



INTERNATIONAL FLOORBALL FEDERATION (IFF)

Ordinary member of AGFIS/GAISF

Helsinki, September 1st, 2013

IFF Central Board meeting 5/2013 01.09.2013

Place: Hanasaari Culture Centre
Hanasaarenranta 5, 02100 Espoo, Finland

Participants:	Tomas Eriksson	President
	Monica Bakke	Treasurer
	Daniel Bollinger	
	Risto Kauppinen	
	Stephen King	
	Magdalena Kotikova	ASC Chair
	Johanna Mikkola	
	Carlos Lopez	
	Oliver Stoll	
	Filip Suman	Vice president
	Martin Wolmhed	
	Merita Bruun	Information Manager
	Stefan Kratz	Competition Manager
	John Liljelund	Secretary General

Excused:

Minutes

§ 1. Opening of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson opened the meeting at 09.00 and wished everyone welcomed to the first CB meeting of the autumn and thanked the CB members for a very good working session yesterday.

§ 2. Approval of the agenda

Mr. Eriksson concluded that there was some updated appendixes, namely the	
Appendix 3,	Financial year end forecast
Appendix 8,	Champions Cup Manufacturer Village
Appendix 13a,	RACC Report
Appendix 17b	IF's web site comparison
Appendix 23	Americas Report

§ 3 Minutes from the CB meeting: 04/2013 in Hamburg, Germany (12.05.2013), (Appendix 1),

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

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§ 4. Economy

a) Financial report by the 19.08.2013 (Appendix 2)

Mrs. Bakke presented the financial report and the balance sheet for the financial year 2013, per 19.08.2013. The financial situation is showing that we are on budget for the most part of the costs, but the cost driving factors are only coming in the end of the year.

Mr. Kratz presented a financial forecast for the full year 2013, based on the present situation. (**Appendix 3**) The forecast is showing a deficit of around 50.000 CHF, mainly due to the currency loss with the stronger Euro and Swedish crown, the lack of the EFCQ, the extra cost for the Development Officer and the continued development of the mobile application.

Mr. Eriksson expressed that the IFF has showed red figures for two years and there is a need to now balance the finances for this year, so we need to try hard to keep the result close to zero.

The CB decided: To approve the report, the financial report and the balance and the predicted period for the fiscal year 2013.

b) Information on IFF claims – status August 19th, 2013 (Appendix 4)

Mr. Kratz presented the claims situation by the 19.08.2013. The summer time has been quite silent, but there is still a slight decline of the total debts to IFF. The work has started to look at the countries registered for the WFC 2014, where the participants are in accordance of the Licence system.

Mr. Wolmhed felt that there will be a problem to find the 16 teams to fulfil the licence system requirements. In order to be able secure the participation the IFF needs to communicate that if the association doesn't pay they will not play.

Mr. Kratz informed that the following eight countries are in the risk zone Germany, Hungary, Jamaica, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia and Singapore

Mr. Eriksson proposed that the countries shall be informed that if they have not paid the debts or made any arrangements before the WFCQ 2014 for paying the debts by the end of October 2014.

The CB decided: To approve the report and to inform all countries participating in the WFCQ with debts, that they will have to either have paid all debts or made a payment plan for clearing their debts.

§ 5. World Championships

a) WFC 2013 Czech Republic

Mr. Suman reported on the preparations for the Women's WFC 2013 to be played in Brno and Ostrava, in Czech Republic from the 7th to the 15th of December. The WFC organisation is this time connected very strongly to the CFbU organisation, but the preparations are well under way. The biggest challenge will be the ticket sales, since the spectators are only buying the tickets very close to the event. The cooperation with participants is working very well. The WFC is asking the member federations to promote the WFC in their countries.



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Mr. Liljelund reported on TV situation, where a total of 13-14 games will be televised to at least 5 countries. IFF has been in contact with Eurosport, which has not shown any real interest towards the WFC2013. (**Appendix 5**)

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

b) WFC 2014 Sweden

Mr. Wolmhed gave a short report on the preparations of the Men's WFC 2014 in Gothenburg. The preparation is now focusing on the planning and building of the marketing and communication packages and the opening of the Christmas City in the city centre on the 5th of December. The preparations for the match schedule have started. The opening ceremony will be in connection to the opening of the Christmas City in downtown Gothenburg in front of a major crowd. The LOC will run some test events with the EFT in November and a test match in the Scandinavium in January 2013.

Mr. Kratz gave a report on the preparations of the WFCQ2014 to be played in Canada, Latvia, New Zealand, the Netherlands, Poland and Slovakia. The preparations are running well and the competition department is communicating with all organisers.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

c) U19 WFC 2014 Poland

Mr. Kratz reported about the U19 WFC 2014 to be played in the cities of Babimost, Rakoniewice and Zbaszyn between the 30th of April to the 4th of May, 2014 with fourteen teams. The match schedule has been prepared and the preparations are under way.

The CB decided: To approve the report

d) New Organisers

Mr. Kratz reported on the actions taken by the IFF Office in order to find a replacement for the organiser of the U19 WFC 2015, after Singapore has informed they are not in a position to organise the event.

The Swedish Floorball Federation has informed that they are interested to organise the Men's U19 WFC 2015. (**Appendix 6f**) Both Poland and Slovakia has shown interest to host the U19 WFC 2015 by email. The process will continue with the bidding phase, in order to secure the decision by the CB meeting in December.

Mr. Lopez expressed his concern for the fact that a few countries are carrying the burden of the organising the events.

IFF has asked the member associations to apply for the organisations of the U19 WFC and the WFC's for the years 2017 and 2018. Mr. Kratz is to report of the letters of interest the IFF has received (**Appendix 6 a-e**):

Men U19 WFC 2017:	Czech Republic, Sweden, Switzerland, Slovakia
Women's WFC 2017:	Switzerland, Slovakia
Women's U19 WFC 2018:	Sweden, Switzerland, Slovakia
Men's WFC 2018:	Czech Republic, Finland, Switzerland, Slovakia

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The CB decided: To approve the reports.

§ 6. EuroFloorball Cup

a) EuroFloorball Cup 2013

Mr. Kratz reported on the actions taken to secure the organisers for the EFC Final round to be played in Trencin, Slovakia from the 9.-13.10.2013. The tournament will be played with a full set of twelve teams.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

b) Champions Cup

Mr. Suman reported on the Champions Cup Steering Group meeting held on the 13.06.2013, in Prague, where the future of the Champions Cup was discussed in detail. (**Appendix 7**) The objective of the meeting was to continue with the process of developing the Champions Cup project. The first phase of the Champions Cup is covered by the contract for the years 2011-2014. Sweden and Switzerland indicated that there needs to be changes in the structure. The IFF ExCo has then discussed with the EFT country presidents which have clearly stated that we definitely need to continue the top club competition for 2015-2018.

Mr. Kauppinen gave a report on the preparations made by the Finnish Floorball Federation to organise the Event in Tampere, Finland during the first week of October (02.-06.10.2013). The LOC has the situation under control and from a sporting perspective the event will be a very good event. The challenges are with the sales of the marketing rights. The marketing of the event has started in August with advertisement in the city busses, TV commercials and the local newspaper Aamulehti. The LOC believes that there will be a lot of spectators, even though the pre-sales has not started so well. A lot of school classes have registered for the morning games and are competing for a Floorball material package. There have been some issues with the teams, in regards to their travel. The situation with the volunteers is pretty good with over 100 volunteers, but there are still some more needed. The financial situation is still the biggest challenge.

Mr. Liljelund informed of the preparation of the IFF Manufacturer Village at the CC2013 (**Appendix 8**), with participation from five companies Exel, Lexx, Realstick, Swerink and Unihoc. In addition the TV production has been secured and a total of 6-7 matches will be televised to 4-5 countries.

Mr. Suman raised the discussion of the need to build a new financial model for the organisation of the EFCQ-tournaments. Due to the fact that we could not find any organisers for the EFCQ it is a need to build a new model to directly involve the clubs for the organisation of the EFCQ's, only confirmed by their National Association. The Club would be given the right one year in advance and the right to participate in the qualification.

Ms. Bruun asked if there have been any thoughts about playing the qualifications in connection to an International Club tournament.

Mr. Suman answered that this could be a solution worth looking for, even though the organisation of the qualifications has been the way in into the structure of organising events.

The CB decided: To approve the reports and gave the RACC the task to prepare a proposal for the organisation model within October.

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§ 7. Committees and Ad Hoc group reports

a) ExCo reports

Mr. Eriksson reported on the IFF ExCo meeting held in Prague on the 16th of August 2013 and the discussions, proposals and decisions made there (**Appendix 9a**).

Mr. Eriksson to further reported on the meeting held with the Presidents of the EFT Countries in Prague on the 17th of August 2013, where the cooperation of the stakeholders was discussed, in order for Floorball to reach its strategical targets. (**Appendix 9b**) The aim of the meeting was to find a common understanding for how to bring the International Development forward.

Mr. Eriksson gave a short report on the SportAccord Convention and the Annual General Meetings of the SportAccord, ARISF, IWGA and IMGA held in St. Petersburg from the 27th to the 31st of May, 2013. SportAccord elected a new president in Mr. Vizer and ARISF elected a new president in Mr. Chiulli and both presidents have started to adopt their election promises and a lot of things are going on in both SportAccord and ARISF. (**Appendix 10**) The IFF had a follow-up meeting with the IOC Sports Department, where it was stressed that it is important to develop the universality of the sport.

IFF has been approved as a member in the International World Games Association (IWGA). The membership is not directly guaranteeing participation on the World Games program, but Floorball needs to apply for a spot as all other IWGA members during the coming year.

Mr. Suman expressed that there is real chance for Floorball to enter the program. It is very important to enter the World Games, since it is place for showplace for our sport.

Mr. King reported on the present activities of the AOFC. (**Appendix 11**) There is positive development in India and Bangladesh, where India is mentoring for Bangladesh. There is a possibility that Bangladesh and Nepal would be ready to apply for membership with-in the next 6-12 months. There is a plan to have a AOFC coaching and refereeing seminar during the WFCQ in New Zealand, which are targeted to close the gap between the more developed countries.

Ms. Mikkola reported about the present activities in the Americas, with focus on referee development, working with a national championships and preparations for the WFCQ in Canada. USFbA is aiming for the U19 WFC 2016 and building the national championships. Brazil has organised a national championships last year and the plan is to run this years event in October. (**Appendix 23**)

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

b) Contacts to International Sports Organisations

Mr. Eriksson reported on the preparations for the 2013 SEA Games in Myanmar in December and the actions taken in relation to this. Mr. Sani Mohd. Salim has on behalf of IFF reported that the SEA Games have decided that the Floorball demonstration tournament will be played with only male teams between the 12th and 18th of December 2013 in the city of Naypyidaw. The potential participants are Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore, but the status of their recognition process is ongoing.

Mr. Eriksson stressed that the flow of information has been quite slow, making it hard to know what actually is going on.



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Mr. King felt that there might in the future occur a situation, where some member federations would concentrate on the regional multi-sport events, instead of the IFF WFC's

Mr. Eriksson further informed about the FISU invitation for the Floorball World University Championships to be played in Singapore 2014 from 18th to 22nd of June. The IFF has discussed with FISU and there is a need to secure a broad as possible participation in the WUC 2014 and IFF is planning to research the possibility to organise a joint transportation from Europe to Singapore. (**Appendix 12a**)

In addition the FISU has called for organisers for the WUC 2016, with the dead-line of last of August. The IFF Competition department has consulted a number of countries if they could be able to seek the organising rights.

Mr. Eriksson also informed that IFF has started to prepare a project with Mr. Jean-Laurent Bourquin, AdviSport, to support in the preparation of the IOC Short list application. The final decision will be made after the IOC has informed how the process for inclusion of new sports to the Olympic program will be dealt with.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

c) RACC

Mr. Wolmhed reported on the preparations made by the RACC, in connection to the coming season 2013-2014 and the IFF Events. (**Appendix 13a**) A rules seminar on the Game Rules edition 2014 will be organised during the WFC 2013. Plans has been made on how to secure the jury work for the WFCQ's.

Mr. Wolmhed further proposed to allow the Finnish Floorball Federation to continue the use of the new foot pass rule, that has been included in the 2014 edition Rule of the Games in the Men's and Women's league and Men's 1st division during the season 2013-2014. (**Appendix 13b**)

The CB decided: To approve the report and allow the Finnish Floorball Federation to continue the use of the foot pass rule for the season 2013 - 2014

d) RC

Mr. Bollinger reported about the preparations the RC has made in front of the season 2013 – 2014 and in addition inform about the founding of the new Female working group, which strives to enhance the development of female Floorball referees. The RC will test the use of headsets during the Champions Cup.

In addition Mr. Bollinger is to inform of the decisions the RC has made to nominate additional referees to the IFF Development group (Hungary, Slovakia and Spain) and one new Referee Observer from Switzerland. (**Appendix 14**)

The CB decided: To approve the report, add the proposed referees to the IFF RC Development group and the observer to the list of the International Observers.

e) Medical committee

Ms. Bruun gave some information about the present status concerning the IFF Anti-Doping Work, the Medical Committee and the cooperation with WADA.

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In the testing of IFF RTP players, there has been one missed test in Sweden, but the player has been successfully tested on the second try.

The 4th World Conference on Doping in Sport, is to be held in Johannesburg November 12-15, 2013. The revised version of the World Anti-Doping Code (Code) will be endorsed by WADA's Foundation Board at the Conference. For IFF the biggest question will be whether we need to make the Anti-Doping test for all substances.

Ms. Bruun and Ms. Kotikova gave feedback to the WADA educational program on behalf of the IFF. The challenge is for IFF is to reach the athletes.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

f) Athletes Commission

Mrs. Kotikova shortly reported the activation of the IFF Athletes Commission members. The idea is to collect information for the athletes on the IFF web page. In order to have the view of the athletes and have the chance for the players to give more insight to the IFF operations in the RACC, RC and MC a system has been set up with an observer in these organs.

The Athletes Commission will be holding their meeting during the U19 WFC 2014.

The CB decided: To approve the report

g) Marketing Ad Hoc group

Mr. Suman reported on the discussions held and plans made in order to intensify the marketing and sales activities of Floorball and IFF. There are some ideas of changing the structure of the use of the marketing rights for the future after the WFC2015 and then also looking upon the way to work with the TV and the distribution of the signal to new countries.

The Core Country Marketing Network Group will have its meeting on Friday the 4th of October in Tampere during the Champions Cup.

Mr. Liljelund reported that IFF is supporting the UNIHOC Charity project, where Unihoc will collect old Floorball Materials and then after a election on the IFF & Unihoc face books choose three countries to support with materials, which are Brazil, Korea and Malaysia.

The CB decided: To approve the report

h) Development & Equality Ad Hoc group

Mr. Kauppinen reported on the plans the Equality function has made together with the four EFT countries to start a girls- and women project in relation to the Association meeting in Ostrava 2013.

The preparations are driven by Ms. Sarah Mitchell from IFF and Ms. Eeva Welling from the Finnish federation. A large set of material of how for enhance female participation has been gathered and they will be introduced and launched at the IFF Association meeting.

The CB decided: To approve the report

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i) International Lobbying Ad Hoc group

Mr. King reported on the discussion held by the CB during the working session and the actions to be taken in order to speed up the lobbying work. Mr. King and Mr. Liljelund will build an action plan in the coming weeks

The CB decided: To approve the report

§ 8. IFF Office

Mr. Liljelund reported on the present status of the interviews related to the Association Audit. At the moment a total of 41 interviews have been made and still a small number of interviews will be made during the autumn.

Further Mr. Liljelund informed that the IFF Juridical Regulation working group lead by Mr. Mathieu Guillemin has started its work and the first discussions have been held in order to modernise the juridical regulation to be coherent with the updated IFF statutes. The working group will have its proposal ready by the end of 2013.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

a) Development operations

Mr. Liljelund reported on the development seminar held in Zhuhai, China from the 5th and 7th of July, 2013 for over 30 PE teachers from 6 districts organised in cooperation with an organisation called the China Floorball Development and Ms. Chen Xin. The IFF has signed a cooperation agreement with China Floorball Development, with the target to form a Chinese Floorball Federation before of the end of 2014. **(Appendix 15)**

Mr. Liljelund is to report on the educational activities carried out by Mr. Jan Ögren Fjellestad during the Floorball Promotional tournament Bali Open and the events in connection to this. **(Appendix 16)**

Mr. King reported on the plans to organise some seminar activities during the WFCQ2014 in New Zealand.

There are plans to organise a development seminar in Spain in the coming six months.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

b) Information operations

Ms. Bruun informed about the actions taken in connection to the lay-out change of the IFF web page www.floorball.org, giving more focus to social media, photos and videos on the web page. In addition to this the IFF Mobile App is being updated for the Champions Cup. Ms. Bruun has made an analysis of the other IF's web pages content and number of Facebook fans, in order to benchmark our own performance. **(Appendix 17b)**

The discussion has been started about the advantage to have separate Facebook pages for Events if no real content are put on these. **(Appendix 17a)** This issue should be discussed by the Core Country Marketing Network in October.

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c) Material operations

Mr. Liljelund reported on the yearly meeting of the IFF Development Board held in Helsinki on the 14th of May. (**Appendix 18**). The main subjects of the meeting was the new Material Regulation for 2014 and the development support to be given for Canada and Spain, which both have handed in their reports.

The DB approved the proposal for the changes of the IFF Material Regulation edition 2014, which now is proposed to be approved by the CB, in order for the industry to be able to adapt to the changes coming in force on the 1st of July 2014. (**Appendix 19**)

Mr. Liljelund is further to raise the question of how to deal with the continuation of the special permission given to players of over 191 cm to use manufacturer made over-sized sticks. The proposal is to continue the system, but ask the players to pay a small administration fee for the permit.

Ms. Mikkola informed that the Canadian ice-hockey manufacturer Sherwood has started manufacturing Floorball sticks.

The CB decided: To approve the reports, approve the changes made in the IFF Material Regulation edition 2014 and agreed to give the material function for the way to organise the certification of over-sized sticks for very tall players.

d) ParaFloorball operations

Ms. Bruun gave a report on the ongoing communication with the different organisations with ParaFloorball activities.

The ParaGames Breda, the Netherlands played in October 10th to 13th, organised by the IPC will feature both manual wheelchair Floorball and electric wheelchair Floorball teams.

The CB decided: To approve the reports

e) Association Meeting, Ostrava 2013

Mr. Eriksson presented the plans the IFF ExCo made for the 2nd IFF Associations meeting, to be held at the Clarion Hotel in Ostrava on the 13th and 14th of December in conjunction to the Finals of the 9th Women's WFC 2013.

The meeting will be held between 10-17 on Friday the 13th and 09-13 on Saturday the 14th. The topics for the meeting are:

- The continued IOC Process, International Lobbying and needed actions
- The Learning's and Outcomes from the Associations Audit
- The Each One Teach One projects and Next Steps
- Launch of the GirlFloorball Project
- Key Note Speaker
- Working groups and discussion

The invitation is to be sent out at least two months prior to the meeting, but preferably still during September.

The CB decided: To approve the report

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§ 9. Member Federations

a) Membership questions

Mr. Eriksson reported that the United Kingdom Floorball Federation (UKFF) has held their first AGM after receiving the membership and actions are taken to enhance the Floorball activities in the UK.

Mr. Liljelund reported that the National Floorball Federation of Russia led by Mr. Maxim Chernov, which has received the accreditation of the Russian Ministry of Sport for two years, have started discussions with the other Floorball organisations in Russia, in accordance with the guidelines given in end of May.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

b) Members under suspension

Mr. Kratz reported on the situation of the suspended association Malaysia. The Malaysian Floorball Federation had informed that they will pay some of their outstanding debts by end of April, but so far no payments have arrived to the IFF bank account. Mr. Kratz has sent the Malaysian Floorball Federation a letter to ask for their next steps in the process, keeping in mind the upcoming SEA Games in Myanmar.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

c) New Member Applications

Mr. Liljelund reported that the IFF Competition department had made an arrangement with Croatia, which were given the right to play an International match against Denmark in Sweden on the 27th of April. The Croatian Federation had informed that they will apply for IFF membership with-in August 2013. So far there has been no membership application in accordance with the arrangement made, but the President Tomislav Dakovic of the Croatian Federation has promised to sort out the application for membership during the coming months.

The National Floorball Federation of Russia is applying to replace the Russian Floorball Federation as an IFF member. The IFF has received the application, the translated constitution and the explanation for how the NFFR is trying to promote Russian Floorball in the future. The secretary general is proposing to replace the NFFR as the Russian IFF member and give grant them with provisional membership, until they receive a more permanent accreditation of the Russian Ministry of Sport. (**Appendix 20**)

IFF has received a partial membership application from the Cameroonian Floorball Association, but the application is still missing some important documents, so the proposal is not to accept the application at this stage. Discussions are ongoing with the Cameroonian Association.

The organisation Floorball South Africa has approached the IFF and showed interest to join the IFF (**Appendix 22**). The documents handed in are sufficient, but it is not clear what juridical status Floorball South Africa has, so the proposal is to approve them as provisional IFF member, despite that they are not yet registered with the South African Sports Authorities.

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The CB decided: To approve the reports and approve the National Floorball Federation of Russia as a provisional member and replacing the Russian Floorball Federation and provide Floorball South Africa with a letter of recommendation. In addition the IFF CB approved Floorball South Africa as IFF provisional member nr 56

§ 10. Next CB meeting

The next CB meeting will be held in Ostrava, Czech Republic on the 12th of December in the Clarion Hotel from 12:00-16:30.

§ 11. Closing of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson ended the meeting thanking all for a good and fruitful weekend at 12:35.

John Liljelund
Secretary General

Tomas Eriksson
President

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