



INTERNATIONAL FLOORBALL FEDERATION (IFF)

Ordinary member of AGFIS/GAISF

St. Gallen, December 8th, 2011

IFF Central Board meeting 5/2011 08.12.2011

Place: IFF hotel - Hotel Walhalla,
Poststrasse 27, CH-9001 St. Gallen

Participants: Filip Suman Vice president
Monica Bakke Treasurer
Greg Beaudin
Hans Botman
Risto Kauppinen
Oliver Stoll
Lars-Gunnar Tjärnquist
Edwin Wiedmer

Stefan Kratz Competition Manager
Merita Bruun Information/AD Manager
John Liljelund Secretary General

Excused: Tomas Eriksson IFF President
Stephen King

Minutes

§ 1. Opening of the meeting

Mr. Suman opened the meeting, in the absence of IFF President Mr. Eriksson, who for personal reasons was not able to attend, at 12.30 and greeted the CB members welcome to the IFF CB meeting in connection to the 8th Women's World Floorball Championships. Mr. Suman also informed that Mr. King is late due to a problem with his flight from Perth, Australia.

§ 2. Approval of the agenda

Mr. Suman concluded that there was two updated appendix, namely the Appendix 17, Medical Committee report 03.12.2012
Appendix 19, Election result from the Athletes election organised during the WFC.

§ 3 Minutes from the CB meeting: 04/2011 in Espoo, (01. – 02.10.2011), (Appendix 1),

The minutes from the last meeting were scrutinized, approved and put ad acta

§ 4. Economy

a) Financial report by the 30.11.2011 (Appendix 2)

Ms. Bakke gave a short report presenting the financial report and the balance sheet for the first eleven months of the financial year 2011, per 30.11.2011. There are not any major surprises to be found for this year. However it is hard to estimate since a lot of costs are related to the WFC St Gallen.



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Mr. Kauppinen informed that we have not received any financial information from the organiser in relation to the sponsorship of the 8th Women's WFC 2011, which makes it hard to estimate the financial effect of the WFC.

Mr. Wiedmer informed that information is probably collected and will be provided to IFF in due course.

Mr. Liljelund informed that there has been an ongoing discussion with Mr. Daniel Bollinger and he has promised to provide the information.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

b) Information on IFF claims – status November 30th, 2011

Ms. Bakke presented the current situation of the IFF claims as per 30.11.2011, which is quite stable. Mr. Kratz has made a great work to reduce the debts. (**Appendix 3**) The treasurer and Mr. Kratz will organise a meeting before the next CB meeting in order to discuss the actions to be taken.

The CB decided : To approve the reports.

c) Approval of the Budget for 2012

Mr. Kratz presented the Office proposal for the adjusted Budget for 2012, based on the new situation based on the introduction of the IFF Development Coordinator, mainly supported by IFF's Floorball Equipment sponsor Unihoc. (**Appendix 4**)

The CB decided: To approve the proposal for an adjusted Budget for 2012.

§ 5. World Championships

a) WFC 2011 Switzerland

Mr. Wiedmer expressed that the City of St. Gallen is a very positive place to organise the WFC. The City has been very supportive and provided services of a really high quality. There is a lot of visibility of the Event in the city. The two venues are really nice looking, with the use of the Magenta-theme. The organisation is of a good quality and there are no major issues. Due to some misunderstandings during the first day, there was a meeting organised between the SUHV and IFF to clear the situation, after which everything has worked very well. The main issue is the financial problems, related to a bigger loss than what was budgeted. There has been an issue among the local press, where the big results have caused some issues.

Mr. Beaudin asked of how the media has reported on the WFC. Mr. Wiedmer gave a short answer that the local media has been very active and that there has been a report on the national TV Sport News.

Mr. Tjärnquist felt that we need to look over the issue with the big results in the group stages.

Mr. Suman reminded that there will be an evaluation of the competition system after the Women's WFC.



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Mr. Suman felt that it was a good choice to place the event in St Gallen. All issues related to the field of play have worked well. The cooperation between the organiser and the IFF has to be clarified closer and the organiser has to keep in mind that the Event is IFF's, organised by the National Association.

Mr. Wiedmer informed that there have been arguments raised about the move of the WFC from May to December, since it from a commercial and spectator relation is not that good in Switzerland.

Mr. Suman felt that the IFF CB has still taken a really good decision, with the move from May to December, but stressed that this has to be evaluated as well.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

Mr. Liljelund gave an update about the situation related to the TV broadcasting from the Event. After a number of discussions the signal will be taken by the following parties Czech TV (4 games), Finnish YLE (4 games), Swiss TV (2 games), Swedish TV4 (1 game) and Eurosport (5 games). **(Appendix 5)**

IFF is also paying for the production of the Swiss quarterfinal on the Swiss Sports Channel. The cooperation with the Swiss TV has been good, but the price level is really high.

Mr. Kauppinen felt that the rolling second line worked very well.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

Mr. Suman reported upon the IFF Association Meeting to be held the 9th and 10th of December in the Kantonsspital St. Gallen. There are 27 countries registered and a total of 40 member associations answered the questionnaire. Mr. Suman went through the planned agenda and the CB discussed upon it.

The IFF Associations meeting will start on Friday the 9th of December at 10.30 with a programme continuing until 16.15 and on Saturday the 10th of December 9.00 – 13.00. The main topics during the meeting are Floorball Development and Marketing. **(Appendix 6)**

The CB decided: To approve the report

Mr. Liljelund shortly reported upon the programme for the official celebration of the 25th Anniversary (12.04.2011), which will be held during the WFC 2011. The short reception will be held as a short cocktail reception on Saturday the 10th of December between the semi-finals in the main arena. The program consists of a speech by the IFF President, Awards to a number of distinguished persons who have worked for the IFF and a celebration of the IFF achievements and the draw of the Electric Wheelchair Hockey European Championships. **(Appendix 7)**

The CB decided: To approve the report.

b) U19 WFC 2012 Slovakia

Mr. Kratz gave a short report of the U19 WFC 2012 to be played in Nitra, Slovakia from the 1st to 5th of May 2012 with 14 teams, 8 teams in A-division and 6 teams in the B-division. There is a growth of two teams, with two new teams Canada and Denmark making their first appearance at the Women's U19 WFC.

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The CB decided: To approve the report.

c) **WFC 2012 Switzerland**

Mr. Wiedmer gave a short report on the preparations for the 9th WFC 2012 in Bern and Zurich, Switzerland (**Appendix 25**). The ballot for the groups will be made during the Swiss Cup finals in March. The group matches are played in the Saalsportshalle in Zurich and the Wankdorfhalle in Bern and the Finals in the Hallenstadion in Zurich. There is an issue with the programme of the matches in order to fulfil the requirements of the team practises, which the organiser is working on.

Mr. Daniel Kasser has started as the secretary general for the WFC2012. The budget is over 2 million CHF and the LOC team has started the preparations for the organisation. A very important point is to have volunteers in the management team, since it is only run by SUHV employees, they will wear out very early.

Mr. Suman reminded that it is for the IFF to decide upon the match schedule, so it is important to have an open dialogue as soon as possible. IFF will have a much higher level of expectation towards the organiser, than we had in 2006 when it the tournament previously was played in two cities simultaneously. It is important to have an open contact between the IFF and the LOC.

Mr. Liljelund felt that it is important that the organiser takes advantage of the IFF Organiser Handbook, since this is giving a view of the IFF expectations on how to organise an Event. The TV situation is interesting and also challenging, since IFF has signed a deal with Finnish YLE for 2012, with 8-10 TV matches from the WFC.

Mr. Kratz gave a short report about the situation with the WFCQ 2012, to be played in five separate tournaments (**Appendix 8**):

- AOFC: Hanno-shi, Japan
- Americas: Los Angeles, USA
- Europe 1: Zbaszyn, Poland
- Europe 2: Podcetrtek, Slovenia
- Europe 3: Münster, Germany

The CB decided: To approve the reports

d) **U19 WFC 2013**

Mr. Suman reported on the situation with the Norwegian Floorball Federation's (NBF) reluctance to organise the U19 WFC 2013 and the present options for a solution. The NBF was given the U19 WFC 2011, based upon their application in the IFF CB meeting in Varberg in January 2007.

Mr. Liljelund explained the problematic situation and its effect upon the coming proceedings in relation to awarding events to member associations. The two parties have planned to meet during the WFC in St Gallen.

The CB decided: To organise a negotiation with the Norwegian Federation to clear the situation.

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§ 6. EuroFloorball Cup

a) EuroFloorball Cup 2011

Mr. Kratz gave a final report on the EFC 2011 Final round, played in the polish city of Rakoniewice, between the 5th to 9th of October 2011. This was the first time we had two final round tournaments organised, at the same time – Champions Cup and EFC Final Round. The organisation was good with a total of 3.500 spectators during the EFC and all matches were shown on an internet TV. The teams are very eager to participate in this new format EFC.

Mr. Suman felt that the decision to continue the EuroFloorball Cup was the right decision and that it gives the teams something to play for – the EFC victory and a place in the next Years Champions Cup.

The CB decided: To approve the report

b) Champions Cup

Mr. Suman gave a final report on the 1st edition of the Champions Cup played in Mlada Boleslav between the 4th to 8th of October 2011. The organiser was pleased with the effect of the Event. The financial outcome showed a budgeted loss of the event. One of the main problems was that there were not as much local fans in the event that what was expected, but there were a lot of fans from other cities participating. There was a lot of school children's in the morning matches, giving the event a very lively image. The project was challenging for the organisation, but the organiser is pleased to have made such a good result despite the short preparation time.

Mr. Liljelund shortly informed about the Broadcasts situation, where Finnish YLE (4 games), Swiss SFR (1 high-lights) and Eurosport (5 games) has shown matches from the Event. The Czech TV produced 12 matches and IFF 3 matches.

Mr. Beaudin asked what the plans are to build on the experience from the Champions Cup.

Mr. Suman and Mr. Tjärnquist explained about the situation in Sweden in front of the Champions Cup in Sweden 2012, where the organiser will try to secure TV-visibility.

The CB decided: To approve the reports

Mr. Suman reported on the Champions Cup evaluation meeting held among the stakeholders on the 26th of October in Zurich, Switzerland. The meeting made an extensive evaluation of the 1st edition of the Champions Cup and elaborated on the issues that need to be changed for the future or more clearly defined for the future. The stakeholder all nominated a person responsible for the Champions Cup to deal with the technical issues. **(Appendix 9)**

Mr. Botman asked what actions will be taken in the other countries, not organising the event, supporting the promotion of the event..

Mr. Suman expressed that all four federations' part of the Champions Cup understood that they have to invest in the promotion and building the event.

Mr. Beaudin asked if the Champions Cup is in line with the IFF strive for the Olympic Games.

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Mr. Kauppinen told that the Champions Cup was better acknowledged by media in Finland than the previous EFC's, but there is still a lot of work to be done.

Mr. Suman asked the CB to raise any questions in relation to the changes of the Champions Cup Regulation. Based on the discussions in the Champion Cup evaluation meeting, the following changes have been proposed for the IFF Champions Cup Regulation, which the CB is to decide upon. **(Appendix 10)**

The CB decided: To approve the report and the proposal for new IFF Champions Cup Regulations based on the proposal.

§ 7. Committees and Function reports

a) ExCo reports

Mr. Liljelund made the report on behalf of Mr. Eriksson on the meetings held in South-East Asia, in connection to the SEA-Games and the development in the region. **(Appendix 11)**

Since Mr. King is not present, the CB just dealt with the report on the present activities of the AOFC and the upcoming APAC Development team tournament **(Appendix 24)**.

Mr. Beaudin gave a report on the present activities in the Americas region. The situation in USA is quite fragmental and the USA must continue working in order to organise the federation. There is a lot going on in Canada with a number of organisations working on the recreational level. But in order to sustain the growth, there is need to build on this, in order to reach the National recognition. Floorball Canada is to apply for National recognition with-in the next few months.

Mr. Suman asked if there have been any official meetings with the USA

Mr Beaudin answered that he has been trying to set up a meeting, but the contact has mainly been set up over phone. There has not been any communication with Jamaica.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

b) Contacts to International Sports Organisations

Mr. Liljelund reported on the meeting held by the IFF President and the secretary general with the IOC Sports Department on the Evaluation Criteria's needed to fulfil by IFF, in order to be eligible for the IOC Short List in 2015, for the 2024 Olympic Games.

Additionally Mr. Liljelund reported on the meetings held with different Sport organisations during the SportAccord IF Forum, in Lausanne between the 14. – 16.11.2011. **(Appendix 12 and 13)**

Mr. Kauppinen felt that we need to give the participations the clear message that all member associations and their clubs would promote the IFF visibility via Facebook and Twitter.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

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c) RACC

Mr. Suman reported on the RACC planning meeting held in Brno, 5th – 6th of November, where the plans for the rest of the season were made, in addition to the proposals to change the IFF Regulations.

The RACC proposes to the CB to decide upon to start the process for Changing the Game Rules in accordance with the two year preparation system, first asking for proposals and then deciding upon questions that need to be tested, before an evaluation of what needs to be changed in the Game Rules. The RACC proposes to form a Rule Group that will first ask for and then collect proposals for Game Rule Changes. The new set of Game Rules is to be in force from the 1st of July 2014.

Further the RACC proposes to make the following technical changes in the IFF Regulations:

- a) Competition Regulations for National teams according to the proposal in the appendix (**Appendix 14a**)
- b) Competition Regulations for Club teams according to the proposal in the appendix (**Appendix 14b**), including changing the name of the Regulation to Competition Regulations EuroFloorball Cup and Friendly International matches according to (**Appendix 14 c**).

The IFF CB, in its previous meeting, tabled the RACC proposal to increase the number of players who can be accredited in an IFF Event from the present 20 to 23, due to the increased number of change of injured players during the tournaments. The RACC is now proposing to make the change valid starting from the 1st of January 2013.

Mr. Kauppinen felt that increasing the number of players in the tournament is not a favourable decision, since the three extra players are hard to deal with in the tournaments. It will also make it harder to be able to enter in the multi-sport events. Some teams could save money if the present 20 players are kept.

Mr. Botman and Ms. Bakke feel that it is not good to widen the gap between the teams. It is also not good to have players who are not at the bench.

Mr. Stoll feels that it could be good to have more players in the final delegation and was seconded by Mr. Tjärnquist.

Mr. Suman explained the reasons in favour of the RACC proposal to move to a use of 23 players and proposed to conduct a test vote, in which 5 CB members were in favour of keeping the present 20 players in the final list and 3 CB members voted for the proposed 23 players.

The CB decided: To approve the report and approve the RACC proposals, apart from the proposal to increase the number of players from 20 to 23, which was turned down after a 3-5 vote.

d) RC

Mr. Botman gave a short report about the present situation concerning the RC sector, with the new referee nomination system introduced in beginning of January 2011. The RC has worked a lot, in order to be able to nominate six golden referee pairs specialised for female matches for the WFC 2011. There has also been some discussions started, on how to be able to solve the problem with a lack of female referees in the female competitions.



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The next RC meeting will be held in Germany, in March and discuss the way to promote the requirement and education of referees in Germany

The CB decided: To approve the report.

e) Development function

Mr. Liljelund reported that the Korean Floorball Federation has expressed a wish to organise a Floorball Development seminar in the AOFC region in 2012.

Mr. Botman informed that the Dutch federation is looking to organise a Development Seminar focused on Coaching during the international week-end in April.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

f) Marketing function

Mr. Kauppinen reported about the work done in relation to the IFF Brand Positioning Presentation (**Appendix 15**) by the Core Country Marketing network. The comparison with the other team sports will hopefully open the eyes of the representatives in the Associations meeting.

Mr. Liljelund reported that there unfortunately are no real proposal for the IFF Corporate image available, taking into account the previous decisions made by the IFF CB to build a generic corporate approach for the Events. This is due to lack of communication with the IFF from the Art Director preparing the proposal. The need is to have a brand image that is useable in all situations.

Mr. Tjärnquist informed that the contractor had not been in contact with the IFF and worked based on the approach for the proposal of the logo for the WFC2014.

Mr. Beuadin felt that it is important to look at the whole question related to the market demand and the different type of event logos. He felt that there is a need to build some type of logo bank, for different situations.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

g) Medical committee

Mr. Bruun reported about the Medical Committee meeting held on the 3rd of December in St. Gallen and the issues discussed and decisions made during the meeting. (**Appendix 17**).

The Medical Committee discussed the new requirements related to blood-testing and how to prepare for this, if WADA would insist to introduce this in a later stage. They also discussed the need to have protective goggles in Floorball.

The Medical committee felt that we would need to collect injury assessment reporting, in order to have information of how to prevent injuries. The next Medical Committee will be held during the spring and will continue the planning of this.

Mr. Liljelund reported that Ms. Bruun has been chosen by WADA to sit on the WADA Education committee as an International Federation representative for the years 2012 – 2014. (**Appendix 18**) This is the first official position IFF has received as an International Federation. The CB extended their congratulations to Ms. Bruun.

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The IFF Say NO! to Doping campaign continues during the WFC 2011 in St. Gallen. The SUHV is the 6th IFF member association to launch the campaign. There were some problems in the beginning, but now it is working well and the teams are distributing Say NO! to Doping Balls in the pre-match ceremony.

The CB decided: To approve the report.

h) Material function

Nothing to report

i) Athletes Commission

Mr. Stoll reported on the elections carried out for the four female representatives among their peers during the group stage of the WFC 2011 in St. Gallen. **(Appendix 19)**

The CB confirmed the election of the three candidates who have received the most votes in the elections organised in St. Gallen. The three directly elected representatives are:

Ms. Paula Jouhten, Finland (re-election)

Ms. Magdalena Kotikova, Czech Republic (re-election)

Ms. Karolina Widar, Sweden (new)

The CB has the right to decide the fourth representative in the Athletes Commission, based on regional criteria's to choose the fourth representative. Mr. Kauppinen proposed that the CB would elect Ms. Line Murtens Hagestande, since both the candidates comes from Europe and Ms. Hagestande had received more votes.

Mr. Stoll further informed that a meeting with the new secretary of the Athletes Commission, Ms. Sarah Mitchell will be organised during the WFC to coordinate the work.

The CB decided: To approve the report and confirm the result of the elections and elect the four female representatives of the Athletes Commission. The elected are Paula Jouhten, Finland (re-election), Magdalena Kotikova, Czech Republic (re-election) and Karolina Widar, Sweden (new) by direct election by their peers and the CB decided to elect Line Murtens Hagestande (re-election)

j) Equality function

Mr. Tjärnquist reported on the actions taken in connection to the Equality function. Since Ms. Mitchell is the new office contact person a meeting is planned to coordinate the work.

Mr. Tjärnquist further reported that a meeting is planned to start a project of with the aim to recruit more female referees and also to have enough female International referees in the future together with the Referee Committee. Furthermore Mr. Tjärnquist informed that the Swedish Association will organize a seminar during the EFT in Sweden in April on the subject of how to attract more female players and to develop women's Floorball.

Mr. Kauppinen informed that the last EuroFloorball Tour (Women and U19 Women) was played in the Finnish Fair Centre, with free entrance for all visitors of the four combined fairs; the Hockey and Floorball Expo, Ski Expo, Digiexpo and HiFi Expo Fairs in November, giving a lot of new spectators for Floorball.

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The CB decided: To approve the reports.

k) ParaFloorball function

Mr. Tjärnquist reported on the actions taken in connection to supporting and promoting the different forms of ParaFloorball. Ms. Bruun gave a status report concerning the different activities (**Appendix 23**)

Mr. Tjärnquist informed that the IFF is to sign a Proclamation between the IFF and Special Olympics, during the IFF Associations meeting and that Floorball has been chosen as a demonstration Sport in the Special Olympic World Games in Korea in 2013. (**Appendix 20**)

IFF has continued the cooperation with the ParaFloorball organisations organising the a ParaFloorball day at the WFC 2011 (Saturday 10th of December) and the drawing of groups of the European Championships of Electric Wheelchair Hockey will take place in relation to the IFF 25th Anniversary.

The CB decided: To approve the reports

l) Information function

Mr. Beaudin reported on the present Information situation, with a growing number of visits to both our web page, our Facebook page and the IFF YouTube channel. IFF is also looking into the possibility to introduce a Floorball Community mobile application.

Ms. Bruun informed about the publication of the 25th Anniversary edition of "This is Floorball" and the status of IFF Information services. (**Appendix 26**)

The CB decided: To approve the report

§ 8. IFF Office

Mr. Liljelund reported that Ms. Sarah Mitchell (AUS) has been employed as the replacement for Ms. Kaarina Salomaa and she has started her employment in IFF on the 24th of October. She has together with Ms. Salomaa gone through the whole process leading up to the WFC and will run the preparations for the WFCQ 2012.

IFF and Mr. Jan Ögren-Fjellestad have together reached an agreement that Mr. Ögren will from the start of January act as the IFF Development Coordinator, based in the Swedish Office, reporting to the IFF secretary general. Mr. Ögren will be take over some of the responsibilities of our Development Services and will work closely with our member associations in developing and providing them additional services.

Mr. Liljelund presented the office proposal of the additions in the IFF Competition regulations and the IFF Juridical regulation, in order for IFF to meet the set guidelines of SportAccord and the IOC regarding betting.

The Office has based on the SportAccord model rules made a proposal of the needed additions in the competition related regulations (**Appendix 21**). In order to secure the further acceptance of SportAccord, the proposal has been checked by both the SportAccord Integrity Department and the IOC Advisor on Betting Mr. André Chaker (Veikkaus/World Lottery).

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There is also a proposal for changing the IFF Juridical Regulations

(Appendix 22), which the CB has to approve and it will then be put forward to the IFF General Assembly in Zurich 2012. We have coordinated the change of the Juridical Regulations with Mr. Philippe Renz and we will make a proposal of the needed changes in the IFF statutes to affiliate these changes in the Juridical Regulation.

The CB decided: To approve the reports.

§ 9. Member Federations

a) Members under suspension

Mr. Kratz reported on the situation of the suspended association Malaysia, which has not changed from the previous meeting.

Proposal: To approve the report.

b) New Member Applications

Nothing to report

§ 10. Next CB meeting

The next CB meeting will be held in Bern in connection to the Drawing of groups for the Men's WFC in Bern/Zurich, Switzerland on the 3rd – 4th of March 2012.

The other meetings during the year will be held as follows:

Second meeting:	In connection to U19 2012, in Nitra/Bratislava, Slovakia 5.-6.5.
Third meeting:	In Germany, 1.-2.9. Place still open
Fourth meeting:	In Helsinki, Finland 3.-4.11.
Fifth meeting:	In connection to the WFC (day before IFF GA), in Zurich, 7.12.
New CB first meeting:	In connection to the WFC, in Zurich 9.12.

§ 11. Closing of the meeting

Mr. Suman thanked the CB and closed the meeting at 16.15.

John Liljelund
Secretary General

Filip Suman
Vice - President