

APPENDIX 21

Future of Floorball?

Background

Multisport events in the future

During the last years it have become clear that the Olympic movement, followed by other multisport events, has come to the conclusion that the events must be much more efficient regarding costs of arranging event, number of arenas that needs to be built with a long term thinking of what they will be used for in the future, number of athletes and the time every sport can use for their event, which in principal means that sports needs to adjust to be a part of these

The World Games

During The World Games in Wroclaw floorball were participating with 6 male teams with 15 players and 1 coach each (in the end there were more leaders available). The reason for this was that floorball in total got a limit of 90 people to participate in the event.

We also got a specific number of days to play the tournament and to fix that the teams needed to play two matches during one of the group stage days. The reason for that was to have time to play semifinals and final in separate days.

Due to the limited number of players the matches were played 3 times 15 minutes effective time.

The tournament was a big success and the floorball as such was very fun to watch due to almost no dead moments and in general very positive and attacking play. Another positive effect was that you got the feeling that the big stars were playing all the time.

International Calendar

The last time we discussed the calendar with the national associations was in Prague August 2012 (18 countries participated). After that we made some adjustments to meet the needs of handling more international events and matches between the member associations.

In December 2017 the last change were made but there is still a need of more changes to meet the upcoming situation due to that the demand of more international weekends in connection to multisport and more international events/matches.

We will participate in The World Games in Birmingham, Alabama, USA 2021

World Championships 2022

World cup in football will be played 22.11.22 to 18.12.22 which means that we cannot play the Floorball World Championships at the same time.

For 2017 the calendar looked like this

International Events					Number of Teams in the IFF Competitions Nov 2016 - 2017						
Year schedule			IFF Competition	Intl WE	Event	IFF	IFF	Adult M	Adult W	U19 M	U19 W
2017	Jan										
	Feb	1st week-end	WFC Quali	Intl WE	WFCQ	WFCQ W	31	5	0	8	4
	Mar										
	Apr	4th week-end		Intl WE				6	6	2	
	May	1st week-end	U19 WFC		U19 WFC	U19 M	16				
	Jun										
	Jul	Last week-end	TWG		TWG	TWG M	6	8			
	Aug	4th week-end	EFCh		EFCh			7			
	Sep	2nd week-end	U19 WFCQ	Intl WE	International weekend/U19 WFCQ	U19 WFCQ	4	13	7	2	5
	Oct	1st week-end	CC		CC			5	5		
		2nd week-end	EFC		EFC			5	5		
	Nov	1st week-end		Intl WE	International weekend			19	9	6	4
	Dec		WFC		WFC		16				

Changes that were made for 2018

International Events				
Year schedule		IFF Competition	Intl weekend	
2018	Jan			
	Feb	1st week-end	WFC Qualification	Intl weekend
	Mar			
	Apr	4th week-end		Intl weekend
	May	1st week-end	U19 WFC	
	Jun			
	Jul			
	Aug	4th week-end	EFCh	
	Sep	1st week-end	U19 WFCQ	Intl weekend
	Oct	2nd week-end	EFC	
		3rd week-end		Intl weekend
	Nov	2nd week-end		Intl weekend
	Dec		WFCM	
2019	Jan	1st week-end	CC	

Adult world championships

Today's way of playing world championships is also a decision that were made at the Prague meeting 2012.

- all countries participating are qualifying (organiser excluded)

The reason for this was that:

- more teams was going to have possibility to meet top teams
- fairness in that everyone qualifies (regarding finances)
- good tournament to organise as a start of organising more events
- possibility to show floorball on different levels for the organiser
- more international matches

In connection with more and more countries having a national floorball federation the demands of changing the system of both qualification to the world championships and the final tournament it is needed to update our system.

Associations meeting

During the Associations meeting in Bratislava 08.09-12-2017 following topics were discussed

1. How to Develop the IFF WFC's?
2. Pinpoint the Key for success?
3. What are the things to look out for?
4. The need for changes in the International Competition Calendar
5. Looking over the International Calendar

Things that came up during the discussion in topic 1-3 in direct connection to how we play adult WFC

- To change the playing time and have less players in the teams, TWG example
- Continental tournaments and maybe WFCs more often
- To focus on strong economical countries is sports marketing
- If the WFC is lengthen, the funding might be a challenge
- To test new kind of tournaments
- Increase the number of teams and less players
- To have teams also from Africa and from Latin America to increase the continental reach
- To Split the AOFC to Asia and Oceania groups
- 3 x 15 minutes is very good idea
- To decrease the gap between the "big and small" countries
- Less players and shorter playing time with 20 teams in the WFC
- More teams is good idea
- Changes are necessary, less players and a shorter playing time
- How to involve Africa and Latin America to our competitions
- WFC to be played every four years and continental events in between
- To change the ranking system in order it to be updated more often
- All countries to be included in the ranking system
- To have the top four countries out from the qualifications
- Regional event for newcomers

Some of the topics above were mentioned in almost all groups

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Things that came up during the discussion in topic 4-5 in direct connection to the international calendar

- The international calendar is not that relevant for associations with no national teams
- Club competitions would be good for them in this stage
- They are in the vicinity of participating, but the tournament calendar is not yet an issue, but they play their own regional games
- They think that the calendar is ok for them, these countries don't have that many possibilities to participate
- December might sometime be a problem due to the university exams
- To have an international weekend after the season
- More possibilities to play international games
- At the time it's basically only the qualifications which are possible
- International weekends are not an issue at the time
- May is off season and the players are playing other sports and they lose players
- International weekends does not have much effect
- International weekend just before the WFC
- It's important not to have the calendar parallel with ice hockey
- Some problems with the April weekend related to their Super Finals

Some of the topics above were mentioned in several groups

Things that came up during the discussion in topic 4-5 in direct connection to how we play U19 WFC

- The same problem is with the U19 players due to some school tests
- The U19 WFC schedule is sometimes a problem
- U19 and to keep up the interest among the players and their families, May is not the good time, since the high school kids are having the exams to enter the university, better in June
- U19 at least two weeks later

What did IFF tell about what will happen after Associations meeting:

- Office and RACC will evaluate the outcome from the work shop during 2018
- Result/proposal of the summary will be sent to national federations for comments
- Proposal of changes will be a part of general assembly 2018

Possible actions to meet wishes from Association meeting in Bratislava

1. Changing our format to 15 players and 2 members of the team staff – start 1 of July 2020
2. Changing the regular game time to 3 x 15 minutes – start 1 of July 2020
3. Changing our format to 20 teams participating in the adult WFC – start WFC final round 2020 (if possible due to organiser) latest 2022
4. WFC final round 2022 to be played 28.10.22 – 06.11.22 (adjustments to be done for EFC during that year)
5. Possible international calendar 2019 (to 2021)

International Events					
Year schedule			IFF Competition	Intl weekend	Note
2019	Jan	1st week-end	CC		At least until 2022
	Feb	1st week-end	WFC Qualification	Intl weekend	
	Mar				
	Apr	4th week-end		Intl weekend	
	May	1st week-end	U19 WFC men		Move to 4th/1st week of June/July 2021
	Jun			Intl weekend	
	Jul			Intl weekend	
	Aug	4th week-end	EFCh		
	Sep	1st week-end	U19 WFCQ	Intl weekend	
	Oct	2nd week-end	EFC		
		3rd week-end		Intl weekend	
	Nov	2nd week-end		Intl weekend	
	Dec		WFC women		

Item 1 and 2 above

Adjust to the new format as soon as possible – why should we do that?

- Lowering the costs for participation in events on international-, national and local level
- More equal conditions for all teams when they all will work with the same number of players in the matches
- Shorter matches will decrease the gap between participating teams
- More fun/active floorball – better product to sell to spectators, sponsors and media/TV
- Prepared for multisport event format

Item 3 above

- WFC tournaments still 9 days with 20 teams due to more compact/different schedule
- Possibilities to have more continents in the final tournament
- Extra costs for organiser is in acceptable limits

Item 4 above

- Other solutions would change a bigger part of the international calendar (now only EFC)
- National leagues is effected less than other solutions during season time (September to April)
- Not colliding with bigger championship events
- Championship in 2022 (instead of 2 in 2023)
- Good gap to World Cup in football

Item 5 above

- 2 more international weekends (June and July) to meet the discussion regarding multisport events and possible move of U19 championships (this could also open the discussion about Aprils international weekend)

For most of our national federations the international weekends are not so important why focus is mainly on the countries that participate in the events today.

Most likely we will need to re-work the calendar in shorter periods due to changes in both international and national development.

General - Item 1-5 above

Comments to item 1-5 is based on some of the positive effects that national associations put forward during the work shop and needs to have a SWOT-analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) in the material to general assembly.

Proposal how to continue the work:

1. Sending out the material for comments on item 1-5 above to national federations (answers latest at 15.07.18).
2. To continue working with above proposal within RACC and Office.
3. Decision in Septembers CB meeting what we will propose to General Assembly in December