

SportAccord IF Forum in Lausanne, Switzerland 04.-06.11.2013

Participants: Tomas Eriksson, IFF President
John Liljelund, IFF

**Report on
present issues**

1. Present Status of the SportAccord

- The newly elected SportAccord President Mr. Marius Vizer has started to fulfill his electing manifesto, including the execution of the United World Championships and the enhanced SportAccord membership services. The activities of Mr. Vizer has created some disturbances with-in the IOC, especially when SportAccord signed a collaboration agreement with ANOC, starting with the Beach Games.
- The IOC President Thomas Bach has declared that the Olympic Games must be the number 1 prime event in the world, which is directed towards Mr. Vizer's initiative for United World Championships.
- The IF Forum is a combination of a seminar, education platform and gathering of and for the International Sport Federations. A total of over 240 participants took part in the IF Forum, which this year focused on Social Media and the Event Planning.
- The main learning was in relation to the need for the IF's to secure a strategy to work hoe to work with Social Media and to build a network of persons looking after the IF's Social Media applications.

2. Meeting with SportAccord President Mr. Maris Vizer

President Vizer invited the IFF delegation to a one-on-one meeting to his residence at the Beau Rivage Palace Hotel, in order to establish a personal contact to the President and keep up the speed for the Lobby work.

- Mr. Vizer illustrated the present situation from his perspective of the development in the International Sports Community. He feels that there are forces within the IOC which are looking forward to drop the number of sports from 28 to the 25 mentioned in the IOC Charta. The decision could be made already in the IOC session in 2017.
- In the same phase it would be possible that IOC would try to strengthen the position and raise the value of the IWGA World Games, to become the "Olympics" of the non-Olympic sports.
- SportAccord is trying to implement the United World Championships in 2017, in 6-8 cities in one country with around ten Olympic and non-olympic sport together. The idea is to try to pay dividend to the participating IF's, NA's and Athletes, throufg a licencing fee for the organiser.
- Sport Accord will continue to run the Combat Games in 2015 and start the Beach Games (in cooperation with ANOC) and the Urban Games in 2015
- Mr. Vizer was positive and well informed about the development of Floorball and was especially interested of the development in Russia and the Russian speaking countries.

3. Meeting with IIHF President Mr. René Fasel (IOC EB member)

Mr. Fasel approached us in connection to the meeting with Mr. Vizer.

- Mr. Fasel expressed that he supports Floorball and thinks that we are a good growing youth oriented sports. But on the same time that IFF has too few member countries and stressed that we need to deal with this (The requirement for IOC is 70 members). He stressed that we need to work on the lobbying of the sport.

4. IOC Sports Department – Mr. Christophe Dubi

Mr. Dubi informed that the IOC Short List process for the future is still under scrutiny, as the Sports Department now are in the process of preparing the IOC Recognitions for December, including the IFAF (American Football).

Nota Bene! Interestingly the IOC Sport Department employees were not present at the IF Forum as they used to!

Report on present issues (cont.)

5. *Meeting with Raffaele Chiulli, ARISF President*

Mr. Chiulli informed that ARISF will become an equal stakeholder of the SportAccord Convention like the ASOIF and AWIOF, hence putting forward the importance of the recognised sports.

- The ARISF Convention will be held in 2014, but the details have not been settled yet.
- Mr. Chiulli stressed that the importance of the World Games for the recognised sports will be increased in the future.

6. *Meeting with Mr. Marco Scolari, IFSC President*

Mr. Scolari informed that there has been a great interest towards the upcoming IWGA Elections. It will be key to participate in the discussion running up to the IWGA GA, to keep the door open for Floorball.

Mr. Scolari informed that he has resigned from the IWGA Election Committee, since he is running himself for a position at the IWGA Council.

Mr. Scolari also stressed that it is important to be well prepared for the IOC Short List process, since it has taken a lot of the Sports Climbing Federations resources during the two year application process (EB Short List decision April 2011 – EB decision on Olympic Sports May 2013)

7. *Meeting with Mr. Attila Adamfi, IWF Technical Director/IBF Vice President*

Mr. Adamfi who has a double role being involved with both IOC summer and winter sports, due his employment and hobby. He informed that there are a number of issues between the IOC and SportAccord, which will have a lot of influence in which way the sport moves in the near future. The IOC needs more sports on the winter program, but the AWIOF IF's are for financial reasons against this.

8. *Presentation of the IWGA Channel, Hagen Bossdorf, IWGA Media Consultant*

The IWGA had invited the IWGA members to present their new Internet TV channel, which will bundle the IF's views to one output. The channel will have live streaming, VOD, social media connections and IF's and Event web pages. The idea is to create more traffic across the IWGA sports. The channel will be launched in April 2014.

IWGA President Mr. Ron Froehlich stressed that the all of the IF's which participated in the World Games, have not yet mastered to stream their events regularly. Out of the 36 members only 18 have a own YouTube account and these have just under 200.000 subscribers (IFF's share is X %).

We met with IWGA President Mr. Froehlich and CEO Mr. Gossow to shortly discuss the application for inclusion in the 2017 World Games. The Application is to be handed in on the 29th of November.

9. *Meeting with different organisations*

Mrs. Beng Choo Low/Softball secretary general/Sea Games Council member/Malaysia NOC council member

- Mrs. Beng informed that the Malaysian Floorball Federation has to her knowledge not submitted the application for NOC recognition, despite that IFF has provided the support letter in June. She thanked the IFF for the good division of tasks between the IFF, SFA and the participating countries. IFF conveyed our thanks to Mrs. Beng and Singapore NOC CEO Mr. Chris Chang.
- Singapore Sports Council is already in the process to naming the sports for the Sea Games 2015.

Mr. Julien Buhajezuk/FISU Executive Assistant WUC

- FISU want to sign a new collaboration agreement with FISU for the WUC with IFF.
- FISU is looking to get an application for the organisation of Floorball WUC 2016 in Portugal, in the City of Porto

Jens V. Holm/IMGA secretary general

- The preparations for the Winter World Master Games 2015 are in process for Italy, but more information will follow during spring next year.

Report on present issues (cont.)

10. Meetings with Service Providers attending the IF Forum

Mrs. Katharina Poggioli, Deputy Director, Rights Acquisitions, Eurosport

Mrs. Poggioli informed that Eurosport has changed their approach to the content on Eurosport 2 and that there have now been some change of management in the Rights department, due to which no new decisions have been made.

Mrs. Poggioli stated that she will discuss the possibilities of broadcasting some matches on the Scandinavian platform for the WFC 2013.

It was discussed to start discussions on ways to cooperate with Eurosport in the future in beginning of 2014.

Mr. Pietro Chiabrera, Nussli

Nussli is a Swiss company specialised in Event Venue planning and Construction.

Mr. Chiabrera informed that Nussli could be interested to work with IFF for 2015 and forward, in case we find ways to cooperate with the LOC in building the venues of the Major events.

IFF is now looking if Nussli can support the WFC2014 LOC with a solution of the use of the excessive floor space in the main venue Scandinavium. LOC is looking onto it with the arena.

Mr. Dominique Curchod, TV Producer, Curchod Communications

IFF met with Mr. Curchod to discuss possibilities of enhancing the IFF broadcasting activities and provide additional visibility and terrestrial markets. Mr. Curchod proposed that IFF should provide a set of highlights (Short news 2min and/or 26 min highlight packages) from the major events to the EBU and their global distribution services. We need to provide our highlights to the Reuters and SNTV platforms.

Mr. Curchod promised to put together some ideas for IFF in the near future.

11. Meeting of the SportAccord Policy Advisory Board

- The .sport Policy Advisory Board discussed the present status of the application to ICANN. One of the two Community Objections has been turned down by ICANN in Favour of SportAccord. The second objection will be dealt with before the end of the year.
- The IF's are asked to build their proposals for primary and secondary level domain names, like iff.sport and Floorball.sport. These are to be handed in by end on November.
- If the process within ICANN runs smoothly the IF's can start to reserve domain names in the second quarter of 2014.

12. Meeting with Jean-Laurent Bourquin, CEO, Adv Sport

- IFF met with Mr. Bourquin to discuss the possible cooperation in connection to the IOC Short List project. Mr Bourquin gave a status report based on his information related to the general situation in regards to the Sports Program. Presently there are 28 sports and 44 disciplines on the Olympic Games. The IOC might in the future even discuss the Olympic Charter when it comes to the number of Sports.
- Mr. Bourquin listed the fields in which IFF is not yet meeting the IOC criteria, being the Entourage commission, the Athletes Career planning, Youth in Sport commission, Sport for all commission, Good Governance and Code of Ethics documents, Equality (all types). Mr. Bourquin felt that since the situation is still unclear the IFF must be ready to fulfil the IOC criteria's as soon as possible, in order not to lose any momentum in a fast opening in for attendance in Multi-Sport Events.
- The following opportunities are possible for IFF; the Olympic Games, The World Games, The Youth Olympic Games, United World Championships, Euro Games, the Universiades and the Urban Games. Mr. Bourquin felt that there might be a tendency to modernise the YOG, giving also Floorball a possibility for 2022, after Naging 2014 and BuenosAires 2018
- Mr. Bourquin gave the advice that it is important to ask for an audience with IOC President Bach and Sports Director Dubi to discuss the possibilities.
- Based on the discussion and the need to prepare for the Short List process, IFF will start a cooperation with Mr. Bourquin to prepare the IFF to meet the IOC Short List Criteria's. Mr. Bourquin will make a proposal to the IFF Cb for this project starting from January 2014

Upcoming meetings and issues

- Seek audience with IOC President Thomas Bach, ANOC President Sheikh Al Sabaa and IOC Sports Director Christophe Dubi

Issues that need to be discussed or decided upon or taken action upon

- IFF ExCo to decide upon IWGA Application for inclusion in the World Games in November
 - IFF CB to decide upon the IOC Short List Project in cooperation with Mr. Jean-Laurent Bourquin
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New ideas, etc...

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