

DISCIPLINE: Floorball

APPLICANT: International Floorball Federation - IFF

Please answer the following questions:

- a) Why should this sport discipline be part of the Invitational Sports program at The World Games 2017 in Wroclaw?

Floorball is a fast and spectacular team sport played and followed by youth between 15 – 29 years. It is very popular among students and gathers huge number of spectators and a broad number of followers on the internet. For the 2013 Women's World Floorball Championships qualifications played in end of January in Babimost, Poland the home team gathered over 500 spectators for their matches in the qualification. In Poland Floorball is fast growing, and also in neighbouring countries such as Germany, and the Czech Republic, and hence by bringing many spectators and good atmosphere, brings added value to the World Games.

We strongly believe that the participation of Floorball in the World Games would create an exceptional international event, where the value of the Gold medals will become really valuable, when all the best teams in the World will participate in the Event, especially when it would be for the first time.

- b) Describe the general interest in this sport (statistics, countries, participant characteristics, etc.)

Floorball is a very rapidly growing team sport, which is played in around 70 countries all over the world. IFF has 55 member federations and a total of over 30 participate in the World Floorball Championships, where 16 teams play in the final round. From the last World Floorball Championships in 2012 as many as 24 matches were produced for television, and signals taken by 8 countries, also all matches were produced and streamed live on the IFF web TV. Floorball's social media penetration through Facebook, YouTube and Twitter is also very high. Hence this, Floorball will add value bringing the internet generation to the World Games and grow the visibility for the Event.

- c) Briefly describe the proposed competition (qualification system, number of participants, etc.)

Depending on the interest from the OC, IFF is ready to organise both a Men's and a Women's competition. The preferred format for the competition would be with 8 teams in each category, which seems to be the preferred format.

The competition can be organised in one arena for five days with 8 teams. If both categories are organised then a second venue is needed. We have also organised a competition format of 6 + 6 teams for five days in one arena, which is the format for our two club competitions - Champions Cup and EuroFloorball Cup Final rounds. A format of final 4 is definitely also an option.

The teams qualification can for the Women be dealt with in connection to the Women's World Floorball Championship qualification tournaments in February 2017 and the Men's qualification can be made based on the result of the Men's World Floorball Championships played in December 2016, either in Latvia or the Czech Republic.

We are open to discuss the size of the delegation per team, in order to facilitate your views, and to follow all IWGA regulations.

- d) In what kind of a venue do you propose the competition to be held (including the arena, viewing capacity, etc.)?

The tournament can be organised in any indoor venue (handball/basketball) with a spectator capacity between 800 – 2000. The venue needs to have free floor space of 44 x 24 m and free height of 7 m, to facilitate the field. Since we bring the flooring the base floor doesn't need to be a sport floor, so we can play in a number of venues.

- e) What will the Applicant contribute to this proposed endeavour?

IFF will bring a lot of spectators to the event and provide the event with a lot of publicity in the neighbouring countries. We will give our expertise to the use of the OC

In cooperation with the Polish Floorball Federation IFF can help promote the Event in our channels and at our Events. The Polish Federation organises a number of International Events every year.

1. Does this discipline's Polish and International Federation both support this proposition?

☐ **Yes**

2. How many national federations are associated at the international level in this discipline?

☐ **50 or more**

3. Will most of the leading world athletes come to The World Games 2017 in Wroclaw?

☐ **Yes**

What does this depend on?

The competition calendar of the IFF permits an International Tournament in the period prior to the start of the regular season, which starts in the end of September or beginning of October.

IFF is ready to change the term for our International weekend to free the time for the World Games 2017 in Wroclaw, to coincide with the WG.

4. Are organized competitions held in this discipline in Poland?

☐ **Yes**

Which ones?

The Polish Floorball Federation organises seasonal activities on a national level, with 42 Floorball clubs. The teams play in the national and regional series:

Men National league (12 teams) and I Division (8 teams) and Women's National league (8 teams). In addition there are a large number of regional adult and junior series. The total number of licenced players is over 1500. Additionally the Polish Floorball Association is an experienced organiser of international floorball events, having staged both Men's & Women's World Floorball Championships Qualifications, U19 World Championships and many friendly internationals. They also annually host the Polish Cup (now in it's 9th year) – an international U19 tournament.

5. Does this discipline have an organized fan base in Poland and/or internationally?

☐ **Yes**

6. Is there a notable interest in this sport discipline in at least 10 countries up to 1000km from Wroclaw?

☐ **Yes**

In what countries?

Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Czech republic, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, the Netherlands, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and Ukraine.

It might be interesting to add that the total number of spectators at the World Floorball Championships in Bern & Zurich in December 2012 was over 75.000 spectators and that Floorball in the Lahti World Games had a very big per centage of the total spectator number. –

Floorball is actually the second biggest sport in the Czech Republic and that Czech sport fans are used to travel to Wroclaw for sport events, like the Czech matches at the EURO 2012. Floorball also has a large amount of foreign spectator participation in our World Floorball Championships.

7. Is this discipline capable of attracting enough fans – 100% of paying fans for the arena proposed in answer to question d) above?

☐ **Yes**

8. Are the competitions in this discipline covered by Polish national media (TV, radio)?

☐ **few times a year**

9. Is this discipline capable of attracting worldwide media coverage of its The World Games 2017 in Wroclaw competition?

☐ **Yes**

Please provide at least 3 examples from the last 3 years where this discipline's competitions were covered internationally?

The total number of accredited international media in the last three World Floorball Championships has been between 60 – 120, from over 20 countries.

Is this discipline capable of attracting Polish and international broadcasting rights purchases?

☐ **average (in 5-15 countries)**

**Men's World Floorball Championships 2012, Bern & Zurich, Switzerland, 16 teams
24 Televised matches, shown in 8 countries**

**Women's World Floorball Championships 2011, St. Gallen, Switzerland, 16 teams
11 Televised matches, shown in 5 countries + Eurosport**

**Men's World Floorball Championships 2010, Helsinki, Finland, 16 teams
19 Televised matches, shown in 7 countries + Eurosport**

10. Is this discipline present in Wroclaw already? Is there a club in Wroclaw?

☐ No

But there are some Floorball activities in the Wroclaw area. The Polish Floorball Federation has started a set of campaigns to popularise the sport in the region and will during 2014 -2015 organise a number of clinics in the region to promote the sport and increase the knowledge of the general public.

11. Are there any leading sports persons in this discipline related strongly to Wroclaw?

☐ No

12. a) Is the Applicant or its partners (ie. Sponsors) ready to cover all the cost of its participation at The World Games 2017 in Wroclaw?

☐ No

We are ready to offer our partners for the discussion with the WG organiser.

b) Is the Applicant or its partners ready to cover part of the cost of this endeavour?

☐ Yes

Which costs? How (monetary contribution or value in kind)?

IFF is ready to facilitate the running of the Event, by providing our employees to run it together with the Polish Floorball Federation and provide the technical delegates and Jury and pay for their travel and accommodation.

IFF will further provide all material needed to play the tournament, ie Flooring, rinks, goal cages, balls to the disposal of the World Games.

IFF will provide the referees for the tournament, paying for their travel and accommodation.

If needed IFF can consider to take a part of the costs related to the rent of the Arena, but together with the OC.

IFF will also provide and run the result service for the Event on our on-line system (www.floorball.org) and provide the results system for the OC.

13. Does the Applicant know and accept the rules of The World Games available at www.theworldgames.org particularly *rules of the world games* and the *anti-doping rules*?

☐ Yes

14. Is the sport federation of this discipline a member of SportAccord?

☐ Yes