

Helsinki, Finland, 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2021

## **IFF Central Board meeting 5/2021 29.06.2021 in Teams**

**Place:** Meeting held as a Hybrid Teams meeting, where the members that couldn't participate physically have been provided the possibility to provide their views in writing prior to the meeting.

<b>Participants:</b>	<b>Tomas Eriksson</b>	<b>President</b>
	<b>Jörg Beer</b>	<b>(provided written comments)</b>
	<b>Monica Birdal</b>	
	<b>Tamuz Hidir</b>	
	<b>Steen Houman</b>	
	<b>Calle Karlsson</b>	
	<b>Stephen King</b>	
	<b>Martin Klabere</b>	
	<b>Carlos Lopez</b>	<b>§§. 6-</b>
	<b>Pakkamol Siritwat</b>	<b>Vice President (provided written comments)</b>
	<b>Filip Suman</b>	
	<b>Kaarina Vuori</b>	
	<b>Stefan Kratz</b>	<b>Competition Manager</b>
	<b>Sarah Mitchell</b>	<b>Event Manager</b>
	<b>John Liljelund</b>	<b>Secretary General</b>
<b>Excused:</b>	<b>Agata Plechan</b>	<b>ATC Chair</b>
	<b>Veli Halonen</b>	<b>Operations Manager</b>

## **Minutes**

### **§ 1. Opening of the meeting**

Mr. Eriksson welcomed all members to the fifth CB meeting of the year and opened the meeting at 15:05 CET and thanked the CB members for taking the time to take part in this most important meeting.

The CB had initially discussed to take the decisions concerning the Go/No-go dates for the Men's U19 WFC 2021 and the Women's U19 WFC 2020 in a per capsulam meeting, but as the number of teams able to participate in the Events have now changed a lot and this will have a significant effect on how the events can be played, it was considered better to arrange a Teams meeting, even though it resulted in that not all CB members were able to participate in the meeting, due to other commitments.

These CB members have been informed that they can hand in their comments and thoughts in writing, which will be taken into the meeting minutes and are by this able to participate in the decision making. The ones who have done this have been marked as participants in the meeting.

### **§ 2. Approval of the agenda**

Mr. Eriksson concluded that there are no updated or new appendix for the meeting.

**CB decided:** To approve the report and the agenda for the meeting

§ 3 **World Championships**

a) **U19 WFC 2020 and 2021**

Mr. Kratz reported that the IFF Office has prepared a number of alternative schedules based on the number of teams able to participate in the U19 WFCs 2020 and 2021. The basic principle of these proposals has been discussed in the IFF RACC, which is now proposing this solution for the IFF CB.

When the number of teams participating in the U19 WFC is such, that there is a need to form one or two groups of 5 teams, the teams in this group/s will have one day each where they will have to play two matches the same day. This is the only way possible to decide the group in the three days available for the group matches and making it possible to play semi-finals. The IFF office had asked the LOCs about starting to play on day 0 to possibly avoid the situation of the two matches per day for the teams, but this was not possible, for either event, due to arena availability.

Since 4 matches in three days is considered physically tough, and we know that in most countries there has been very limited Floorball played over the last year or so, the RACC therefore proposes to the CB to decide that the match time shall be 3x15 minutes for the groups where there is a need to play more than one match per team and day. The play-off matches shall still be played 3x20 minutes.

The LOCs are aware that the groups with 5 teams will mean 4 matches in 3 days for the teams and that the RACC will propose that these groups should be played 3x15 minutes.

Mr. Liljelund explained that the RACC and the IFF Competition Office has prepared the different versions to have all the possible solutions ready, as it will be an unknown situation until the start of the respective tournaments.

Mr. Suman felt that in this difficult situation it would be quite all right to use the solution created by RACC to play with 3x15 minutes matches, if this is needed due to the number of participating teams. Mr. Beer were also in favour of the proposal.

Mr. Eriksson concluded that the preparation has been handled in the best possible manner and

**CB decided:** In accordance to the RACC proposal that if needed a team shall ones play two matches per day during the group stages and that the match time shall then be 3x15 minutes for the entire groups where there is a need to play more than one match per team in a day, and that the play-off matches shall still be played with 3x20 minutes.

b) **Go/NoGo decisions**

**U19 WFC 2021 in Brno (LOC decision 25<sup>th</sup> June)**

Mr. Kratz reported that for the U19 WFC 2021 a total of 11 qualified teams (Czech Republic, Finland, Latvia, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Denmark, Germany, Slovenia, Russia and Poland) have replied that they are ready to participate and the 5 qualified teams (Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand and Norway) have replied that they due to Covid-19 and travel restrictions can't participate,

The LOC has informed on the 25<sup>th</sup> of June, that they are ready to organise the event during the 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

The competition office has asked a total of nine teams, based on regional quota and ranking order, of their readiness to replace any team not able to participate. Estonia, Austria, Belgium and Italy has replied that they are ready to do so and we are waiting for a 5<sup>th</sup> team to still reply, as the situation had changed quite recently for Norway. The last option France has on Monday the 28<sup>th</sup> informed that they are not able to participate.

Mr. Suman expressed that he is very happy that the IFF Competition Office has been able to secure additional teams and that we might even be able to play a full tournament, which will be very positive for both the Czech Floorball and the U19 WFC as such. Mr. Beer was in favour of the proposal.

Mrs. Birdal felt that it is very good that the IFF Office has been able to secure the participation of four teams and then having a total of 14-15 teams in the end. Mr. Houman asked if there has been any discussions about how the ranking after the event for the non-participation due to Covid-19 restrictions will be handled. Mr. Kratz informed that the teams will stay on the level in the rankings with the last teams participating.

Mr. Eriksson felt that based on the request from the Czech LOC not to look for more teams, in order to be able to make all bookings. we will need to make the decision accordingly.

**CB decided:** Based on the team's and LOC answers, that the U19 WFC 2021 shall be played 25<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup> of August 2021 and to include Estonia, Austria, Belgium and Italy as replacing teams. Further the CB decided to put forward to the IFF competition office to work with LOC to adapt the schedule to the new teams but still be ready to further adaptations depending on possible changed restrictions nearer the event.

#### **U19 WFC 2020 in Uppsala (LOC decision 9<sup>th</sup> July)**

Mr. Kratz reported that regarding Women's U19 WFC 2020 the Go/NoGo date for the teams are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of July and for the LOC it is on the 9<sup>th</sup> of July.

Therefore, the IFF Office proposal would be that the CB in this meeting puts forward to the IFF Competition office, in cooperation with the Swedish LOC, to decide about a possible Go for the Event or a cancellation based on the teams and LOC answers if they can participate or organise the event. Based on the number of teams capable to participate and arrive in Sweden the IFF Competition Department and the LOC will make a decision of how the Event will be played, in accordance with the earlier CB decision made based on the RACC proposal.

The LOC is very keen to organise and might be ready to do so also with less teams than 8

In difference to the U19 WFC 2021 there are no possibilities of replacement teams to the U19 WFC 2020, due to the fact that the qualification for the U19 WFC 2022 is played only a week later and there are a significant age difference between the U19 WFC teams for U19 WFC 2020 and WFC 2022.

Mr. Beer was in favour of the proposal. Mr. Suman felt that it would be important to play the event, even if there would be less than 8 teams able to participate in the event, with still 6 or 7 teams, if it is possible to create a match schedule which will work for the Women's U19 WFC.

Mr. Liljelund expressed that the decision will be made based on the assumption that the event will go ahead. Mr. Kratz explained that the U19 WFC 2020 will most likely have around 10 teams participating.

Mr. King asked what will happen with the ranking of the Teams which are not participating in the coming events. Mr. Liljelund proposed that the CB will revert to the matter on the ranking only after we know what will happen and as there are no need to make a decision yet and it can be discussed in the next CB meeting.

Ms. Mitchell informed that the RACC has not yet made a decision in the matter as it is still unclear which teams will not be able to participate in the events.

**CB decided:** To put forward to the IFF Competition office, in cooperation with the LOC, to decide about a Go or cancellation of the Women's U19 WFC 2020 based on the team's and LOC answers.

Further the decided to put forward to the IFF competition office to work with LOC to adapt the schedule based on the number of teams but still be ready to further adaptations depending on possible changed restrictions nearer the event.

#### c) **Covid-19 protocols and regulations**

Ms. Mitchell informed that the IFF office has updated the IFF Covid-19 Event protocol version 2. (**Appendix 1**), based on the changed governmental directions and restrictions and the feedback received from the LOC's. The sections marked in red are parts that are updated from version 1 and the sections highlighted in yellow is new information.

There is also included a new Appendix 6 in the document: Covid-adapted match protocols is a new appendix but much of the information was in version 1 but was included in the main part of the document. It has been separated and added to for more clarity. There is also included the need to be eligible to participate to have the vaccine or recovered from Covid-19 and the use of the EU Covid-19 passport will be standard.

It is essential to remember that this document is not the rules, but general guidelines of how to be able to run the Event. The specific Covid-19 Event Implementation Plan made by the LOC is the final document that must be used as they are made according to the local regulations.

Mr. Suman thinks that it is important that we have a general protocol, and each tournament will have a specific regulation, built in cooperation with the respective LOC.

Mr. Eriksson felt that the protocol needs to be extensive, to make it as clear as possible.

Mr. King asked when this will go out to the teams. Ms. Mitchell answered that this document goes to the LOC as a guideline, based on what the LOC will create a document for the specific Event putting together it with the local governmental rules to an event specific document, before the Go/No-go decision is taken. Mr. Klabere felt that this system helps the teams not to be drowned in paper when making the decision.

**CB decided:** To approve the IFF Covid-19 protocol version 2

## § 4. **ExCo, Strategy Implementation and Ad Hoc group reports**

### a) **Strategy Implementation**

Mr. King reported on the work of the IFF Strategy Implementation working group (SWG). The SWG has held a 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of June to discuss the formation and the process to start the work of the four Strategy Implementation Subgroups for the Initial period 2021-2024 and

discuss the metrics to be included into the Quantum Consulting IFF Event Study to be made for the WFC's 2020 – 2024, in order to measure the development of our main events in relation to the Strategy Implementation. **(Appendix 2)**

IFF received a total of over 50 nominations from some 25 countries. The SWG discussed the solution for how to build the groups, whether to include all candidates and keep the groups inclusive, even if there will be very different level of knowledge inside the group. One solution is to build a core group inside the group and at the same time keep all members in the process. The initial idea was to build the subgroups with 5-7 persons. After a good discussion the SWG decided to build the groups based on an inclusive approach to include all persons, but with only one person per country.

The SWG proposes to the CB to elect the following Subgroups and with the following chairs:

### Subgroup 1 – Awareness and Visibility

Mr. Ogolla,	Kenya	
Mr. Roman Urbář,	Czech Rep	Marketing and Communication Director
Mr. Stefan Jonasson,	Sweden	Head of marketing
Mr. Jann Falett, <b>Chair</b>	Switzerland	Head of Marketing and Events
Ms. Katarína Klapitová,	Slovakia	Captain of Slovak National Team
Mr. Timo Lyytinen,	Finland	Board member
Mr. Fajar Hidayat,	Indonesia	Coaching and refereeing education staff
Ms. Heidi Printzen,	Denmark	Board member
Rochel Joy Balares,	Philippines	Media and Marketing
Mr. Giorgio Rambaldi,	Italy	President
Helén Wiklund-Wårell,	Sweden	SWG representative
Pakkamol Siriwat,	Thailand	IFF CB
Merita Bruun,		IFF Office
Tero Kalsta,		IFF Office

For the Subgroup 2, which had a very large number of nominees, it was proposed by Ms. Vuori to divide the group in two different smaller groups, for one Organisational development and Coaching and Refereeing Development based on the Desired Outcomes for the Strategy Targets..

Mr. Suman felt that splitting the Subgroup 2 into two separate groups, is a very good idea.

### Subgroup 2 – Development, Service Level and Expansion

#### Organisational Development

Mr. Anders Jonsson,	Sweden	Head of Development
Mr. Steen Houman,	Denmark	IFF CB and President Floorball Denmark
Mr. Michael Zoss,	Switzerland	Secretary General of Swiss Federation
Mr. Filip Suman, <b>Chair</b>	Czech Rep	IFF vice president, Czech Erasmus+ project
Mr. Nicolas Sanéz,	Belgium	Floorball Belgium president
Ms. Dorothee Vogelesang,	Netherlands	Dutch Secretary General and Vice President
Jean-Emmanuel Chapartegui,	France	IT project director
Mr. Robert Bakaze,	Uganda	Head of development
Mr. Kouenda Adama,	Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso Federation president.
Mr. Paul Maina Mwangi,	Kenya	Kenya Floorball Federation president.

#### Coaching & Refereeing Development

Mr. Carlos Lopez, <b>Chair</b>	Spain	IFF CB
Mr. Miguel Peru,	France	National Technical Director
Ms. Louise Khng,	Singapore	Formal Head coach for Nat Women Team

Mr. Kelik Wibawa, Mr. Juno Lee, Korea	Indonesia IFF Athletes Commission, Events & Competition Manager World Archery Excellence Centre
Mr. Linken Kao, Mr. Kevin Akosombo, Mr. Antti Savolainen,	Malaysia Kenya Finland Secretary General of Floorball Kenya. Referee Women's National league/International
Kaarina Vuori, Veli Halonen	Finland SWG representative, IFF CB IFF Office

### **Subgroup 3 - Governance, Sport Culture and Leadership**

Mr. Michal Buchel, Mr. Julian Rueger, Ms. Lin Binbin, Mr. Tomáš Frank, Ms. Sofie Andersson, Mr. Victor de Bruin, <b>Chair</b>	Switzerland Germany Singapore Czech Rep Sweden Netherlands	CEO of International SAMBO Federation (FIAS) National Team player Treasurer and Chair for Referee committee Secretary General Head of elite development and national teams Dutch Federation, former IFF Jury member.
Jacob Bjørnsholm Madsen, Ms. Tuulikki Kangasluoma, Mr. Peter Zingg, Mr. Julfikar Setiadi,	Denmark Finland Switzerland Indonesia	Vicepresident Floorball Denmark Ex board member of the Finnish Federation Board member, Regional league president Vice Secretary General of Floorball Indonesia, National Team manager

Stephen King, Tamuz Hidir, John Liljelund,	Australia Ukraine	SWG Representative IFF CB IFF Office
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### **Subgroup 4 – Sport presentation and Appearance**

Ms. Wendy Kuan, Mr. Peter Klapita, Mr. Jan Jirovský, Ms. Inez Rehn, <b>Chair</b>	Singapore Slovakia Czech Rep Sweden	General Manager Coach and manager of FBK AS Trenčín, Education and development director/RACC Head of equal activity
Mr. Carsten Provstgaard, Mr. Juha Kivilehto, Mr. Jörg Beer, Mr. Yongky Priyanto, Mr. Sami Turtianinen,	Denmark Finland Switzerland Indonesia Finland	Secretary general of Floorball Denmark Player of the Finnish national team Vice President Head of Coaching and refereeing education Floorball Material producer FatPipe

Teo Turay, Martin Klabere, Sarah Mitchell, Stefan Kratz,	Slovakia Sweden	SWG Representative IFF CB IFF Office IFF Office
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The SWG further discussed the next steps in the process and how and when the Subgroups will start their work in August. The IFF will send out a general email to the nominated persons after the IFF CB meeting on Wednesday the 30<sup>th</sup> of June. The respective Subgroups SWG representative can discuss with the subgroup chair on how to start the work. After this they can then inform about their own processes in beginning of August to their respective subgroups.

Mr. Eriksson felt that it has been very good to have received a total of over 50 nominations from over 25 countries. Mr. Klabere was very positively surprised that there were so many nominations, which is very good. Further the division of the Subgroup 2 is also a good move as this was a very large group. Mr. Houman also felt that this will be a good basis for further development and is eagerly looking forward to start the work with the implementation.

**CB decided:** To approve the report and the proposal to form the Strategy subgroups accordingly.

## 5. International Sports

### International World Games Association/IWGA

Mr. Eriksson reported that the IFF Office has as planned prepared a proposal for the IFF World Games 2022 Activation Plan, based on the CB workshop outcome. The proposal has been sent to the IFF CB members prior to the sending of the CB agenda. **(Appendix 3)**

The proposal has been on a comment round to the USFbA, the whole IFF Office and the IFF Athletes Commission and updated based the received comments. The idea is that the CB takes cognisance of the TWG 2022 Activation Plan and approves it, so that we can start the Road to Birmingham campaign on the 7<sup>th</sup> of July 2021, when there is one year to go prior to the start of The World Games 2022. Ms. Mitchell felt that there are still some gaps that will be filled up when we know which Teams have been qualified. The USFbA has already started the promotion US Nationals, which is the Test-Event for the TWG Floorball tournament. The Athletes Commission come up with an idea of "Show Me Yours and I'll Show You mine Sport.

Mr. Karlsson reported on the status of the local preparations for the TWG 2022 by the USFbA and the planned US nationals test event and seminars in Birmingham in August 2021 and the discussions held in regard to secure the IFF flooring for the event. USFbA thanked Mr. Halonen and Mr. Liljelund to secure the flooring for the test-event and the TWG 2022.

In the preparation process of the TWG 2022 Activation Plan IFF has also clarified the division of tasks between the IFF and the USFbA. Where IFF will lead and be responsible for the execution of the tournament and the USFbA is responsible for providing the local support and furnishing of the Event to suite the US market and take care of the domestic marketing and news flow.

Mr. Suman is pleased with the TWG Activation Plan and finds it positive that it has been built on the basis of the TWG Wroclaw Activation Plan. Mr. Beer agreed to the proposal.

Mr. Eriksson asked what the awareness of Floorball is Alabama, to which Mr. Karlsson answered that it is developing with a lot of schools playing Floorball. Mr. Liljelund informed that IFF has also been in contact with Special Olympics International inviting them to use the TWG 2022 as a showcase and Mr. Houman will support this endeavour.

Mr. King proposed that we would promote the Event in the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games in Thailand and how to deal with the issue if non-European teams can't participate in the TWG qualifications in Helsinki. Mr. Klabere stressed that we need to come back to the question of Canada and the whole ranking question

**CB decided:** To approve the report and the IFF TWG 2022 Activation Plan

## 6. Committees and Commissions

### a) Rules and Competition Committee (RACC)

Mr. Klabere reported that as the WFC 2022 will be played earlier than normal the RACC proposes to the CB to decide to change the following international weekends during 2022.

- September weekend to stay as scheduled (3rd – 4th September)
- October weekend (15.-16.10.) changed to 1st – 2nd October
- November weekend (12.-13.11.) changed to 29th - 30th October

In addition, the Member Associations will be reminded that they can still apply to hold tournaments during other dates, however, the requirement for clubs to release players will not apply.

Mr. Beer was in favour of the proposal. Mr. Suman asked how it comes that we have only changed the dates for the international weekends now and not when we decided that the WFC 2022 will be played earlier. Mr. Klabere, Mr. Kratz and Ms. Mitchell explained that there had been some questions from the countries during the last half year which made it clear that we needed change the dates to keep the competitions going.

**CB decided:** To decide to change the international weekends 2022 according to the RACC proposal.

### **Future of Floorball testing**

Mr. Klabere reported that in its last meeting the RACC discussed the need for more Future of Floorball test events, as there has been too few due to Covid-19. Currently, only the 6 Nations tournament is played with 3 x 15mins. The office will send an email to all member associations saying that we are looking for test events and remind them that playing 3x15 mins is a possibility in the September, October, and November international weekends.

The RACC is of the opinion that there is a need of a bigger tournament with more days and more participating countries to be able to evaluate the new format in a good way for all parties and therefore proposes that the Men's WFC 2022 qualification shall be played according to the Future of Floorball concept with match time 3x15mins, and with 17 players & 5 officials. This would also allow the teams qualified to The World Games 2022 to play a tournament with the reduced match time conditions prior to TWG.

Mr. Liljelund to explain that since the criteria and time frames for the testing of the Future of Floorball proposal has been taken by the IFF General Assembly in 2018 and any decision to change or alter the testing as such, needs to be confirmed by the IFF General Assembly, before it can be executed. Therefore, the CB needs, if approving the RACC proposal for testing the Future of Floorball concept in the Men's WFC 2022 qualifications also decide to put the this forward as a motion to the to the Extra Ordinary General Assembly 2021 for confirmation.

Mr. Suman felt that the CB should propose to the IFF Extra ordinary General Assembly to prolong the testing period for the season 2021-2022, without actually naming the Men's WFC 2022 qualifications, as the IFF GA 2018 decision is only considering testing for the seasons 2019-2020 and 2020 – 2021.

Mr. Liljelund expressed that this matter can already be lifted in the Announcement of the Extra Ordinary General Assembly to secure that all countries are aware of this proposal.

Mr. King informed that the AOFC Board has discussed the possibility of playing the AIMAG with the Future of Floorball concept. The question is that if it is an issue if it is played with 3x20 min. Mr. Klabere and MS. Mitchell answered that as long as each qualification tournament has all matches played with the same system it is OK.

**CB decided:** To decide in accordance to the RACC proposal to propose a motion to the IFF Extra Ordinary General Assembly 2021, held in Helsinki in December, to prolong the testing

period for the season 2021-2022 and that the Men's WFC 2022 qualification shall be played according to the Future of Floorball concept with a match time of 3x15mins, and with 17 players & 5 officials.

**§ 7. Members**

**Membership questions**

Nothing reported

**Members under suspension**

Nothing reported

**New Member applications**

Mr. Lopez reported that Floorball Columbia starts to be ready to hand in their application for the IFF membership in the coming months. Also Brazil has asked for some documents from the IFF to support their application for recognition of the NOC.

**CB decided:** To approve the reports

**§ 8. Next meeting**

Mr. Eriksson concluded that the next CB meeting (M6), which is planned to be held as a two full day meeting in Uppsala, Sweden from the 3.-5.9., if the Women's U19 WFC 2020 will be played in Sweden. If the event will not take place, the meeting will be held as a Teams meeting at the same dates. IFF needs to send out the announcement of the Extra ordinary General Assembly at least 90 full days in advance of the meeting, which is on the 9<sup>th</sup> of December.

Mr. Liljelund and Mr. Klabere explained that the meeting most likely be a hybrid meeting, as not all CB members cannot participate in person in the meeting due to travel and quarantine restrictions.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**§ 9. Closing of the meeting**

Mr. Eriksson closed the meeting at 16.10 CET

**John Liljelund  
Secretary General**

**Tomas Eriksson  
President**