

International Floorball Federation

IFF



NEW LICENCE SYSTEM FOR PARTICIPATING NATIONS IN IFF EVENTS

**CB Proposal to the IFF General Assembly held in
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Proposal to the IFF General Assembly

New Licence System for Participating Nations in IFF Events

Over a year ago the IFF Central Board started the discussion whether or not some kind of system or rules to control the level of the major IFF Events should be introduced, thus this being the premier flagship for international Floorball. As an example, some outside criticism occurred when National Associations were seeking players over the internet in order to take part at World Championships. Moreover it was also established, that Associations took part at IFF events without organising an own proper championship. This was however part of a growing sport, but we have now moved into a new phase and therefore need to take a step further, still following the guidelines set by the International Olympic Committee, which we are in the process of seeking recognition. On numerous occasions it has been stressed out by the IOC, that an International Federation must only have really existing active members.

Based on these discussions the CB decided in its meeting in Norway, on September the 1st, 2007, to appoint a working group in order to elaborate whether there is a real need to create an internal licence system with a number of requirements for participants in major IFF Events.

The common view is that Floorball has developed rapidly during the last ten years both when it comes to number of players, member associations of IFF and also by the number of countries where Floorball is being played. This evolution has been very swift and from time to time the organisation, the regulations and routines of IFF has had a hard time in keeping up with this phase and with the development. It is and will be very important for IFF, as an International Federation, to both set the boundaries and directions and at the same time control the development of the sport.

The working group met during the EuroFloorball Cup final round in Vantaa, Finland on the 11th of January, 2007 and thoroughly analysed and discussed the needs and the implications of creating a possible licence system for participation in an major IFF Event. The working group established, based on the brainstorming made, at least the following reasons, which would favour the introduction of a licence system. The most important reason is that IFF is responsible to secure the level and the quality of the sport. It is equally important for IFF to force its member associations to focus on the development of the different functions within the National Associations, i.e building up an own championship, recruiting and educating referees and coaches and to help the clubs to grow, instead of only focusing on the national teams and participation in IFF Events.

The evolution of Floorball worldwide has clearly shown that Floorball has developed and spread much faster in those countries, which have concentrated on building up their internal organisation first and only then focused on their National Teams. Also from a marketing point of view it is really important to have a real top product, i.e. the Adults World Floorball Championships, which is easy to sell and represents the spirit of the sport.

Amongst others it was established that from a sporting perspective, it is in the interest of Floorball on a longer aspect, to introduce a licence system for participation in IFF major Events. The working group proposes that the following licence system shall be approved by the CB and be put forward as a CB proposal to the IFF General Assembly, to be held in the Czech Republic in December 2008.

In order to be able to register and participate in an IFF Major Event, the National Associations concerned must fulfil the requirements according to the licence system.

- 1) The basic requirements for participation in IFF Events are defined by the IFF Statutes, the relevant Regulations, the Game Rules and other given guidelines. Further the Association shall have a vision and mission on the development of their Association, concerning both women and men and also juniors competitions and the organisation of the association.
- 2) The Association shall accept the relevant qualification and seeding system of the WFC.
- 3) The Association has to be a member of IFF for at least 12 months, before they can register for the WFC.
- 4) The Association shall not have any financial obligations towards either the IFF or any other member Associations, upon the registration and also upon the participation.
- 5) The Association shall organise a proper national championship, according to the game rules and needs to organise proper adjacent competition services, such as coaching courses, refereeing and a working administration. It shall appoint a contact person to IFF, who can take decisions and fulfil the required IFF information, including the information sheet.
- 6) The participation registration shall be signed by the official signatures of the National Associations, being on the IFF member register
- 7) All participants to WFC, qualifications and final rounds, have to respect the IFF Marketing conditions and acknowledge the IFF marketing rights on the uniform of the participating teams.
- 8) All National Associations registering to a Major IFF Event shall submit with their registration an information form, where the above mentioned organisational data is included; this also serves IFF a purpose in having the recent development figures from its members.

If agreed upon, the implementation of this licence system would be for the Men's World Floorball Championships 2012.