

International Floorball Federation

**COMPETITION
REGULATIONS
NATIONAL TEAMS**

Edition 2015

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COMPETITION REGULATIONS – NATIONAL TEAMS

§ 1 GENERAL

- 1.1 IFF Championships (Championship) shall be conducted in accordance with IFF Competition Regulations, IFF Juridical Regulations and the IFF Rules of the Game.
- 1.2 All IFF member Associations are entitled to apply to organize IFF Championships.
- 1.3 The organizers of IFF Championships are appointed by the IFF Central Board (CB) upon proposal from IFF Rules and Competition Committee (RACC).
- 1.4 The duties and responsibilities of the organizers are laid down in the IFF Organizers Regulations.
- 1.5 Those with a possibility to influence the outcome of a match may not, self or via other person, bet on the outcome of a match. This means that i.e. players, officials, secretariat, and board members may not bet on a match where the own Team participates. Referees may not bet on a match, or any match in a tournament, they are part of.
- 1.6 Participants in IFF Events are obliged to follow the rules, regulations and guidelines from the IFF and the IFF Event organiser.

§ 2 PARTICIPATION

- 2.1 IFF shall stage a World Championship for national representative teams in principal:
 - a) the final round in the week involving the 2nd full weekend of December every year for Adults, in odd years for Women and in even years for Men
 - b) the qualifications in the week involving the 1st full weekend of February every year for Adults, in odd years for Women and in even years for Men
 - c) the final round in the week involving the 1st full weekend of May every year for Juniors, in odd years for Men Under 19 and in even years for Women Under 19
 - d) the qualifications in the week involving the 2nd full weekend of September every year for Juniors, in odd years for Women Under 19 and in even years for Men Under 19
- 2.2 All IFF member Associations which are not under suspension may apply to participate in a Championship.
- 2.3 Registration shall be made on the official IFF formula.
Registration and payment of the participation fee shall be the IFF by hand as follows:
 - a) Adult WFC: 5000 CHF for directly qualified and 2000 CHF for teams in the qualification shall be at the headquarters of IFF not later than 31st of December two years before the Championship. Further the referee costs in the qualification shall be equally shared by all teams in the qualification. The teams qualifying for the WFC final round shall pay the difference between the full fee and the qualification fee, keeping in mind the referee costs.
 - b) U19 WFC: 3000 CHF for directly qualified and 2000 CHF for teams in the qualification shall be at the headquarters of IFF not later than the 31st of December the season preceding the season of the Championship. Further the referee costs in the qualification as well as the final round shall be equally shared by all teams in the qualification and the final round respectively.
- 2.4 A team that registers for a competition and then withdraws from the championship, either prior to the start of, or during competition, shall be sanctioned according to the IFF Juridical Regulations.
- 2.5 Costs for travel to and from the arrival city and board and lodging shall be borne by each participating team. The Arrival city of a tournament shall be the city with the nearest harbour, railway station or airport to the main city of the competition. The cost for transportation to the arrival city shall be borne by the participating federations. The organiser shall take the cost from the determined arrival city onwards. In case of any doubts, it is the IFF Central Board/RACC which defines the arrival city of the tournament.
- 2.6 The host shall pay for no more than 27 persons (20 players and 7 officials) per team for travelling from the airport, harbour or railway station in the Arrival city to their respective accommodation. The host shall also pay for the participating teams for travelling from their

accommodation to the official venues, to one daily training session according to the official program and to the airport, harbour or railway station in the departure city. The responsibility for the organizer to transport the teams starts two days before the first match and ceases the day after the last match of each team. The teams must use the local transport provided by the organizer.

- 2.7 Participants shall be responsible for taking out the appropriate insurance to cover their delegations.

§ 3 QUALIFICATION OF PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS

- 3.1 Only players with citizenship of the own nation, having not participated earlier for another Adult national representative team in a Championship, shall be eligible to represent the nation in the Championship.
- 3.2. Only players having achieved the age of 15 and officials the age of 18 before the start of the final round are eligible to participate.
- 3.3 Teams participating are entitled to use a maximum of 20 players and a maximum of 7 officials in the Championship.
- 3.4 30 full days before the first match of the Championship a list of the team delegation, completed on the official IFF formula and signed by the national Association concerned, shall be sent to IFF and the organizer. This list may consist of up to 30 players and 10 officials from which the final delegation shall be selected.
Together with the first list, the teams shall send a passport style photo of each team member (players and officials) and a picture of the team jerseys.

21 full days before the first match of the Championship the final list of a maximum of 20 players and 7 officials shall be sent to IFF and the organizer. Only those persons included in the final list are entitled to participate in the Championship.

Persons in the final list may, due to unforeseen circumstances, be substituted after a written application to the IFF RACC. The substitute shall however, if it concerns a player, be included in the first list of 30 players. Passports or any other internationally accepted ID card shall be checked in connection with the accreditation.

Every player and official must have signed the IFF Event Participant Acknowledgement & Agreement form before they will be provided with accreditation.

- 3.5 A maximum of 20 players and 5 officials are allowed to participate in a match. The signed list of players and officials taking part in a match shall be handed in to the match secretariat not later than 60 minutes before the match. At the same time the team line-up form shall be handed in. No other than those on the list are allowed to be in the substitution zone. Should in IFF events the printed match record system be used the Match record shall be signed by team officials also after the match.
- 3.6 For Friendly Internationals during IFF International weekends, players shall be freed for participation in their respective national teams at least three days in advance of the event or at the latest, Wednesday at noon, to be present in the team concerned. For the international weekend in November the players shall be freed on Monday at noon.
- 3.7 In addition, players shall be freed the last weekend before the WFC/WFC Qualification/Multi-sport Event for national team training camps. Information of such training camps shall be informed to the IFF no later than 30th of June for the WFC and 4 months before a WFC Qualification/Multi-sport Event.

§ 4 PLAYING SYSTEM OF THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

4.1 The Adult World Championships

- 4.1.1 The Adult World Championships shall be played with qualifications and a final round.
- 4.1.2 The final round shall consist of 16 teams.
- 4.1.3 The WFC final round shall be played in 4 groups of 4 teams each. The forming of the groups shall be decided in a ballot based on the final rankings of the two previous Championships of the same category, where each group will be allotted two teams from each basket as follows:

Group A and B:

Basket 1: Ranking 1-4

Basket 2: Ranking 5-8

Group C and D:

Basket 3: Ranking 9-12

Basket 4: Ranking 13-16

- 4.1.4 Continued play after the group matches shall be as follows:
(the exact numbering of the matches may differ for each event depending on the order of play in the final match schedule)

Play-off 1:	3 rd group A	-2 nd group D
Play-off 2:	3 rd group B	-2 nd group C
Play-off 3:	4 th group A	-1 st group D
Play-off 4:	4 th group B	-1 st group C
Quarter-final 1:	1 st group A	- Winner PO4
Quarter-final 2:	1 st group B	- Winner PO3
Quarter-final 3:	2 nd group A	- Winner PO2
Quarter-final 4:	2 nd group B	- Winner PO1
Semi-final 1:	Winner Q1	- Winner Q4
Semi-final 2:	Winner Q2	- Winner Q3
Match for 3 rd place:	Loser Semi	- Loser Semi
Final:	Winner Semi	- Winner Semi

A drawing of lots shall decide which team shall be the home team of the final and the bronze match

Ranking matches between 5th and 16th place shall be played as follows:

13-16:1	3 rd group D	- 4 th group C
13-16:2	3 rd group C	- 4 th group D
9-12:1	Loser PO2	- Loser PO3
9-12:2	Loser PO1	- Loser PO4
5-8:1	Loser Q1	- Loser Q4
5-8:2	Loser Q2	- Loser Q3
Match for 15 th place	Loser 13-16:1	- Loser 13-16:2
Match for 13 th place	Winner 13-16:1	- Winner 13-16:2
Match for 11 th place	Loser 9-12:1	- Loser 9-12:2
Match for 9 th place	Winner 9-12:1	- Winner 9-12:2
Match for 7 th place	Loser 5-8:1	- Loser 5-8:2
Match for 5 th place	Winner 5-8:1	- Winner 5-8:2

4.1.5 Qualification for the Adult World Championships

The Qualification is played with continental tournaments. The model of the qualification and the amount of places will be based on the number of qualifying teams per continent.
The system of the qualification will be decided by the RACC.

4.2 The U19 World Championships

- 4.2.1 The U19 World Championships shall be played in an A- and a B-division and possible qualifications for the B-division.
- 4.2.2 The final round shall consist of 16 teams, 8 teams in the each division.
- 4.2.3 The A- and B-division shall be played in two groups of 4 teams each respectively.
The forming of the groups shall be based on the final rankings of the previous Championship, as follows:

A-division

Group A
World Champions
4th placed team
5th placed team
B-division winner of the previous U19 WFC

Group B
Runner-up
3rd placed team
6th placed team
7th placed team

B-division

Group C

A-division relegated team of the prev. U19 WFC

12th seeded team

13th seeded team

16th seeded team

Group D

10th seeded team

11th seeded team

14th seeded team

15th seeded team

- 4.2.4 The A-division continued play after the group matches shall be as follows:
(the exact numbering of the matches may differ for each event depending on the order of play in the final match schedule)

Semi-final 1: Winner of group 1 – 2nd of group 2

Semi-final 2: Winner of group 2 – 2nd of group 1

Match for 3rd Place: Loser Semi – Loser Semi

Final: Winner Semi – Winner Semi

A drawing of lots shall decide which team shall be the home team of the final and the bronze match.

Ranking matches for 5th and 7th place shall be played as follows:

Match for 5th Place: 3rd of group 1 – 3rd of group 2

Match for 7th Place: 4th of group 2 – 4th of group 1

The loser of the 7th place match shall be relegated to the B-division.

The B-division continued play after the group matches shall be as follows (ranking referring to the complete Championship):

Semi-final 1: Winner of group 3 – 2nd of group 4

Semi-final 2: Winner of group 4 – 2nd of group 3

Match for 11th place: Loser Semi – Loser Semi

Final (9th place): Winner Semi – Winner Semi

A drawing of lots shall decide which team shall be the home team of the final and the bronze match

Ranking matches for 13th and 15th place shall be played as follows:

Match for 13th Place: 3rd of group 3 – 3rd of group 4

Match for 15th Place: 4th of group 4 – 4th of group 3

The winner of the B-division shall be promoted to the A-division

- 4.2.5 Upon request by RACC, Quarter-finals may be played also in the U19. A final decision shall then be taken by the IFF CB. When Quarter-finals are played the continued play after the group matches shall be as follows:
(the exact numbering of the matches may differ for each event depending on the order of play in the final match schedule)

Quarter-final 1: 2nd group 1 - 3rd group 2

Quarter-final 2: 1st group 2 - 4th group 1

Quarter-final 3: 1st group 1 - 4th group 2

Quarter-final 4: 2nd group 2 - 3rd group 1

Semi-final 1: Winner Q2 - Winner Q1

Semi-final 2: Winner Q3 - Winner Q4

Match for 3rd place: Loser Semi - Loser Semi

Final: Winner Semi - Winner Semi

A drawing of lots shall decide which team shall be the home team of the final and the bronze match

Ranking matches for 5th and 7th place shall be played as follows:

Match 1: Loser Q2 - Loser Q1

Match 2: Loser Q3 - Loser Q4

Match for 5th place: Winner Match 1 - Winner Match 2

Match for 7th place: Loser Match 1 - Loser Match 2

4.3 General regulations for both Adult and U19 World Championships

4.3.1 The order of play within each group shall be:

1-2, 3-4, 1-3, 2-4, 1-4, 2-3.

The IFF RACC shall allot the number of each team within a group by drawing of lots.

4.3.2 The groups are decided by each team playing each other once within the group, where 2 points are awarded for a win, 1 point for a draw and 0 points for a loss.

4.3.3 The ranking within a group shall be decided in the following order:

a) The total number of points.

b) If two or more teams have the same number of points the internal matches of the teams concerned, the internal goal difference included if necessary, shall be decisive.

c) If the internal matches according to b) are not decisive, most scored goals internally shall be decisive.

d) If the ranking cannot be decided by the internal matches, the total goal difference of the teams concerned shall be decisive.

e) If the total goal difference is not decisive most scored goals of the teams concerned shall be decisive.

f) If most scored goals are not decisive a drawing of lot with the teams concerned shall settle the ranking unless the ranking concerns only the two teams playing a last round match deciding about promotion or relegation when extra time and, if needed, penalty shots shall decide the ranking.

The results of all matches versus a team which has missed a match or matches, and lost these by walk over 5-0, shall not have an effect on the final ranking between teams having ended up in the same amount of points, unless the team having missed the match or matches is itself involved.

4.3.4 All matches of the continued play after the group matches shall, when ending with a draw, be decided according to the IFF Rules of the Game concerning extra-time and, if necessary, penalty shots. This shall be valid also for qualifications involving two teams only playing two matches where the qualification, if a draw after two matches, shall be decided by extra time and possible penalty shots following directly after the second match.

4.3.5 The match schedule of a Championship shall be done such that there is least 2 1/2 hours between the start of matches being played on the same rink. In principal a team that plays the last match of the day shall not play the first match the following day.

4.3.6 The organizers are entitled to request to the IFF RACC for changes in the timetable for reasons of television coverage. The teams shall be informed at a justified time before the start of the match concerned.

4.3.7 Teams are entitled to warm up at least 15 minutes on the rink before the start of a match.

§ 5 PLAYER'S OUTFITS

5.1 The player's outfit shall be according to the IFF Rules of the Game. The participating teams shall have one dark and one light coloured jersey to play with, in order to avoid problems on internet and TV. IFF may decide about further regulations regarding numbering, colours and advertisements on the player's outfit and equipment and the team official's outfit and equipment, to be in charge during the Championship.

5.1.1 The main colour of the outfit must be dominating. Any personal equipment worn under the shirt and/or shorts must be of the same colour as the shirts or shorts.

5.1.2 In the final round of the Adult World Championships, players must have the surname written in the back of the player's shirt. The name must be written with clearly visible Latin letters, which are at least 50 mm high.

5.2 A player taking part of the Championship shall wear the same number throughout the whole competition (according to the list of players § 3.3).

5.3 If two teams have the same colour the RACC shall decide which team shall change according to registration.

- 5.4 All teams are required to present their two playing shirts (one light and one dark) for inspection at the First Technical Meeting of the event

§ 6 ADVERTISEMENT RIGHTS

- 6.1 A team is entitled to have advertisements on the player's outfit, but shall leave space for possible IFF advertisement according to 6.2.
- 6.2 IFF is entitled to have advertisements on the player's outfit.

§ 7 REFEREES

- 7.1 All matters concerning referees in IFF National Team competitions shall be dealt with by the IFF Referee Committee according to valid regulations and decisions.

§ 8 PROTESTS

- 8.1 The IFF Rules and Competition Committee (RACC) shall act as the jury and decide in matters regarding protests during the Championship. Sanctions imposed by the Jury are final as far as the duration of the competition to which they apply is concerned.
- 8.2 When taking decisions the valid IFF regulations are applicable.
- 8.3 The intention to protest shall be noted in the Match Record directly after the match and the protest shall be handed to the Jury within 60 minutes from the end of the match concerned.
- 8.4 Protests concerning qualification of players shall be handed in before the start of the match concerned.
- 8.5 A protest must be written, signed and followed by the amount of 100 CHF, which will be returned only if the protest is approved.

§ 9 ANTI-DOPING

- 9.1 All players using medication that is on the Prohibited List must have a valid Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) in order to participate in an IFF Championship. TUE forms must be submitted 30 days prior to the start of the event.
- 9.2 The IFF Rules and Competition Committee (RACC) shall act as the jury and decide in matters regarding doping during the Championship. Sanctions imposed by the Jury are final as far as the duration of the competition to which they apply is concerned.
- 9.3 When taking decisions the valid IFF regulations and the IFF Anti-Doping regulations are applicable.
- 9.4 All players registered for competition of IFF agree to undergo doping control test. Refusal of player to submit to doping test shall be considered as equivalent to positive result. The player is entitled to be accompanied by an official or other of the team during the test.
- 9.5 In case of a positive doping test the player concerned shall be suspended during investigation. Decision about punishment shall be taken after the Championship.

§ 10 BETTING

- 10.1 Participants' laptops, computers and similar devices and telecommunication tools including cell phones and internet in the pre-defined restricted areas (including locker rooms) shall be turned off during the participants own matches.
- 10.2 Appointments of referees in IFF events shall in principal be made at the earliest the day before a match.
- 10.3 Random financial audits for referees may be carried out as well as regular scrutiny of their field decisions.
- 10.4 Matches may be excluded from the betting offer of organisations under investigation or subject to sanctions for manipulations.
- 10.5 a) It is prohibited to bet on matches for minors (under 18 years old).
- b) It is prohibited for any athletes, and their entourage, from participating in all forms of, or support for, betting or gambling related to their own matches and competitions in their sport

c) It is prohibited to use any Inside Information for betting purposes, including disclosing Inside Information to any person (with or without reward) where the athlete might reasonably be expected to know that its disclosure could be used in relation to betting

- 10.6 Sponsorship by betting operators of sports teams composed of minors (athletes under 18 years old) shall be prohibited.
- 10.7 Unauthorised betting types and formulas, following annual identification by a technical group of sport and betting experts will be determined by the IFF or Association. Betting operators will be requested not to offer these bets to punters.
- 10.8 The National Associations shall have regulations ensuring that they and their clubs fulfill their financial obligations towards their athletes and sports officials i.e. regular pay and good conditions for their professional athletes and sports officials (including referees).
- 10.9 Any person who is under prosecution for action including forgery, corruption, etc. or who has been convicted of a criminal offence within the last two years shall, to avoid conflicts of interest, not be allowed to be involved in the management of federations, clubs, associations, teams etc.
- 10.10 Random financial audits for National Associations as well as their Clubs may be carried out at any time to ensure transparency in their financing;
- 10.11 To ensure an economic fair return from the betting operators, not only for the organisers of events, but also for the development of Floorball recognition of a "betting right" of an IFF event shall be agreed upon between the betting companies and the IFF, and for a national event between the betting companies and the National Association.
- 10.12 Sanctions for breaches of the betting regulations are according to the IFF Juridical Regulations Article 8 and 9.

§ 11 OTHER DISCIPLINARY MATTERS

- 11.1 The IFF Rules and Competition Committee (RACC) shall act as the jury and decide in matters regarding other disciplinary matters during the Championship. Exemption from this is when a disciplinary matter is reported of any of the playing teams in a match or by the IFF, then the decision shall be made by the disciplinary function of the event. A suspension decided by the Event disciplinary function may not exceed 3 matches. Sanctions imposed by the Jury are final as far as the duration of the competition to which they apply is concerned.
- 11.2 When taking decisions the valid IFF regulations are applicable.
- 11.3 All disciplinary matters which are not in the competence of the CB or the RACC of IFF shall be dealt with by the IFF Disciplinary Bodies.
- 11.4 The report in a disciplinary matter shall be handed in latest 09:00 the morning after the match. The disciplinary function shall decide and inform of the decision 15:00 the day after the match.
- 11.5 A disciplinary report handed in by a team must be written, signed and followed by the amount of 500 CHF, which will be returned only if the decision is in favour of the reporter. If the report refers to a Video clip this shall be included in the report
- 11.6 When handling a disciplinary matter during an IFF event the IFF Disciplinary function may use video recording only if the recording is from the official filming of the event (LOC, IFF YouTube, TV).

§ 12 WALK OVER

- 12.1 When a Walk Over (W.O) is at hand, meaning when a team does not line up to a match, the match is forfeited and the opponent shall be considered having won the match with the result 5-0.

§ 13 CUPS AND MEDALS IN THE WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 13.1 A challenge cup shall be presented to the winning team to hold for one year. The holder shall be responsible for the loss or damage of the cup and shall bring it to the next Championship in perfect condition. The holder shall be responsible for engraving of its name according to the guide-lines laid down by IFF. A replica of the cup and 30 IFF Gold medals shall be awarded to the winning team. Additional medals may not be produced.

The challenge cup shall become the final property of the team which wins the trophy three times in succession or a total of five times.

- 13.2 The runner-up shall receive a cup and 30 IFF Silver medals.
- 13.3 The 3rd ranked team shall receive a cup and 30 IFF Bronze medals.
- 13.4 The winner of the B-division (U19 WFC) shall be presented a cup and 30 IFF Gold medals.
- 13.5 The referees in the final shall be presented one IFF Gold medal each. The referees in the bronze match shall be presented one IFF Silver medal each and the referees in the B-division final (U19 WFC) shall be presented one IFF Bronze medal each.
- 13.6 Each participating player and team official in the teams placed 4th -16th, and referee shall be presented one IFF Bronze Memory medal each.

§ 14 THE RINK

- 14.1 The rink shall be according to the IFF Rules of the Game.

§ 15 PRACTISE SESSIONS DURING WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 15.1 Teams are entitled to at least one practice for at least 45 minutes in the official tournament venue before their first match at said venue, on the day before an official match.
- 15.2 Teams are entitled to practice for at least 45 minutes per day on a regulation playing area or playing area the same size as the competition arena. Where possible, the playing surface should be the same as in the competition arena
- 15.3 Practice sessions shall be conducted according to the official practice schedule.
- 15.4 Teams shall bring their own balls and other equipment to practice sessions.

§ 16 MEETINGS IN IFF CHAMPIONSHIPS

- 16.1. Immediately prior to the start of the tournament the technical meeting shall be held where the organizing committee, the head of delegation of each team, the head of referees the IFF Jury shall be present.
- 16.2 A second technical meeting shall be held after the group matches.
- 16.3 The organizers are responsible for arranging the meeting rooms.
- 16.4 The heads of delegations shall attend other meetings scheduled by the Jury or the organizing committee.
- 16.5 Such meetings shall be compulsory for the participating teams.

§ 17 TICKETS

17.1 Participating Teams

- 17.1.1 Each participating team is entitled to a maximum of 27 accreditations/reserved seats automatically valid for the time the team is playing in the Championships, free of charge, for the players and officials of the team. The accreditation ends on the same day when the teams have played their last match in the competition.
Only those on the Final team list will receive accreditation/reserved seats.
- 17.1.2 The organiser of the Championship must reserve the needed amount of reserved seats for all the participating teams for the group rounds.
For the play off rounds the organiser needs to reserve the same amount of reserved seats equal to the number of teams still participating in the tournament.
- 17.1.3 The participating teams are entitled to reserve and purchase tickets for the play off phase of the tournament to the lowest price category, no later than six months prior to the start of the Championships.
- 17.1.4 If a team, which has reserved and paid tickets for the play offs, would qualify for the play offs, the organiser would reimburse the price of the tickets.

17.2 Participating Associations

17.2.1 Each participating member Association, in National Team Competitions, is entitled to a maximum of 5 tickets (2 VIP accreditations and 3 ordinary tickets) valid for the entire Championships, free of charge.

17.3 Participating Associations at the IFF General Assembly/Associations Meeting

Each participating member Association, without a team taking part in the Championship, but attending the IFF General Assembly/Associations meeting is entitled to 2 VIP accreditations for the rest of the Championships during & after the IFF General Assembly/Associations Meeting.

17.4 Each participating member Association is entitled to purchase tickets.

The ticket quota of each participating member Association shall be fixed by IFF RACC in consultation with the organizer, and shall be divided as follows:

- a) For their own team's matches in the group
- b) For matches played by other teams in the same group
- c) For matches in other groups
- d) For their own team's matches in continued play after group matches
- e) For other matches in continued play after group matches

§ 18 UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES

18.1 The CB and/or RACC of IFF shall take decisions on all matters not provided for in these Regulations, as well as in cases of "force majeure". Such decisions shall not be subject to appeal.