

Helsinki, Finland, 17<sup>th</sup> of November

2021

## **IFF Central Board meeting 8/2021 14.11.2021 as a Hybrid meeting in Helsinki, Finland**

**Place:** Meeting held as a Hybrid meeting in Helsinki, Finland and simultaneously over Teams meeting SSBL Office, Alakiventie 2, 00920 Helsinki.:

<b>Participants:</b>	<b>Tomas Eriksson</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>(In Helsinki)</b>	<b>Filip Suman</b>	<b>Vice President</b>
	<b>Tamuz Hidir</b>	
	<b>Steen Houman</b>	
	<b>Martin Klabere</b>	
	<b>Carlos Lopez</b>	
	<b>Agata Plechan</b>	<b>ATC Chair</b>
	<b>Kaarina Vuori</b>	
<b>Over Teams</b>	<b>Monica Birdal</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
	<b>Jörg Beer</b>	
	<b>Stephen King</b>	
	<b>Pakkamol Siriwat</b>	
	<b>Stefan Kratz</b>	<b>Competition Manager</b>
	<b>Veli Halonen</b>	<b>Operations Manager</b>
	<b>John Liljelund</b>	<b>Secretary General</b>
<b>Excused:</b>	<b>Calle Karlsson</b>	

## **Minutes**

### **§ 1. Opening of the meeting**

Mr. Eriksson welcomed all members to the eight CB meeting of the year both here present in Helsinki and over Teams at home. Mr. Eriksson opened the meeting at 09:02 and congratulated Mr. Liljelund for his birthday today.

The meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting with eight CB members physically on-site in Helsinki and then four 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 10 - WFC 2020 TV List  
Appendix 15 - WFC 2021 LOC report

- Appendix 16 - WFC 2021 TV List
- Appendix 20 - Euro Floorball Championships renewed concept
- Appendix 36 - U19 WFC 2022 Championships – Slovak letter

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

§ 3 **Minutes from the CB meeting: 06/2021 a Hybrid meeting (05.09.2021) and the per capsulam CB meeting 07/2021 (26.09.2021)**

The minutes from the last two meetings, CB meetings 6/2021 and 7/2021, were scrutinized, approved and put ad acta. **(Appendix 1 and 2)**

**CB decided:** To approve the minutes of the IFF CB meetings 06/2021 and 07/2021.

§ 4. **Financial questions**

a) **Financial report 2021 by 31.10.2021 – with forecast**

Mrs. Birdal presented the financial report and the balance sheet by the 31.10.2021 **(Appendix 3)**.

The outcome per 31<sup>st</sup> of October is CHF 344.668, which is some CHF 305.500 (2020: CHF 35.179) 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 continued more transfers has led to an increased income. The cost, even though some travelling to meetings and events has started, is almost the same compared to last year.

The liquidity 31<sup>st</sup> of October is CHF 445.900, which is some CHF 326.000 higher compared with last year (CHF 119.900) and due to this we are currently not in need to take up the secured loan of 100.000 EUR from the Finnish Floorball Federation.

The situation with Covid-19 continues to negatively affect the expected income from material this year, a situation which might take a year before we expect to be back on more normal figures, so we must continue to be very careful and only invest in the most needed areas.

Now when we expect to play the two WFCs there is only one forecast prepared. The forecasted outcome shows a low surplus of CHF 2.789, with the liquidity still on the positive side, but with a good end of the year the originally budgeted outcome could be within reach. The cost estimate is a bit problematic, as for example the TV cost have increased substantially for the Women's WFC In Sweden.

The finances are continued to be monitored on a daily basis, 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 November 8<sup>th</sup>, "**

Mrs. Birdal presented the claims situation by the 08.11.2021 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 participants have managed their duties.

In the follow-up of payment plans since last CB meeting (**Appendix 6**) Ukraine has informed of bank problems due to a new law in Ukraine where they need to re-register in the Ministry of Justice. When trying to pay according to plan by October 31<sup>st</sup> the account was blocked. All documents are handed in to the Ministry of Justice and as soon as the account is opened again the prepared payment will go to IFF. Canada has their next instalment by 31<sup>st</sup> of December.2021, as the previous installments were deducted from the participation fee for U19 WFC.

Regarding Slovenia a new pay-off plan has been proposed, based on instalments of 1,000 CHF each, every 6 months starting 31.01.2022. This would mean that the total debt should be paid by 31.07.2023. A pay-off plan is also proposed to Malaysia. Further Cote d'Ivoire has been contacted since their debt has increased due to not following the plan.

Mr. King asked when the associations will need to have paid their debts for the WFC 2022, to be able to participate in the WFCQ. Mr. Kratz informed that this will have to be discussed in the next CB meeting. Mr. Suman asked when the registration will be opened for the WFC's 2023 and 2024. Mr. Kratz answered that for the WFC 2023 the registration is open and will be opened in October 2022 for the WFC 2024.

**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.

#### **a) 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 regarding the Euro Floorball Championships concept, where the IFF will organize a Consultative meeting for the European associations on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December between 09:30-11:30 in Helsinki.

In addition, the IFF RACC is bringing a proposal to the CB that the IFF CB would propose to the Extraordinary General Assembly to introduce the new Game Rules edition 2022 already from the 1<sup>st</sup> of February for all IFF events and Friendly Internationals. For the WFCQ this would assist with the testing of the Future of Floorball concept and for Friendly Internationals allow them to be played with the same rules that will be used in the other major IFF events in 2022. The early introduction would only apply to IFF events and Friendly Internationals, and the full implementation would occur as normal on 1<sup>st</sup> July.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic IFF is also forced to change the rules for the qualification of the best AOFC team for The World Games, as Australia and Japan are not able to participate in the WFC 2020.

The IFF Office has sent out the preliminary Agenda for the Extraordinary General Assembly on the 11.11. to fulfill the statutory requirement of 30 full days prior to the General Assembly. (**Appendix 7**)

The Extraordinary General Assembly will be held on Saturday the 11<sup>th</sup> of December at 12:00 in Helsinki, Finland, as a continuation of the IFF Associations meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Day. It will be possible to participate also virtually for the meeting.

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.

The IFF Association meeting will be run on Friday from 09:00 – 14:30 and on Saturday from 09:00 – 12:00. The IFF Office has prepared a proposal for the program of the Associations meeting and the IFF CB has discussed the objectives and targets for the Association Meeting in its workshop on Saturday 13.11. (**Appendix 8**)

**CB decided:** To approve the report and confirmed the Agenda for the Extraordinary General and confirm the program for the invitation for the Extraordinary General Assembly.

## § 5. World Championships

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

Mrs. Vuori reported on the present situation of the preparations in Finland for the Men's WFC 2020 to be played from the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> of December 2021. (**Appendix 9**) The preparations are proceeding well and there were 30 days to go on Wednesday the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November.

The LOC is monitoring the Covid-19 situation together with IFF and the LOC has decided that all volunteers and Staff needs to be fully vaccinated. Also the teams needs to be fully vaccinated, if not they have to undergo a PCR test every 72 h. All team members will be antigen tested before the first official training at the venue, the IFF Competition department is proposing that this would also be the case for the IFF Officials. There are no restrictions on spectator capacity at the moment (No Covid-pass in use). Masks will be recommended for everybody and required from volunteers, staff, and teams at the venues (might still change closer to the event). Teams have been informed about the Covid-protocols and will be sent an updated version next week

The first volunteer kick off was held 7.10.2021 and the second training session for volunteers to take place 8.11.2021. The Finnish national team publication was held at the Helsinki City Hall on 2.11., receiving good media coverage. Most of the participating teams have informed their schedules for the event, but some are still missing. All production and venue build up schedules are getting finalised. The VIP-protocols and schedules are being finalized and VIP-invitations have been sent. Safety and security plans will be made next week with detailed staffing plans The Event Study surveys are getting finalised.

The preparations are moving forward as close as normal, and the marketing efforts have re-started again in the end of August. The promotion continued 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 was 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 (10.11.):

	<b>Sold</b>	<b>% of the goal</b>
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	747	24 %
Saturday 4 <sup>th</sup>	3.069	68 %
Sunday 5 <sup>th</sup>	790	26 %
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup>	173	30 %
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Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup>	79	20 %
Wednesday 8 <sup>th</sup>	390	9 %

Thursday 9 <sup>th</sup>	245	20 %
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Final Weekend 10 <sup>th</sup> -11 <sup>th</sup>	6.371	67 %
TOTAL	11.864	44 %

There have been quite little sales to foreign countries for the Final weekend with Sweden (255 sold online/80 sold for travel agents/10 sold to federation), Czech Republic (8 tickets sold online/30 tickets sold to federation), Switzerland (537 sold online/220 sold to travel agencies/20 sold to federation). There are some 161 tickets sold online for Germany and 153 for Norway Reservations and purchases also made for Switzerland for the preliminary round and quarterfinals and Team USA has bought tickets for the final weekend. The LOC has started a school campaign for the day matches, which has so far created a very good response and will bring over 6.200 school kids. The sales for the final weekend is still on a good level, so there is still the possibility to have a sold-out final.

The marketing plan for the last weeks includes the use of the City of Helsinki advertisement screens, Hartwall Arena wall covering, Print & Social Media ads and a radio campaign and ads in over 30 sport arenas in Helsinki. There is also a plan to execute a TV campaign in the latest week to boost ticket sales.

Mr. Suman asked what the expectation are for spectators for the final weekend, as there is a trend that spectators buy tickets only very late and only very close to the actual event now after Covid-19. Ms. Vuori answered that the LOC is working hard to fill the arena and there is no indication that filling the arena could not be possible.

Mr. Liljelund reported upon the preparations concerning the TV production and cooperation with the TV takers. IFF has made the agreements with the takers from Czech Republic/Czech TV, Latvia/Sportcentrs, Norway/TV2, Slovakia/RTVS, Sweden/SVT and Switzerland/SRG. These countries will take their own matches and then the final matches. In Finland YLE is acting as the Host Broadcaster, even if the TV production is done by the IFF TV-production company PolarHD. The signal distribution and the uplink are handled by YLE. Due to contractual reasons the live streaming will be blocked for the Norwegian matches in Norway and the matches broadcasted on SVT in Sweden. **(Appendix 10)**

The IFF TV Sales partner Protocol Sports Marketing has made a deal with the following TV companies Olympic Channel (Global), Canada/CBC Sports, Germany/Sportdeutschland.tv, Russia/TV Star and USA/(Canada)/beIN Sport and NBC Sport delayed. PSM is further in negotiations with the following countries and regions: Poland,/PolSat, Ukraine/MEGOGO or Poverkhnost, Australia/FoxSport, USA/NBC Sport, Singapore, Indonesia, Denamark, Thailand/TrueVision, China/Tencent, Malaysia and Estonia. IFF has secured the satellite delivery from the Event and for most of the takers Protocol Sports are working on will be made over IP delivery/RTMP.

Mr. Suman felt that the TV situation is better than expected and asked if the new channels will be showing the matches on their main channels or just on the web-sites. Mr. Liljelund answered that there is not yet information about this.

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

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

Mr. Klabere reported on the U19 WFC 2020 in Uppsala, Sweden. It was important to organise this event to get experience in front of the WFC 2021. The financial result was a loss of 100,000 EUR. **(Appendix 12)** All teams and IFF officials had to undergo Antigen testing during the event

and no positive tests were returned. The atmosphere around the tournament has been very positive and the new Swedish association management have adopted a new approach to the event organisation, which has worked well.

YouTube statistics were very pleasing considering that we had a significantly reduced number of games and only nine teams playing. Also the fact that all Swedish Games were geo-blocked for the Swedish market and that the Men's U19 WFC 2021 was played just in the previous week. **(Appendix 13)**

As a comparison, here are the figures compared with the same event from 2018:

			Views	Minutes watched	New subscribers
Women's U19 WFC	2018	Switzerland	265 966	2 756 734	1 453
Women's U19 WFC	2020	Sweden	244 608	2 926 320	846

IFF conducted a Future of Floorball evaluation survey during the Event and the report showed mixed feelings about the 3 x 15 minutes format. Many comments were made in regards to the effect of penalties when playing with a reduced time, and the tactical changes. There were also several comments regarding the positive effect on making results closer. This was not the exact Future of Floorball format in that although we played with 3x15mins, teams were allowed the full list of 20 players. **(Appendix 14)** Mr. Klabere felt that it was positive to have the questionnaire made and gives insight for how to make the evaluation of the WFCQ's in 2022.

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

c) **Next Events**

**WFC 2021, Uppsala, Sweden**

Mr. Klabere reported of the final round preparations for the Women's WFC to be played in Uppsala from 27<sup>th</sup> of November to 5<sup>th</sup> of December. **(Appendix 15)**

The LOC is composed by 23 persons from the Swedish Floorball Federation, District of Uppland, IFU Arena and the City of Uppsala. Ms. Ebba Wengström, the WFC project manager is leading the LOC. The LOC has all together some 340 volunteers. The team transportations are organised by the LOC, apart from the two teams using their own bus. Five of the teams are accommodated in the Arenahotellet, just across the parking lot from IFU Arena

All the entrances to and in the arena are managed by both professional security and volunteers. There is an Information Desk at the players entrance, open 2 hours before the first game of the day, and 1 hour after the last game. Each team will have their own locker room for the whole tournament, as the whole tournament is played under one roof.

All matches and trainings under one roof. To minimise the spreading of the Covid-19 virus only a limited number of people will have access to the Field of Play and Team Areas. The Covid protocols for the event have been finalised by the IFF and the LOC, taking into consideration that most covid-19 regulations in Sweden have been removed.

The final has been sold out for regular tribune tickets, but there are some hospitality tickets still left. The teams have a special tribune reserved for them. The ticket sales has increased rapidly in week 44 when the club tickets where released, which should increase the sales for the group matches

Total number of sponsor sales (for U19 and WFC) is 1,38 million SEK. The goal was to reach 2,5 million. A number of marketing events has been arranged since 1st of October (when restrictions were removed), through visibility in SSL games, digital screens in Uppsala and a Marketing Event at Gränby Centrum (local Mall) with Amanda Delgado Johansson and other national team players. The WFC budget prognose as per 9<sup>th</sup> of November shows a financial result of - 1,2 million SEK. The goal is to go break even. Mr. King asked what the plans are to cover the present loss. Mr. Klabere answered that he doesn't have exact figure, but most likely through sponsorship. The work is continuing to find new sponsors.

The organisation is on track, but many important matters are still to be confirmed, which is concerning as we are so close to the event.

The LOC is monitoring the Covid-19 situation together with IFF on a continuous basis and all needed documents have been prepared. From the team delegations there are only 15 unvaccinated players/team officials who will need to undergo testing during the event.

Running up to the WFC there has been some concerns and criticism from players mainly in Sweden to the choice of the IFU arena as the venue for the finals of the event, as it is perceived to be too small for an WFC Final games. The Swedish Federation and IFF has answered that at the time in 2018 when the decision was made, there were very few alternatives, after China had given back the U19 WFC 2020 and there was no other association willing to organise the U19 WFC. The Swedish federation offered to organise both the U19 WFC 2020 and the Women's WFC 2021. As the City of Uppsala were the only interested City the choice was clear. The IFF and the Swedish federation has discussed the spectator capacity throughout the process, which is mainly too small for only the final games.

Mr. Eriksson felt that it is important that every know what the backgrounds are for the Women's WFC 2021 is played in IFU arena. Ms. Plechan felt that it is important to understand that the question of the IFU arena is an equality issue, that the event is played in a much smaller than for the Men's WFC. Ms. Vuori felt that it important to find ways to get more people to the finals in the Women's WFC, but have the event played in a suitable venue. Mr. Eriksson also stressed that the question has been delt in an excellent way by the Swedish secretary general Mikael Ahlerup and the IFF secretary general in the Media.

Mr. Liljelund reported upon the preparations concerning the TV production and cooperation with the TV takers. IFF has made the agreements with the takers from Czech Republic/Czech TV, Finland/YLE, Latvia/Sportcentrs, Norway/TV2, Slovakia/RTVS and Switzerland/SRG. These countries will take their own matches and then the final matches. In Sweden SVT is acting as the Host Broadcaster, even if the TV production is done by a Swedish company called Rego and the uplink is organised by the company Mobile Links Ab. Due to contractual reasons the live streaming will be blocked for the Norwegian matches in Norway and the matches broadcasted on SVT in Sweden. SVT will also produce a documentary about the Kauppi sisters during the WFC. **(Appendix 16)**

The IFF TV Sales partner Protocol Sports Marketing has made a deal with the following TV companies Olympic Channel (Global), Canada/CBC Sports, Germany/Sportdeutschland.tv, Russia/TV Star and USA/(Canada)/beIN Sport and NBC Sport delayed. A deal is also made with W Sport for Africa.

PSM is further in negotiations with the following countries and regions:

Poland,/PolSat, Ukraine/MEGOGO or Poverkhnost, Australia/FoxSport, Singapore, Indonesia, Denmark, Thailand/TrueVision, China/Tencent, Malaysia and Estonia. IFF has secured the satellite delivery from the Event and for most of the takers Protocol Sports are working on will be made over IP delivery/RTMP.

Mr. Suman asked if the production company Rego has got experience of Floorball. Mr. Liljelund answered that the personnel has a lot of experience of Floorball from Champions Cup and the WFC 2014

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

**d) Upcoming Events**

**WFC 2022, Zurich, Switzerland**

Mr. Beer reported on the preparations (**Appendix 17**). The preparations are on track and the LOC organisation will be enlarged in December when Mr. Lukas Steiger will start as responsible for special events (Ballot, Mobiliar Street Floorball Tour, partner and networking events). The set target of 1 million in marketing revenue has been reached, but there are still some ongoing negotiations. The ticket pre-sale started in October and already some 15 % of the targeted ticket sales budget has been reached. There are some 150 Swiss Floorball Clubs already registered for the Support unlimited promotion campaign, giving the clubs a kickback if a ticket is bought for the Swiss group matches using this promotion code. The LOC has visited the SwissLife arena last week and all looks good with the new arena being built.

There has been a media partnership agreed with Ringler AG, with the focus on a Star program, working on creating Floorball faces in Switzerland. The program started with inclusion of Luca Graf, Pascal Meier and Tim Braillard. These players will also feature in the documentary made for the WFC 2002 and broadcasted prior to the Event. The LOC is planning to present a Mascot during the spring 2022.

The Mobiliar Street Floorball Tour was very successful in 2021 and for 2022 there is a plan to arrange 8-10 events.

The cooperation with the sustainability partner myclimate, has proven to be a little to slow for the LOC, so there are now considerations taken to find other solutions to work with the sustainability topics. The goal is to launch the CO2-calculator in February in connection to the Green Goal Awards.

An arena inspection will be carried out by IFF in connection with the Champions Cup 2022 in January.

Mr. Eriksson congratulated the SUHV for already now reaching the 1 million sponsorship sales target. Mr. Suman also felt that this is great to have reached the marketing budget. Mr. Suman asked if there is any insight related to the change of the dates in November. Mr. Beer has not looked into this matter, but don't think that there is a such a big impact of the dates.

Mr. King asked when the ballot will be done. Mr. Beer answered that it will be held in March. As the AOFC countries will only play in June, the AOFC will be balloted as the AOFC 1 etc.

The WFCQ 2022 EUR (Italy, Latvia and Poland) and Americas in USA are all set. The AOFC qualification will most probably be played in 5<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> of June in Singapore, based on the proposal from AOFC. Also for these events the Covid situation will need to be considered.

Go/No-go dates for EUR are set for 13<sup>th</sup> December (Teams) & 15<sup>th</sup> December (LOCs).

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

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

Mr. Kratz reported that in accordance with the decisions taken by the IFF CB the IFF Office has been in active contact with Floorball New Zealand concerning the possibilities to organise the U19 WFC in New Zealand in 2022. Floorball New Zealand have advised the IFF that due to the ongoing Covid-19 restrictions in New Zealand, especially in regard to international travellers, they are unable to host the Women's U19 WFC 2022 in May 2022. The event was planned to be held in Wellington, New Zealand, from 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> May 2022. (**Appendix 18**)

Floorball New Zealand held meetings with government agencies and Sport New Zealand, but it could not be guaranteed that the travel restrictions, which currently include mandatory hotel quarantine, would be lifted for all participants in time for the event. Floorball New Zealand offered the possibility to host the event in May 2023 as an alternative but based on the feedback received from the IFF members in regard to the consecutive U19 WFC's in Brno and Uppsala, this is not a preferred situation for anyone.

It was initially decided to convey the information of the cancellation of the New Zealand U19 WFC only after the IFF CB meeting in November, but as the LOC in New Zealand and the IFF was receiving increasing questions in regard to the situation, The IFF Office published the news that Floorball New Zealand is not in position to organise the event due to the Covid-19 related travel restrictions on the 4<sup>th</sup> of November.

The IFF Competition office has been in discussions with Slovakia as an alternative organiser In a letter of 11<sup>th</sup> of November (**Appendix 11**) they express their willingness to organise and that they are taking steps to realise this but are still waiting for confirmations of financial support. The assumption from SFA is that a final statement from them could be informed by 19<sup>th</sup> November. Mr. Beer and Mr. Suman asked what the plan is if Slovakia can't organise the U19 WFC 2022, Mr. Kratz answered that at the moment we have no real back-up plan.

Mr. Kratz further reported that Denmark and Hungary qualified to the final round from the qualification played in Saku, Estonia 8<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup> of September 2021.

The teams qualified for the U19 WFC 2022 are: Finland, Sweden, Czech Republic, Switzerland, Poland, Norway, Slovakia, Germany, Russia, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Hungary, Denmark and Singapore.

The Go/No-go dates will need to be set with the appointed organiser and it is important that we clearly confirm how replacement teams will be considered in the case of countries not being able to participate due to Covid-19. Replacement countries must be considered based on registration first, then regional considerations and ranking.

**CB decided:** To approve the report and give the secretary general the right to execute the organiser contract for the U19 WFC 2022

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

Mr. Liljelund reported that the negotiations with the organiser of the WFC 2023 has started in October and the plan is to finalise the agreement latest in January 2022, to give the LOC and their partners enough time to prepare for the event. The WFC 2023 LOC will organise a Study Trip to the Helsinki WFC 2020 with representatives of SFA, the Singapore Tourist Board and Reddnet's TV company.

Ms. Siriwat felt that it is very good for the region and the SFA has good experience with organising events. Mr. King feels that there will be a lot of spectators and the Event will be well organised and presented. The AOFC needs to activate its members in relation to the Event.

The discussions with the Swedish association for the WFC 2024 will start during the first part of 2022.

**CB decided:** to approve the report

e) **Covid-19 topics**

**Covid-19 Impact Study**

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Ms. Mitchell, that the Covid-19 Impact Study report will be presented during the IFF Associations Meeting, and a workshop will be organised to discuss how to move out from the Covid-19 pandemic.

**Covid-19 Event Status Update**

**WFC 2021 – Sweden**

All teams have provided the vaccination status of their teams and we have around 20 players/officials who are unvaccinated and will require testing during the event. Due to the logistical issues around arranging regular PCR tests and the very high costs (250e per test) we have agreed with the LOC to amend the requirement slightly.

Originally, all unvaccinated team delegation members were to be required to do a PCR test upon arrival and every 72 hrs onwards, while still participating in the event. This will be changed to them being required to do Antigen test every 24hrs during participation in the event. Cost of 3 x PCR would have been 750 euro. Cost of daily antigen tests will be approx. 120 euro. Teams will receive the antigen tests at the 1<sup>st</sup> Technical Meeting and will need reported the results each day to the LOC Covid-19 Compliance Official.

The Russian team delegation are mostly fully vaccinated, but with the Sputnik V vaccine, which is not officially recognised in the EU. We will require all of those who have the Sputnik vaccine to do Antigen tests every 72hrs while participating in the event. Those who are unvaccinated must do Antigen tests every day. Total cost will be approx. 1200 euro They will receive the antigen tests at the 1<sup>st</sup> Technical Meeting and will need reported the results each day to the LOC Covid-19 Compliance Official.

On request of the LOC, to bring the protocols closer in line with local regulations, the face mask rules have been amended. Teams & IFF Officials must wear face masks at all times in the venue, transport & hotel. For other groups, face masks are only required in specific parts of the venue – Level 0 (Team locker rooms and team corridor), Field of Play, and Mixed Zone. All team members – players & officials may be without a mask during a match.

**WFC 2020 – Helsinki**

All teams have provided the vaccination status of their teams and we have around 20 players/officials who are unvaccinated and will require testing during the event.

These players/officials will need to undergo PCR testing every 72 hrs from the start of the event until when they are no longer participating. Test costs will be approx. 120 euro each and most will require 3 PCR tests during the event.

The LOC has requested the addition of an antigen test for ALL team delegation members prior to their first entry to the Competition venues. For most teams this will be prior to their training session on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. The tests will be managed by LOC appointed medical staff. The teams will need to allow approx. 30 mins for the testing and then can enter the venue. They

do not need to wait for the results before they can enter – the results will be delivered to the team prior to their departure from the venue.

In the interests of fairness, the IFF Competition office propose that all IFF Officials also need to undergo this same antigen test prior to their first entry to the Competition venue. How this will be managed will be decided later between the IFF & LOC. There might still be decided, that masks will only be required in specific parts of the venue (FOP, team areas, mixed zone) – still to be confirmed by LOC.

#### **CC 2022 – Switzerland**

The event will use the same protocols for participation as those which are required for entry to Switzerland from the participating countries – certificate of vaccinate, certificate of recovery, or negative PCR test result.

Mr. Beer asked who will need to cover the costs for the tests. Mr. Halonen answered that the teams or their federations and the IFF are to cover the costs for the tests.

**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 15<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> January 2022. The LOC is built by the Club Winterthur and the Swiss association. The ticket presale will start on the 10<sup>th</sup> of November. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Team information letter is planned to be sent in the end of November to the participating teams, including information about daily program, transportation and other topics.

The accommodations for the Event all are set and the transportation from/to the airport will be handled mostly by public transport. The AXA-Arena has been tested in the Superfinals in the spring and. PolarHD will make the production for the Event, but Swiss TV SRG is not interested in broadcasting the Event. The volunteers will come from the club HC Rychenberg, as they are also the LOC for the 2<sup>nd</sup> venue for the WFC 2022. Presently the budget shows a deficit of 108.000 CHF.

Covid-19 protocols have been set for the event and the situation will be monitored by the IFF & LOC. In consequence Teams, Officials, IFF, volunteers and spectators will meet the same COVID-19 protocol criteria. Everyone over 16 years needs to have a valid certificate.

All teams have confirmed their participation in the event according to the Go/No-go date as of the 3<sup>rd</sup> of November. The LOC informed of their decision to Go on 5<sup>th</sup> of November.

Mr. Liljelund reported that the Champions Cup Steering Group (CCSG) will have its next meeting in Winterthur during the CC 2022.

Ms. Vuori reported that the Champion Cup 2023, which will be the last edition of this format, will be played in Finland from the 7.-8.1.2023 in Finland. The city is still to be decided, while looking for the season's champions.

**CB decided:** To approve the reports

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

Mr. Kratz reported that he is looking for an organiser for the EFC 2022. Considering the tight programme next year there is a wish to be very flexible with possible dates both for the EFC as well as the EuroFloorball Challenge.

**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, the preparation for the Extraordinary General Assembly and the IFF Association Meeting.

The President has had several meetings with the secretary general to look over the present financial situation and the forecast related to the present situation with both WFC's being played.

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 was to hold the next meeting in the middle of October, if possible, even as a physical meeting. Unfortunately, there has not been enough time to arrange the meeting prior to the WFC's and the plan is now to agree when to have the meeting in January 2022. 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 EFT countries have continued the process to work on the proposal for the concept for the Euro Floorball Championships (EFC) in the EFC group and have now prepared a renewed proposal. (**Appendix 20**) The EFC would be played during the week of the international weekend in beginning of September, to begin with 8 teams, but the possibility to enlarge the event to 12 teams. The EFC will be played so that the Men's EFC will be played in the year of the Women's WFC and vice versa. As the question concerning the Quota system have been changed then the risk for locking the teams in the EFC has also been avoided.

The IFF Consultative meeting concerning the Euro Floorball Championships will be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December, in connection to the WFC 2020 in Helsinki. As the EFC-group has brought a reviewed proposal of the EFC to the CB the proposal is that the CB will ask the RACC to look at it and be prepared to evaluate the pros and cons of the proposal for the Next IFF CB meeting. The EFC group will present the concept at the Consultative meeting, the RACC will give their principal view and the member associations can comment upon the proposal and then it will be discussed. Based on the outcome of the Consultative meeting the IFF CB and the RACC, in cooperation with the EFT group will finalise the proposal for the IFF General Assembly 2022 in Zurich.

**CB decided:** to approve the report, take cognisance of the EFC proposal and ask the RACC to review it prior to the next CB meeting.

### **b) Strategy Implementation**

Mr. King reported on the work of the IFF Strategy Implementation working group (SWG). The Implementation work has now moved more to the four Strategy subgroups, dealing with making more concrete plans for how to move forward with the Implementation of the targets set in the Strategy for the period 2021-2024. Some of the Subgroups have been divided to smaller groups working with one or two concrete targets and starting to produce task list from there. The

Strategy Working group is to look over the progress prior to the IFF Association meeting. The Strategy Working Group will work out a action plan and a recommendation for the time table and responsible for the concrete actions by March

The idea is still 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 discussion between the Strategy working group and the chairs of the subgroups on the output for the Association meeting.

Mr. Liljelund reported that as a part of the IFF Strategy Implementation process Quantum Consultancy has now finalised the Review metrics for the Strategy Implementation to be included in the IFF Event Studies in the period 2021-2024. Quantum Consulting made a mapping exercise to finalise an agreed set of data metrics which will be used to evaluate individual editions of the WFC over the next decade. (**Appendix 21**) As part of this:

- 88 IFF Strategy KPIs were analysed,
- 38 of these KPIs were deemed relevant to WFC evaluation and corresponding evaluation metrics were defined.

This should help the Strategy Implementation Working group to move forward.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

#### c) **CB Member responsibilities**

Mr. Houman reported about the Six Nations associations steering group activities and that due to Covid-19 pandemic Denmark, Latvia and Norway couldn't participate at the tournament, which was held with the Slovakian Federation as the host, for both tournaments for men and women for Germany, Poland and Slovakia.

The seminar was cancelled this year but will be organised next year and will be open for other Member Associations as well. The seminar will be for free, those who are participating outside six nations, have to cover travel and accommodation for their participants. The host for the next tournament will be Germany, and at the WFC in Helsinki, the first talks will be held. The tournament will be played during the IFF international weekend 29.-30. October 2022.

Mr. Lopez reported on the situation in Latin America and concluded that after the CB decision to approve Colombia as a provisional member of IFF some additional movements has happened in the region towards more interest in following that step by other countries.

There was an online meeting held with the representatives of Ecuador and Peru, as well as with Mr. Osneider Ortega, President of Colombia Floorball. The meeting discussed the process of recognition, seeing the individual difficulties and requirements. We looked over different possibilities regarding the specific laws in each country. IFF presented the advantages of advancing in that path and Ecuador and Peru both agreed to start the process in their countries.

Colombia has also asked for help to set some documents in order to get official recognition by their own National Sport Organisation. The document has been prepared in cooperation with IFF Office and sent to the Colombian association. In addition to this the Brazil association has received the official recognition by their NOC (already published in IFF News) and continued with their activities and competitions after the Covid19 pandemic. There has been no contact with Venezuela for a long time. The CB finds the recognition of Brazil as a very important step in the development and the cooperation with Special Olympics will help to boost the development.

Mr. Suman reported on the progress of the Czech Erasmus+ project Floorball - Fit for Future (**Appendix 34**), where they real work started already in beginning of the year, but due to Covid19 pandemic the first physical three day's workshop of the parties has been held in Prague in October discussing the maturity of the federations and looking over the over 30 tasks defined in the project.

The first pillar of the project has now been finalised and the result has been collected in a Summary report – How to describe a Federation. The document is a live document, which can be edited to help the associations on how they can be developed. The second pillar will be analysing the results of the large questionnaire made to the participating associations, to be able to define their different level of operations.

Mr. Lopez, being a part of the project, it has helped the Spanish association to keep alive. Mr. Halonen feels that the project is very important, as it also makes the bigger associations to look over the way they are thinking. It is a very good process.

Mr. Hidir reported on the situation in East-Europe and in the Middle-East, there are some of the associations to participate in the Association Meeting in Helsinki. There are some communications with different countries. Mr. Suman felt that it would be important that there would be a more practical level of reports in the different countries in the region, what is going on. Mr. Eriksson agreed with Mr. Suman, that it would be good to get more information from the Eastern-Europe countries.

Ms. Siriwat reported on the situation in Asia.

Mr. King reported on the AOFC CB meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of October as a virtual meeting. (**Appendix 22**) Twelve countries participated online in the meeting. Most of the countries are starting playing again. There are nine teams playing in Kazakhstan. Mr. Klabere asked if there are some plans from IFF to include the African Teams in the WFC's qualification in AOFC. The CB concluded that there are no such plans presently.

Ms. Vuori reported on the plans for the Membership Service function and the activities to be taken. (**Appendix 33**) There is a clear need to have a platform to share information and best practises. The work will start in the beginning of next year. The process has already started to use an on-line software robots to deal with the team lists for the accreditation.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

## § 8. International Sports

### International Olympic Committee/IOC

Mr. Eriksson reported that the IOC Sport Department has given out new directives for how the Recognised International Federations are to use the IOC rings on their websites and in their social media.

### General Association of International Sport Associations/GAISF

Mr. Eriksson reported that the GAISF SportAccord convention in Ekaterinburg, Russia which had been postponed for the 15<sup>th</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> of May 2022, still to be held in Ekaterinburg, Russia. As the deadline for signing the deal for the exhibition booth at the SportAccord exhibition, in order to support the development of Russian Floorball and giving more visibility for Floorball., was by the end of September. IFF decided in the very unclear situation not to make the investment, as we

will be able to be part of the United through Sport Youth Festival and our financial situation is not yet giving opportunities for such additional costs.

The IF Forum was held as a virtual meeting with the theme of November edition focussing on **'Tokyo 2020 – Learnings and Take-Aways for the Future'** with the programme content driven by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF).

The GAISF AGM 2021 was held as a virtual meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of November. The GAISF AGM elected Mr. Ivo Ferriani as the new GAISF President (Bobb sledge and skeleton), representing the Olympic Winter sports (AOWIF). The AGM also approved the proposed change of the statutes to re-define the system for the membership structure with a clarification for the Observer status for applicants. Tennis and Rugby had some questions, but President Chiulli didn't allow them to speak before the voting on the statute changes. The International Practical Shooting Federation (IPSF) was approved as ordinary member with 62% in favour and 38 against. Also new membership was given to the Pan-American Sport Confederation and The Asian Martial Arts Confederation were approved as Associated members. GAISF announced the next Combat Games to be organised in Riad, Saudi Arabia in 2023. The GAISF aims to announce the hosts of the GAISF Urban Games 2023 and 2025 prior to the SportAccord in Ekaterinburg next May.

Mr. Eriksson felt that the running of the GAISF AGM would require more room for the possibility to ask questions and discuss topics especially during virtual meetings.

#### **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 ARISF President has sent out the material for the ARISF AGM to the ARISF members and included a proposal for a change of the Statutes to include the possibility for ARISF to promote and organise multi-sport games, without that this has been discussed and approved by the ARISF Council. Neither the financial documents presented to the members have been seen prior to having been sent to the members been approved by the Council. As a result of this and a number of other issues in the way President Chiulli has acted we have with Mr. Tom Hollowell as ARISF council members sent a letter to president Chiulli to protest against the way of how ARISF is being run, (**Appendix 23**) Mr. Liljelund had received a number of questions from a number of ARISF members of what is going on and in this situation it is no longer possible not to react to this kind of behaviour which is against the statutes of ARISF and all principles of Good Governance, especially as it had previously been discussed in the ARISF Council that the question of multisport games needs to be discussed with the IOC and GAISF.

Mr. Houman applauds the approach the IFF taken towards to the Governance organisation. Mr. Suman felt that as ARISF is the most important International organisation for IFF, therefore we need to be active to build the operations of ARIFS.

The AGM will be held in order to secure the elections still during 2021. The candidate 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 (orienteeing/re-election). There might need to be some

lobby work done to secure the election of Mr. Liljelund. Mr. Eriksson has been in contact with a number of ARISF member to discuss the upcoming elections.

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

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 Ones in a Lifetime/Witness history. IFF will make a separate visit to Birmingham in January, the timetable has not been confirmed by the BOC yet.

IFF is running an activation campaign during both WFC's to raise the awareness of the coming World Games and also pushing for more visibility for The World Games. Some activations will also be made prior to both WFC's.

IFF has updated our plans for the Demo sport during the event at the World Games Plaza and the USFbA and IFF has published the TWG volunteers' application invitation for the TWG on the organisations channels. USFbA has started the discussion with the BOC about the needed volunteers.

IFF will activate the promotional campaigns after the WFC's, when we know which teams will qualify for the TWG. There has just not been enough time or resources to do other things than preparing for the WFC's. The IFF will have a coordination meeting with the USFbA representatives during the WFC in Helsinki.

IFF has further nominated the Czech U19 WFC 2021 Champions for the IWGA Athlete of the Year competition. IFF will together with the Czech Floorball promote this candidate as soon as the y have been published.

Mr. Suman asked how visible the World Games are during the WFC's in Uppsala and Helsinki. For Wroclaw we have built an information campaign for the WFC's. Mr. Suman asked if it would be a good idea to arrange a meeting with the qualified countries in the end of the WFC in Helsinki. The qualified teams will officially be presented after the decisive matches in the WFC. Mr. Liljelund and Mr. Suman both felt that the World Games promotion is the most important event during the first part of 2022.

Mr. Hidir felt that it is very important for the teams that can participate, but it is also a very good argument for all the IFF members.

Mr. Beer informed that the Swiss Men's team staff had some questions about participation in The World Games in Birmingham.

### **University Sport/FISU**

Mr. Lopez reported that he has conducted a site visit in Liberec, Czech Republic for the upcoming FISU World University Cup in Floorball in 2022. The event is organised by FISU and the Czech University Sport and there is a cooperation with the Czech Floorball on the technical level as Mr. Petr Chvojka is now helping out.

The venues and organisation are well in place and in accordance with IFF Regulations. Mr. Lopez has also discussed the issues of how to get more Universities to participate in the event

and the issues that have been reported by Universities to IFF, concerning the price of the events. There seems to be a slight issue in the communication of the Security fee. (**Appendix 24**) The main issue is that the LOC has not been able to find Universities to participate in the event and it seems that they have been speaking to the wrong entities, as there has not been direct contact with the Universities but trying to go through the IFF member associations. In the future there might be a need to look over the format of the Floorball tournament.

Mr. Suman felt that we need to explain to the players that they can go to the University teams, as the price is not that high. The issue has been the level of communication from the Liberec LOC. Mr. Plechan expressed that the IFF ATC could spread the message of the event and the real possibility for the students to form their own teams from the university to go and play in the FISU Event.

Mr. Hidir informed that in Ukraine the Sports Committee of Ukraine are organizing their own student multi-sports events in which Floorball is now included. Unfortunately so far Sports Students Union of Ukraine (SSUU) haven't been interested in doing the same.

## **Multi-Sport Games**

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

Ms. Siriwat reported that the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games 2022, which were to be played from the 10<sup>th</sup> - 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2022, have again been postponed and the new dates are November 17<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 in Thailand and in Bangkok/Chon Buri.

As the next edition of the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games 2024 will be played in Saudi Arabia, there is a need to support the formation of a Saudi Floorball federation in Saudi Arabia, to facilitate Floorball on the next edition of the AIMAG in Saudi Arabia in 2024.

## **SEA Games 2021**

Ms. Siriwat reported on the preparations with regards to the upcoming Southeast Asian Games (SEA GAMES) which are to 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.

The next edition of the SEA Games will be played on May 5<sup>th</sup> -16<sup>th</sup>, 2023, in Phnom Penh Cambodia, and Floorball will appear on the program. There is a need to assist with coaching seminars, setting up the national team of Cambodia, and materials of sticks, balls, and a rink.

**CB decided:** To approve the reports and clarify the situation concerning the participation of Floorball in The World Games Sport Garden.

## **§ 9. Committees and Commissions**

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

Mr. Klabere reported on the RACC meeting held 2<sup>nd</sup> of November. (**Appendix 25**)

The RACC proposes the introduction of Sporting Nationality, as well as citizenship, to define the eligibility to represent a country and an update of the competition regulations for national teams and friendly international matches that follows from this (**Appendix 26ab**). There have been more

questions on the question of nationality, as Floorball is growing and fixing some of the gaps the IFF has had before. The proposal can provide for the possibility to play for the country the player has lived in for a longer period of time.

Mr. Suman asked about the provisions in the proposed regulations. Mr. Klabere explained that the proposal has been built based on the existing rules of other International Sport Federations. Mr. King expressed that in Australia you will need to be a citizen or permanent resident permits to be a member of the National Teams. Mr. Halonen expressed that for example that in Burkina Faso the player didn't know if they are citizens or not.

The CC 2022 LOC approached the IFF with the question on how to solve a situation when a team withdraws in such a late time that the national Federation of that team will not be able to confirm a replacement.

The current regulations take care of withdrawals only in such a way that defines how the National Associations can replace their champions:

*2.3 If a national champion cannot participate, due to reasons beyond control, the National Association may apply to the RACC for the runner-up or winner of the National Association Cup to participate. The IFF CB shall decide, based upon the proposal of the RACC. The decision is final*

Since how to handle late withdrawals is not covered by the regulations, an addition to the regulations, especially in consideration of the Covid-19 situation, has been worked out:

*In case of a late withdrawal of a team from the event, and where the National Association of the withdrawn team cannot confirm a replacement in good time, the LOC is allowed to secure a replacement team from the organising country National Federation.*

If approved by the IFF GA 2021, the WFC 2022 will use the Future of Floorball testing playing system, meaning 3 x 15mins and 17 players / 5 officials.

From the feedback received from TWG 2017 and the recent Women's U19 WFC 2020 where 3 x 15 minutes playing time was used, one of the biggest concerns was to do with the effect of penalties, in particular 5-minute penalties, on the outcome of a match.

Due to the above the IFF office had prepared a proposal that all IFF events and international matches from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 should be played according to the Game Rules edition 2022, which includes the change of the 5-minute penalty to a 2+2 minute penalty.

RACC discussed the proposal and concluded that a full implementation for all international matches from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022 would be the best option. It should be made clear that the early implementation would only apply to IFF events and Friendly internationals and not to Member Associations for their national leagues. The RACC also was of the opinion that if the CB is not in favour of a full implementation, then the RACC proposes that the 2+2 minutes penalty (instead of 5 minute penalty) be applied for the WFCQ 2022 only.

Mr. Suman asked if there will be any question from the National associations would ask if they can play the national series with the new rules. Mr. Klabere expressed that this is not likely in the middle of the season.

The qualification system for the AOFC team to The World Games 2022 has been discussed within AOFC. The question was raised by Australia and brought to the IFF by the AOFC.

The original qualification system, prepared before Covid-19 and decided by the GA 2020, was that the best placed AOFC team at WFC 2020 would qualify for TWG 2022. There is no

alternative plan that considers a situation where teams qualified for WFC 2020 may not be able to participate.

The IFF competition office believed, in the interests of fairness now when we know that Australia and Japan will not be able to participate due to the Covid-19 situation, the qualification system for the AOFC should be revised and has prepared a proposal which the RACC agreed upon and decided to put forward to the CB.

The proposal is that Australia and Japan's placings from WFC 2018 should be considered against the placings of the AOFC teams at WFC 2020. Australia was placed 12th at WFC 2018 and Japan 15th. So, if any AOFC team places 12th or higher at WFC 2020 they will then qualify to TWG 2022. If the best placed AOFC team at WFC 2020 is placed 13th or lower, then Australia will qualify for TWG 2022.

**CB decided:** To approve the reports, the proposal on introduction of Sports Nationality and the updates in regulations that follows, the proposal on how to handle late withdrawal of teams in the Champions Cup 2022, and to fully implement the Game Rules edition 2022 for IFF events and friendly internationals from 1<sup>st</sup> February 2022.

Further to decide to propose to the GA to change the system for qualification of the AOFC team to The World Games 2022.

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

Mr. Lopez reported that the implementation work in the RC of the Physical Play project has started after the CB approved it in September. The plan is to start the first phase work already in both upcoming adults' WFCs, mainly by describing the project to the referees and to start the work to adopt the levels of defined offences. The plan is to run a virtual seminar for all the IFF observers in mid-January, so that the first steps can also be taken in the IFF member associations broadly.

The working group is also having its continuum meeting in November to plan the seminar and to expand the video library needed for the project.

The RC has made following referee nominations for tournaments.

- 2 nations in Latvia
- 6 nations tournament
- Women's and WU19 EFT in Finland
- Men's U23 2-nations
- 2 nations in Norway
- 5 Nations in France
- Adria Cup

The fact that there has been the following nominations means that we are back on track concerning International Friendly Matches.

Mr. Lopez informed about the nomination process for the International Referees 2021-2022, and that the Finnish Floorball Federation made an application for a re-nomination of one referee pair, which the RC declined. The CB took cognizance of the updated situation

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**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. IFF has asked help from the IOC to find the same version of the Anthem used by IOC during the Tokyo Olympics.

WADA has approved the solutions proposed by IFF.

There have been several TUE applications sent in to the IFF. but most athletes wouldn't require a TUE (as they don't exceed the tolerate dosages per day). There are also an Anti-Doping Education required from adult players. Most teams decided to do it on online-platforms prior to the Events.

The IFF competition department received an inquiry regarding the IFF Transgender rules and the use of testosterone. The question was referred to the Medical Committee and a response given to the National Association that inquired. It highlighted the fact that the IFF does not have any such rules and that we should take some actions to introduce them. The Medical Chair, Walter Frey, recommended decisions on such cases should be reviewed by a specially appointed 'Gender Panel'. He has contacts to an already established core-panel which was in place for FIFA World Cup 2019 and he suggests that rather than starting from scratch, this panel could be revived with the addition of members of the IFF. This will be followed up with the Medical Committee.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**d) Athletes commission**

Ms. Plechan reported that the ATC has still not heard anything back from WADA concerning the IFF CB nomination of the IFF ATC chair Ms. Agata Plechan to the WADA Athlete Commission.

During the upcoming WFC's the ATC members are supporting the launch of the IFF FairFloorball campaign by recording short videos on all topics included in the campaign:

FairPlay: anti-doping/anti-betting & game manipulation/ rules: Josefina Eiremo & Tomas Sladky  
FairAccess – Special Olympics / Wheelchair Floorball Sergio Garces & Yui Takahashi  
FairTreatment – Ethics / Discrimination / Racism / Respect Junoh Lee & Kabazina Daphine  
FairFuture – Youth / Development Jarno Ihme & Lara Heini

There will be ATC members present at the Women's WFC in Uppsala to also support the IFF Sustainability campaign Stick with it! and donate their old floorball equipment to the campaign. The plan is to publish this on the IFF social media when this happens to promote the programme. So far there has not been any concrete plans if this can happen also for the WFC in Helsinki, , but hopefully it can arrange it during both WFC's.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**e) Development Committee (DevC)**

Mr. Houman reported that the first meeting of the IF Development committee was held on the 21<sup>st</sup> of October 2021 as a virtual meeting. The objective for the meeting focused on the introduction of the committee members and the chair Mr. Houman introduced the preliminary tasks set for the Development Committee set by the IFF Central Board in connection to the foundation of the Development Committee. The IFF CB had decided among other topics, to investigate how to build an educational staircase for the IFF education system. The next meeting will be held as a virtual meeting after WFC 2021. **(Appendix 27)**

Mr. Halonen reported that there are plans to start to run the live development seminars during the first half of the year 2022 assuming the opening of the world after the Covid19 will continue. There are challenges though. There is a great need for coaching education in several member associations especially in the AOFC area and there are few virtual seminars planned and scheduled for example for Indonesia and for New Zealand, which will be ran by the AOFC educators.

The new rules of the game will also create the need for further educations for the referee educators in order to secure that the change will be as smooth as possible.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**f) Entourage Commission (ENC)**

Mr. Hidir reported that the work in relation to the IFF Entourage Commission, has not really started yet as it is a challenge to find the optimal working methods.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**§ 10. Functions**

**a) Communication function**

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Mr. Kihm that IFF has started a partnership with SportaPost. They have prepared custom-made templates for the IFF that will be utilised within IFF social media, mostly on IFF Instagram during both WFC. With this we can create a better corporate visual identity during the two events

Our Belgian Social Media Ambassadors have been very active and suggested: There will be three T-shirts which shall start a worldwide journey. Players, teams can freely decide who is next to pass on the t-Shirt. Photos shall be taken and published and tagged in the social media. This project is about to start shortly.

All the facts and figures about both U19 WFC in 2021 have been gathered, collected, analysed and published under this link: <https://floorball.sport/2021/11/01/mens-u19-wfc-2021-and-womens-u19-wfc-2020-in-facts-and-figures/>

There were two presentation which could support the media work form IFF

Staylive: Which is a digital video technology company offering a turnkey over-the top (OTT) platform solution for content owners. StayLive to help IFF to be the strongest platform of distribution of Floorball internationally, in combination of doing that with a sustainable business.

WSC Sport: Artificial Intelligence (AI) powered video solutions. Our AI cloud platform enables sports media right owners to generate personalized and customized sports videos automatically and in real-time and reach every fan on every platform with the right piece of content.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**b) Marketing function**

Mr. Beer, reported about the current sales and marketing situation. (**Appendix 28**)

IFF has signed an agreement with the sales agency Red Carpet Brand Alliances (RCBA). The cooperation covers sales in the Nordic countries and exclude any existing or on-going negotiations run by the IFF. RCBA has dedicated a team of four people for sales and a preliminary prospect list is being prepared. Sales will start now once the prospect list has been approved in the meeting 5.11.

Protocol Sport Marketing has been actively selling and contacting broadcasters to secure best possible visibility for the upcoming WFC events. Currently they have several broadcasters in the closing phase (Canada, US, Africa, Germany) and trying to close several more (Estonia, Poland, Thailand, China, Singapore, Malaysia, Ukraine, Denmark). There are some points in the agreement which the IFF wants to clarify, and amendment proposals are being prepared and targeted for post-WFC.

Out of direct contacts a deal is being formed with Kauko (provider of seamless digital solutions (devices/software/services)). They are providing audio and visual hardware for the media team and in the future the plan is to utilise their solutions to create a mobile streaming studio at events. For the Hall of Fame launch IFF has also agreed to cooperate with ifolor (they produce the Hall of Fame awards in exchange of visibility).

An updated proposal was presented to PUMA during autumn, but negotiations have not progressed since then. The verbal indication has been that there is interest in a partnership. Regular calls and e-mails. With Craft the discussion has not been very active however they sponsored the IFF referee shorts for WFC Helsinki which will be printed with World Games ads (hence the shorts will also match the custom-made referee shirts which are from Craft). Using this to reactivate the conversation. A separate news publication is being prepared about the branded referee shirts with the client (Fisherman's Friend) and the LOC (photo shoot with referees 19.11.)

The Core Country Marketing Network Group (CCMNG) convened online on the 29<sup>th</sup> of September. It was a compact two-hour meeting and the agenda comprised only of topics around streaming platforms, different concepts, pricing models, utilisation of data and potential content sharing. Platform options for the IFF have been researched during summer and autumn.

By the mandate given to the Hall of Fame Selection Committee, after three meetings and two voting rounds the first 18 Hall of Fame inductees have been decided. (**Appendix 29**). The final list of inductees will not be attached to the CB meeting agenda to keep the names secret until publication. The inductees will be awarded and published during the Women's WFC 2021 and the Men's WFC 2020, in a way that all Swedish will be awarded in Sweden and all Finns in Finland. A dedicated logo and award design has been produced (**Appendix 30**). The final preparations for the launch of the IFF Hall of Fame are on-going (travel and accommodation for inductees, web-site, awarding, publication, news release. etc.). Some further nominations have arrived to the IFF and the Selection Committee will convene next year to discuss potential inductions. This process will also allow a review of the nominations from the previous round. The

committee will also review the nomination process in regard of what is being expected to be submitted by the nominating federation.

The IFF product catalogue has been finalised by the agency and we have received versions that we can modify. Some last details to be fixed and then it will be published.

The new responsibility campaign FairFloorball is being prepared for launch during the last half of 2021. FairFloorball is the new IFF responsibility campaign to encourage everyone to act responsibly. The campaign entails a multitude of aspects connected to the sport and its stakeholders. The foundation, fair, derives from IFF values (Inclusive, Fun, Fair, Innovative, Supportive) and emphasizes many points from IFF sustainability programs like GoGirls!, Kids with sticks and Stick with It!

In the development phase four punchlines each covering specific areas were formulated with the help of the IFF staff, Central Board, Ethics and Athletes' Commission. The following will be used to communicate the campaign (**Appendix 33**)

FAIR PLAY	no match-fixing, no doping and no offensive conduct
FAIR TREATMENT	no racism, no harassment, equality and LGBT+
FAIR ACCESS	inclusive floorball - ParaFloorball, different social groups and athlete involvement, diverse playing formats
FAIR FUTURE =>FAIR FLOORBALL	environmental, economic and social sustainability

This long-term campaign will be communicated in numerous ways during and outside events. For example new captain bands and referee wrist bands are finished as well as LED and Jumbotron ads. A photoshoot for the custom-made referee shirts will also be utilised to get good new pictures of the referees wearing the new wrist bands. In Helsinki co-promotion will be made at the venue with FINCIS (Finnish Centre for Integrity in Sports). Video material from ATC and U19 events are used as material for launch. Anti-doping education and promotion will naturally continue carrying on the legacy of the Say NO! to Doping campaign

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**c) Material function**

Mr. Liljelund reported that there has not been any activity lately.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**d) Membership services**

Ms. Vuori shortly reported on the plans of how the function will work.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**e) Equality function**

Mr. Halonen reported in the absence of Ms. Mitchell that the GoGirls! Floorball Ambassadors have again been appointed for the Women's WFC 2021. Each team has nominated an ambassador who will be featured in media posts and interviews both in the lead-up to and during the event. For the first time we have also appointed ambassadors for the Men's WFC teams. They will be promoted in a similar way with the focus being on The World Games.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**f) Parafloorball function**

Mr. Houman reported about the preparations for the Special Olympics World Winter Games in Kazan. The World Winter Games 2021 should have been played in January 2021 with Kazan Russia as the host. Due to the Covid19 pandemic, the tournament was first postponed one year to 2022, and have been postponed again to 2023.

In total 56 teams will participate from all regions in the world. IFF will be a helpful force at the tournament, which is the largest event for people with intellectual disabilities. There will most likely be a increased need for seminars within the Special Olympics for the upcoming edition in 2025.

IFF and Special Olympics signed a partnership in 2011, in order to promote floorball, it have proved successful. In 2012 floorball became an official sport at Special Olympics, and in the latest census report 2020 at Special Olympics, floorball was played in 64 programs with a total of around 35.000 players. The growth has been very quick, as there was just some 8.000 players in 2013 and 23.000 in 2017.

IFF has through the IFF Office initiated a proposal for cooperation in relation to the IWGA Birmingham World Games 2022 to give Special Olympics the possibility to showcase Special Olympics Floorball during the World Games in the USA. Discussions have been started in October between IFF and Special Olympics to see if there could be a coaching clinic for Special Olympic coaches from USA and Latin America, in conjunction with the tournament, and possible to have a demonstrations match for Special Olympics athletes.

United Arab Emirates and Qatar have held a floorball seminar from the 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> of October, with two days for coaches and one day for referees and a tournament on the last day. Both programs will start floorball for people with intellectual disabilities at 8 different clubs.

Mr. Liljelund reported that a second meeting has been held with the Volt Hockey (another form of Electric wheelchair hockey) together with the Women's WFC 2021 LOC and the Swedish federation to see how Volt Hockey can be included in the ParaFloorball Day during the WFC in Uppsala. There is also a meeting planned between the Volt Hockey and the Finnish Powerchair Hockey during the WFC 2020 in Helsinki.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**g) Sustainability function**

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Mr. Kalsta that the Input of all required data for the myclimate online measurement tool (smart 3) is done. The IFF is now expecting the report from myclimate in the coming weeks. This report will meet the measuring requirements of the UN Sports for Climate Action Network. The official launch of the S4CA reporting requirements is end of year. During the COP26 the S4CA has published its new, more ambitious targets (reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 50 per cent by 2030 at the latest and reaching Net Zero by 2040). The WFC 2022 is leading the way in meeting these goals by providing concrete numbers about CO2-emissions from Prague 2018, setting the goals for reducing them and how that will be done during the 2022 edition of the event.

The S4CA is also offering its members the possibility to join the Race to Zero network. This is a similar network as S4CA but with different stakeholders such as cities, regions, businesses, investors and educational institutions (**Appendix 31**). Mr Kalsta suggested to the CB to approve signing the letter as we can meet the requirements of Race to Zero with the same efforts we are investing into S4CA. This supports IFF long term strategy plans and increases credibility.

The new sustainability campaign FairFloorball is being prepared for launch during the last half of 2021. New captain bands and referee wrist bands are finished as well as LED and Jumbotron ads. The photoshoot for the referee shirts will also be utilised to get good new pictures of the referees wearing the new wrist bands. Further material is being prepared. Video material from ATC and U19 events are used as material for launch.

UNIHOOC has decided to finally launch their ECO stick model. They will be spearheading their promotion at the Women's WFC 2021 with this product (banners in exhibition area, IFF in-app promotion, media screen/Jumbotron; (**Appendix 32**). The stick is a part of their growing eco model line. The stick is a cooperation with myclimate (partially carbon compensated) which also highlights the role of IFF in the process.

IFF has recently published an article summarizing the latest environmental news published in the last six months. 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!" promotion has started well before the adult WFCs in the Helsinki metropolitan area. Collection boxes have been in place in floorball training facilities, and several have already been emptied. Collection boxes will be 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 in future events.

The IOC is planning to organise the next IOC Carbon Action Award. As one of the recipients in 2020 and an active party, the IFF has been contacted by the IOC to discuss how the concept could be developed and leveraged in the most effective way. A planning meeting is scheduled to take place after COP26.

The decision of acceptance for the EU Erasmus+ project (topic: Green Approaches in Management for Enhancing Sports / Improve Good Governance in sport) is expected to be published before the end of the year

**CB decided:** To approve the report and sign the application for Race to Zero.

## § 11.

### IFF Office

Mr. Halonen reported that the Italian Federation (FIUF) has after a long process found a way of being recognised by the Italian NOC (CONI). The solution for getting the official recognition through the Italian Field Hockey Federation (FIH). The Italian Olympic Committee (CONI) has assisted in the discussions and is monitoring the process. CONI has in a letter expressed their approval of an agreement that FIUF becomes a section within FIH as a "Division FIUF" and that IFF recognises FIH as the legal body for floorball in Italy. This process is almost reaching its end as the Board of CONI will most ratify the solution in a meeting on the 12th of December.

FIUF has invited the FIH President Sergio Mignardi to the WFC in Uppsala and he has accepted to come. The IFF has arranged the VIP accreditations for the FIH representatives. A meeting will be held on the 29<sup>th</sup> of November between the FIUF, FIH and IFF.

If there is a solution found between the FIUF and FIH, approved by the CONI in advance of the IFF Extraofficial General Assembly, the IFF CB could bring the change of the Italian ordinary membership from FIUF to FIH for the meeting to have it approved by the General Assembly, otherwise the IFF CB needs to make the decision in their first meeting of 2022 and it will be confirmed in the IFF General Assembly 2022 in Zurich.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

## § 12. **Members**

### **Membership questions**

Nothing reported

**CB decided:** To approve the report

### **Members under suspension**

Nothing reported

### **New Member applications**

Nothing reported

## § 13. **Next meeting**

Mr. Eriksson conclude that the next planned ordinary CB meeting (M9), has been planned for the 9<sup>th</sup> of December. The meeting will be held in Helsinki during the Men's WFC as a Hybrid meeting, as not all members can attend.

M9:                   CB meeting Thursday 9.12. and the City of Helsinki reception 13:00  
                          IFF Association meeting 10.-11.12.  
                          IFF Extraordinary General Assembly 11.12.  
                          IFF Consultative meeting 12.12.

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

## § 14. **Closing of the meeting**

Mr. Eriksson closed the meeting at 14:22 and thanked the CB members for a good and effective meeting.

**John Liljelund  
Secretary General**

**Tomas Eriksson  
President**