

Helsinki, Finland 11th of March 2019

IFF Central Board meeting 2/2019 09.-10.03.2019

Place: Meeting at Hotel Sercotel Malaga, Calle Héroe de Sostoa 17, Málaga, Spain
<https://en.sercotelmalaga.com/>

Participants:

Tomas Eriksson	President
Jörg Beer	
Monica Birdal	Treasurer §§ 1 – 7b
Steen Houman	
Stephen King	
Martin Klabere	
Carlos Lopez	
Kimmo Nurminen	
Ron Spence	
Filip Suman	Vice President
Veli Halonen	Operations Manager
Stefan Kratz	Competition Manager
John Liljelund	Secretary General

Excused: Lidwien Reehuis ATC Chair

Agenda

§ 1. Opening of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson opened the meeting at 18:00 on Saturday and welcomed the members to the second CB meeting of the year in Malaga, Spain

Mr. Eriksson also welcomed Mr. Steen Houman, as the new CB member replacing Mr. Thorbjörn Ovedal, based on the CB's decision to co-opt Mr. Houman.

CB decided: To approve the report

§ 2. Approval of the agenda

Mr. Eriksson concluded that there are any updated appendixes for the meeting.

Appendix	8b	-	WFC TV spectators
Appendix	10	-	WFC 2019 LOC report
Appendix	14a	-	ETC Guidelines
Appendix	26	-	IFF Competition Coordinator announcement
Appendix	27	-	RACC report

CB decided: To approve the report and added the specified appendixes

§ 3 **Minutes from the CB meeting:
05/2018 in Prague, Czech Republic 07.12.2018 (Appendix 1)
01/2019 per capsulam, 04.02.2019 (Appendix 2)**

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

§ 4. **Economy**

a) **Financial report 2018, by 31.12. 2018**

Mrs. Birdal presented the preliminary financial report and the balance sheet by the 31.12.2018 (**Appendix 3**). There will be a few corrections done later.

The preliminary outcome per the 31st of December is -155.321 CHF, which is due to the actions taken to remove the old debts to the IFF, as decided by the CB based on the recommendation from the IFF auditor. The result for the ordinary activities for the financial year 2018 was close to a zero result, with a final outcome of +45 CHF. We are behind on the income side, but we have kept the costs in line or even been able to save some.

We have been able to stabilize the balance and liquidity situation for the year.

Mr. Klabere asked how it comes that there have not been any other sales made in 2018 and what it would have been. Mr. Halonen and Mr. Liljelund answered that we had budgeted for the sales of some old Floorball material and/or an old flooring.

Mr. King asked why the participation fees are lower than budgeted. Mr. Kratz answered that we had not had a EuroFloorball Cup and that there are less Women U19 teams than Men U19 teams. Mr. King further asked how we have more marketing costs than income. Mr. Liljelund answered that there are more costs as we have an active marketing person and that we have been compensated by Asics for the cancellation for the agreement.

CB decided: To approve the report.

b) **Information on IFF claims – status February 28th, 2019**

Mr. Kratz presented the claims situation by the 28.02.2019 for Associations in WFC 2019 and those not participating (**Appendix 4 and 5**).

Most Associations have adopted to the new license system and with the new and earlier date for the annual fee payments are coming earlier which is important for the liquidity situation.

As the Associations must, in accordance of the IFF License System 2.0, be without debts to IFF by the time of the registration to be guaranteed participation but also associations following a set up plan to pay off their debts may be given the possibility to participate. For the WFC 2019 the association must be without debts by the end of year 2018, to be able to participate in the qualifications. Here the situation is still problematic for Latvia and Slovenia, but they keep following plan and are not falling behind. Slovakia is paying off according to plan and expect to pay the last part by the end of June. There have also been some issues with Russia lately as some invoices has not been paid, which should be fixed in the coming weeks. The IFF Office is continuing working on this.

Mr. Kratz reported that Ukraine is sticking to plans and Jamaica has not paid anything.

Mr. Klabere feels that there is a real problem with Latvia and that they are not able to close their debts or even reduce them significantly. How can we explain this to other countries, when they are so far behind and have not been able to reduce their debt only minimally during the last 12 months. Mr. Eriksson felt that we have become much harsh to follow the plans and deduct the debts. Mr. Lopez asked what Latvia has done and Mr. Beer asked how long the Latvian payment plan is done.

Mr. Suman expressed that if a payment plan is followed it is totally all right and needs no further actions. All the WFC 2020 team registrations, which have debts or not following their payment plans, their registration can not be approved. Mr. Eriksson stressed that the Office needs to look through the situation for the WFC2020, in accordance of the IFF License System 2.0.

Mr. Liljelund expressed that the Office has concentrated on the situation for the WFC 2019 and U19 WFC 2019 and has worked very hard to secure that all participants are without debts in the beginning of the year. More focus will be put on the registration for WFC 2020 in the coming months.

Mr. Klabere asked how the countries not registered for the Events are paying their membership fees. Mr. Liljelund answered that we need to look over the membership fee issue, in connection to the IFF General Assembly 2020, as has been planned in relation to the License system.

CB decided: To approve the reports and prepare a proposal for the registration for the WFC 2020

c) **IFF General Assembly 2018, Prague, Czech Republic**

Mr. Eriksson reported that there have been no objections made by the IFF member associations to the published minutes of the 15th IFF the General Assembly held during the WFC2018 in Prague, Czech Republic on the 8th of December. (**Appendix 6**)

Mr. Liljelund informed that the IFF Association Meeting will be held in conjunction with the WFC 2019 in Neuchatel, Switzerland on the 14th to 15th of December. The main topics will be the Future of Floorball and the Evaluation of the Strategy 2009-2020 and the creation of the IFF Strategy for the next decade. Also the License system 2.0 and the tier system will be discussed, among other topics during the Associations meeting in Neuchatel.

CB decided: To approve the reports

§ 5. **World Championships**

a) **WFC 2018 Prague, Czech Republic**

Mr. Suman gave a Final report of the organisation of the WFC 2018 and the achieved results and importance, based on the LOC Final Report (**Appendix 7**), The WFC broke several records, like the total number of spectators of 181.518 spectators and the number of spectators in the final 16.276, beating the record from the WFC 1996. The LOC feels that the Floorball community can be proud of the organiser. Mr. Eriksson concluded that the LOC exceeded the expectations.

The Czech Floorball invested a lot into the Event and wanted to give a picture of what Floorball will look like in the future. The LOC didn't reach all the separate targets, but in the overall result was really good and the tournament made a financial surplus. The turnover of the Event was over

3 million Euros, which was much bigger than planned, mainly due to the good spectator numbers. The LOC/Czech Floorball has written and printed a WFC Book, which was written day-by-day during the Event. Mr. Suman expressed that the cooperation between the IFF Office and IFF officials and the LOC worked nearly ideally during the whole 2 years period.

Mr. Klabere gave a Jury report of the WFC 2018, concluding that the tournament was the best ever organised. The issues during the Event, were out of the control of the LOC and usually were solved very quickly. The new issues were the problems with the Team Jerseys and the standing players in front of the spectators and the TV cameras. It was a really good tournament. From a Jury perspective the IFF personnel worked very well, even if there were some issues with a referee pair, that was not given matches for the last few days of the tournament.

Further Mr. Liljelund reported on the number of broadcasted TV matches. The WFC 2018 was broadcasted live, delayed or with high-lights or news in a total of 17 countries, with 154 broadcasts. To date IFF has the knowledge of in total 33 broadcasters, in the 17 countries. These live and delayed broadcasted matches gathered some 8 million spectators and reached some 25 million and had a total of over 288 broadcast hours. (**Appendix 8 and 8b**)

Mr. Liljelund also informed that IFF has been working with SportCal on the SGI Research for the WFC 2018. Data has been provided by both the LOC and IFF to SportCal and the research of the visitors is in its final stages. The GSI Report will be published in the end of March or beginning of April. Mr. Suman is really looking forward to the SportCal GSI report, as the Sportcal interviewed at least some 20-25 persons.

CB decided: To approve the reports

b) U19 WFC 2019, Halifax, Canada

Mr. Kratz reported that the preparations are underway and that all IFF personnel (jury, referee management, referees and staff) are appointed.

The event has been officially recognized by the Canadian Border Services Agency and their confirmation letter will be sent to all teams. For Russia, who are the only team that requires a visa, rather than an ETA, this could be very helpful.

Mr. Spence presented a short report on the preparations of the Event. The preparations are proceeding well, even if there is a lot of work. The main issue is to bring people to the arenas to watch the games. The LOC has built a crowd-funding campaign to pay for the buses for the school children to come to the arenas.

Mr. Klabere asked what the difference was between the situation in Belleville. Mr. Spence answered that he doesn't know how it was organised in Belleville U19 WFC.

CB decided: To approve the report

c) WFC 2019

Mr. Kratz reported that all four qualifications have been played and that the following teams are qualified to the final round: Finland, Sweden, Switzerland, Czech Republic, Denmark, Norway, Latvia, Germany, Estonia, Slovakia, Canada, Australia, Poland, Japan, Singapore and Thailand (**Appendix 9**).

Further Mr. Kratz reported that due to the very uneven results in some WFC qualification matches involving the top 4 ranked teams there has started discussions about possibly giving the top 4 teams direct qualification and instead have them play exhibition matches and perform development activities in connection with EUR qualifications. Due to time reasons it could be too early to install a new system already for the WFC 2020 but rather to WFC 2021. Mr. Kratz proposed that RACC shall investigate this and to present a proposal for the next CB meeting in June. Mr. Klabere asked who has made the proposal, Mr. Kratz answered that the idea came from the Floorball Community.

Mr. Beer reported on the preparations of the final round and from the ballot held in Bern Ittigen 14th of February (**Appendix 10**). The preparations are between yellow and green, so most things are in place. The Ballot was organised well and based on this the LOC has made a proposal of the WFC 2019 match schedule from a Swiss perspective. So far about half of the sponsor revenue has been secured. As the venues are quite old, there is not enough food stalls, so the LOC will have to build some outdoor stalls for food service.

Mr. Kratz reported that the first draft of the schedule was published 25.02.2019 and that ticket sales started 27.02.2019. (**Appendix 11**) The IFF will after the Ski and Biathlon calendar will be ready make some changes in respect to the TV in the match schedule. The changes will be made and communicated in May and September.

Mr. Liljelund reported that the negotiations with SUHV and Polar HD for the production of the TV-signal/stream is ongoing.

Mr. Liljelund informed that the Association Meeting will be held on the Final week-end from Saturday and Sunday.

CB decided: To approve the report

d) **Upcoming Events**

WFC 2020, Helsinki, Finland

Mr. Nurminen reported on the preparations of the SSBL for the WFC 2020. (**Appendix 28**). It is 635 days prior to the Event. The LOC has already secured some 15 sponsors for the Event, which has already fulfilled the marketing revenue budget and there are also some functional sponsors with the City of Helsinki, fan engagement with Elämys Group and a number of the partners in the fields of ticketing, marketing, sponsorship measurement and the NGO Hope.

The WFC has the theme More! This indicates more value for the sponsors, more value for the audience. The venues will make it difficult to break the overall spectator records, but the spectator target is set to achieve at least 100.000 spectators. The ticket sales will start in the end of 2019 and the overall budget is close to 3 millions.

Mr. Kratz reported that a total of 35 teams have registered which is a new record. For the first time an African country, Cote d'Ivoire, has registered and will be placed in a European qualification group. Mr. Kratz further reported that Thailand will organise the AOFC qualification and that he is communicating with possible organizers of the remaining qualifications. Mr. Eriksson reminded that a report on the registration for the WFC 2020, in relation to the IFF License System 2.0 shall be made.

Considering the World Games in Birmingham 2021 Mr. Kratz proposed that both American teams shall be directly qualified to the WFC 2020. Further Mr. Kratz proposes that 9 teams shall

qualify from the European qualifications in addition to Finland that is direct qualified as organiser and that the AOFC qualification shall get the remaining 4 qualifying spots.

IFF will contract PolarHD as the production company and do the production for YLE. YLE will still act as Host Broadcaster and handle the signal distribution and satellite uplink.

CB decided: To approve the reports and fixed the system for the qualifications.

U19 WFC 2020, 2021 and 2022

Mr. Kratz reported that 19 teams have registered for the U19 WFC 2020 in Uppsala, Sweden, which is a new record.

Further Mr. Kratz proposed that Canada, USA, Australia, China and New Zealand, in addition to the regular top 9 teams, shall be direct qualified and that 2 teams shall qualify from the European qualification. Discussions regarding the organisation of the U19 WFC qualification is ongoing with Italy.

Further it was reported is that discussions are ongoing with Czech Floorball Union to organize the U19 WFC 2021.

Finland and New Zealand has shown interest to organize the U19 WFC 2022 and the aim is to finish the bidding process until the end of June. Also USA has informed that they are interested to bid for the event. All three countries have been invited to present their bid and the decision will be taken in September.

CB decided: To approve the report and to decide about the direct qualified teams for the U19 WFC 2020 and WFC 2020 according to the proposal

Mr. Eriksson adjourned the meeting at 19:30 on Saturday the 9th and the meeting continued at 8:30 on Sunday morning the 10th.

§ 6. EuroFloorball Cup

a) EuroFloorball Cup 2019

Mr. Kratz reported that he is continuing the discussions with Russia regarding organising the EuroFloorball Cup 2019 in St. Petersburg and that a contract proposal has been sent and the NFFR is ready to organise.

CB decided: To approve the report.

b) EuroFloorball Challenge 2019

Mr. Kratz reported that Netherlands has shown interest to organise the EFCh 2019 and that he has provided them with financial and other information about the event. Currently the intended LOC is discussing with the city of Utrecht of support for the event. Unless the City makes some obstacles, it will be organised here.

CB decided: To approve the report.

c) Champions Cup 2019

Mr. Kratz reported that the Champions Cup 2019 was played in Gävle, Sweden, and that IKSU (Sweden) won the Women's event and Classic (Finland) won the Men's event in a very short and precise event.

Mr. Klabere reported on the outcome of the event. The CC had the highest numbers for the Champions Cup in total of viewers on YouTube, with 168.523 views and 1.815174 viewed minutes. There were no real live TV broadcasts, but there were eight short news spots on TV. The spectators were around 4.905 in total, with an average of 613. The Women's final had a good number of spectators of 1.114 and the Men's with 1.565. It didn't work that good to put it in connection with the Swedish Youth district final. There was some miss communication between the organiser of the youth event and the Champions Cup.

The finance outcome was better than normal with a loss of 30.000 EUR.

Mr. Suman reported on the preparations of the Champions Cup 2020 to be played in Czech Republic. The Czech Floorball is waiting until the Czech league is made, so it will be in Prague (O2 small arena) or Ostrava (2006 Ice hockey arena). The tournament will be played on the second week-end of January 11th and 12th.

Mr. Nurminen reported on the CCSG micro meeting held on the 8th of December in the O2 Arena, which discussed the next steps in the process for the new Home & Away concept (**Appendix 12**) The discussions will continue in the upcoming CCSG meeting on the 21st of March in Copenhagen, which will finalise the proposal for the Concept for the Future of the Champions Cup (**Appendix 13**), based on the proposal and the comments from the stakeholders. There are some open questions like the sales rights and how to organise the sales.

The IFF CB discussed its position towards the Concept and concluded that IFF is in favour of the Concept, but the IFF is not in a position to bear the financial risk on its own, so the key for running the project further is to secure the commercial sales for it. The IFF will stress this in the Champions Cup Steering Group.

CB decided: To approve the report

§ 7. Committees and Ad Hoc group reports

a) ExCo reports

Mr. Eriksson reported on the ExCo activities after the WFC and the last meeting and the preparations in advance of the CB meeting. There has been some work done related with the replacement of Mr. Ovedal, in the CB and with the ARISF questionnaire, the GAISF Good Governance survey and the files to the different multi-sport events.

Mr. Eriksson informed that he has meet with the newly elected Mr. Dahlin, President of IBU and had talks on the topic of Good Governance in an International Federation and the implications of the WADA decisions on the Russian sport administration and growing sports in Russia. Further discussions were held on the topic of taking learnings on the campaign and lobby work to launch a successful campaign to become a top sports leader and his learning with the necessity to liaison early with the NOCs. Mr. Dahlin also highlighted the financial growth in TV rights and commercials keeping all the respective rights in the IF, and not re-directing it to the NSAs and event's organisers.

Further the IFF President informed that he has meet with Mr. von Uthman, member of Swedish NOC on the “New Norm and Agenda 2020” and the challenges to bid for the Olympic Games and what to stress and how the process of inclusion on new sports on the OG is changing rapidly and the tendency of the IOC to let a lot of influence to put on the OG bidding cities, and conclusions for IF/NSA how to be on top of this. In addition Mr. Eriksson meet with Mrs. Rapp elected last year as new IHF (handball) federation treasurer and EXCO member of the IHF; and hear learnings of the gender and equality work and hurdles in an IF and also of changing good governance in an IFF.

Mr. Liljelund reported that the IFF Ethics Commission (ETC) had its meeting on the 09.12.2018, in Prague to discuss the present needs to create the IFF Ethics Commission Guidelines. The proposal for the Guidelines was presented to the CB in Malaga. (**Appendix 14ab**)

Mr. Liljelund reported that Mr. Kalsta has prepared and collected the required documents, including the General Assembly minutes and updated IFF Statues for the registration of IFF in Lausanne, Vaud have been delivered to the commercial registry. It turns out once again that a few more documents are needed to be delivered as originals, which has been organised, as well as a French translation of the updated statutes, which has been done and are now being checked. Hopefully we will have the registration before the next CB meeting.

Mr. Klabere gave a short report of the status in the conflict between the SSL clubs and the Swedish Association. Apparently, a solution for the season 2019-2020 has been reached during Friday the 8th in the mediation lead by the Swedish Sports Confederation.

The IFF CB discussed and finalised the IFF stand point in relation to top level leagues or commercial top leagues outside the national member federations. The IFF finds that that the following clause are applicable in relation to such private or commercial top elite leagues, not organised in cooperation with the National Association:

- All IFF regulations, rules or Game Rules are only applicable for Leagues organised by the National Associations
- IFF can only cooperate with National Leagues organised by the National member association
- IFF does not approve any transfers to or from Clubs playing in the private or commercial leagues, which are not organised in agreement with the National Association.
- No players, team officials or club officials from the Clubs participating in these leagues may participate in any IFF activities or International tournaments for National or Club teams
- No players, team officials or club officials may interact or play against teams from these leagues
- No referees may referee matches in these leagues
- No players, team officials, club officials or referees representing the clubs playing in these leagues are entitled to take part as participants in any IFF Events or activities.

CB decided: To approve the reports and took notice of the Ethics Commission guidelines.

b) CB members responsibilities

Ms. Birdal reported on the meeting of the 6 Nations meeting held on Saturday the 8th to discuss a possible project for coach education for the six, with the aim to Close the Gap between these nations and the EFT countries. IFF has prepared to build a coaching and education system with the Finnish Floorball Federation Floorball Academy Eerikkilä Sports institute. The six are planning to the have a tournament in October/November in Poland 2019. The group will have their next meeting in some two weeks.

Mr Lopez reported on the development in Central and Latin America and the plans for the future. (**Appendix 15**) There was a lot of meetings in Prague, which was important. The target was to

set-up common lines to develop the sport in the region. The development will continue well in Brazil, Mexico, Colombia and Venezuela. Mr. Lopez also had a meeting with Sports4all on the development in Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia and Chile. Mr. Luthi has agreed that we need to work together. There are another group in Brazil, which could cooperate more with the Brazilian member federation. Mr. Halonen informed that the same kind of issues has been seen in other countries, where the sport has been connected to religion.

Mr. King reported on the on the present status of the AOFC activities and also on the experiences of the implementation of the IFF Mentor Coach Mr. Juerg Kihm for the AOFC with New Zealand as the country. **(Appendix 16 and 16a)** The Mentor Coach started in New Zealand and was run during the Women's WFCQ in Bangkok. This showed clearly how the National Teams needs to be reorganised to take the most out of it. The New Zealand federation will look upon this to inform the process. The Next event is the U19 WFC in Halifax in Canada. The KPI's have been set and it will be easy to follow the development here.

Mr. Eriksson and Mr. Liljelund reported that there were both representation from Laos and Vietnam during the AOFC WFC qualifications.

The development in the AOFC is going forward, with a meeting of nine members during the WFC in Prague. The office is up and running in Bangkok. There is a number of the members on the way in with Kiribati on the agenda for this meeting. Singapore is holding a referee seminar in April. AOFC is looking to test the Chinese Standardised TEST system for youth skill development. The Philippines is holding the next AOFC Cup as a testing event for the 30th SEA Games in Manila.

Mr. Spence reported on the present issues in Northern America. **(Appendix 17)** Floorball in North America has developed very good on the Men's side, but the Women's Floorball is still struggling. There are discussions ongoing to have more games for women in Canada. The Canadian friends and families were not very happy with the fact that the streaming of the WFCQ was on ESPN, which was not visible outside of USA. Mr. Liljelund answered that the USFbA had a possibility to stream the Event on the ESPN channels, which was for the first time ever to have Floorball visible on their channels.

CB decided: To approve the reports

c) Contacts to International Sports Organisations

Mr. Eriksson shortly reported on the development in the International field, mainly on the Paris Olympic Games 2024 preparations. The organisers of Paris 2024 have made a decision on the proposal to the IOC of the sports proposed by POGOC of not including Floorball, but proposing Skateboarding, Sports Climbing, Surfing and Brake. **(Appendix 18)** Mr. Eriksson meet with Mrs. Arvidsson member of WDSF Council, to discuss their fruitful lobby work on including Break on Paris 2024 and the outcome of the Buenos Aires 2018 YOG, and what actions to take and when in order to join in the YOG and OG. The IOC has now given the bidding City the full task to make the proposals.

Mr. Suman felt that the IOC is clearly the driving force behind the sports of the program. Apparently, the Sports Climbing will get a new discipline. The new quota rule means that only ARISF can push IOC to evaluate the core sports. We also need to approach the new potential Candidate Cities for 2032, to become a sport, which will be mentioned in media as potential candidate for the games. For Paris there was a huge campaign for Boules Sport, Squash and also other sports.

Mr. Eriksson further informed that the IOC has launched the process for the IOC Development Support for 2019. IOC will grant a support of 32.000 USD, after IFF has handed in an application. **(Appendix 24)**

Mr. Liljelund reported that the ARISF Council has started the preparation of a Strategy review by sending out a questionnaire to ask how the IF's rate the ARISF activities and what they think ARISF should do. Based on this the ARISF will prepare a proposal for Strategy for the ARISF AGM 2019. **(Appendix 19)**

Mr. Liljelund informed that the preparations have continued concerning The World Games 2021, with discussions with the US Floorball during the Detroit WFCQ and discussions concerning the development work in the City of Birmingham with the BOC. The BOC has proposed a new venue for Floorball and Korfbal in the gigantic BJCC Center, together with a number of other sport venues. Mr. Suman asked what we can do in order to play some tournaments in Birmingham. Mr. Liljelund will check what interests there are to have an international event there.

The preparations of the IMGA European Master Games in Torino, Italy next summer are ongoing and the registration has started. IFF has contacted the Prague Masters organiser to help with the promotion of the Event, in order to get more teams to register. Mr. Kalsta is working on the promotion of the Event. About three weeks ago Prague Masters sent out the IFF invitation with the EMG Sports Guide to whole of their contact base. The similar has been promised to be carried out the Finnish as well as Norwegian Floorball Federations. The same has been discussed with the Swiss and Swedish Federations. The IFF has and will periodically promote the EMG in its own social media channels. There is active contact about this with the President of the Italian Federation. The EMG organiser contacted IFF this week, as there are only two teams registered so far for the tournament.

Mr. Eriksson reported that the preparations of the 30th South-East Asian Games to be organised in November-December 2019, are well underway. IFF is coordinating the materials for the venue with the Philippine Association. The Floorball tournament is planned to be played in the beginning of the SEA Games, which is good as the Women's WFC will start on the 7th of December in Neuchatel. The dates for Floorball will be starting on the 26th/27th of November and the Final will be played on the 1st of December. The anticipation is between 4-5 per category.

Mr. Eriksson informed that in relation to the SportAccord Convention in the Gold Coast from the 4th to 10th of May, there will be organised a Sports Festival and IFF has coordinated that the Australian Association will run the Floorball activities. Mr. King shortly reported on the preparations. **(Appendix 20)** Floorball has proposed to have two sessions on Friday 9th and 10th of March, one for schools and one open session for everyone, which the organisers are positive to. The operations will be run by Queensland Floorball.

In addition, Mr. Eriksson reported that IFF has filled-in the SportAccord Good Governance survey, directed towards the ARISF and AIMS IF's. The results and proposals for amendments will be given latest in May. In addition, Mr. Eriksson further reported that it seems that the organiser of the GAISF Urban Games has changed from Los Angeles to Budapest (13th to 15th September) and that the IFF secretary general has already been in contact with GAISF to ask if this would give Floorball a possibility to participate in the Event in some ways.

CB decided: To approve the reports

d) RACC

Mr. Klabere reported on the RACC activities (**Appendix 27**) The CB discussed the process of how to proceed with the preparations how to build the Testing System for the Future of Floorball. The office had prepared a proposal for the process, which the CB agreed to follow. The CB decided to give the RACC the task to prepare a circular letter to the membership asking them to make proposals of What to Test, How the test shall be done and the process for the Evaluation of the tests. This letter shall be sent out no later than in end of March and the associations are to revert back with their application in May. The RACC then needs to make a proposal to the IFF CB on what factors and in which events, IFF wants to test in 2019 – 2020.

Mr. Beer asked when IFF will decide upon the dates for the WFC 2022. Mr. Klabere and Mr. Liljelund answered that the CB will make the decision during 2019.

Mr. Kratz proposed that the U16 category in the Friendly International Regulations shall be changed to U17 by just changing the upper age limit else all will stay the same as it is for the U16 now which then would be in U17 Internationals the players shall be at least 13 and not older than 17 years old when the match is played.

CB decided: To approve the report and approve the proposal

e) RC

Mr. Lopez reported, that the IFF RC had its meeting on 2nd to 3rd of March in Madrid. This was the first meeting which the new chair Mr. Carlos Lopez chaired. The main focus in the meeting was the planning of the tasks of the RC for the years 2019-2020 and also the future perspectives until 2024. (**Appendix 21**)

The RC concluded that the amount of the referees is adequate at the time, but still there are member associations, which have not been able to propose referees for the international level or the development group level. RC needs to take actions with this topic, mainly to support the member associations to send referees to the development group educations and this way to fulfil the criteria of the IFF License System 2.0.

The RC also handled the reports from the previous events and the outcome was that the tournaments ran relatively smoothly, with only minor problems. In the WFC 2018 there were some problems inside the referee group, which the referee management in the tournament were able to solve and those didn't affect the games.

The RC proposes to the IFF CB to promote development group referees Mr. Markus Dobernig and Mr. Jurgen Filipic from Austria to the IFF ordinary referee group. The IFF RC also proposed to nominate Mr. Michal Gorski and Mr. Arkadiusz Kalwasinski from Poland and to nominate Mr. Philipp Khruschew and Mr. Pavel Vinogradov from Russia to the IFF Referee Development group

CB decided: To approve the report and add the referees Mr. Markus Dobernig and Mr. Jurgen Filipic from Austria to the IFF ordinary referee group and Mr. Michal Gorski and Mr. Arkadiusz Kalwasinski from Poland and Mr. Philipp Khruschew and Mr. Pavel Vinogradov from Russia to the IFF Referee Development group to the IFF referee development group.

f) Medical committee

Mr. Halonen, in the absence of Ms. Bruun, reported that the deadline to submit feedback for the following World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) documents is on the 4th of March 2019:

I. The third phase of the 2021 World Anti-Doping Code (Code) Review Process

II. The second phase of the International Standards (7 Standards) Review Process

III. The first phase of the Anti-Doping Charter of Athlete Rights (Charter)

The IFF has previously provided feedback for the I International Standard for Education (ISE), which is a new standard. The feedback provided by the IFF has been taken into consideration by WADA in the 2nd draft version. The IFF has also asked the Athletes' Commission members to provide feedback on the new Anti-Doping Charter of Athlete Rights and two ATC members replied. The IFF will further look into the most important documents for the IFF and evaluate if it will send more feedback.

Following the IFF Anti-Doping education programme, all U19 teams are to undergo education prior or in the beginning of the U19 WFC 2019. Most teams have chosen to conduct on-line education and/or NADO/MA education. Some educations will be run during the U19 WFC for the teams, which have not participated in the educations organised by the respective National Anti-Doping Committees.

The 15th edition of the WADA Annual Symposium under the theme "Towards 2021 – Navigating the future together" is organised 13-14 March 2019 in Lausanne, as the new WADA Code coming into force 2021. Both the IFF Anti-Doping Manager Ms. Bruun and the ATC representative Ms. Agata Plechan will participate.

CB decided: To approve the report

g) Athletes Commission

Mr. Halonen informed in the absence of Ms. Reehuis that the IFF ATC will be represented by Ms. Agatha Plechan in the WADA Symposium in Lausanne, Switzerland in March and by Mr. Jun-oh Lee in the IOC International Athletes Forum in Lausanne, in April.

CB decided: To approve the report

h) Marketing function

Mr. Beer reported about the current sales of rights and marketing situation. During the last twelve months a lot of efforts have been made to achieve sales, so there is a little frustration as there is still sales to be achieved. (**Appendix 22a**)

A general analysis has been drawn from the sales efforts and aim should be taken on international Scandinavian brands and/or international brands that have partnered with LOCs in WFCs, as there has been limited or no response from the major International Companies. It is highly unlikely that any brand/marketing/sponsorship manager will decide in favour of a sport which is unknown to them no matter how impressive our numbers, presentation or offering are. Simultaneously we have analysed why we are not winning any cases. It is often hard to receive answers but mainly the reason is sticking to existing partnerships/strategies and lack of additional resources within the companies. After discussion with our sales partner in Switzerland we at least know that we are not outpricing ourselves (benchmark from IIHF pricing for 2020 World Championship venues)

The main sales points are the negotiations with several Sports Apparel Sponsors, currently active discussion with Hummel, Errea, Puma and Stanno. A few other Main Sponsor offers are out which are being actively followed up. Our Swiss agent also has few leads open for the IFF and the WFC 2019.

The footage for the reference videos was shot during the WFC 2018 in Prague will be finalized by the end of February. The final material will be put in use for sales and marketing once the final edit is available.

The Fan Value-Based survey for Floorball was finalized and the results are ready (**Appendix22**). There were no breakthroughs as such however the survey validates several things that had been self-defined as being facts. These are now validated facts to back up sales negotiations. The results will also be distributed to the CCMNG group. We will still try to add Czech answers to our data for the survey, which we missed to the awkward timing of the survey during the WFC.

In developing our portfolio in terms of attractivity towards the fans and potential sponsors there are active negotiations with a company which produces digital brand activation services (e.g. live voting (venue/stream/app), social media wall, decibel meter, etc.). The idea has also been tested with one of the IFF sponsors which portrayed interest and has requested for more information.

Mr. Klabere felt that we need to figure out a new way for the financing for the Champions Cup, based on the report of the marketing.

Mr. Liljelund expressed that we need to start using the experience of the previous WFC organisers and approach their sponsor to offer further cooperation with-in the international Floorball and start working together with the new organisers much closer to see what possibilities there are to invite also these sponsors of the Events to stay on the WFC train.

Mr. Beer expressed that we will discuss in the next Core Country Marketing Network Group meeting on how to increase the awareness of the Sport among the Marketing people in Companies.

CB decided: To approve the reports

i) Development & Equality Ad Hoc group

Mr. Halonen reported that a coaching clinic was carried out in USA in Detroit in conjunction of the Women's WFCQ for two days carried out by an IFF educator and with local forces. The clinic focused on how to teach Floorball to Ice hockey coaches and the Individual player roles. The clinic had a total of 13 participants, during the 8.-9.2.

A referee clinic is planned to take place in Singapore in the end of April which is targeted to all AOFC countries, with some 10-12 referee pairs. The clinic will last for four days and two first days theoretical education with physical and rule tests and individual interviews. The two last days will also include real match officiating by the participants.

The referee development in general has been quite good in the AOFC region as well and the WFCQ 2019 in Thailand was the first IFF event fully refereed by AOFC referees.

The IFF and AOFC joint Mentor coach program was also launched in the WFCQ 2019 with the team New Zealand. The main objective in the coach mentor program is to close the gap and raise the understanding and awareness of the importance of good coaching in modern team sports. The AOFC WFCQ was for the first time refereed only with AOFC based referees but asked to have some European referee observers in future tournaments.

The planning of the Mentor Coach program in Europe for the Six Nations is also ongoing. The main objective is to raise the level of the coaching in the Six Nations and eventually secure that the coaching education in these countries would in the long run support itself.

There is also the plan to have the Africa Cup played again this year, but it's still open will it take place in East or West Africa. In East Africa there are not enough teams which would have confirmed their participation, but the IFF office is working on the topic. Based on the experience from 2018 it is vital for the development of Floorball to organize tournaments, not just because of the matches, but this way the African members can also start to co-operate with each other. There are potential organisers in Kenia or Uganda.

CB decided: To approve the report

j) International Lobbying Ad Hoc group

Mr. King gave a short report on the ongoing activity. Mr. King has prepared a Lobbying Manual for National Associations, to support the lobby activities on a national level (**Appendix 25**). The Office to finalise the layout and the content.

CB decided: To approve the report and the Lobbying Manual for National Associations.

§ 8. IFF Office

Mr. Liljelund informed that the Office Coordinator Ms. Gitta Schmidt has in the end of January resigned from her position. An analysis has been made and the IFF will seek for a replacement for a Competition Coordination, which will take on a number of the tasks that Ms. Schmidt previously has worked with but work more with the competition related questions. The IFF Office will announce this position in the first part of March, with the aim to have the person in place by end of April. (**Appendix 26**)

Mr. Liljelund further informed that Mr. Tero Kalsta has informed that he might be moving back to Finland in June/July, due to the termination of his wife position in Switzerland. Ms. Bruun will work 80 per cent until October.

Mr. Halonen informed of the present situation of the License System survey, where some 40th have answered. Of the countries registered for the WFC 2020 only Denmark, Malaysia and Russia have not answered yet. The IFF Office will prepare a report for the next CB meeting and make a proposal of the Tier placement for the next meeting.

Mr. King asked about the missing policies, if there is something that can be done, to help the situation. Mr. Liljelund explained that the IFF Policies can be used as a basis for the member associations and that this has to be discussed during the Associations meeting.

Mr. Halonen informed that the IFF office was approached by a Spanish team, which signed and approved an international transfer of a Czech player from Spain back to Czech Republic. The player owed some money to the team and the team agreed to sign the transfer due to the fact that the player promised to pay the debt and actually also delivered a copy of the receipt. The money never reached the Spanish club though.

The club sent an email about this topic to the chairperson of the IFF Appeal Committee and she forwarded that to the RACC chairman and eventually to the IFF Office. The IFF office made some inquiries from the club, the player and the Czech Floorball. The player was very co-operative in the process and it seems that there was just a mistake in the payment procedure by the player's side and the debt has been paid and the Spanish club has informed that they are happy with the result.

The number of ordinary transfers in 2018 was higher than ever before. 648 transfers altogether, which is 37 (increase of 6 %) transfers more than in 2017, which was the record year so far. New forms of transfers, such as Intercontinental Visitor transfers and Intermediate Student transfers have made it easier for players to transfer for a shorter period of time and there were 30 of those transfers approved in 2018. The total number of all transfers, which also includes the temporary play transfers, is 672. This is 8 % more than the total number in 2017, which was 625. The temporary play transfer window was open from 1st of May to 31st of August 2018.

Transfers were made to 26 different IFF member associations and top countries being the EFT countries, in order Sweden (113), Finland (112), Switzerland (106) and Czech Republic (72). The next international transfer period will start on the 1st of May 2019 and the transfers will be made valid from 1st of July 2019 on.

CB decided: To approve the report

a) Development operations

Nothing to report

CB decided: To approve the report

b) Communications operations

Mr. Halonen reported, in the absence of Ms. Merita Bruun that there are Digital media reports from the past IFF Events (WFC 2018, CC 2019, WFCQ 2019) to be found as attachments. Most increase has been achieved on Social Media on YouTube and the Instagram.

CB decided: To approve the report

c) Material operations

Mr. Liljelund reported that IFF will have the yearly spring meeting with the IFF Material test-institute RISE (previously SP) to discuss the needed actions concerning Floorball Materials, before the season 2019-2020.

CB decided: To approve the report

i) ParaFloorball information

Mr. Halonen reported, in the absence of Ms. Bruun that the Special Olympics floorball demo games were organised during the WFCQ qualification in Poland and the aim is to have para-floorball demos organised at the WFC 2019.

Mr. Eriksson reported that the IFF President had a follow up meeting with Swedish Paralympic Committee secretary general Mr. Strid on how to boost Sweden's arranging, and Floorball's growth of the 2021 World Winter Special Olympic Games. Further Mr. Eriksson meet with Mr. Larsson, President of Swedish Ice hockey and member of Swedish NOC, and initiated talks on implications for liaison of the NOC and how recognized sports are handled differently in different NOCs.

Mr. Houman expressed that there is a rumour that there will be a total of 70 teams taking part in the 2021 World Winter Games, as there are a limited number of venues. In the time running up, we will have possibilities to run joint seminars with the Special Olympics, which will give us a possibility to spread the sport.

Mr. Suman reported that there has been some new development concerning the manual wheelchair organisation and they have informed they would like to have deeper cooperation with IFF. Mr. Liljelund informed that Ms. Bruun is to be contacted in the matter

CB decided: To approve the reports

e) Equality operations

Nothing to report

CB decided: To approve the report

§ 9. Member Federations

a) Membership questions

Mr. Liljelund reported that there has been an ongoing discussion within the Chinese Floorball Federation, as the legal status under the Chinese Ice Hockey Association CIHA has not proceeded during the last six months. The Chinese NSA GASC has now given permission for the China Hockey Association to apply for replacement of the Chinese member. There are however some small issues related to the application, so the IFF Office has changed the name of Hong Kong to Hong Kong, China, based on the request of the Chinese GASC. CHA will apply for the membership as soon as they get the permission from GASC.

CB decided: To approve the report

b) Members under suspension

No members under suspension

CB decided: To approve the report.

c) New Member Applications

The Republic of Central Africa participated to the first development seminar in Cameroon in 2016 and the discussions of the membership applications started already at that time. The Central Africa Floorball Federation (FCAF) has now sent in the membership application with the required documents.

The Kiribati Floorball National Federation (KFBNF) has also approached the IFF with membership request. Floorball is very new sports in Kiribati and they also lack the equipment but in order to develop and promote the sports in Kiribati the KFBNF needs and official recognition from the international main organization in this case from the IFF. The plan of the KFBNF is to start the promotion via schools and not only in the main island but in all parts of Kiribati.

The proposal is to approve The Central Africa Floorball Federation as a provisional IFF member number 71 and the Kiribati Floorball National Federation as a provisional IFF member number 72.

CB decided: To approve the report and approve the Central Africa Floorball Federation (FCAF) as IFF provisional member Nr 71 and the Kiribati Floorball National Federation (KFBNF) as IFF provisional member Nr. 72.

§ 10. Next CB meeting

Mr. Eriksson concluded that the next CB meeting, will be held as earlier planned in Stockholm area, Sweden from the 8th to 9th of June, as it was not possible to find a better timing in June.

CB decided: To approve the report

§ 11. Closing of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson thanked the CB for a good meeting and closed the meeting at 12:00

**John Liljelund
Secretary General**

**Tomas Eriksson
President**