

Meeting with National Floorball Federation of Russia and Russian Deputy Sports Minister Pavel Koblov, Moscow, Russia 28.01.2016

Participants:	Maksim Chernov, Konstantin Zhykovsky, Pavel Koblov, John Liljelund,	NFFR President NFFR secretary general Russian Deputy Minister of Sports IFF
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Report on present issues

1. General

In the discussions held with the NFFR during the WFC2015 in Tampere, it was agreed that IFF would meet with the Russian Sports Ministry and NOC to discuss the development of Floorball in Russia.

In addition the IFF interest towards the participation in the potential EuroGames 2019 was discussed.

2. Discussions with NFFR about the present situation in Russia

The NFFR has now received the official accreditation from the Ministry of Sport for two years, until the 30th of September 2017. The recognition can only be provisional until the association has activities in 43 out of the 86 regions of Russia. Presently the NFFR has around 20 regions.

The NFFR has now around 2.000 players playing in the association's series. The total number of Floorball players in Russia is over 25.000. The NFFR is running a new type of Men's Championships with 19 teams divided into four regional series:

Central Russia: 8 teams = 6 qualifies for the Final round tournament
Omsk/Siberia: 5 teams = 2 qualifies
St. Petersburg: 3 teams = 2 qualifies
Arkhangelsk: 3 teams = 2 qualifies.

The final round tournament will be played in Nizhniy Novgorod during five day.
In the womens league there are 9 teams and the U19 plays a series for the first time.

NFFR has introduced a licence fee to the players, in the highest leagues and has worked a lot with school programmes.

There is a big need to show the sport in National TV (Match-TV) and the 2 high-light packages showed from the WFC2015 gave good feedback and raised interest

3. NFFR Structure

The NFFR doesn't have any real operational organisation. Mr. Zhukovsky is not paid, but does the work of the secretary general as a volunteer. This is a problem, if the Association is to grow.

The living Mr. Zhukovsky gets from selling sticks (Realstick) and running school projects.

Report on present issues

4. Meeting with Mr. Pavel Koblov, Russian Deputy Sports Minister

The meeting was arranged at the Ministry of Sports and Mr. Koblov was extremely well prepared for the meeting, knowing exactly what development stage IFF is in, listing the World Games 2017, the Urban Games, the WFC's 2014 and 2015.

He stated that there has been good development in NFFR and during the last four years the number of players have increased four times. But still development of the Club and National Teams are needed. It was stated that the cooperation between IFF, NFFR and the Sport Ministry is on a good level.

The Ministry finds Floorball to be an interesting Sport for all, which has potential as a competition sport. The Ministry organises a yearly Event for over 60 teams in the Sport premises at the Ministry.

Concerning the EuroGames 2019, Mr. Koblov stated that:

- First the organisation needs to be given to Russia.
- The program is still open from both EOC and Russia.
- For Russia, they are interested in Sports, where they can have medals.
- It is also a financial issue to build the venue for the sports.

It is possible to return to the matter when the organisation has been given to Russia.

Mr. Koblov gave the following advice to the NFFR and the IFF for further development of the sport in Russia:

- Focus on popularisation of the sport and added visibility.
 - o IFF expressed our will to provide free TV signal from the WFC2016
 - o Mr. Koblov said he will look into this.
- The Sports ministry is willing to support the NFFR in the future
 - o Development programmes for schools and universities, but the NFFR needs to be more active
 - o Positive to support IFF Development Seminars in Russia
 - o Supporting NFFR involvement in IFF work (CB, Committees, and Referees)
 - o Will consider supporting a Championship in Russia (EFC/WFCQ)
- The World Games qualification is very important for the Sports ministry.
- The overall message is that NFFR needs to be more active!

Upcoming meetings and issues

- NFFR needs a short descriptive Floorball promo video
- Agree upon the Payment plan for the WFC2016 participation fee, part to be paid in JAN/FEB

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

- Try to build a Development Program through schools to find ways of supporting Russia
- Look for the possibilities to organise International Events in Russia

New ideas, etc...

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