



IFF ANNUAL REPORT 2006-2008



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1. Introduction

During the period between the General Assemblies of 2006 and 2008 the international Floorball family has continued to grow with all in all ten new Member associations joining the IFF. The decision taken by the General Assembly in Stockholm on May 26th, 2006 to increase the number of IFF members, was successful and the number of countries to seek membership are still growing. The number of participating teams in the IFF events has also increased a lot, which has led to a record amount of Floorball matches and competitions being played. A lot of new qualification tournaments for the major events are now organised as part of the new International competition calendar.

The IFF General Assembly decided in its last meeting held in Stockholm 2006 that one of the major goals of the IFF in the next two years was, to receive the IOC recognition by the end of the year 2008. The IFF Central Board, Executive Committee and office worked hard during this period between the General Assemblies to fulfil the requirements laid out by the IOC, in order to achieve this goal.

In December 2007 the IFF applied for the official recognition by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) by sending in the IOC recognition application form. The gathering of the data and collecting of all the needed information was a long process, which could not have been possible without the assistance of all the IFF Member Associations who supplied the IFF with much of the relevant data and statistics required for the application.

In 2007 the IFF CB decided that there was a need to renew the IFF International Competition Calendar in order to better live up to the competition, marketing and media requirements of today and a working group was set up to prepare a proposal for the change. Following this proposal the CB decided to change the competition calendar, which started to change in and the year 2008, which means a new in Floorball history as all the changes in the International Competition Calendar were fully implemented with the Adult World Championships played in December 2008.

Because of the constant development and growth of Floorball worldwide also the number of the employees at the IFF Office has to be increased, in order to meet the requirements of the developing Floorball world and in order for the IFF to better serve its Member Associations. The IFF Office has grown during the period from three fulltime employees to five fulltime employees, with four employees now working at the IFF Head office in Helsinki, Finland and the Competition Manager in the Competition office in Stockholm, Sweden.

2. IFF Member Associations

IFF today consists of 47 Member Associations of which 25 are ordinary members and 22 provisional members. During the period the number of Member Associations has increased from 37 to 47.

The ordinary Members Associations are: Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Malaysia, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United States. The number of ordinary members has increased from 16 to 25.

The provisional Member Associations are: Argentina, Armenia, Brazil, France, Georgia, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, India, Korea, Liechtenstein, Moldova, Mongolia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovenia, Thailand, Turkey and Ukraine. According to the Statutes of IFF the provisional members who have been members for at least four years does automatically become ordinary, if they fulfil the requirements.

2.1 AOFC

The Asian and Oceania Floorball Confederation (AOFC) was founded by the Asian and Oceania Member Federations of the International Floorball Federation in 2005. The second AOFC General Assembly was held on the 6th of December 2007 at the Woodlands Sport Hall, Singapore, setting the direction and guidelines for the development of Floorball in the region.

The AOFC consists today of ten IFF members: Australia, Japan, India, Korea, Malaysia, Mongolia, New Zealand, Pakistan, Singapore and Thailand.

The following persons belong to the AOFC Central Board:

President: Mr. Sani Mohd. Salim, Singapore
Vice President: Mr. Steve King, Australia
Treasurer: Mr. Guem Sung Kang, Korea
Secretary General: Mr. Pierre Boudville, Singapore
Member: Mr. Takanobu Yoshino, Japan
Member: Mr. Juerg Khim, Australia
Member: Mr. Soichi Kato, Japan
Member: Mr. Hwang Joo Kim, Korea
Member: Mr. Edward Lim, Malaysia
Member: Mr. Suresh Subramaniam, Malaysia

The office of the confederation is placed in Singapore.



3. The IFF Central Board (CB)

The General Assembly decided to change the constitution of the CB, decreasing the number of CB members from nine to six. The CB elected by the IFF General Assembly held in Stockholm in Sweden the 26th of May 2006 has had the following composition:

Tomas Eriksson, President
Renato Orlando, Vice President
Tomas Jonsson, Treasurer
Mona Aagaard, Member
Per Jansson, Member
Risto Kauppinen, Member
Filip Suman, Member

There have altogether been 13 CB meetings between the General Assemblies, held as follows:

Stockholm	27.05 2006
Helsinki	08.09 2006
Varberg	06.01 2007

Per Capsulam	28.02 2007
Frederikshavn	17.05 2005
Oslo	01.09 2007
Per Capsulam	14.11 2007
Per Capsulam	14.12 2007
Vantaa	12.01.2008
Bratislava	26.04.2008
Budapest	13.09.2008
Per Capsulam	01.10.2008
Prague	01.11.2008
Prague	12.12.2008

The minutes of these meetings are published on www.floorball.org.

3.1 Main Fields of focus

The CB has continued to stress the three different fields agreed upon already in 2004. Firstly, the International lobby work, with the aim of reaching the recognition of the International Olympic Committee, achieving the acceptance of Floorball globally and to secure the participation in International Multi-Sports event and also profile IFF in the International Sports Community. Working secondly with the Marketing issue in order to strengthen the financial and market situation of the IFF and also make the sport more suitable for Television. Thirdly the main focus has been on the Development of the IFF Member Associations, where IFF has built a Floorball Development Program, consisting of a four day interactive course for organisation and administration work, refereeing and coaching.

3.2 Appointments

The following persons have been appointed by the Central Board (more information under 18 Office)

Katriina Sahala, Office Coordinator
Kaarina Salomaa, Competition Assistant

3.3 New committees

During the period 2006-2008 the IFF CB decided to establish two new Committees, the IFF Medical Committee and the IFF Athletes Commission (more information under 9 Medical Committee and under 10 Athletes Commission).

3.4 IOC 50 Road Map

The IFF General Assembly decided in its meeting held on the 26th of May 2006 in Stockholm, that one of the major goals of the IFF in the next two years is to receive the IOC recognition during the IOC Council meeting on the 11th of December 2008. The IFF applied for official recognition by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in December 2007 and the IFF also had and used the possibility to update the application until the 30th of September 2008.

4. IFF Executive Committee (ExCo)

The composition of the ExCo has been:

Tomas Eriksson, President
Renato Orlando, Vice President
John Liljelund, General Secretary

The ExCo has worked with international affairs and the cooperation with other sports authorities, also handling urgent daily business.

4.1 Contacts to International Sport Federations

GAISF (General Association of International Sports Federations)

The IFF CB decided to endorse the Panathlon Declaration on Ethics´ in Youth Sport in its meeting on the 8th of September 2006. The IFF has participated in the GAISF General Assembly in 2006 Seoul, 2007 in Beijing and 2008 in Athens.

In the GAISF General Assembly 2007 the IFF President, Mr. Tomas Eriksson, came close of being elected as the representative for the group of the other IF´s to the GAISF Council. Mr. Tomas Eriksson received 6 votes against the elected Mr. Höglund (8 votes) representing Ju-jitsu.

IFF has increased the information flow to the different GAISF channels, including the monthly web-bulletin, where a number of articles have been published as well as in the GAISF Newspaper Sport Insider. In addition IFF has participated in a project which aims to build a web portal for live images of a number of sports, where IFF would supply with footage on a continuous basis. This project will continue for 2009.

FISU (International University Sports Federation)

During the 2nd World Floorball University Championships played in Switzerland, organised by the Swiss Students Sport and the Swiss Floorball Federation on the 9th—12th of November 2006 the IFF signed a collaboration agreement with the FISU concerning the continued cooperation between IFF and FISU in the fields of University Sports and securing the continuation of the WUC. The 3rd was organised in Finland, by the Finnish Student Sports, with women teams participating for the first time.

ISF (International School Sports Federation)

The first World Schools' Floorball Championships were played in Brno, Czech Republic on the 3rd—10th of May 2007 with 6 boy's teams and 5 girl's national teams participating.

EMSA (European Master Sports Association)

Floorball participated in the preparations for the European Master Games organised in Malmö, Sweden for the first time in August 2008. Due to a lack of participants the Floorball tournament was cancelled.

WADA (World Anti-Doping Agency)

The IFF has been actively taking 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 third World Conference on Doping in Sport held in Madrid on the 15th—17th of November 2007 and in the IFF's WADA symposiums organised in Lausanne in 2007 and 2008.

WADA adopted a new Code in 2009 in order to make the Code a more efficient tool and find a balance between harmonization, efficient fight against doping and the required flexibility to assess the unique facts of each case. According to the Code the IFF CB has made a proposal for a new Anti-Doping Regulations for the General Assembly to adopt.

5. IFF Appeal Committee (AC)

The composition of the AC has been:

Lars Granqvist (Sweden), Chairman
Tom Hedkrok (Finland), Member
Kjell Hovland Olsen (Norway), Member

The Appeal Committee has had one case to deal with during the period. The Belgian Floorball Federation appealed against the decision of the IFF ExCo, concerning the its withdrawal from the WFC 2006 C-division.

6. IFF Disciplinary Committee (DC)

The composition of the DC has been:

Rudolf Buri (Switzerland), member
Kristen Kalte (Sweden), member
Rainer Martiskin (Australia), member

The Disciplinary Committee has had no cases to deal with during the period.

7. IFF Rules- and Competition Committee (RACC)

The composition of the RACC has been:

Filip Suman, (Czech Republic), Chairman
Martin Wolmhed, (Sweden) member
Hans Botman, (Netherlands), member

Jury management

Andris Dzenis, (Latvia), Björge Jansen, (Norway), Ari Vehniäinen, (Finland), Marek Budzinski (Poland) and Ricky Kronow (Denmark)

The main tasks during the period have been to work with the development of the IFF competitions and the implementation of the new competition calendar.

The growing number of IFF events has put a lot of pressure on the RACC resources and its needs a full review of the system for the future.

7.1 International Competition Calendar

The IFF decided to change its competition calendar in 2007 in order to maximise the value of the competitions for its member associations. The year 2008 was a start of a new epoch in Floorball history as all the changes in the International Competition Calendar were fully implemented and with the main event of the year, the Men's Floorball World Championships, being played in December.

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

EuroFloorball Cup Qualification Round 2006 in Denmark, 2007 in Czech Republic, Italy and Norway and 2008 in Finland, Denmark and Slovakia.

EuroFloorball Cup Final round in January 2007 in Sweden, in January 2008 in Finland and in October 2008 in Switzerland.

Men's World Championships 2006 in Sweden

Women's World Championships 2007 in Denmark

Men's U19 World Championships 2007 in Switzerland

Women's U19 World Championships 2006 in Germany and 2008 in Poland

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 and prepare the changes for the proposals of the Game Rules.

In order to give clubs the possibility to test foreign players in off-season tournaments and as a new service to the members, the IFF CB decided to create a test for a Temporary Play-system, which was tested in the summer of 2008, giving players the possibility to play for an other team than which they are contracted to, with the approval of the own club.

Based on the need of the Club teams a system for Temporary Play during the summer period was created and tested during 2008, in order to give players a chance to play for other clubs in one tournament, without having to transfer to the club with a International Transfer. The system will continue also in the future.

7.2 Future Floorball World Championships

The WFC will be played with only 16 teams and this will be implemented starting with the championships in 2010 (men) and 2011 (women) and continental qualification tournaments will be played. Of these 16 teams, eight (the seven best of the A-division and the winner of the B-division) are automatically qualified based on the result of the WFC 2008 (men) and WFC 2009 (women) and for the other eight teams have to qualify through continental tournaments.

The WFC Quota system

The quota for the participating teams by continent shall start from 2010 and always be 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. The WFC 2010/2011 qualifications are played in continental tournaments or if there are less than three teams based on a mutual agreement.

7.3. Game Rules

IFF is changing the Game Rules in accordance with our four year cycle, where the new Game Rules will be effective from the start of the season 2010-2011. The IFF Rule Group, headed by Mr. Martin Wolmhed started its work in 2008, asking the Member Associations and the other stakeholders for proposals to change the existing game rules. The Rules Group received a total of 42 proposals. The group found that there were no proposals which actually needed to be tested, so there will be no rule

tests during the season 2008-2009. The group will come forward with a proposal for the Game Rules for 2010 during 2009.

8. IFF Referee Committee (RC)

The composition of the RC has been:

Thomas Gilardi, (Switzerland), Chairman

Klaus Koskela, (Finland), member

Thomas Thim, (Sweden); member

Referee management

Thomas Antretter, (Austria), Andrew G. Clough, (United Kingdom), Jan Nordli, (Norway) and Petr Seda, (Czech Republic)

The RC has been involved in appointing referees to the World Championships', EuroFloorball Cup's and friendly Internationals, and to observe and educate the referees during these events. The RC has also given support to the Office in the preparation for the Development Program Materials.

The IFF Referee Committee introduced a new three stage quality level system for the international referees. The referee criteria's consists of three different levels in which international referees will be ranked based on experience, physical condition and language. The qualification was given by the RC and all referees were ranked in June 2007.

The RC has asked for nominations for new international referees and observers, from the Member Associations, for the two year period 2008—2010.

9. IFF Medical Committee

The IFF Medical Committee was formally established on the 8th of February 2007.

Presently the IFF MC consists of four members: Dr. Walter Frey from Switzerland (chair), Dr. Tiina Nylander from Finland (vice chair), Dr. Lars-Erik Bartels from Denmark and Dr. Thor Halse from Sweden.

The IFF Medical Committee is responsible for granting Therapeutic Use Exemptions to Floorball players that are required to take prohibited medicaments. In addition the IFF MC functions as an expert group when renewing the IFF Anti-doping regulations and other practices regarding the Anti-doping work. The IFF MC is also involved in other fields, which concern the promotion of the athletes' health.

10. IFF Athletes Commission (ASC)

The IFF has established its first ever Athletes Commission in 2007. The members of the new Commission were confirmed during the first IFF Central Board meeting. IFF Central Board Member Mr. Risto Kauppinen heads the Commission, which has been set up to utilise the players' experience and knowledge in developing Floorball and the IFF's regulations.

Based on nominations sent in by the IFF's Member Associations, the Athletes Commission will comprise of Ms. Paula Jouhten (Finland), Ms. Linda B. Andersen (Norway), Ms. Widyawillis Bte Selamat (Singapore), Ms. Melanie Cathie (Australia), Mr. Niklas Jihde (Sweden), Mr. Matthias Hofbauer (Switzerland), Mr. Michael Schachner (Austria) and Mr. David Brown (USA).

In the future, Members of the Commission will be elected during the Adult's World Floorball Championships (WFC), starting with the Women's WFC in 2009.

11. IFF Marketing Function

The Marketing and Information Committee has been changed into a function by the Congress of 2004.

The composition of the Marketing function has been:

Per Jansson (Sweden), Chairman

John Liljelund (Secretary General), member

The IFF revised its marketing strategy in 2005, where the objective was set to build a new environment where we are capable to differentiate between different partners also outside the Floorball world. The system for partners has been divided into a four level system, where the Floorball Material Sponsors are on the bottom first line, and then there are Partners, Main Sponsors and a Title Sponsor.

IFF closed a contract with the marketing firm Infront, giving Infront the marketing rights of IFF for the period of 2006—2010. The aim is to secure a number of sponsors for IFF via this co-operation.

11.1 Partnership Agreements

Exel

The IFF and Exel signed a partnership agreement in 2006 for the years 2006 – 2010 in order to develop Floorball worldwide. Exel is the IFF's equipment provider, including sticks, balls, rinks, goals and goalie equipment. The agreement with Exel Sports has made it possible for IFF to build a solid foundation for the IFF Events, when all the championships have the same look and feel when it comes to Floorball equipment, flooring and apparel.

Puma

Puma and IFF prolonged the apparel sponsor contract in 2007 until the end of year 2009. This sponsor contract gives the IFF the possibility to continue having the same look and feel for the international referees and has made it possible to support the major event organisers with materials.

Gerflor

Geflor continues to be one of IFF's material partner in the field of the official certified floorings in the IFF events. The contract between IFF and Gerflor lasts for a period of five years, until December 31st, 2010.

AJ

IFF signed an three year agreement with the Swedish office furniture and accessories firm AJ, which was the first agreement brought in by Infront. AJ will have visibility mostly on the jersey of the International Referees.

11.2 TV

The Marketing function has also concentrated on building guidelines and increasing the Television visibility of Floorball, based on the principle of distributing as much of televised matches as possible to a fairly reasonable price. This approach has given a good result both from the World Floorball Championships 2005 in Singapore, with visibility in 7 countries. For the WFC 2006 in Sweden, the IFF has together with the organiser the Swedish Floorball Federation, secured the production of a total of 11 matches.

IFF has together with the host broadcaster of the WFC 2008 produced a total of 16 televised matches, which will be shown in 5 countries and Eurosport.

The IFF has cooperated with Eurosport2 and there has been matches televised from the 2007 European Cup Final round in Sweden, EuroFloorball Cup Final round in Finland and the World Floorball Championships 2006 in Sweden and the 2008 World Floorball Championships 2008 in Czech Republic.

12. IFF Development Function

The composition of the Development function has been:

Renato Orlando (Switzerland), Chairman
John Liljelund (Secretary General), member

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 of strengthen the development of the IFF Member Associations, started in 2005 through the IFF Development Program Seminars. The aim with the seminar is to give the participants the needed tools to train the trainers in their respective countries after the seminar. The participating associations build up a two year development plan during the seminar, which the IFF then monitors.

12.1 Development Program

The Seminar is built on three different blocks, one for Organisation, one for Coaching and one for 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 four day event consisting of theoretical lectures, practical training sessions, group works and hand-on training and observation.

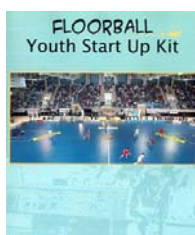
The first pilot seminar was held in Eger, Hungary in December 2005. In 2006-2008 there has been Development Seminars organised in the Netherlands, Poland, Singapore, Canada, Spain, Australia, Singapore, Slovenia, Argentina and USA. Additional coaching courses were given in China for secondary level teachers.

The IFF has also supported a development Project launched in New Zealand to re-activate the Floorball development in the region. There have been new Floorball centres built up and the emphasis has been in having long term locals involved in the organisation to promote stability in the clubs. The first ever Kiwi Cup was also supposed to be played on June 21 - 22 in Wellington, but was cancelled.

IFF has also restarted the development programme in Germany, supported by the Floorball material manufacturers, in order to strengthen the development of Floorball. The results have been good and the DUB is growing and the number of licensed players has increased to over 5000.

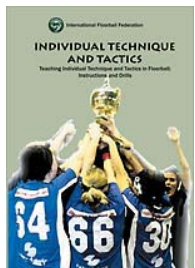
12.2 Development Material

New materials have been produced and existing materials have been translated into different languages for Floorball development purposes. All the materials are free to be downloaded from the IFF webpage.



The Floorball Youth Start Up Kit is available in nine different languages: English, French, German, Spanish, Polish, Portuguese, Italian, Chinese (Mandarin) and Russian. The Start Up Kits can be downloaded from the IFF webpage under Materials.

IFF has as a part of its Development program produced three English coaching manuals; **Teaching Individual techniques and tactics in Floorball**. The second part; **Team Tactics** and the third part; **Special Situations**.



The Coaching Material is built on three different levels based on the development of the players, which helps the coach to plan practices in the most efficient way for players of all skills.

The material has been edited by Ms. Anniina Paavilainen, who worked at IFF from September 2006 to May 2008 as a trainee, concentrating on development and educational issues. The material is found on the IFF webpage under materials. The IFF wants to thank all the persons who have helped the IFF to put these Materials together.



The coaching manual **Teaching Individual techniques and tactics in Floorball** has also been translated into Chinese by Ms. Emily Koh Pei Fern from Singapore and to Estonian by Mr. Jari-Petri Anttila.

Additionally a new material **Learn—Start—Play** has been made, to give hints and guidelines how to start playing, finding or building materials and how to work with clubs and associations.

12.3 Material Support for new Floorball countries

The IFF has also 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.

Floorball equipment support packages has been sent to: Argentina, Armenia, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Capo Verde, Croatia, India, Ireland, Macedonia, Malawi, Mexico, Papua New

Guinea, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Serbia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda and Ukraine

13. IFF Development Board

Responsible for material questions has been John Liljelund,

The main work has been the following-up of the Material Regulations, which involved several meetings with the Swedish Testing and Research Institute (SP) as well as with the manufacturers of Floorball equipment.

During the period the Czech Test Institute ITC has been appointed for testing Floorball Material under the surveillance of the SP.

During the period a new version of the Material Regulations has been worked out to be in force as from 01.07.2008, for the next two year period.

13.1 Ispo Summer 2007 & ispo Winter 2008

For the first time Floorball was presented in the ispo summer fair in Munich at the ispo Sport & Style 8th—10th of July 2007. After the great success of the summer ispo the IFF and the main part of the equipment manufacturers decided to renew the Floorball Village during Winter ispo the 27th—30th of January 2008.

The Floorball Village was built in cooperation with the world's biggest Floorball equipment manufacturers in order to promote Floorball in the German market by giving the market a true vision of what Floorball is today and re-launch it to the retailers in this area. The Floorball Village was specially designated area at the ispo fair with an interactive activity village, giving the visitors the possibility of getting to know Floorball hands on and also see what Floorball is today.

14. IFF Anti-Doping Work

The revised IFF Anti-Doping Regulations have been valid from the 1st of July 2006 and the revised Anti-Doping Regulations will come into force 1st of January 2009 if approved by the IFF General Assembly.

The IFF has conducted doping tests in the IFF events (WFC, U19WFC, EFC) and at least one player per team has been tested. The IFF also started with the out of competition testing in 2008 and a total of 10 Floorball players were tested out of competition. In addition the IFF also annually collects, publishes and reports to WADA the doping tests conducted in Floorball.

During the period 2006-2008 the IFF has developed a process for granting Therapeutic Use Exemptions according to the regulations set by WADA and actively taken part in the events arranged by the WADA and in the process of renewing the WADA Anti-doping Code and the WADA International standards.

The IFF Anti-doping work also relies much on providing relevant information to the IFF member associations and the IFF webpage includes relevant information about Anti-doping. The IFF also informs its member associations through the IFF Information Letter and the IFF Anti-doping manual, which is sent to all associations participating in an IFF event in good time before the championships.

15. IFF Information

The aim during this period was to increase the information flow from the IFF to its member associations and to the international Floorball world and the international world of sports in general through the Internet pages, Information Letters, Press releases and other services. There were discussions about forming an Information Function and a survey was made with Mrs. Mona Aagaard concerning the development of the IFF information flow.

15.1 New IFF Internet page

The new Internet page was launched in March 2006 in order to better serve the international Floorball world with all the important information from the IFF and news from the IFF member associations. Increased amount of news from the whole floorball community. At the same time also the IFF logo was renewed in order to have a more fresh look.

The most important decisions from the IFF CB meetings are now published right after the meetings are held and the CB protocols with the enclosures are also published on the IFF webpage after acceptance by the IFF CB.

The total number of visitors on IFF's website has increased by 31 % and the number of unique visitors by 21 % from 2006 till 2007, still continuing growing with 18 % in visitors and 41 % in unique visitors in 2008 versus 2007.

Since the renewal of the IFF webpage in March 2006, the amount of visitors on the IFF website increased steadily and the highest number of visitors in 2007 was during EFC qualifications 2006/2007 with over 31 500 visits on the website in September.

In 2008 the number of visitors continued to increase. The largest number of visitors were during the IFF events; the EFC Final Round in Finland (31 900 visitors in January), the WFC C-division in Slovakia (35 900 visitors in April), the Women's U19 in Poland (34 900 visitors in May), the EFC Qualifications in Denmark, Finland and Slovakia (35 794 visitors in August) and the EFC Final Round in Switzerland (???) visitors in October).

Also the adults World Floorball Championships attracted a great number of visitors. The amount of visitors was equally high during the Men's WFC in 2006 and the Women's WFC in 2007. During the Women's WFC 2007 the IFF statistical program was used on-line for the first time.

15.2 Information Letters

Starting from 2006 the IFF has sent out Information Letters 3-4 times a year including the most important decisions made by the IFF Central Board, the upcoming IFF events and other interesting Floorball news from around the world. Also an increasing amount of Press releases have been sent out about important decisions taken concerning IFF and Floorball development in general.

15.3 Online Statistical Program

IFF Online statistical program has been used since WFC 2007 and the aim is to have all the statistics from the IFF events gathered in one place. The Statistical Program has continuously been developed in order to better meet the wishes from the IFF and its Member Associations.

For the Men's World Floorball Championships in December 2008 in Czech Republic the IFF has asked for player pictures to be downloaded into the IFF Statistical Program for the first time.

16. IFF Competitions

16.1 License System for IFF Member Associations

There will be a new License system implemented for the IFF Member Associations participating in the IFF events. The group was headed by Mr. Renato Orlando and consisted of Mr. Per Jansson, Mr. Risto Kauppinen and Mr. John Liljelund

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.

It is equally important for the IFF to force its Member Associations to focus on the development of the different functions within the National Associations like building up their own national leagues, recruiting and educating referees and coaches and help the clubs to develop. The License system will be implemented for the 2012 Men's World Championship.

16.2 World Championships according to the ranking

Men's 6th World Championships 2006 in Sweden

26 Associations from 4 continents participated. The WFC was divided into an A-division with 10 teams and a B-division with 10 teams and a C-division with 6 teams.

A-division: 1) Sweden 2) Finland 3) Switzerland 4) Czech Republic 5) Latvia 6) Denmark 7) Norway 8) Italy 9) Russia 10) Germany (relegated to the B-division)

B-division: 1) Estonia 2) Hungary 3) Netherlands 4) Slovenia 5) Austria 6) Japan 7) USA 8) Singapore 9) Great Britain 10) Australia (relegated to the C-division)
Estonia promoted to the A-division for 2008

C-division: 1) Poland 2) Spain 3) Slovakia 4) Canada 5) France 6) Korea
Poland promoted to the B-division for 2008.

Women's 6th World Championships 2007 in Denmark

23 Associations from 4 continents participated. The WFC was divided into an A-division with 10 teams, to which Japan and Singapore played a qualification for one spot, and a B-division with 10 teams, to which 6 teams played a qualification for 3 spots.

A-division: 1) Sweden 2) Finland 3) Switzerland 4) Latvia 5) Czech Republic 6) Denmark 7) Russia 8) Norway 9) USA 10) Singapore (relegated to the B-division)

B-division: 1) Poland 2) Germany 3) Hungary 4) Netherlands 5) Australia 6) Japan 7) Canada 8) Italy 9) Slovakia 10) Spain
Poland promoted to the A-division 2009.

Qualification: 1) Poland 2) Italy 3) Slovakia 4) Austria 5) Slovenia 6) Estonia

16.3 U19 World Championships according to the ranking

Men's 4th U19 World Championships 2007 in Switzerland

19 Associations from 2 continents participated. The WFC was divided into an A-division with 8 teams and a B-division with 8 teams. 4 teams qualified for one spot in the U19 WFC.

A-division: 1) Sweden 2) Czech Republic 3) Finland 4) Switzerland 5) Latvia 6) Norway 7) Slovakia 8) Poland (relegated to the B-Division 2009)

B-division: 1) Denmark 2) Germany 3) Estonia 4) Austria 5) Spain 6) Netherlands 7) Italy 8) Japan
Denmark promoted to the A-division 2009.

Qualification: 1) Slovakia 2) Slovenia 3) Russia 4) Hungary

Women's 2nd U19 World Championships 2006 in Germany

11 Associations participated. The WFC was played in an A-division with 11 teams.

A-division: 1) Sweden 2) Finland 3) Switzerland 4) Czech Republic 5) Poland 6) Norway 7) Latvia 8) Germany 9) Russia 10) Slovakia 11) Hungary

Women's 3rd U19 World Championships 2008 in Poland

11 Associations participated. The WFC was played in an A-division with 8 teams and a B-division with 4 teams. Ukraine failed to participate and withdraw from the tournament.

A-division: 1) Switzerland 2) Sweden 3) Finland 4) Poland 5) Czech Republic 6) Norway 7) Latvia 8) Germany (relegated to the B-Division 2010)

B-division: 1) Slovakia 2) Russia 3) Georgia
Slovakia promoted to the A-division 2010.

16.4 EuroFloorball Cup according to the ranking

European Cup 2006-2007

The Qualification round of EC 2006-2007 was organised in Frederikshavn, Denmark, with 11 men's teams and 6 women's teams qualifying for two places each in the Final round. The Final round, for both men and women, was organised in Varberg, Sweden, with 8 teams in each category.

The ranking of EC 2006-2007 for men:

1) AIK 2) Warberg IC 3) Espoon Oilers 4) Alligator Malans 5) Tattran Stresovice 6) Greåker IBK 7) Latvijas Avize 8) Nizhegorodets 9) FC Vestegnen 10) Jögeva SK Tähe 11) HKL-MJM Petrzalka 12) TWZ Wikings 13) London Vikings 14) Amsterdam FB Agents 15) Dunai Krokodilok 16) FBC Bozen 17) IBN Brussels

The ranking of EC 2006-2007 for women:

1) UHC Dietlikon 2) IKSU 3) Lappeenranta 4) FBC Liberec 5) Rubene/Rants 6) Fredrikshavn Bulldogs 7) Nizhny Novgorod FBC-30 8) Tunet IBK 9) Aligator UKS Chwarzno 10) SK Saku Fortuna 11) Szolnok Cannibals 12) Ladies Together

EuroFloorball Cup 2007-2008

The Qualification round of EFC 2007-2008 was organised in Baerum, Norway, Ciampino, Italy and Liberec, Czech Republic with 15 men teams and 12 women teams qualifying for three places each in the Final round. The Final round, for both men and women, was organised in Vantaa, Finland, with 8 teams in each category.

The ranking of EFC 2007-2008 for men:

1) AIK 2) Warberg IC 3) SC Classic 4) Tattran Stresovice 5) SSV Helsinki 6) SV Wiler-Ersigen 7) Fjordingby IBK 8) Viking Roma 9) Tigers Langnau 10) DRS Archangelsk 11) Frederikshavn Bulldogs 12) Torpedo Havirov 13) TTÜ SK 14) Latvijas Avize 15) FB Agents 16) FBC Dragons 17) CUF Leganes 18) Debreceni Floorball 19) Cotswold Cobras 20) Waterloo Lions

The ranking of EFC 2007-2008 for women:

1) UHC Dietlikon 2) IKSU 3) HFK Dekanka 4) Rönby IBK 5) Sveiva IBK 6) Tapanilan Erä 7) Rubene 8) Nizhny Novgorod FBC-30 9) Zug United 10) Fredrikshavn Bulldogs 11) U.C. Face Off 12) FBC Liberec 13) FBC InSport Sered 14) Aligator Gdynia 15) Szolnok Cannibals 16) SK Saku Fortuna 17) IBC Leoben

EuroFloorball Cup 2008

The Qualification round of EFC 2008 was organised in Denmark, Slovakia and Finland with 18 men teams and 14 women teams qualifying for three places each in the Final round. The Final round, for both men and women, was organised in Zurich, Switzerland, with 8 teams in each category.

The ranking of EFC 2008 for men:

1) AIK IBF 2) SV Wiler-Ersigen 3) SSV Helsinki 4) Warberg IC-85 5) Tapanilan Erä 6) Tattran Stresovice 7) Sarpsborg IBK 8) Latvijas Avize 9) SSK Vitkovice 10) Hafnia FC 11) KS Szarotka Nowy Targ 12) Floorball Köniz 13) CUF Leganes 14) VSK FTBS UK Bratislava 15) HDM 16) Nizhegorodets 17) UHC Sparkasse Weissenfels 18) TTÜ/Team Exel 19) Paris UC 20) TVZ Wikings 21) Bandyfélag Kópavogs BK 22) Ares HC 94 23) SC Locomotive Kutaisi

The ranking of EFC 2008 for women:

1) IKSU 2) Balrog B/S IK 3) UHC Dietlikon 4) HFK Dekanka 5) SC Classic 6) Holmlia SK 7) Rubene 8) FC Outlaws 9) PSS 10) Nizhny Novgorod FBC-30 11) CUF Leganes 12) Piranha Chur 13) UKS Absolwent Siedlec 14) HDM 15) Bohemians 16) SK Saku Fortuna 17) Szolnok Cannibals FC 18) SK FBC Dragons Ruzinov 19) SU Wiener FV

17. IFF Economy

The volume of the IFF economy 2006-2007 has grown with over 60% compared to the previous two year period. This has of course been necessary in order to be able to develop the IFF administration simultaneously with the increased number of development activities and competitions.

Even though the finances have been kept well in balance during this period and even shown a small surplus, there is a need of a continued increase of the income to secure the development of Floorball world wide. The actual figures are found in the Financial Reports for 2006 and 2007.

18. IFF Office

The International Floorball Federation has been growing rapidly for the last 5 years and as a result of this the IFF needed to increase the number of employed persons at the office, situated in Helsinki, Finland. This is in order to live up to the growing service requirements of our member associations and the number of IFF competitions.

Ms. Katriina Sahala was appointed as the new Office Coordinator to the IFF Head office in Helsinki, Finland. She started working for the IFF in the beginning of May 2008. In the IFF office Ms. Sahala works closely with the IFF member associations and will be responsible for the administration of the office and the IFF Referee Committee.

Ms. Kaarina Salomaa was appointed as the new Competition Assistant to the IFF Head office in Helsinki, Finland. She started working for the IFF in the beginning of July 2008. In the IFF office Ms Salomaa will work closely with the IFF Competition Manager and with the teams participating in the IFF events and other competition related work. IFF wishes Ms Salomaa and Ms. Sahala warmly welcome to the Office.

In addition IFF would like to thank the following persons for their great engagement,
Ms. Anniina Paavilainen, who worked as a trainee for the IFF Office from December 2006 until the end of May 2008, editing the IFF Coaching manuals.
Ms. Emily Koh Pei Fern from Singapore, who worked on the Start-Learn-Play material and
Mr. Michael Meddeb who worked on translating coaching materials into French and at the same time all three strengthened the IFF Office as Project workers during the period.

The IFF CB would like to thank all Member Associations, as well as all committee members, sponsors and the office staff for the tremendous work done, in order to develop Floorball from possible aspects.