

**IFF ANNUAL
REPORT
2017-2018**

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1. Introduction

The two-year period has been dominated foremost by the preparation for The World Games (TWG) 2017 in Wroclaw, Poland in July 2017 and, secondly, with the evaluation of the success Floorball had in conjunction with the event, both on and off the field. The potential threats we had faced prior to TWG, in relation to fewer players and a shorter playing time, proved to be negligible. The tournament was, without doubt, a huge success and one of the highest-class national team Floorball events ever played, and the stakeholders from players, coaches, and referees, to media and the spectators, all found the format to be very good. The cooperation between the participating national associations, the Polish Floorball Federation, the IFF and the TWG organisers was the key to success.

As part of the evaluation process, the IFF Association Meeting held in December 2017, proposed that this format should be used in the IFF Championships. This fostered a process which has now led to a proposal to change the structure and playing system for the IFF major events, which will be presented to the IFF General Assembly 2018. The ultimate proof of the success in Wroclaw is that Floorball will be on the program of The Birmingham World Games 2021 with an increased participation of 8 men's teams.

At the same time, IFF has started the preparations for the other major international multi-sports event we are part of, the International Masters Games Associations (IMGA) European Masters Game 2019 in Torino, Italy. The SportAccord/GAISF Urban Games suddenly re-appeared on the radar during the SportAccord Convention 2018 in Bangkok, Thailand and IFF has applied to be included in this event, however, it is still unclear when or if they will be organised.

From a strategical point of view, IFF has now fulfilled the targeted objectives set in the IFF Strategy for 2009 – 2020, even if we will not have participated in the Olympic Games or the Youth Olympic Games (YOG) until 2020. IFF made a proposal to the Buenos Aires YOG 2018 Organising Committee for the inclusion of Urban Floorball, but after having been considered a possibility for some time, in the end we were not included in the program of the Urban Park.

IFF has continued to work with the three main pillars for the fields of activity, defined already in 2004 as the basis for our operations. These are: i) the increased awareness and visibility of the sport; ii) increased political visibility, awareness and lobbying of the sport; and iii) securing of an increased marketing revenue. Of the three activities, success has been achieved in all but the last, with no marketing revenue being achieved. The newly adopted sales process, introduced by the IFF Sales Coordinator in 2018, and the use of research results, will help to find new sponsors, and IFF has been able to secure marketing agreements with the Material, Floor and Rink provider for the period 2019 – 2022.

The focus within the international sports community has continued to look on the questions of Good Governance and Anti-Doping questions. IFF has continued to work actively in these fields and implemented several Good Governance documents to steer the activities of the IFF. IFF is represented in the Council of the Association of IOC Recognised International Federation – ARISF, with the IFF Secretary General being elected for the period 2017-2021.

The number of member associations have continued to grow with five new members in the last period. There is strong growth in Asia, Africa and South America, where more countries are on the way in. There are today some 85 – 90 countries where Floorball is being played and a total of 15-20 countries which are in the process of being able to apply for membership in the next two to four years. There has also been a focus on closing the gap between the member associations to bring the countries closer together, rather than to just increase the number of member countries, so we need to secure that the organisations joining IFF are active and well

organised.

At the same time, there has been a substantial development within Special Olympics International with their Floorball Programs, which resulted in Floorball being the biggest sport of the SOI Winter World Games in Graz in March 2017.

The strengthening of the member associations has now moved from the Each One – Teach One (EOTO) project to the implementation of the IFF license System 2.0 for Participation in Major Events and the introduction of the tier system. The implementation of the IFF Licence System, and the questionnaire to define the development status and which tier the associations belong to, was conducted in the end of 2018. Based on this, the IFF CB will build a new action program for the development of members to close the gap and enhance the IFF member services. The outcomes of the EOTO project will be reported at the General Assembly 2018.

From a competition point of view, the number of IFF Events has increased to a total of 15-16 annually, with the new Africa Floorball Cup played for the first time with five teams in Abidjan, Cote D'ivoire in September 2018. The main competition development issue has been the preparation of the new WFC playing system and the new Final Four system of the Champions Cup starting from January 2019, in Gävle, Sweden. There has been several issues to find organisers for the EuroFloorball Cup and the EuroFloorball Challenge. The process for building a new combined format of the European Club Competitions is being run by the Champions Cup Steering Group and the proposal shall be ready by the end of the year 2019.

In the field of communication, IFF has built a new responsive webpage, with microsites for the IFF major events, with the first phase being launched in October 2018. The final phase, which includes the integration of the IFF statistics system is planned to be launched in December 2018. The new site uses the GAISF-supported .sport domain – www.floorball.sport.

2. IFF Member Associations

IFF today consists of 69 Member Associations of which 44 are ordinary members and 25 provisional members. During the period, the number of Member Associations has increased from 64 to 69.

The ordinary Members Associations are: Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Russia, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Ukraine and USA. The number of ordinary members has increased from 43 to 44.

The provisional Member Associations are: Argentina, Armenia, Cameroon, China, Cote d'Ivoire, Croatia, Haiti, Hong Kong, Ireland, Kenya, Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Mozambique, Nigeria, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, Turkey, Uganda and Venezuela. According to the Statutes of IFF, for provisional members, membership shall only initially be granted for a period of four years, after which the membership status of the country in question shall be subject for revision by the IFF CB, based on the activity of the member Association.

The CB has taken a number of activities to increase the number of members and continued with projects to find new countries and to include new countries, mainly outside of Europe, as has been a condition set by the IOC.

2.1 AOFC

The Asia and Oceania Floorball Confederation (AOFC) was founded by the Asia and Oceania Member Federations of the International Floorball Federation in 2005. The AOFC General Assembly was held in connection to the AOFC Cup in Singapore in July 2018, setting the direction and guidelines for the development of floorball in the region. The AOFC introduced the AOFC Cup in 2017 (for men) and 2018 (for women) to help strengthen the level of the sport in the region.

The AOFC consists today of IFF members: Australia, China, Hong Kong, Japan, India, Iran, Indonesia, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand. The office of the confederation is situated in Bangkok, Thailand. During 2018, the AOFC launched their own website: <https://www.asiaoceaniafloorballconfederation.org/>

The AOFC Central Board for 2016-2017 was elected in the 2016 AOFC General Assembly:

President:	Mr. Dato'Seri Chaiyapak Siriwat, Thailand
Senior Vice President:	Mr. Stephen King, Australia
Vice Presidents:	Mr. Atul Gupta (India) & Mr Tsutomu Watanabe, Japan
Secretary General:	Mr. Christian Bertschinger, New Zealand
Treasurer:	Mr. Geum Sung Kang, Korea
West Asia Envoy:	Mr. Ramezenali Davalo, Iran
Member:	Mr Takanobu Yoshino, Japan
Member:	Mr. Hwang Joo Kim, Korea
Member:	Mr. Kenneth Ho, Singapore
Member:	Mr. Harinder Kumar, India
Member:	Mr. Raymond Nangoy, Indonesia
Member:	Mr. Jason Cowland, Australia
Member:	Mr. Mohd Hafidz bin Zainalabidin, Malaysia

After the changes made during the AOFC General Assembly the AOFC has an Executive Committee and Central Board for 2018 – 2020:

Executive Committee:

President	Dato Seri Chaiyapak Siriwat, Thailand
Senior Vice President	Mr. Stephen King, Australia
Vice President	Mr. Atul Gupta, India
Vice President	Adm. Graivut Vattanatham, Thailand
Vice President	Ms. Diana Zhang, China
Secretary General	Mr. Christian Bertschinger, New Zealand
Dep. Secretary General	Mr. Kenneth Ho, Singapore
Dep. Secretary General	Ms. Penthai Siriwat, Thailand
West Asia Envoy	Mr. Ramezanali Davalo, Iran
Treasurer	Mr. Kim Se Woong, Korea

Central Board Members

Member	Mr. Jason Cowland, Australia
Member	Mr. Harinder Kumar, India
Member	Mr. Raymond Nangoy, Indonesia
Member	Mr. Soichi Kato, Japan
Member	Mr. Hwang Joo Kim, Korea
Member	Mr. Mohd Hafidz bin Zainalabidin, Malaysia

Member	Sheikh Huhammad Junaid, Pakistan
Member	Mr. Ralph Ramos, Philippines
Member	Mr. Sharil Ismail, Singapore
Member	To be nominated Hong Kong Member
Member	To be nominated China Member
Advisor	Mr. Mark Aeron Sambar, Philippines
Advisor	Mr. Jason Choo, Thailand

3. The IFF Central Board (CB)

The CB elected for four years, in accordance with the new IFF Statutes, by the IFF General Assembly held in Riga, Latvia in December 2016 has had the following composition:

Mr. Tomas Eriksson, Sweden, President
 Mr. Filip Suman, Czech Republic, Vice President,
 Ms. Monica Birdal (prv. Bakke), Norway, Treasurer
 Mr. Jörg Beer, Switzerland, Member
 Mr. Stephen King, Australia, Member (AOFC Senior Vice President)
 Mr. Martin Klabere (prv. Wolmhed), Sweden, Member
 Mr. Carlos Lopez, Spain, Member
 Mr. Kimmo Nurminen, Finland, Member
 Mr. Thorbjørn Ovedal, Denmark, Member
 Ms. Lidwien Reehuis, the Netherlands, (Athletes Commission Chair)
 Mr. Ron Spence, Canada, Member

There have altogether been 11 CB meetings between the General Assemblies, held as follows:

Riga, Latvia	09.12.2016
Per capsulam	23.01.2017
Madrid, Spain	09.04.2017
Wroclaw, Poland	28.07.2017
Espoo, Finland	17.09.2017
Bratislava, Slovakia	07.12.2017
Amsterdam, the Netherlands	11.03.2018
Zurich, Switzerland	03.06.2018
Espoo, Finland	02.09.2018
Prague, Czech Republic	28.10.2018
Prague, Czech Republic	07.12.2018 (scheduled)

The CB has continued to build its work by running specific working sessions during the first day of the two-day CB meeting to discuss, analyse and prepare more strategic questions, before the actual CB meeting itself on the second day. This has proven to be very efficient and has developed the work of the CB. Further it has given the CB the possibility to dig deeper into a number of topics. In the same way the IFF CB has restructured its work, by forming three Ad hoc groups for Development & Equality, Lobbying and Marketing.

The most important decisions from the IFF CB meetings are published in an IFF Newsletter, right after the meetings are held and the CB protocols with the enclosures are also published on the IFF website after acceptance by the IFF CB.

3.1 Main Fields of focus

The CB has, in accordance with the initial policy decision made in 2004, continued to stress the three different pillars of the IFF activity. Firstly, in the field of the international lobby work with the aim now to achieve the acceptance of floorball globally and to secure the participation in International Multi-Sports events. During 2017 a lot of focus has been given to the Wrocław World Games 2017, which is the Olympics for Floorball. Floorball has also been accepted as an official sport for the International Masters Games Associations European Masters Games in Torino 2019. As a part of this the aim has been to profile the IFF in the International Sports Community as a strong player. Secondly, is the work that has been done with the issue of Marketing in order to strengthen the financial and market situation of the IFF and also, make the sport more suitable for television, and at the same time strengthen the brand of Floorball. The third main focus has been on the development of the IFF member associations, where IFF has agreed the IFF License system for participation in Major Events 2.0 at the IFF General Assembly 2016.

3.2 Appointments

The following persons have been appointed by the IFF CB (more information under 20. IFF Office):

Ms. Sarah Mitchell, Event Manager July 2017 (change of job title)

Mr. Veli Halonen, Operations Manager, July 2018 (change of job title)

Mr. Tero Kalsta, Sales Coordinator, January 2018 (new appointment)

Ms. Merita Bruun, Communication and Anti-Doping Manager, August 2018 (return from maternity/study leave)

Ms. Mari Myllärinen Information Coordinator, September 2018 (new appointment)

3.3 New Committees

The CB has elected an IFF Entourage Committee, but the objectives of the committee are still to be determined, in consultation with the IOC and GAISF.

3.4 IOC 50 Road Map

The process and the system for inclusion of Additional Events for the Olympic Games in Paris 2024 and Los Angeles 2028 has been changed from the system for Tokyo 2020, where all IOC Recognised IF's were able to apply for inclusion. Now the IOC is steering the process, so that the OGOC are making a proposal of what seems to be 2-3 Additional Events. This severely diminishes the possibilities for Floorball to participate in the Olympic Games for the editions 2024 and 2028. Therefore, the IFF's focus has changed to working on securing the participation of Floorball in the Sport Initiation Program/SportLabs at the Olympic Games or the Youth Olympic Games in 2022 in Senegal.

Based on earlier decisions, IFF has continued the cooperation with the company AdvSport to ensure that IFF is ready for the application processes in the coming years, based on the present requirements. As a part of the project to fulfil the IOC requirements, the CB has prepared and approved the following documents:

- IFF Ethics Policy
- IFF Guidelines for Prevention of Sexual Harassment
- IFF Sexual Harassment Policy Statement

Presently, the main challenge for IFF is in the field of the universality of the sport, especially outside Europe. The IFF has worked on this issue and have maintained contact with around 20-25 countries in Africa, the Americas, and Asia and Oceania, out of which Croatia, Kenya, Nigeria, Rwanda and Venezuela have been approved as new IFF member associations during

the period.

The IFF has been in close contact to the IOC Sports Department, following-up on the development work already done in relation to the requirements set for International Federations to seek participation in the Olympic Games and International and Regional Multi-Sport Games

3.5. Lobby work

The IFF CB has stressed the need to raise the awareness of the importance of lobbying to the decision makers on a national and international level within the Floorball Community. IFF representatives have been accepted, and meetings have been held with the most senior sports hierarchy and organisations during the period, showing that we have reached the stage of acceptance in the international sports family.

The IFF Secretary General has been elected as a member of the council for the Association of IOC Recognised International Sport Federations (ARISF) for the period 2017-2021.

The work with gathering a group of Floorball Ambassadors, with the aim of having a set number of Floorball Ambassadors in 2017 has not happened and will have to continue after the General Assembly 2018.

3.6. Associations' Meeting 2017

The IFF Associations' Meeting took place during the women's WFC 2017 in Bratislava in Slovakia from the 8th to 9th of December 2017 and there were some 40 IFF Member Associations present. The first AM took place in St.Gallen during the women's WFC 2011 and the AM replaced the previous IFF President's and Secretary General's meeting.

The AM is a two days planning and developing meeting, where the IFF member associations can discuss with each other and with the IFF Central Board members and with the IFF office representatives.

In the Associations' Meeting 2017 the main topics were related to the Future of Floorball and how we all could develop Floorball to be even more interesting towards all the stakeholders, such as players, teams, national federations, media etc.

The two day meeting consisted several group work topics and it was quite clear that the majority of the participants were in favor for changes in the competitions. Almost all member associations present, thought that the idea of reducing the playing time and the number of players in the teams would be the next step in the development of Floorball. The experiences at that time from the shorter playing time and smaller number of players was based on the playing system in the World Games 2017, which according to the participants would lift Floorball to new level in the future.

Another wish from the participating member associations was to increase the number of the teams in the WFCs in the future and the preferred number of teams in the adults' WFCs is 20 teams instead of the present 16 teams. This way, together with the shorter playing time it would also be possible to play the WFCs in nine days as they are played at the present time with 16 teams.

The IFF Central Board informed in the end of the meeting that the IFF RACC will investigate the proposals for changes based on the proposals by the majority of the IFF member Associations present and eventually come up with a proposal to the IFF Central Board to be taken to the IFF General Assembly regarding the future of Floorball.

4. IFF Executive Committee (ExCo)

The composition of the ExCo has been:

Mr. Tomas Eriksson, President & Chair

Mr. Filip Suman, Vice President

Mr. Stephen King, AOFC Senior Vice President

Ms. Monica Birdal (nee Bakke), Treasurer

Mr. John Liljelund, Secretary General

The ExCo has worked mostly with the international affairs and the cooperation with other sports authorities, also handling urgent daily business. The ExCo has worked with a number of other projects in connection to the EOTO project, the multi-sport games and the IOC Road Map.

The IFF ExCo has had one meeting during the period
Skype 07.03.2017

The work of the ExCo has mainly been handled by the President and the secretary general in 2018.

4.1 Contacts to International Sport Federations International Olympic Committee (IOC)

The IFF has held a number of meetings with the IOC Sports Department discussing the development of the sport and the way for IFF to move forward.

IFF applied for, and was granted, the revised IOC support for development projects and anti-doping education on a yearly basis as an ARISF member. IFF has provided all needed information to the IOC in a number of questionnaires regarding Women and Sport, Sport for All and matters related to Integrity in Sport and Sustainability.

IFF President Tomas Eriksson attended the 2018 Olympic Games in PyeongChang, Korea meeting a number of IOC members, IF representatives and IOC Administration. The IFF Vice President Mr. Filip Suman participated in the ANOC Congress organised in Prague, Czech Republic in his capacity of Czech NOC vice president, while the IFF secretary general participated in the Olympism in Action Forum, in Buenos Aires, Argentina in connection to the Youth Olympic Games in October 2018.

The IFF has applied and received the IOC Patronage for the Men's World Floorball Championships 2018. The IFF has during the period also started the process of introducing the Urban Floorball 3v3 concept to the IOC, in order to show that we have a Sport for All component in our portfolio.

Global Association of International Sports Federations (GAISF) / SportAccord

The IFF has actively taken part in the SportAccord Convention and General Assemblies organised in Aarhus, Denmark 2017 and Bangkok, Thailand 2018 and has held meetings with the new SportAccord President Mr. Patrick Baumann. IFF has conveyed its condolences to the family and friends of the deceased GAISF President Mr. Patrick Baumann, after this unexpected death during the Buenos Aires Youth Olympic Games 2018. The SportAccord has been re-activated after the signing of the IOC-GAISF Memorandum of Understanding in 2017. During the SportAccord Convention, IFF made a presentation of the IFF Injury Study which was very well-received and, based on the Health Accord, an article was published in the digital Medicine Journal.

IFF has actively used the services of SportAccord provided to its members and, with their

assistance has continued to work with two IFF YouTube channels via the SportsHub, which is a web portal for live images of a number of sports. The channels are used for live-streaming IFF Events as well as building a library of floorball videos accessible by all. IFF has continued the monetisation of the YouTube channels, however, the revenue from this is minimal.

The GAISF has started the preparations of a new version of the Urban Games. A meeting was held during the SportAccord 2018 and after that the twenty invited IF's have had a chance to apply for participation as either an ordinary or demonstration sport. IFF handed in their application in June 2018, but there has been no response from the GAISF yet, and no new information about when, or if, the event will be held.

Additionally, IFF has participated in the Policy Advisory Board for the .sport domain, which GAISF is seeking on behalf of the international sports community and launched the .sport domain in October 2018.

IFF has also participated actively at the SportAccord IF Forum, where IFF has been asked to make presentations on the WFC 2015 Eco Compass process and Youth Activation programs.

Association of IOC Recognised International Sport Federations (ARISF)

IFF has taken part in the activities of the ARISF and participated in the ARISF General Assemblies in 2017 and 2018. The ARISF Development support has, for 2018, been included in the IOC development support.

In his position on the ARISF Council, the IFF Secretary General has taken an active role to start the discussions of how ARISF could better serve the interests of its members in the future

International University Sports Federation (FISU)

IFF has continued the discussions with FISU officials about the possibilities to include Floorball in the Universiade. The issue is that the sport needs to be included as a demonstration sport for three consecutive Universiades, while at the same time be on the World University Championships, before it can be included as an ordinary sport. The situation doesn't seem to be very positive for the IFF at the moment.

The new version of the collaboration convention with FISU concerning the continued cooperation between IFF and FISU in the fields of University Sports and securing the continuation of Floorball in the World University Championships was used for the first time during the 8th edition of the WUC in Lodz, Poland, with 7 men's teams and 6 women's teams. The next championships will be held in Koper, Slovenia in 2020.

International Masters Games Association (IMGA)

The preparations for the European Masters Games have started for Torino, Italy, 2019, when Floorball will be on the program for the first time. IFF has started the cooperation with the Italian association and the preparations are ongoing.

International School Sports Federation (ISF)

There has been no ISF Championships played during the period and no contact with the IFF.

International World Games Association (IWGA)

IFF participated in The World Games 2017, with six men's teams in the WKK Arena, which we shared with Korfball. Together with the Polish Floorball Federation the IFF worked closely with TWG organising committee and delivered a very successful event. IFF ran an extensive social media campaign both before and during TWG and reached great results with it.

IFF applied and was given a place for the Birmingham TWG 2021 with eight Men's teams and a

five-day tournament. IFF has participated in the 1st Competition managers meeting for Birmingham. For the 2017 event, the IFF prepared a World Games Activation Plan which outlined the tasks for the IFF, the Polish Federation and all the IFF member federations. A similar plan will be created for the 2021 event.

World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)

The IFF has, during the period, actively worked with the implementation of the new WADA Code 2015, to receive the full WADA Code compliance. WADA set a list of actions IFF needed to address and the work on these was completed during the latter part of 2018.

IFF has actively taken part in the WADA's Anti-doping work and commented upon the proposals for the new WADA Code and International Standards. The IFF has also participated in the IF's WADA symposiums organised in Lausanne in 2017 and 2018. During the maternity and study leave of Ms Merita Bruun, the IFF Anti-Doping work was conducted by Ms. Anna Jacobson and Ms Minna Nurminen.

IFF has continued running the Say No! to Doping campaigns in the IFF major events, and in line with the changed WADA requirements IFF conducted an Athlete's Outreach during the Women's WFC 2017. This was only directed to the countries which had not participated earlier or had not conducted their own anti-doping education with their NADO. IFF has run the Outreach also in the U19 WFC's in 2017 and 2018.

4.2. IFF Ethics Commission (ETC)

The IFF Ethics Commission (ETC) was elected by the IFF General Assembly in Riga, Latvia with the following members:

Mr. Poul Erik Höyer, Denmark (re-election), Chair
Ms. Carol Roberts, Canada (re-election), Member
Ms. Sylvia Shenk, Germany (re-election), Member

The ETC held its yearly meeting in connection to the Adult WFC to discuss the matters of Good Governance, IFF Ethics Policy and Guidelines for Prevention of Sexual Harassment and Competition Manipulation. The ETC has made an IFF Ethics Complaint form to be used in all Ethics related complaints directed to the IFF.

The ETC is now preparing a guideline for the Ethics Commission work, which will be presented to the IFF CB by the end of 2018. The ETC has also made some proposals for the IFF Statutes to be approved in the General Assembly 2018 in Prague, Czech Republic.

The ETC has had two cases that it considered during the period, and in both of these they concluded that the case was not for the Ethics Commission to deal with.

5. IFF Appeal Committee (AC)

The composition of the Appeal Committee (AC) has been:

Ms. Märit Bergendahl, Sweden (new), Chair
Mr. Tom Hedkrok, Finland (re-election), Member
Mr. Kim-Alexander Hofgaard Jorstad, Norway (new), Member
Mr. Giorgio Rambaldi, Italy (new), Member

Ms. Aiga Staltmane - Veksa, Latvia, (re-election), Substitute member
Ms. Cui Linna, China (new), Substitute member
Mr. Saqib Niaz, Pakistan (new), Substitute member

Office responsibility: John Liljelund, Secretary General

The Appeal Committee has not had any cases to deal with during the period.

6. IFF Disciplinary Committee (DC)

The composition of the DC has been:

Mr. Ismo Haaponiemi, Finland, (re-election), Chairman
Ms. Linda Noppa, Sweden, (re-election) Member
Mr. Tomas Brezina, Czech Republic, (new) Member
Mr. Daniel Buri, Switzerland (re-election), Member

Ms. Zhang Jing, China (new), Substitute member
Mr. Marcel Wadja, Cote d'Ivoire (new), Substitute member
Mr. Artis Krauklis, Latvia, (re-election) Substitute member
Mr. Saleem Ahmad, Pakistan (new) Substitute member
Mr. Petr Vrba, Slovakia (new), Substitute member

Office responsibility: John Liljelund

The Disciplinary Committee has not had any cases to deal with during the period,

7. IFF Rules- and Competition Committee (RACC)

The composition of the RACC has been:

Mr. Martin Klabere, Sweden, Chairman
Mr. Ari Vehniäinen, Finland, Vice-Chairman
Mr. Teo Turay, Slovakia, Member
Ms. Meelike Terasmaa, Estonia, Member
Mr. Hwang Joo Kim, Korea, Member
Mr. Jan Jirovsky, Czech Republic, Member
Mr. Beat Wullschleger, Switzerland, Member
Mr. Stefan Erkelenz, Germany, Member
Mr. Roman Lozynsky, Ukraine, Member
Mr. Tomas Sladky, Czech Republic, Athletes' Commission Representative
Ms. Agata Plechan, Poland, Athletes' Commission Representative

RACC Jury persons: Mr. Andris Dzenis (Latvia), Ms Zane Klabere (Latvia), Mr. Tamuz Hidir (Ukraine), Ms. Victoria Wikström (Sweden), Mr. Victor de Bruin (Netherlands), Mr. Ramezanali Davalo (Iran), Mr. Rainer Martiskin (Australia), Lobe Priso Charly Olivier (Cameroon), Mr. Yuan Yong (China), Lubomir Klosek (Slovakia), Jens Orhoj (Denmark) and Bogdan Zajdzinski (Poland).

Office responsibility: Mr. Stefan Kratz and Ms. Sarah Mitchell

The main tasks during the period have been to work with the development of the IFF competitions, the Game Rules Edition 2018 and updating regulations.

Other tasks for the RACC has been to follow up on International Transfers, Competition Regulations, Regulations for Friendly Internationals, preparation work for coming IFF events including technical inspections, the introduction of guidelines for using video for goal review, and implementing the changes of the Game Rules, with the new 2018 edition of the Game Rules which came into force the 1st of July 2018.

The RACC has prepared the proposed changes of the World Floorball Championships format, based on a Future of Floorball questionnaire and the term for the U19 World Floorball Championships to be decided upon in the end of the year. RACC is also making a statement for the EFT countries proposal for introducing a EuroFloorball Championships from 2023 to the IFF General Assembly.

7.1 International Competition Calendar

In the Adult WFC events all registered teams, apart from the organising country, are still required to participate in regional qualification tournaments. This was first introduced for the Men's WFC 2014 qualifications held in January/February and has continued in 2017 for the Women's and 2018 for the Men's WFC. For U19 WFC events, regional qualifications have been held for the Men's U19 and for the first time ever also for the Women's U19.

The EuroFloorball Cup continued in 2017 but in 2018 the only interested organiser was Russia and due to WADA restrictions on awarding events to Russia at that time we could not accept them as organiser. The EuroFloorball Challenge was played for Men in Trencin, Slovakia in 2017 and for both Men and Women in Madrid, Spain in 2018.

The Champions Cup continued in 2017 with the structure where the tournament was played Friday-Sunday with 6 Men's and 6 Women's teams, including the winners of the previous year's EFC.

The internationals weekends were amended during the period, with the addition of a new weekend in October (3rd weekend) and the moving of the November internationals from the first to the second weekend.

During 2017 it was decided that the Champions Cup from 2019 should be played as a final4 event with the top4 ranked teams only but that a new system with home and away matches shall be worked out.

During the period the RACC has been the Jury in the following IFF Competitions:

Men's WFC, December 2016 in Latvia

Women's WFC Qualifications, January/February 2017 in Canada, New Zealand Italy & Spain

Men's U19 WFC, May 2017 in Sweden

The World Games, July 2017 in Poland

EuroFloorball Challenge, August 2017 in Slovakia

Champions Cup, October 2017 in Finland

EuroFloorball Cup Final round, October 2017 in Latvia

Women's WFC, December 2017 in Slovakia

Men's WFC Qualifications, January/February 2018 in Estonia, Slovakia, Latvia, Korea and Canada

Women's U19 WFC, May 2018 in Switzerland

World University Championships, June 2018 in Poland

EuroFloorball Challenge, August 2018 in Spain

Men's U19 WFC 2019 Qualifications, September 2018 in Italy, Russia and New Zealand

7.2 World Floorball Championships

The Adult WFC is played with 16 teams which are divided into 4 groups based on ranking, with the teams ranked 1-4 & 5-8 are balloted to groups A & B and teams ranked 9-12 & 13-16 to group C & D. In addition, there is a first play-off round, giving more teams the possibility to play in the quarter finals.

Since 2014 the regional qualification system where all teams, apart from the organiser, must participate in regional tournaments to qualify for the Final Round. The quota for the participating teams by continent is based on the number of registered teams, using a deviation factor of 16 equalling the number of participating teams, and thereby determining the continental quota.

7.3. Game Rules

IFF has changed the Game Rules in accordance with a four-year cycle, where the new edition of the Game Rules came into force from the 1st of July 2018. The IFF Rule Group, headed by Mr. Martin Klabere started its work in 2016, asking the member associations and other stakeholders, including the Athletes' Commission members, for proposals to change the existing game rules. The Rules Group received a total of 150 proposals.

The updated rules included changes to the taking of penalty shots; the awarding of bench penalties in conjunction with penalty shots; playing the ball with the head; and the taking of face-offs.

7.4. Champions Cup

The 2nd phase of the Champions Cup was concluded with the tournaments in 2017 in Seinäjoki, Finland, as a three-day tournament, with quarter finals, semi-finals and Finals.

In 2018 there was no Champions Cup played, as it will be played in January 2019 in Gävle, Sweden with a new 3rd phase tournament as a Finaf4 Event, with just the Champions of the Top 4 ranked teams for Men and Women. "

During 2018 the Champions Cup Steering Group has worked on a new concept for a generic European Club competition which will combine the EFC and EFCh in the same process. The proposal will be ready by the end of the year.

7.5. IFF materials in the competitions

IFF is delivering flooring, rinks, balls and goals to IFF major events – World Floorball Championships (adult & U19), Champions Cup and EFC. The transportation is arranged so that the organisers of the events have secured storage facilities and the materials are delivered from one competition to another in order to save unnecessary transportation costs.

From 2017 on, the IFF has also offered the possibility for the IFF member associations, who organise smaller IFF events, to use the IFF floors, rinks and goals without any charge. They only need to cover the transport costs.

IFF flooring was also used in March 2017 in Special Olympics Winter Games in Graz in Austria.

7.6. IFF Event Management Tool

IFF, with Finnish company OnlineDynamics, has built an interactive web-based Event Management Tool, called Eventello. This is used for the bid process and the management of the main event preparations. The first module for the bid process and the evaluation of this has been used to decide the WFC 2018, 2019 and 2020 organisers.

The Event Management tool was tested for the Women's WFC 2015, but at that time the first version was too vast and too heavy to use it efficiently, but the updates for WFC 2016 already worked much better. After WFC 2016, the structure of the tasks was updated and for WFC 2018 Eventello has been in full scale use and has been used actively both by the LOC and the IFF office. Eventello is already in use for the Men's U19 WFC 2019 in Canada as well as the Women's WFC 2019 to be played in Neuchatel in Switzerland.

Eventello has turned out to be a good way to communicate and also to follow up the progress of organising the event and to have all the materials and documents in one place. Both the LOC and IFF office can check the status of the event very easily, and as well the LOC can add their own additional tasks to the system.

8. IFF Referee Committee (RC)

The composition of the Referee Committee (RC) has been:

Mr. Carlos Lopez, Spain, Chair (October 2018-)
Mr. Johan Råsbrink, Sweden, Chair (January 2017-December 2017)
Mr. Lukas Gyger, Switzerland, Vice-chair
Mr. Peter Harris, Australia, Member
Mr. Radek Hora, Czech Republic, Member
Mr. Klaus Koskela, Finland Member(January 2017-May 2017)
Mr. Mika Saastamoinen, Finland, Member (June 2017-)
Mr. Peter Zamecknik, Slovakia, Member
Mr. Ola Hamberg, Sweden, Member (September 2018-

IFF Responsibility: Mr. Veli Halonen

Mr. Johan Råsbrink was nominated as the chair of the RC by the IFF CB in January 2017. He resigned in December 2017 due to personal reasons and from December 2017 to October 2018 the seat was empty. During this time the committee was led by vice chair Mr. Lukas Gyger. The IFF Central Board nominated Mr. Carlos Lopez as the IFF RC Chair in its meeting in October 2018. At the same time, Mr Ola Hamberg, was confirmed as the Swedish representative replacement in the RC.

A long time RC member and former chair, Mr. Klaus Koskela (FIN) passed away in May 2017 due to a severe illness. The Finnish Floorball Federation proposed to replace him with Mr. Mika Saastamoinen and the IFF CB decided to nominate him to become a RC member in June 2017.

The RC has been involved in appointing referees to all IFF events and friendly Internationals, and to observe and educate the international referees during these events. The IFF RC launched a project called "The IFF Way of Refereeing Playbook" in December 2016. The main purpose of the project was to start the general development to unify the rule interpretations and referee procedures in all IFF member associations.

The first edition of the Playbook was launched in March 2017 and the updated edition 2.0 was published in April 2018. The Playbook edition 2.0 also included rule interpretations to the Rules

of the Game edition 2018, which were built in co-operation with the IFF RACC, and was partly supported by the IOC. To conclude the project, a two-day seminar for all the IFF referee observers took place at the beginning of December of 2018 in Prague, in conjunction with the Men's WFC. The IFF Way of Refereeing Playbook is a living document and will be updated on an annual basis by a steering group, as and when is needed.

The RC started a referee development group in the beginning of 2011 and from that group the RC has been able to promote more than 20 new referee pairs to the IFF ordinary referee group. The development group is a cost-efficient way to educate the referees from new IFF member associations, whereby the IFF provides the observations and education and the national associations have covered other costs.

If there are no qualified referee observers in the IFF member association country, then all the referees are first nominated to the IFF referee development group. The IFF RC is co-operating with, for example, the Czech Open and other club tournaments, which are used for education and observation of the nominated development group referees in order to promote them to the IFF ordinary referee group.

The AOFC Referee Development Group was established in February 2016 and since then there have been separate referee educations in conjunction with the AOFC Cup in Thailand in 2017 and in Singapore in 2018. There have been several other referee clinics, mainly run by the Singaporean Floorball Association, in the AOFC region.

The RC is still struggling with the number of female referees and it seems that all the major team sports are facing similar problems. Despite the difficulties of this, the RC has continued its work during the last two years, but the number of female referees has not increased. On a very positive note, there is one Swiss female referee pair who are refereeing on the men's side and after a successful Men's U19 2017 they were nominated to the men's WFC 2018 in Prague. There are not many team sports in which female referees officiate men's games, and we hope that this will act as a strong encouragement for more women to join the referee group.

9. IFF Medical Committee (MC)

The composition of the Medical Committee (MC) has been:

Dr. Walter Frey, Switzerland, Chair
Dr. Tiina Nylander, Finland, Vice chair
Dr. Lars-Erik Bartels, Denmark, member
Dr. Patricia Wallace, Australia, member
Dr. Jonathan J. Koo, Canada, member

Office responsibility: Ms Minna Nurminen until August 2018, and since then by Ms. Merita Bruun

The MC acts as the IFF TUE committee, being responsible for granting Therapeutic Use Exemptions to floorball players that are required to take prohibited medication. In addition, the MC functions as an expert group when renewing the IFF Anti-doping rules and other practices regarding the Anti-doping work, i.e. the Registered Testing Pools and Test Distribution Plan (TDP). The MC is also involved in other fields which concern the promotion of athletes' health, the communication with and feedback given to WADA, and the preparation of Anti-doping materials, such as the Anti-doping Guidelines for IFF Events.

9.1 Injury reporting in floorball

IFF has collected statistics of floorball injuries in Adult WFC & Champions Cup events since 2012 with the aim to gain further knowledge of the typical injuries in floorball in order to prevent

the injuries and to be able to compare the statistics with other sports. The IFF Medical Committee has been highly involved in planning the injury reporting system and injury reporting template - the Injury Form Floorball (InFo Floorball). In 2017, the first study "Injuries during the international floorball tournaments from 2012 to 2015" by Ms Kati Pasanen (FIN) was published and the summary of the findings were presented at the IOC congress in March 2017.

10. IFF Athletes' Commission (ATC)

The composition of the Athletes' Commission (ATC) has been:

Ms. Lidwien Reehuis, Netherlands, Chair
Ms. Josefina Eiremo, Sweden, Member
Ms. Eliisa Alanko, Finland, Member
Ms. Yui Takahashi, Japan, Member
Ms. Agata Plechan, Poland, Member
Mr. Tero Tiitu, Finland, Member
Mr. Johan Samuelsson, Sweden, Member
Mr. Junoh Lee, Korea, Member
Mr. Tomas Sladky, Czech Republic, Member

Office responsibility: Ms. Sarah Mitchell

The election process for the ATC was changed during this period. Previously, elections had been held during the WFC final round each year and members served a 2-year term, however, with the CB decision to extend the ATC period to 4 years the elections were moved from the WFC final round to be held during the qualification tournaments. This allows for a much greater number of athletes to participate in the election process. The Commission Chair, who also has an ex-officio position on the IFF CB, is appointed by the CB.

Representatives from the ATC have been active in the Referee Committee and the Rules and Competition Committee. In the last period, the ATC members have been involved with work on the changes to the Game Rules and continued their Athlete's Blogs on the IFF website. They have been involved in several campaigns that the IFF has run during the period, such as the IOC Peace and Sports White Card campaign and the making of a supplements awareness video.

In 2018, ATC member, Ms Agata Plechan, attended the first ever WADA Athlete Forum in Calgary, Canada. 150 athletes from different sports and countries attended the two-day event to discuss various anti-doping matters and help contribute to the development of new strategies to tackle doping in sport.

The ATC met in 2017 in Växjö, Sweden and in 2018 in St Gallen, Switzerland. Both meetings were held in conjunction with the Men's & Women's U19 WFC. In St Gallen, the ATC also held a training session which was attended by girls from a local club and two of the participating WFC teams—Australia & New Zealand. Both the teams and the ATC members agreed that this was a great initiative and will look to conduct these kinds of sessions in the future.

11. IFF Equality Function

The IFF established the Equality Function in 2009 in order to secure and promote the equality between gender, nationality, religion etc. so that all floorball enthusiasts have the possibility to equally participate in the sport. With the change of the working pattern of the CB the function has been led from the IFF office by Ms. Sarah Mitchell.

The IFF GoGirls! Floorball project has continued during the period and was highly visible during WFC 2017 in Bratislava, Slovakia. All participating teams were asked to nominate a GoGirls! Ambassador several months prior to the event. The ambassadors were introduced via a series of interviews, their progress towards the WFC was followed via the IFF social media channels, and they were interviewed again during the event. All this work greatly increased the visibility and awareness of the project.

Also, in conjunction with WFC 2017, the IFF held a Women in Floorball seminar. 40 participants from 19 countries attended and heard lectures on participation, coaching, and development, from presenters and coaches from France, Finland and Sweden. Video presentations were also made by high profile female coaches from Switzerland & Czech Republic.

The GoGirls! Floorball offers materials for players, coaches, parents, local organisations, clubs and national associations that give advice and ideas on how to increase the number of girls and women in Floorball. The aims of the project are to provide information on how to get girls playing, how to teach them to play, and how to keep them involved.

IFF participated in the International Working group for Women in Sport's Congress in Botswana in 2018.

In 2017, the IFF published guidelines on Discrimination and Harassment as well as a Policy Statement on Discrimination, Harassment, & Abuse. The IFF encouraged all member associations to adopt their own guidelines and policies in these areas. Work has also begun on the development of Portrayal Guidelines for Gender Equality.

12. IFF ParaFloorball Function

The ParaFloorball function was led from the IFF Office by Ms Minna Nurminen until August 2018, and since then by Ms. Merita Bruun.

The purpose of the IFF ParaFloorball Function is to coordinate and promote the activities of the different versions of floorball played by disabled athletes. It was originally established by the IFF Central Board in December 2010 in order to coordinate and cooperate with the different international organisations that have floorball for the disabled on their program.

The IFF ParaFloorball Function follows the IFF mission promoting all versions of floorball being played. The IFF currently cooperates with three international organisations that have floorball on their program, Special Olympics, International PowerChair Hockey organisation, and the International Committee Wheelchair Floorball.

Special Olympics (SO)

Special Olympics (SO) is the largest sports organisation for persons with Intellectual Disability with more than 4.7 million officially registered athletes in 169 countries in all regions of the world. SO includes 35 different sports, 29 summer sports & 6 winter sports, with Floorball being one of the youngest official sports on this long list. IFF and SO signed the Proclamation for partnership during the IFF Associations' Meeting 2011. SO floorball demonstration matches have been played in many IFF Events since 2010 and in 2017 SO Floorball was for the first time an official sport in the Special Olympics World Winter Games held in Austria. It had the largest number of participants of any sport on the programme.

International PowerChair Hockey (IPCH)

IPCH (previously ICEWH) belongs to the sport section of the International Wheelchair & Amputee Sports Federation (IWAS) and is the international head organisation of Electric Wheelchair Hockey Floorball. PowerChair Hockey (PCH) is a sport for people in motorised wheelchairs. PCH is played on an area approximately the size of a basketball court with a surrounding barrier. IPCH demonstration matches have been played in many IFF Events since 2010.

International Committee Wheelchair Floorball (ICWH)

ICWH was established in 2012 with the aim to spread and develop the sport further. Manual Wheelchair Floorball is played almost with the same rules as floorball, 5 versus 5 plus goalkeepers. Manual Wheelchair Floorball demonstration matches have been played in some IFF Events.

13. IFF Marketing Function

The composition of the Marketing function has been:

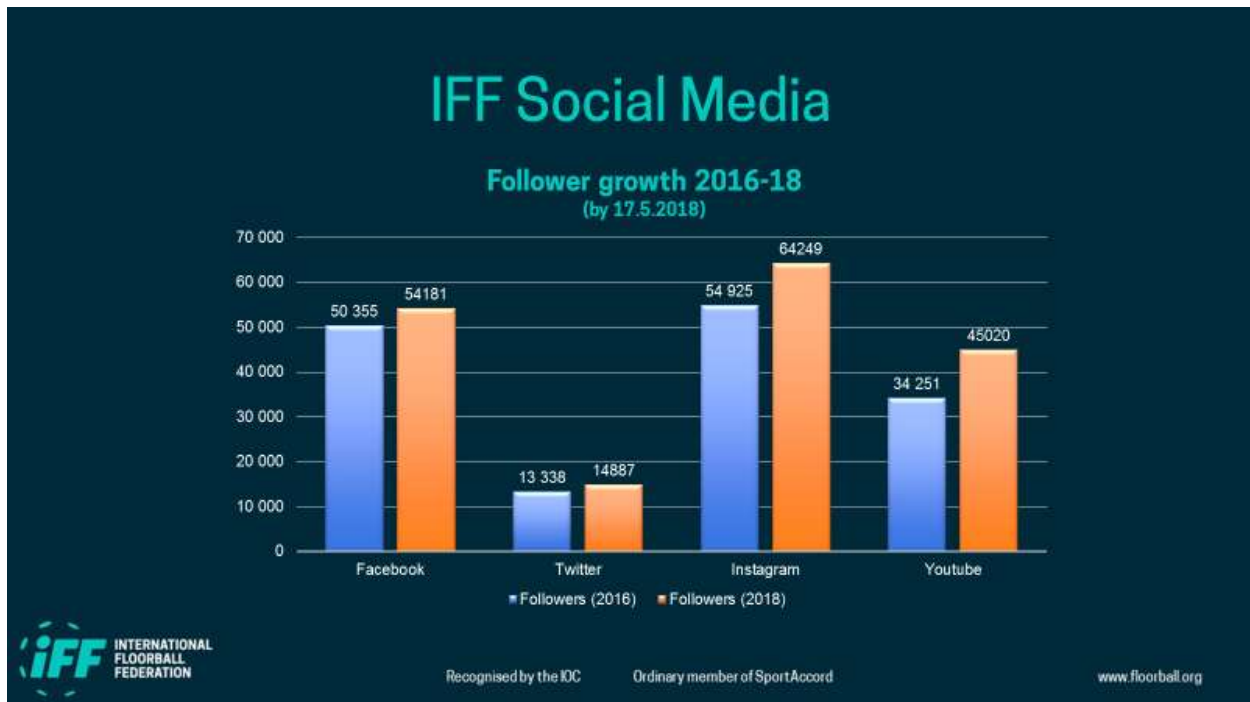
Mr. Jörg Beer, Switzerland, CCMNG Chair
Mr. John Liljelund, IFF Secretary General
Mr. Tero Kalsta, IFF Sales Coordinator (since Jan 2018)

Based on a CB decision the IFF hired a Sales Coordinator from the beginning of 2018. He has now taken the active role to orchestrate the operative work of the CCMNG, execute direct sponsorship sales (over hundred companies contacted during 2018) and take ownership of account management of existing sponsors. He is also taking overall responsibility of the operative marketing and development of sales. The IFF has also made agreements with two Sales Agencies. The Sales Coordinator is also overseeing the Champions Cup sales and marketing. The overall aim is to have two new sponsors by the end of 2019 (them being either Main or Title) and further increase the number with at least one more in 2020. The target is to close long-term, four-year agreements.

The work of IFF Marketing function has continued to focus on the positioning of Floorball and increasing the visibility and sales value of Floorball in the market. This has been done in close cooperation with the Core Country Marketing Network group (CCMNG), to be able to have the same sales arguments for the floorball community on a global level. The Marketing Network Group has convened four times during the period.

IFF changed its logo in 2017 and updated the Corporate Identity at the same time. The new logo and the Corporate Identity has been used in all events since May 2017.

The IFF has continued its efforts to build on the strong social media channels established in the last three years to create a more compelling product. As the consumption of the sport has moved more and more in to the digital realm this is also where the federation needs to be present. Part of future development is building new ways for partners also utilise the IFF SoMe channels (more in Section 13.3 and 15.3). From a business to business point of view the LinkedIn presence of the IFF has been activated during 2018 which has substantially increased followers and impressions.



Picture: IFF Social Media Follower growth 2016-18; combined IFF and IFFWFC channels (Source: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube)

Two years ago, it was stated that one of the key objectives was to enhance the brand value for Floorball. It had also become clear that the Corporate Identity needed to be brushed up and allow easier usage in different formats. Based on these findings, the new Corporate Identity of the IFF was launched in May 2017 and has since been used successfully in all the IFF Events. The IFF is trying to keep focus on the sport for all the Events the same way and has therefore also kept the widely used marketing slogan - One World One Ball - to illustrate the unity of the floorball community. At the end of 2018 the IFF has launched a project to investigate the fan-based values of the Floorball community. A survey will be launched with the support of seven of the CCMNG countries for distributing the questionnaire. The target is to pin-point the key values our fans to be able to create strong sales cases for companies with matching values. The results will also be used to test whether the IFF slogan is valid or if a new one should be considered.

The sponsor system for partners has been divided into a four-level system, where the Floorball Material Sponsors are on the lower line, then there are Partners, Main Sponsors and a Title Sponsor.

The approach used during the last years, where the organisers of the main events are given most of the sales rights, apart from the existing IFF Partners, and IFF then collects a provision from the organiser in order to secure that there is only one sales organisation in the market, has not worked to the level of expectations, so a new approach has been introduced. In the new model the marketing rights are handed over against a fixed fee. This gives both parties transparency and aids the IFF in financial management. Regardless of the new model the sales progression for the events is done in close cooperation between the IFF and the LOC.

In early 2018 the IFF joined the European Sponsorship Association (ESA) to accelerate the process of attracting new partnerships and strengthening the in-house know-how. Through its membership, the IFF gains access to a network of established sponsorship professionals as well as latest research material. ESA also offers educational programs for sponsorship professionals and arranges events for networking.

The cooperation with Sportcal to conduct an in-depth research of the financial and overall effect of the IFF adult World Championships will continue. The Sportcal GSI Survey has produced valuable, holistic information which has been utilised in communications, marketing, sales and as support material for future bidding WFC host cities. Based on the findings, the ranking of the Men's World Floorball Championships was 21st out of 70 Events in 2016 (opposed to 23rd out of 77 events in 2014). For Women's WFC the equivalent development could not be clearly indicated in the 2017 report due to inconsistency in the reporting of attendance figures by some event organisers and owners (in 2015 the Women's WFC ranked 49th out of 83) according the Global Sport Index by Sportcal. The agreement with Sportcal will cover the research to be conducted on adult events up to the end of 2020.

13.1. Branding of the Champions Cup

The composition of the Champions Cup Steering Group (CCSG) has been:

Kimmo Nurminen, Finland, Chair (IFF CB Member)
Tomas Frank, Czech Republic, CF
Kari Lampinen, Finland, SSBL
Magnus Nilsson, Sweden, SIBF
Michael Zoss, Switzerland, SUHV
Milan Rantakari, IFF/Champions Cup Brand Manager (until December 2017)
Tero Kalsta, IFF Sales Coordinator (since January 2018)
John Liljelund, IFF Secretary General

Since the departure of the Champions Cup Brand Manager the new IFF Sales Coordinator has partially allocated his time to the sales and marketing of the Champions Cup as well as coordinating and supporting the promotional work of the the National Associations and clubs participating in the event.

The Champions Cup (CC) new basic Brand Book was finalised and accepted by the Steering Group in June 2016 and has been in use since the CC 2017 in Finland, Seinäjoki. The event in Finland was successful in terms on spectator numbers but still produced red numbers, although less than expected.

The levels for the CC partnerships have been defined and it can be sold separately or in connection with the Combined Sales as agreed by the CoreCountry Marketing Network Group. The five stakeholders of the CC (IFF, Sweden, Finland, Switzerland and Czech Republic) are jointly responsible for the sales and marketing of the CC. In relation to this the five stakeholders have agreed that the CC should be included in the national sales plan of the Associations.

The CC will be organised once a year during the period of 2019 –2022 in the beginning of January (preferably first full week) by Sweden (2019), Czech Republic (2020), Switzerland (2021) and Finland (2022). The first time with the new format will be in Gävle, Sweden, 3rd – 4th January 2019. The champions (men and women) from the top four floorball countries: Czech Republic, Finland, Sweden and Switzerland will participate. On the first day the teams will play semi-finals according to the draw and the medal matches will be played on the following day. The CC 2019 will be played at the same time as the Junior District National Championships take place in Gävle.

The CCSG has conducted surveys with national clubs about their views regarding the event. The National Associations also must conduct a survey to collect the views and comments of their national top clubs about CC.

The main objectives for the organisation of the CC is to reach these three separate goals (some

of which were reached in the CC 2017)

- CC has black financial numbers for the organiser
- over 1000 spectators on average per match; and
- increased TV and media visibility

13.2 Partnership Agreements (NOTE! These agreements are to be announced at WFC2018!)

UNIHOC

The IFF and UNIHOC signed a new partnership agreement in 2018 for the years 2019 – 2022 to develop Floorball worldwide. Before signing, the conditions were renegotiated with improved agreement terms. UNIHOC is the IFF's official material provider, including sticks, balls, goals and goalkeeper equipment. UNIHOC provides the official IFF event ball, CR8ER, and material needed for the IFF development work.

The parties have together executed several competitions and campaigns in our social media channels and tried to find other forms of co-operation to continue developing the sport.

UNIHOC is supporting the IFF Mobile Event Application in "Guess the Winner" module.

SPORTS APPAREL

During 2017-18, Asics was the IFF partner sponsor for apparel, providing all clothing for the IFF international referees. This agreement concludes in December 2018, and during the year the IFF has been actively leading negotiations to find a new sports apparel sponsor. This future sponsor contract will guarantee the IFF the possibility to continue having the same look and feel for the international referees and makes it possible to support the major event organisers with materials.

In 2017 & 2018, the Most Valuable Player of the WFC was awarded the Asics Golden Shoe. This tradition will continue but, for now, this prize will be called the IFF MVP Golden Shoe award. A possible renaming will be considered once the on-going sponsor negotiations are finalised.

GERFLOR

During 2018, the negotiations with Gerflor turned out to be very successful with a positive outcome for the IFF both in terms of reaching an agreement as well as the improved terms thereof. Gerflor continues to be the IFF's material partner in the field of the official certified floorings in IFF events. The agreement assures best playing conditions in IFF events for the event organiser, players as well as referees. The new contract between IFF and Gerflor lasts for a period of four years, until December 31st, 2022.

SWERINK

IFF signed an agreement with Swerink, continuing the co-operation for the use of the official IFF Rinks in IFF events, a partnership ongoing since 2006. IFF and Swerink have continued the closer cooperation in which Swerink has supported member associations and clubs by selling them used and renovated floorball rinks. The agreement with Swerink is signed for the years 2019-2022.

The agreements with all the IFF Partners has made it possible for IFF to build a solid foundation for the IFF events, where all the championships have the same look and feel when it comes to

Floorball equipment and apparel.

13.3 TV and Internet TV

During the period, the IFF has concentrated on building guidelines and increasing the television visibility of Floorball based on the principle of distributing as many televised matches as possible at a fairly reasonable price to the member associations. This approach has given a good result from the World Floorball Championships, with visibility in over 15 countries from the WFC 2017 and 2018. IFF has signed a cooperation agreement with the Czech and Finnish National Broadcasting Companies CTV and YLE, to secure visibility of IFF owned TV matches from the WFC and the Champions Cup. The Swedish federation has also included an IFF module in its national TV agreement.

IFF is trying to offer the matches produced from the WFC's from the group games for a nominal fee to the nations playing, in order to build the relationship with TV. IFF also made a highlights program from WFC 2017 which has been sold by BroadReach Media to almost 140 countries. The IFF will produce a similar kind of highlights program from WFC 2018.

For WFC 2017, IFF acted as Host producer of the TV production, working together with the Slovak company Arena TV, which produced the TV- and internet-TV signal.

IFF has, in cooperation with all organisers of IFF events, produced internet-TV from all the events, in order to satisfy the need of the fans of our member associations who do not have the possibility to view the matches on national or international TV. As a part of building the brand of Floorball, IFF has participated in the SportAccord SportsHub project on YouTube, where IFF have two channels for the IFF video archive for all televised and streamed matches from the IFF events.

The Men's WFC 2016 had a total of 8.4 million TV viewers and the Women's WFC 2017 had 5.2 million spectators in the TV games.

IFF has agreed with the International World Games Association (IWGA) that they can stream IFF Events on their The World Games Channel. IFF has also during the autumn 2016 signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Olympic Channel, to secure visibility from the Major IFF Events. Presently work is ongoing to have some 10-12 games from each WFC on the Olympic Channel.

IFF introduced English commentary to the WFC matches on IFF YouTube for the first time at WFC 2016. The commentary was extended at WFC 2017 to cover approximately 10 games by professional commentator Mr Olly Hogben. This co-operation will continue at WFC 2018 with commentary provided on at least two matches per day throughout the whole event.

YouTube:

IFF first opened a YouTube video channel (www.youtube.com/iffchannel) in December 2009, and in April 2012 a second channel was added. (www.youtube.com/ifflive). The two channels allows for streaming from two venues simultaneously, making it possible to live stream all matches from the major IFF events.

Since the Men's WFC 2014, every IFF event has been streamed live to the IFF YT channels, as well as the World University Championships 2018, several Euro Floorball Tour events in 2017 & 2018, AOFC Cup 2018, and a number of Friendly Internationals. After the organisers decision to only provide TV coverage of Floorball for the final day of The World Games 2017, the IFF received approval to stream, at our own cost, the entire event to the IFF channels.

Between December 2016 and October 2018, 447 international games have been broadcast on the IFF YT channels. In addition, there are highlight videos and player interviews from all events.

14. IFF Development Function

The Development function has been run in the IFF Office by Mr. Veli Halonen, IFF Operations Manager together with Mr. John Liljelund, the IFF Secretary General.

The Development function has during this period, in close co-operation with the respective committees and functions and the IFF Office, focused on developing the IFF members and gaining new member associations. The work to strengthen the development of the IFF member associations started in 2005 through the IFF Development Program Seminars.

IFF has evaluated the process of the Floorball Development Seminars and the need to have more tailor-made solutions for the countries still exists. The demands of the IFF member associations in different countries are varied and the IFF approach has been, together with the member association, to define the needs and what the main topics for the seminars would be.

IFF has started a co-operation in China with the Finnish Sports institute Kisakallio. Kisakallio is running the coaching and refereeing related seminars in China and the IFF has certified Kisakallio as an official educating company in China.

IFF has also supported the development of the online Floorball Drill Animation tool XFball, which is created by the Swedish Company XFball. The IFF has included the tool in the IFF School Curriculum, which is a grassroots level coaching tool and is free to be used by all IFF member associations and all Floorball communities around the world. The IFF School Curriculum can be downloaded from the IFF website.

14.1 Development Program

The aim with the Floorball Development seminar is to give the participants the needed tools to 'train the trainers' in their respective countries after the seminar. The participating associations build a two-year development plan during the seminar, which the IFF then monitors.

The seminar is built on three different blocks - Organisation, Coaching, and Refereeing - all aiming to give additional knowledge to the associations and assist them in planning and managing the development in their respective country. The seminar is a three/four-day event consisting of theoretical lectures, practical training sessions, group work and hands-on training and observation.

The structure of the Development Seminars has been reviewed and a new approach has been taken with more customer-focused solutions for a single country workshop. The Good Governance Seminar structure, which replaced the older administration section, has been well-adopted by member associations and there has been vast interest towards that concept.

The Operations Manager, supported by the IFF Office and IFF seminar educators, has updated the seminar materials to be used in the Basic, Level 1 and Level 2 seminars. The pilot for the Level 2 seminar was carried out in Ukraine in May 2018.

In 2017—2018 there have been development seminars organised in Cote d'Ivoire, China, Hungary, India, Singapore, Uganda and Ukraine with participants from over 20 member

associations. In addition, separate country-specific workshops or smaller scale seminars have been organised in China, Indonesia, Ireland, Laos, Philippines and Slovakia.

The IFF supported two major projects in 2017-18. The first was the Floorball Poland project regarding The World Games 2017 in Wroclaw, Poland, and the second was a Floorball Philippines project aiming to have Floorball included to the SEA games 2019. Following a similar line, the IFF Material Board decided to grant funds for the upcoming World Games 2021 and to continue the support for Philippines Floorball Federation with the SEA Games 2019 project.

The IFF launched Each One-teach One (EOTO) project in September 2014 with, at that time, 29 bilateral working pairs. At the start, the purpose of the project was not clear to all participants but as the work has developed, the participating countries have been able to define their aims much better. Some projects have been completed while others are still ongoing. The main projects have been related to referee and coaching education co-operation.

The Cameroon Floorball Association has also taken a notable role in EOTO in Africa by helping, in particular, the West and Central African countries to fulfil the criteria of becoming members of the IFF.

The challenge of the EOTO, which has existed from the very beginning of the project, is to make it clear for all the participants that each action is important for the project and the slogan for the project has been "Each Step Counts". IFF has been active by promoting the EOTO in all possible connections, but more established member associations need to also take a more prominent role in the project.

14.2 Material support for new Floorball countries

The IFF has been in the position to support new and growing Floorball countries as they strive towards developing their Floorball activities by providing them educational material and guidelines as well as Floorball equipment. In 2018 IFF has sent large amounts of materials to African countries to assist with the development in the region.

Floorball equipment support packages have during 2017-18 been sent to 38 countries Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, China, Chile, Columbia, Cote D'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Hungary, India, Iran, Ireland, Israel, Jamaica, Kenya, Laos, Lithuania, Mali, Mexico, Moldova, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Taiwan, Togo, Turkey, Uganda, Venezuela and USA. The total amount of equipment has been:

- 2,316 sticks
- 4,212 balls
- 38 tool bags
- 20 goalkeeper sets

IFF also has an ongoing system for renting old Floorball rinks to member associations, based on a nominal rent for the period of two years. During 2017-2018 IFF has deployed rinks in the following countries: Burkina Faso/Mali, Cote d'Ivoire, Kenya, Philippines and Turkey

IFF is very thankful for the support of UNIHOC, which has made this material support possible.

15. IFF Communications

The communications have been run from the IFF Office by Ms Minna Nurminen (until 30th

August 2018) and since then by Ms Merita Bruun.

The IFF Communications has the following aims:

- To increase understanding among Member Associations of the services we provide, and therefore to improve satisfaction with these services
- To ensure Member Associations are aware of the IFF activities and plans for the future development of the sport
- To further increase the visibility of floorball and the IFF Events inside and outside of the floorball community
- Through improved consultation and involvement, we will listen to the views of Member Associations, so we can continue to develop the services we provide
- To make the brand image of floorball stronger through communication
- To increase sponsorship income and other partnerships

A variety of methods, including digital marketing, are used to meet the objectives, including:

- News releases & Newsletters
- Website(s), with content like
 - Central Board Decision News & Committee News
 - IFF Event News & Results
 - Development News
 - Partner & Sponsor News
 - Member Association News
- Media Relations
- Social Media (like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, Flickr, YouTube)
- Videos & Photos
- Mobile App(s)

15.1 IFF Website

During the period, a completely new website for IFF has been built with British company, Skylab. The main site was launched in October 2018 with the new domain of .sport, and the new events section of the site will be launched in December 2018. The .sport domains are in collaboration with GAISF. The new website allows for multi-lingual responsive event microsites to be easily built within the current website framework and ensures that traffic to the IFF domains is maximised. The new website also allows for greater promotional and commercialisation possibilities for IFF sponsors & partners.

The total number of users 2017 (1.1.2017-31.12.2017) on IFF's website was 267 206 and sessions was 665 724. The total number of users until [November 6th in 2018 \(1.1.2018-6.11.2018\)](#) was 203 702 and sessions 517 814.

The number of visitors during the IFF Events in 2017 + WFC 2016 (highest number users/event):

Men's WFC 2016 (22 202 on December 11th)

Women's WFC Qualifications 2017 (10 995 on February 4th)

April Internationals weekend (5 201 on April 28th)

Men's U19 WFC 2017 (10 337 on May 7th)

World Games 2017 (5 965 on July 30th)

September Internationals weekend (4 049 on September 8th)

Champions Cup 2017 (CC Webpage 4 623 on October 7th)

EFC 2017 (2 267 on October 19th)

November Internationals weekend (8 636 on November 3rd)

Women's WFC 2017 (WFC Webpage 12 448 on December 8th).

The number of visitors during the IFF Events in 2018 (highest number of users/event):
Men's WFC Qualifications 2018 (11 317 on February 2nd)
April Internationals weekend (4 593 on April 27th)
Women's U19 WFC 2018 (6 694 on May 2nd)
Men's & Women's World University Championships 2018 (3 060 on June 26th)
Men's U19 WFC Qualifications, EuroFloorball Challenge & September Internationals weekend
(3 784 on August 31st)
[October Internationals weekend \(\)](#)
[November Internationals weekend \(\)](#)

Champions Cup website

Since 2012 the Champions Cup website has been launched under the IFF domain in cooperation with the local organisers. Each year some changes have been made to the CC page content.

World Floorball Championships website

Since 2015 the World Floorball Championships website has been launched under the IFF domain in cooperation with the local organisers. Each year some changes have been made to the WFC page content.

15.2 IFF Newsletter

Starting from 2006 the IFF has sent out Newsletter including the most important decisions made by the IFF Central Board, the upcoming IFF events and other interesting floorball news from around the world. The IFF sends out approximately 20 Newsletters per year and there are currently over 1100 IFF Newsletter subscribers (September 2018).

15.3 IFF Social Media channels

Facebook:

IFF opened its Facebook page (www.facebook.com/iff.floorball) on 1st of August 2009 and at the moment there are over [41 290 floorball fans following IFF on Facebook \(October 4th, 2018\)](#). The IFF Facebook page is updated with IFF news, interactive event pages, videos and photos.

Twitter:

IFF opened its Twitter feed (www.twitter.com/iff_floorball) on 12th of October 2009. At the moment ([October 2nd, 2018](#)) there are over 13 800 followers. The IFF Twitter shares IFF news, floorball tweets, videos and photos and #floorball tweets show on IFF website.

Flickr:

IFF opened Flickr photo account (www.flickr.com/photos/iff_floorball) on 1st of August 2010 and at the moment there are photos available from all major IFF Events.

Instagram:

IFF opened the Instagram account (http://instagram.com/iff_floorball) in December 2013. At the moment (October 4th) there are over 56 000 followers. The IFF Instagram is updated with some IFF news, event photos and videos as well as reposting of floorball related photos and videos.

LinkedIn:

The IFF has opened a LinkedIn Profile in the end of 2017 (<https://www.linkedin.com/company/floorball/>). Currently the profile has 108 followers.

YouTube:

IFF first opened a YouTube video channel (www.youtube.com/iffchannel) in December 2009, and in April 2012 a second channel was added. The second channel allows for streaming from two venues simultaneously, making it possible to live stream all matches from the major IFF

events.

Every match replay, match highlights &/or daily highlights, and player interviews from IFF events is now uploaded to the channel. Live streaming is also used in almost every IFF event.

Work has continued to increase the visibility and awareness of the YouTube channels, as well as working to increase the utilisation of both channels. The number of registered users, uploaded videos and video views has continued to grow over the last two years.

IFF Channels combined figures

(Channel 1: www.youtube.com/iffchannel & Channel 2: www.youtub.com/ifflive)

	31.12.2016	as at 8.10.2018 NEED TO UPDATE AT LAST POSSIBLE TIME	% increase
Views	8,646,392	13,043,030	+51%
Subscribers	32,785	46,975	+43%
Uploaded videos	12,456	22,544	+81%

More information on YouTube and internet TV can be found under point 13.2. CHECK THAT THIS SECTION NUMBER IS CORRECT ONCE ALL EDITING IS DONE

16. IFF Information & Development material

As a part of the service to the member associations IFF has continued producing new materials, while existing materials have been translated into different languages for Floorball development purposes. All the educational written materials are free to download from the IFF webpage, and most of the materials are also published in an easy read version on issuu (http://issuu.com/iff_floorball).

16.1. Education materials

IFF Coaching Material. This coaching material, based on the IFF Development program, has been updated to cover three different levels – Basic, Level 1 and Level 2. The coaching material should be used by trained educators to ensure that they are instructing the right topics in the correct manner.

School Curriculum. For the basic and grassroot level coaching the IFF has created a School Curriculum document with more than 50 different drills, which are animated in the document. The School Curriculum is for free use and can be found from the IFF website.

Coaching DVD's for Individual Technique and Goalkeeping. The coaching DVD's include guidance for players and coaches, as well as practical drills. The material is in English with subtitles in French, German, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian and Japanese (only individual technique DVD). The IFF is also working on publishing this material on the IFF YouTube channel.

Basic referee education material. This material is meant for basic training and will give more tools for the referee trainers when training referees. The material has been updated according to the Rules of the Game 2018.

GoGirls! Floorball material includes information for players, coaches, parents and organisations on how to increase girls and women's participation in floorball. It offers materials that help to understand girl's participation and how to encourage it. There is information about how to design programmes specifically for girls and tips for parents and coaches. All the material can be downloaded in PDF from the IFF website.

Keep Floorball Honest. This is a flyer that highlights Betting & Match-fixing issues and outlines IFF's Policy & Education overview. It was created in cooperation with the IFF Athletes' Commission and is distributed to all players & officials at major IFF events.

16.2 Other materials

IFF Mobile applications

The IFF launched the IFF Events mobile app for iOS and Android in 2012. The mobile application is created by a Czech company OK System and includes all the latest updates and statistics from the ongoing IFF Events (WFC, WFCQ, U19 WFC and Champions Cup), the IFF news as RSS feeds and links to the IFF social media channels. The users can guess results and win prizes. [Currently \(4th of October 2018\) the mobile app has ??? downloads.](#)

IFF, together with the Finnish Floorball Federation has a Floorball Points Master application for a recreational form of floorball for the iOS, Android and Windows.

17. IFF Material Board

IFF Secretary General, Mr. John Liljelund, has been responsible for all questions related to Floorball material and the Material Approval system, run for IFF by the Swedish Testing and Research Institute (RISE - previously SP). The IFF Material Board (previously the Development Board), which is a co-operative body of the IFF and the major Floorball manufacturers decided to change the name to the IFF Material Board to help clarify the role of the group.

The main work has been the follow-up of the Material Regulations, which involved several meetings with the RISE and the Czech Test Institute, ITC, as well as with the manufacturers of Floorball equipment. During the period, a new version of the Material Regulations was published and were brought into force from 1st July 2018 for the next two-year period. During the last year a lot of focus has been put on the financial problems of a few companies, which puts their certification in risk, as they have debts to the IFF and RISE. At the moment, all companies are fulfilling the Material Regulation rules.

One of the main issues during the period has been the follow-up on the use of dangerous and illegal grills for the goalkeepers' facemasks. This process was started in September 2015.

Together with the Material Board, IFF is conducting the exemption for the use of over-length sticks for players taller than 190 cm. The system has now been used for the sixth year in a row, with good feedback from the players describing that their health problems have been reduced significantly due to the possibility to use longer sticks.

The Material Board has during the period supported development projects in Hungary, Poland, Russia, the Philippines and Spain. For 2018 the project for the Birmingham World Games has started.

18. IFF Anti-Doping work

The IFF Anti-Doping Regulations 2015 are in place and are constantly reviewed to meet any changes introduced by WADA. The IFF Anti-Doping Rules are adopted and implemented in conformance with IFF's responsibilities under the Code and are in furtherance of IFF's continuing efforts to eradicate doping in the sport of floorball.

Testing

The IFF has conducted doping tests in IFF events and, also Out-Of-Competition (OOC) testing. The IFF annually collects, publishes and reports to WADA the doping tests conducted by the IFF (details can found on the IFF website under Anti-doping). The IFF has also actively taken part in the events and consultation rounds arranged by WADA and in the process of renewing the WADA Code and the International Standards.

The IFF maintains a Testing Pool (TP) from which athlete whereabouts are obtained, which can be used to increase the effectiveness of the IFF's Out-of-Competition Testing program. The TP consists of the top three national teams according to the results from the previous World Floorball Championships and according to the WFC being played that year.

All athletes taking part in events (camps, tournaments, international matches) of the top 3 ranked national teams are included in the IFF TP. The IFF collects the needed whereabouts information through the National Federations which supply the following information:

- National team event information
- Regular club team training activities (one regular training time/week during the season) of the league clubs of their country with current national team players from their country

The whereabouts are collected for the purpose of efficient test planning. The IFF uses the WADA's Web-based database management system, Anti-Doping Administration & Management System (ADAMS), which was developed for the purpose of coordinating anti-doping activities and to provide a mechanism to assist stakeholders with their implementation of the Code. The IFF uses ADAMS for the management of daily anti-doping activities such as TUE's and Whereabouts.

The IFF announced one Anti-Doping rule violations in 2017 (a warning for the admitted use of higenamine) and one in 2018 (a 9 month suspension for sibutramine).

Anti-doping Information & Education

The IFF Anti-doping work focuses on providing relevant information to the IFF Member Associations and the IFF webpage is regularly updated with information about Anti-doping. The IFF also informs and educates its Member Associations through the IFF Newsletters, the IFF Anti-Doping Guidelines and IFF Development seminars.

During the World Floorball Championships 2014, the IFF conducted the first Athlete Outreach program including anti-doping education. In 2018, the IFF updated its Anti-Doping Education Programme and the focus is now more on delivering education to U19 players and new countries entering the IFF events.

The IFF's Anti-Doping awareness campaign Say NO! To Doping, which was launched in partnership with the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) in the Men's WFC 2010, has continued and been implemented in the following IFF Events:

1. Men's WFC 2010, 2012, 2014, 2016 & 2018
2. Women's WFC 2011, 2013, 2015 & 2017

3. Men's U19 WFC 2011, 2015
4. Women's U19 WFC 2012
5. EFC Qualifications 2011
6. Champions Cup 2011

For the IFF Say NO! To Doping campaign the IFF has produced SNTD flyers, balls, wrist bands and beanies as well as the WADA Dangers of Doping leaflet. The IFF is also promoting other WADA Information & Education tools and resources such as WADA Coach True and the Athlete Anti-Doping Learning Program ALPHA.

19. IFF Competitions

19.1 License System for IFF Member Associations

The IFF General Assembly in Prague 2008 approved the new License system implemented for the IFF Member Associations participating in the IFF events. The License system was created in order to direct the Member Associations to develop their own organisations, rather than only participate in International Events. The most important reason is that IFF's responsibility is to secure the level and the quality of the sport and to treat all members equally.

The IFF Central Board has approved the updated IFF License System 2.0 in 2016 with different tier categories for IFF member associations. The IFF office together with the IFF CB carried out a survey to all member associations during August / September 2018, mainly to ease the work to categorise the IFF member associations to right tier groups. The updated License system 2.0 includes three different tier groups with different criteria. The tier system will also make it easier for the IFF member associations themselves to define the needs and demands for "higher" tier groups and the License system 2.0 document should work as guidelines and instructions for the member associations for the future development.

19.2 IFF Statistic Software

The IFF Statistic Software has been used in IFF events since WFC 2007. All the matches on IFF events can be followed live through the on-line match records of the software and the software provides tournament statistics on the web. The software has also made it possible to have all the statistics from IFF events gathered in one place. The software is now used in every IFF event.

In addition to this, it's compulsory for all Member Associations to use the software for all international matches. For the period 2017-18 there were 242 international matches (compared to 215 in 2015-16) hosted by member associations and all included in the IFF online statistics system.

The IFF Statistic Software has continuously been developed to better meet the wishes of the IFF and the member associations. Modifications are constantly being made to how the tournament information, results and statistics are gathered and then displayed on the IFF website. Changes are often implemented to reflect the changes in competition regulations and how results are calculated. During the last period, new features have been added to the system to enable easier use by the match secretariat. There have also been some changes made to optimise the statistics system for use with the IFF mobile application.

In 2017 a printed match record system was introduced, and so written match records are no longer used for IFF events or international matches.

In 2018 work on the development of new statistics software was begun and once finalised it will

be fully integrated with the new website.

19.3 IFF Accreditation system

The IFF now uses an online accreditation system, called GATE. The card layout is personalised for each event based on the event branding. Like the old accreditation system, it gives information on the person accredited, accreditation group they belong to, and the areas to which they have access. Every team member, IFF official, media representative and LOC staff or volunteer is required to have an accreditation card.

In 2018, in co-operation with the WFC 2018 organisers, a new card format was introduced which allows for greater event customisation. This now allows the IFF to offer to organisers a basic card or one which allows for the addition of privileges such as transport, catering etc.

Also, in 2018 an online media accreditation form, linked directly to the accreditation system, was introduced.

19.4 World Championships

Men's 11th World Championships 3rd—11th December 2016 in Riga, Latvia

This tournament was played with 16 teams divided into 4 groups via a ballot system.

Final standings: 1) Finland, 2) Sweden, 3) Switzerland, 4) Czech Republic, 5) Denmark, 6) Norway, 7) Germany, 8) Estonia, 9) Slovakia, 10) Latvia, 11) USA, 12) Canada, 13) Poland, 14) Thailand, 15) Australia, 16) Singapore.

34 teams registered to this event. 1 team, the organiser, was directly qualified to the tournament while the remaining 33 teams played qualification tournaments to determine the final 16 teams. The qualification events were held in February 2016 in Slovakia, Estonia, Poland, Thailand and USA .

Women's 1th World Championships 1st—9th December 2017 in Bratislava, Slovakia

This tournament was played with 16 teams divided into 4 groups via a ballot system.

Final standings: 1) Sweden, 2) Finland, 3) Switzerland, 4) Czech Republic, 5) Slovakia, 6) Latvia, 7) Poland, 8) Norway, 9) Denmark, 10) Germany, 11) Estonia, 12) USA, 13) Thailand, 14) Japan, 15) Australia, 16) Singapore.

32 teams registered to this event. 1 team, the organiser, was directly qualified to the tournament while the remaining 30 teams (Iran didn't compete due to visa issues) played qualification tournaments to determine the final 16 teams. The qualification events were held in January/February 2017 in New Zealand, Spain, Italy and Canada .

19.4.1. The World Games

The World Games in Wroclaw, Poland was played with six men's teams, using only 14 players in the team and one coach. IFF negotiated the possibility for the participating teams to pay for three extra officials. The tournament was played based on the conditions the IWGA gave IFF, as a four-day tournament in two groups of three the first two days and then semi-finals for the two best teams and a match for 5th place for the third in the groups. The matches were played with 3x15 minutes periods, due to the shorter playing time.

The tournament was a real success with extremely interesting and high-quality games, without any slow or dead moments. Based on the outcome the IFF has first in the Association meeting in Bratislava and then in the CB prepared a proposal for a change of the competition system for the WFC's.

Final standings: 1) Sweden, 2) Switzerland, 3) Finland, 4) Czech Republic, 5) USA, 6) Poland,

For Floorball, the participation in The World Games (TWG) was, at this stage, the best opportunity and the event for us to prove that we could bring added value to the multi-sport events through a spectacular sport, dynamic and interesting matches, broad fan base from the Floorball community, and high visibility in social media.

The strategic objectives for the Floorball event in Wroclaw were set, based on these different factors:

- Secure our participation to TWG 2021 in Birmingham, USA, as an official sport and with the inclusion also of women's teams
- Bring Floorball to the Sport Initiation Programme for Tokyo 2020 and the Youth Olympic Games
- Give us a chance to be one of the Additional Event Sports for the Olympic Games 2024 and/or the Youth Olympic Games
- Reach a broader media visibility and reach new spectators
- At a national level the key objective was to raise the awareness of Floorball and TWG, and by doing that support the development of Floorball's political position
- Find ways to start closer cooperation with NOC's and have the opportunity to gain funding
- Strengthen our brand in the international sports arena and, through the success in Wroclaw, increase our marketing value giving benefits on both the international and national level

Despite many doubtful comments before the event, the reduction of playing time and the number of players in the team roster was very successful. After the event the IFF received very good feedback from the teams about the team size and many suggested that this could be a possibility for some future IFF events as well. The Floorball media was, generally, positive to the format and playing the 5v5 proved to be a better choice than playing 4v4, which was the other option which was considered. Some were perhaps surprised that it had worked so well. The major surprise from a sporting perspective was that the quality of the sport was extremely high. The fact that, with a reduced playing time, only the best of the best played, made the standard of the games excel to a new level.

IFF run an extensive social media campaign in cooperation with the member associations prior to and during the event, resulting that Floorball was one of the most active sports on social media during the TWG. IFF also had organised a test-event in Wroclaw prior to the Event and had built a common understanding for the event among the member associations.

Overall, TWG 2017 in Wroclaw should be regarded as a great success for Floorball in all regards – increased awareness in the sports family, good visibility in the Floorball media, excellent game format and good and exciting games, active participation, vivid fans and spectators, good TV visibility and among other things a good political showcase for Floorball.

19.5 U19 World Championships

Men's 9th U19 World Championships 3rd-7th May 2017 in Växjö, Sweden

26 Associations from 3 continents participated in the qualifications and Final Round. 12 teams received direct qualification to the Final Round based on results from the 2015 U19 WFC and regional qualifying quota system. One European and one AOFC qualification were held in September 2016 to decide the last 4 spots in the Final Round.

The WFC Final Round was divided into an A-division with 8 teams and a B-division with 8 teams. The top 9 teams qualified to the U19 WFC 2019.

A-division: 1) Finland, 2) Sweden, 3) Czech Republic, 4) Switzerland, 5) Latvia, 6) Denmark, 7) Slovakia, 8) Poland (relegated to B-Division 2019)

B-division: 1) Norway (promoted to A-division 2019), 2) Estonia, 3) Germany, 4) Australia, 5) Hungary, 6) Canada, 7) USA, 8) Japan.

EUR Qualification:

1) Hungary, 2) Estonia, 3) Slovenia, 4) Spain, 5) Austria, 6) Netherlands, 7) France, 8) Belgium, 9) Italy, 10) Great Britain.

AOFC Qualification:

1) Australia, 2) Japan, 3) New Zealand, 4) Iran

Women's 8th U19 World Championships 2nd-6th May 2018 in St. Gallen & Herisau, Switzerland

18 Associations from 3 continents participated in the qualifications and Final Round. 14 teams received direct qualification to the Final Round based on results from the 2016 U19 WFC and regional qualifying quota system. One European qualification was held in September 2017 to decide the last 2 spots in the Final Round.

The WFC Final Round was divided into an A-division with 8 teams and a B-division with 8 teams. The top 9 teams qualified to the U19 WFC 2019.

A-division: 1) Sweden, 2) Finland, 3) Czech Republic, 4) Poland, 5) Switzerland, 6) Norway, 7) Germany, 8) Slovakia (relegated to B-division 2020)

B-division: 1) Latvia (promoted to A-division 2020), 2) Russia, 3) Hungary, 4) Austria, 5) Canada, 6) Australia, 7) New Zealand, 8) USA

EUR Qualification:

1) Russia, 2) Austria, 3) Netherlands, 4) Italy

19.6 Champions Cup

Champions Cup 2017

Champions Cup 2017 was played with 6 Men's and 6 Women's teams, which were made up of the national club champions from Finland, Sweden, Switzerland and Czech Republic, as well as a second team from the organising country and the winner of the previous year's EuroFloorball Cup.

Champions Cup 2017: 6th-8th of October 2017 in Seinäjoki, Finland

Final standings of CC 2017 for men:

1) IBF Falun (SWE), 2) Classic (FIN), 3) SPV (FIN), 4) Florbal Chodov (CZE), 5) SV Wiler-Ersigen (SUI), 6) UHC Weissenfels (GER)

Final standings of CC 2017 for women:

1) IKSU (SWE), 2) Classic (FIN), 3) TPS (FIN), 4) UHC Dietlikon (SUI), 5) Tigers Jizni Mesto (formerly Herbadent) (CZE), 6) Sveiva (NOR)

19.7 EuroFloorball Cup and EuroFloorball Challenge

EuroFloorball Cup 2017

EuroFloorball Cup 2017: 17th-21st October 2017 in Valmiera, Latvia

Final standings of EFC 2017 for men:

1) Slevik IBK (NOR), 2) FBK Valmiera (LAT), 3) EMU SK (EST), 4) Betsafe/UIbroka (LAT), 5) Phoenix Fireball SE (HUN), 6) Nizhegorodets (RUS).

Final standings of EFC 2017 for women:

1) SK 98 Pruske (SVK) 2) Interplastic Olimpia Osowa Gdansk (POL), 3) Rubene (LAT), 4) Nauka-SAFU-NT (RUS), 5) FK Kekava (LAT), 6) CDE El Valle (ESP).

EuroFloorball Cup 2018

The EuroFloorball Cup 2018 was cancelled due to lack of organiser.

EuroFloorball Challenge 2017

EuroFloorball Challenge 2017: 23rd-27th August 2017 in Trencin, Slovakia

Final standings of EFCh 2017 for men:

1) Tsunami Zahorska Bystricka (SVK), 2) FBC Skala Melitopol (UKR), 3) FK AS Trencin (SVK), 4) UFC Utrecht (NED), 5) Dunai Krokodilok (HUN), 6) CUF Leganes (ESP), 7) London Sharks (GBR), 8) Floorball L'Aquila (ITA).

No EFCh was played for women in 2017 due to the number of registrations.

EuroFloorball Challenge 2018

EuroFloorball Challenge 2018: 25th-29th August 2018 in Madrid, Spain

Final standings of EFCh 2018 for men:

1) Phoenix Fireball SE (HUN), 2) CDE El Valle (ESP), 3) UFC Utrecht (NED), 4) Floorball Escorial (ESP), 5) London Sharks (GBR), 6) IFK Paris (FRA), 7) FC Milano (ITA).

Final standings of EFCh 2018 for women:

1) CDE El Valle (ESP), 2) CUF Leganes (ESP), 3) Panam United (FRA).

19.8 Regional and Continental competitions

AOFC Cup

The AOFC Cup is a national team event for national teams in Asia and Oceania. In even years it is played for women and in uneven years for men.

Men's AOFC Cup 2017: 1st-6th July 2017 Bangkok, Thailand

Final standings:

1) Thailand, 2) Singapore, 3) South Korea, 4) Indonesia, 5) India, 6) China, 7) Iran, 8) Philippines.

Women's AOFC Cup 2018: 18th-23rd June 2018 Singapore

Final standings:

1) Singapore, 2) Thailand, 3) Japan, 4) Malaysia, 5) Philippines, 6) India, 7) Indonesia, 8) Iran.

Africa Floorball Cup

Africa Cup is a national team event for the national teams in Africa, currently played as an Urban Floorball event (4 vs 4 plus goalkeeper) on a modified size court with the matches played 2x15 minutes.

Africa Floorball Cup 2018: 14th-16th September 2018 Abidjan, Cote d'Ivoire

Final standings men:

1) Nigeria, 2) Burkina Faso, 3) Cote d'Ivoire, 4) Togo

Final standings women:

1) Burkina Faso, 2) Cote d'Ivoire, 3) Mali

The first ever Africa Cup was played in Abidjan in Cote d'Ivoire from the 15th to 16th of September 2018. The original plan was to have the Cup already one year earlier, but due to the practical issues and the extremely high travel costs inside Africa, the Cup was postponed to 2018.

Four teams participated in men's tournament; Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Nigeria and Togo. Eventually the final was played between Burkina Faso and Nigeria and Nigeria was the winner of the first men's Africa Cup.

Three teams participated in women's tournament; Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire and Mali. Burkina Faso and Cote d'Ivoire played in the final and Burkina Faso was the winner of the first women's Africa Cup.

Based on the feedback of the participated teams, the plan is to continue the Africa Cup annually.

20. IFF Economy

The volume of the IFF economy has since 2016 been quite constant and not grown so much, mainly due to the fact that the number of sponsors and the Men's WFC's have not provided as much revenue as planned.

IFF has been looking carefully after its finances and is controlling its costs carefully to keep the result on an acceptable level. The fast growth of the operations and the number of new projects we have been running has required a number of new investments. The IFF also, as reported in the General Assembly 2016, put a lot of efforts into the participation in The World Games 2017 in Poland but otherwise has kept the finances in balance. The growing number of events and the services related to these has demanded an increase in the IFF administration costs simultaneously with the increased number of development activities and competitions. The actual figures are found in the Financial Reports for 2016 and 2017.

IFF still needs to find ways to increase the outside financing, which primarily comes from the sponsors, especially from outside the floorball market but also need to increase the internal floorball financing.

IFF has, in connection to the development of the IFF License system 2.0, worked with the member associations to reduce the number of debts to the IFF. This has been part of a clear effort to not compromise their participation in the upcoming events. The Auditor has pointed out that IFF needs to clear some old debts, so as to not jeopardise the start of the implementation of the IFF Licence System in the connection to the Final financial result of 2018.

21. IFF Office

As the IFF has grown in respect of the number of members and competitions, the need to have a larger number of staff has also constantly increased. The IFF administration has, for a number of years, worked at the far limit of the existing resources, especially with the growing number of events, which is expected to increase further in the future. As there is a constant need for more resources in the field of competition and development, the IFF has needed to increase the number of the employees and start to use as much outside working force as possible within the limits of the available financial resources.

The IFF has currently eight full-time employees:

Mr. John Liljelund, Secretary general.

Ms. Merita Bruun, Communication and Anti-Doping Manager

Mr. Stefan Kratz, Competition Manager

Ms. Sarah Mitchell, Events Manager

Mr. Veli Halonen, Operations Manager

Mr. Tero Kalsta, Marketing and Sales Coordinator

Ms. Gitta Schmidt, Office Coordinator

As of September 2018, Ms. Mari Myllärinen started as the Information Coordinator.

The following persons have worked for IFF during the period:

Mr. Milan Rantakari, Champions Cup Brand Manager, contract ended 31.12.2017

Ms. Minna Nurminen, Information and Anti-Doping Coordinator, resigned in order to continue her university studies 20.08.2018

Ms. Anna Jacobson, Anti-Doping Administrator, the temporary employment ended 30.09.2018

The IFF CB would like to thank all Member Associations, as well as all committee members, sponsors, the great number volunteers who have helped IFF in different ways and the office staff for the tremendous work done in order to develop floorball from all possible aspects.