

RACC meeting in Vantaa 20-21.05.2017

Participants:	Martin Klabere	Chairman
	Ari Vehniäinen	Vice Chairman
	Meelike Terasmaa	
	Jan Jirovský	
	Beat Wullschleger	
	Teo Turay	
	Hwang Joo Kim	
	Roman Lozynsky	
	Tomas Sladky	Invited from Athletes Commission
	Sarah Mitchell	Event Manager
	Stefan Kratz	Competition Manager
	John Liljelund	Secretary General (1-4)
Excused:	Stefan Erkelenz	
	Agata Plechan	Athletes Commission

Minutes

1) Opening of the meeting

Martin greeted all welcome to Vantaa and the RACC meeting.

2) Organization

Martin briefly presented the competition organization (App 1).

In total the RACC-organization have participants from 18 countries and have 27 people involved.

3) Presentation of RACC members and office

All participants presented themselves.

John Liljelund, IFF secretary general gave an update of the World Games, Champions Cup, adults WFC and informed of the SportCal GSI Event Study having been carried out.

Further he mentioned the idea of going from 16 to 20 teams in the Adults WFC, the collision with FIFA World Cup 2022, other Calendar problems including FIS as well as Handball being on in December. Some thoughts of having organiser of WFC and new Game rules to be approved by GA instead of the IFF CB but also the need of clarifying the possibility to adjust rules problem occurring every two years were also mentioned.

Video checking, how to solve the problem to control the game for the referees due to the quick game and the use of goggles were discussed.

Address:

Alakiventie 2
FI-00920 Helsinki,
Finland

Phone:

+358 9 454 214 25

Fax:

+358 9 454 214 50

E-mail:

competition@floorball.org

Web-site

www.floorball.org

Competition Manager:

Stefan Kratz
kratz@floorball.org
+46 70 677 8646

Event Manager:

Sarah Mitchell
mitchell@floorball.org
+358 400 529 035

4) Mission of RACC (decided by IFF CB)

Martin informed of the basic mission of the RACC which is to provide rules and regulation to ensure fair and attractive IFF Competitions, to help organizers in staging good IFF competitions and to ensure that all rules, regulations and IFF competitions are in line with the international development of floorball.

5) Goal of the meeting

The goal of the meeting is to give everyone an update where we are, opportunities ahead, topics to be solved, collaboration between office/RACC and work process for RACC during the upcoming 4 years.

6) Upcoming season (2017-2018)

- a. World Games (Next Step....To The Olympics) (App 2)
- b. Tournaments, dates, organisers & applications organisers (App 3)
- c. Jury schedule (App 4)

The upcoming season was discussed and Martin strongly pushed for the importance of that World Games becomes a success for floorball and that we as a sport can show that we are mature enough to handle a multisport event with all its challenges.

7) Tournaments 2019-2022

- a. Tournaments, dates, organisers & applications organisers (App 5)
- b. WFC Men 2022 (App 6)

The upcoming IFF Events 2019 – 2022 was discussed and Stefan made an update that there is an ongoing discussion with:

Latvia regarding Euro Floorball Cup

Estonia, Slovakia and Latvia regarding men's 12th WFC Qualifications in Europe and Korea in AOFC

Stefan continued to informed that Champions Cup 2018 most likely will be played in January 2019

WFC Men 2022 were discussed under topic 3 and needs to be in the bigger discussion for the whole calendar.

8) International weekends

- a. 2017-2020 (App 7)

The international weekends was discussed and why they are set in the places they are now.

The RACC is of the opinion that a Calendar meeting is needed to discuss a possible move of the adults WFC from December, especially for 2022, possible moving of other IFF events and international weekends. We need to use the full year like other sports and start up the work during this autumn were we include National Associations, RACC, and IFF office.

9) Organisers

- a. Organiser Regulations Edition 2017 (App 8)
- b. Hand book Edition 2016 (App 9)
- c. IFF Juridical Regulations Edition 2015 (App 10)
- d. Eventello

Organisers of IFF Events and the tools to support the organization were presented and discussed. Martin also made a short summary of the evaluation tool that is the base line for decisions of making proposals to the CB of who to appoint for WFC (Adult & Juniors)

Sarah informed about the Eventello database that makes it much easier for both organiser and IFF to see if everything is done according to plan and if there is necessary adjustments that needs to be done.

10) Ranking/Quota (spots in WFC)

- a. Competition Regulations - National Teams Edition 2017 (App 11)
- b. Ranking – How it is calculated (App 12)
- c. Quota - How it is calculated (App 13)
- d. Americas in European qualification (task from CB 2017-04-08) (App 14)

Stefan explained the ranking and quota system and how it is built and how the quota is adjusted due to the number of registered teams.

Canada has proposed that Americas should play in the European qualification to get more matches. The possibility was discussed and RACC think that it is not workable in a good way and recommends that qualifications are still held in Americas.

Canada can be informed of other possibilities for tournaments where they can participate to gain more experience.

The RACC decided to put forward to Martin and Stefan to make a statement from RACC regarding positive and negative effects of putting teams from Americas into the European qualification when they are only 2 teams qualifying.

11) Preparation of the big events

- a. Processes, information flow, decision-making etc. (Topic from JJ)
- b. Gained experiences on the tournaments during last four years (Topic from JJ)

The preparation of the IFF events was discussed and the problems/opportunities that have occurred.

Venue inspections are important to avoid surprises, also pictures on beforehand is helpful. The office could start to build the venue info database.

Also other things like video checking system and preparations on how to be used needs to be clarified.

Discussion regarding when the jury chair should be involved in the event. RACC were of the opinion that 2-3 months before would be good (depending on type of tournament).

Roles of the IFF-organisation during tournament were discussed due to the many problems regarding information flow between the different groups that are working during the tournaments (Jury, Referee management and referees and Office). There is a need of clear communication flow and who is deciding what.

The RACC decided to put forward to Martin and JJ to prepare a proposal and also involve Mr. Liljelund in the discussion. Office got the task to look into jury chairman information and venue database.

12) WFC/WFCQ

- a. History

Stefan informed that the European Championships was played in Finland 1994 with 8 Men's teams. The Open EC was played in Switzerland 1995 with 11 Men's teams and 10 Women's teams. The first Men's WFC was played 1996 in Sweden and the first Women's WFC was played 1997 in Finland. From 1998 the WFC was divided in divisions depending on number of teams and their ranking. From 2010 qualifications have been played to a final round with 16 teams. From 2013 only the organizer is directly qualified.

- b. Upcoming tournament – teams (App 15)
- c. Advantages and disadvantages of present system (App 16)
- d. African championships (App 17)
- e. Increase number of teams in WFC 2020

This was the third evaluation from RACC on WFC/WFCQ system and the changes that has been made since the start 2010.

Good	Note
Qualification system - general	Working good as a tournament system
WFC Final round – new system	Working good with the divided groups and number of even matches has increased a lot
WFCQ/WFC	Good that everyone can take part in world championships and that everyone have the possibility to be world champion Good that countries with a quick development can move quickly in the system
WFC Final round - Quota	Important to have as many continents as possible in the final round – Keep the quota as it is
Quota system effects on new continents	Quota rules have been changed to not allow a new continent to qualify directly (if they only have one country registering). In this case they must participate in another region's qualification event
Organisers WFC	Starts to be more and more National associations who wants to organise WFC

Improvement	Action
Qualification system - results	Big results due to high and low rank teams are meeting each other. Lower rank teams has a possibility to meet top teams in their region – no action needed
Qualification and WFC the same year – big costs for players in countries where they pay for everything buy themselves during the same year	No solution for this at the moment
Organisers WFCQ – To low number of organisers	Get feedback from organisers – make a template to get information on what they think is good or bad Produce information about the benefits of organising tournament
Some qualifications expensive due to few participants with big distances - Problematic in Asia/Oceania & Americas in particular (and soon Africa)	Still costly but AOFC has more teams in their tournaments which is helping development and teams get more matches – No solution for this at the moment
WFC Final round – schedule	Due to wishes from TV, Organiser and National Associations the schedule sometimes get without flow for some teams plus time between semifinal and bronze match – Work as much as possible to get flow/resting time for the teams
WFC Final round – qualification round	The extra qualification round is a disadvantage to those teams playing in it due to extra match compared to opponent - No solution for this at the moment

Other topics	General discussion
Bigger and longer tournaments – WFC every 4 th year and continental in between	General discussion: WFC every 2 year should stay until floorball is on the Olympic Games program WFC every 4 year – then continental championships is possible/put in Olympics Today the qualification is the continental tournament that could be developed to continental championship
WFC final round – 2 nd group round	Maybe in the future with a bigger tournament can have some kind of 2 nd group round Idea with 20 teams will change this slightly regarding schedule and days (Friday to Sunday tournament – only one day extra) Idea with 20 teams will change things much more (need of 3 arenas which increases the number of staff for every part of the organisation, fewer city's/countries that can handle the bigger size of the tournament) Right now floorball is not ready for 2 nd round but working with 20 teams from 2020 would be a good start

13) U19/U19Q

a. History – SK

Stefan informed that the first U19 WFC was played in Germany 2001 with 12 Men's teams and the first U19 WFC for Women was played 2004 in Finland with 8 teams participating. From 2003 the U19 WFC was divided in an A- and a B-division depending on number of teams and their ranking. From 2007 qualifications were played in addition and from 2015 these qualifications have been regional.

b. Upcoming tournament – teams (App 18)

c. Advantages and disadvantages of present system (App 19)

d. When go over to adult system?

This is the third evaluation from RACC on U19/U19Q system and the changes that has been made since the start 2007.

Change to adult system equals the same as the GAP-analysis for adults

Change to adult system is raising the cost but you will have a much more attractive tournament

Continue with the current system due to the higher cost for teams (qualification and longer tournament) and organisers (longer tournament)

Today there are friendly internationals in Europe on a regular basis for a lot of teams

Men: Look into a solution of having 7 days tournament as a beginning to change the system partly. Avoid the big step from 5 days to 9 days

Look into if we can give Asia/Oceania 2 spots to make their qualification little bit easier

Women: Continue with current system due to the fact that there isn't enough number of teams on the women's side

The RACC decided to put forward to Stefan to try to find a 7-day event for the Men's U19 but keep the Women's as is for now. The AOFC competition department shall be approached to have their view on AOFC qualifications and Stefan look into if Asia/Oceania can have two spots in the quota system.

14) EuroFloorball Challenge/EuroFloorball Cup

a. History

Stefan informed that the first European Cup was played 1993, for Men in Sweden with 6 teams and for Women in Finland with 4 teams. The tournament was played between Christmas and New Year until 1999 and then the 1st weekend of January until 2007 and thereafter it was moved to October. Qualifications have been played since 1999. From 2011 the EFC is played without top 4 and the winner qualifying to Champions Cup the following year. From 2017 the winner is not qualifying to the CC. The first EF Challenge was played in Hungary 2016 with 4 Men's and 4 Women's teams.

b. Competition Regulations - EuroFloorball Cup and Challenge Edition 2017 (App 20)

c. Advantages and disadvantages of present system (App 21)

The RACC is of the opinion that one must see the effect from changes of Champions Cup before evaluation can take place and getting into any discussion of change of today's system

d. How to get participating countries to organize

Stefan informed that Associations are officially asked by e-mail and thereafter targeted.

During the later years the cost has been more divided between organizers, teams and IFF in qualifications which has made it less costly for the organiser.

15) Champions Cup

a. History

Stefan informed that the first CC was played 2011 in Czech Republic with 6 Men's and 6 Women's teams. The event is played the 1st weekend October and consists of top 4, the EFC winner previous year and a 2nd team from the organizer. 2018/2019 the CC will be played with 4 teams in each category.

b. Regulations for Champions Cup Edition 2017 (App 22)

c. Information from CC-meetings (App 23)

The RACC is of the opinion that a person from RACC should be in the CC steering group due to the effect of other IFF competitions.

The RACC decided to put forward to Martin and Stefan to prepare a proposal for the CB

16) Friendly International Matches

- a. Competition Regulations - Friendly International Matches Edition 2017 (App 24)
- b. Administration of international weekend matches – SM

Sarah explained today's problems/challenges with the friendly international matches.

It was discussed to add a deadline for team-lists and related or let the organizers into the system to adjust. The regulations should be updated accordingly and a proposal of changes of fines in the Juridical regulations.

Office to look into making a user level in the statistics system that can have access to add/change player information.

The RACC decided to put forward to Sarah to make a proposal, in line with the discussion above, of regulation changes in the Friendly International Matches Regulations and sanction fees based on what tier the organizing country are in into the Juridical regulations. Martin to put the proposal forward to the CB.

17) Jury work

- a. Guidelines Jury (App 25)

It was discussed that it is important for the jury to be represented in the referees meeting every day during IFF events (task already given to Martin and JJ under topic 11 above)

- b. Frequently topics during jury work (App 26)

Discussions were made of new things that occurred during the season. For example we need to find:

- Color definition – what is light-colored?
- Handling of changing possibilities for captains before photo with the cup

The RACC decided to put forward to Sarah and Stefan to update frequent topic during jury work document

- c. Hand book (App 27)
- d. Jury report (App 28)

The RACC decided to put forward to Martin and Sarah to update the venue check-list and to Martin and JJ to update the jury report

e. Captains meeting/Technical meeting (App 29)

Discussions regarding the meeting as such were made and that we found a good way of giving information's directly to the teams through there captains and that meetings in general is good as long as the preparations of the materials from organiser is done in good time. Jury would like to have the TM ppt ready earlier than it has been for most events so it is possible to prepare better and find problems and possible improvements.

The RACC decided to put forward to the office to try to push the organiser to be ready earlier.

18) Regulations

- a. IFF Transfers Regulations edition 2017 (App 30)
- b. Transfer times

The dead-line for international transfers was discussed where ATC would like last day to be 31/1. After some discussions 15/1 was considered to be more reasonable.

The RACC decided to propose to the CB to change the dead-line to be 15th of January.

19) International calendar

- a. Calendar (App 31)
- b. Advantages and disadvantages of present calendar
- c. International competition calendar – proposal of Czech floorball about September (Topic from JJ) (App 32)
- d. Biggest issues today
- e. Chinese New Year – No international event (Topic from HJK) (App 33)

Office informed that AOFC decide the dates – they have the possibility from IFF to play latest midst March to avoid the Chinese New Year. Upcoming season AOFC have moved the tournament outside Chinese New Year dates.

- f. WFC 2022 collides with football world cup

RACC came to the conclusion that all the above points need to be included in the larger discussion of the calendar and therefore didn't discuss this more than was made during topic 3, 7 and 19e above

20) Rules and use of video

- a. Information about the Rule system (4-year calendar) (App 34)
- b. Changing the system (task from CB 2017-04-07) (App 35)

Discussion regarding how the rule book time line is done today and which stakeholders that are involved.

The RACC decided to put forward to Martin, Beat and Stefan to make a proposal of necessary changes according to the discussions above.

c. Rules of the Game Edition 2018 - work still in progress (Topic from BW) (App 36)
Discussions regarding different new rules/interpretations were made (during topic 3 there were an intense discussion regarding goggles)

d. Interpretations

Discussion were made how interpretations are done by the national associations without involving IFF which sometimes makes a mess regarding referees handling things in a totally different way and that also some solutions/explanations is making the rule interpretation more easy to understand which would develop the rules

RACC noted that IFF needs to be firmer with interpretations and check national interpretations to avoid different interpretations (NAs must send in their texts)

e. Video examples

Rules Group will try to make some video examples to clarify some of the rules (for example difference between match penalty levels)

f. Change the rule to cover human (referee) mistakes – Instant Video Replays
Necessary (Topic from HJK) (App 37)

Discussion regarding how to use pictures from stream to avoid some of the mistakes that happens regarding goal or no goal.

RACC thinks we should consider the use of stream whenever available and to include this in the regulations. To do that we need to have a regulation over how this should be used due to the fact that there are many questions to be solved before this could be put in place. We definitely need to do some testing of what limits there is. Questions that needs to be solved is for example:

Do the match secretariat have possibility to look at the stream? (Computer, wireless etc.)

Who should do the checking? (Match secretariat, referees in small tournaments, teams or other solution)

How many times is the team entitled to ask for video checkup? (1 per match, 1 every period or other solution)

What happens if stream doesn't work? (No stream equals no possibility to video check)

Are we using only main camera? (Sometimes there is one extra behind one of the goals)

Etc.

The RACC decided to put forward to JJ, Beat, Teo and Sarah to consider the use of stream whenever available and to include this in the regulations.

- g. Use of video checks after match/Attacking some player without ball (Topic from AV, HJK) (App 38)

RACC were discussing how to implement video checking also in Friendly internationals. In many tournaments there is video available which could be used for reporting player to IFF after the match in the same way as IFF are doing in their own tournaments with the difference that there is no jury that handles these cases on the spot.

The RACC decided to put forward to Sarah to put together how this could be handled.

- h. Goal camera (Topic from AV, BW) (App 39)

See topic 20 f above

21) How should RACC work the upcoming 4 years?

Discussions were made how RACC should work for the upcoming period.

RACC will try to have:

- One meeting, face to face, per year.
- Work with e-mail for quick decisions on matters that not need discussions.
- If needed have Skype meeting for having possibility to have discussions.
- Members will from time to time get tasks to solve different topics that occurred and prepare for decisions.

RACC shall mainly try to work strategic and let the office handle the day to day business as much as possible

22) Tasks RACC-members from the meeting

Look at the above topics to find tasks

23) Other Issues

- a. No same referee to same country match (Topic from HJK) (App 40)

Office reported that this was a very special situation where this solution needed to be handled in this way due to problems with referees.

- b. Some referees were Not enough (Topic from HJK) (App 41)

RACC discussed the general problem with how to develop referees to a higher standard. Martin referred to that this kind of problem were very common in Europe due to the same reason. Many countries didn't have developed referees in the way we are used to now but over time it got better and better. We just need to accept that development takes time and work from IFF side as much as possible to help development.

24) Closing of the meeting

Martin ended the meeting buy thanking all the participants for a good work during the meeting and that he is looking forward to work together with the group for the upcoming years.

After the meeting ended the group toke a picture in a sunny Vantaa

