

## Future of U19:

### A) Future U19 WFCs competition system:

The RACC has discussed the system for the U19 WFC.

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

#### Facts used for discussion within RACC:

The number of participants of U19 WFC is growing. There were 19 registered teams in 2007 U19 Men and there were 11 participants in 2006 U19 Women.

Up to 16 teams it is possible to organize quite an easy tournament with using a model of 8 + 8 teams (five days, two arenas).

Up to 20 teams it is possible to organize only one WFC with all teams together – but it is at least two days longer and more expensive for the organizer

We do know that the number of participants (especially in U19 men) will exceed 20 teams quite soon. For U19 men it is expected already for 2009. This means that latest for 2009 there has to be a solution.

RACC has during the discussion agreed on the need to look for a system which will attract most countries to participate (mainly money issue?) and still will be possible to handle in sense of number and requirements for organizers.

RACC discussed the following possible solutions for a future U19 competition system:

#### 1) Similar to present adult system:

Final tournament 8 + 8 teams (one team change between A and B). Only the first five in the B-division will earn a direct spot for next WFC. Three qualification tournaments where each winner gets a spot in the final round.

Strengths -

Weakness – In the future with more participants many teams would have to play for three spots. The system will be most expensive for some of the smallest federations – (qualification plus WFC)

#### 2) More B divisions

Final tournament with only A-division for 10 teams. Only the first six or seven earns a spot for the next WFC. More B-divisions are organized and winners get a spot for the next WFC.

Strengths – good and easy final tournament, cheap for organizer (only one arena)

Weakness – only three new teams every two years

### **3) New WFC qualifications system**

Same system for U19 as for adults – “continental qualifications” + one WFC with 16 teams

Strengths – interesting final tournament, system open for new teams

Weakness – more expensive for federations out of best 8 – they will have to play 2 tournaments (qualification plus WFC), quite expensive for organizer (for U19 WFC).

After evaluation of above mentioned 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

New system will start for U19 men in 2009 and for U19 women earliest in 2010 (we start implementing this for U19 women as soon as we have had more than 16 teams entering once)

#### ***The RACC decided to propose to the CB to decide:***

a) to change the system of the U19 WFC according to the proposal

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 the top 2 teams from the B-division are promoted.

Remaining teams shall play the B-division 2009.

#### **B) 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 today. The RACC agreed 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. It 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

### **C) Date for registration**

The RACC discussed the date for registration to the U19WFC.

The current the date for registration, 30<sup>th</sup> of June the preceding year, is too late when the U19 WFC is played in May.

The RACC was of the opinion that the 31<sup>st</sup> of January the preceding year should be sufficient and also prevents a mix up with the registration for the Adults WFC (which is 31<sup>st</sup> of December).

***The RACC decided to propose to the CB to decide:***

a) to change the date of U19 WFC registration to be 31<sup>st</sup> of January the preceding year.