



INTERNATIONAL FLOORBALL FEDERATION (IFF)

*Recognised by the IOC
Ordinary member of SportAccord*

Appendix 11

IFF Referee Committee meeting in Berlin 10-11.3 2012

Hotel Albrechtshof, Berlin

Participants:

Hans Botman, chairman
Pierre Boudville
Lukas Gyger
Klaus Koskela
Petr Michalek
Jan Nordli
Thomas Thim, vice chairman
Veli Halonen, secretary

Minutes

1 § Opening and Welcome

The RC chairman Mr. Botman opened the meeting at 13:30 on the 10th of March and welcomed all the RC members to the meeting.

2 § Evaluation of the new development group

Mr. Nordli presented the present situation of the development group. The development group has fulfilled its function and there has been already by now several referee pairs, which have and will be promoted to the ordinary IFF referee group. The work of the development group will continue the way it's been working so far.

At the time there are 6 pairs (app 1) in the development group and two of those pairs will be proposed to be ordinary IFF referees for the remaining nomination period of 2011-2012. The referees are:

Jens Christian Skrubbeltrang/Steffen Højberg from Denmark

Sebastian Döring/Steffen Kalow Germany

The IFF RC also proposes two new referee pairs to be IFF development group referees. The referees are:

Hue Pin Poh/Serena Tiong Singapore.

Carmen Teo/Bin Bin Lin Singapore.

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Mr. Nordli had a plan for the summer 2012 and especially for the Czech Open and altogether 5 pairs from the development group will be invited to referee matches in the Czech Open. The travel costs will be covered by the associations of the referees. The IFF RC will provide observations and education for the referees participating to the Czech Open.

It's quite obvious that the basic idea of the group is good and it has worked well. The plans for the group is that if and when an IFF observer is sent out to observe and educate the development group referees, there should also be some kind of education arranged also for the other referees in that specific country if possible. This way the benefits of the observers are even higher. The clear focus of the group will be to help the referee organizations, which at the time don't have the knowledge and experience to educate and promote their referees by themselves. The priorities of the development group are: 1. Female referees; 2. Referees from countries that do not have any international referees yet; 3. Referees from countries that do have international referees but need some support to further strengthen their referee development. Proposals for the development group will be evaluated based on these priorities, since the RC has limited budget and capacity.

The IFF office will send out an inquiry to all the IFF observers in order to find out how many of the IFF observers are interested also to work with the development group. The office will also make a plan for the group's work bases together with Mr. Nordli

3§ Ranking and nominations

The new male/female system has worked well and the RC will work in order to be able to increase the number of referees in the female's matches.

It seems that not all the observers return their observer's reports in to the office the way they should. The IFF RC decided that after IFF events the observers shall send in the observation sheets latest 14 days after the tournament is over. The RC also decided that the observation sheets of the referees shall also be sent to the national association of the referees.

RC decided the classification of the IFF referees and the referees have been graded in three different levels; bronze, silver and gold (app 2).

RC also decided about the nominations for the upcoming events during the spring (app 3).

4 § Feedback from referee sector to teams

The RC has received an inquiry from Grant Meade from Australia. He suggested that the IFF referee sector would also consider some kind of consultation by the referee management of the tournament towards the teams. This would especially help the developing countries to

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improve their understanding of the rules of the game and the interpretations of the rules of the game.

The RC had a long discussion about the issue and it was considered as a good idea, but it should be really clearly defined how to arrange that kind of meeting. RC thought that this would be mainly a development issue, but the RC would be more than happy to be involved with the planning together with the IFF's development function. Mr. Botman will study this issue together with the IFF development function.

5 § Referee Compensations

RC discussed about the financial compensation system for the referees. RC's opinion was that also the travel days should be compensated and the "whole package" should be better and RC will think the ways to improve the package. This does not mean financial issues alone; it also means that it would be good if the referees could be provided other services in a good co-operation with the local organizers in the IFF events.

Mr. Botman and Mr. Halonen will create a proposal for the RC to approve, which will then be taken under the consideration of the IFF Central Board. The IFF RC would also prefer to increase the information between the IFF referee management and the LOC before IFF major events. Mr. Halonen informed the IFF RC, that this information is already required from the LOC, but sometimes IFF office can't deliver the information and facts on time, based on the fact that the IFF office does not receive the information from the LOC on time.

6 § Joined meeting with the German RC

The IFF RC and the RC of the German Floorball Federation had a joined meeting. The chairman of the German RC Mr. Georg Jahn presented the present situation of the German referee situation (app 4). After that the RC and the German RC had a very fruitful discussion about the possibilities of IFF to help the German federation to improve their referee level and standards. Mr. Botman and Mr. Halonen will make a basic list of things the German RC could do in order to increase the commitment of the referees and the ways to market that for players. This also includes some guidance how the other IFF associations have promoted their referee brand in order to find more referees, who are committed. The problem in Germany is not the quantity of the referees; it's more the lack of commitment.

At the present time practically all the referees are players and are forced to act as referees. That was the mutual impression of the IFF RC and the German RC. German RC listed some basic issues proposed by the IFF RC in order to start to develop the structure of the referee sector in Germany.

The RC sees it very important to create a common plan with the federations who need help. This way it would be easier to define the needs and problems of the developing countries.

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The mutual plan also requires commitment from the federations. This is also a development issue and should be planned together with the IFF development function.

Mr. Thim and Mr. Halonen will create basic plan of how to support federations, which are in the similar situation than Germany and present this plan for further actions in co-operation with the IFF development function. These plans are not included in the IFF development program at the present time especially not in the referee sector.

7 § Request for proposals of referees and observers

RC discussed about the guidelines, which were created in 2010 and decided to make following updates for the guidelines for the nomination proposals for 2013-2014.

- In the guidelines it will be clearly stated that in order to act as an IFF referee, one can't be a player in the national team of his/her own national association
- The RC decided to update the quota in the observer guidelines and it would be allowed to have 4 observers for men's matches and 4 for women's matches.
- Mr. Gyger and Mr. Halonen will make some small changes and updates to the text of the proposal guidelines and then send it out to the RC. After RC has checked the proposal it will be taken to the IFF Central Board's next meeting in May 2012.

8 § Development and support for gold referees, the path 2013 and 2014

There was a wide discussion about the referee accommodation in the upcoming Men's WFC in Switzerland. The RC's wish was to have the referee group together in one place.

It was also discussed that the head of the referee management should arrive earlier to major events in order to get prepared for everything in co-operation with the LOC

Mr. Thim and Mr. Halonen will come up with the nomination proposal for the Men's WFC 2012 in Switzerland. The proposal shall be ready by the 15th May 2012.

9 § Supporting female referees

Mr. Botman presented the results of the meeting of equality function in December 2011 in St. Gallen in Switzerland. The IFF RC has made inquiries especially to IFF core countries in order to plan projects to increase the number of female referees.

RC considered as a realistic objective to have 5 female referee pairs in the IFF ordinary referee group in 2014.

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