



Helsinki, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006

## IFF Central Board meeting 3/2006 25.05.2006

Place: **Quality Hotel Nacka, Sweden** 

Participants: **President Tomas Eriksson** 

**Vice President** Renato Orlando **Tomas Jonsson Treasurer** 

**Thomas Gilardi** Per Jansson Risto Kauppinen Peter Lindström **Martin Vaculik** 

**Stefan Kratz Head of Technical Department** 

Merita Bruun **Assistant** 

John Liljelund **Secretary General** 

#### **Minutes**

§ 1. Opening of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson greeted all welcome and opened the meeting at 09.00.

Approval of the agenda § 2.

> The agenda was scrutinized, completed with four new appendixes (Appex 2: Financial report; Appex 13: Canadian application for Ordinary membership; Appex 14: RACC proposal for qualification system for the WFC 2007 and Appex 15: ISF Bulletin) and approved.

3. Minutes from the CB meeting 02/2006 in Nacka, Sweden (31.03.2006) (Appendix 1) §

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

4. **Economy** §

> Preliminary financial report 25.05.2006 Appendix 2 a)

> > Mr. Jonsson presented the preliminary financial report, per 25.05.2006.

Proposal: To approve the report.

Information on IFF claims – status May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2006 Appendix 3 b)

Mr. Liljelund presented the IFF claims per 25.05.2006. Malaysia is the only ordinary member association which has not paid its membership fee for 2005 and 2006. He informed that he discussed the matter with the Malaysian Association's general secretary Mr. Suresh and that the Malaysian federation has build a payment plan in order to settle the debts before the last of April 2007 (Appendix 16). Based on this report the CB discussed if Malaysia will, according to the regulations, loose its voting status at the General Assembly. Mr. Liljelund proposed that the Malaysians should be able to vote during the GA, since they have sent in their payment plan.



The Singaporeans have now paid their debts concerning the membership fees, but not the fees related to the WFC 2005. Mr. Liljelund informed that he also spoke with Mr. Sani Mohd. Salim, about these debts. Also Latvia has informed that they have paid all their debts.

Mr. Eriksson underlined the necessity of a clear communications with the Member Association, but feels a bit worried about the situation of the Singaporeans who still are in the same situation as during the last meeting and have not yet come back with a proposal for a payment plan.

Based on these reports the CB discussed if any member federations, which, based of non-payment of their membership fees will loose their voting status at the General Assembly. Mr. Liljelund proposed that all ordinary member federations should have their voting power at the General Assembly. The voting roll shall therefore stay as proposed for the General Assembly.

**Proposal:** To approve the report.

**The CB decided** to approve the financial reports and to approve the proposed voting roll.

#### § 5. World Championships

#### a) WFC Men 2006

Mr. Orlando gave a report on the progress of the 6<sup>th</sup> Men's WFC, now being played in Sweden. Mr. Orlando thanked the SIBF for organising a very good championship; he was of the opinion that the WFC 2006 has been a good event. There were some minor problems, mainly due to the lack of communication from the local organiser with the IFF, but nothing which would really affect the participating countries. Mr. Orlando informed, that the LOC general secretary Mr. Kalte proposed in future to have a meeting with IFF and the organiser just before the start of the championship, in order to overcome certain problems..

Mr. Orlando reported on the issue about an Australian player who was not on the first or final official list. The Australian association however sent another list to the organiser with a copy to the office in which said player was included, but had failed to inform the IFF accordingly.

Mr. Orlando reported about a German player's match penalty 3. There was a protest against the red card which was not accepted in view of the fact that it was a decision of fact, which cannot be disouted. Finally the player got a suspension of two matches.

Mr. Liljelund informed that the organisation in Skåne has worked very well and performed really excellently in moving the whole arena from Helsingborg to Malmö within 13 hours, with just small technical problems. Mr. Liljelund was of the opinion that the organiser's internal communication could have been better. He also thought that the ticketing and accreditation system could have been more fluent, especially since it did not speak to each other. It is important that the accreditations help people to know each other.

Mr. Orlando informed about the daily reports and was of the opinion that this has been a good way of gathering information, thus being a guideline for the LOC to improve if necessary.

Mr. Jansson informed that there have been a total of 35.000 unique users on the Organiser website on a daily basis.



Mr. Liljelund reported on the TV productions from the WFC 2006. He thought that the communication between the IFF and SVT has been really good. Also the Swiss TV has after some consideration decided to take pictures from the matches. During the championship the Norwegian TV NRK informed that they would like to televise the Norwegian matches against Sweden and Denmark. The rights fee was cleared with the Norwegian Bandy Federation. Mr. Jansson has also had discussions with EBU which will put out the news flash to Asia. Eurosport 2 will also broadcast to Asia.

Mr. Eriksson stressed out that the development is going in the right direction.

Mr. Liljelund mentioned that the host broadcaster SVT is producing 8 games which will be televised according to the following:

21.05.	Denmark – Sweden:	SVT, Eurosport 2
22.05.	Czech Rep – Finland:	YLE, Eurosport 2
25.05.	Sweden – Switzerland:	SVT, Eurosport 2
	Finland – Latvia:	YLE, Eurosport 2
27.05.	Semi-final I	SVT, YLE, Eurosport 2
	Semi-final 2	YLE, Eurosport 2, *)
28.05.	Bronze match:	YLE, CT*), ST*), Eurosport 2
	Final:	SVT, YLE, CT*), ST*), Eurosport 2

The broadcasting of the Czech and Swiss TV is still open depending on which match they play in the semi finals and final matches.

Mr. Liljelund reported on the filming rights during the WFC. The teams are only allowed to film their own matches. This has been working quite well with only some minor problems.

Mr. Liljelund reported on the license agreement made with Eurosport for the WFC 2006. The IFF has sold the rights for 500 € and the production for 6.000 € for the eight matches. Eurosport has the rights for all other countries free-to-air, except Sweden, Finland, Switzerland and Czech Republic. **Appendix 5.** 

Mr. Kratz gave a report from the WFC 2006 C-division in Spain. Basically everything went well on the spot. There was some argument in the beginning of the tournament about the IFF's information flow. The organiser had more volunteers than the last time, so the tournament proceeded well and generally it was a good competition except the information from the organiser, the website etc.

Appendix 4 a and b

**Proposal:** To approve the reports.

**The CB decided** to approve the reports.

#### b) WFC U19 Women 2006 Germany

Mr. Orlando reported that the DUB has held its General Assembly which he attended and that a totally new Central Board was elected. The General Assembly was rather somehow unprofessional and the DUB criticised the IFF for not paying the development money. Mr. Orlando clearly pointed out to the German Federation the reason for stopping the payment, i.e. for not fulfilling the requirements and that if the development of Germany is just depending on



on the IFF support, there will be problems. The newly elected DUB has confirmed that the U19 WFC will be organised by the local organisation in Sachsen

The DUB representatives will make a presentation to the IFF General Assembly.

Proposal: To approve the report

The CB decided to approve the report.

## c) Upcoming Events

Due to the large number of registration (23) to the WFC 2007 the RACC proposes that qualification will be played for the WFC 2007. He presented a RACC proposal relying on 20 teams participating in the WFC 2007 which is in line with the proposal of the RACC workshop held in Helsinki, which the CB agreed and decided upon. The proposal of the RACC is that there should be a qualification tournament to determine the 4 countries taking part in the final round. Canada being a non-European country shall be invited directly and the remaining six teams shall play a qualification tournament, three in each group (Group 1: Estonia, Poland, Slovakia and Group 2: Austria, Italy and Slovenia) with the winner going through plus the best second ranked team. Both tournaments shall be played at the same weekend.

Proposal: To approve the proposal of the RACC

<u>The CB decided</u> to approve the RACC proposal and the IFF will inform the participants during the General Assembly.

#### § 6. European Cup

## a) EC 2007

Mr. Jansson reported on the preparations of the European Cup 2007 in Sweden. There is a biding process running out by the 31<sup>st</sup> of May in Sweden, where the districts can bid for the organisation of the EC. Mr. Jansson reported that the cities with the participating Swedish teams are Warberg, Stockholm and Umeå. The Swedish Federation will inform IFF of the city for the European Cup as soon as it has decided upon.

Mr. Liljelund informed that he has prepared a first proposal for an agreement, in line with the new requirements of our sponsors and Infront, which will be finalized during July.

The last day to register is the May 31st, 2006.

**Proposal:** To approve the report.

The CB decided to approve the report.

#### b) European Cup Qualifications 2006

Mr. Kratz informed about the preparations for the ECQ and the WFC in Frederikshavn and the respective inspection report. Mr. Kratz informed that everything is under control. **Appendix 6** 

**Proposal:** To approve the report

The CB decided to approve the report.



#### § 7. Committees and Function reports

#### a) ExCo reports

Mr. Eriksson reported on the Sport Accord and the GAISF General Assembly held in Korea, and the meetings IFF attended during the week. **Appendix 7** 

The IFF representatives met with the Korean federation who are thinking about organising a Floorball tournament: IFF and KFF also met with the Seoul Olympics Sport Promotion Foundation.

Mr. Eriksson informed that there was also a meeting with Ms. Dominguez, secretary general of GAISF, about the WADA and the information flow which will be strengthened in the future. Concerning the WADA issue there was also a meeting held with WADA Regional Director Mr. Jean-Pierre Moser about the relations between WADA and IFF.

Mr. Eriksson also reported on the meeting with ARISF President Mr. Fransoo who informed of the status of the process for receiving the IOC recognition. All ARISF members are to be evaluated. There will be a meeting with the IOC Sports Department, which is important for the future recognition. Mr. Eriksson stressed that the next IOC evaluation will be in 2008. The IFF will stick to the political Road Map which has been established before.

Mr. Eriksson reported that there was a good meeting on the GAISF General Assembly. The main decision of the GA was the change of the Statutes of the GAISF.

Mr. Orlando also reported that there had been very good informal discussions with for example IOC members Dennis Oswald, Rene Fasel and also IOC President Mr. Rogge.

**Proposal:** To approve the report.

**The CB decided** to approve the reports.

Mr. Liljelund explained the case of the Belgian Floorball Federation and the process flow:

By a letter sent to the CB on the 16<sup>th</sup> of February the Belgian Floorball Federation is asking the IFF CB to review the decision of the IFF AC and take their appeal argumentation into consideration in the case were the Belgian Floorball Federation withdrew from the WFC 2006 C-division,. **Appendix 8 a** 

The IFF ExCo decided to sanction BFF with a fine of 10.000 CHF and to suspend the BFF for the next two World Men's championships in accordance with the IFF Juridical Regulations. This was informed to BFF on the 13<sup>th</sup> of February, with the remark that a possible appeal and the deposit had to be paid within 21 full days, i.e. the 6<sup>th</sup> of March, 2006. **Appendix 8 b** 

On the  $6^{th}$  of March, the BFF sent an e-mail where they informed, that they are appealing against the decision of the IFF ExCo and also informed that the deposit of 1.000 CHF was paid. **Appendix 8 c** 

However the office could not find any proof of this from the real-time IFF account. The IFF office reminded the BFF on the 9<sup>th</sup> of March, that the deposit was not paid and stressed that it had to be paid by the 13<sup>th</sup> of March, until noon.



The IFF Office had not received by fax or any other means the receipt of payment until 12.00 on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March and Mr. Liljelund informed the IFF AC Chairman Mr. Granqvist about it who made the following judgement.

"The IFF Appeal Committee chairman Mr. Granqvist finds after discussions with the IFF general secretary Mr. Liljelund, that there is no case to handle for the Appeal Committee, in the issue regarding the possible appeal from the Belgian Floorball Federation. This due to the fact that there is no payment of the deposit made by the BFF, despite of a number of reminders, until the 13.03. at 12.00 CET, which was set as the deadline by the Appeal Committee? The case is therefore closed." This was informed to the BFF on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March.

The BFF responded on the 14<sup>th</sup> of March and stated that the fax had been sent on the 13<sup>th</sup> of March, but it had never reached the Office in Helsinki. Mr. Liljelund informed Mr. Granqvist about what had happened and Mr. Granqvist stated that the case is closed. The BFF did not give any other proof of this payment.

When the IFF received a Letter from the BFF, on the 21.04. the matter was once again put forward to the Appeal Committee, which refused to take it under consideration and therefore the matter is now for the CB to decide.

**Proposal:** To discuss the matter and decide upon it.

Mr. Eriksson stated that the Belgian Federation has made a clear mistake, when they withdraw from the C-division and he proposed that the IFF CB would lower the sanction

Mr. Orlando thinks that the BFF has perhaps, due to lack of knowledge, put the issue on their website during the ongoing process, which is not custom. Mr. Orlando proposed to reduce the sanction from 10.000 CHF and the suspension from participation of two consecutive Men's WFC to a sanction of a 5.000 CHF fine and a suspension in the next Men's WFC based on the plea for mercy sent in by the BFF.

<u>The CB decided</u> to accept the plea of mercy from the Belgian federation and to reduce the sanction of 10.000 CHF and the suspension from participation of two consecutive Men's WFC to a sanction of a 5.000 CHF fine and a suspension in the next Men's WFC based on the plea for mercy.

#### b) Contacts to International Sports Organisations

Mr. Liljelund reported on the progress with the FISU in signing of the Collaboration Convention between FISU and IFF, which is a document stating the nature of the collaboration and organising of the FISU World University Championships in Floorball. The President and the General Secretary will sign the convention. **Appendix 9** 

**Proposal:** To approve the report and the signing of the FISU convention.

**The CB decided** to approve the report and to sign the FISU convention.

#### c) EMSA

Mr. Liljelund reported that the issue of the EMSA games in Malmö 2008 where discussed during the reception of the city of Malmö.



d) WADA

Mr. Liljelund informed about the invoices of 7.000 USD and the 2.000 UDS which are now yearly due, sent by WADA to all non-olympic Federations, for the control of the Anti-Doping Regulations and membership fees from WADA and of the possibility of getting the fees back from the IOC.

Mr. Liljelund reported on the positive response the IFF has received from WADA concerning our proposal for the new Anti-Doping Regulation, which will be discussed later in the meeting. **Appendix 10** 

Proposal: To approve the report.

The CB decided to approve the report.

#### e) RACC

Mr. Orlando proposed the new IFF Anti-Doping Regulations which have been prepared by the Office, in line with the WADA model rules and the IOF, IHF and IIHF rules. **Appendix 11** 

Mr. Orlando thanked Ms. Bruun and the Office for the very good job made in the preparation of the IFF Anti-Doping Regulation. Ms. Bruun explained the system for building the proposal and the different issues that needs to be amended in the process.

**Proposal:** To approve the new Anti-Doping Regulations, that will be in force from the 1<sup>st</sup> of July, 2006.

**The CB decided** to adopt the new IFF Anti-Doping Regulation.

Mr. Orlando explained that during the process of the renovation of the Competition and Organising Regulations, there has been growing a debate about the number of tickets included free of charge for the participating nations and the nations attending the IFF General Assembly and the Presidential Meeting at the seniors WFC. In order to have this issue settled before the new regulations are in force, the RACC and the Office will elaborate a proposal which should be discussed in the September CB-meeting.

**The CB decided** to approve the report and to return to the issue in its next meeting.

#### f) RC

Mr. Gilardi reported that the work is running well in the ongoing tournament. The transportation has been very good organised from the organiser.

Mr. Gilardi informed that in the C-division there were three referee pairs and one referee observer and the system with one experienced referee couple and two inexperienced worked very well.

There was also a positive experience in the U19 tournament in Poland with two new quite good polish referee pairs. Unfortunately there was no observation for the referees in the four nations tournament in the Czech Republic.

Proposal: To approve the report

The CB decided to approve the report.

IBAN: CH13 0481 8055 9200 1100 0



#### g) Development function

Mr. Orlando reported on the status of the planned Development Programme Seminars in 2006 and 2007. Based of the experience made the development programmes must absolutely be upfheld. Mr. Liljelund informed that the seminars in Poland will be organised in Wolsztyn 5.-8.10 and in Singapore from 14. – 17.12 in the Woodlands Sport School. Also Canada is very interested in organising a seminar during April 2007. The Office is still negotiating with the Netherlands and Canada to organise a seminar still during 2006 or in the spring of 2007.

Mr. Orlando stressed that we now have to be very active to get the system rolling.

Mr. Liljelund informed about the discussion with Sani Mohd Salim and the Development program in Singapore. He stressed that it is very important to keep the costs low for the participants.

**Proposal:** To approve the report.

The CB decided to approve the report.

Mr. Liljelund proposed the changes to the IFF Material Regulation. There were only minor changes in the regulations, which the CB discussed already in its previous meeting. **Appendix 12** 

**Proposal:** To approve the Material regulation, that will be in force starting from 1<sup>st</sup> of July.

The CB decided to approve the Material regulation.

#### h) Marketing function

Mr. Jansson informed about the status of the sponsor agreement with Exel and mentioned that Mr. Liljelund has got all the points acceptable for both parties. The contract is now signed, which is a big step forward in the IFF marketing strategy. Exel is now an Official Floorball Material Provider for 2006 – 2010 (goals, sticks, balls, goalie equipment) of IFF with exclusivity and this will increase the value of the commitment of Exel. This agreement makes it possible to have the same look in all the IFF Championships.

Mr. Kauppinen asked what equipment is exactly included and was informed of all the equipment that is included in the agreement.

Upon request from Mr. Gilardi about the duration of the contract, those present were informed that it has been concluded until the 2010.

There were also some discussions about the new agreements with Exel and Gerflor and the content of the agreements.

Mr. Liljelund informed that now the possibility exists to also have a Floorball material start up kit for new associations.

Mr. Liljelund informed that there will be a press conference revealing this sponsorship deal on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> at 16.00. Mr. Eriksson thanked Mr. Jansson and Mr. Liljelund for a good work done.



# INTERNATIONAL FLOORBALL FEDERATION (IFF)

Ordinary member of AGFIS/GAISF

Mr. Jansson informed that we are still negotiating with Puma, but there were problems since our contact is Puma Nordic. We have given Puma a window until the 1<sup>st</sup> of September for the offer as an Official Apparel Provider.

Mr. Jansson informed about the negotiations with Infront Sports and the proposed agreement, which was reached until 2010. IFF will give Infront the marketing and sales rights for the IFF commercial rights, excluding the IFF present sponsors and their fields. Infront has agreed to give an insurance as a sign-on-fee. The agreement will be ready for signature in the end of the week. This agreement will be very important since the IFF then having a partner in Salesmarketing which can increase the marketing tremendously.

Mr. Kauppinen felt that this is a great step forward, but wanted to hear more of the effect for the organiser in the new agreement. Mr. Jansson explained in what way the agreement is built on.

Mr. Jansson informed that the IFF will provide most of the marketing sales to the organiser for the future Championships and therefore there will be fewer burdens on the organiser. The agreement will also make the organising more profitable for the organiser. Mr. Jansson continued by informing that the national association may still have their own sponsor for the teams.

**Proposal:** To approve the reports.

The CB decided to approve reports and the Exel agreement.

#### § 8. IFF Office

Nothing to report.

#### § 9. Member Federations

#### a) Members under suspension

The Georgian Floorball Association is under suspension starting February 1<sup>st</sup> 2006. Mr. Liljelund informed that he has been contacted by Mr. Amaglobeli who wanted to participate in the IFF GA, but that he later informed not being able to get visas.

#### b) New Member Applications

Mr. Liljelund informed that the Japan Floorball Association and the Canadian Unihockey Floorball Federation has applied for ordinary membership of the IFF – **Appendix 13 a and b** 

**Proposal:** To include the JFA and CUFF applications to the agenda of the General Assembly.

The CB decided to include the applications to the General Assembly.



## § 10. IFF General Assembly, to be held on the 26<sup>th</sup> of May, 2006 in Stockholm.

Mr. Liljelund and Ms. Bruun reported on the preparations for the IFF General Assembly. Until the 15<sup>th</sup> of May a total of 29 member associations have registered for the GA. Mr. Liljelund proposed that there will be new issues included in the GA Agenda: Development program, Anti-Doping Regulations, IFF Web, ISF. Exel has also proposed to attend and present the new agreement at the end of the IFF GA. Mr. Liljelund will rewrite the agenda and include the new points.

The CB decided to approve the report.

#### § 11. Next CB meeting

Mr. Eriksson informed that the next CB meeting, which is the constitution meeting after the General Assembly, will be held at the quality Hotel Nacka in Stockholm in Sweden, taking place on the 27<sup>th</sup> of May, 2006 starting at 8:30.

#### § 12. Closing of the meeting

Mr. Eriksson thanked everyone for an effective cooperation and closed the meeting at 12.00.

John Liljelund Secretary General Tomas Eriksson President