

SportAccord Convention, Sochi, Russia 19.-24.4.2015

Participants: Tomas Eriksson, IFF President
John Liljelund, IFF secretary general

Report on present issues

1. SportAccord AGM

The SA President Mr. Marius Vizer put heat to the SportAccord AGM, by attacking the IOC President accusing the IOC of not safeguarding the Sport and that the IOC 20+20 recommendations are just empty words. Vizer demanded full insight in the Olympic Games and more IF representation in the IOC, apart from the present 15 IF, 15 Athletes and 15 NOC representatives. In addition Mr. Vizer attacked the ANOC president sheikh Al Sababh for trying to take ownership of the SportAccord Beach Games.

Mr. Bach declared that the cooperation between the IOC and the IF's has increased drastically and that the doors in Lausanne are always open for the IF's. He specifically mentioned the talks and changes made towards the ARISF.

The IAAF (Athletics), ISSF (Shooting) and Archery reacted by withdrawing their membership in SportAccord. Later in the day, all the other ASOIF IF's signed a declaration condemning Vizer's statement. The following two days were heavily effect of this, until Vizer apologised in the ASOIF AGM.

SportAccord has dropped the objective to organise an United Championships, but instead organise Combat, Mind, Beach and Urban Games. The Urban Games, where Floorball is included is presently discussing with three cities and will be organised in 2017 or 2018.

2. ARISF AGM

The ARISF President Chiulli stressed that there has been a lot of development the last year in the cooperation with the IOC and the support to the ARISF IF's has increased. The ARISF has started an IOC-ARISF workshop, which will discuss the cooperation more in detail. The ARISF has approved new member, the International Mountaineering Sports Federations (IMSF).

Tomas Bach greeted the ARISF federations welcomed to utilise the Olympic Channel when it will be launched in 2016.

IOC Sports Director Kit McConnell gave a short debrief of the present IOC work related to the recognition process, which will be overlooked by the IOC EB in July 2015. There was no clear indication given for the process of evaluation of new sports for the Olympic program, as the preparation process is still ongoing.

The ARISF Council member Mr. Harald Vervacken has resigned due to disputes with president Chiulli, therefore there was a vacant seat in the Council. There was five candidates for the position and each round the one with least votes:

	Round	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	5 th	6 th
- Anna Arzhanova (Underwatersport)		X	X	X	16	17	19
- Claude Azema (Boules)		X	-				
- Richard T. Caleer (Polo)		-					
- Anthony Goy (Wushu)		X	X	-			
- John Liljelund (Floorball)		X	X	X	16	17	15

The meeting was suspended before the 6th round, and then two delegates changed side after discussions, giving Anna Arzhanova the victory.

Liljelund continues as the financial examiner of ARISF for 2015.

3. ARISF – IOC workshop

Mr. Kit McConnell presented the strategic road map (20+20 recommendations) for the Olympic games. The IWGA/World Games will be key in the review process for new program sports. The Sport initiation program will be developed in the OG/YOG in cooperation between OG and the City. The city proposed sports are additional to the 10.500 quota, decided by the EB. Tokyo can submit a proposal of their proposals by September to the IOC EB, which will be decided by the IOC session in Rio 2016.

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McConnell stressed the gender equality, with 50 per cent female representation and inclusion of mixed events, applied on a sport by sport basis.

The IOC Sports Department will change the way they operate with the IF's by including a bi-lateral meetings in Lausanne and IOC will visit the IF's Events.

In the discussion the problem was raised that how can the World Games 2017 be used as a criteria, when the IOC will decide the program of the 2024 before the Wroclaw World Games. A number of Sports will be approved in 2017, in relation to the selection of the Host City and a some other sports can be included to the program up to three years before the Event.

IF's can apply for IOC patronage for their Events and apply for the IOC Presidents Trophy for the winner.

The IOC Olympic Channel was presented by the Olympic Broadcasting Director and the IF's will have more information in the end of the year 2015.

4. *IOC Sports Department/Mr. Christian Wassmer*

In the discussion with the Sports Department, Mr. Wassmer thanked IFF for handing in the Status Report and the proposal for the Floorball3+ concept, which proves Floorball is on the right way and he promised to distribute them inside the IOC. The different options available for IFF were shortly discussed and the IFF showed that we are ready to take the next steps.

Based on the discussion and the IFF objectives, it was agreed that IFF would ask for a meeting with Kit McConnell, to discuss the different issues more in depth.

Concerning the SportsLab in YOG, it was concluded, that there presently are no SportsLab, but that the National Association, could contact the organiser with a solution, provided by IFF and NBF.

5. *IWGA AGM*

The IWGA agenda run without any major issues and the IWGA President Jose Peruena condemned the attack of SportAccord president Vizer.

The IWGA AGM approved the decision to choose Birmingham as the host for the 2021 World Games. IFF has already taken contacts with the Birmingham LOC.

The IWGA AGM decided not to adopt the proposed new statutes, but a working group was formed, that will look upon the proposal and also move the discussion of new members to the next AGM

6. *Wroclaw World Games 2017*

The dates for the Wroclaw World Games have changed to the 20.-30.07.2017.

Floorball has been moved to be played from the 27.-30.07, with the final ending latest at 17:00 on Sunday, giving the participants the possibility to participate in the Closing Ceremony.

The Floorball will be played in new WKK Arena (approx 1.200 Spectators) and the change of dates is due to that, also Korfball is played there. Discussions shall start with PFF to secure an international Test Event in Q3/Q4 in 2016 or then in Q1/2017

7. *World Games 2021 Birmingham*

In the meeting the different possibilities to showcase Floorball in Birmingham was discussed and the options of a WFCQ in 2017/2018 was discussed. In addition, the possibility to run school programs in the city was touched upon.

It was agreed that the TWG 2021 will visit WFC 2015 or the U19 WFC 2016 in Belleville.

8. *IMGA AGM/Meeting with Jens V. Holm*

IFF is an associate member of IMGA and the IOC recommendation stresses the importance of Master Sports are increasing, so more focus is needed in this direction. Our first chance to appear on the IMGA program is in the European Games in 2019, where Denmark, Finland, Scotland, Spain and Croatia has applied. IFF needs to be in contact with the selected organiser.

To become full member of IMGA, IFF needs to have at least 500 participants in three events and host own Master Events

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9. *Special Olympics/Jon-Paul St. Germain and Lee Todd*

IFF had a meeting to discuss the present very good cooperation which the Special Olympics is very pleased with. The following issues were discussed and IFF had secured the ParaFloorball view from Ms. Bruun:

- SO has not yet finalised the current census numbers for Floorball, but it seems to be programs in 31 countries, with at least over 5.000 players. SO will share the numbers as soon as the census is finalised.
- IFF will continue to support SO with education, but we want to have a little more structured approach to the planning of the seminars.
- IFF will try to connect Jon-Paul with Unihoc and write an email to Mr. Jonsson to introduce the need of the SO.
- It was agreed that IFF will continue to promote SO Floorball in our events, but the local SO organisation needs to be more active to react in advance to contact the LOC
- The setup for Unified Floorball was discussed and SO explained the political and philosophical reason for their proposal of the 2 SO players and 2 partners. IFF proposed to have 3+1 to secure the involvement of all players in the game.
- SO renewed the invitation to Mr. Eriksson for the SO World Games in Los Angeles in July. Mr. Eriksson will consider the participation in the Event. SO has not decided if the SO Floorball resource team will participate or not.

10. *Canton du Vaud/City of Lausanne*

IFF met with the Canton du Vaud to discuss the possibilities for 2017 and forward. As IFF needs to register the organisation at the Register du Commerce, in order to have a registration number in Switzerland.

Maison du Sport International (MSI) is building a fourth building for 2017. This will open new office space in the old office buildings. The Canton du Vaud would be interested to present the plans and options for the office to the IFF CB in relation to the EFT in Lausanne in April 2016.

11. *FIH meeting/Pam Elgar and Kelly Fairweather*

The FIH Council has during the last years, changed the governance structure and the integration of the different disciplines of hockey (normal, indoor, beach, parahockey, 5 a-side). The new strategy is to secure the growth of all forms of hockey.

The FIH board has acknowledged, the fast change and development of Floorball and finds that there is a good ground for cooperation and developing both games together. Based on the discussion there seems to be three forms of cooperation:

- Cooperation between two organisations
- Strategic Alliance (type FIS or Baseball-Softball)
- Full merger of both organisations

The Strategic Alliance is the preferred way to continue. In the long run a full merger can be possible, but for now the alliance is the right approach.

It was agreed that the next steps are:

- Look for a working model for both organisations, with a view of a possible merger.
- Talk to FIS/Ms. Sarah Lewis and the Baseball-Softball confederation.
- Start with building a governance model for the cooperation

12. *NFFR/Maksim Chernov and Konstantin Zhukovskiy*

The Russian Ministry of Sport has given NFFR accreditation for six months to seek a solution to unite all the groups. The problem is now that the accreditation ends in November, so a meeting is needed with the Deputy Sports Minister Pavel Kolobkov. Based on the official numbers of the Russian Sports Minister there are 27.000 recreational players. The NFFR has around 1.000 players in their series, as the regional associations are not directly connected to the Russian federation.

The opposition is in the Moscow Federation, where Mr. Michael Stepanaïnek, who is a vice president of the Russian curling federation and a former Moscow Sports minister. IFF stressed that it is important to invite all parties to the discussions and write a proposal for cooperation to them and invite them for the seminar in Arkhangelsk.

IFF arranged the participation of Floorball/NFFR in the SportAccord Demo Zone in Sochi at the SAC. The Demo Zone has worked well and a lot of kids have played Floorball and it has been visited by the Russian Sports minister. Also meetings to form a regional federation has been held by the NFFR.

Upcoming meetings and issues

- Seek an audience with IOC Sports Director, to discuss present situation for Floorball
 - Apply for IOC patronage for the WFC2015 and the IOC Presidents Trophy
 - Discuss with NBF and provide solution to YOG 2016 youth engagement
 - Discuss possibility of organising a test event in Wroclaw Q3/Q4 2016 with the PFF
 - IFF to organise a meeting with USFbA to discuss the way forward concerning the TWG 2021
 - IFF to seek contact with the organiser of the EMG LOC, after the IMGA Board has decided it
 - Introduce SO/Jon-Paul to Mr. Jonsson/Unihoc, to try to build a tri-party system for SO Floorball equipment
 - Write to Mr. Renz to ask for help to register the IFF at the Lausanne Register du Commerce
 - IFF to inform the Canton du Vaud of the CB meeting in April 2017 and the EFT.
 - Prepare the details for the cooperation with FIH and set the meetings with FIS.
 - Agree upon a meeting with the Deputy Minister of Sports Mr. Pavel Kolobkov
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Issues that need to be discussed or decided upon or taken action upon

- Mr. Eriksson to check the development of the SportAccord Committees.
 - IFF to contact the IOC OBS to discuss how Floorball can be included.
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New ideas, etc...

- IFF to invite all the ambassadors of the IFF member associations for one day to participate in the WFC 2015 in Tampere, to promote the sport.
- IFF to agree with the Finnish Sports Confederation, that they would organise the Nordic Sport Confederation Presidents meeting in Tampere during the WFC.