

Appendix 15a

IFF COMPETITION SEMINAR SUMMARY

GENERAL INFORMATION

The IFF Rules and Competition Committee (RACC) organized a competition seminar 17th – 19th August 2012, in connection with the Czech Open in Prague. There were a total of 38 participants from 18 countries, including non-european countries like Australia and Canada

SEMINAR AIM

The main aims of this seminar were to discuss certain competition proposals with member federations, find solutions for future competition development in some areas including evaluation of the new WFC style system and also to improve the cooperation of all Associations with IFF during different stages of preparation and staging the IFF events.

SEMINAR STUCTURE

Seminar was divided into few parts, main were:

- Adult WFCs – New style evaluation, structure, development & organisation
- U19 WFCs – Term, structure, U19 men system, development & organisation
- Other competition related issues
- Cooperation between the IFF and National team organisers

Discussion was handled both as a session with all participants and more often also divided into several groups for detail discussion about specific questions and proposals.

ADULT WFCs

Work focused on evaluation of the WFC style system, were detail discussion about the good and bad sides of it were held.

In general it can be stated for IFF CB that the Floorball family welcomes the new style as a big step forward. The new style brought also some issues which were considered as not that good and the countries focused on the solution for them.

Based on that following specific proposals for CB were agreed:

- 1) To change the WFC Quota system so that the quota is depending on the number of teams actually participating and that the registration only gives the preliminary quota. Additionally countries from new continents shall have to qualify and not be given a direct spot in the Final round.
- 2) A new WFC playing system shall be implemented, preferably already starting from WFC 2013 (includes changed ballot 1-4 & 5-8 to groups A & B and 9-12 & 13-16 to group C & D). In addition there would be a new first play-off round, giving more teams the possibility to play in the quarter finals.
- 3) All teams apart from the organizer should qualify for the Adult WFC, this has to preferably be installed from WFC 2014

The main arguments for the changes of the WFC playing system are:

- More tight matches in the group, with smaller goal differences
- Higher TV interest for group and quater finals
- The groups will play a difference and all results will matter.

- Possibility for more teams to play for a place in the quarter finals and the tournament would not be over after one match for any team.

U19 WFCs

Work focused on discussion about the structure of the U19, then also about the term for the final tournament and how to solve the positive problem of raising number of participants in the U19men category

In general it can be said that after detail discussion during which it was important to explain many details to different federations it was agreed that present A+B division system is definitely the best for the U19 category.

Long and interesting discussion was held on the topic of the present U19 term, which was criticized by many countries. Bases on the document (enclosure 16) it was however found out that present or one-week earlier term is the best compromise of the need of our federations.

During following group work the participants agreed on certain issues which will RACC use for future work and will come with specific proposals for CB in the near future. This includes for example: Less direct qualifiers for the B division to keep some place for qualification in Europe.

OTHER ISSUES:

Next to both WFCs many other competition related topics were discussed. These included – club competition, looking for and appointing of the organizers, practical issues between federation and IFF office during WFC preparations, IFF rules and regulations etc...

One proposal for CB was created during the discussion about the EFCQ, which this year faced a problem of missing organizers still during the registration phase and this resulted in the loss of some teams. There is a need to know the organizer of EFCQ preferably when the season starts or latest before it ends.

- 4) To change the system for the EFCQ (as it is for EFC and CC finals), so that the organizing country can have two teams in EFCQ to increase the possibility to get organizers in an earlier stage than is the fact today

The discussion will result also in some updates of the technical regulations in connection of all IFF competitions to fulfill the needs of IFF federations

CONCLUSION:

The whole seminar was very welcomed by the federations and its participants. During the weekend many realized how difficult is to find the solutions which suite to most of the countries and also how different the opinions of federations can be.

It is important to say that the attitude of all participants was very cooperative and the seminar will definitely even improve the cooperation between IFF and its federations