



INTERNATIONAL FLOORBALL FEDERATION (IFF)

Ordinary member of AGFIS/GAISF

Helsinki, September 16th, 2008

IFF Central Board meeting 3/2008 13.09.2008

Place: Hotel Novotel Budapest Centrum, Budapest, Hungary

Participants: Tomas Eriksson **President**
Renato Orlando **vice president**
Mona Aagaard
Tomas Jonsson **treasurer**
Per Jansson
Risto Kauppinen

Stefan Kratz **Competition Manager**
Merita Bruun **Information Manager**
John Liljelund **Secretary General**

Invited: -

Excused: Filip Suman

Minutes

§ 1. Opening of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson greeted all CB members welcome to the CB meeting being held in Hungary and opened the meeting at 09.30. Mr. Eriksson also felt that it is good to have the CB in conjunction with an IFF Event, this time the Men's U19 WFC 2009 qualification, played in Kartal.

§ 2. Approval of the agenda

The agenda was scrutinized and completed, with the following amendments:
Appendix 3 – updated IFF Claims
Appendix 11 – IFF referees letter and the RC Chairman answer
Appendix 12 – Membership application for Floorball Turkey

§ 3. Minutes from the CB meeting 02/2008 in Bratislava, Slovakia (26.04.2008), (Appendix 1),

The minutes from the last meetings held in Bratislava, Slovakia were scrutinized, approved and put ad acta.

§ 4. Economy

a) Financial report by the 31.08.2008 (Appendix 2)

Mr. Jonsson gave a short report concerning the preliminary financial report and balance statement per 31.08.2008. The overall financial picture is looking very good, with some higher turnout for the competitions, than expected. On the balance side the liquidity is still rising, despite that some of the reserves are being used as planned.

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The CB decided: To approve the financial report.

b) Information on IFF claims – status September 12th, 2008 (Appendix 3)

Mr. Kratz reported that the amount of outstanding claims have decreased with more than 50.000 CHF during the last six months. All member associations have been reminded about their outstanding claims from the Office in front of the IFF General Assembly.

Mr. Eriksson proposed that the CB shall discuss and take the needed decisions concerning the membership fees of some of our member associations, in accordance with the IFF Statutes. Each ordinary member Association which has fulfilled its obligation's to IFF is entitled to one vote at the General Assembly. Mr. Eriksson further proposed that those member associations which have not paid their membership fee until the 1st of December 2008, can not, in accordance with our Statutes use their voting power at the General Assembly in Prague.

Mr. Kauppinen felt that all membership fees before the running year of 2008, should be paid in order to be allowed to vote at the General Assembly. This was seconded by both Mr. Jansson and Mr. Jonsson.

The CB decided: To approve the report and decided to remind the member associations of their obligations towards the IFF.

§ 5. World Championships

a) WFC 2008 Czech Republic

Mr. Kratz gave a report on-behalf of Mr. Suman concerning the preparation of the 7th Men's WFC 2008 to be held in Ostrava and Prague, in the Czech Republic and the official program organised by the CFbU and the City of Prague.

Mr. Eriksson reported about the planned timetable, for the IFF CB during the WFC 2008. The CB meeting will be held at the Clarion Hotel on Friday, December 12th at 10.00. The General Assembly is also held in the same venue on Saturday, December the 13th starting at 9.30 followed by an IFF reception. The new IFF CB will have its constitution meeting on Sunday December 14th at 10.00 at Hotel Clarion.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

Mr. Liljelund reported, about the ongoing TV negotiations with the different TV Companies and the host broadcaster the Czech TV and the plans to sell and distribute the international signal to IFF member countries. The co-operation with the Czech TV has been improved by the meeting held on June 11th. **(Appendix 4)**

In total 15 matches will be produced. According to the offer received from the Czech TV for production and the offer from EBU for the satellite uplink and the satellite segment there will be a small cost for IFF to bear for these productions. We have to finalise the production agreement at least four weeks to the tournament and order the satellite at least a week before the start of the tournament.

So far the following TV companies have informed that they will broadcast matches from the WFC **(Appendix 5):**

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Denmark: DaFU has shown interest in Danish matches, discussions ongoing
Finland: YLE will broadcast the Finnish semi final and medal match
Latvia: LT7 will broadcast LAT-RUS, LAT-CZE and the final
Norway: Discussions ongoing with NBF.
Sweden: TV4 will broadcast the match CZE – SWE, both semi finals and the final
Switzerland: SFR will broadcast the final, if Switzerland plays in it, they have asked for highlights from all Swiss matches
Eurosport: Will broadcast in total 10-11 matches

The CB decided: To approve the report.

Mr. Kratz reported on behalf of Mr. Suman about the played WFC C-division, in Bratislava, in the Slovak Republic the 21-27th of April 2008 and the results. The Slovak federation organised a very good event, with a lot of spectators and live streaming. The Slovak federation has proven to be a very good organiser of international events.

Mr. Orlando felt that when three teams are participating in the C-division from out of Europe, this really proves that Floorball is an attractive sport.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

b) WFC 2009 Sweden

Mr. Jansson gave a short report on the preparations for the 7th Women's WFC 2009, to be played in Västerås from the 5th to the 12th of December, 2009. The preparations are well ongoing and the organiser has got a strong support from the city of Västerås. The city has really good venues and women's Floorball is very active in the city. Mr. Eriksson additionally informed that the Swedish federation is negotiating with the host broadcaster of the event.

Mr. Kratz gave a report concerning the qualifications for the WFC 2009, organised by the Slovenian Floorball Association from the 04.-08.02.2009. The qualifying teams are: Italy, Slovakia, Spain, Austria, Estonia, Slovenia, Georgia and Ukraine. The organiser will decide where the qualification will be played by end of September. The visa application will have to start already in November for both Georgia and Ukraine.

Mr. Jansson reminded that all teams will have to have paid the participation fee before they enter the tournament.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

c) WFC U19 Women 2008

Mr. Kratz reported on the behalf of Mr. Vehniäinen about the U19 WFC played in Wolsztyn, Babimost and Zbaszyn, from the 7th to the 11th of May, 2008. The organiser organised a very good tournament, especially keeping in mind that the Polish federation took over the tournament on a short notice, when the Swiss federation gave it back to IFF. The main problem was the unforeseen change of the IFF hotel, which lead to problems with transportations and time tables.

Mr. Orlando felt that the Polish federation made an excellent job thus proving that they are ready to stage further IFF events.

The CB decided: To approve the report

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d) U19 WFC 2009 Finland

Mr. Kratz reported about the ongoing qualifications for the U19 WFC 2009 played in Kartal, Hungary between the 10 – 14.9.2008 with the participation of Spain, Netherlands, Russia, Hungary, Slovenia and Georgia. The organisation is working well and the venue is big enough for the event and most of the teams live in the same hotel. It has been positive to see that there has been no problem between the Russian and Georgian teams, despite the tensions between the countries.

Mr. Kauppinen reported on the preparations made for the U19 WFC 2009 to be played in Turku and Raisio, Finland 6th to 10th May 2009. Ms. Mervi Kilpikoski has been appointed as the general secretary for the event and the first info letter will be sent to the participants still during September.

Mrs. Aagaard raised the question about the time of the U19 Championships, due to the problems with school exams, starting in beginning of May. It would be better to have the championship in the end of April.

Mr. Liljelund reported about the agreement signed for the championship.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

§ 6. EuroFloorball Cup

a) EuroFloorball Cup 2008

Mr. Kratz reported upon the preparations made for the EFC Final round in Winterthur, Switzerland from the 8th to the 12th of October, being played under one roof in the Eulachhallen, with 1.800 spectators in the first arena. The final match schedule has been proposed by the organiser, now when all the qualifiers are clear. **(Appendix 6)**

Mr. Orlando felt that the choice to play in Winterthur was a good choice and there has been a good number of media interest towards the event. There has been a need to remind the organisers that since it is an IFF Event all agreements must be in accordance with IFF. Mr. Liljelund informed about the signed agreement with the Swiss federation and that at least the Finnish TV will take the signal from the Men's final. Negotiations are still ongoing with the Swedish TV and Eurosport.

The CB decided: To approve the report

b) EuroFloorball Cup Qualifications 2008

Mr. Kratz reported about the three EFC qualifications played, the Western qualification in Denmark (13.-17.8.), the Eastern qualifications in Slovakia (27.-31.8) and the 2nd ranked teams in the 4 top nations qualification in Finland (22.-24.8.) and the teams qualified for the final round. There has been a record amount of qualifying teams to the EFC this year, with 32 teams in total qualifying. For the Men's competition the following teams made it through to the final round : Tapanilan Erä (Finland), Latvijas Avize (Latvia), Sarpsborg (Norway) and the following teams made it for the women's final round: Balrog B/S IK (Sweden), FC Outlaws (Denmark) and Rubene (Latvia).

The qualifications were organised in a good way and the quality of the matches are improving from year to year. The Georgian teams had some problems to get the visas for Slovakia, due to the war between Georgia and Russia.



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Mr. Orlando felt that the RACC needs to look over the number of teams taking part in each group, in order to secure the sporting equality as far as the qualification to the final round is concerned.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

§ 7. Committees and Function reports

a) ExCo reports

Mr. Eriksson reported on the ExCo meeting held on the 4th of June, 2008, in Athens, Greece (**Appendix 7**). The ExCo discussed among other things the IOC recognition process and the amendments to the application, the upcoming dates and the different development projects.

Mr. Orlando gave a report on how the work of the Strategy working group is proceeding and the first version of the "IFF Strategic Vision"-document the group is preparing for the CB. The group held its second meeting in Zurich on the 19th of August, 2008 (**Appendix 8**). The working group will bring its final proposal to the CB in the end of October, so that the CB can discuss and decide upon it before proposing it to the IFF General Assembly, after it has been read by some outside specialists.

The work has been built around the new idea and perception about sport and Floorball in general, upon which the whole strategy for IFF is then formed, including a benchmarking with the big team sports federations. The Strategy group is working under the project plan approved by the CB and Mr. Orlando hoped that the CB members, when they will have the final draft of the strategy, after the Strategy group meeting on the 11th of October, would come with their views in writing until the end of October, in order to speed up the discussions during the CB meeting.

Mr. Eriksson felt that it is very important to have this document and that everyone shall follow it, in order to build the future plans of IFF based on the Strategy .

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

b) Contacts to International Sports Organisations

Mr. Eriksson reported on the Sport Accord and the GAISF General Assembly held in Athens, Greece from the 2nd to the 6th of June and the meeting held with the GAISF President Mr. Hein Verbruggen and the GAISF Media group. During the Sport Accord and GAISF General Assembly there was a number of working meetings held in Athens, with top sport officials, EBU and event organisers.

Mr. Orlando gave a report about the work done in connection with the IOC Recognition process and the completion of the additional material for the IOC recognition which has to be sent in by the end of September. There has been a lot work done in order to fulfil the requirements of the IOC, by the IFF CB, the Executive Committee and especially the IFF Office. The IOC Executive Board will decide upon the application of IFF, concerning the IOC recognition on the 11th of December, to the information we have.

Mr. Orlando informed that IFF has invited the GAISF President Mr. Hein Verbruggen, GAISF Director General Christine Dominguez, the Swiss IOC members Mr. Blatter; Mr. Baumann; Mr. Fasel; Mr. Kasper; Mr. Oswald, the Chairman of the Swiss Olympic Committee Mr. Schild and the IOC Sports Director Mr. Dubi to the EFC Final round first day 8th of October, for the match between Wiler-Ersigen and AIK.

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Mr. Orlando reported about the upcoming Sport for All congress in Malaysia and the GAISF IF Sport Forum in Switzerland, where IFF will attend, in order to show presence and participate in the ongoing discussion.

Mr. Liljelund inform about the offer the Danish Floorball Federation has received from the Danish Sport Confederation, giving the sports a possibility to introduce themselves in connection to the IOC congress in Copenhagen, Denmark 1st to 9th of October, 2009. The

Danish sports federation would like to show different kind of sports for the public during this period. The Danish federation is looking to co-operate with IFF in this matter.

The CB decided: To approve the reports and accept the offer from the Danish federation to participate in the project.

c) RACC

Mr. Kratz reported on behalf of Mr. Suman about the test for the Temporary play during the summer period, which has turned out with a total of 10 players using the opportunity to play in another club.

Mr. Eriksson felt that it was an extended services for the clubs, despite that the need was not that big. Mr. Orlando felt that we protected our members and clubs, by allowing this. Mr. Liljelund expressed that the work impact was not that big from the office point of view and supported the continuation of the system.

The CB decided: To approve the reports and continue with the Temporary Play system in 2009.

d) RC

Mr. Jansson expressed that he was very astonished to have received the application from the RC sent in only three days ago, despite the time the issue had been on the table for the RC. He felt that the international referees have signed something which looks like a protest list and the RC has not informed the CB accordingly. Mr. Jansson proposed to build a financial force to look over how the tournaments are financed and then also look over the application of the referees. There is a need to look deeper on the over-all problem in financing future IFF Events. **(Appendix 11)**

Mr. Eriksson reminded that the ExCo already asked the RC to come with a proper proposal to the CB during its meeting in Athens, in June. There has not been any proposal put forward by the RC. This is once again a good example of lack of communication internally from the RC. The issue has to be discussed in the economical framework.

Mr. Kratz felt that the RC wanted to keep this issue as an internal issue. Mr. Orlando proposed that the task should be given to someone for further investigation and who then comes up with a proposal for the next CB meeting. Further he proposed that there needs be a clear deviation of tasks for the IFF committees followed by a job description of its members.

Mr. Kauppinen felt that we should look upon the question of compensation as a part of a policy for all voluntary working persons within IFF.

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Mr. Jansson wanted to stress that there has been a 180 degree turn in attitude in the answers of Mr. Gilardi. He proposes that the issue will be postponed for further deliberations and to look over the budgets for all events, to balance the finances. It still has been too cheap to participate in every tournament and next to the forthcoming implementation of the licensing system there needs to be higher gate fee, in order to increase the quality of the events, which may than also give possibilities to look over the referee question.

Mr. Jansson further felt that the preparation for the development day for the international referees at the WFC 2008 is going well and he is looking forward to have this first event.

The CB decided: To take recognisance of the letter of the RC chairman Mr. Gilardi. The CB was not in a position to take a decision with such short notice of the issue. The CB further decided to form a working group, consisting of Mr. Jonsson and Mr. Liljelund to look at the economy of the IFF Events and to come with a proposal by the end of January 2009.

e) **Development function**

Mr. Orlando reported on the reasons the Floorball Development Seminar that was to be held in Lastrup, Germany in June was postponed, due to a lack of participating countries. It has always been said by the Development function that there needs to be at least four countries participating in the seminar, in order to build the contacts between the countries. The discussions have already been started, in order to find a new time and place for the seminar.

The development function is organising a development seminar clinic in Fresno, California in end of September, in order to boost the development of Floorball in USA and talk to universities and schools. There was a huge tournament organised in Los Angeles. Mr. Orlando also informed that the Australian Sports Commission has accepted Floorball as a member and that the Australian Floorball Federation has thanked IFF for its help in this process. Further it was informed that India has been in contact with Afghanistan and Nepal, trying to spread the sport.

Mr. Liljelund reported of the support IFF is giving to its members, by sending used IFF rinks to IFF members for development use. The rinks are "rented" to the countries for one or two years at the time. The first rinks have been sent to Serbia and the United States. Further there has been discussions of starting a project to build a Floorball federation in Djibouti in North-East Africa and a meeting held with Floorball 4all (Streetkids), which is using Floorball as a form to help children with social problems in over 14 countries. It was further informed that the development project in China is moving forward and that there has been employed a person to promote Floorball in China.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

f) **Marketing function**

Mr. Jansson informed about the sponsorship agreement signed, via the efforts of Infront with the Swedish office furniture company AJ for the next three seasons. AJ will have visibility on the referee outfits and in the venues.

Mr. Liljelund informed about the test being made with the company Sportsman, during the EFC final round, in order to have the IFF Events streamed internationally over the internet.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

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g) Medical committee

Ms. Bruun reported on the work done in order to have a final draft for the new Anti Doping Regulation, where the first draft will be sent to the IFF Medical Committee in advance of the Medical Committee meeting in Zurich on the 8th of October. The draft will also be sent by the end of September to WADA, for a compliance check by WADA.

The final proposal will be brought to the IFF CB in the next meeting. The plan is to have the Anti Doping regulation as the basic rule and then special guidelines for Whereabouts and TUE's.

IFF has also started with the out-of-competition doping testing, in order to receive the Code compliance. The WADA Compliance questionnaire was filled out during the summer.

Mr. Eriksson felt that there work done has been excellent. There need to be a lot of education given to the National member associations.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

h) Material function

Nothing to report.

i) Athletes Commission

Mr. Kauppinen reported that the Athletes Commission has so far given their proposals to the Rules Group. The plan is to have the first meeting of the Athletes Commission, during the WFC 2008 in Prague, discussing the ASC tasks, the WADA Code implementation for the athletes and a general introduction of the IFF work.

The CB decided: To approve the report and organise a meeting for the Athletes Commission.

§ 8. IFF Office

Mr. Liljelund informed that Ms. Kaarina Salomaa has been appointed as the new Competition Assistant, with main responsibility looking after the IFF Events. Anti doping TUE & whereabouts and IFF statistical Match programme. She has started her employment in beginning of July 2008.

Mr. Liljelund reported on behalf of Ms. Sahala about the information stand IFF had at the International Physical Education Teachers Federations Congress (FIEP) in Vierumäki, Finland (**Appendix 9**)

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

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§ 9. Member Federations

a) Members under suspension

Nothing to report.

b) New Member Applications

Mr. Liljelund informed that Floorball Turkiye has applied for the IFF Membership. **(Appendix 12)**

The CB decided: To approve Floorball Turkiye as the provisional member nr 46.

§ 10. IFF General Assembly 2008

Mr. Eriksson informed that the General Assembly will be held in the Clarion Hotel starting at 9.30 on the 13th of December 2008, with a IFF reception after the General Assembly at 14.30. The invitation to the General Assembly shall be sent out 90 days before the General Assembly (13th of September). **(Appendix 10)**

The CB is to make the following proposals to the General Assembly:

- 1) Annual report 2006-2008. First draft will be sent to the CB in October
- 2) Plan of Action 2009 – 2010. To be written by the ExCo.
- 3) Financial report, already approved by CB
- 4) Budget 2009 – 2010. To be a task for the ExCo
- 5) CB proposal – Licence system, which is already approved by the CB
- 6) CB proposal – IFF Strategic Vision, first draft to CB in end of October
- 7) CB proposal – IFF Anti Doping Regulation, first draft to CB in beginning of October.
- 8) Nominations – Members to come in with their nominations no later than the 12th of October (60 days in advance of the General Assembly)

Since the General Assembly will for the first time be held in the middle of the season, the CB needs to discuss how the committees are to be organised and how the process for the nomination of committee members will be handled.

Mr. Liljelund proposed that the CB would ask the member associations for nominations after the IFF CB meeting in beginning of November in order to form the new committees after the election of the new CB, which was supported by Mr. Orlando

Mr. Orlando was of the opinion that the committees should be re-established directly after the General Assembly.

The CB decided: To approve the report and decided to ask for committee members for 2009 and 2010 in beginning of November.

§ 11. Next CB meeting

Mr. Eriksson proposed that the next CB meeting will be held in the Czech Republic on the 1st of November 2008 and the following during the WFC 2008 in Prague on the 12th of December 2008.

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The CB decided: The next two coming CB meetings in Prague, Czech Republic 1st of November and the preparatory meeting for the General Assembly in Prague on the 12th of December.

§ 12. Closing of the meeting

Eriksson thanked all members of the CB and closed the meeting at 13.15

John Liljelund
Secretary General

Tomas Eriksson
President

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