to be ready by the end of September. Flooring and seats are to be ready before the 20th of October. There are some other halls in the neighbourhood which can be used, case that the main hall is not ready by the given dates.

Mr. Orlando: Office to write a letter to the Latvian federation in order to get some conformation that the situation is under control.

Mr. Gilardi informed that the Referee management will consist of four persons in U19 2005. It will be lead by Mr. Klaus Koskela. The referees are paid by the participating federations, and the dead line for the appointment of these referees is by the end of September. In order to inform the organiser the office would appreciate if the CB members could inform whether they will participate in the WFC.

Mr. Orlando informed that the jury will consist of four persons (Orlando, Botman, Jansen and Vehniäinen).

The CB decided to approve the reports.

The CB decided to send a letter to the Latvian association and ask for conformation that the organisations are on track.

c) **WFC Men 2006**

Mr. Liljelund reported on the progress with the organisation of the WFC 2006 A- and B-division and that Mr. Kalte has started working in the organisation committee in Sweden.

Mr. Kratz then showed the latest version of the fixture list for WFC 2006 in Sweden, where the organiser has settled the timings for the group matches.

Mr. Kratz informed that the Spanish association has now signed the contract for the C-division. Accommodation seems to be in order; the venue is an arena with two courts. Practises can also be organised in a separate arena or a smaller court in the main arena.

Mr. Liljelund proposed to have a time limit for Georgia to give a clear conformation that they can participate. Mr. Orlando proposed that the Georgian has to guarantee that they can participate by the 31st of March. The office will discuss this with the Georgian federation.

Mr. Gilardi felt that the teams must guarantee to have the teams ready no later than last of January 2006.

Mr. Liljelund reported on the discussion with the WFC 2006 host broadcaster Swedish SVT, and the Finnish YLE and Eurosport. At the moment it seems that there will be a number of 6 to 8 matches broadcasted. IFF will ask the SVT to put a 90 seconds transmission on the EBU distribution list from each match.

Mr. Orlando wanted the IFF to discuss the issues concerning the owner is of the signal and production.

The CB decided to approve the reports. Georgia has to give clearance to participation in the WFC2006 C-division, no later than January last.

The IFF CB will have a principal discussion concerning the TV issue during its January meeting.

d) **WFC U19 Women 2006 Germany**

Mr. Kratz reported on the progress with the organisation of the U19 Women WFC in Germany.

A total of 10 teams have registered. The teams are Sweden, Finland, Switzerland, Latvia, Czech Republic, Norway, Germany, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia.

This means that the tournament will start on Monday (Monday to Sunday)

Mr. Orlando stressed that this will make it necessary to discuss with the DUB in order to settle the length of the tournament, the finals need to be played in big hall, taking at least 1500 spectators. DUB wants to have a meeting presently, to discuss the duration of the tournament.

The CB discussed the issue of only playing one game per day and whether to ask the federations about the issue for prolonging the tournament, also stating that having 10 teams prolongs the tournament with at least one day. The conclusion of the discussion was that there will only be played one game per day per team.

The CB decided to approve the reports and to organise a meeting with the DUB, to make the technical inspections of the different venues and to discuss the organisation, lead by Mr. Orlando.

e) **Upcoming events**

Mr. Liljelund reported on negotiations on upcoming events WFC 2007 and WFC 2008.

Mr. Orlando proposed that the office has to make a folder on the requirements for how to organise an IFF event, with input from RACC.

The CB decided to approve the report and gave the office the task to make the folder.

§ 5. (cont.)

Mr. Kratz reported that the RACC proposes that the A-division in the further will consist of ten teams. This will take place already starting from the WFC 2007 in Denmark. The A-division will then consist of 10 teams and that the USA will be promoted to the A-division and that the loser of the A-div in Singapore, i.e. Japan will meet the third placed in the B-division, i.e. Singapore, will play for the last place in the A-division. The best possible date for this is during the APAC in Singapore in December 2005.

The CB decided to approve the RACC proposal and inform the organiser and the concerned parties.

§ 6. **European Cup**

a) **EC 2005/2006 Czech Republic**

Mr. Orlando reported on the European Cup Qualifications in Aalborg, Denmark. The Danish federation had done a good job, but the arena B was quite small and such an arena can't be used in the future. We also need to look out for the development that there are a number of foreign players in the qualifications. The organisation was of IFF standard, but there was too little persons working during the matches in the secretariats and that the participating teams were very keen to participate.

There was a good technical meeting. The fixture list was far too tight. All teams behaved very well, with the exception of one, which needs to be solved. One player has offended the referees orally; this case will be forwarded to the Disciplinary Committee. **Appendix 5**

Mr. Orlando informed about the discussions of the split of the ECQ into two different qualification tournaments.

Mr. Liljelund reported on the process of the Georgian team and the actions taken, contacts to the Danish foreign ministry and the Danish consulate in Moscow to secure their participation. Due to reasons beyond our control the Georgian team Ukimerioni Kutaisi could not participate in the tournament. The team was informed on Friday August 5th that even if they would receive the visas there would not be any need for arriving to Denmark anymore.

The Georgian team Ukimerioni Kutaisi has applied for a return of the participation fee to the European Cup. **Appendix 6a and 6b**

Mr. Gilardi reported that the Danish federation had brought one own referee pair, which had not refereed together before. For having a good referee development in the future the Danish need to work on the referee-part. The referee management, lead by Mr. Thomas Thim, and the observers as such made a very good job during the tournament.

The CB decided to approve the report and decided that the Georgian team is not liable for the abstention for the ECQ. They are not to pay for the participation and will have the participation fee refunded, but it will however be used to cut the elderly debts of the Georgian federation, since it was paid by the Georgian federation.

The Czech Federation has sent out the first information letter to the European Cup. The Czech federation has proposed a fixture list which was drawn according to the old system. After a proposal of Mr. Orlando the CB was of the opinion that we will use the old system according to the organiser regulations, when we build the fixture list.

The CB decided to approve the report and decided that the fixture list we will be drawn according to the old system.

§ 7. **Committees and Function reports**

a) **Deviation of tasks between the committees and the office – Appendix 7**

Mr. Liljelund presented the office proposal on the deviation of tasks.

Mr. Eriksson supported the need to have the office to help the AC and the DC in collecting the material for the matters put into the hands of the committees. The same goes for reporting the verdicts of the committees.

Mr. Gilardi informed that he doesn't think that the deviation of tasks is a question for the central board, but that it is the responsibility of the Referee Committee (RC). The RC feels that there is a need for having a structured line in the way we appoint the referees.

Mr. Orlando is not in favour of the fact that the CB discusses the tasks of the committee and he proposed that this issue will be discussed directly between the IFF office and the committee.

The CB takes note of the discussion between the deviation of tasks between Committees and the CB .

§ 7. (cont.)

b) **Contacts to International Sports Organisations/ExCo report**

Mr. Orlando reported on the World Games in Duisburg 22-25.07, which he visited upon the invitation of Mr. Ron Froehlich.

The main thing is that the possibility to participate in the World Games 2009 in Kaohsiung, Chinese Taipei 2009, is closed for Floorball. Mr. Orlando concluded that he was not wrong in doing the lobby work inside the IFF and to increase the follow up of the political process. Mr. Orlando also spoke to the new younger sport leaders that might have a positive influence in the future. **Appendix 8**

Mr. Orlando stressed that there is still a need to visit Lausanne to continue the process of political lobbying work. We need to meet with the top officials, to also get the big points, sponsors and TV.

Mr. Eriksson concluded that the door is closed for the World Games 2009; we need to look out for the candidate cities for the World Games for 2013. We need to have a discussion with the Recognised federations of the IOC and with the IOC itself. We should put more pressure towards the FISU and the Universiades.

Mr. Orlando stressed the need to have a discussion in the central board on a strategy on the political work of IFF

The CB decided to approve the report.

FISU:

Mr. Orlando reported on the present situation concerning the WUC 2006 based on the information package presented at the presidential meeting in Singapore and that the FISU have confirmed that Mr. Orlando is the IFF technical delegate during the 2nd WUC in Switzerland 2006. The organiser has also sent the first information material to the student sport federations in the different countries.

Mr. Liljelund reported on the discussions between the Finnish students sport federation and the Finnish FA about a possibility to organise the WUC in the future. The Finnish students sport federation will apply for the 3rd WUC in 2008.

Mr. Eriksson stressed the need to start the strategic discussion with the FISU and participation.

The CB decided to approve the report.

Master Games: - Appendix 9

Mr. Liljelund reported on the discussion about Floorball participating in the upcoming European Master Sport Games in 2008 in Glasgow, where the initiative has come from the EMSA to include Floorball on the program.

Mr. Eriksson reflected upon the possibility to join the EMSA.

Mr. Kauppinen found it interesting to be able to participate in a recreational multi-sport event, starting with one age group over 40.

Mr. Lindström supported the initiative; also Mr. Gilardi supported the initiative.

Mr. Orlando thinks that Floorball should be in the Masters Games. The teams should be sanctioned by their national federations.

The CB decided to apply for membership in EMSA and the office will continue the preparation with the EMSA. The office starts to look after an organiser in Glasgow 2008.

ISF (International School Sport Federation):

Mr. Eriksson reported that the IFF has sent the materials (flyers and DVD) and a letter to the ISF President and Secretary General as agreed. So far there has not been any response.

Mr. Orlando felt that it is good that an international sports federation wants Floorball, but we need to secure the Floorball is not misused.

Mr. Gilardi supported the process of entering the field of the international school sports.

Mr. Kauppinen thought that this is a way to promote Floorball also in smaller countries, due to support to the school sport federations.

§ 7. cont

The CB decided to approve the report and give secretary general Mr. Liljelund the task to pick-up the lead and contact with the ISF and the Czech Association and Czech School Sport Federation.

WADA:

Mr. Liljelund informed that a Norwegian player has been caught for doping abuse in Norway and sentenced to a two year ban.

The CB decided to approve the report.

CAS/TIR: Appendix 10

Mr. Liljelund presented the proposal for a new text inside the IFF statutes based on the CAS recommendations.

The CB decided to approve the proposal.

c) **RACC**

Mr. Orlando reported on the RACC workshop 26th of August in Helsinki. Mr Orlando gave a short report about the RACC workshop. The workshop was very well prepared by the participants. Mr. Orlando thought that the workshop was a good meeting. All proposals will distributed by the end of the November.

All the participating persons saw the meeting as very positive and giving vast possibilities in the future.

The CB decided to approve the report.

d) **RC**

Mr. Gilardi reported on the work of the RC. The referee nominations are in time for the international matches in September. The next nominations will be as soon as possible in the upcoming weeks.

Mr. Klaus Koskela will manage the referee management in the WFC U19 2005 in Latvia and Mr. Daniel Würmlin will lead the referee management during the European Cup 2006 in the Czech Republic.

The CB decided to approve the report.

e) **Development function: Appendix 11**

Mr. Orlando reported on the process of the Development Programme, the seminar programme and the time table for this project.

Mr. Orlando pointed out that the content of this programme has been proposed and approved by the CB before. The RC has been asked to support with the material for the referee part. The basis for the organisation material will be provided to the office in the coming weeks.

We need to organise a test event of the development programme during the fall.

Mr. Liljelund reported on the Development Board telephone meeting held on the 16th of August.

The CB decided to approve the reports.

Asian and Oceania Floorball Confederation - AOFC: Appendix 12

Mr. Orlando reported on the present status of the AOFC. Mr. Suresh has been gathering the different proposals for part of the AOFC statutes that where agreed to be changed during the founding assembly. The final proposal has now arrived to the IFF. **Appendix 13**

There needs to be a follow-up workshop for the building the working pattern of the AOFC. Mr. Eriksson proposed that the President, Vice president and Secretary General would travel to Singapore during the APAC and give them support in order to start the process. We hope to get one or two right persons from China to attend.

Mr. Eriksson reported on the discussions with the Singapore Floorball Association and the Singapore Sports Council (SSC). We are still waiting for an offer for the office of the AOFC, which is due from the SSC.

The CB decided to approve the report and that the president, vice president and secretary general will travel to Singapore for the APAC.

§ 7. cont

f) **Marketing function**

Mr. Liljelund reported on the present situation and presented the IFF Marketing strategy.

Mr. Gilardi and Mr. Lindström thought the strategy is good, but requires a lot of work.

The CB decided to approve the report.

§ 8. **IFF Office**

a) **Office**

Mr. Liljelund reported on the possibilities of having additional work force at the IFF Office, by using one of the Civil Service persons that serve at the Finnish federation. There is no extra cost related to this since the cost is covered by the Finnish federation.

The CB decided to approve the report.

b) **New internet site – Appendix 14**

Mr. Liljelund reported on the issue of the IFF internet site, which is 10 years old and at the moment it is very difficult to administer. The office in Helsinki has asked for an offer from OpenSpace for the renewal of the IFF internet site and asked the Swedish FA to ask for an offer from the provider that changed the Swedish site.

The office has also asked for new proposals for the IFF logo

Mr. Eriksson proposed that the initial cost may not exceed more than 4.000 €

The CB decided to change the internet site, with a maximum initial cost of 4.000 € and the task was given to the IFF general secretary.

The general secretary will bring three proposals for a logo to the CB, which will decide upon the logo in its meeting in Ostrava 2006.

§ 9. **Member Federations**

a) **Members under suspension**

Nothing to report

b) **New Member Applications**

Nothing to report.

c) **Contacts to Member federations and other Floorball contacts**

Mr. Liljelund reported on the meeting with the Ontario Floorball Unihockey Federation president Juha Mikkola. **Appendix 15**

Mr. Liljelund reported on new contacts with Turkey, with the Istanbul Floorball Klubu.

Mr. Liljelund reported from a contact from Somalia. The Office will investigate this further.

The CB decided to approve the reports.

d) **Working with new countries and regions**

Mr. Eriksson presented the ideas on how to work with new potential member federations. There are a number of different types of initiatives going forward to spread Floorball around the globe. The IFF needs to form a strategy how we take part in this process. For example, we know that manufacturers are demonstrating Floorball on a number of levels in a number of countries.

Mr. Orlando explained that it is very important to find the right persons and he wanted the IFF to invite the Chinese to the APAC 2005 or the Sport Accord in Korea in April 2006. The IFF needs to be active and relate on the big federations. Mr. Orlando proposed to invite them.

Mr. Eriksson is of the opinion that we have to seek the proper names within China whom to contact.

The CB decided to approve the report and to seek contacts in China via the bigger IF's.

§ 10. Next CB meeting

The next CB meeting will be held in Ostrava in the Czech Republic, taking place on January the 6.-8.

Special topics on the agenda will be:

RACC proposals upon WFC, European Cup's, Regulations, Transfers and Regulations
Issues related to the IFF General Assembly
Strategy of International works of IFF in the future.
TV strategy for the future.
New logo

§ 11. Closing of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson thanked for the meeting and closed the meeting at 15.59.

John Liljelund
Secretary General

Tomas Eriksson
President