

MINUTES IFF GENERAL ASSEMBLY (GA) 11.12 2020

Place: Meeting held as a Zoom meeting on 11th December 2020 at 08:30 CET
Links to Zoom has been sent separately by email on the 09.12.2020

Participants: According to appendix 14

§ 1 Opening of the General Assembly by IFF President Mr. Tomas Eriksson

Mr. Tomas Eriksson greeted all the participants welcome to the GA and the 16th IFF General Assembly, the first to be held virtually via Zoom.

Mr. Eriksson elaborated around the difficult times we all are in during the COVID-19 pandemic and how it has affected all of Floorball, hoping that all despite of this are well.

Mr. Eriksson further, briefly, informed of the important items on the agenda where especially the IFF Strategy for 2021-2032 was mentioned.

Mr. Eriksson stated how pleased he is with the work done by the Associations, CB members, committees and volunteers and also made a special address to Mr. Liljelund and the administration stating that without them we would not have accomplished what we have done.

Mr. Mr. Eriksson thanked the IFF sponsors Unihoc, Gerflor and Swerink which are also helping to build the brand.

With these words Mr. Eriksson opened the IFF General Assembly 2020.

§ 2 Approval of present Associations and the voting roll

he IFF CB had proposed to the IFF General Assembly to confirm the decision of the change of the Australian membership in IFF from the Australian Floorball Association (AFA) to the Floorball Australia Limited (FAL), due to the fact that Ausport, the National Government Sports Authority Body in Australia, has in 2019 changed the requirements of their recognition criteria for National Sports Organisations (NSO) in Australia. The IFF General Assembly confirmed this change.

Mr. Liljelund conducted the roll call and the following ordinary member associations were present;

39 out of the 44 ordinary member associations have registered for the IFF General Assembly and 36 are present, i.e. Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Cote D'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Latvia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine and USA present, which according to the IFF Statutes § 29.2. have the right to vote at the General Assembly, if they have fulfilled their obligations towards IFF.

Presently Iran and Serbia have not fulfilled their obligations in regard to the membership fees from 2019 and/or 2020, and are therefore not in position to vote in the IFF GA.

A simple majority with 34 of the ordinary members participates in the meeting is 18 votes and the qualified majority of 2/3 majority is 23 votes, according to the Statutes.

The General Assembly further concluded that the following 12 provisional member countries are present: Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central Africa Republic, China, Croatia, Kenya, Lithuania, Pakistan, Rwanda, Somalia, Turkey and Uganda. Junoh Lee, ATC member is present in the capacity as observer.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to confirm the change of the Australian membership and that the voting roll is 34 ordinary members and that 23 votes are needed for a 2/3 majority and 18 votes for simple majority.

§ 3 Greetings to the General Assembly

Since the meeting is held virtually there are no greetings.

§ 4 Election of two scrutineers of the General Assembly

Mr. Eriksson informed that the IFF Central Board proposes the GA to elect Ms. Mervi Kilpikoski (Administration officer Finnish Floorball Federation) as the official outside scrutineer for the meeting and to elect Ms. Dorothee Voogesang, the Netherlands and Ms. Jane Bertschinger, New Zealand as scrutineers of the IFF General Assembly.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to elect Ms. Mervi Kilpikoski as the official outside scrutineer for the meeting and to elect Ms. Dorothee Voegesang and Ms. Jane Bertschinger to act as scrutineers.

§ 5 Approval of the agenda (appendix 1)

Mr. Eriksson informed that the IFF Central Board proposes the GA to make a change in the Agenda for the IFF General Assembly so that the § 16 will be discussed after § 12, in order to have approved the IFF Strategy 2021 – 2032, prior to the approval of the Plan of Action and Budget for the years 2021-2022.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to approve the agenda for the IFF General Assembly with the proposed change of order.

§ 6 Approval of the protocol of the last General Assembly (article 31 paragraph 2)

The General Assembly noted that the protocol from the last General Assembly held in Prague 2018 has not been opposed to and is therefore automatically approved according to the IFF Statutes article 31 paragraph 2.

§ 7 Modification of the statutes (changes in statutes a 2/3 majority is needed) (Appendix 2).

Mr. Liljelund presented the IFF Central Board proposal to make some changes to the IFF Statutes, in relation to Update the Statutes and modernise some aspects in relation to Good Governance, gender representation and Ethical requirements.

Mr. Eriksson asked the General Assembly to approve proposal of changes in the IFF Statutes.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to change the statutes according to the CB proposal.

§ 8 Admission or expulsion of official member Associations (Appendix 13)

Mr. Eriksson informed that the following provisional IFF members have on their own accord applied for ordinary membership: Cameroon and China. The CB proposes that the decision of an ordinary membership for the Cameroon Floorball Association will be taken after some clarifications have been made with the Cameroon Association at the proposed Extra Ordinary IFF General Assembly in 2021. The China Floorball Union (CFU) has applied for ordinary membership just prior to the IFF General Assembly and as the CFU has fulfilled all requirements for ordinary membership the IFF CB proposes to approve the CFU as an ordinary member of the IFF.

The CB has decided not to propose that the any provisional members would automatically be considered ordinary members, according to IFF Statutes, Article 13 paragraph 3.

The new voting roll will be re-confirmed by the General Assembly.

The General Assembly decided according to the proposal to unanimously approve China as ordinary member and to decide about ordinary membership of Cameroon Floorball Association in an Extra Ordinary IFF General Assembly in 2021, and to update the voting roll now to be 37 ordinary members present, from which 35 has voting rights, and 11 provisional member Associations and that a simple majority is 18 votes, and a 2/3 majority requires 24 votes.

§ 9 Approval of the CB report (appendix 3)

Mr. Suman presented the Annual Report for 2019-2020, a resume from the plan of action decided upon in Prague, Czech Republic for the period 2018-2019 and the activities IFF has had in the period.

The IFF has continued to grow, especially in Africa and Asia during the last two years, the awareness has increased and the cooperation with the member Associations has strengthened were some of the topics mentioned.

Mr. Eriksson asked the General Assembly to approve the Annual Report 2019 – 2020.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to approve the Annual report 2019 – 2020.

§ 10 Approval of the financial report and the auditor's report

Calendar years 2018 and 2019

Ms. Birdal presented the IFF financial reports for the two last years, pointing out and explained differences in budget and outcome.

Further Ms. Birdal commented upon the Balance sheet and Statement of income for 2018 (appendix 5) and 2019 (appendix 7). The IFF made a loss of 155,054 CHF in 2018, fully due to the depreciation of old claims 155,366 CHF and a loss of 13,498 CHF in 2019, mainly related to the U19 WFC 2019 and not reaching the budget for marketing income.

Mr. Eriksson asked if the IFF General Assembly have any questions or remarks regarding the finances.

Mr. Eriksson proposed the General Assembly to approve the financial reports of 2018 and 2019.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to approve the financial reports for 2018 and 2019.

On behalf of the Auditor Mr. Mikael Brandstam, Mr. Eriksson presented the Auditors report for 2018 and 2019 (appendix 4 and appendix 6) in which the Auditor informed that the annual accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act and, thereby, gives a true and fair view of the IFF's financial position and results of operations in accordance with generally agreed accounting principles in accordance to IAS.

Mr. Eriksson proposed the General Assembly to approve the auditor's report for 2018 and 2019.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to approve the auditor's report for 2018 and 2019.

§ 11 Decision on freedom of responsibility for the CB

The auditor Mr. Mikael Brandstam has recommended to the IFF General Assembly that the IFF Central Board and secretary general shall be discharged from liability for the financial years 2018 and 2019.

India and New Zealand supported the Auditor's proposal that the Central Board and the secretary general shall be granted freedom of responsibility for 2018 and 2019.

Mr. Eriksson asked if the General Assembly could grant freedom of responsibility for the CB and secretary general according to the Auditor's proposal.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to grant the Central Board and the secretary general freedom of responsibility for 2018 and 2019.

§ 12 Decision on membership fee

Mr. Eriksson informed that the IFF Central Board proposes no change to the membership fees system, due to the present COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms. Dorothee Vogelesang, the Netherlands asked about the IFF possibilities to keep up the finances considering the losses 2018 and 2019 and now the COVID-19 pandemic and its implications. Mr. Liljelund informed about the IFF Central Board work with new angles and cooperation to get better marketing and TV income and that the IFF has become better to adapt to the current reality. Besides this, if all members would fulfil their financial obligations to IFF, IFF would not suffer too large losses.

A 2/3 majority is needed for a change, and a simple majority for the amounts.

The General Assembly decided unanimously not to change the membership fees from 2021.

§ 13 Approval of IFF CB proposals, budget and working plan for the next two years

a) Plan of action for the period 2021-2022 (appendix 8)

Mr. Liljelund presented the CB proposal of plan of action for the period between the General Assemblies 2020 and 2022 where especially the need to get back on track after COVID-19 and its effects, the Super Year 2021 with four World Championships as an opportunity and the need to build a solid and detailed plan for IFF Strategy were among the tasks mentioned.

Poland asked if the IFF Central Board has been thinking of the costs for the national Associations with two U19 WFCs and two adults WFC during 2021.

Mr. Liljelund informed of the discussions held in the CB regarding this issue and the implications both of organising and cancelling events.

Mr. Eriksson asked if the General Assembly could approve the plan of action for 2021 and 2022.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to approve the plan of action for the period 2021-2022.

b) Budget for the calendar years 2021 and 2022 (appendix 9)

Ms. Birdal presented the proposed budget for 2021 and 2022 pointing out that a profit is budgeted for 2021 to cover for the forecasted loss in 2020 also mentioning the impact of double WFCs, both for U19 and Adults, in 2021 and the World Games in 2022.

Mr. Eriksson asked if there were any questions and remarks.

Mr. Eriksson asked if the General Assembly could approve the budget for 2021 and 2022.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to approve the budget for 2021 and 2022.

§ 14 Elections (appendix 10)

All nominations having arrived to the IFF Office at least sixty (60) full days prior to the IFF General Assembly, i.e. until October 12th, 2020 are according to appendix 10.

The nomination made by the USFbA has arrived late due to COVID-19 pandemic related reasons, but the IFF CB proposes to the General Assembly to accept the nomination.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to approve the nomination of Mr. Calle Carlsson.

Mr. Eriksson presented the IFF Central Board proposal to the IFF General Assembly to elect the IFF CB consisting of the President and eleven (11) members by the IFF General Assembly.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to approve the proposal of electing the President and eleven members.

The following positions are to be elected for the coming four-year period (2021-2024).

- IFF President
- Eleven IFF Central Board members

- IFF Appeal Committee Chair
- Three ordinary members of the Appeal Committee and substitute members
- IFF Disciplinary Committee Chair
- Three ordinary members of the Disciplinary Committee and substitute members
- IFF Ethics Commission Chair
- Three members of the Ethics Commission

IFF President for four years

Mr. Eriksson gave the word to the IFF Vice President Mr. Filip Suman, who informed that the only nomination for President is Mr. Tomas Eriksson, the present IFF President.

Mr. Suman proposed that the General Assembly would re-elect Mr. Tomas Eriksson as President of IFF for 2021-2024.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to re-elect Mr. Tomas Eriksson as IFF President for four years.

Mr. Eriksson thanked the General Assembly for the support given to him stating that it is a privilege to work close together with the floorball community and that he looks forward doing this for another 4 years.

Eleven CB members for four years

Mr. Eriksson informed that there are 11 candidates nominated, namely the following:

Mr. Jörg Beer, Switzerland (re-election), Ms. Monica Birdal, Norway (re-election), Mr. Tamuz Hidir, Ukraine (new), Mr. Steen Houman, Denmark (re-election), Mr. Stephen King, Australia (re-election), Mr. Martin Klabere, Sweden (re-election), Mr. Carlos Lopez, Spain (re-election), Ms. Pakkamol Siriwat, Thailand (new), Mr. Filip Suman, Czech Republic (re-election), Ms. Kaarina Vuori, Finland (re-election) and Mr. Calle Karlsson, USA (new).

Each candidate gave a short presentation of themselves. Due to internet problems for Mr. King his presentation was made by Mr. Eriksson.

Mr. Eriksson concluded that there are as many seats available as there are candidates and therefore proposed that the members of the CB should be elected all in one vote.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to elect the following persons for the IFF CB for the four coming years.

- Mr. Jörg Beer, Switzerland (re-election) nominated by SUHV
- Ms. Monica Birdal, Norway (re-election) nominated by NBF
- Mr. Tamuz Hidir, Ukraine (new) nominated by UFA
- Mr. Steen Houman, Denmark (re-election) nominated by FD
- Mr. Stephen King, Australia (re-election) nominated by FA
- Mr. Calle Karlsson, USA (new) nominated by USFbA
- Mr. Martin Klabere, Sweden (re-election) nominated by SIBF
- Mr. Carlos Lopez, Spain (re-election) nominated by AEUF
- Ms. Pakkamol Siriwat, Thailand (new) nominated by FT
- Mr. Filip Suman, Czech Republic (re-election) nominated by CFbU
- Ms. Kaarina Vuori, Finland (re-election) nominated by SSBL

Chair and two members of the Appeal Committee

Mr. Eriksson informed of the candidates as chair respective members and substitutes to the IFF Appeal Committee.

Chair:

- Ms. Märit Bergendahl, Sweden (re-election) nominated by SIBF

Members:

- Mr. Tom Hedkrok, Finland (re-election) nominated by SSBL
- Mr. Kim-Alexander Hofgaard Jorstad, Norway (re-election) nominated by NBF
- Mr. Giorgio Rambaldi, Italy (re-election) nominated by FIUF

Substitutes:

- Mr. Adriano Serafim, Brazil (new) nominated by BFA
- Mr. Charly Olivier Lobe Priso, Cameroon (new) nominated by CFA
- Ms. Aiga Staltmane-Veksa, Latvia (re-election) nominated by LFS

The General Assembly decided to, for the four coming years, unanimously elect Ms. Märit Bergendahl, Sweden as Chair and Mr. Tom Hedkrok, Finland, Mr. Kim-Alexander Hofgaard Jorstad, Norway and Mr. Giorgio Rambaldi, Italy as members.

As substitutes the General Assembly unanimously elected Ms. Aiga Staltmane-Veksa, Latvia, Mr. Adriano Serafim, Brazil and Mr. Charly Olivier Lobe Priso, Cameroon

Chair and two members of the Disciplinary Committee

Mr. Eriksson informed of the candidates as chair respective members to the IFF Disciplinary Committee.

Chair:

- Mr. Ismo Haaponiemi, Finland (re-election) nominated by SSBL

Members:

- Mr. Tomas Brezina, Czech Republic (re-election) nominated by CFbU
- Ms. Linda Noppa, Sweden (re-election) nominated by SIBF
- Mr. Petr Vrba, Slovakia (re-election) nominated by SFA

Substitutes:

- Mr. Ilmars Blumbergs, Latvia (new) nominated by LFS
- Ms. Yvette Manong Mougá, Cameroon (new) nominated by CFA
- Mr. Florian Saluz, Switzerland (new) nominated by SUHV
- Mr. Marcel Wadja, Cote d'Ivoire (new) nominated by FIFL

The General Assembly decided to, for the four coming years, unanimously elect Mr. Ismo Haaponiemi, Finland as chair and Mrs. Linda Noppa, Sweden, Mr. Tomas Brezina, Czech Republic and Mr. Petr Vrba, Slovakia as members.

As substitutes the General Assembly unanimously elected Mr. Ilmars Blumbergs, Latvia, Ms. Yvette Manong Mougá, Cameroon, Mr. Florian Saluz, Switzerland, and Mr. Marcel Wadja, Cote d'Ivoire.

Chair and three members of the Ethics Commission

Mr. Eriksson informed of the candidates as chair respective members to the IFF Ethics Commission.

Chair:

- Mr. Harri Syväsalmi, Finland (new) nominated by IFF

Members:

- Ms. Wendy Kuan, Singapore (re-election) nominated by IFF
- Ms. Carol Roberts, Canada (re-election) nominated by IFF
- Ms. Sylvia Shenk, Germany (re-election) nominated by IFF

The General Assembly decided to, for the four coming years, unanimously elect Mr. Harri Syväsalmi, Finland as chair and Ms. Wendy Kuan, Singapore, Ms. Carol Roberts, Canada and Ms. Sylvia Schenk, Germany as members of the Ethics Commission.

§ 15 Appointment of a chartered auditor

Mr. Eriksson informed that the IFF CB proposes re-election of the present auditor Mr. Mikael Brandstam.

The Netherlands, Italy and Poland supported the proposal to re-elect Mr. Brandstam.

The General Assembly decided to unanimously re-elect Mr. Mikael Brandstam as auditor of IFF for two years.

§ 16 Examinations and decisions on proposals and motions of the members

a) IFF CB Proposal of the IFF Strategy 2021-2032 – Strengthening the Foundations (appendix 12)

Mr. Liljelund presented the IFF strategy proposal, underlining the importance of taking the needed steps forward together. Working together with member Associations and other stakeholders is essential for the welfare of world floorball.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to approve the proposal for IFF Strategy 2021-2032.

b) IFF CB Motion on the Euro Floorball Championships (appendix 11)

Mr. Eriksson presented the IFF CB motion and the reasons to postpone the decision of the Euro Floorball Championships to an extraordinary General Assembly 2021. Due to the COVID-19 situation it has not been possible to organise a face-to-face meeting to discuss this with the member Associations which is considered to be essential for such a decision.

Mr. Eriksson announced that the Singapore Floorball Association (SFA) has been granted the Women's World Championships 2023.

Mr. Kenneth Koh, President of the SFA thanked for the trust given.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to approve the motion of postponing the decision of the Euro Floorball Championships to an extraordinary General Assembly in Helsinki during the Men's WFC 2020 played in December 2021.

§ 17 Approval of Regulations within the meaning of article 15 paragraph 2 littera c).

The General Assembly noted that the IFF Central Board has not proposed any Regulations for approval for the General Assembly.

§ 18 Decision on all affairs being reserved for the General Assembly by the statutes or by law

The General Assembly noted that the IFF Central Board has not proposed any such affairs.

§ 19 Appointment to be honorary member

The General Assembly noted that there is no proposal on honorary membership.

§ 20 Decision on the meeting place for the next General Assembly

Mr. Eriksson informed that the IFF Central Board proposes that the next General Assembly shall preliminary be held on the 12th November 2022 at 09:00 CET, during the WFC 2022 in Zurich, Switzerland.

The IFF Central Board further proposed the GA to decide upon an Extraordinary General Assembly in to be held on the 11th of December 2021 during the WFC 2020 in Helsinki, Finland.

The General Assembly decided unanimously to have an Extraordinary General Assembly in 2021 during WFC 2020 in Helsinki and the next General Assembly during the WFC 2022 in Zurich.

§ 21 Presentations on coming World Floorball Championships

The General Assembly continued with presentations on the upcoming WFC's in 2020 - 2021

- WFC 2020 Women U19 in Uppsala, Sweden by Ms. Ebba Wengström, SFF
- U19 WFC 2021 Men in Brno, Czech Republic by Mr. Petr Chvojka, CF
- WFC 2021 Women in Uppsala, Sweden by Ms. Ebba Wengström, SFF
- WFC 2020 Men in Helsinki, Finland by Ms. Hanne Pirkola, SSBL

§ 22 Closing of the General Assembly

Questions were asked and replied to concerning handling of COVID-19 related to the IFF events such as plan B for events, Go/NoGo dates and the use of bubbles. The latter considered to be quite costly. Possible mandatory vaccinations will depend on the event country restrictions.

The Africa Cup, which had to be cancelled 2020 due to COVID-19, will be revisited in 2021.

In the closing remarks Mr. Eriksson thanked Ms. Lidwien Reehuis and Mr. Ron Spence for their time in the IFF Central Board and the thanked the participants for their contribution and efficient work during the General Assembly, the first to be held virtually, and declared the General Assembly as closed at 11:25 CET.

John Liljelund
IFF Secretary general

Tomas Eriksson
IFF President

Ms. Mervi Kilpikoski
Official outside scrutineer

Ms. Jane Bertschinger
Scrutineer

Ms. Dorothee Vogelesang
Scrutineer