

**ASIA OCEANIA FLOORBALL CONFEDERATION (AOFC) CENTRAL BOARD MEETING
23 FEBRUARY 2013 AT 11.00AM
DAEJIN UNIVERSITY, POCHON CITY, SOUTH KOREA**

Present

Mr Stephen King	President
Mr Sani Mohd Salim	Vice-President
Mr Pierre Boudville	Secretary General
Mr Geum Sung Kang	Treasurer
Mr Hwang Joo Kim	Member
Mr Takanobu Yoshino	Member

Absent

Mr Ramezenali Davalo (Iran)
Mr Ralph Andrew Ramos (Philippines)

In Attendance

Mr Stefan Kratz (International Floorball Federation)

1 Mr Stephen King called the meeting to order.

2 Financial Report

2.1 Further to the General Assembly's approval in Feb 2012 for the opening of a new bank account in Australia, Mr King reported that he had the forms for the bank account to be set up, which would be done in the next few weeks.

3 Marketing & Development Committee

3.1 The meeting noted that the Marketing & Development Committee (MDC) comprised Mr Stephen King, Mr Christian Betschinger, Mr Ralph Andrew Ramos and Mr Ramezenali Davalo as members.

3.2 The meeting noted that IFF Development Seminars would be organised in the region in the coming year, namely in South East Asia and in China.

South East Asia

Mr King suggested that the IFF Development Seminar in South East Asia could be tied in with the SEA Games and targeting the SEA Games countries. A host country for this should be found.

Mr Sani Mohd Salim suggested that it would perhaps be better to visit each interested country individually to have a bigger base of participants and also to save on travelling costs for the participants. AOFC could send someone to conduct such seminars.

Mr King reported that a draft proposal had been submitted to John Liljelund from IFF for the appointment of a Development Officer for the AOFC to perform this role. He would be following up on this draft proposal. In the meantime, Mr King requested the Central Board Members to look at the circulated AOFC Development Officer proposal in greater detail over the next few days and come back to him within a week on feedback and comments.

China

Mr King reported that John Liljelund was dealing directly with the China floorball federation to organise a IFF Development Seminar in China.

- 3.3 The meeting noted that Mr Davalo had submitted a proposal on the creation of a AOFC West Asia Office and this was circulated to the meeting for reference. The meeting noted that the AOFC would continue discussion with Mr Davalo and the IFF regarding the proposed establishment of the AOFC West Asia office.
- 3.4 Mr Davalo had also submitted a proposal from Mr Davalo on the development aspect which was circulated to the meeting. The meeting noted the proposal and that the AOFC would look into it.
- 3.5 Mr King invited the Country Development Reports to be made by the countries present:

Australia

Mr King started with the first report on Australia where there had been an increase of between 15 to 20% in membership over last year. Australia was also targeting to engage a Development Officer. 8 floorball rinks had also been brought into the country last year. The Australian Floorball Association (AFA)'s practice was to buy the rinks and rent it out to clubs. After a few years of usage, the respective could then buy over the rink, and thereafter the AFA would get new rinks and repeat the process all over again.

Singapore

Mr Sani reported that floorball had gained a lot of recognition in Singapore lately, including from the Singapore Sports Council (SSC). The Singapore Floorball Association (SFA) had also applied for affiliation with the Singapore National Olympic Council (SNOC). For the schools tournaments in 2013, for the first time there were more girls school teams than boys school teams. Mr Sani also reported on the status of floorball in being included in the SEA Games. Singapore would be hosting the biennial event in 2015 and was targeting floorball to be included as a medal sport. In preparation for this, floorball had been approved to be featured as a demonstration sport at the Myanmar SEA Games, which would be held from 11 to 22 December 2013. The IFF and the SFA would be assisting the Myanmar officials to organise the tournament and to promote the sport in Myanmar leading up to the Games, as well as to set up a national association and national team for Myanmar.

Japan

Mr Takanobu Yoshino reported that the new Japan federation for floorball had been formed in April 2012. In addition, Mr Yoshino reported that recreational floorball had recently become a problem in Japan but the situation was now getting better. Japan's players had increased from 300 to 700. The Japan federation was not yet a member of the Japan Olympic Committee. Mr Yoshino commented that this would be a difficult task.

Korea

Mr Hwang Joo Kim reported that for the School Sports games in Korea, floorball had been included as one of 30 sports, and even when the number of sports was reduced to 18, floorball was still among the 18 sports, thus showing the acceptance of floorball in the school sports system and the growth of floorball in schools. Wheelchair Floorball had been included as a demonstration sport in the Paralympic Games in London and Floorball was also a medal sport at the recently held Special Olympics in Pyeongchang.

4 Rules & Competition Committee (RACC)

4.1 SEA Games 2013

Mr Sani reported that he would be leaving for Myanmar on Monday, 25 February 2013 to discuss with Myanmar officials on the organisation of floorball for inclusion in the SEA Games 2013 as a demonstration sport. He would also discuss the suitable dates for the floorball programme there, since the scheduled date for the SEA Games (11 to 22 December 2013) would overlap with the WFC 2013 to be held in the Czech Republic from 7 to 15 December 2013. IFF would prefer to push for the event to be held after 15 December 2013 so that they would be able to witness this historic moment.

4.2 World University Floorball Championships 2014

Mr Sani reported that the Organising Committee for the World University Floorball Championships 2014 (WUFC 2014) had been formed. The dates given to him by FISU were from 20 to 22 June 2014, which he commented was too short a period to organise and complete the tournament. Mr King checked the dates given to him and said that it was 18 to 22 June 2014. He would confirm the dates. The meeting noted that the WUFC 2014 would have a maximum of 8 teams each for the Men's and Women's categories. Mr King said that usually FISU would follow the IFF rankings to decide the participating countries.

4.3 Other Major Multi-Sport Events

Mr Kim reported that the 2014 Asian Games would be held in Incheon, Korea but it would be too soon to include floorball as a demonstration sport. The next Asian Games after that would be held in 2019 in Hanoi, Vietnam.

Mr King reported that the 2018 Commonwealth Games would be held in Brisbane, Australia. The AOFC might want to target floorball for inclusion at these Games.

5 WFC2013 AOFC Qualification

5.1 Mr Kim reported on the WFC2013 AOFC Qualification tournament currently being held in Pocheon City. Originally, there was supposed to be a Men's category for the APAC tournament after it was checked at the AOFC CB meeting in February 2012 that there would be enough teams. However, due to the eventual withdrawal of several of the Men's teams, the Men's category had to be cancelled. As a result of this, the tournament organisers were not able to get as much financial support for the tournament as it was hoped. The preparation for the event was also affected by the organisation of the floorball event at the Special Olympics.

5.2 Mr King commented that this issue needed to be addressed for subsequent APACs, in view of the probability that WFC qualifying countries in the previous year would be unlikely to participate in APAC because of cost considerations for the players involved. A separate APAC tournament could perhaps be held later in the year in August or September during the international floorball weekend.

6 WFC2014 AOFC Qualification

- 6.1 The meeting noted that Floorball New Zealand had submitted a document on its organisation of the WFC2014 AOFC Qualification in Wellington, New Zealand to be held from 27 January to 2 February 2014. Copies of the document were circulated to the meeting.
- 6.2 Mr Stefan Kratz reported that 5 countries had submitted their nominations for inclusion in the WFC2014 AOFC Qualification.

7 WFC2015 AOFC Qualification & APAC 2015

- 7.1 Mr King reported that he had so far received interest to organise the WFC2015 AOFC Qualification and APAC 2015 from the Philippines. A formal notification to invite organisers would be sent out soon.

8 Licensing System

- 8.1 Mr King reported that this matter was still ongoing and that the AOFC and the IFF would identify the areas where it could assist AOFC members to meet the Licensing System requirements once the IFF's Audit of the Associations was completed.

9 IFF Loan Rink

- 9.1 Mr King reported that possibly three loan rinks would be available for allocation this year. The IFF and AOFC had already directly approved a loan rink for Indonesia, thus leaving two available rinks for loan. New Zealand and Korea had both submitted their applications for the loan rink. The meeting noted that Korea currently had 5 rinks, and Mr Kim said that the new rink would be used as a new rink in the province of Busan outside Seoul. For New Zealand, Mr King said that there was a rink in the North Island in Wellington but there was no rink in the South Island. The proposal was for the loan rink to be used for the WFC AOFC Qualification 2014, and then transfer it to the South Island thereafter.
- 9.2 Mr King requested both Mr Kim and Mr Geum Sung Kang to temporarily leave the meeting room to enable the rest of the Central Board to discuss and decide on the issue.
- 9.3 After discussion, the meeting decided to accept the recommendations and to submit both applications to IFF for consideration. Mr Kim and Mr Kang were recalled to the meeting room.

10 Indian Membership

- 10.1 Mr King informed the meeting that it would be tabled at the AOFC General Assembly in 2014 to amend the AOFC membership of the Indian floorball body to the new Indian federation.

11 Any Other Business

11.1 IFF Female Referees

Mr Sani informed the meeting that IFF was pushing for the global development of female referee pairs. Singapore had nominated 2 female referee pairs and both had been appointed as IFF international referees. However, only one of the pairs had been assigned to a tournament and this was at the WFCQ in Korea. Mr Sani commented that there were not many opportunities for referees in Asia, especially for female referees who could only referee women's matches, so the next opportunity to referee in Asia would be in 2015. Mr King would raise this issue at the IFF Central Board meeting.

11.2 IFF Financial Support for AOFC Central Board Meetings

Mr Sani suggested that Mr King could request IFF to consider providing some financial support for AOFC Central Board members to attend the Central Board meeting held at APAC so as to promote better attendance.

12 Next Meeting

12.1 Mr King said that the next AOFC Central Board meeting would be conducted through email correspondence in May 2013.

13 With no further matters to discuss, the meeting ended at 12:35pm.