



IFF

Information Letter 4/2008

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1 IFF IOC RECOGNITION

The Executive Board of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) granted the International Floorball Federation (IFF) the provisional IOC recognition on Thursday the 11th of December 2008.

Receiving the IOC Recognition by the end of 2008 was the major goal for the IFF since the last General Assembly held in Sweden 2006 and opens doors for Floorball in a number of countries, where it before has been hard to enter into the sports community.

The Provisional membership of the International Olympic Committee is a start of a long journey and will help us further to develop Floorball, aiming to fulfil all the criteria's stipulated by the IOC.

The Central Board of the IFF is very thankful towards the entire Floorball community, for the great effort they have done, enabling us to receive this recognition.

2 IFF GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2008

The General Assembly concentrated to discuss IFF's Strategic Vision for the upcoming years. The IFF GA approved the IFF Strategic Vision for 2009 to 2020 in which the IFF describes why it exists, what it believes in, where it wants to be in the future and how it is going to get there. The purpose of this process, the chosen strategy and the vision and mission of IFF is defined as: "the direction and development of Floorball worldwide during the coming decade". The concrete measures for reaching the visions and missions were presented in the Plan of Action for the years 2009-2010.

IFF will continue working towards reaching its vision to participate in one or more international multi-sport events IWGA - World Games, FISU - Universiade or the Olympic Games before 2020.

Also the new License system for participating in the IFF Major Events and the new WADA approved IFF Anti-doping Regulation were approved by the IFF General Assembly.



In addition there were elections during the IFF GA as the IFF President and the six Central Board (CB) members were elected for the term of two years.

The General Assembly admitted new Ordinary Members as altogether seven Provisional Member Associations; France, Korea, Liechtenstein, Georgia, Iceland, Pakistan and Slovenia were approved as Ordinary Members.

Sierra Leone new IFF Member

The number of member countries in the International Floorball Federation have continuously increased, the latest member being Sierra Leone, the first Member Association from the African continent. The Floorball Association Sierra Leone is situated in Freetown.

The IFF now exists of 48 Member Associations out of which 32 are Ordinary and 16 are Provisional Members.

3 CONSTITUTION OF THE IFF CB

The IFF Central Board (CB) constituted itself in a meeting in Prague on the 14th of December 2008 as follows:

President

Tomas Eriksson, Sweden – elected by the IFF General Assembly

Vice President

Renato Orlando, Switzerland

Treasurer

Per Jansson, Sweden

Board members

Mr. Hans Botman, Netherlands (new)

Mr. Risto Kauppinen, Finland

Mr. Stephen King, Australia (new)

Mr. Filip Suman, Czech Republic



4 CONSTITUTION OF THE IFF EXCO

The IFF Executive Committee (ExCo) was constituted, consisting of the IFF President Mr. Tomas Eriksson as chairman, and the IFF vice president and the IFF secretary general as members. The secretary general will also act as the secretary of the ExCo.

Executive Committee

Tomas Eriksson, Sweden, President

Renato Orlando, Switzerland

John Liljelund, Finland

5 IFF APPEAL COMMITTEE & DISCIPLINARY COMMITTEE

The IFF General Assembly elected the IFF Appeal Committee (AC) and Disciplinary Committee (DC) for 2008-2010

Appeal Committee:

Chairman: **Lars Granqvist**, Sweden
Member: **Tom Hedkrok**, Finland
Member: **Kjell Hovland** Olsen, Norway
Substitute: **Ilja Clabbers**, Netherlands (new)
Substitute: **Gints Silins**, Latvia (new)

Disciplinary Committee:

Chairman: **Ismo Haaponiemi**, Finland (new)
Member: **Rudolf Buri**, Switzerland
Member: **Tomas Vaculik**, Czech Republic (new)
Substitute: **Jānis Kārklins**, Latvia (new)
Substitute: **Rainer Martiskin**, Australia

6 CB COMMITTEES & FUNCTIONS

The CB constituted three committees and the following functions: Development function, Information function, Marketing function and Material function. The IFF CB also decided to form a new function, the Equality function. The IFF CB then elected the chairmen for the CB Committees and Functions.

Constituted as Committee and Function Chairmen were:

Mr. Per Jansson, Sweden, Athletes Commission
Mr. Walter Frey, Switzerland, Medical Committee
Mr. Hans Botman, Netherlands, Referee Committee
Mr. Filip Suman, Czech Republic, Rules and Competition Committee
Mr. Renato Orlando, Switzerland, Development Function
Mr. Per Jansson, Sweden, Equality Function
Mr. Stephen King, Australia, Information Function
Mr. Risto Kauppinen, Finland, Marketing Function
Mr. John Liljelund, Finland, Material Function

Furthermore the constitution of the members for the Committees and Functions shall be done by a per capsulam CB meeting by the 10th of January, based on the proposals of the committee/function chairman.

7 APPOINTMENT OF SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE OFFICE

Mr. John Liljelund was re-elected as IFF General Secretary for the upcoming two year period 2009 - 2010 and the IFF Office will stay in Helsinki for the two coming years, based on the agreement made with the Finnish federation in 2004.

8 RECORD AMOUNT OF VISIBILITY FOR FLOORBALL

The World Floorball Championships 2008 set a number of records for both attendance and viewing a Floorball event, this proving that the chosen strategy to continue to promote Floorball visibility has been a solid investment.

Over 104.000 spectators witnessed the WFC during the eight playing days, giving an average of 11.500 spectators per day and 1925 per played game (54 games). Also the 49.000 spectators during the group stages is a new record and will be hard to break with the new competition system, four groups of four, in the coming WFC starting 2010. The record for one Floorball match is still unbroken with the record from Globen in 1996 with 15.106, despite the new Czech record of 14.208 in the final.

In media the Floorball championships was a huge success in the Czech Republic with front page news in the national press following the Czech team performance. The total 17 televised games, out of which 10 were shown on Eurosport 2, with additional special features in Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Sweden and Switzerland. The outcome of the national TV's were very good with in average 400.000 viewers in Sweden and around 300.000 in Finland watching the Final.



The WFC also break new records with visibility on the internet, with all the matches streamed from the WFC. Especially the use of the TV production made the internet stream of high quality and IFF has received a number of positive comments from all over the world. Both the web-pages of the organiser and the IFF had new record number of visitors, which will be published later together with the TV statistics.

IFF is now working on securing the TV signal and the web-stream from the U19 WFC and the other upcoming events.

9 UPCOMING IFF EVENTS



9.1 Men's U19 WFC 2009

The 5th Men's U19 WFC will be played in Turku and Raisio, Finland the 6th - 10th of May 2009.

The arena of Raisio, Kerttula Sport hall, has 700 seats and Turku Arena has the spectator capacity 4.400 (the seats on the lower sectors) and up to 11.820 seats all together.

Ticket sales

The ticket sale for the U19 WFC has started and are also available for abroad sales from www.lippupalvelu.fi. The ticket packages are sold already and the daily tickets will be on sale in April 2009. All day tickets include the matches in both the A- and B-division.

The official webpage www.wfc2009.fi will be launched in January 2009. The match schedule is found on the IFF webpage under IFF Events.

A-Division

Group A



Latvia



Sweden



Switzerland



Denmark

Group B



Finland



Slovakia



Czech Republic



Norway

B-Division

Group A



Japan



Austria



Hungary



Poland

Group B



Canada



Germany



Russia



Estonia

The teams placed 1st to 12th are directly qualified for the WFC 2011.

The City of Turku is situated 165 km from Helsinki, Turku being the closest harbour for the ferries leaving from Stockholm. There is an international airport in Turku. Raisio is a small town 12 km from the Turku City centre.



**WORLD FLOORBALL
CHAMPIONSHIP 2009**
VÄSTERÅS | SWEDEN

9.2 Women's WFC 2009

The Women's 7th WFC will be played in Västerås, Sweden the 5th – 12th of December 2009. Since 24 teams have registered for the event a qualification tournament will be played.

The Final tournament will be played in two different arenas and the Play off matches will be played in the new ABB Arena. The ABB Arena Nord has a spectator capacity of 5.800 and the Bombardier Arena a capacity of 2.800.

A-Division

Group A


	Sweden
	Latvia
	Czech Republic
	Norway
	USA

Group B





	Finland
	Switzerland
	Denmark
	Russia
	Poland

B-Division

Group C

	Singapore
	Netherlands
	Australia
	Q1
	Q2

Group D

	Germany
	Hungary
	Japan
	Canada
	Q3

The seven best teams from the A-division and the winner of the B-division are directly qualified to the Women's WFC 2011 played in December in Switzerland.

In Västerås the whole tournament can be played in the Rocklunda area. It takes 1 hour 15 minutes to drive from Stockholm-Arlanda airport to Västerås and 53 minutes by train.

9.2.1 Women's WFC 2009 Qualification to B-division

The WFC Qualification is played Idrija in Slovenia the 4th - 8th of February 2009. Eight teams qualify for three spots in the B-division: Italy, Slovakia, Spain, Austria, Estonia, Slovenia, Georgia and Ukraine. The match schedule can be found on www.floorball.org under IFF Events.

Women's WFC Q Group A

	Estonia
	Austria
	Italy
	Georgia

Women's WFC Q Group B

	Spain
	Ukraine
	Slovakia
	Slovenia

9.3 World Schools Championships in Floorball

The International School Sport Federation (ISF) has decided to organise the World Schools Floorball Championships 2009 under the aegis of the ISF in Trenčín in Slovakia from February 28th— 7th of March 2009.



Only school teams (one boy and one girl team/country) with players born in 1992, 1993 and 1994 may enter the event. The teams may include a maximum of 17 players + 2 goalkeepers that must have been enrolled at the same school since the beginning of the school year 2008-2009. More information is to be found on the ISF webpage www.isfsports.org/sports/ or by e-mail: isf2009@floorball-trencin.sk or sass@sass.sk

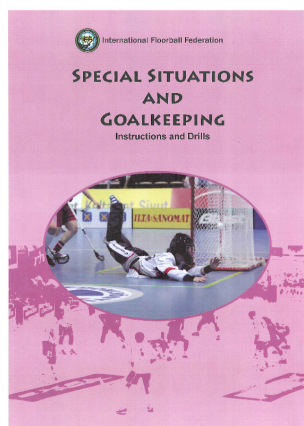
10 IFF DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

By now the IFF has organised 11 Floorball Development Programs around the world and the aim is to continue with the seminars in 2009 and 2010.

The next seminar is planned to be organised in Latvia in April (23.04.-26.04.2009) with three simultaneous blocks (coaching, refereeing and administration). More detailed information will be added to www.floorball.org under Development Program.



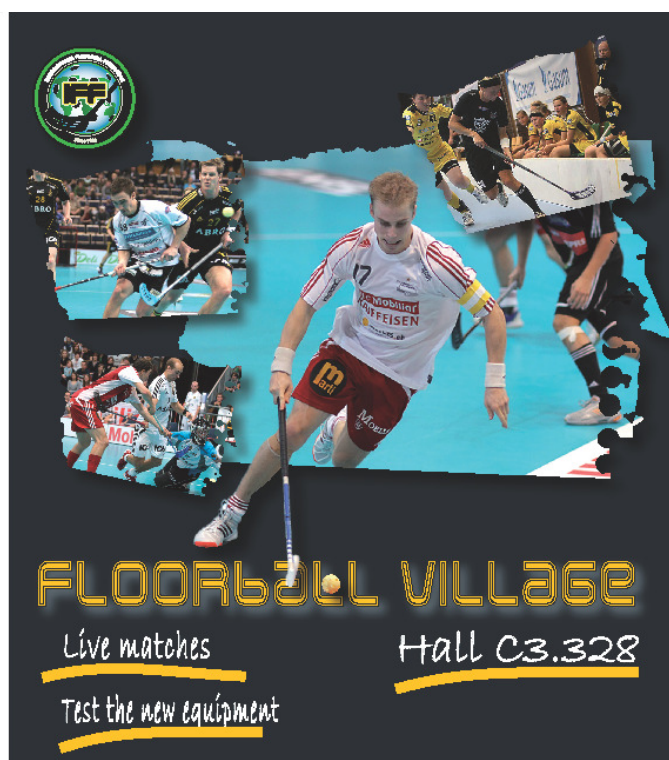
10.1 IFF Development Material



The third and last part of the three coaching manuals; **"Special Situations and Goalkeeping"** is now available on the IFF webpage under Materials.

All the coaching materials: Individual Technique and Tactics, Team Tactics and Special Situations and Goalkeeping have been edited by Ms. Anniina Paavilainen and are to be found from the IFF webpage under Materials and downloads.

11 FLOORBALL VILLAGE at ispo Winter 2009



On the occasion of the great success achieved by the Floorball Village organised at the ispo Sport & Style in July 2007 and the ispo Winter 2008, the IFF and the main part of the Floorball manufacturers have together with ispo decided to renew the Floorball Village during Winter ispo in München from the 1st–4th of February 2009.

The basic idea is that IFF will organise and run the Floorball Village with activities; speed shooting, zorro shows and all the Floorball manufacturers are invited to have their own stands to promote both their brands and the sport at the fair. In addition there will also be promotional Floorball matches organised with star players from Europe.

The objective of The Floorball Village, is to give the German and Central-European market a true vision of what Floorball is today and re-launch it to the retailers in this area.



Find out more from the official website:
www.ispo-winter.com



12 IFF ANTI-DOPING REGULATIONS

The IFF Anti-Doping Regulations (approved by WADA in October 2008 and IFF General Assembly December 13th) will come into effect on January 1st 2009 (Prohibited List and sanctions concerning Anti-doping rule violations) with a transfer period until 1st of April (Testing Pools, Whereabouts).

The new IFF Anti-Doping Regulations are published on www.floorball.org under **Rules & Regulations** and relevant information as well as a new TUE form and Declaration of Use Form will also be added to the **IFF webpage under Anti-Doping** in the beginning of 2009.

THE PROHIBITED LIST 2009

The WADA Prohibited list is published on www.floorball.org under **both Materials and Anti-Doping**. The major changes in the 2009 list:

- **Alpha-reductase inhibitors**, a class of masking agents which used to be banned, are removed from the 2009 List. This class of substances includes for example Finasteride (for hair loss)
- **Asthma medication:**
 - A. Beta-2 Agonists**
 - The Abbreviated TUEs (ATUEs) have been removed. **Inhaled formoterol, salbutamol, salmeterol, and terbutaline require a Therapeutic Use Exemption** in accordance with the new International Standard for Therapeutic Use Exemptions (found on www.wada-ama.org under **International Standards**).
 - This means that there are minimal requirements to be attached with the TUE when using Beta-2 Agonists:
 1. A complete medical history
 2. A comprehensive report of the clinical examinations with specific focus on the respiratory system
 3. A report of spirometry with the measure of the Forced Expiratory Volume in 1 second (FEV1)
 4. If airway obstruction is present, the spirometry will be repeated after inhalation of a short acting Beta2 agonist to demonstrate the reversibility of bronchoconstriction.
 5. In the absence of reversible airway obstruction, a bronchial provocation test is required to establish the presence of airway-hyper responsiveness.
 6. Exact name, speciality, address (including telephone, e-mail, fax) of examining physician
 - B. Glucocorticosteroids:**
 - A Declaration of Use Process must be completed by the Athlete for the administration of glucocorticosteroids by intraarticular, periarticular, peritendinous, epidural, intradermal and inhalation routes (cortisone injections and inhaled asthma medication with cortisone).
 - No TUE or declaration of use is required for topical administration of glucocorticosteroids.

The "old" already approved Abbreviated Therapeutic Use Exemptions (ATUEs) delivered prior to December 31, 2008 shall remain valid after January 1, 2009 until the earliest of:

- The date on which they are cancelled by the IFF Medical Committee or WADA;
- Their expiry date as mentioned on the ATUE;
- All ATUEs will expire latest December 31st, 2009.

Also the WADA's International Standard for TUE's and International Standard for Testing are found on www.floorball.org under **Anti-Doping**.

The IFF Office wants to thank all Floorball actors throughout the world for a very successful year 2008 and wishes all Floorball Friends Happy Holidays and a good start in the New Year 2009.

We look forward to meeting you in the IFF Events during 2009!

