

**Helsinki, Finland, 8<sup>th</sup> of September 2021**

## **IFF Central Board meeting 6/2021 05.09.2021 in Teams**

**Place:** Meeting held as a Hybrid meeting in Uppsala, Sweden and simultaneously as a Teams meeting

**Participants:** **Tomas Eriksson** **President**  
**(In Uppsala)** **Tamuz Hidir**  
**Steen Houman**  
**Martin Klabere**  
**Carlos Lopez**  
**Agata Plechan** **ATC Chair**  
**Filip Suman** **Vice President**

**Stefan Kratz** **Competition Manager**  
**John Liljelund** **Secretary General**

**Over Teams** **Jörg Beer**  
**Monica Birdal**  
**Calle Karlsson**  
**Stephen King**  
**Pakkamol Siriwat**  
**Kaarina Vuori**

**Veli Halonen** **Operations Manager**

**Excused:**

## **Minutes**

### **§ 1. Opening of the meeting**

Mr. Eriksson welcomed all members to the sixth CB meeting of the year and the first partly physical meeting in over 18 months. Mr. Eriksson to open the meeting at 08:09, after some technical problems to connect the members over Teams.

The meeting was held as a hybrid meeting with seven CB members physically on-site in Uppsala and then six members participating over Teams.

### **§ 2. Approval of the agenda**

Mr. Eriksson concluded that there are the following updated or new appendix for the meeting.

- Appendix 9 - LOC Report WFC 2020
- Appendix 20 - Proposal for IFF Hall of Fame Selection Committee
- Appendix 25 - WFC 2020 Covid-19 protocol
- Appendix 26 - WFC 2021 Covid-19 protocol
- Appendix 27 - Membership application of Colombian Floorball Association
- Appendix 28 - USFbA report from US Nationals

**CB decided:** To approve the report, the new and updated appendixes and the agenda for the meeting

§ 3 **Minutes from the CB meeting: 04/2021 over Teams (08.05.2021) and the per capsulam CB meeting 05/2021 (26.06.2021)**

The minutes from the last two meetings, CB meetings 4/2021 and 5/2021, were scrutinized, approved and put ad acta. (**Appendix 1 and 2**)

**CB decided:** To approve the minutes of the IFF CB meetings 02/2021 and 03/2021.

§ 4. **Financial questions**

a) **Financial report 2021 by 30.08.2021 – with forecast**

Mrs. Birdal presented the financial report and the balance sheet by the 30.08.2021 (**Appendix 3a and 3b**). The outcome shows a surplus of CHF 7.851.

The outcome per 30<sup>th</sup> of August is CHF 365.686, which is some CHF 162.000 (2020: CHF 203.294) better than the same period last year. The double WFC's and the participation and organisers fees connected to these, the second instalment of the IOC Covid-19 support and more transfers has led to an increased income. The cost, due to almost no travelling to meetings and events during the first half of 2021, is also lowered compared to last year. The situation looks all right, even if the situation is still a bit uncertain if we can't play the upcoming WFC's. The forecasts are built based on an expectation of what we might lose if the events are not played.

The liquidity 30<sup>th</sup> August is CHF 420.126, which is some CHF 277.300 higher compared with last year (CHF 142.807) and due to this we are still not in need to take up the secured loan of 100.000 EUR from the Finnish Floorball Federation.

Since the situation with COVID-19 continues to negatively affect us, we must continue to be very careful due to the uncertainty regarding the possibility to carry out the two adult WFCs in 2021 as well as a lowered expected income from material this year.

Due to the above two forecasts are prepared. One where both adult WFCs are played, which shows a result in balance, but which could turn positive with some additional saves, and one more negative should the WFC 2020 be cancelled where the outcome will be some CHF -137.000. The latter could after additionally save, mainly due to lower activity, come down to some -37.000. The liquidity should not be in vain in either of these forecasts. Mr. Kratz explained how the forecast has been built and what the implications are. Mr. Suman asked some questions of what amount we would need to pay back. Mr. Kratz gave the explanation that that would be a total of 103.000 CHF.

The finances are constantly monitored, and possible saves considered if and when we see signs of possible less income than now forecasted.

**CB decided:** To approve the reports

**b) Information on IFF claims – License system and WFC 2020-2021 – status August 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Mrs. Birdal presented the claims situation by the 30.08.2021 for Associations participating in the WFC 2020 and 2021 and separately for those not participating in any of the IFF Events. (**Appendix 4 and 5**). For the WFC's 2020 and 2021 no action is needed, as all expected participants have managed their duties.

In the follow-up of payment plans since last CB meeting (**Appendix 6**) Russia has paid off the old debts for shared referee costs but the annual fee for 2020 is still to be paid. Canada did not pay by the end of June in accordance with the plan. IFF has proposed a solution for this and the next scheduled payment, by using the already paid participation fee for Women's U19 WFC 2020, which has been proposed to the Canadian federation, which they are still to confirm.

The IFF Office continues to monitor these cases. The Canadian federation president Mr. Randy Sa'd has asked to be able to discuss this internally but had not returned to the topic prior to the meeting. Mr. Klabere asked if it could be the case that participation fee has been gathered from the player and therefore are now hesitant. Floorball Canada confirmed on Monday after the meeting, that the plan proposed by IFF has been approved during the weekend.

Mr. Suman asked that there is no plan for Slovenia in the appendix 6. Mr. Kratz explained that the Slovenian federation has not followed the plan, which has now expired and don't presently have a plan. Mr. Lopez felt that Slovenia needs to agree to a new plan and follow it, so the situation is unacceptable as the Slovenian participate in Events, but don't pay the debts. Mr. Eriksson proposed that a new plan shall be made with Slovenia in the next weeks.

**CB decided:** To approve the reports and to continue to follow up on the pay-off plans for Canada, Russia, Malaysia, Slovenia, Ukraine, and Cote d'Ivoire.

**c) IFF Extraordinary General Assembly and Association meeting 2021**

Mr. Eriksson reported that as the CB has earlier decided to call for the Extraordinary General Assembly 2021, in accordance with the IFF Statutes Article 26 to discuss the confirmation of the continued testing of the Future of Floorball concept during the season 2021-2022, due to lack of IFF Events so far. The other topics for the Extraordinary General Assembly are the needed decisions in regard to the Euro Floorball Championships concept.

The Extraordinary General Assembly will be held on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of December at 12:00 in Helsinki, Finland. It will be possible to participate also virtually for the meeting. (**Appendix 7**)

The Association Meeting will be held in Helsinki, Finland since we have two simultaneous WFC's running at the same time during the Women's WFC. The Association Meeting will be held as a two day event starting on Friday the 10<sup>th</sup> of December and continuing on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December, ending with the Extraordinary General Assembly. Mr. Suman proposed to add the topic of the Czech lead EU project Floorball Fit 4 Future for the Associations meeting.

The IFF Association meeting will be run on Friday from 09:00 – 14:30 and on Saturday from 09:00 – 12:00. Topics that could be discussed are:

- IFF Covid-report and How to continue with Floorball after the pandemic
- Future of Floorball discussion in a broader perspective, as support for the EGA
- Euro Floorball Championships discussion
- Strategy Implementation report with the four Subgroup reports and an Evaluation session on the Suggested Actions in groups
- Report of the EU project Floorball Fit 4 Future

IFF will send out the invitation for the Extraordinary General Assembly and the IFF Associations meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> of September.

Mr. Eriksson felt that the suggested topics are vital and needs to be further developed.

**CB decided:** To approve the report and the invitation for the Extraordinary General Assembly and the Associations Meeting 2021 in Helsinki, Finland.

## § 5. World Championships

### a) Men's WFC 2020, Helsinki Finland – played in December 2021

Mrs. Vuori gave an overall report on the present situation of the preparations in Finland for the Men's WFC 2020 to be played from the 3rd to 11th of December 2021. (**Appendix 8**) The preparations are proceeding well and there were 100 days to go on Wednesday the 25<sup>th</sup> of August.

Mr. Liljelund informed the CB on some of the more operational issues, that the LOC is monitoring the Covid-19 situation together with IFF on a continuous basis and the preparations are moving forward quite normally at this point. The LOC/SSBL and IFF has on the 19<sup>th</sup> of August had a meeting with the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture to discuss the Covid-19 situation. The Ministry gave some directions of what the circumstances could be in December for running the WFC 2020 with even a major part of spectators. As the authorities are looking over the basis for restrictions it was decided that LOC/SSBL and IFF will have a second meeting with the Ministry on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September. The Ministry advised the LOC to start looking on the safety protocols and contacting the Boarder authorities to be ready to act when the knowledge is available which teams will participate. There are still some question marks about the restrictions of travel and spectator capacities in the venues.

The preparations are moving forward as close as normal, and the marketing efforts have re-started again in the end of August. The promotion will continue during the Finland-Sweden games on the 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of September, which is a showcase for the Event. The volunteer kick-off is scheduled for the 7.10., after the Team leader meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of September.

The ticket sales is still quite slow, but there has been sold the following number of tickets for the Event. The number of sold tickets for the WFC looks like this at the moment:

	<b>Sold</b>	<b>% of the goal</b>
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	334	11%
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>	1.101	24 %
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	242	8 %
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	108	25 %
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Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	49	12 %
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	224	5 %
Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	73	6 %
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Final Weekend 10 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup>	5.049	53 %
TOTAL	7.180	27 %

There are presently some 1.362 tickets for the preliminary round, 320 for the quarterfinals and 777 for the final weekend, in total some 2.459 reserved tickets.

There have been quite little sales to foreign countries for the Final weekend with Sweden (104 sold online/340 reserved tickets), Czech Republic (4 tickets), Switzerland (187 sold online/120 sold to travel agencies and 240 reservations) and Team USA has bought tickets for the final weekend.

The Go/No-go Deadlines are set as follows: Teams 17.9.2021, LOC 24.9.2021, with the official Announcement on the 30.9.2021. Information on Go/No-go for both Men's & Women's WFC should be sent to the teams by the time of the CB by the LOC. The qualified teams have been sent the information letter, based on which the teams will have to make their decision for Go/No-go. (**Appendix 25**)

Mr. Suman asked what would happen if worst came to worst and there would not be any spectators. Ms. Vuori answered that the Finnish CB will discuss this during September and give a final answer by the 24<sup>th</sup> of September, which will be communicated by the 30<sup>th</sup> of September.

Mr. Kratz reported that the Competition office has started to look for replacement teams should any qualified team not be able to participate due to Covid-19. The replacements will be based on ranking and regional quota.

Mr. Liljelund is reported upon the preparations concerning the TV production and cooperation with the TV takers. The process is ongoing and moving forward. So far discussions are held with the following countries: Australia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Poland, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland and some inquiries are taken with a number of other countries in cooperation with Protocol Sports Marketing. The aim is to have a clear picture of the situation in the end of September, as the Covid-19 situation has caused some delays in August. The production of the TV signal and the satellites for the event have been arranged.

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

**b) Women's U19 WFC 2020, Uppsala, Sweden – played in September 2021**

Mr. Klabere reported on the ongoing Women's U19 WFC 2020 being played in Uppsala, Sweden in September 2021. (**Appendix 9**)

The U19 Event has been organised in a good way, gathering a lot of good learnings of how an event works in the IFU Arena, which will help the LOC to solve potential challenges for the upcoming WFC 2021. The test of the 3x15 minutes in the group of five teams has worked out well, which is important to notice

The cooperation between the LOC and the IFF Office has worked well and the small issues during the event has been solved swiftly in cooperation, was reported from the IFF Office.

The U19 WFC 2020 will be played with a total of 9 teams, all from Europe. Australia, Austria, Canada, China, New Zealand, Norway and USA were not able to participate due to Covid-19. There were no teams available as replacers for these teams, which the IFF Competition department has investigated.

The LOC secured the production of the streaming of the U19 WFC 2021 with the IFF production company in August, which is very good as PolarHD has a vast knowledge and understanding for the requirements for the IFF Events. In the week running up to the Event the Swedish Floorball Federation secured the visibility of the Swedish matches on the website SportExpressen.

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

### **U19 WFC 2021, Czech Republic**

Mr. Suman reported on the final round played in Brno 25-29.08.2021. It was very nice to have floorball getting back to playing international events. The organisation worked really well, and the LOC made a really good job. It was very nice to see that putting the Covid-19 protocols on a very high level, to have a safe event. This proven to be quite good, as in the screening of the volunteers a number of Covid-19 cases were caught. There was a small problem with a large amount of volunteers not coming to the U19 WFC in the end, but it was handled by the LOC.

Most teams were able to follow the set Covid-19 protocols, but not all. It was clear that the Covid-19 pandemic had affected quite a few of the federations and the teams, which was a big issue when the communication from them was on an almost non-existing level and zero preparations of the teams in the preparations. This was partly because there were very new teams, to play in a WFC Final round event.

The visibility of the event was very good on the IFF YouTube and with a number of the Czech matches were shown on Czech TV. The spectator attendance was quite good in the venue, due to the changed governmental restrictions.

In the end a total of 15 teams participated, all from Europe. Australia, Canada, Japan, New Zealand, Norway and Russia were not able to participate due to Covid-19. The following countries Austria, Belgium, Estonia, Hungary and Italy participated as replacement teams.

Mr. Klabere made the Jury report of the event and felt that it was a well executed event and an excellent performed by the LOC. The LOC had solutions and manpower to fix all issues in a very flexible and quick way. It was a very good tournament with a very good atmosphere. For IFF it was very good that this was the first tournament after 570 days of not having had any IFF Events due to Covid-19. It was excellent that the IFF Office was able to secure three extra teams, especially as they performed very well in the event.

Mr. Hidir reported that there had been some criticism that there was not any commentary for the YouTube. Mr. Halonen and Mr. Liljelund answered that even if we have never had any commentators in the U19 before, the plan was to have it for the U19, but all the IFF English speaking commentators were in Tokyo and we were not able to find an English experienced commentator for the U19's. in the future we will have commentators also for the U19.

Mr. Eriksson felt that it is important to follow up on the effects of Covid-19 on the participating teams during the Associations meeting.

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

### c) **Next Events**

#### **WFC 2021, Uppsala, Sweden**

Mr. Klabere reported of the final round preparations. The main issue for the LOC is that there is no knowledge of what the spectator numbers will be in November. So far it has been quite unlikely that there would be a permission to have a full house, but there are some indications that there might be some changes coming. The preparations are ongoing and the LOC will take learning from the U19 WFC event, as there are a number of issues that are really tricky to solve as there are limited space in the arena. The discussion will continue between the IFF and the LOC.

Mr. Kratz reported that the Competition office has started to look for replacement teams, if any of the qualified teams would not be able to participate due to Covid-19 related reasons after the Go/No-go dates 17.09. for the teams and LOC 24.09. The replacements will be based on ranking and regional quota. The qualified teams have been sent the Covid-19 protocol, based on which they will have to make the decision for Go/No-go (**Appendix 26**)

Mr. Liljelund reported upon the preparations concerning the TV production and cooperation with the TV takers. IFF has started the discussions with SVT/Sweden concerning their interests and the LOC will start the work with the production company after the U19 WFC 2020 in September. IFF will work on the takers in September and October.

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

#### d) **Upcoming Events**

##### **WFC 2022, Zurich, Switzerland**

Mr. Beer reported on the preparations (**Appendix 10**). The LOC started the recruiting process for a 4<sup>th</sup> employee, a junior project leader for the WFC organisation. Some of the important roles as the AXA Arena site manager, VIP management ticketing and key volunteer management have been appointed among the SUHV employees.

So far, the 85% marketing budget has been achieved and negotiations are ongoing in the field's accommodation, travelling, finance, volunteer apparel, merchandising and media. A first networking -event was organised with partners, sponsors and authorities has been organised in Winterthur. The ticket sales are planned to start on the first of October, with tickets for the Swiss group games, semi-finals and finals. The sales of the other matches will start after the ballot in March 2022. There are no restrictions for spectators at the moment, as long as they are fully vaccinated or tested.

There are ongoing negotiations with the one of the largest media companies in Switzerland Ringier AG. Also activation is planned towards all the Swiss Floorball clubs and a cooperation is planned together with the ice-hockey club ZSC Lions. Further the Mobilier Street Floorball Tour, will be used to promote the event and the first tournament will be played in Winterthur in end of August. There will be more street floorball events to promote the WFC 2022 Together with myclimate.com the WFC has launched a CO2-calculator for all floorball clubs to make it easy to estimate the CO2-output.

Mr. Kratz reported that the preparations for the qualifications are ongoing (**Appendix 11**). For EUR the organisers and groups are set with Italy, Latvia and Poland and preparations are ongoing. In Europe the information will go out in the coming weeks.

AOFC is discussing how to solve the qualification. A proposal has been made where the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games would act also as a WFC Qualification event and then Australia and New Zealand (who are not part of AIMAG event) would play their own qualification for one spot. New Zealand are (so far) not supportive of this proposal. Ms. Siriwat reported that the plans are still going on for the AIMAG in March 2022.

The AMERICAS qualification will be played in Arlington, Texas in the period 23-27.02.2022 and preparations are ongoing.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

### **U19 WFC 2022, Wellington, New Zealand**

Mr. Kratz reported that the preparations are ongoing, and a promo-video is under preparation to be published early September in connection with the U19 WFC in Uppsala.

There is some positive news with the release of the latest NZ government Covid plans which propose that quarantine for fully vaccinated people from countries with a low risk may be removed early in 2022. The lifting of quarantine, for at least a large percentage of the participating countries, will be a very important step towards holding the event.

Mr. Kratz further reported that the qualification for the last two spots will be played in Saku, Estonia 8th – 11th of September 2021 with 4 teams participating (Denmark, Estonia, Hungary and Italy).

Mr. Kratz reported that as the New Zealand government had announced that they were planning to start in early 2022 to allow entry to New Zealand without any quarantine requirements for fully vaccinated people from low-risk countries, however, with continuing lockdowns in New Zealand this timeline may change. The IFF need to start discussions with New Zealand about our own decision-making timeline on the Go/No-go and look at what the alternative options are for the event during September and October, to make it possible for the participants to prepare for the travel and participation in New Zealand.

IFF has received information from the IWG Women in Sport conference (that will be held in Auckland, New Zealand at the same time as the U19 WFC) that they recommend those outside of NZ register for attending online rather than in person, which, considering that this conference has very strong government support, does perhaps not provide a very positive outlook for the U19 event.

Mr. Eriksson felt that it is a very difficult situation, as it is not clear if there will be possibilities to travel to New Zealand in next May. The CB discussed that a three stage Go/No-go process should be built, where in the first stage the general conditions for possibilities to travel to New Zealand is at all possible, which should be clarified by end of October. Then a 2<sup>nd</sup> phase should be defined for mid of December with the LOC evaluation for possibilities to organise the event and then in the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase the normal Go/No-go process in March 2022.

**CB decided:** to approve the reports and start discussions with the LOC to seek clarity in the Covid-19 situation preventing the execution of the U19 WFC 2022.

### **U19 WFC 2023, 2024 and WFC 2024**

Mr. Liljelund reported that the negotiations with the organiser of the WFC 2023 in September, based on the demand of the LOC and the Singapore Floorball Association. The discussions with the Swedish association will start during the autumn.

**CB decided:** to approve the report

#### **e) Covid-19 topics**

##### **Covid-19 Impact Study**

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Ms. Mitchell, that there has been a total of 32 IFF Member Associations responded to the IFF Covid-19 Impact survey. The results of the survey are being analysed by IFF intern, Mr. Mattias Kauk, who is preparing a summary report of the findings

during the autumn. A report from the study will be prepared for publication in time for the General Assembly in December. Attached is the link to the draft Covid impact study report:  
[https://www.dropbox.com/s/hwsjpaomalxjwl/IFF%20Covid-19%20Impact%20Study%20Final%20Report\\_draft.pdf?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/hwsjpaomalxjwl/IFF%20Covid-19%20Impact%20Study%20Final%20Report_draft.pdf?dl=0)

### **Covid-19 Event Status Update**

Immediately prior to the Men's U19 WFC, changes in the Czech government country lists regarding risk groups, caused some problems with 5 countries being listed as high risk. As the LOC had earlier already received exemptions from some of the Covid restrictions for high-risk countries it was possible for us to quickly adapt to these changes, but this situation highlighted the challenges we face and how important it is that we have as many 'what if' scenarios planned for. The LOC made a very good job in clearing the issue with the Czech authorities.

For the Men's WFC in Helsinki, at present all qualified teams are able to enter Finland with no restrictions if fully vaccinated. If not vaccinated then there is the obligation for mandatory testing either upon arrival or after 3-5 days, depending on the country they are arriving from. Many of the AOFC countries still have strict quarantine restrictions on return to their home country which may impact their participation. In Finland the government had removed the 2-meter distance restrictions indoor.

Women's WFC in Sweden, not all qualified teams are able to enter at present without some restrictions. Japan, Singapore & USA are on the exempt list so RESIDENTS of these countries may enter (the exemption is based on residency not citizenship), while Russia is not exempt, nor is Thailand who could be one of the possible replacement countries.

**CB decided:** to approve the report

## **§ 6. Club competitions**

### **a) Champions Cup**

Mr. Beer reported on the preparations of the Champions Cup 2022 to be played in Winterthur, Switzerland 15th – 16th January 2022. The preparations are ongoing in a positive way, even if the team has been changed during the process. The accommodation have been secured for the teams and the discussions are continuing with the participating teams.

The Swiss LOC has secured the TV production with the IFF partner production company PolarHD for the Champions Cup 2022.

Mr. Kratz reported that since no WFC has been played and the nation ranking therefore remains the same as last year, and the uncertainty due to Covid-19 of the possibility to organise a ballot in connection with a match, no ballot will be organised. The teams participating in CC 2022 will replace the teams of the same nationality in the ballot from last year and the schedule built accordingly. The Go/No-go deadlines are set for the teams on the 1.11.2021, LOC 5.11.2021

Mr. Liljelund explained that as a part of the approved Champions Cup Home & Away Concept requires that the IFF, if not been able to sell the needed CHF 40.000 in marketing revenue for the 1<sup>st</sup> year of the playing of the Home & Away Champions Cup in 2023, commits to the financing of this sum.

Mr. Suman asked if it in the present financial situation is it not a bigger risk to commit to the financial terms now in the present Covid-19 pandemic situation and is it probable that IFF can sell the needed sponsorship to cover the sum. As the situation has changed on the sponsorship

market due to covid and the sum is relatively much bigger than before. Mr. Liljelund answered that as a requirement set by the countries to play the Champions Cup Home & Away phase 1, is that IFF can secure the sponsorship by September 2021, so in this stage the CB needs to decide whether to do it or not.

Mr. Eriksson concluded that we need to continue with the preparations of the Champions Cup Home & Away concept, so therefore he is in favour to commit to the sponsorship and hopes that IFF would be able to get some sponsors.

**CB decided:** To approve the reports and decide upon the commitment of the marketing revenue for the Champions Cup Home & Away for 2023.

#### **b) Euro Floorball Cup 2021**

Nothing reported

**CB decided:** To approve the report

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

#### **a) ExCo reports**

Mr. Eriksson reported on the ExCo activities after the previous CB meetings, which has mainly focused on the preparations and planning for this CB meeting, starting with what type of meeting to have.

The preparations for a continuation of the meeting with the Presidents and secretary generals of the Euro Floorball Tour countries held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of May over Teams. The plan is to hold the next meeting in the middle of October, if possible, even as a physical meeting if at all possible. After this a meeting of the Top 15 needs to be held when travel would make it possible during the first part of 2022.

The process with the preparation of the Consultative meeting concerning the Euro Floorball Championships has been delayed, mainly due to Covid-19 and the changes of leadership and management in some of the countries. There are still a number of questions where the countries have quite different views of what is ideal, namely when the EFC should be played. shall the genders play in the same year as their WFC's and when to start. IFF has made an invitation for a meeting after the 6<sup>th</sup> of September to discuss how to build the final concept.

The problem is that the time is running out, as the proposal for the IFF General Assembly, needs to out 30 days prior to the Extraordinary General Assembly and in the present Covid-19 pandemic situation it might be quite difficult to have the possibility to conduct the Consultative meeting as a physical meeting. The Consultative meeting would need to be held latest in October.

Mr. Liljelund expressed that we are running out of time, as there are not presently a consensus concerning the concept. The proposal would be that we could have the Consultative meeting during the WFC 2020 in December in Helsinki on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> of December, making it possible to agree on the concept and have time to prepare for the final decision in the IFF General Assembly in 2022. Mr. King felt that we should not force the process, so the proposal is a good.

**CB decided:** To approve the report and organise the Consultative meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December.

**b) Strategy Implementation**

Mr. King reported on the work of the IFF Strategy Implementation working group (SWG). The Implementation work has slowly started after summer in the four Strategy Subgroups, confirmed by the IFF CB in the end of June. The Subgroups 3 (Governance, Sport Culture and Leadership) and Subgroup 4 (Sport Presentation and Appearance) have had their first meeting in end of August. The Subgroup 1 (Awareness and Visibility) and Subgroup 2 (Development) are going to have their first meeting in the first part of September.

The idea is to run a Strategy Implementation Evaluation session during the IFF Associations Meeting in Helsinki on the 10<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> of December, to explain how the work is planned and then discuss the Suggested Actions and how to move forward in 2022. There needs to be a discussions between the Strategy working group and the chairs of the subgroups on the output for the Association meeting.

Mr. Eriksson has received positive feedback from persons elected to the Strategy subgroups and the increased involvement of new persons in the work of the IFF.

**CB decided:** To approve the report and the Strategy implementation Plan, the Role and Responsibility document and the Invitation for members of the Subgroups for the Strategy implementation.

**c) CB Member responsibilities**

Mr. Houman reported about the Six Nations associations steering group that there are still concerns if the Six nation tournament, which is planned to be played with both men and women, with valid Covid-19 restriction can in the end be played. The Six nation steering group, decided unanimously at a meeting on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of August to play the tournament, though there are still concern if it will be possible for all six nations to participate at the tournament in Trencin, in Slovakia.

The main challenge presently is the different approach that each government has regarding travel restrictions and the financial burden related to these restrictions, which can be placed, in case of a positive Covid-19 test. Because of the challenging situation regarding Covid-19, the seminar will be postponed. Danish Floorball has on the 1<sup>st</sup> of September decided to not participate in this years tournament, due to the Covid-19 restrictions for travel from Denmark to Slovakia, based on the Danish government. Both Norway and Latvia are also having some concerns concerning their participation.

Mr. Lopez reported on the situation in Latin America and concluded that not too much has happened after the previous meeting and in the last period with the exception of Brazil and Colombia.

In Brazil, the association has presented a new dossier to the Brazil NOC and got a positive answer towards the official recognition. This will be very important for the Brazilian association and will change their financial status totally.

In Colombia, where after the formalization of the CB and the inscription nationally, the association have been working to prepare more documents in order to have the chance to get official recognition in the country as a "formal sport". They had informed last week, that they are almost ready to send all the documents to IFF and ask for membership. Mr. Hidir asked what kind of background the persons in the association have. Mr. Lopez informed that the background are

students and persons who have been participating in the workshops organised. Mr. King congratulated Mr. Lopez for a job well done.

The rest of the countries in Latin America are still very affected by the restrictions and in the most of the cases not even give any answer about their activities.

Mr. Suman reported on the progress of the Czech Erasmus+ project Floorball - Fit for Future, where the start has been somewhat delayed due to the Covid-19 situation. An initial working meeting has been held in June. **(Appendix 24)** The Covid-19 pandemic has affected the work, but the workshop in June worked really well and the list of topics was discussed in the project. The participating federations had time to comment upon the final draft and to have a face-to-face meeting in Prague in October to discuss the maturity for the federations on the 33 tasks in the project.

Mr. Eriksson felt that this is a vital puzzle piece in the process to closed the gap between the countries. Mr. King asked if there are any extension due to Covid-19, Mr. Suman answered that the plan is to finish the project until the end of 2023, even if EU has indicated a possibility for a six month prolongment.

Mr. Karlsson reported on the situation in North America **(Appendix 28)**. The development of floorball is starting to slightly speed up in USA. But at the moment there are restrictions to travel to the USA. The Canadian are also slowly starting to play. The US national were played in Birmingham last weekend with success, as a test-event for The World Games.

Mr. Hidir reported on the situation in East-Europe and in the Middle-East. There have been discussions with the representative of the Kazakhstan Floorball and a meeting was held during the U19 WFC 2021 in Brno. There has also been some floorball starting by Floorball4All in Uzbekistan and Tajikistan

Ms. Siriwat reported on the situation in Asia. The situation in Asia in regard to travel is still very difficult due to the 14-day quarantine, which has affected the preparations.

Mr. King reported that there is a travel ban abroad both inside and outside in Australia. The travel bubble between Australia and New Zealand has been closed. There is no possibility for travel prior to the earliest in the end of the year.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

## 8. International Sports

### International Olympic Committee/IOC

Mr. Eriksson reported that the IOC during it session in Tokyo has appointed Brisbane in Australia as the host of the Olympic Games in 2032 and also given the IOC Executive Board the right to remove disciplines from the programme of the Olympic games. As the Olympics 2032 will be held in Australia Mr. King has started to look into the possibilities of how to approach the Organising committee and the IOC of our possibilities to be on the programme. Australian floorball will start the discussions with the BOCOG, as soon as the travel will be allowed in Australia. Mr. Houman asked if we know what sports or disciplines could be dropped from the program. Mr. Eriksson and Mr. Liljelund explained that the IOC Charta has been changed. Mr. Houman felt that this change can give us a possibility.

As the IOC had decided that none of the ARISF International Federations were invited for the Tokyo Olympics, IFF was only represented through the IFF vice president Mr. Filip Suman,

through his position as vice president of the Czech Olympic Committee. Mr. Suman gave a short report of the Tokyo Olympics. The number of the participants out of the athletes, was much smaller than before and the movement for the accredited persons was much more restricted than before. In the role as acting Czech NOC secretary general, had the possibility to promote floorball in the meeting with the IOC. The new sports in Tokyo, sports climbing, and skateboarding made a very good premier at the Olympic Games and shown that the new sports can bring added value for the Olympics. The process is moving in the right direction.

Mr. Klabere felt that in the case of skateboarding the winning athletes were quite young, but Mr. Suman felt that there was no negative discussion in Tokyo about this. The key will be that if these new sports brought new and younger audience. Mr. Eriksson felt that the general outcome is that the new sports made a good start and the evaluation will be made by IOC.

### **General Association of International Sport Associations/GAISF**

Mr. Eriksson reported that the GAISF SportAccord convention in Ekaterinburg, Russia which had been postponed for the 7<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> of November 2021, has again been postponed due to the Covid-19 pandemic until the 15<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2022, still to be held in Ekaterinburg, Russia. **(Appendix 12)** IFF has asked for an offer for an exhibition booth at the SportAccord exhibition, in order to support the development of Russian Floorball and giving more visibility for Floorball. There is also a plan to continue with the Sport exhibition, which would give us a possibility to again showcase the sport. There is a quite active Floorball club in Ekaterinburg. IFF has been in contact with the Russian federation concerning this and Mr. Hidir has been in contact with the Floorball Club in Ekaterinburg. The IF Forum was held on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May, as a digital session.

The GAISF AGM 2021 will be held as a virtual meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November, which the GAISF has announced **(Appendix 13)**.

### **Association of IOC Recognised International Sport Federations/ARISF**

Mr. Eriksson reported that the ARISF AGM has been postponed and will now be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December as a virtual meeting, based on an announcement made by President Chiulli. **(Appendix 14)**

The AGM will be held in order to secure the elections still during 2021. The candidates for the presidency is Mr. Chiulli (powerboating/re-election), vice president Ms. Arzhanova (underwater sports/re-election) and the secretary general Mr. Fraccari (baseball-softball/re-election). There are in total seven candidates for the three council members. They are Ms. Claire Briegal (netball/new), Mr. Claude Azema (boule sports/re-election), Mr. Espen Lund (kickboxing/new), Mr. John Liljelund (floorball/re-election), Mr. Jose Priego (wakeboarding/new), Mr. Jorge Viegas (motorcycle/new) and Mr. Tom Hollowell (orienteering/re-election). There might need to be some lobby work done to secure the election of Mr. Liljelund.

Mr. Eriksson is in constant contact with ARISF President Raffaele Chiulli in relation to the upcoming elections.

### **International World Games Association/IWGA**

Mr. Eriksson reported that the IWGA held their AGM as a separate virtual meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May. The AGM approved the new IWGA Statutes with the votes 34 in favour, one against and one abstaining. Also, the motion to extend the term of office of the Executive Committee until the AGM 2023 with 29 in favour, 4 against and 3 abstaining, in order to secure a smooth running of

the TWG 2022 in Birmingham. The International Sambo federation (24 in favour, 10 against and 2 abstaining) and the Wushu federation (29 in favour, 4 against and 3 abstaining) has been approved as new IWGA members.

The TWG 2022 Birmingham 2<sup>nd</sup> Competition manager meeting will unfortunately be held during the IFF Women's WFC 2021 in Uppsala, Sweden on the 29<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> of November., which means that IFF will most likely not be able to participate, as we have two WFC's back-to-back running at the same time. Discussions are ongoing with the BOC and the IWGA Office of how to secure that we have all information and can act accordingly. The slogan for the Birmingham TWG is Once in a Lifetime/Witness history.

Mr. Karlsson reported on the execution of the US nationals played 9 senior teams and 6 junior teams due to Covid-19, which acted as a test-event for the TWG 2022 and the local preparations made by the USFbA for the TWG. The idea was to run a series of IFF lead workshops during the US nationals, but due to the tighten travel and entry restrictions, Mr. Liljelund was not able to enter USA, due to very strict travel restrictions. There were some problems with US customs with the Gerflor flooring IFF provided to the test-event, so the tournament was played on a Sport court. The BOC was very helpful, and we got a good understanding of the challenges for the event, with the experience now gathered. There was a lot of BOC persons represented and the event got a good TV visibility and the TV crew returning from Tokyo were very interested and had a lot of ideas.

Mr. Halonen reported that the IFF has delivered one full IFF Gerflor flooring to Birmingham, USA for the upcoming World Games. The Floorball USA is organizing US national championships in the end of August and that event will serve as the Floorball test event for the World Games 2022 and Floorball USA is using the flooring in the test event as well. The TWG 2022 organisation covered the transport costs and the IFF helped by delivering the necessary documents and the IFF also delivered full tape sets for the test events. The floor was stopped in the US Customs, due to Covid-19 and BOC then helped to provide a Sport court flooring. The subflooring however proved to be a real problem and they US national were played without a subflooring. This needs to be analysed carefully.

The IFF was informed on the 25<sup>th</sup> of August that the IFF flooring had been hold-up due to Covid-19 related issues in the US Customs in Savannah, Georgia and most likely will not make it in time for the US Nationals. Mr. Karlsson reported on the discussions with the BOC in Birmingham during the US Nationals.

Mr. Suman asked if there are any details of how the event will be run. Mr. Liljelund answered that all information has been provided by the IF's towards the IWGA and the feedback and all instructions will be given to the sports during the 2<sup>nd</sup> Competition managers meeting in November, where we should have a representative from USFbA, due to the ongoing WFC's.

### **University Sport/FISU**

Mr. Lopez reported that he has in July had a meeting with Ms. Fiona Testuz from FISU and the LOC representatives from Liberec University. (Dr. Jindřich Martinec and Ms Julie Martincova)

In the meeting the preparations of the event and how the invitations were sent to the Universities as well as possible participants. It is presently not clear how many participants there will be in the event, not only due to the introduction of the new format but also due to the pandemic and the situation it creates, still affecting all. By then just 6 teams all form the Czech Republic.

Both, FISU and the LOC see very difficult get participants from outside of Europe and they ask IFF to contact its members and try to get them involved with their National University Authorities.

From LOC it looks that they have very well advanced the basic preparations:

- Local authorities (City of Liberec and Government of Liberec) have been already contacted and transportations set.
- Home Credit Arena will be the place to play. Also Sports Park Liberec will be used for side activities.
- Accommodation will be in dormitory of Technical university of Liberec(TUL)
- LOC will be in contact with Czech Floorball during the U19 Championships in Brno.
- Event website - <http://www.uwcfloorball2022.cz/>

The preparation of the communication and marketing plan and the bulletin n.1 (with information on Accommodation, F&B, transportation, registration procedure) shall be sent out by September. (LOC). FISU will run an inspection visit in October according to the pandemic evolution.

We are having a meeting in Uppsala during the weekend to see some of the aspects to take into consideration in the visit.

Mr. Suman felt that there has been a lack of communication between the Czech University sport organisations and the Czech Floorball. Mr. Eriksson asked if there is anything we can do, as the decision of the format change has been made by FISU. Mr. Hidir asked if the problems are only related for Floorball, to which Mr. Eriksson answered that the Swedish University sport had had similar issues. Ms. Plechan asked if there have been contacts taken to Polish Universities, which had been taken and they have already answered that they will consider.

## **Multi-Sport Games**

### **Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games 2022, Bangkok, Thailand**

Ms. Siriwat reported concerning the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games 2022, from the 10<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2022. The Technical handbook for floorball has been prepared and IFF is to comment upon it in the near future. Also the Covid-19 protocol has been approved.

### **SEA Games 2021**

Ms. Siriwat reported on the preparations with regards to the upcoming Southeast Asian Games (SEA GAMES) which will be hosted in Vietnam in 2021. Based on recent news it seems that the SEA Games has been moved to July 2022 and there is a possibility that the event will be cancelled totally.

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

## **9) Committees and Commissions**

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

Mr. Klabere reported on the RACC meetings held 26<sup>th</sup> of May and 17<sup>th</sup> of August. (**Appendix 15**)

Ranking for teams not able to participate in the WFCs was discussed and RACC decided to propose that the ranking for the adult WFCs shall be made according to the proposal.

Women's WFC - No qualifications were played. Teams that play WFC 2021, including possible replacement teams, will be given the actual result from the event which is added together with

their result from WFC 2019 to give their ranking. The teams who have qualified for the final round but cannot participate and all teams registered to the qualifications, will be given the same result as 2019. Exception will be for those teams who had a result of 27th or lower in 2019 – they will be given the result of 26th as this is the number of teams that registered for 2021.

Men's WFC - Only AOFC did not play the qualification. Teams that play WFC 2020, including possible replacement teams, will be given the actual result from the event which is added together with their result from WFC 2018 to give their ranking. The teams who have qualified for the final round but cannot participate and for teams who could not participate in the qualifications (AOFC) will be given the same result as 2018, with the exception of USA who would be placed 16th (19th 2018). Teams having played the qualification shall be given the actual result according to normal comparative event calculations for rankings.

For the Men's U19 WFC 2021 it is not possible to predict if there will be any issues, since the registration for U19 WFC 2023 is 31st December 2021. A decision will need to wait until after U19 WFC 2021 is played, and registrations for 2023 is received. The RACC will revert with a proposal when the situation is clear.

For the Women's U19 WFC 2020 the only real issue is for Norway (currently ranked #6). The final results from the event will decide the outcome. If Latvia (not registered for U19 WFC 2022) will finish in the top 8 there will be an empty spot in the top tier groups, allowing Norway to be given a ranking of 6, 7 or 8, depending on the results and stay in the top tier. If Latvia finishes 9th the RACC will revert with a proposal on how to solve this.

If any event is cancelled, the rankings will be done as follows:

Women's U19 WFC: ranking of all teams will remain as is for U19 WFC 2022

Men's U19 WFC: ranking of all teams will remain as is for U19 WFC 2023

Women's WFC 2021: ranking of all teams will remain as is for WFC 2023

Men's WFC 2020: ranking of all teams will remain as is for WFC 2022 except for teams having played the WFC 2020 qualification that will be ranked with the result obtained in the qualifications included in their ranking calculation.

The work with the Rules of the Game Edition 2022 has now been processed and the RACC puts forward the proposal for the CB to decide (**Appendix 16 and 17**). The new way of working has proven to be very effective and made the process very positive and gave a lot of interaction. The layout of the Rule book has been changed and has been re-organised. The tests have given a lot of positive results and have been included in the new rules. There have been some issues with the translation of the rules, which has been dealt with a ranking of physical play in the new book. There are also new pictures and drawings on the web. All in all, it has been a lot of work for the Rules group and the support of the Reference group has had really good discussions.

Mr. Suman asked if Mr. Klabere in short could tell what the major changes: Mr. Klabere expressed that there a few changes that will have a major impact, like the ranking for the penalties, change of 5 min penalty to a 2+2 min, free hit after penalties for the powerplay team, allowing foot pass, no need to pick up a broken stick. Mr. Lopez felt that it has more been a question of how streamline the Rule book. Mr. Suman asked when the national associations are communicated of the Rule changes. Mr. Kratz and Mr. Klabere answered that the IFF Office will make a summary and send out a summary of the major changes still during September. The IFF with-hold the publication of the new Rule book until a later point by the end of September.

Mr. Klabere inform that the RACC also wants to raise the IFF CB's awareness about the issues the process concerning the Consultative meeting concerning the Euro Floorball Championships is now facing. As the Covid-19 pandemic has hindered to conduct the meeting as a physical meeting, which the RACC finds imperative to be able to deal with the matter in a correct way. The

CB needs to discuss how to organise the Consultative meeting and what implications this will have on the overall process in regard to the IFF Extraordinary General Assembly.

Mr. Klabere informed that Ms. Mitchell has advised that as approved previously by the CB with the updated Covid-19 protocols, there was the option of allowing teams to have 23 players on their final team list for WFC's in the end of the year. As the system now used during the U19 WFC's have proven to be flexible enough to replace players from the team list with reserve players, during the time before the test result comes, the RACC and Competition office proposal is that we would remove this from the Covid-19 protocols and return to normal with 20 players and 10 Officials for the teams for the Adult WFC's in November -December.

**CB decided:** To approve the reports, the proposal of how to handle the ranking for teams not able to participate in the WFCs due to Covid-19 and approve the Rules of the Game Edition 2022 and that the Rules will be published by the end of September in a separate communication to the member associations. Additionally, the CB decided to run the WFC's 2020 and 2021 with a team of 20 players and 10 officials and update the Covid-19 protocols accordingly

#### **b) Referee Committee (RC)**

Mr. Lopez reported that the IFF Referee Committee had a short virtual meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> of May to discuss and provide the RC comments to the proposed Rules of the Game 2022 edition. The RC made some corrections proposals to the rule group. Mainly some missing information in some of the rule paragraphs.

The IFF CB gave the IFF RACC and the IFF RC the task to start the process to unify the interpretations of the physical play all around the Floorball world in its meeting in December 2019 in Neuchatel. The IFF RACC and the IFF RC chairs agreed that the RC will start the work and the RC formed a working group from the representatives from the EFT countries. (**Appendix 18**)

The working group had six meetings in the autumn 2020 and spring 2021 and were able to come up with a proposal of joint interpretations, which were presented to the IFF RC. The RC, based on the results of the working group, created the following document, which will be used for the referee educations starting in the IFF events and then taken to the educational programs of the IFF national associations. The document has been created in co-operation between the IFF RACC and IFF RC.

Mr. Klabere feels that the work will be an ongoing one, where we are improving the level of how Floorball will be refereed. Mr. Eriksson congratulated the working group for a work well done.

The RC have nominated the following international referees to the following international events, providing all nominees with the relating Covid-19 protocols :

- International double in Lignano Sabbiadoro (Italy) May
- Men's and Men's U19 2-Nations tournament in Slovakia, on 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2021
- Men's 2-Nations tournament in Finland, on 12<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> of August 2021
- Men's U19 WFC in Brno, Czech Republic 25<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> of August 2021
- Women's U19 WFC in Uppsala, Sweden 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2021
- Women's EFT tournament in Switzerland, on 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2021
- Men's 4-Nations tournament in Latvia, on 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2021
- Men's 2-Nations tournament in Finland, on 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2021
- Men's 2-Nations tournament in Italy, on 4<sup>th</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2021
- Polish Open in Poland , 2<sup>nd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> of September 2021
- Women's U19 WFC Qualification in Saku in Estonia, 8<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2021

After the summer the IFF member associations have started to organise tournaments and the RC has made referee nominations for three IFF events and for seven international tournaments. The nominations procedure has been slightly challenging due to the Covid-19 travel restrictions. The intention therefore has been to find referees as close as possible and also to prefer fully vaccinated referees in order to ease the travelling.

**CB decided:** To approve the report to approve the IFF Physical Play document.

**c) Medical committee**

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Mr. Kihm that the IFF has continued the work to prepare for fulfilling the WADA Accord concerning the participation of the Russian Team during the Women's WFC 2021. The WADA decision means that the Russian team will be mentioned as NFFR and no reference to Russia, nor national flags or national anthem is allowed for the team.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**d) Athletes commission**

Ms. Plechan reported that the ATC has decided that Agata Plechan will be nominated again for the WADA Athlete Commission for the fourth time. Nomination must be submitted to WADA by 1st October. Nomination documents will be needed from Ms. Plechan and a letter of support from the IFF. This is the fourth time that IFF is nominating Agata for this committee, however, now with her position as the ATC Chair and member of the IFF CB her nomination is much stronger than previously.

The ATC members have provided several "Good Luck" greeting videos directed to the Athletes of both the U19 WFC's in Brno and Uppsala.

The ATC has nominated Ms. Lara Heini for the RACC and Mr. Junoh Lee for the Entourage commission, as an athlete's representatives. There are also some ideas how the ATC members could support different campaigns on the social media.

Mr. Suman asked how the WADA committees will be elected and Mr. Liljelund informed that the decision is taken or at least confirmed by the WADA board.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**e) Development Committee (DevC)**

Mr. Houman reported on the preparations for the first meeting is to be set very soon, there has been communication with the Latvian Floorball Federation, and they are still to nominate a person for the committee.

The work will begin in the first step towards building a platform of staircases level 0-2 for education for the coaches.

The Development Committee chair Mr. Steen Houman has made the following proposal for the composition for the IFF Development Committee. The proposed members are:

Mr. Steen Houman, chair (DEN)  
Ms. Zuzana Svoboda, (CZE)

Ms. Mervi Kilpikoski (FIN)  
Mr. Jarno Ihme, ATC member (FIN)  
Mr. Ching Sy Jeng, AOFC representative (CHN)  
Mr. Ramos, AOFC representative (PHI)  
Mr. Buvarp (USA)  
Vacant (LAT)

Mr. Halonen reported that the IFF has participated to the Erasmus Project 4F meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> of June. The meeting was held as a virtual meeting. The basic structure of the project was defined and the work of the group, which is led by the Czech Floorball was very smooth and productive. The next meeting is planned to take place from 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> of October in Prague.

Mr. Halonen reported that the IFF secretary general has been asked to open an International Floorball Coaching webinar on the 20.11., organised by the Eerikkilä Sport institute. The seminar is free for anyone to participate in.

**CB decided:** To approve the report and confirm the composition of the Development Committee.

**f) Entourage Commission (ENC)**

Mr. Hidir reported on the work in relation to the IFF Entourage Commission. The IFF Athletes Commission member Mr. Junoh Lee has informed that he would like to become a member of the IFF Entourage commission.

**CB decided:** To approve the report and confirm the membership of Mr. Junoh Lee in the Entourage Commission.

**§ 10. Functions**

**a) Communication function**

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Ms. Myllärinen that the IFF Communication office has after the summer prepared for the upcoming two U19 WFC's and started to prepare for the promotion campaign for The World Games, before the Men's WFC 2020 in December in Helsinki.

The project with the Social Media Ambassadors has started well and have had much more interaction from the ambassadors and brought the athletes more in focus in our communication. There have been some comments from some Social Media Ambassadors that there can be more questions and tasks given to them.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**b) Marketing function**

Mr. Beer, reported about the current sales and marketing situation. **(Appendix 19)**

Since the sponsorship agreement was terminated with Protocol Sports Marketing, IFF has started evaluating new ways of creating success in sales. Currently two potential sales agencies are under evaluation. The main goals are by new leads, established connections and capability of concept formulation to create revenue in the Nordic market which is identified as highest potential for the IFF. The Distribution agreement (broadcast) is still in place with PSM and work to secure

best visibility for 2021 WFC events is on-going. There are some points in the agreement which the IFF wants to clarify, and amendment proposals are being prepared.

IFF has actively been directly contacting companies. Several of them have a good match in terms of target group and many especially in sustainability values. No imminent sales but talks of pilot cases for 2021 WFC's are discussed. A very promising partner negotiation in progress with Kauko (provider of seamless digital solutions (devices/software/services)).

The discussions with PUMA Nordics have continued during the summer. The interest is there and currently a meeting was planned to take place in Uppsala during the U19 event, which has been postponed due to health problems. Regardless of active follow up during summer Craft has not replied but in August the connection has been reinstalled.

Mr. Klabere wanted to have the possibility for the CB to look over the agreements with the potential sales companies. Mr. Liljelund answered that if there are any ready for the next meeting they will be reported accordingly.

The Core Country Marketing Network Group (CCMNG) meeting planned for the 25<sup>th</sup> of August, convened online but was postponed. This due to many overlapping duties of the participants during the ongoing Men's U19 WFC 2021 in Brno causing a number of absences and the meeting was decided to be rescheduled to after the U19 WFC's to be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September.

The upcoming meeting will focus on in depth discussion around OTT Platform topics. OTT Platform options for the IFF have been researched during spring.

The IFF preparations to launch the IFF Hall of Fame are on-going. Nominations for the Selection Committee national coach members are in and to be decided by the CB (**Appendix 20**). The IFF Hall of Fame nomination deadline was also the 30<sup>th</sup> of August. The IFF has received over 50 submissions from 9 member federations and have been summarised. Immediately after the CB Meeting decision the Selection Committee will be summoned for a meeting to get organised and discuss the selection criteria. A second meeting, to make the final selections, is planned for end of September / beginning of October. This will leave enough time to contact the chosen persons and prepare awarding material. The persons to be inaugurated will be awarded at the WFC 2021 in Uppsala and WFC 2020 in Helsinki.

The proposal for the IFF Hall of Fame Selection Committee:

IFF Central Board:

Mr. Stephen King (AUS), Mr. Martin Klabere (SWE), Ms. Agata Plechan, ATC (POL), Mr. Filip Suman (CZE) and Ms. Kaarina Vuori (FIN)

National Team Coaches:

Mr. David Jansson, SUI Men's Head coach (SWE), Mr. Petri Kettunen, CZE Men's Head coach (FIN), Mr. Giorgio Battaini, ITA Women's Head coach (ITA) and Mt. Zednek Skruzny, former CZE Men's Head coach (CZE)

ATC representatives:

Ms. Lara Heini (SUI) and Mr. Sergio Garces (ESP)

IFF Media:

Mr. Jürg Kihm (replacement for Merita Bruun during her maternity leave) (SUI) and Ms. Mari Myllärinen (FIN)

IFF Sales Coordinator:

Mr. Tero Kalsta (FIN)

The IFF product catalogue has moved forward, and we have received the first wireframes. Based on our feedback and further material the second version is under preparation by the agency.

**CB decided:** To approve the report, name the CB representatives in the Selection Committee and form the Hall of Fame Selection Committee in accordance with the proposal.

**c) Material function**

Mr. Liljelund reported that the IFF has held the yearly meeting of the Material Board, to discuss the overall situation on the market, the expectations for the coming season and the process for the approval of the IFF Material Regulation 2022 proposal and other questions. (**Appendix 21**)

The Material Board has approved the proposal for the IFF Material Regulation 2022, which will be in force from 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2022. The new regulation is always approved by the IFF CB early in order to give the manufacturer the possibility to adopt to the new or changes rules for the production of their assortment for the season 2022-2023. The CB is to approve the new Material Regulation 2022. The full regulation and a shorter document with just the changes are attached (**Appendix 22ab**)

Mr. Klabere asked if there are any issues that can create an issue for IFF, to Mr. Liljelund answered that there are no foreseen issues with these changes.

**CB decided:** To approve the report and the Material regulation 2022

**d) Membership services**

Ms. Vuori shortly reported on the plans of how the function will work, now when the Strategy work has started.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**e) Equality function**

Nothing reported

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**f) Parafloorball function**

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Mr. Kihm that the discussion of more concrete forms of cooperation with the International Powerchair Hockey (IPCH) will continue during the autumn.

Mr. Houman reported that the preparations for the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Kazan January 2022 is going ahead as scheduled. At this moment, Special Olympics International are close to announce which teams will be able to participate at the floorball tournament. It will be the first floorball tournament in the world, with teams from all continents and over 50 teams will be part of the floorball tournament. The World Winter Games is the largest sport event for people with intellectual disabilities, and almost 2.000 athlete will be part of the games. The floorball tournament will be played at the Kazan Tennis Academy and six courts will

be available. Special Olympics International has on 2<sup>nd</sup> of September informed that the SOI Winter World Games have been postponed to January 2023, due to the Covid-19 pandemic still going on and the lack of vaccinated athletes around the world. The reason being that many of the participants are still without a full vaccination, and this creates a too high risk for them to participate.

In 2011, IFF and Special Olympics signed a MoU concerning partnership, in order to promote floorball in each organisation, and since then the growth within Special Olympics have been a huge success and the mark of one hundred Special Olympics programs playing floorball could be reached before 2025. (SO Sweden, SO Singapore are examples of programs).

Mr. Liljelund reported that a meeting with the Volt Hockey (another form of Electric wheelchair hockey) has been held and that the Volt Hockey are looking towards a closer cooperation with IFF.

The initiative for the meeting was taken by Ms. Birdal, who also reported a bit more about the situation. The name comes from Canada and the discussion is ongoing inside the sport concerning the name for Volt Hockey, so it was really good that Mr. Liljelund during the meeting stressed the need to use floorball in relation to the sport, to clearly define what sport we are talking about and where it belongs.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

#### **g) Sustainability function**

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Mr. Kalsta that the Mr. Kalsta still inputting the data to the myclimate online measurement tool (smart 3). Once this is finalized, we can provide data how we meet the requirements of the Sport 4 Climate Action (S4CA) initiatives. The official launch of the new requirements should come from S4CA in autumn.

The new overall sustainability campaign FairFloorball is being prepared for launch during the last half of 2021. Some promotion material is ready and further are being produced. IFF media will also collect footage during the U19 events to be used for the launch. A soft launch begins during autumn with the official launch during the adult WFCs in Uppsala and Helsinki. The ATC has amongst them named ambassadors for different areas of the campaign for communication. **(Appendix 23)**

The sustainability section of the IFF website has been updated to cover not only the environment but three different areas: economy, environment and social. The current and past IFF work provide lot of content for all areas.

The IFF has followed how sustainability develops in the floorball world. The delightful launch of the Czech Floorball initiative has been publicized also in IFF channels and the IFF media team to create a report the sustainability booth at the U19 in Brno. The WFC 2022 is creating more models to promote their sustainability programme. They are planning to create tools to help floorball clubs start their sustainability work: a tailor-made CO2 calculator for floorball clubs, best practice guide and a Green Goal Award to fund best environmental project ideas.

The recycling initiative "Stick with it!" will start already during the U19 WFCs (Brno/Uppsala). Promotion starts before the event and continues during the event. Collection boxes are placed at the venues and collected material will be donated to charitable organisations and/or floorball development programmes. IFF media is there to document the work. The initiative will continue during the adult WFCs in Uppsala and Helsinki. The outcome was not as good as expected in Brno.

Under the guidance of the Pisa University (Sant' Anna school of advanced studies), the IFF, together with the Swedish Federation applied for an EU Erasmus+ project (topic: Green Approaches in Management for Enhancing Sports / Improve Good Governance in sport). The decision of acceptance will be informed before the end of the year.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

## § 11. IFF Office

Mr. Liljelund reported that Mr. Juerg Kihm has started as the replacement for Ms. Merita Bruun, during her maternity leave in June. Mr. Kihm will work until the end of July 2022, within the IFF Communication. Ms. Anna Jacobson is employed to work with the Anti-Doping questions during Ms. Bruun's maternity leave.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

## § 12. Members

### Membership questions

Mr. Houman reported that the Danish Floorball Federation has raised the question in regards to the debt of the Slovenian team transportation from the WFC 2020 qualifications in Frederikshavn, Denmark. There has been an aim to solve the dispute of the invoice for the transportation of Team Slovenia, as they arrived at the wrong train station. There has not been any process in this case, despite the initiatives of the Danish. Danish Floorball feels that the Slovenia Association have no intention to take up the negotiation and pay the invoice. The Danish Floorball is therefore considering proposing that IFF takes over the claim towards the Slovenia Association.

The CB discussed the situation and felt that as discussions are ongoing between Slovenia and Denmark, the matter shall be discussed in coming meetings.

**CB decided:** To approve and take cognisance of the report.

### Members under suspension

Nothing reported

### New Member applications

Mr. Halonen reported that IFF has continue the work with Kazakhstan and the IFF office had a meeting with the Kazakhstan Floorball Federation President Mr. Almaz Kainazarov in Brno during the Men's U19 WFC. The Kazakhstan Floorball Federation is registered in the Ministry of Justice as a legal entity and operate in Almaty oblast (there are 17 oblasts in Kazakhstan). There needs to be 6-7 oblasts to become a national federation register under the Ministry of Sport. The KFF has a total of five different clubs/groups in the country. Floorball is a sport recommended by the Kazakhstan Ministry of Education. The aim of the KFF is to seek IFF membership in the next 6-12 months.

Mr. Halonen reported that IFF has on Friday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September received the membership application from the Columbian Floorball Association with the required appendixes. IFF and

Columbian Floorball have had activities already since 2016 on and the IFF has been supporting Columbian Floorball, mainly through Mr. Carlos Lopez. CFA has now received a national registration and they have started the work to gain the recognition of the Columbian NOC. The IFF office proposes to the IFF CB to approve Columbian Floorball Association as a provisional member of the IFF number 75.

The discussions are ongoing with the Ghana, Sri Lanka, Taiwan and re-organising the South African Floorball is also ongoing. There are more countries ready to start the process when the governments globally start to reduce the Covid restrictions. The lack of equipment and the challenge to get those during the pandemic has caused lot of delays to many projects.

**CB decided:** To approve the reports and approve the Colombian Floorball Association as provisional member nr. 75

### § 13. Next meeting

Mr. Eriksson to conclude that the next planned ordinary CB meeting (M7), has been planned for the 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> of November. The meeting will be held, if possible, in Helsinki, as a physical meeting, with the possibility to participate virtually. If the Covid-19 pandemic will create additional issues, there might be a need to hold extra CB meetings.

M8: CB meeting Thursday 9.12.  
IFF Association meeting 10.-11.12.  
IFF Extraordinary General Assembly 11.12.  
Euro Floorball Championships Consultative meeting 12.12.

**CB decided:** To approve the report and have the next CB meeting on the 13.-14.11 and the 9.12.

### § 14. Closing of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson thanked everyone for a good virtual meeting and closed the meeting at 12:15

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

**Tomas Eriksson**  
**President**