

Helsinki, Finland, 7th of September 2022

IFF Central Board meeting 5/2022 04.09.2022 as a Hybrid meeting in Katowice, Poland

Place: Meeting held at the Hotel Diament Plaza, ul. Dworcowa 9-11,40-012 Katowice,

Participants: Tomas Eriksson	President
Filip Suman	Vice President
Monica Birdal	Treasurer
Jörg Beer	
Tamuz Hidir	
Steen Houman	
Stephen King	§§ 1.- 8. (Virtual participation)
Martin Klabere	
Carlos Lopez	(Virtual participation)
Agata Plechan	ATC Chair
Pakkamol Siriwat	(Virtual participation)
Kaarina Vuori	
Veli Halonen	Operations Manager
Stefan Kratz	Competition Manager (Virtual participation)
John Liljelund	Secretary General

Excused: Calle Karlsson

Minutes

§ 1. Opening of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson welcomed all members to the fifth CB meeting of the year 2022. Mr. Eriksson opened the meeting at 08:30 CET and thanked for a very well-prepared and very interesting CB workshop held yesterday.

§ 2. Approval of the agenda

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

Appendix 2b	-	IFF Financial Report 31.08.2022 (updated)
Appendix 13ad	-	IFF Strategy Implementation table (updated)
Appendix 16	-	OTT solution CB decided (new)
Appendix 20	-	Fit 4 Future report (new)

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

§ 3 **Minutes from the CB meetings: 04/2022 Madrid (05.06.2022)**

The minutes from the last CB meeting 04/2022 were scrutinized, approved and put ad acta. (Appendix 1)

CB decided: To approve the minutes of the IFF CB meeting 04/2022

§ 4. **Financial questions**

a) **Financial report 2022 by 31.08.2022**

Mrs. Birdal to present the financial report and balance sheet by the 31.08.2022 (**Appendix 2**). The outcome per 31st of August is CHF 261.541, which is some CHF 104.477 (2021: CHF 366.019) lower than last year. The difference is mainly due to the fact that we this year have again one WFC and one U19 WFC and have been able to play the WFC qualifications. Further the cost for the TWG 2022 affects the outcome compared to last year. The forecast for the financial year points at an even result.

The liquidity continues to be on a healthier level compared to the last years. Per 31st of August the liquidity is CHF 495,993 which is CHF 75,534 (2021: CHF 420,459) better than last year. To be noted is that IFF has according to plan started to pay off the loan from the NAs Czech Republic, Sweden and Switzerland, which was taken to cover the unforeseen costs caused by the Men's U19 WFC in Halifax, Canada in 2019. Mrs. Birdal felt that there are no major issues insight.

The forecast for the liquidity at the end of the year is CHF 364,800, some CHF 44,400 (2021: CHF 320,376) better than last year. Mr. Klabere felt that neither RACC or RC will use the reserved sums, so we should be able to have a positive final result for the year.

The finances are continued to be monitored on a daily basis, and possible saves will be considered if and when we see signs of possible less income than now budgeted.

CB decided: To approve the reports.

b) **Information on IFF claims – License system and WFC 2022 – status August 31st**

Mrs. Birdal to present the claims situation by the 31.08.2022 for Associations participating in the WFCs 2022 and separately for those not participating in any of the IFF Events. (**Appendix 3 and 4**). Ukraine and Malaysia are to start paying of their debts in the end of the year.

Since last CB meeting no payments have been done in accordance with the pay-off plans for Cote d'Ivoire, Malaysia, Russia, Slovenia and Ukraine (**Appendix 5**). Canada did not make the payment scheduled for the end of June and no explanation has been given. Floorball Canada was supposed to pay a total sum of 2.000 CAD by the end of June, which by the exchange rate of today would have been 1.486,11 CHF. As Floorball Canada still had 1.181,30 CHF unused from the U19 payment, the actual sum that should have been paid is 304,81 CHF. A friendly reminder was sent before the due date and a normal reminder after due date without any reaction so far.

Mr. Klabere felt that there should be more countries getting into the list of problematic situations, like not having paid two consecutive member fees. Mr. Kratz explained that the situation will change dramatically, with the full implementation of the License system from 2022, as no federation with debts can't register for the Events. Mr. King felt that we need to make a decision upon Canada in the next CB meeting. The CB members shared this idea, as Canada has not

paid the present outstanding part of the scheduled payment or answered any of the numerous emails sent to the Canadian federation.

CB decided: To approve the reports and to continue to follow up on the pay-off plans for Cote d'Ivoire, Russia, Malaysia, Slovenia and Ukraine. Further the IFF Office is to contact Floorball Canada to inquire whether they are planning to follow the new payment plan they have agreed to.

c) IFF General Assembly 2022

Mr. Eriksson informed that the announcement for the IFF General Assembly 2022 has been sent out by the 10th of August 2022. The IFF statutes state that the first announcement needs to be sent out 90 full days prior to the meeting, which is scheduled to take place on Saturday the 12th of November 2022 in Swiss Life Arena starting at 8:30 in the morning.

The nominations and motions from the IFF member associations need to be handed over to the IFF latest 60 full days prior to the meeting and that date is the 12th of September 2022. The IFF needs to send out the Final announcement and the IFF reports, budget, and other documents to the member associations latest by 12th of October 2022, the full 30 days prior to the IFF GA. The registration for the General Assembly is open until the 20th of October 2022.

Mr. Liljelund informed that the topics the IFF CB needs to prepare are the Annual report 2021-2022, Plan of Action 2023-2024, Financial report 2020 and 2021 and auditors reports, Budget 2023-2024, Strategy Implementation process report, Motion on the Future of Floorball, Motion of the Euro Floorball Championships, Confirmation of the change of the ordinary membership of the Italian federation and Election of replacements/additions to the IFF Ethics Commission.

CB decided: To approve the report and approve the announcement for the IFF General Assembly 2022.

§ 5. World Championships

a) WFC 2022, Zurich, Switzerland

Mr. Beer reported on the preparations of the WFC 2022 (**Appendix 7**).

The construction of the Swiss Life Arena is progressing as planned and the ZSC Lions will host 4 home games prior to the WFC. The main concern with the Swiss Life arena is how everything will be working as the arena operator has so little experience of running it. The IFF Competition department expresses that LOC have done a good job of keeping us updated on the progress of the building of Swiss Life Arena. The LOC has no real concerns, even if the ZSC Lions have not played any games in the Swiss Life Arena, but they will have played a few friendly games and four league games before the WFC will move into the arena.

The LOC will employ a 5th employee from the start of October and the volunteering is on track, with still some open positions in the "observation shifts" in Zurich. There are some 13 persons in total at the moment working with the Event.

All but one team have made their accommodation booking and the last information letter to the teams will be sent on the 10th of October.

As the sponsorship packages have all been sold the LOC is now trying to sell the free LED space and some special assets. The last Sponsor Networking Event will be held in the Swiss Life arena in end of September. The IFF Office finds that the LOC promotion of the event has been extremely good. Both their media and marketing work, and planning, has been exceptional, with a 126 % result to the marketing budget.

The ticket sales have continued well and there are no tickets left for the Swiss market for the finals weekend, but there might be some tickets released later, if there will be some tickets returned to the LOC from travel agencies or from abroad. Special country ticketing links have been created for Czech Republic, Finland and Sweden. One major challenge is to meet the needs of the international fans, which the LOC is working on. Some 65% of the budgeted ticket sales could be reached. The total costs for the Event will be 6,2 million, with a surplus of 300.000 CHF.

The LOC will start a national campaign in September and a national campaign with the media partner Blick on public transportation and railway stations. The name of the WFC mascot will get its name through the public voting and the official song will in the end of September. The last tournament of the Mobilier Street Floorball Tour was played in Basel and the final will be played at the main railway station in Zurich on the 22nd of October.

The LOC is looking to establish a cooperation with another Swiss sustainability project, named "das grüne Trikol" (the green jersey) which is supported by the government which teach sport clubs to save energy.

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Ms. Mitchell that after the very late withdrawal by Singapore from the U19 WFC, it will be important to get some guarantees from the Singapore Federation regarding their travel plans for Switzerland. The IFF Competition staff will request confirmation of their travel bookings as soon as they are made. It may perhaps be information that the IFF should receive from all participating countries at major events, as a way to identify any possible issues as early as possible. Mr. Eriksson felt that it would be good to ask for these.

Mr. Liljelund reported that the agreement with PolarHD has been finalised and IFF has made the agreements with the main TV companies in Czech Republic, Finland, Norway, Slovakia, Sweden and the host. Discussions are still ongoing with Latvia and Protocol Sports is looking for solutions in a number of markets like Brasilia, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Poland, Slovenia and the South-East Asia countries.

The LOC and the IFF has been working on the set-up for the bi-lateral service and securing the satellite uplink via the Swiss TV. The satellite has been booked for the whole event.

CB decided: To approve the reports.

b) U19 WFC 2022, Katowice, Poland

Mr. Klabere reported on the ongoing U19 WFC 2022. Based on the reports the event has been very successful, with most of the small issues has been solved. There has been issues with the teams following the instructions given by the IFF and the Local organiser.

Mr. Kratz reported that USA and Singapore have for various reasons withdrawn from participation in the Event and have been replaced with Latvia and Austria. The IFF is greatly appreciative of the proactive actions of the Austrian Floorball Federation in stepping in to fill the place of the Singapore team in the event. They managed to confirm their participation and secure the confirmation of their players involvement within just a couple of days, which must have required a huge amount of work on their part. Austria has in Social Media thanked the IFF for being able to participate in the Event.

When it regards Singapore their withdrawal was very late and thus a disciplinary case for the IFF to handle. An agreement was reached with SFA to handle the case administratively according to article 18.3 of the IFF Juridical Regulations.

CB decided: to approve the reports.

c) Next Events

Mr. Kratz reported that the Women's WFCQ 2023 EUR Qualifications will be played in Italy (Lignano Sabbiadoro) and in Latvia (Kocēni) 31.01 - 04.02.2023. The Americas qualification is planned to be played in Canada, but city and date are not yet fixed. For the AOFC qualification the AOFC are still to inform of the place and date. Singapore was the original place to be played, but now they are looking for Japan or Philippines.

IFF has sent the first part of the Organising fee to the WFC 2023 organising, which the SFA has approved.

CB decided: to approve the reports.

d) Upcoming Events

U19 WFC 2023, WFCs 2025 and WFCs 2026

Mr. Kratz reported that the contract with Floorball Denmark regarding the U19 WFC 2023 has been signed. Communication with the LOC has begun and the progress is ongoing on a good level. The logo and graphics for the event have been finalised soon and the website will be launched prior to the Women's U19 WFC. The IFF Competition department held a planning meeting with the LOC during the U19 WFC 2022 in Poland.

Further Mr. Kratz reported that the Americas U19 WFC qualification was played in Draper, Salt Lake City, USA, 02-03.09.2022 and USA qualified for the U19 WFC 2023 Final round, and the AOFC U19 WFC qualification will be played in Wellington, New Zealand 29.09-01.10.2022.

The interest to organise the Men's U19 WFC 2023 qualifications in Europe is, as earlier reported, very low. In July it was clear that we had no organiser for the September weekend, so it was opened up for organising the qualifications until the end of the international weekend in February 2023. Currently there is communication with three possible organisers.

Since the feedback received implies that it is considered quite tough to organise the U19 qualifications, where mainly the local transports of the teams are a heavy burden, the CB are to decide that the RACC should get the task to investigate this for future events and revert to the CB with a CB decided latest to the first CB meeting 2023.

The Russian Floorball Federation (NFFR) had registered for the U19 WFC 2023 but has based on the decision to suspend the Russian Floorball from all activities within the IFF, not been included in the U19 WFC 2023 qualifications.

Mr. Kratz reported that he has asked for interested organisers of the WFCs 2025 and 2026 with the dead-line 18.09.2022 whereafter the bidding process will start.

Mr. Lopez is very worried with the European members and finding the organisers for the Events in Europe. There is a general feeling among the federations that IFF doesn't care about the smaller European countries. IFF has cancelled the Euro Floorball Cup, the Euro Challenge and some of the qualifications and this needs to be understood. Mr. Lopez felt that we have change the way we communicate with the organisers. There needs to be other forms of communication with the countries.

Mr. Eriksson felt that it is important that the IFF is doing its utmost to solve the problematic situation. Mr. King felt that it is important to support the qualification organisers financially, to secure to have organisers and having a way of bringing in more countries to the events. Mr.

Suman proposed to add the topic to one of the CB workshops

CB decided: to approve the reports and give the task to RACC to investigate the U19 qualification system and revert to the CB according to the proposal. The IFF Office is given the task to create an interim solution for the U19 WFC 2023 qualifications.

e) **Covid-19 and other Event Status Update**

Mr. Kratz reported on the current status regarding the Covid-19. With exception from vaccination requirements to enter the countries there are basically no other travel or local restrictions affecting our events.

CB decided: To approve the report

§ 6. **Club competitions**

a) **Champions Cup**

Mrs. Vuori reported on the preparations of the Champions Cup 2023 to be played in Finland, 7th – 8th January 2023 in the Bläk Boks Arena in Lempäälä. The contract discussions regarding the Champions Cup have started and the contract will be signed in beginning of September. The preparations for the CC2023 in the Bläk Boks arena have also started and the Finnish federation has named the responsible person for the organisation Ms. Hanne Nyrönen she will start after the Finnish Super Cup after the 10th of September. The planned budget is around 100.000 EUR minus.

Mr. Kratz reported that all invited teams have registered in time and that the match schedule is under preparation.

Registered teams in the Women's CC are Thorengruppen IBK (SWE), TPS Salibandy (FIN), Klotten-Dietlikon Jets (SUI) and FBC Ostrava (CZE).

In the Men's CC the teams are IBF Falun (SWE), Classic (FIN), Florbal MB (CZE) and Grasshopper Club Zurich (SUI).

Mr. Liljelund reported on the Champions Cup Steering Group (CCSG) meeting held in Malmö on the 16th of August (**Appendix 8**). The objective of the meeting was to discuss the preparations for the CC 2023 in Tampere, Finland and prepare for the Home & Away concept in the fall of 2023 and discuss the proposed Information sheet and the Sales presentation.

The CCSG decided that the arrival city for the event is Tampere and the Finnish federation will assist in the organisation of the transport if teams fly to Helsinki, even if they will have to pay for the transportation.

The CCSG looked over the Champions Cup Home & Away regulations and made a number of small changes and clarifications, based on the input from the members (**Appendix 9**). The only major change made was to adopt the Home & Away playing system for also the Women, starting from the quarterfinals. The CCSG will evaluate if this change will need some changes in the CCSG stakeholders agreement.

The CCSG members have also wanted to have an information sheet that can be distributed to the league teams in the pre-season information events. This has been prepared and was approved during the CCSG meeting (**Appendix 10**)

Mr. Suman made a technical remark concerning the point 4.2. and Mr. Klabere proposed to update the regulation in accordance with the present system used in other IFF Events in points. 4.7.5./4.8.4. and 11.7.

CB decided: To approve the reports and approve the proposed edition 2022 of the IFF Champions Cup Home & Away regulation, with the minor Changes.

b) Euro Floorball Cup 2022

Mr. Kratz reported that due to lack of organisers of the EFC and the EFCh 2022 the events had to be cancelled. There were no interests from any countries to organise the EFC and discussed with two clubs for the EuroChallenge. Mr. Suman asked how many questions were asked from the possible participants. There were only some questions from France Poland and Spain.

Mr. Liljelund proposed that the IFF Competition department should start the discussion with the organisation with the bigger Club tournaments in Europe during the summer to arrange the EFC and the EuroChallenge next summer in these tournaments. This to provide the possibility for all the European members.

CB decided: To approve the report and proposal

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

a) ExCo reports

Mr. Eriksson reported on the ExCo activities after the previous ordinary CB meeting, which has mainly focused on the preparations of the World Games in Birmingham, Alabama and the Floorball related matter there. As there were a number of problems with the organisation and lack of information provided by the BOC, this caused additional work for us.

Mr. Eriksson further reported that the plan to hold the next meeting with the Presidents and secretary generals of the Euro Floorball Tour countries will now be held in Copenhagen on the 22nd of September to mainly discuss the issue of the Future of Floorball, among other things. IFF had initially proposed to have the meeting during the U19 WFC 2022 in Katowice, Poland.

The IFF held a second meeting with the secretary generals of the EFT countries to discuss the first learnings of the implementation of the IFF Physical Play project. The countries showed continued support to the project and a next meeting will be organised after the experiences during the WFC 2022 in Zurich. Mr. Halonen informed how the implementation will continue and that some incidents have been reported to the IFF Physical Play working group.

Mr. Liljelund reported that the IFF Disciplinary Committee is presently dealing with a case of a possible breach of following the IFF and the BOC guidelines and directives in regard to the medal ceremony and the unsportsmanlike behaviour of one of the Team Sweden head coaches Mr. Niklas Norden leading up to and during the World Games medal ceremony. The IFF DC will make its decision in the weeks to come. Mr. Suman pointed out that in multi-sport events the coaches don't receive any medals.

Ms. Vuori felt that it is important that the IFF should be more active in sanctioning for not following the guidelines. Mr. Halonen answered that the RC will discuss the issues in the next RC meeting.

Mr. Liljelund further reported that the IFF Ethics Commission is planning to have a meeting in September to get the new members on-board. IFF has also signed the agreement with Sportradar concerning the cooperation and the preparations for the Sportradar betting monitoring has started. (**Appendix 11**) Mr. Suman felt that we need to be active towards the federation, when it concerns betting and if we are paying anything. Mr. Liljelund answered that we are not paying anything and only exchanging services.

CB decided: To approve the report

b) Strategy Implementation

Mr. King reported on the work of the IFF Strategy Implementation working group (SWG) and the meeting held on the 18th of August (**Appendix 12**). The objective of the meeting was to look over the process with the Strategy Implementation generic tables for the Suggested Actions. The IFF Office had updated the tables with responsible persons, taken and planned actions during the summer. The SWG will from the November meeting provide the CB with a summary report of the development of the Suggested actions. The SWG will send out a letter to all the members of the Strategy Subgroups thanking them for the activity and inform about the continued process in mid of September.

The IFF Office has prepared an updated draft of the Strategy Implementation template for the CB meeting after a validity check and approval round for the responsibilities given. This will also be the base for the reporting to the IFF General Assembly to show the progress in the Strategy work. (**Appendix 13ad**)

CB decided: To approve the report

c) CB Member responsibilities

Mr. Houman reported about the Six Nations associations steering group activities and Floorball Germany is the host, and the tournament will be played in Weissenfels from 30th of September to 2nd of October, and all six teams will meet each other and play 3x15min. The Six Nations associations had a meeting in Katowice to look upon how to organize major events in the countries.

Mr. Lopez reported on the situation in Latin America. There have not been very much activities during the summer. In Brazil the federation has continued with its activities. In Colombia the federation have held a seminar with the cooperation of a player from Sweden (who has got Colombian nationality) and during Autumn at least one person from the Colombian CB will visit Sweden and get some experience and education in the region of Värmland.

Mr. Suman reported on the progress of the Czech Erasmus+ project Floorball - Fit for Future (**Appendix 20**) The project participants had a three-day workshop in Bratislava in June to work on the Federation Maturity matrix. The next workshop will be held in October in Germany. Mr. Eriksson asked when the project is to end and have the Czech Floorball asked for an extension. Mr. Suman answered that they are funded until the end of 2023 and they are still to discuss whether they will apply for a prolongment.

Mr. Hidir reported on the situation in East-Europe and in the Middle East. The war in Ukraine has strongly effected the activities in both Russia and Ukraine and as all countries in East-Europe have been looking to the two countries. Mr. Hidir will visit the Kazakhstan federation during the autumn. There is not many activities in the Middle-East and Mr. Hidir will visit the north of Iraq and the plan is to visit some schools and universities with some floorball sticks. Mr. Suman asked

which Ukraine cities are the biggest. Mr. Hidir answered that most of floorball are located in the west of Ukraine, but the biggest club was in Melitopol, which has been occupied by the Russian.

Ms. Vuori reported on the plans for the Membership Service function and the activities to be taken. The OTT project is moving forward, based on the CB workshop

CB decided: To approve the report

§ 8. International Sports

International Olympic Committee/IOC

Mr. Eriksson reported that the IFF president and secretary general has meet with the IOC Sport Department and Ms. Irina Gladkikh and Mr. Andrew Hoffer in Lausanne on the 9th of June. IFF raise the following questions in the meeting: The IOC view on the reorganisation of GAISF and SportAccord multi-sport games. Floorball and the Youth Olympic Games, introduction of a 3v3 format, virtual sports, cooperation with Special Olympics and some membership questions. The IOC Sport Department was positive but did for obvious reasons did not promise anything.

The Los Angeles OC has informed the International Federations of the process and criteria for new sports for the Los Angeles Olympic Games 2028 and that Floorball is not on their radar for the additional sports for the 2028 Olympics. (**Appendix 14**) The LA28 has shortlisted the following nine sports, which are invited to present their case for inclusion at the Olympics; Baseball-softball, Breaking, Cricket, Flag football, Karate, Kickboxing, Lacrosse, Motorsports, and Squash. IFF had not filed an application for inclusion in the Olympics, but among those who had Flying disc, Sambo and Teqball were not invited.

Ms. Vuori asked about the situation of the Youth Olympic Games, to which Mr. Eriksson answered that the next event is in Morocco in 2026 and our possibility for the next is for the 2030 and Mr. Liljelund and Mr. Suman felt that we need to have a working 3vs3 version to offer already in 2025.

Mr. Houman informed that in the Winter Youth Olympic Games with mixed national teams, which could be an option also for us. Mr. Beer asked how many of the shortlisted sports are now on the YOG, Mr. Suman and Mr. Liljelund answered that there were some 2-3 in the Buenos Aires

General Association of International Sport Associations/GAISF

Mr. Eriksson reported that there has not been any official information received from GAISF after the AGM held in May. The original plan was to hold an extra ordinary general assembly in September to dissolve GAISF. This was supposed to have been preceded by the promised legal working group organised working/explanatory sessions to the members of GAISF.

There is a rumour that an invitation to these workshops will be sent to the GAISF members in beginning of September and that the GAISF AGM would be held in end of November.

Association of IOC Recognised International Sport Federations/ARISF

Mr. Eriksson reported that the ARISF is planning to hold an extra Council meeting to clarify what has been decided during the GAISF council meeting on the 22nd of August. The GAISF President Mr. Ivo Ferriani has been invited to the meeting, so after that we will then know much more.

Mr. Liljelund has proposed to the ARISF President Mr. Chiulli that ARISF would send out a letter to the ARISF members encouraging that the ARISF Athletes Commissions uses their vote in the WADA Athlete Council, Group 2 elections in the end of August and suggested that they will support the ARISF candidates. Such a letter has been sent to the ARISF member federations in the name of the ARISF Council.

The time and place of the ARISF AGM is still open, as it has not been decided if the GAISF IF Forum will be organised.

International World Games Association/IWGA

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Ms. Mitchell that overall the World Games event was a great success for Floorball, giving us good exposure on the world stage and raising the profile within the North American market. From all accounts, it would seem that the athletes, team officials, and IFF officials all really enjoyed the event. The experience of being part of a multi-sport event is vastly different to our own major events and having the opportunity to see so many other sports and athletes is not only enjoyable but also a good learning experience from both a sporting and administration point of view.

The event was not without problems – the venue set-up and the laying of the floor was particularly complicated, and it was fortunate that we had prepared for several staff to arrive early to Birmingham because otherwise it is highly doubtful that the court would have been ready for the official training sessions, perhaps not even in time for the competition start. It was an amazing effort from all of the IFF staff to get the venue prepared in time. Unfortunately, despite the large amount of work we did the flooring was still not of a level that we would have found acceptable for a WFC. Major problems with the streaming connections and the fact that we were not able to use the Swiss Timing graphics and full HD quality of the stream resulted in quite a lot of negative feedback. This was an extremely frustrating situation as the solution for the problem was totally out of our control and having to rely on the local organisers to respond in the timeframes that we needed / wanted was very difficult. This is one of the major points of difference of being in a multi-sport event where there are many parts of the organisation and the event delivery that our not up to us but we somehow need to ensure that we can present an event that is not of a lower quality than our own.

Apart from an unfortunate situation with the Swedish coaching staff in relation to the medal ceremony, the behaviour and co-operation of all of the athletes and team officials was fantastic. They faced many challenges with the event, such as the accreditation process (which for some of the teams took up to 3hrs), transport arrangements, flooring, locker rooms etc, which were all vastly different to how these are managed at IFF events, but they all adapted well and were flexible to the changed conditions. The amount of information that is required for each participant, prior to the event, created a big workload for all of the participating associations and the IFF competition department appreciated that, for the most part, all of the deadlines were met by the teams, which we know was not easy.

The IFF have the opportunity to provide extensive feedback to IWGA about the event, which will be submitted to them by 31st August. The IFF itself received very good feedback from both the IWGA and BOC regarding our co-operation prior to and during the event. Hopefully this will create a further positive impact for Floorball in the process of choosing the sports for TWG 2025.

The IWGA honoured the IFF with giving the task to the Swiss referee Ms. Corina Wehinger to give the oath on the behalf of the referees of The World Games. Mr. Suman expressed that the BOC had graded the sports in three categories, with the top sports close to the level of the Olympics, like Baseball-Softball and then an average level sports, but unfortunately a lot of sports were treated like local youth events. Without the work of the IFF Staff the Floorball tournament

would have fallen into the thirds category. Mr. Suman thanked the IFF Staff for their excellent work to secure the operations.

Mr. Eriksson reported that IFF will start the discussion with the NOC's in our respective countries to bring together the national associations to put pressure on the National Olympic Committees.

Ms. Vuori thanked the IFF Staff for all the efforts done, even if the level of the streaming was very poor in the beginning causing some negative impact for the Event. In the end it was sorted out. The Finnish federation will start the discussions with the Finnish NOC during the end of the year.

If we are confirmed as a participating sport for TWG 2025, it should be a priority for us to push for the inclusion of a women's competition. Ideally, to be able to have both men & women competing would be great, but if our allocated participant numbers do not allow for this, then it surely must be the women who get the opportunity next.

TWG finances

Mr. Kratz reported on the TWG 2022 finances. The preliminary investment IFF has made into the event is 116.508 CHF from which remaining reserves from earlier years, 37.764 CHF, shall be reduced. This gives a result per 31.08.2022 of 78.744 CHF compared to the budgeted 53,000 CHF. Cost for transport of material, flights and hotel were much higher than anticipated and explains the negative outcome. This is some 25.000 CHF more expensive than originally budgeted and we need to reserve some funds for The World Games in 2025.

Mr. Eriksson felt that this has been well handed by the Office.

The IWGA has asked for nominations for their new representatives to the IWGA Interim Athlete's Commission for the years 2023-2025. The IWGA will then during the TWG 2025 organise an election among the TWG athletes.

- There must be exactly two candidates: one male, one female (Federations where only male or only female participants have been able to take part in TWG, it is possible to nominate only 1 candidate) , who shall be from different continents and must have participated in TWG 2013, 2017, and/or 2022. The Nominations must be submitted by 1st of October 2022. Mr. Liljelund proposed to nominate Mr. Matthias Hofbauer, from Switzerland as a candidate for the IWGA Athletes Commission. Mr. Hofbauer has been a member of the IFF Athletes Commission and is presently the Director of the Men's Swiss National Team, employed by the Swiss Federation.

International Master Games Association/IMGA

Mr. Liljelund reported that the European Master Games LOC has been in contact with the IFF for two separate topics. Firstly, informing that the previous RACC member Mr. Esko Kyyhkynen has been selected as the Floorball technical delegate for the Floorball tournament. Mr. Kyyhkynen has been the competition manager of the Finnish federation and has a lot of experience also of IFF Events. (**Appendix 15**)

The floorball clubs responsible for the running of the event, KooVee and Classic has also called for a meeting concerning the media visibility for the 31st of August. More information will be provided after the meeting.

University Sport/FISU

Mr. Lopez reported that FISU is looking forward to receiving the confirmation of the 3vs3 plus goalkeeper format for the future FISU Floorball UWG 2024. Mr. Suman felt that it is important to secure that we have a functional solution for the format.

Multi-Sport Games

Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games 2023, Bangkok, Thailand

Ms. Siriwat reported that the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games 2023, which will be played from 17th -26th of November 2023 in Thailand and in Bangkok/Chon Buri.

As the next edition of the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games 2025 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 2025.

SEA Games 2023

Ms. Siriwat reported on the preparations with regards to the upcoming Southeast Asian Games (SEA GAMES) 2023 in Cambodia, where Floorball is on the program.

The next edition of the SEA Games will be played in May 5th -16th, 2023, in Phnom Penh Cambodia, As Floorball is 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 nominate Mr. Matthias Hofbauer as the IFF candidate for the IWGA Athlete Commission.

§ 9. Committees and Commissions

a) Rules and Competition Committee (RACC)

Mr. Klabere reported that the RACC will have its next meeting 14.09.2022 and among other things finalise the RACC view on EuroFloorball Championships CB decided for the GA 2022, discuss the WFC playing system, discuss a CB decided on Case book for the game rules and discuss the system for organisers of IFF qualification events.

Regarding the WFC playing system the appointed group within the RACC will have a meeting 08.09.2022 to discuss various proposals.

Mr. Kratz reported on behalf of Ms. Mitchell that an online survey has been used to gather feedback on the modified playing format (3 x 15mins) since September 2021. Participants from the Women's U19 WFC 2020 (2021), Men's WFC 2022 Qualifications, a few international weekend events, and most recently The World Games have all been invited to answer the survey.

The survey closed on 31st August and we have received a total of 206 responses. Considering that the survey has been made available to over 800 people, and can be answered anonymously, the response rate seems quite low. For example, the survey link was sent directly to every athlete and team official at TWG (160 people), which includes the majority of our sports' top players and coaches, and yet we have only 37 responses related to that event.

However, despite the lower-than-expected response rate, the feedback that we have received should prove very valuable. A lot of valid points have been made both in favour of, and against, the modified formats. The survey report does not provide any analysis of the responses. The questions were framed simply to allow participants to tell us how they feel about the effect of the changes and how it impacted on them and their team directly. This kind of feedback should be

considered as just a small part of the larger project of analysing all factors of the reasons for/against introducing modified playing formats.

CB decided: To approve the report.

b) Referee Committee (RC)

Mr. Lopez reported that the IFF office had a second meeting with the secretary generals of the EFT countries in mid-June and in the meeting, it was agreed that the IFF Physical Play working group will work with the possible challenges of the new physical play interpretations and there will be an evaluation of the work in the end of this year.

From the TWG 2022 the referee management reported of one incident, which was not seen by the referees to the EDF of the tournament and also to the Physical Play working group after the event was over. The working group will work with that as well as they will add the video clips of the Match Penalties given in the TWG 2022 to the educational material.

The RC have made the nominations for the international matches in a normal way and the guidelines for the next nomination period (2023-2024) for international referees and observes has been sent to the member federations. The RC has held an virtual meeting to discuss and decide the WFC team for Switzerland 2022. The preparation of the next physical meeting in Madrid 2nd - 3rd of October has started.

CB decided: To approve the report

c) Medical committee

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Mr. Kihm that the Anti-Doping work has mostly concentrated on the normal tasks. All TUE's which have had medical justification have been approved for the U19 WFC 2022 have been approved, entered into the WADA ADAMS system – or the applicants have withdrawn their application.

CB decided: To approve the report

d) Athletes commission

Ms. Plechan reported on the activities of the ATC.

The ATC chair Ms. Plechan has been nominated for the new WADA Athlete Council, for the group 2. The IFF President and the IFF secretary general has taken some actions to support the candidacy, among the International Federations close to us. Mr. Liljelund has also asked ARISF to encourage the ARISF federations to vote for the ARISF related candidates, which the ARISF has done. The election is done by the WADA approved IF's Athlete Committee chairs during the 29th to 31st of August. The assumption was that we would have the results of the election prior to the CB meeting, but WADA has now informed that there are six candidates, who have secured their seats in the election process having received most votes and that there are three candidates which has received the same number of votes and there needs to be a second round of election to clarify the candidates for the 7th and 8th position, during the weekend during the of 02.-04.9. There has not been any information whether Ms. Plechan is among the top three candidates. Ms. Plechan also thanked Ms. Monika Krause for the assistance in the process.

Ms. Plechan is also collecting feedback from ATC members about The Future of Floorball and 3 x 15 play format.

The IFF ATC will have a meeting during the Champions Cup 2023 in Tampere.

Mr. Liljelund reported on the results of the strategy implementation work survey among the athletes participating the men's WFC 2022 qualifications on their knowledge of the possibilities for the athletes to participate in the decision making of the National organisations and the IFF has been finalised. The results clearly shows that there is a lot which needs to be done to include the athletes in the decision-making process. The result of the survey will be given to the Athletes Commission.

The survey had a total of 167 respondents. When asked they feel that they have on a scale of 1-10 an average knowledge (5,6) of what IFF does on a regular basis. A small majority feels that they are heard by the National associations and only 11 % feels that this is not the case. Only 55 % knew that the IFF has an Athletes Commission and only 16 % what it means to be part of the ATC. There are some 39 % who are interested to be part of a National ATC. But just 27% knows that there is any National representation of athletes in the federations. So it is quite clear that IFF needs to focus more on informing of the work of the ATC and also discuss the outcome of the survey.

Mr. Liljelund proposed to produce an IFF info sheet directed to the athletes and this should be done together with the ATC:

CB decided: To approve the report

e) Development Committee (DevC)

Mr. Houman reported on the discussions in regards on the desired role of the Development Committee. The CB discussed the results achieved for the role for the Development Committee (DevC) during the CB workshop. Mr, Houman will prepare a new proposal together with the IFF Office.

Mr. Halonen informed about the next steps to create the coaching education system materials have been taken. The structure has been agreed and the collecting and combining the materials has started. The intention is to have the draft versions ready during the autumn. The material will consist of lectures, videos, practices and information. The first material is meant for Floorball and junior coaches.

The office has carried out a webinar for the Asian referees and coaches about the new rules of the game and the new physical play interpretations in mid-June.

Mr. Klabere feels that we should list all the ad hoc working groups on the IFF web page

CB decided: To approve the report and build the list of ad hoc working groups.

f) Entourage Commission (ENC)

Mr. Hidir reported on the work in relation to the IFF Entourage Commission, with a meeting planned.

CB decided: To approve the report

§ 10. **Functions**

a) **Communication & Media function**

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Mr. Kihm that the IFF Media function has been working on preparing the IFF Office answers to the questions from the last CB meeting in June regarding the Sportswik solution.

The IFF Office presented a proposal in the CB workshop with the three different solutions at the CB workshop Stay Live (SWE), Nagra Vision (SUI) – both pure OTT solutions and Sportswik (SWE) – a communication and engagement solution, with the Mobile Application. Furthermore, the presentation included a business model on possible income and cost. Last but not least a risk management (financial and organisational) was included in the proposal.
(Appendix16)

Mr. Kihm made a proposal that the IFF CB shall decide to move to the Sportswik as a holistic communication solution with immediate effect for the IFF. This includes that with the start of WFC 2022 there is no free to air live streaming anymore. Only in countries with TV coverage WFC 2022 will be shown for free.

Furthermore, the highlights within the Sportswik solution shall be for free for WFC 2022 (to drag more users into the app). From 2023 onwards the highlights within the Sportswik solution shall not be for free and it will be behind the paywall. Free highlights (or part of it) shall only be used as teasers on the various IFF social media accounts. In addition to this the IFF will need to secure weekly/monthly matches from the leagues from CZE, FIN, SUI, SWE and also other countries series matches needs to be added to the IFF Sportswik solution.

The basic cost for IFF, for the implementation out of pocket will be the set-up fee over 50,000 Euros. In addition, the IFF pays a fixed lump sum of 25,000 Euros for the live streaming for the WFC 2022. Additionally, the revenue generated from the WFC 2022 will be shared 50%/50% (net revenue split), which means that more subscribers mean less cost or even a potential income.

The cost for IFF in 2023, IFF pays out-of-the-pocket the annual licence fee over 40,000 Euros. The live streaming in 2023 does not require cash from IFF. The first 60,000 Euros revenue from the paywall go all to Sportswik. Afterwards, the additional revenue is share 70%/30% in favour of IFF (net revenue split)

The potential risk if IFF doesn't reach the figures (60,000 Euros revenue 2023) for the paywall, the difference will be covered by Sportswik, if there is a no-free-to-air-policy in place. Review and discussion for extending the contract to be made in June 2023. For 2024 the license fee will be 42.000 EUR and the revenue for streaming will be divided in the same way as in 2024. After that the parties are to discuss whether to move to the normal model with the variable user cost.

The IFF CB will need to discuss the cost for subscriptions in a later stage. The plan has been to go with an Annual subscription, Monthly subscription, Pay-per-view (PPV) per match and Event package. There is also a need to discuss regional prices.

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Mr. Kihm that the IFF Media function has been working on preparing the communication plans for the upcoming Men's u19 WFC. Furthermore, there is a regular and strong exchange between the media departments from the IFF Office and the media department from Swiss Unihockey regarding the WFC 2022.

CB decided: To approve the report and approve the move to the Sportswik solution

b) Marketing function

Mr. Beer, reported about the current sales and marketing situation. (**Appendix 17**).

Work with the Finnish sales agency RCBA is on-going. RCBA has over the summer evaluated their projects and clientele based on which the IFF has been identified as one of their key customers. They will be focusing on certain projects and the key customers. The next status meeting is in the last week of August. According to the agreement they are facilitating our sales efforts with Stadium (Scandinavian lead).

The IFF is in direct discussions with TIER (micro-mobility provider), Kauko (provider of seamless digital solutions (devices/software/services)) and their partner Panasonic and Swappie (second-hand iPhones)). Further, we have opened track with Dachser (logistics) and found the right entity to discuss commercial partnerships regarding the Fisherman's Friend brand (Impex Management). Out of the pool of current and past LOC sponsors the car rental companies Enterprise and Europcar are also on the target list.

IFF was able to secure New Wave Group S.A. (Craft Switzerland) as Sports Apparel partner for the WFC 2022. The cooperation includes value in-kind referee wear and cash. A new discussion will be opened in the spring with Craft HQ once we have the report from the 2022 event (since they have then been a sponsor in the last two editions of the Men's WFC). There is also an on-going discussion regarding advertisement on the referee shirt. The negotiation with FROMM to purchase presence with the mid-circle is still on-going.

Sales for the upcoming Champions Cup 2023 in Finland have begun and a meeting with the LOC regarding the sponsorship packages will take place on the 24.8.

Since the WFC 2022 ballot and knowledge of the defined groups Protocol Sports has intensified their sales efforts. In our status meeting with them on the 25.8. they reported good progress with cases in Germany and Poland (monetary compensation) as well as Canada, Hungary, France, Slovenia and Africa. The IFF pointed out to include Denmark on the list and emphasized to contact with their Asian clients as 2023 is an important year for floorball in that respective market.

Discussions for extending the agreements with the existing IFF sponsors (flooring / rink / floorball equipment) have been on-going throughout the spring and summer. The outlook on these is positive and the negotiations are in the closing stages.

The Quantum Consultancy report has been distributed to IFF sponsors, potential clients and at first stage federations who were or will be WFC hosts. The feedback has been positive and for example in the case of Craft has provided strong support for sales.

CB decided: To approve the report

c) Material function

Mr. Liljelund reported that the yearly meeting with the IFF Material Board has been held as a virtual meeting on the 14th of June, discussing the practical issues like the Material Regulation Edition 2022 implementation, the support to the World Games preparations from the Material Board financial result, the collection of Floorball materials for surveillance tests, the attempt to change the certification system of the Floorball sticks and the preparation for starting the process for the updating of the Material Regulation 2024. (**Appendix 18**)

Mr. Suman asked what the estimation of the sales for 2022. Mr. Liljelund answered that probably some 15-20 % lower than before Covid and some 20% bigger than last year.

CB decided: To approve the report

d) Equality function

Nothing reported

CB decided: To approve the report

e) Parafloorball function

Mr. Houman reported that local seminars at the programs in both Europe, North America and Asia have been arranged by Special Olympics, and the floorball programs continue to grow in numbers.

Special Olympics was presented at the World Games in 2022 in Birmingham, but it was not the success it could have been, since many of the programs in North America didn't have the opportunity to go to the games and participate in a floorball seminar organized there.

Torino, Italy will be the host for the next World Winter Games in 2025, and it will be from the 5. March – 17. March.

The allocation for number of floorball teams who will be able to participate has not yet been decided, but last quota was 56 teams from all continents. Floorball now has 64 programs for Floorball globally.

Mr. Kihm has visited the Power Hockey World Championships in Switzerland to discuss the process for them to join the IFF. Mrs. Birdal commented that the interest of the Volt Hockey to join IFF is still existing, and she will get in contact with the organisation.

CB decided: To approve the report

f) Sustainability function

Mr. Halonen reported on behalf of Mr. Kalsta that the IFF has submitted its CO2 emissions based on the UN Sports for Climate Network (S4CA) reporting template (this concerns the IFF office/staff). The WFC 2022 is leading the way for event sustainability in meeting S4CA goals by providing concrete numbers about CO2-emissions from Prague 2018, setting reduction goals and how that will be done during the 2022 edition of the event. As outcome of the event the plan is to create a Sustainability Manual for IFF Event Organisers. The Czech Federation has also published a Sustainability Manual as result from a study project of Mr Chvojka. **(Appendix 19)**

The responsibility campaign FairFloorball will be further endorsed in the future events. A new video to communicate the concept is being prepared. Further, new clips with player, team staff and referees to endorse the campaign will be collected during the tournaments and will be used to update promotion material.

The WFC 2022 has continued to publish material and concepts around their Green Goal concept. As the event moves closer the tournament sustainability initiatives will also be covered more in media (Blick, media partner). The LOC has partnered with a University of Applied Sciences which will produce several items for the event produced from recycled floorball plastics (broken balls / blades). Among these items are souvenir balls, best player medals, Green Goal Day trophies.

Branding and decoration material (canvas / cloth) from the WFC 2022 will be sown into bags and similar products for sale.

Through its network, IFF has become aware of a carbon recycling pilot project spearheaded by World Sailing. After being in touch with the project leader Victoria Low (World Sailing Trust) we have been able to connect them with UNIHOC who are very interested in this project. Preparations are on-going to transport broken sticks for the recycling project to produce recycled raw material. The recycled raw material will then be submitted to UNIHOC for closer quality and suitability inspection.

The IOC is planning to organise the next IOC Carbon Action Award to be announced the IF Forum in Lausanne. The plan has been to more closely involve the IOC sponsors in the project and prizes. Once the application term will be opened the IFF will submit its candidacy. We have also invited Mrs Julie Duffus (Olympic Movement Senior Manager – Sustainability) to the WFC 2022 Green Goal Day.

The EU Erasmus+ project (Green Approaches in Management for Enhancing Sports / Improve Good Governance in sport) consortium (six different organisations) had a kick-off meeting of the project 9th of June 2022. The next steering committee (online) meeting is 26.9. and a physical meeting 15.12.. The project lead has also been invited to visit the WFC 2022 (Green Goal Day) to evaluate how the LOC is implementing sustainability initiatives.

CB decided: To approve the report

§ 11. IFF Office

Mr. Halonen reported that the Finnish Floorball federation has received the support from the Finnish Ministry of Education for the upkeep of the IFF office in Helsinki. Mr. Eriksson on behalf of the IFF expressed our gratitude to the Finnish Federation and the Finnish Ministry of Education.

CB decided: To approve the report

§ 12. Members

Membership questions

Mr. Halonen informed that another Floorball association has been found in Burkina Faso and they have requested the membership change to the new organisation, which is actually founded by the original Floorball people in Burkina Faso. The present member association has not received the governmental recognition mainly due to the fact that they don't have enough players in the organisation. However, the office needs to hear all sides before any proposal will be taken to the CB.

CB decided: To approve the report

Members under suspension

Nothing reported

New Member applications

Mr. Halonen that there are two new candidates who have started to work on the membership applications. The Republic of Benin and Ghana from Africa. Benin has already been co-operating with the IFF member associations in Western Africa, but Ghana is a newcomer and will be in touch with the other IFF MAs in the area, before applying. There are also some pending applications which will be brought to the CB after the office has received more information.

CB decided: To approve the report

§ 13. Next meeting

Mr. Eriksson to conclude that the next planned ordinary CB meeting (M6), has been planned for the 8th and 9th of October in Copenhagen, Denmark.

CB decided: To approve the report

§ 14. Closing of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson closed the meeting at 12:00 CET

**John Liljelund
Secretary General**

**Tomas Eriksson
President**