

Helsinki, Finland, 24<sup>th</sup> of January 2021

## IFF Central Board meeting 1/2021 24.01.2020 in Teams

**Place:** Meeting held as a Teams meeting

**Schedule:** Sunday, January 24<sup>th</sup>      **CB workshop and Teams meeting 13:00 – 17:00 CET**

<b>Participants:</b> Tomas Eriksson	<b>President</b>
Jörg Beer	
Tamuz Hidir	
Steen Houman	
Calle Karlsson	
Stephen King	
Martin Klabere	
Carlos Lopez	
Agata Plechan	<b>ATC Chair</b>
Pakkamol Siritwat	
Filip Suman	<b>Vice President</b>
Kaarina Vuori	
Veli Halonen	<b>Operations Manager</b>
Stefan Kratz	<b>Competition Manager</b>
John Liljelund	<b>Secretary General</b>

**Excused:** Monica Birdal

## Minutes

### § 1. Opening of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson welcomed all to the first CB workshop and meeting of the year. The CB first conducted a workshop on which tasks the CB is directly responsible for and the different responsibilities of the CB members and which committees and working groups to build. Based on the workshop the CB then discussed which committees, working groups and functions will be needed during the period 2021 – 2024.

### § 2. Approval of the agenda

Mr. Eriksson concluded that there are no updated or new appendix for the meeting.

**CB decided:** To approve the report.

### § 3. Minutes from the CB meeting: 09/2020 over Teams (12.12.2020)

The minutes from the last meetings were scrutinized, approved and put ad acta (**Appendix 1**)

**CB decided:** To approve the minutes and put ad acta

§ 4. **Financial questions**

a) **Financial report 2020 – preliminary by 31.12.2020**

Mr. Kratz in the absence of Mrs. Birdal presented the preliminary financial report and the balance sheet by the 31.12.2020 (**Appendix 2**).

The preliminary outcome per 31<sup>st</sup> of December is 7.819 CHF, which is some 21.317 CHF (2019: -13.498 CHF) better than the same period last year. The improvement is due to the saves earlier made by the Office and decided by the CB but also due to contributions from the IOC (37.500 USD), the Finnish Ministry of Education (50.000 EUR) and the Swiss Floorball Association (8000 CHF, forgiven CC 2021 fees) and significantly better income on transfers and material than originally forecasted. Mr. Kratz thanked the Swiss association again for their kindness.

The liquidity is 152.978 CHF, some 112.278 higher compared with last year (40.700 CHF). In addition to the improvements mentioned more teams than anticipated have paid for the WFCs 2022. As was the case also last year the material income from the last period of the year did not arrive before 31.12 but early in January which will strengthen the liquidity further.

The follow up on the finances and constantly updated forecasts have paid off well and we are now better prepared going into 2021 than we were for 2020 but due to the uncertainty regarding the possibility to carry out the IFF events in 2021 and an expected backlash on the material income for 2021 we need to continue to carefully follow up the finances.

The total lowered and saved costs in 2020 is some 654.600 CHF compared to the budget for the year, with a budget of just under of 1.8 million.

Mr. Eriksson thanked the IFF Office for sorting out the finance despite the COVID-19 situation, without even taking the loan granted to IFF by the Finnish Federation. The IFF extends its gratitude to the IOC, Finnish Ministry of Education, Finnish Floorball Association and the Swiss Association with their valuable assistance in the difficult situation.

**CB decided:** To approve the report.

b) **Information on IFF claims – License system and WFC 2020-21 – status January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

Mr. Kratz, in the absence of Mrs. Birdal presented the claims situation by the 15.01.2021 for Associations participating in the WFC 2020 and 2021 and separately for those not participating in the IFF Events. (**Appendix 3 and 4**). The situation for a number of the countries is continuing to be difficult with lower income when less activity is possible due to the pandemic.

The efforts to get all teams registered for the WFCs 2020 and 2021 to be in line with the License system requirements has worked quite well. For the WFCs 2021 Canada is the only team still lagging with the participation fees since Latvia has paid the U19 WFC 2021 participation fee and the annual fee for 2020. IFF has discussed the debt situation with Canada and there will be a proposal coming from Canada for the next CB meeting in February.

Mr. Suman asked if the Canadian association had contacted the IFF on their own, to which Mr. Liljelund answered that the initial contact was taken by the Canadians.

In the follow-up of payment plans (**Appendix 5**) the only change is the addition of the participation fees for Canada and status quo for Cote d'Ivoire, Malaysia, Russia, Slovenia and Ukraine. The IFF Office continues to monitor these cases.

- § 5. **CB decided:** To approve the reports and to continue to follow up on the pay-off plans for Canada, Russia, Malaysia, Slovenia, Ukraine, and Cote d'Ivoire.
- World Championships**

Mr. Kratz reported on the current situation of the IFF Events for the first half year of 2021.

#### **Women's U19 WFC 2020**

The preparation of the final round in Uppsala is ongoing. The Go/NoGo dates are set to 8<sup>th</sup> March for the teams and 13<sup>th</sup> March for LOC. The IFF Office is looking over the situation constantly.

#### **Men's U19 WFC 2021**

The preparation of the final round in Brno is ongoing, and the schedule has been prepared and published. The Go/NoGo dates are set to 8<sup>th</sup> February for the teams and 1<sup>st</sup> of March for LOC.

The qualifications have, after proposal from the office and decision by the ExCo (**Appendix 6**), all been cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic and the restrictions in place concerning travel, testing and quarantine. Teams to be directly qualified due to this is Canada (Americas), Poland, Russia and Slovenia (Europe). Already earlier Australia, Japan and New Zealand (AOFC) has been directly qualified.

The financial effect for IFF with this cancellation is forecasted to be slightly negative for the result compared to budget and for the moment slightly positive for the liquidity, if most of the participation fees are moved forward to next event or other fees to be paid.

#### **Women's WFC 2021 Qualifications**

WFCQ AOFC in Japan

The event has earlier been postponed to be played 29<sup>th</sup> June to 3<sup>rd</sup> July. The Go/NoGo dates are 19<sup>th</sup> April for the teams and 26<sup>th</sup> April for the LOC.

WFCQ Americas in Canada

The event has been postponed to be played 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> June. The Go/NoGo date is preliminary 2<sup>nd</sup> April for both teams and LOC.

WFCQ EUR1 in Latvia

The event has been postponed to be played 1<sup>st</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> June. The Go/NoGo dates are 29<sup>th</sup> March for teams and 2<sup>nd</sup> April for LOC.

WFCQ EUR2 in Italy

The event has been preliminary postponed to be played 24<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> March but not confirmed due to difficulties for all teams to participate. Attempts to further postpone the event is ongoing.

WFCQ EUR3 in Slovakia

The event has been postponed to be played 26<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> May. The Go/NoGo dates are 29<sup>th</sup> March for teams and 2<sup>nd</sup> April for LOC.

Mr. Eriksson informed that based on discussions with other International Federations, it is clear that we have a much more structural approach.

Mr. King asked what will happen with the paid participation fees, is it forwarded to the next events or returned. Mr. Kratz answered that the money is not forfeited, but IFF will propose to move it forward to the next payment but if the association needs the money IFF will pay it back.

#### **Upcoming Events – Bid for Men's WFC 2024**

Mr. Halonen informed that due to the fact that there are still some evaluations missing for the Bids of Singapore and Sweden the issue will be brought to the CB for the meeting in February, to

have a full picture of the situation. It is essential that all evaluators would evaluate the bids to get all the different views represented.

**CB decided:** To approve the report

## § 6. **Organisation of the CB work and formation of the IFF Committees, working groups and functions**

Mr. Eriksson made a recap of the workshop results in regard to the need of different committees, working groups and functions within IFF, to assist with work towards reaching the goals set in the Plan of Action and the IFF Strategy.

The CB has had three standing committees, the Medical Committee, the Rules and Competition Committee and the Referee Committee and then the Entourage Committee.

Based on the recommendation made by the IFF Strategy Task Force the proposal is to also form a Strategy Implementation Steering Group (SISG) along the existing Champions Cup Steering Group (CCSG).

Mr. Eriksson proposes that the CB would constitute the committees the IFF CB finds to be necessary based on the workshop discussion of what tasks and committees the IFF CB should oversee. The meeting shall then also officially elect the chair and the committees. The present chair of these committees together with the IFF Administration will prepare the proposal of the committee members for the CB meeting in February 2021.

Further Mr. Eriksson informs that the role of the IFF CB is to take strategic decisions in order to direct the path of the federation and fulfil the objectives given in the IFF Strategy 2021 – 2024 and the Plan of Action. The IFF Office is left to deal with the organisation of the operative actions and decisions how to implement made decisions. Based on this Mr. Eriksson proposes that each CB member shall have at least one field of, which they are responsible in the CB for the upcoming four-year period. Each CB member is responsible for preparing a working session for the CB ones a year. The CB to decide upon the respective tasks based on the workshop results

Presently the IFF Office handles the operational work of the following functions: Development function (Mr. Veli Halonen), Equality function (Ms. Sarah Mitchell), Communication function (Ms. Merita Bruun), Marketing function (Mr. Tero Kalsta), Material function (Mr. John Liljelund), ParaFloorball function (Merita Bruun) and Sustainability function (Mr. Tero Kalsta).

Based on the CB workshop the following committees, working groups and functions were constituted:

### **Committees**

Rules and Competition Committee (RACC)  
Referee Committee (RC)  
Medical Committee (MC)  
Entourage  
Development

### **Chair**

Mr. Martin Klabere  
Mr. Carlos Lopez  
Dr. Walter Frey  
Mr. Tamuz Hidir  
Mr. Steen Houman

### **Working groups and Commission**

Strategy Steering Group (SSG)  
Athletes Commission (ATC)

Mr. Stephen King  
Ms. Agata Plechan

### **Functions**

Americas region  
Asia region

Mr. Calle Karlsson  
Mr. Pakkamol Siritwat

Development Operations  
Marketing  
Material  
Communication  
Special Olympics  
ParaFloorball  
Financial  
Members services  
Equality  
East-Europe/Middle-East  
Sustainability

Mr. Veli Halonen  
Mr. Jörg Beer  
Mr. John Liljelund  
Ms. Merita Bruun  
Mr. Steen Houman  
Ms. Merita Bruun  
Mr. Monica Birdal  
Ms. Kaarina Vuori  
Ms. Agata Plechan  
Mr. Tamuz Hidir  
Mr. Tero Kalsta

Mr. Eriksson informed that the IFF Office will inform how the Chairs are expected to work and share information with the Office.

**CB decided:** To approve the report and constitute the IFF Committees, working groups and functions and their chairs and responsible persons.

## § 7. Committees and Ad Hoc group reports

### a) ExCo reports

Mr. Eriksson is to report on the ExCo activities after the previous CB meeting, as the IFF ExCo has had two meetings on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of January. The first decide upon a prolongment of the COVID-19 Transfer Rule, giving players the possibility to return to a country from where they transferred due to the closing of the series if they are reopened again for this season. Further the meeting made a preliminary plan for all the 2021 IFF CB meetings. (**Appendix 7**).

The second meeting decided about the cancellation of the Men U19 WFC 2021 qualifications, as reported already under the U19 WFC 2021 point.

Mr. Eriksson to report that the Olympic Council of Asia has postponed the Asian Indoor and Martial Arts Games 2021 until the 10<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> of March 2022 in Bangkok, Thailand. Mr. Eriksson has discussed the topic with Mr. Chaiyapak Siriwat.

**CB decided:** To approve the report.

### b) Athletes commission

Mr. Liljelund on behalf of Ms. Mitchel is to report on the proposal of how to organise the Athletes Commission elections for the Women's candidates, which were supposed to be held during the Women's WFCQ 2021- As the WFCQ has now all been postponed or even cancelled there needs to be a new solution for how to elect the members. Ms. Mitchell proposes that we would allow for all member association to participate in the ATC elections with a maximum of 20 female players.

Ms. Plechan is in favour of the proposal, as it is important to engage as many players as possible.

**CB decided:** To allow all Member Associations to participate in the Athletes' Commission Elections

**c) Medical committee**

Mr. Halonen, in the absence of Ms. Bruun, reported that the World Anti-Doping Code 2021 and all the related International Standards are now in force. The scope of the anti-doping field is continuously increasing through for example increased amount of International Standards that are mandatory for IFs to follow (Currently 7 Standards + the Athletes' Anti-Doping Rights Act: International Standard for Code Compliance by Signatories, International Standard for Education, International Standard for Laboratories, International Standard for the Protection of Privacy and Personal Information, International Standard for Results Management, International Standard for Testing and Investigations, International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions).

The IFF Anti-Doping Rules and eg. 2021 Testing Pool instructions have been updated on the IFF website. When it comes to planning the event testing and the Test Distribution Plan for 2021, the pandemic makes this hard as in the end we don't know which events will be played and the late confirmations.

CAS has finally made a decision regarding Russia. The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) declared in the end of December that the Russian Anti-Doping Agency (RUSADA) is non-compliant with the World Anti-Doping Code (Code) for a period of two years and to impose significant consequences. The decision confirms in large part the recommendation made in November 2019 by WADA's independent Compliance Review Committee (CRC) and affects Russia's participation in Olympic Games and Adult World Floorball Championships (final rounds): [https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/20191209\\_crc\\_recommendation\\_final.pdf](https://www.wada-ama.org/sites/default/files/20191209_crc_recommendation_final.pdf) (see in particular point 54. of Russia hosting/participating in events). Wada has this week asked for information of what Russian officials are members of the IFF Central Board or any committees, the present National Teams and Teams staff among other issues by the 29<sup>th</sup> of January.

The IFF Office will seek advice from WADA and the IOC/GAISF on the implications on our events as Russia will be in the Women's WFC 2021 automatically if qualifications are not played. ARISF and the IOC are preparing a recommendation for how to handle the matter, which we hope we will have ready before the next CB meeting. The Office will prepare a proposal concerning this for the next CB meeting in February. WADA has this week asked for information in a number of matters related to the connections between the IFF and the Russian Floorball Federation (NFFR), concerning Russian officials in any IFF organs (there are none), their present Adult National team with officials among others. The IFF is to answer these questions until the 29<sup>th</sup> of January.

The IFF Anti-Doping Manager, Merita Bruun, has been invited to represent IFF in a new WADA strategic project, the WADA Technical Working Group for Education. The project seeks to provide enhanced support for colleagues working in the anti-doping industry through the provision of training and development opportunities for key anti-doping practitioner roles. The aim is to develop for example role descriptions and key competences for anti-doping staff that work within anti-doping education. The TWG consist mostly of NADO representatives, but in addition to IFF there is one other IF represented (Rugby). A pilot of the project is conducted for five selected practitioner functions/roles (Education Managers, Results Management Managers, Intelligence and Investigations Managers, Data Privacy Managers, Media relations and Communications Managers). The Education TWG meets once per month

**CB decided:** To approve the report

**§ 8. Next meeting**

The next CB meeting (M2), which will be held as a two day meeting over Teams (19.-20.2.2021) with a Strategy Implementation workshop on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> to define the targeted time for the

execution of the task and the body to take responsibility of the task. On Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> the CB will have a normal meeting. The meetings will start at 13:00 CET and the aim is to have a maximum of a five hour session on both days.

The ExCo has prepared a preliminary proposal for the rest of the planned CB meetings for the year 2021:

- M3: Normal meeting and workshop in May  
- Primarily at either of the U19 WFC, if played if not then over Teams on the weekend 8.-9.5.2021.
- M4: Normal meeting and workshop SEPT 17.-19.9.
- M5: Normal meeting and workshop NOV 12.-13.11.
- M6: Association meeting + CB meeting in Helsinki WFC 2020  
- With a two-day Association meeting (Fri 10.12.-Sat 11.12.), we need to have the CB meeting on Thursday 9.12.

## § 9. Closing of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson thanked all for a good and interesting CB workshop, well organised by the IFF Office and closed the meeting at 17:00 CET.

**John Liljelund**  
**Secretary General**

**Tomas Eriksson**  
**President**