

RACC meeting 24-25.03.2007

Place: Amsterdam

Participants: Filip Suman, Chairman
Hans Botman
Martin Wolmhed
Stefan Kratz, Head of Technical Department

§1) WFC 2007

A) Promotion and relegation

The RACC discussed the promotion and relegation of the upcoming WFC 2007 taking into consideration the possible qualification for the B-division 2009 and how to avoid an inter-continental qualification. The RACC was of the opinion that 4 spots left open for qualifying teams and a possible team being the single qualifying team on a continent (as was the case with Canada for the WFC 2007) would be sufficient considering a qualification in Asia and two in Europe.

The RACC decided to propose to the ExCo to decide:

- a) that the 10th placed team of A-division shall be relegated to the B-division (no change)
- b) that the winner of the B-division shall be promoted to the A-division (no change)
- c) that the teams placed 7th -10th of the B-division shall qualify for the B-division 2009.

B) Programme of WFC 2007 and meetings during tournament

The WFC 2007, programme and meetings, were discussed.

Preliminary plan for Friday 11.05 looks as follows:

15:00 Checking the arena
16:00 Meeting Jury chairman/Organizer/Staff
18:00 Jury and staff meeting
20:00 Technical meeting A-division
21:00 Technical meeting B-division
22:00 First referee meeting

Meetings during the WFC:

12.05 22:00 Referee meeting
13.05 22:00 Referee meeting
14.05 22:00 Referee meeting
15.05 22:00 Referee meeting
16.05 22:00 Technical meeting 2 (only semi-final teams A and B division)
16.05 23:00 Referee meeting
17.05 09:00 IFF CB meeting
17.05 18:00 Jury and staff meeting
17.05 22:00 Referee meeting
18.05 09:00-12:00 Presidents' and General Secretaries meeting
18.05 22:30 Referee meeting

Passport checking shall be done after the technical meeting 11.05 – Stefan to inform the teams about this and that accreditations are handed out simultaneously. Organizer also to inform the team guides to inform the teams.

§2 New international calendar

A) General discussion about changes in international calendar

The RACC discussed the preparations of the national teams for the WFC. RACC agreed it is of common interest to have well prepared teams at the WFC but it is also important that the national competitions will not be too negatively impacted. RACC was of the opinion that it would be desirable to have the national team players available for the national teams from the weekend before the WFC, instead of three days as stated in the regulations. Other possibilities for national teams to prepare are subject of future discussion.

The question of releasing the WFC final weekend totally from floorball was also discussed.

B) Time-line (invitations, registrations etc)

The time-line for the IFF competitions was discussed according to proposal. After detail discussion some changes were made and the WFC time-line will be proposed to the IFF CB for decision
The U19 WFC time-line is still to be updated after decision whether it shall be played with qualifications or with B-divisions. After updating the time-line shall be proposed to the IFF CB for decision.

§3 WFC qualifications

- Women 2009 (played in February 2009) – to the B-division
- Men 2010 (played in February 2010) – to be asked for organizers in September 2007.

A) System of qualifications and final tournaments

The RACC has to come with a proposal of how the qualification shall be conducted. This system will be valid for 2010 and 2011 after which the qualification system will be reviewed.

Hans had prepared a proposal based on the ideas from the proposal which was on CB table in January with the aim that CB shall decide in May.

The proposal was thoroughly discussed and Hans was given the task to finalize the proposal to CB based on the RACC discussion.

The quota shall be based on registered teams. Organizer shall be included in the continental quota. The number of registered teams shall be divided with 16 to get the quota coefficient.
For 2010 and 2011 the direct qualified teams shall be deducted from their continental quota.

The RACC opinion is that all teams except from the organizer shall qualify to WFC 2012 and onwards.

B) Fixture lists for final tournaments

The RACC was given the task to prepare a proposal of the system of building the fixture lists in the future, in order for the organisers to have the knowledge for marketing reasons

Stefan had prepared a proposal to the meeting which was considered good as a basic schedule.

§4 U19 WFC

A) WFCQ 2007

Stefan informed about the present situation with the qualification to the U19 WFC 2007.

The qualification will be played in Malacky (near Bratislava), Slovakia, 27-29.04.2007.
The preliminary schedule looks as follows:

Friday 27.04.2007

- 17:00 Tech.meet.
- 18:30 Slovakia - Hungary
- 21:00 Russia - Slovenia

Saturday 28.04.2007

- 15:00 Russia - Hungary
- 17:30 Slovenia - Slovakia

Sunday 29.04.2007

- 10:00 Hungary - Slovenia
- 12:30 Slovakia - Russia

IFF representatives will be Filip Suman and Stefan Kratz

Two Czech referee pairs (Bartosek/Bartosek & Vasicek/Novacek)

If Russia wins they qualify for the A-division

If Slovakia wins they qualify for the A-division

If Hungary wins they qualify for the B-division (and Estonia is promoted to the A-division)

If Slovenia wins they qualify for the B-division (and Estonia is promoted to the A-division)

B) Men's U19 WFC 2007 – Switzerland

Stefan informed about the present situation of the U19 WFC 2007.

The championship will be played 07-11.11 2007 in Kirchberg and Zuchwil, Switzerland

Jury chairman preliminary will be Martin Wolmhed

An inspection trip shall be carried out by RACC or IFF staff according to checking list.

C) Women's U19 WFC 2008 – Switzerland

Qualification

Qualification to the Women's U19 WFC 2008, if needed, shall be played 2nd weekend of September 2007.

Since 11 teams participated 2006 the RACC is of the opinion that a qualification is hardly needed.

D) Men's U19 WFC 2009

Qualification to the Men's U19 WFC 2009 shall, if needed, be played 2nd weekend of September 2008.

Since 19 teams have registered already to 2007 the qualification is most likely needed. RACC will continue with this matter after CB decision about the whole U19 system.

Different scenarios of the complete U19 WFC system had been prepared by Filip.

E) Age group from 2008

Based on the change of international calendar and move U19 WFC from November to May the Swiss Floorball Association has sent in a proposal to change the age of the U19 players to be one calendar year older from 2008. For the U19 WFC 2008 the age of the oldest players would then be born 01.01.1989 (instead of 1990).

The RACC discussed the age impact of moving the U19 WFC from November to May where no change would mean that the players in average would be 6 months younger than in previous Championships and that the proposed change would mean that the players instead would be 6 months older.

The RACC was of the opinion that 6 months older is preferred.

In connection with this the lower age (15 years) was discussed and the RACC was of the opinion that the date for the lower age shall be a fixed date instead of a moving date (according to the start of each tournament) as is the case of today. The RACC agreed upon that the age period should always cover 4 years. For the U19 WFC 2008 this would mean that players eligible to play in the tournament would be born between 01.01.1989 and 31.12.1992.

Further the naming of the U19 WFC was discussed. There is no secret that there are several interpretations of the meaning of U19. The RACC agreed that it is a good opportunity to change the name of the competition in connection with changing the age.

The RACC decided to propose to the CB to decide:

- a) to change the age of the oldest players and fix the youngest age according to the proposal
- b) to change the name to the Junior World Floorball Championships (JWFC)
- c) that the changes shall be valid from the 2008 Championship

D) Future Junior WFCs

Different scenarios of the complete U19 WFC system had been prepared by Filip. The RACC discussed the system for the JWFC.

The IFF CB has made clear that the final round tournament shall be limited in number of teams.

The new competition calendar reserved the 2nd week of September the preceding year for JWFC qualifications (but the same season).

When it concerns the Women's JWFC 2008 the RACC don't think that any qualification will be needed since only 11 teams participated 2006. The fact will be known after registrations (which according to the RACC proposal is preferred to be 30.04.2007). When it concerns the JWFC 2009 a qualification would most likely be needed since 19 teams have registered already to the championships 2007.

The RACC discussed the impact of the possible qualification system where the financial part for i.e. American and Asian teams could be quite heavy to carry (assuming that qualifications are played in Europe). The number of teams to be involved in the possible qualifications is assumed to be low meaning

that continental qualifications are unlikely. These assumptions lead the RACC to discuss a change of the playing system to avoid qualifications for the juniors.

The RACC was of the opinion that the system shall be changed to be as follows:

The A-division shall consist of 10 teams and shall be played separately – this size would allow the tournament to be played in one arena.

A needed number of separate B-divisions (maximum 3) shall be installed.

Both the A- and the B-divisions shall be played in May

The RACC decided to propose to the CB to decide:

a) to change the system of the JWFC according to the proposal – Filip was given the task to prepare a final document for CB

b) that the change shall be valid from the 2009 Championship

c) that, as a consequence, the promotion and relegation of the championships 2007 shall be:

All 8 teams stay in the A-division and top 2 from the B-division are promoted.

Remaining teams shall play the B-division 2009.

E) Date for registration

The RACC discussed the date for registration to the JWFC.

The current the date for registration, 30th of June the preceding year, is too late when the JWFC is played in May.

The RACC was of the opinion that the 31st of January the preceding year should be sufficient and also not be mixed with the registration for the Adults WFC (which is 31st of December).

The RACC decided to propose to the CB to decide:

a) to change the date of registration to be 31st of January the preceding year.

§5 EFC Qualifications

A) 2007

a) Dates and places for the regional qualifications

Stefan informed about present situation with the EFC qualifications.

The regional qualification rounds will be played, for both Men and Women, in Bærum (near Oslo), Norway, 29.08-02.09.2007 and in Ciampino (near Roma), Italy 05-09.09.2007. Filip will nominate Jury for these tournaments. There will be two jury members at each tournament.

b) Qualification for best 2nd teams

Details of possible versions of EFCQ for 2nd best teams were discussed so RACC will be prepared for all potential scenarios. Stefan will prepare a written document as an info for CB depending of number of teams entering the qualification. Filip will nominate Jury for this tournament. There will be one jury member.

Stefan will send letter to remind of the need of organizer. This shall be sent to the Associations concerned. Reply required by 30.04.2007. In the first stage only date and place is required.

c) 2008 -

Implementation of CB decision concerning EFC system was discussed.

The procedure of asking for organizers must be stressed so that the time-line is fulfilled.

§6 Updating of Regulations

A) Possible consequences of the new calendar

Stefan had prepare a list of affected §§ in the various IFF competition related regulations. RACC discussed all changes. RACC agreed that there is need to finalize changes in EFC regulations and propose this for CB in May. Other regulation will go through a second reading.

B) Transfer regulations concerning EFC participants

Stefan informed that the office had been given the task to find a way to prevent from players transferring from better national leagues for the EFC qualification and keep them over the final round and thereafter transfer them back to their original clubs – and the payers would only miss a few matches for the original club.

C) Possible exemption in the transfer regulations

The RACC discussed whether a possible exemption for young players moving with their parents outside the transfer period should be included in the International Transfer Regulations.

The RACC decided to propose to the CB to decide:

a) that such an exemption shall be included according to the following sentence:

Exemption from the transfer period could be given only when a player 16 years or younger is moving with the family to another country. Such exemption requires the approval of giving and receiving Association as well as giving and receiving Club.

§7 Jury guidelines

Preparation of Jury guidelines material

Martin prepared a basic proposal of what should be the content of material. RACC shortly discussed the proposal and Martin was given the task to prepare more detail proposal.

1) RACC/Jury preparations

RACC discussed the general set up for the competition – checking according to the organizers regulations – to be prepared by Martin.

Communication with the organizer on beforehand to be able to lead the technical meeting from the same document – both organizer and jury shall be well aware of the info given from each part.

Further a list of responsible persons (Hall managers, Secretariat managers, etc) – also to be met in the pre-meeting and presented in the technical meeting – to be prepared by Martin.

During competitions – a short daily meeting with organizer should be installed, 15 minutes after each day.

§8 Game rules edition 2010

The work with the IFF Rules of the Game Edition 2010 shall start 1st of January 2008. Stefan was given the task to look over the time-line and propose possible changes.

§9 Jury management meeting

A) Discussion about possible jury management meeting/RACC work shop

RACC discussed if there is a need for such a meeting, about the topics of such meeting and also about suitable term.

Possible date for the Workshop RACC/Jury management is 19-21/10 2007.

§10 End of the meeting

Filip thanked the participants for the good work and closed the meeting.

Stefan Kratz
Head of Technical Department

Filip Suman
RACC Chairman