

The IFF Floorball Development Seminar Program

The IFF has since 2005 organized Floorball Development Seminars (FDS) in more than 30 countries. The seminars have been divided to three individual blocks; administration (Good Governance), coaching and refereeing. The purpose of the seminars is to teach and bring a wider perspective to people already being involved with Floorball or have just started the sport.

The seminars have been organized in co-operation with the IFF member associations and the IFF member associations are free to apply for the Floorball Development Seminars. In order to have the most out of the seminars it's good to start to plan the seminars early enough. That way there will be enough time for all the arrangements for the FDS.

At the time most of the seminars are specifically been concentrating on coaching and refereeing, but since 2015 the Good Governance block has been educated four times in four different countries.

Coaching Block

The coaching block has been divided to four different levels, which are: **Basic**, which is meant for newcomers in Floorball without any previous experience of sport.

Level 1 is planned for people who already have the basic knowledge of Floorball and some experience of playing and sport in general.

Level 2 is concentrating more on educating coaches on a higher level and the education is meant for people who already have basic background as coaches and the level 2 seminar will bring in more aspects of how to coach players in a team, players' roles in the team and how to coach also the physical aspect for the players. Eventually the aim is to have the participants to reach the level of coaching on national level. The structure of the seminar is based on the educate the educators principle.

Level 3 is meant for experienced coaches who want to deepen their knowledge of coaching and eventually to reach the level of a top coach nationally or internationally. The Level 3 education is carried out by outside educators, but administrated by the IFF. The Level 3 educations are not free of charge as the lower level educations are. The price per participant is defined separately and depends on the program and the location of the seminar.

Good Governance

Good Governance is a one level education and the main target group are the persons who are working in IFF member associations as hired staff or who are members of the boards or chairmen of the committees of the national associations. The Good Governance FDS is built on topics such as Good Governance, Corporate Governance, the Board work, Conflict of Interest and other issues, which might have influence on persons' work in the previously mentioned organs.

Referee Block

The Referee Block education is divided to three different levels. The first level is the **Basic Level**, which is meant for people who don't have any previous background of refereeing Floorball and the

education is concentrating on rules related issues, basic movement and positioning and in general what it is to be a referee in Floorball.

The **Level 1** is targeted to persons who have some experience of actual refereeing in Floorball and have the basic knowledge of the topics in the basic level education. The added content for the Level 1 is to scratch the surface of how the referee observations are carried out, basic structure of a referee organization and a deeper understanding of the rules and rule interpretations.

Level 2 is more an administrative part of the referee “world”. The structure of the local Referee Committees, how the nominations and match appointments should be made, how to classify referees and how to build and plan the education programs for the national referees. The objective is that persons participating to the Level 2 education have the knowledge of the administrative part in officiating Floorball. The structure of the seminar is based on the educate the educators principle.

The IFF is also giving education to the international referees during the IFF events. The nominated referees get personal feedback from international referee observers from each game they referee during an IFF event and the aim is to constantly improve the level of the international referees. Also the new international referee observers are educated by more experienced referee observers during IFF events in order to secure and guarantee the sufficient level of IFF referee observers.

How to organize a FDS

Each and every IFF member associations is free to apply to organize a Floorball Development Seminar and the IFF is encouraging the member associations to do so in order to expand the amount of people being involved with the education so that more and more persons would be committed to the work of the national associations.

First step when applying for a FDS is to define what level the seminar would and who the participants would be and where they would come from. The best way is to also think about the Floorball persons from the surrounding countries and from those national associations in order to reach a good number of participants, but for the participants is always added value to meet people in sport from other countries.

The basic education is free for the participants and the IFF is in charge of the costs for the educators (travels and accommodation), food excluded. IFF can also, if needed, support the national associations with costs for the seminar facilities and venues, but usually schools and universities give the venues free of charge, since the seminars take place mainly during the weekends from Friday afternoon to Sunday afternoon. The financial issues can be separately negotiated with the IFF.

The organizing member association shall book the venues and also help the participants to reserve accommodation and organize meals, which the participants pay themselves. The accommodation costs should not be too high in order to secure as vast participation as possible.

The invitations for the seminar will be sent out by the IFF office in co-operation with the organizing IFF member association and the invitations should be sent out early enough, preferably three months before the actual seminar takes place.

FDS is one of the most cost-efficient way to educate people in Floorball. The three-day seminar is relatively hectic, but the outcome and the feedback has proven that it's definitely worthwhile.

If your association is planning to run a seminar in 2018, please be in contact with Mr. Veli Halonen (halonen(at)floorball.org) from the IFF office and he will give you further and more detailed information how to organize a successful FDS and to define your needs. It's also possible to organize a seminar for participants from just one IFF member association, but then there needs to be enough participants for the seminar. The optimal number of participants for the Good Governance block is from 10 to 15 participants, 20-40 participants in Coaching and the same in refereeing. The seminars can also be bigger, but then there's a need for more educators.

English is the education language, but if translators are needed, then the local organizing member associations are responsible to get the translators for the seminar.