

1st AOFC Cup, AOFC Office Opening Ceremony and AOFC meeting 2.-6.7.2017, Bangkok, Thailand

Participants: Tomas Eriksson, IFF President (4.7.)
John Liljelund; secretary general

Report on present issues

1) 1st PTT AOFC Cup 2017

The 1st AOFC Cup was arranged in Bangkok, Thailand by the Thai Hockey association, featuring eight teams China, India, Indonesia, Iran, Korea, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.

The tournament was well organised in the sports hall of the Bangkok University Sports Faculty. The venue was well suited for the tournament. The arrangements went very well and all team lived in a venue some 5 minute away from the arena. The Thai matches were broadcasted in TV live on channel 19 and all matches streamed.

In connection to the Event IFF organised a referee seminar for more than 20 Thai Hockey referees, which are now changing to Floorball. They needed the official certification from IFF, to be able to official referees. The seminar was conducted by IFF Operations Coordinator Mr. Veli Halonen. In the tournament referees were used from Singapore and Malaysia and two new pairs were tested on this level, namely the Korean and Indonesian pair. The RC will based on the evaluation of Mr. Halonen and Mr. Ismail make proposals for changes of classification.

All teams won at least one game in the tournament and Thailand beat Singapore in the Final. The final standings was: 1) Thailand, 2) Singapore, 3) Korea, 4) Indonesia, 5) India, 6) China, 7) Iran and 8) The Philippines

2) Opening of AOFC Regional Office 4.7.

In connection to the AOFC Cup the new AOFC Office was opened in an Opening ceremony, in which the general director of the Thailand Sports Authority participated together with AOFC President Mr. Chaiyapak Siritwat and the IFF President and delegations form all countries and teams present.

The AOFC Office is situated in connection to the Thai Hockey Association in the Sports Park. Floorball is a part of the Thai Hockey federation.

3) AOFC CB meeting

After the Opening Ceremony of the AOFC Office a AOFC CB meeting was held in the facilities of the Thai Hockey Association., with participants from eleven AOFC countries.

The main topics discussed during the meeting was the upcoming Events with the WFCQ 2018 to be played in Korea from the 23.-28.01.2018, with nine teams registered. There were some questions raised if there still would be possibilities to register for the WFCQ. Korea replied that ten teams is still OK. Later the PFA has informed that they will not have sufficient resources to participate in the WFCQ 2018.

Report on present issues (Cont.)

Indonesia reported that there is a little over 50% chance that Floorball could be included as a demonstration sport at the Asian Games 2018 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Mr. Nangoy expressed that there is a need to receive support from the AOFC and the members to support the Indonesian Floorball Associations application. It was agreed that Indonesia will specify what kind of support is needed.

The AOFC decided to 2018 play the AOFC Cup separately for Men in end of July/beginning of August and for Women in Singapore in June.

The AOFC meeting also discussed the set-up for the SEA Games 2019 in the Philippines and what lobby actions are taken to support the inclusion of Floorball in the games.

The AOFC was also supposed to run a strategy session, but that fell short due to mainly technical problems. Mr. Liljelund informed of the process for the evaluation of the IFF Strategy 2008 – 2020 and the process for building a new one for the next coming decade.

Mr. Siriwat further informed that he has been contacted by groups in Kazakhstan, Myanmar and Uzbekistan, which might be on the way in to IFF. Mr. Liljelund informed that meetings will be held with the Lao NOC in Bangkok to speed up their membership application process.

4) SEA Games 2019, Manila, the Philippines

Mr. Siriwat had invited the representatives of the Philippines NOC, the President Mr. Peping and the secretary general Mr. Steve Hontiveros, the secretary general of the Singapore NOC Mr. Chris Chang and the deputy secretary general Mr. Edmund Lim. Also the secretary general of Myanmar was invited, but he didn't turn up.

In a number of discussions Mr. Siriwat lobbied for Floorball to be included in the 2019 SEA Games in the Philippines, which was supported by the performance of the Philippines team. Also the SNOC supported the initiative.

During the AOFC – NOC dinner the POC President Mr. Peping almost promised that Floorball will be included in the SEA Games.

5 Mr. Steve Hontiveros, POC secretary general

In separate discussions with Mr. Hontiveros, a number of practical issues was touched upon, like what support IFF will provide to the Philippines for the SEA Games and the Philippine Association. IFF will deliver the infrastructure for the Event, with the flooring, rink, goal cages and balls, to secure the IFF Event look & feel. These materials can also be delivered well in advance to support the development of Philippine Floorball.

IFF is also ready to organise a seminar for the Philippine Association in Metro Manilla and another region. It was agreed that POC will return with more information later.

6 Mr. Chris Chan, SNOC secretary general and Mr. Edmund Lim SNOC deputy sg

Discussions were held concerning the actives related to the upcoming Finnish Salibandyliiga game Classic – TPS and the possibility to promote the Singapore Women's team for the WFC 2017 in Bratislava, Slovakia. The issue of the flooring was very carefully discussed.

Also the present situation of the SFA was discussed, as a new General Manager Ms. Wendy Kuan, former secretary general for Singapore Bowling Federation, has been appointed. The SFA will have its AGM in the autumn to elect a new president. Mr. Chan also said that the SNOC will contact SG Sport concerning the financing of the Singapore National Teams and the Association.

7 Lao NOC Delegation visit

The IFF has supported the development of Floorball in Savannakhet in Laos, together with the Finnish Development Agency FIDA. Now the Savannakhet Regional Sports Department will start running school competitions for both boys and girls and they have contacted the Sports Ministry and the Lao NOC, which has shown great interest towards Floorball and the possibility to apply for membership.

IFF invited a delegation from Laos, consisting of the following persons:

Mr. Kasem Inthira, Deputy secretary general Lao NOC
Mr. Veomany Viravong, Sports Director, Lao Ministry of Education and Sport
Mr. Thavonne Insixiengmay, Sport Director, Savannakhet Education and Sport Dept.
Ms. Bounphama Thammavong, Technical Coordinator, Savannakhet Edu and Sport Dept.
Mr Sompasong Sayamowgkhone, PE Teacher, Savannakhet Regional Floorball Team Coach
Ms. Päivi Jokivuori, Aid worker, FIDA Savannakhet Center

It so happened that Mr. Kasem, was a good friend of the other NOC representatives and Mr. Siriwat, so the support from the other colleagues helped a lot. In discussions Mr. Kasem stated that it is vital that Floorball is also played in the Capital Viannde.

The Lao delegation was very keen to know what requirements there are for the application for IFF memberships and what is needed from IFF to form a National Association. The conclusion of the discussions are that IFF will write a letter to Mr. Kasem asking the Lao NOC to start the process of forming a National Floorball Association, with the head seat in the Savannakhet province. IFF is to provide the IFF Statutes, the Game Rules and the IFF School Curriculum for the Lao NOC, as well as the requirements for the membership application still in July.

IFF will probably in beginning of 2018 organise a number of meetings in Viannde and a seminar for local PE teachers, in coordination with the Savannakhet group.

Mr. Kasem informed that he will report to the NOC and the Sport Ministry and support the inclusion of Floorball if the sport takes off in the National Student Games in a few years.

8 Discussions with National Associations

A lot of practical discussions were held with the present national associations, ranging from development support to rules and regulation related questions. It was very efficient to have the opportunity to discuss with the representatives in an event, where IFF was not in the lead.

Upcoming meetings and issues

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

- Communicate with PFA about their possible interest to register for the WFC 2018
- Discuss the next steps with PFA concerning a possible Floorball seminar
- Send information to Mr. Kasem/Lao NOC about IFF membership
- Discuss possibility for a seminar in Viannde, Laos
- Prepare for material support for the SEA Games 2019 and discuss with Gerflor
- Check with Mr. Siriwat the status of the Kazakstan, Myanmar and Uzbekistan

New ideas, etc...

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