



INTERNATIONAL FLOORBALL FEDERATION (IFF)

Ordinary member of AGFIS/GAISF

Helsinki, February 26th, 2007

To:
IFF Central Board

cc:
IFF ExCo and Office

Proposal to the Central Board

New IFF International Competition Calendar

In its meeting in Varberg, on January 6th, 2007, the Central Board was of the opinion that the dates for playing the WFC in May, which is due to historical reasons, are far too late in the season. It was decided to form a working group in order to build up a proposal for a possible new International Calendar of IFF.

During its workshop of January 28th, 2007 in Helsinki, the working group evaluated all the known factors related to the present placement of the Adult's World Floorball Championships in May. Amongst others it was established, that from a sporting perspective, due to the early finish of the relevant championships, a restarting of the movement (players, coaches, associations, spectators and media) was necessary and that furthermore the WFC is always squeezed between Ice Hockey, Football and Olympic games every second year, which are binding huge resources in media and sponsoring thus making it difficult for Floorball to be included in the respective planning.

It was stated that, any attempt to change the competition calendar must start with the Adult's competitions.

Based on the experiences made at IFF-events and after having taken all aspects into consideration, the working group has come to a conclusion and makes the following proposal to the CB:

1) The Adult's WFC

The WFC for Men and Women shall be played in December, but not later than the second week of December and ending no later than the 14th of December. Any other date shall always be a subject of further discussions, only due to extraordinary circumstances and is for the RACC to propose to the CB.

The reasons for moving the Adult's WFC are based on the need to include the competition more as a part of the season, to have more media coverage of the events and using it in marketing both before and after the event.

The changing of the Adult's WFC has an effect on all the other IFF Events.

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2) The Adult's Qualification to the WFC

The qualification for the Adult's WFC shall be played during the International week-end in February of the same year when the final round of the competition takes place, in order not to mix the Men's and Women's competitions with each other. The RACC is given the task to prepare a proposal of the system of building the fixture lists in the future (including balloting), in order for the organisers to have the knowledge for marketing reasons.

2) U19 WFC

In order to spread the competitions from an administrative and sportive perspective the Men's and Women's U19 shall be played in the beginning of May and if needed, the qualifications to the U19 WFC's shall be played during the same season at the international week-end in September.

3) EuroFloorball Cup

The Final Round of the EFC shall according to the new calendar be played in October, not later than the second week in October. This gives the participating teams also a possibility to use their championship as a marketing factor for the clubs. The qualification for the EuroFloorball Cup shall in the future still be played by the end of August. The renewed playing schedule creates a need for the Office to look over the transfer rules, regulating the player's participation in the EFC.

4) World University Championships

In accordance with the collaboration agreement with FISU, the WUC shall be played during the second week of November every two years..

5) International week-ends

There is still not a need to increase the international weekends in Floorball and with the proposals made there are enough dates for Friendly Internationals. The proposal is to change the dates of some weekends, so that they don't clash with the other Sport Events. The new International weeks are: First weekend of February, Last weekend of April, Second weekend of September and First weekend of November.

Implementation

The Working Group proposes to change from the start of the year 2008, with the exception of the EFC 2008 organised in January 2008 in Finland. This means the following changes:

- Men's WFC 2008 moves from May to December
- Women's U19 WFC is advanced from November to May 2008
- The EFC Final round 2009 is advanced from January to October 2008

(This implementation will come into effect only if the federation of CZE is in a position to move the final round to December 2008! If not, it will start in 2009)

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Communication

Immediately after the CB decision, the Office will send out a press release to all member associations and the media in the respective countries, explaining the changes and the reasons for this.

The issue will also be discussed during the Presidents and Secretary Generals Meeting in Frederikshavn in May.

The new International IFF Calendar looks as follows:

	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December
WFC A (A+B)					3rd week							Latest 2nd week
WFC Q (Regional)		2nd week end	1st week end									APAC 2 week
WFC C-division					1st week							
U19 WFC					1st week						2nd week	
U19 WFC Q									2nd week end prev year			
WUC (Even years)											2nd week end	2nd week end
EFC	1st week end										2nd week end	
EFCQ							4th week end	Last week end				
Internat. weekends		2nd week end	1st week end	4th week end	4th week end				2nd week end	2nd week end	2nd week end	1st week end

= now
 = NEW DATES