

## **MINUTES IFF GENERAL ASSEMBLY 12.11 2022**

**Place:** Swiss Life Arena, Zurich, Switzerland

**Participants:** According to enclosure 13

### **§ 1 Opening of the General Assembly by IFF Vice President Mr. Filip Suman**

Filip Suman opened the General Assembly at 08:30 and greeted all the participants welcome to the 17<sup>th</sup> IFF General Assembly in Zurich.

Mr. Suman addressed the General Assembly with among other things elaborating over the ongoing WFC and the very good atmosphere created by the Swiss organiser. Further Mr. Suman talked about the last year with double Championships both for Adults and U19, the World Games this year and finally thanked all teams having participated in these events.

With these words Mr. Suman opened the IFF General Assembly 2022.

### **§ 2 Approval of present Associations and the voting roll**

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

The IFF CB is proposing to the IFF General Assembly to confirm the decision to change of Italian membership in IFF from the Italian Floorball Association (FIUF) to Italian Field Hockey Federation. The inclusion has been approved by the Italian National Olympic Committee.

There are 30 ordinary member associations registered and present, i.e. Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Coté d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Iceland, India, Iran, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, the Philippines, Poland, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine and USA present, which according to the IFF Statutes § 29.2. have the right to vote at the General Assembly, if they have fulfilled their obligations towards IFF.

Coté d'Ivoire and Iran are not eligible to vote due to the debts to the IFF. Presently Belarus and Russia are suspended based on the decision by the IFF Central Board

A simple majority with 28 of all ordinary members participates in the meeting is 15 votes and the qualified majority of 2/3 majority is 19 votes, according to the Statutes.

There are 5 provisional members associations present, i.e. Kazakhstan, Kenya, Moldova, Nigeria and Venezuela.

Approval of the voting roll.

**The General Assembly noted** that 30 ordinary and 5 provisional member Associations were present.

**The General Assembly decided** that the voting roll was 28 ordinary members and that 15 votes are needed for a simple majority and 19 votes are needed for a 2/3 majority, and to confirm the decision to change of Italian membership in IFF from the Italian Floorball Association (FIUF) to Italian Field Hockey Federation.

### **§ 3 Greetings to the General Assembly**

Mr. Michael Zoss, Secretary General of Swiss Unihockey, greeted the GA welcome to Zurich elaborating about the ongoing WFC.

#### **§ 4 Election of two scrutineers of the General Assembly**

Mr. Suman proposed on behalf of the IFF CB to elect as scrutineers Ms. Dorothee Vogelesang, the Netherlands and Mr. Marek Chomnicki, Poland.

**The General Assembly decided** accordingly to elect Ms. Dorothee Vogelesang, the Netherlands and Mr. Marek Chomnicki, Poland to act as scrutineers.

#### **§ 5 Approval of the agenda (Appendix 1)**

Mr. Suman proposed the General Assembly to approve the proposed Agenda for the IFF General Assembly.

**The General Assembly decided** to approve the agenda for the IFF General Assembly.

#### **§ 6 Approval of the protocol of the last Congress (Article 31 paragraph 2)**

**The General Assembly noted** that the protocol from the extra General Assembly held as a hybrid meeting 11<sup>th</sup> December 2021 in Helsinki has not been opposed to and is therefore automatically approved according to the statutes.

#### **§ 7 Admission or expulsion of official member Associations**

The CB has decided not to propose that the any provisional members would automatically be considered ordinary members, according to IFF Statutes, Article 13 paragraph 3.  
The new voting roll will be re-confirmed by the General Assembly.

**The General Assembly decided** to re-confirm the voting roll according to the decision in § 2.

#### **§ 8 Approval of the CB reports (Appendix 2)**

Mr. Suman presented the Annual report 2021-2022, a short resume from the Plan of Action decided upon in the virtual Zoom meeting 2020 for the period 2021-2022 and the activities IFF has had in the period.

Mr. Suman asked the General Assembly to approve the Annual Report 2021 – 2022

**The General Assembly decided** to approve the Annual report 2021 – 2022.

#### **§ 9 Approval of the financial report and the auditor's report 2020-2021**

*Calendar years 2020 and 2021 (appendix 3, 4, 5 and 6)*

Ms. Birdal, IFF treasurer, presented the financial statements for 2020 and 2021.

Mr. Suman asked if the IFF General Assembly had any questions regarding the finances.

The Auditors report for 2020 and 2021 prepared by the Auditor Mr. Mikael Brandstam was presented by Ms. Birdal. Mr. Brandstam informed in the report that the annual accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act and, thereby, gives a true and fair view of the IFF's financial position and results of operations in accordance with generally agreed accounting principles in accordance with IAS.



Mr. Suman asked if the IFF General Assembly had any questions regarding the auditor's report.

Mr. Suman proposed the General Assembly to approve the financial reports of 2020 and 2021 and the auditor's report for 2020 and 2021.

**The General Assembly decided** to approve the financial report for 2020 and 2021 and the auditor's report for 2020 and 2021.

#### **§ 10 Decision on freedom of responsibility for the CB**

The Auditor Mr. Mikael Brandstam has recommended to the IFF General Assembly that the IFF Central Board and secretary general shall be discharged from liability for the financial years 2020 and 2021.

Mr. Tomas Jonsson, Norway, proposed that the General Assembly should grant freedom of responsibility for the CB, the President and the secretary general.

Mr. Suman asked if the General Assembly could grant freedom of responsibility for the the CB, the President and the secretary general according to the proposal.

**The General Assembly decided** to unanimously grant the Central Board, the President and the secretary general freedom of responsibility for 2020 and 2021.

#### **§ 11 Decision on membership fee**

The IFF Central Board proposes not to change the membership fees for the coming two-year period.

**The General Assembly decided** not to change the membership fees for the period 2023-2024 according to the proposal.

#### **§ 12. Examinations and decisions on proposals and motions of the members (FS)**

*1. IFF Central Board Recommendation regarding the Motion about the Norwegian Floorball Federation concerning the IFF International weekends, presented by the IFF Secretary General Mr. John Liljelund*

The IFF CB proposed that the IFF General Assembly will give the IFF Central Board the task to look over the formulation of the IFF Competition regulation concerning the freeing of players and the IFF Juridical regulation concerning the sanctions regarding the freeing of players, to clarify the present situation. Further the IFF Central Board are to look over the present system of the International weekends.

**The General Assembly decided** to approve the CB proposal.

*2. Motion concerning the modification of the U19 WFC qualifications by the Belgium Floorball Federation, presented by the IFF Secretary general Mr. John Liljelund*

The IFF CB finds that it has been extremely difficult to find organisers for the Men's U19 WFC 2023 qualifications. Based on this the IFF Central Board has in its meeting on the 4th of September given the IFF Office and the IFF Rules and Competition Committee the task to look over the conditions of the qualification system and the requirements for the organisers.

The IFF CB has defined that the U19 WFCQ's will have to be played by the end of February and are looking on different solutions for the future qualifications in regard to the qualifications.

Mr. Nicolas Senez, Belgium, asked for how the qualifications will be organised.

Mr. Liljelund replied that IFF is working on this and will discuss this in the workshop of the first CB meeting in 2023.

**The General Assembly decided** to approve the CB proposal.

*3. The IFF Central proposal concerning the Future of Floorball and the start of development discussions inside the Floorball Community by the IFF Secretary General Mr. John Liljelund*

The IFF CB proposes that there will not be any decision made to continue with the Future of Floorball format proposal, but instead continue the evaluation of, in which direction our sport needs to develop, based on an inclusive process run with all the stakeholders of Floorball.

The task of the IFF Central Board is to create a proposal, through involvement of all the stakeholders in various workshops, for a Development Plan of what we want our product to look and feel in the future and how this it can be reached. The aim is to have the work finalized by the IFF GA 2024, with first proposals discussed already at the Association Meeting 2023.

**The General Assembly decided** to approve the CB proposal.

*4. The IFF Central Board proposal concerning the European Floorball Championships, presented by the IFF Secretary General Mr. John Liljelund*

The CB proposal is that the GA 2022 shall decide:

-That the EFC should be played during the International Weekend in beginning in September, as a 7 days tournament, making it possible to prolong the season during the spring to strengthen the national leagues.

-To start the EFC with the Men in 2025, so that the EFC is played with a different gender than the WFC each year.

-To start the EFC with 8 teams, but with the possibility to enlarge it to 12 teams after a few years to give more countries the possibility to participate in the event if there is willingness for it.

-That the top 7 European nations from the previous WFC and the host nation shall be directly qualified for the EFC.

-That the teams directly qualified to the EFC are not to play the WFC qualifications for the next WFC, meaning that these countries are directly qualified for the next WFC, if they participate in the EFC.

Mr. Olafur Björgvin Sveinsson, Iceland, asked how the new system will work for the WFCQs and if there are discussions to enlarge the WFC to 20 teams.

Mr. Liljelund replied that this will be on the table now when the decision is taken but that the quota still remains as it is today.

**The General Assembly decided** to approve the CB proposal.



*5. The IFF Strategy Working Group status report presented by the Strategy Workgroup Group chair Mr. Stephen King*

Mr. King gave an update of the strategy work. Each Key Priority has a working document setting out the Actions required to achieve the Key Priority. Each Action has been allocated to a member of the office to manage and/or implement and has had dates set to commence and finish by. A traffic light system of colours is being used to track the progress where Green is completed, Yellow in progress and Red not yet commenced

SWG will monitor progress with IFF Office and report back on a regular basis on progress and, as required, members of the Floorball community will be asked to provide feedback.

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

*a) Plan of action for the period 2023-2024 (between General Assemblies, appendix 11)*

Mr. Liljelund presented the CB proposal on plan of action for the period 2023-2024.

The IFF Central Board will work very closely with the IFF member associations and other stakeholders in order to develop Floorball as a product towards the direction that it serves the community the best.

Mr. Christo Matheson, New Zealand asked about the new IFF Media App and how to secure easy accessible visibility of the WFCs in all countries.

Mr. Liljelund replied that IFF is working with these questions trying to find solutions for more countries to have TV or stream.

Mr. Suman asked if the General Assembly could approve the plan of action for 2023 and 2024.

**The General Assembly decided** to approve the plan of action for the period 2023-2024.

*b) Budget for the calendar years 2023 and 2024 (appendix 12)*

Mrs. Birdal presented the budget proposals for 2023 and 2024 and informed that these are built to be in line with the strategy work and balanced.

Mr. Suman asked if the General Assembly could approve the budget for 2023 and 2024.

**The General Assembly decided** to approve the budget for 2023 and 2024.

**§ 14 Elections**

Confirmation of the election of two replacement members of the IFF Ethics Commission (ETC), made by the IFF Central Board.

The IFF CB proposes to confirm the election of Mr. Bill Howitt, Australia and Mr. David Sharpe, Great Britain for the remainder of the 2021-2024 term.

**The General Assembly decided** to confirm the election of Mr. Bill Howitt, Australia and Mr. David Sharpe, Great Britain for the remainder of the 2021-2024 term as members of the Ethics Commission.

**§ 15 Appointment of a chartered auditor for 2 years**

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

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

The election was unanimous

**§ 16 Approval of Regulations within the meaning of article 15 paragraph 2 littera c)**

The IFF Central Board does not propose any Regulations for approval for the General Assembly

The General Assembly noted that there are no regulations for approval by the General Assembly.

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

The IFF Central Board does not propose any such affairs.

The General Assembly noted that there are no such affairs proposed for decision by the General Assembly.

**§ 18 Appointment to be honorary member**

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

**§ 19 Decision on the meeting place for the next General Assembly**

Mr. Suman informed that the IFF CB proposes that the next General Assembly shall be held on the 14.12.2024 at 09:00, during the WFC 2024 in Malmö, Sweden.

The General Assembly decided accordingly to have the next General Assembly during the WFC 2024.

**§ 20 Presentations on coming World Floorball Championships**

Upcoming Championships were presented:

- a) Floorball4All presentation by Mr. Benjamin Lüthi
- b) WFC 2023 Men U19 in Frederikshavn, Denmark by Mr. Steen Houman, Floorball Danmark
- c) WFC 2023 Women in Singapore by Arif Azmar Azman, Singapore Floorball Association
- d) WFC 2024 Women U19 in Lahti, Finland by Mr. Pekka Ilmivalta, Finnish Floorball Federation
- e) WFC 2024 Men in Malmö, Sweden by Ms. Malin Eggertz Forsmark, City of Malmö



## § 21 Closing of the General Assembly

Mr. Suman thanked the participants for their efficient work during the General Assembly, all presenters in § 20 and special thanked the Associations for leading them with the responsibility required, wishing them successful work in the years ahead and with these words declared the General Assembly as closed at 11:02.

John Liljelund

IFF Secretary General



Filip Suman

IFF Vice President



Scrutineers



Marek Chomnicki



Dorothee Vogelesang