



# INTERNATIONAL FLOORBALL FEDERATION (IFF)

Ordinary member of AGFIS/GAISF

Frederikshavn, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2007

## IFF Central Board meeting 3/2007 17.05.2007

Place: Hotel Scandic, Frederikshavn, Denmark

Participants:	Tomas Eriksson	President
	Mona Aagaard	
	Tomas Jonsson	
	Per Jansson	
	Risto Kauppinen	
	Renato Orlando	vice president
	Filip Suman	
	Stefan Kratz	Head of Technical Department
	Merita Bruun	Assistant
	John Liljelund	Secretary General

## Minutes

- § 1. **Opening of the meeting**  
Mr. Eriksson greeted all welcome and opened the meeting at 09.05.
- § 2. **Approval of the agenda**  
The agenda was scrutinized, completed/updated with one new appendix (Appex 3: Claims updated 16.05.2007  
Appex 16: RC report)
- § 3. **Minutes from the CB meeting 01/2007 in Varberg, Sweden (06.01.2007) – (Appendix 1)**  
The minutes from the last meeting 01/2007 in Varberg, Sweden were scrutinized, approved and put ad acta. The minutes from the meeting 02/2007 held per capsulam (28.02.2007) were scrutinized, approved and put ad acta. **(Appendix 20)**
- § 4. **Economy**
- a) **Preliminary financial report 30.04.2007 (Appendix 2)**  
Mr. Jonsson gave first some remarks of the financial year 2006, which ended with a positive financial result and continued with presenting the financial report, per 30.04. The financial situation will be tough this year and we are looking forward to a breakeven result and are predicting a small deficit on the marketing income.

Mr Kauppinen asked whether there are any estimates about the budgeted income for 2007.

Mr. Jansson answered that it will be hard to reach the marketing income budget. Mr. Liljelund informed that the revenue from the material income is not considered a problem.

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

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### b) Information on IFF claims – status May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2007 (Appendix 3)

Mr. Kratz presented the IFF claims per 16.05.2007. The situation is getting better and IFF is receiving its money faster than before, but there are still some problematic countries to deal with.

Mr. Orlando asked about the debts of Brazil and Latvia. Mr. Liljelund answered that the Brazilian debt is still open and that the Latvian federation has not yet paid the fine for the European Cup.

Mr. Eriksson asked about the situation of the claims for Singapore and Malaysia.

**The CB decided:** To approve the report

## § 5. World Championships

### a) WFC 2007 Denmark

Mr. Suman reported on the ongoing 6<sup>th</sup> Women's WFC 2007 held in Frederikshavn, Denmark and concluded that the organiser is doing a very good job. The Jury finds that the organiser is willing to alter their operation and correct a few things they have made. From a team perspective the organisation is very good. The Jury is very pleased with the tournament at large.

Mr. Liljelund reported on some of the problems related to the doping test issues and the TV production issues. There have been some problems with the organiser, which are of a contractual nature. The issues have been solved in the best possible way.

Mr. Eriksson felt that it is very important that the contract is fulfilled fully. He was worried about the problems related to the doping tests.

Mr. Kratz reported on the two qualification tournaments held in Austria and Poland, where the organisation was of good quality.

Mr. Orlando reported on the qualification between Japan and Singapore was a huge success. The qualification has proven to be fantastic and will improve the level of Floorball in these countries. **(Appendix 13)**

Mr. Liljelund reported on the TV question and the actions taken to secure TV pictures for the participating nations in the WFC 2007. IFF has bought the production of an international TV signal and has sold this to YLE/Finland, Swiss TV and the Trans World Sport. The organiser was not able to find a host broadcaster, which prolonged the process and in the end the organiser was able to make a production of a live web-stream of all A-division matches.

**The CB decided:** To approve the report

### b) WFC U19 Men 2007 Switzerland

Mr. Kratz reported on the extra qualifications held in Slovakia for the U19 WFC 2007, on the 27<sup>th</sup> to the 29<sup>th</sup> of April. **(Appendix 4)**. The tournament was well organised. The Russian team arrived 9 hours late to the tournament and had to give a walk-over in their first match, but they had informed that they will be late.



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Mr. Suman informed about the discussions held with the Russian delegation during the tournament, where they were regretful about what has happened.

Mr. Eriksson stressed that the Russian federation had sent a letter of regret to him prior to the qualification, in which the Russian federation stipulated that they didn't like to go to the qualifications. The letter was answered by IFF stipulating that all IFF member federations needs to be treated equally. IFF did not receive a reply from the Russian federation.

Mr. Suman felt that the Russian federation has to be sanctioned.

Mr. Orlando feels that we can not make exemptions for any member, not fulfilling the regulations.

Based on the Statutes it was proposed that the Russian federation would be fined with 500 CHF for not participating in the technical meeting and 1000 CHF for not showing up to the first match of the qualification, in accordance with the regulations.

Mr. Eriksson proposed that the Russian federation will be fined with the 1500 CHF for the clear breach of the regulations, arriving late to the U19 WFC Qualifications, held in Slovakia.

**The CB decided:** To approve the reports and decided to sanction the Russian federation with a fine of 1.500 CHF.

Mr. Liljelund reported on the preparations made, for the U19 WFC 2007 in Switzerland, played on the 7.-11. of November 2007 in Kirchberg and Zuchwil. The agreement for the U19 WFC 2007 has been signed and the preparations are well underway.

Mr. Suman gave a report of the process which RACC has gone through in order to have a new system for the U19 WFC. The RACC has made the following proposal to the CB in order to deal with the system of the U19 WFC's as a whole in the future (**Appendix 5**). Mr. Suman proposed that we would split the discussion between the system and the age questions.

The RACC proposes to the CB that the system for the U19 WFC shall be changed accordingly:

- 1) The A-division shall consist of 10 teams and shall be played in May separately from the B-divisions.
- 2) A needed number of B-divisions (maximum 3) shall be installed. This shall also be played in May.
- 3) The change shall be valid for the U19 Men from 2009 and for U19 Women earliest in 2010.
- 4) According to this the promotion and relegation from the U19 WFC 2007 shall be: All 8 teams stay in the A-division and the top 2 teams from the B-division are promoted. The remaining teams shall play in the B-division in 2009.
- 5) The age system for the U19 WFC shall always cover 4 years. For the U19 WFC 2008 this would mean that players eligible to play in the tournament would be born between 01.01.1989 and 31.12.1992.
- 6) to change the name of the U19 WFC to the Junior World Floorball Championships (JWFC)
- 7) To change the date of U19 WFC registration to be the 31<sup>st</sup> of January the preceding year.

Mr. Jansson feels that it is good that the RACC thinks about the future, but we need to remember that what would happen if we would have an organiser in Asia or Americas. It might not be a possibility that too many teams will participate. If we aim to make changes, we have to listen to the pulse of the member federations.

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Mr. Orlando felt that it is not understandable that we first decrease the number of teams to 16 and then to increase it to over 30 teams. We need to enter new countries. He felt that we would not change the system before the previous proposal has been put in to effect fully. The held qualification for the women's WFC and the Men U19 WFC was a success. Mr. Orlando proposed that we would adapt the same system for the U19 the same as the one we have for the Seniors.

Mr. Kauppinen was more of the same opinion as Mr. Orlando and felt that it is more important to organise a qualifications, instead of travelling to an International events. We need to tell the smaller countries that they need to develop their own series, before they enter the WFC.

Ms. Aagaard feels that the local qualifications would lower the costs for the federations and feels that we must stick to the qualifications, but she felt it might be too early to decide.

Mr. Jonsson agrees with Mr. Orlando and Mr. Kauppinen.

Mr. Suman felt that the proposed B-divisions are equal to the qualifications and agrees with what Mr. Kauppinen said about the association focusing on building the their own organisation. The qualifications will bring two events for the qualifying countries and will therefore be much more expensive for the associations that will have to qualify.

Mr. Orlando stressed that the financial problems of the members are not the most deciding issue in this question.

Mr. Kauppinen asked whether licence system should be implemented for the participating nations of the WFC, defining the level of activities and number of players, in order for the countries to be able to participate.

Mr. Eriksson felt that it is good that the RACC discusses the issues from all angles. Mr. Eriksson would like to have all events organised in the same way and also felt that the financial issue is not the major issue. The system has to be organised and be streamlined in the same frame. Mr. Eriksson felt that the qualifications are a possibility for the organisers to develop in their own country and that the IFF needs to help the associations, by being strict on them. Mr. Eriksson proposed that the proposal would be returned to the RACC for further discussions, with the guidelines that all WFC should be streamlined to look alike.

Mr. Orlando thought that the idea of having a licence system for the WFC was good and proposed that a working group would investigate the possibilities of creating requirements.

Mr. Liljelund stressed that if we are to build any new competition system and requirements for participation it must be done in accordance with the IOC recognition requirements.

Mr. Jansson feels that the base for a good national team is good national series and a strong national organisation.

**The CB decided:** To return the proposal to the RACC for further preparations, under the guideline that all WFC should be streamlined according to the Adult's WFC. The ExCo will form a working group in order to investigate the requirements for the participants of the WFC.

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### c) WFC Men 2008 Czech Republic

Mr. Liljelund reported that the agreement made with the organiser of the WFC 2008 has been finalized and will be signed during the ongoing week-end. The process has been long, but it has proven that we now have a good base for the coming negotiations.

Mr. Eriksson felt that the agreement has reached a new level and will be a good platform for all coming Adult WFC's.

Mr. Suman reported that the WFC 2008 will be played in Ostrava and Prague from the 6<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> of December 2008. It was further informed that all teams will begin the tournament in Ostrava probably in the Cez Arena and then move the whole tournament to the Prague and probably the Sazka Arena for the placement matches. The B-arenas are in the annex of the main arenas and situated just next to the main arenas. The Czech TV will produce the broadcast all Czech matches and the semi-finals and medal matches. Mr. Suman thinks that this will be the best televised IFF championships ever. There are a lot of volunteers coming from abroad. The official web-page will be opened during the summer.

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

Mr. Kratz reported about the interest showed by the Slovak association to organise the WFC 2008 C-division in Slovakia. (**Appendix 6**). Based on the experience of the U19 WFC qualification, Mr. Kratz felt that it is possible to organise a good WFC C-division championship in Bratislava.

Mr. Suman felt that the development in the Slovak association is very good and believes that they will develop in the future.

It was proposed that the secretary general will be given the task to start the negotiations with the Slovak Association of the organisation of the WFC 2008 C-division.

**The CB decided:** To approve the reports and to give the secretary general the task to start the negotiations with the Slovak Association to organise the WFC C-division 2008.

### d) WFC U19 Women 2008

Mr. Eriksson reported that the Swiss Floorball Federation has sent IFF a letter, in which they inform the IFF that they are not in a position to organise the U19 WFC Women 2008, after the move of the competition from November 2008 to May 2008, due to personnel and financial reasons. (**Appendix 7**). The ExCo has discussed the issue, in its meeting held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of April and decided that Mr. Eriksson and Mr. Liljelund will have discussions with the Swiss president Mr. Gerhard Zingg and general secretary Mr. Patrik Falk in order to solve the situation. Mr. Eriksson informed that the discussions, with the Swiss Federation are ongoing and the issue will have to be decided later.

Mr. Orlando informed that Mr. Gilardi has been informed by him personally about the changes to be made. There have been some problems with the internal communication of the Swiss federation.

Mr. Eriksson proposed that the discussions will be held with the Swiss Federation during the ongoing WFC by the president and the secretary general and the item will be postponed until an additional CB meeting on Saturday.

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As far as the other items are concerned in the letter, the CB took it as an information and confirmed its original decision.

**The CB decided:** To approve the report and the CB will intervene again at Saturday morning at 9.00 am.

## § 6. EuroFloorball Cup

### a) EFC 2008

Mr. Kauppinen reported on the preparations made for the EuroFloorball Cup 2008 to be played in Vantaa, Finland 9.-13.1.2008 and gave a short presentation on the two arenas Vantaa Energy Arena and Myyrmäki Sports Arena which are 500 m from each other.

Mr. Liljelund reported on the agreement signed with the Finnish Floorball Federation for the EFC 2008, which is based on the contract from EC2007.

Mr. Eriksson informed, about the decision taken by the ExCo, to appoint the Latvian Floorball Union as the organiser of the EFC 2011, which during the process and the decision of the changed International Calendar has moved to the EFC 2010 played in October 2010 for the CB to confirm.

**The CB decided:** To approve the reports and the Latvian Floorball Union was confirmed as the organiser of the EuroFloorball Cup 2010.

### b) EuroFloorball Cup Qualifications 2007-2008

Mr. Kratz informed about the EFC qualification tournaments to be played in Norway 29.8 - 2.9 Baerum and in Italy 5.- 9.9 Ciampino. The registration will end on the 30<sup>th</sup> of May and after that the Competition Office will finalize the groups for the qualification, based on the previous CB decisions.

Mr. Kratz informed about the interest to host the EFC qualification for the top seeded countries. **(Appendix 8a-b)**. IFF asked for the organisers for the second best teams in November 2007 from the concerned federations, if they would be interested to organise this qualification.

Mr. Orlando asked if there has been an application from the Swiss federation, since he knew that one of the Swiss teams is interested in the organisation. He felt that the qualification can not be organised in the same country as the Final Round.

Mr. Kauppinen feels that this is a positive problem that all countries are interested to organise the 2<sup>nd</sup> placed teams. He gave some information about the Finnish bid.

Mr. Jansson also feels that the final round should not be organised in the same country than where the final round are played. It is not the question of the level of organisation in Finland, but the possible travelling twice to Finland for the qualified team.

Mr. Suman felt that the organisation of the qualification also in the future shall not be organised in the country where the Final round is organised.

**The CB decided:** To approve the reports and decided to appoint the Czech Floorball Union as the organiser for the 2<sup>nd</sup> placed teams' qualification to the EFC2008.



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## § 7. Committees and Function reports

### a) ExCo reports

Mr. Eriksson reported on the IFF ExCo meetings held in January and April. **(Appendix 9 and 10)**. In conjunction of these meetings the ExCo, held meetings with the IOC Sports Director Mr. Kelly Fairweather in Lausanne, on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January, 2007 and the meetings held during the GAISF Sport Accord in Beijing 23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> of April. During these meetings it was confirmed that the process for the IOC recognition process has now been decided. The issue will be elaborated during the Presidential and the Secretary General meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May. Further the IOC 50 Road Map has been discussed and the development work has been increasing.

Mr. Orlando gave a report about the GAISF General Assembly and the result of the election of the “other” International Federations representative to the GAISF Council. The GAISF General Assembly gathered over 70 member federations. GAISF has been reconstructed during the last years under the leadership of the president Hein Verbruggen. In this process the cooperation between the IOC and GAISF has increased.

The ExCo had nominated Mr. Tomas Eriksson as member of the GAISF Council, due to the change of the GAISF Statues, where all the different organisational groups (ASOIF, AIOWF, ARIFS and Other). The candidature of Mr. Eriksson was supported by a letter sent to the 21 federations of the other International Federations. In the election Mr. Eriksson (6 votes) lost with two votes to Mr. Paul Höglund/Aikido (8 votes) who was elected with the votes of the Marshall Arts federations.

Mr. Eriksson and Mr. Liljelund reported on the preparations of the Presidential and Secretary Generals meeting to be held on the 18<sup>th</sup> of May, in Arena Nord, Frederikshavn. **(Appendix 11)**. According to the pre-registration there are 25 national associations have registered for the Presidential meeting. The only federation playing in the WFC2007 which has not registered is Russia.

Mr. Orlando pointed out that the roles of the CB members are to represent the IFF during the meeting. This was approved by the entire CB

Mr. Eriksson informed that the ExCo put forward for the CB to discuss the timing of the IFF General Assembly in 2008. In the Statutes it is stipulated that the General Assembly shall be held in April – June. Mr. Eriksson expressed that he would prefer to have the GA during the WFC 2008.

Mr. Suman felt that if we tomorrow inform the Presidential meeting about having the General Assembly during the WFC 2008, there will be no problem.

Mr. Jansson felt that it is important that there as much federations present as possible.

Mr. Kauppinen proposed to organise a development week-end and then have the General Assembly at the end of that.

Mr. Orlando pointed out that it is important to give the associations the possibility to meet with each other prior to the General Assembly.

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**The CB decided:** To approve the reports and decided to propose the idea of having the General Assembly during the WFC2008 at the Presidential meeting.

### b) **Contacts to International Sports Organisations**

Mr. Eriksson reported on the Recognition process of the IOC and the actions to be taken by IFF in order to fulfil the requirements set by IOC. IFF will submit an application to the IOC for recognition in December 2007.

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

### c) **RACC**

Mr. Suman gave a report from the RACC meeting held in March. **(Appendix 12)**. The RACC has worked hard in order to adapt to the new international calendar. The minutes for the meeting are as information for the CB.

Mr. Suman presented the RACC proposals, for WFC new style detail system (changed based on CB "8 direct qualified" decision), in accordance with the previous CB decisions.

**(Appendix 14a-c)**. The major changes in the proposal made by the RACC are the quota of the participating federations in the WFC and the system for the qualifications. Mr. Suman informed that the proposal has been built based on the competition perspective.

Mr. Orlando gave his view of the RACC proposals, stressing that the WFC qualifications needs to be flexible depending on the number of teams. Further the modus of the qualification between two countries should be based on their mutual agreement.

Mr. Jansson pointed out that there are always aspects which can not been foreseen when making the proposals. You need to have some space in the regulations to manoeuvre inside.

The RACC made the following proposal concerning the changes of the system for the WFC 2010 (Men) and WFC 2011 (Women). The quota for the participating teams by continent shall always be based on the number of registered teams, using a deviation factor of 16 equalling the number of participating teams, and thereby determining the continental quota. The WFC 2010/2011 qualifications are played in continental tournaments or if there are less than three teams based on the mutual agreement.

The number of qualification tournaments has to be appointed well in advance and the qualifications shall be played during the first week of February during the same year, with the ballot for the WFC to be made directly after the qualifications.

Mr. Kratz reported on the RACC proposal for new regulations covering the EFC Qualifications for 2nd ranked teams and the alterations made in the Competition Regulations Club teams related to the EFC and the change of the International Calendar **(Appendix 15a-b)**.

**The CB decided:** To approve the reports and decided to approve the RACC proposals.

Mr. Orlando expressed his concern about the amount of changes, since many decisions in this respect taken by the CB earlier are not even implemented nor even experienced yet.

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### d) RC

Mr. Jansson reported on the work of the RC and the plans, based on the earlier discussions. One major concern is that we will not have enough international referees for the new International Calendar, which the RC is working with. Mr. Jansson feels that the RC has a good control on the referee situation.

Mr. Orlando reminded that the RC has been asked already two years ago to try to find more international referees, since the CB decided in Ostrava 2006 that all international matches must be refereed by international referees.

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

### e) Development function

Mr. Orlando reported on the Development Programme Seminar held in Canada (2.- 5.4.) and the plans for 2007-2008. (**Appendix 17**). The feedback given by the participants has proven that it has been very good to be there. The Development Programme has proven to be efficient to go to the associations and work with their problems.

Mr. Jansson feels that the Development Programme and Train the trainer is a very good approach.

Mr. Eriksson is very pleased with the development seminar and the feedback has been really positive.

Mr. Liljelund reported on the positive development in spreading Floorball in China. The IFF representative Office is organising a tournament in Beijing in 19.-20.5 and a Coach/Referee development seminar also in Beijing on the 9.-10.6. IFF will send two coaches from Singapore, who has attended the IFF Development Seminar to run the seminar for IFF. The participants in these seminars will be PE-teachers, present coaches and Floorball players. The idea is to introduce Floorball to the 6 Universities in the Beijing area, which will test Floorball during the next semester and have a tournament for these universities in November 2007.

Mr. Liljelund informed about the positive meeting held with the vice minister of the General Sport Administration discussing the development of Floorball in China.

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

### f) Marketing function

Mr. Jansson informed about the discussions held with Infront and the situation that Infront has yet not been able to sell any International Sponsors. Mr. Jansson stressed the importance of TV in order to sell the sport and the role of TV will become even more important in the future. Concerning Puma, we are discussing with Puma Nordic in order to continue the agreement with IFF. Puma Nordic are very pleased with the cooperation with IFF.

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



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## g) Medical committee

Mr. Eriksson informed about the decision taken by the ExCo to appoint Dr. Lars Erik Bartels (Denmark) and Dr. Thor Halse (Sweden) as members of the IFF Medical Committee.

Ms. Bruun reported about the meetings held by the Medical committee in February and during the WFC 2007 (**Appendix 18**) and the WADA Symposium for the International Sport Federations held in Lausanne in March. (**Appendix 19**). The main task of the first meeting was to elect the chair for the Medical Committee. Dr. Walter Frey was elected as chair and Dr. Tiina Nylander as vice-chair. During the Medical Committee meeting in the beginning in the WFC2007, proved to be very good for the process to work with the TUE applications.

Ms. Bruun also reported on the process of the WADA Code revision. The CB discussed the different implications for the IFF.

**The CB decided:** To approve the report and decided to approve the ExCo decision to appoint two new Medical Committee members.

## i) Material function

Mr. Liljelund make a short report on the ISPO Summer 2007 project, which is being conducted by the Development Board, in order to market Floorball in Central-Europe.

**Proposal:** To approve the report.

## § 8. IFF Office

Mr. Liljelund informed that Ms. Anniina Paavilainen will continue as a trainee at the Office in Helsinki until the end of 2007. Her tasks will be changed from the start of August, taking over the role of the IFF Office assistant.

Mr. Liljelund reported that IFF Office had a French trainee Mr. Michael Meddeb, for 6 weeks in February to April from the University of Orleans. During that time he translated the Coaching manual into French.

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

## § 9. Member Federations

### a) Members under suspension

Nothing to report.



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## b) **New Member Applications**

Mr. Eriksson inform about the decision taken by the ExCo, to approve Moldavia as the 39<sup>th</sup> member association of IFF.

**The CB decided:** To approve the report and approve Moldavia as the 39<sup>th</sup> member association of IFF.

## § 10. **Next CB meeting**

The CB will have an additional meeting on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> of May at 9.00 at the Scandic hotel.

The next CB meeting will be held in September during the EFC qualifications in Norway, on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2007.

## § 11. **Closing of the meeting**

Mr. Eriksson thanked the member for a nice meeting.

**John Liljelund**  
**Secretary General**

**Tomas Eriksson**  
**President**