

UPDATE REPORT ON REFEREE SITUATION IN AOFC MEMBER COUNTRIES

AUSTRALIA

No updates on referees but information on State Leagues.

Perth Floorball League

PFL or Perth Floorball League is the new revised name for the FAWA Elite season. This season, there will be three different divisions.

- Men's League
- Mixed League
- Women's League

The Men's and Mixed League is likely to be played on either Friday night or Saturday and definitely on Sunday, with numbers permitting. The Women's League is to be played on Saturday, and depending on the numbers, will probably be held after the new year due to the Ladies World Championships. The main aim is to also get more games for each division with less byes.

New South Wales Elite Series

The NSW Elite Series is usually played from October to May. The 2010/2011 NSW Elite Series featured 8 teams playing each other twice in a season, followed by the semi-final playoffs for the top 4 teams and the Grand Final.

INDONESIA

Mr Andreas Tedjasukmana from Floorball Indonesia has indicated that they will support and need referee development and training. They have around 100 schools that are playing floorball but no trained referees of sufficiently high standard. He has suggested whether it is possible for a referee programme to be organised by AOFC or IFF in mid-December 2011 in Jakarta, Indonesia. If such a programme was organised, they would have around 70 interested participants.

JAPAN

Mr Takanobu YOSHINO of Japan Floorball Association reported that the Japanese league is held from the end of March to the beginning of October. For Men, there are 2 Divisions with 8 teams in Division 1 and 6 teams in Division 2. For Ladies, there are 4 teams.

Japan started a referee certification system in 2010 and now has about 30 certified referees. Mr Kazuyori GOTO is the Chairman of the Referee Committee in Japan. However, his English is limited.

The 2 IFFF referees are Mr Eisaburo OKANO and Mr Keita SUZUKI. The referee couple of Mr So NAKAJIMA and Mr Takeshi MIYAZAWA has been identified for further development. Unfortunately, there are no active female referees in Japan. The referees are paired up by the clubs that they represent.

Mr YOSHINO has requested for an experienced referee observer from IFF or AOFC to be sent to Japan to give advice in their national championship, as it would help the Japanese referees. Mr YOSHINO feels that the IFF Development Seminar (Referee Module) has not been very helpful to the Japanese participants as English is a big problem for them. He would prefer individual teaching by an experienced referee observer.

KOREA

No information available.

MALAYSIA

Mr Edward Lim from Malaysian Floorball Association reported that Malaysia has not officially started the national league yet, although there has been quite a number of friendly matches between clubs from different Malaysian states as well as friendly matches between Malaysian states. However, 4 Malaysian states have their own league, namely Penang, Selangor, Wilayah and Sabah. Penang has 2 Men's Divisions with 8 team each, and a Ladies league with only 3 teams (which was started in 2011). Penang also has a schools tournament which gathers about 15 school teams. The Penang leagues are usually held in the first half of the year, with the schools league played in March.

Selangor run its league from November till the middle of the following year. There are 10 teams in the Selangor men's league. This coming season, a ladies' league with 5 teams will also be started, including one team from Penang.

Sabah in East Malaysia has 5 to 6 teams in its league, which is played in the first half of the year.

Malaysia currently only has 4 active certified referees, including 1 female referee. As most of these referees are also players, they are randomly assigned to pair up together as and when there are matches to referee and according to their availability as assignments would have to fit in with their playing schedule.

There are not enough referee candidates at the present moment, as most of the people who are involved are still players would prefer to continue playing rather than be referees.

They would like more referee seminars to be organised regionally. They have found the IFF Development Seminar (Referee Module) to be very useful.

SINGAPORE

The Singapore Floorball League (SFL) is held year round for different Divisions, which have actually been renamed for marketing purposes:

SFL Men Premiership (April to July) – 12 teams
SFL Men Championship (July to October) – 12 teams
SFL Men Conference (November to March) – 24 teams

SFL Ladies Premiership (April to July) – 12 teams
SFL Ladies Championship (July to October) – 16 teams

In addition, there are inter-schools tournaments held for various age groups:

Primary schools (Under 12)
C Division (Under 14)
B Division (Under 17)
A Division (Under 20)

There are also tournaments organised among the technical institutes, universities and polytechnics:

POL-ITE Games (Polytechnics and Institute for Technical Education)
IVP Games (Institute for Technical Education, Varsities (universities) and Polytechnics)

For referees, Singapore has a pair of IFF referees (Mohd Sharil and Dennis Lim). There is also a female referee couple (Serena Tiong and Debbie Poh) being nominated. A third female referee (Carmen Teo) is also being groomed but she does not have a female referee partner who is committed or at a high enough level yet. More male referees are also being identified and groomed for further development.

OTHERS

IFF Development Seminar being conducted in Manila this weekend (17-18 Sep 2011), including Referee Module.