

STATUTES



EDITION 2012

International Floorball Federation

IFF

STATUTES

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I GENERAL GUIDELINES

ARTICLE 1 TITLE, LEGAL FORM AND CONSTITUTION

The International Floorball Federation (IFF) is an association governed by Art. 60 and following, of the Swiss Civil Code, consisting of the National Associations that are recognized by IFF as controlling association for Floorball in their respective countries.

ARTICLE 2 OBJECTS

The objects of the IFF are the promotion, development and organisation of Floorball world-wide.

ARTICLE 3 LEGAL SEAT AND OFFICE

3.1 The location of the legal seat of IFF shall be determined by a resolution of the General Assembly.

3.2 The location of the office of IFF shall be determined by the Central Board.

ARTICLE 4 NEUTRALITY

The IFF shall take steps as shall be deemed necessary or advisable to prevent any discrimination against a country or an individual for reasons of race, religion or politics and gender.

ARTICLE 5 DOPING ABUSE

In case of Doping abuse within IFF activities the WADA Anti-Doping Code and the relevant IFF regulations are applicable.

ARTICLE 6 REPRESENTATION

The IFF represents International Floorball activities solely to all partners, such as public authorities, media and other exclusively.

ARTICLE 7 PUBLICATIONS

7.1 To inform its members regarding official publications and invitations, the IFF can form its own publications/medium.

7.2 Details shall be governed by an IFF regulation.

ARTICLE 8 FEDERATION'S- / FINANCIAL-YEAR

The federation's year and the financial year last from the 1st of January to the 31st of December.

II MEMBERSHIP

ARTICLE 9 MEMBERSHIP OF IFF WITHIN OTHER FEDERATION

- 9.1 The aim of IFF is to co-operate within the international sports community and to gain membership of international federations, such as SportAccord and the IOC.
- 9.2 In differences of statutes, IFF Statutes take precedence.

ARTICLE 10 MEMBERSHIP WITHIN THE IFF

- 10.1 The membership can be recognized to all National Floorball Associations (one per nation), that aim is to promote and preserve Floorball, organize national championships and participate in the activities organised by IFF.
- 10.2 The members of the IFF may not join any other International Floorball Organisation.

ARTICLE 11 TYPES OF MEMBERSHIP

The IFF differentiates between ordinary members, provisional members and honorary members.

ARTICLE 12 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

- 12.1 An Association applying for membership shall address a written request (all documents in English) to this effect to the IFF. The application shall contain:
- a) name and address of the headquarters of the Association,
 - b) names and addresses of the board members of the Association,
 - c) Statutes and other Regulations of the Association,
 - d) minutes from the foundation, and if possible,
 - e) registration documents from their National authorities and an approval from the National Sports Confederation.
- 12.2 A new member association shall be accepted first as a provisional member before becoming an ordinary member.

ARTICLE 13 ACQUISITION OF PROVISIONAL MEMBERSHIP

- 13.1 The Association can be a section of another Sports Federation which is a member of the National Sports Confederation.
- 13.2 If the statutes and regulations correspond to the statutes of the IFF and the conditions for membership are fulfilled.

The provisional membership shall be granted by the CB.

- 13.3 Provisional membership shall only be granted for four years. After a maximum of four years from becoming a provisional member the Association will, automatically, become an ordinary member, after a decision taken at the IFF General Assembly, if the Association in question is fulfilling the requirements of article 14.

ARTICLE 14 ACQUISITION OF ORDINARY MEMBERSHIP

- 14.1 The Association shall be a self ruled Floorball Association or a self ruled Floorball section in another Association.
- 14.2 The Association shall consist of at least 10 Clubs. Exceptions can only be granted by the CB.
- 14.3 The Association shall be the Organizer of National Floorball Championships.
- 14.4 The Association shall be member of the National Sports Confederation (Exception: if there are justifiable reasons).
- 14.5 An application for ordinary membership can also be handed in to the IFF according to article 12, paragraph 1, earlier than the four years.
- 14.6 Ordinary membership is granted by the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 15 MEMBERS RIGHTS

15.1 Provisional members are entitled to:

- a) Participate at the General Assembly without voting status, but with the right to put forward motions.
- b) Participate in Continental and World Championships organized by the IFF with their National Team. Participate with their various National Teams in Championships if the requirements are fulfilled.
- c) Allow their Club Teams to participate in matches and tournaments sanctioned by the IFF, according to the Competition Regulations

15.2 Ordinary members are entitled to:

- a) Full Co-management of all IFF activities within the limits of the competence given by the Statutes. All official members have the equal rights within the IFF.
- b) Participate at the General Assembly with voting status and with the right to put forward motions.
- c) If a new regulation that has been published is opposed (within 30 days notice), a 1/3 of the members can claim the approval of it by the General Assembly.
- d) Participate in Continental and World Championships organized by the IFF with their National Team. Participate with their various National Teams in Championships if the requirements are fulfilled.
- e) Allow their Club Teams to participate in games and tournaments sanctioned by the IFF, according to the IFF Competition Regulations.

ARTICLE 16 MEMBERS DUTIES

Members shall:

- a) Be aware of the statutes, regulations, decisions and other directions of the IFF and its bodies and to brief their own members on them.
- b) Omit any activities that could be detrimental to the interests and the status of Floorball in general and the IFF in particular.
- c) Fulfil the requirements of the Financial Regulations.

ARTICLE 17 LOSS OF MEMBERSHIP

17.1 The membership expires by: - resignation (withdrawal)
- exclusion
- dissolution of the association

17.2 The expiration of membership does not dispense from any member's duties during the membership.

17.3 Any members lose their member's rights after the expiration of membership.
They have no legitimate claim to the fortune of the IFF.

ARTICLE 18 RESIGNATION

The resignation from the IFF shall be sent to the official address of the IFF within 90 full days notice to the end of the IFF Administrative year.

ARTICLE 19 DISSOLUTION

In the case of dissolution of a National Association the membership expires at the day of the decision of dissolution.

ARTICLE 20 REACQUISITION OF MEMBERSHIP

In the case of a reapplication of a former member (National Association) it has to meet in addition to the conditions particularised in article 13 all arrears of duties.

ARTICLE 21 HONORARY MEMBERSHIP

21.1 The General Assembly may grant the title of Honorary President or Honorary Member to any individual person who has rendered meritorious service to the IFF. The CB shall submit the name of any such person to the General Assembly for approval.

21.2 Honorary Members shall be invited to the General Assembly and are entitled to take part in the discussions but have no voting power.

21.3 Honorary Members shall be freed of membership fees.

ARTICLE 22 CONFEDERATIONS

A Confederation is a group of at least three (3) Associations recognized by IFF that belong to the same continent or assimilable geographical region. The confederations are to be accepted by the IFF ordinary General Assembly by a majority of 2/3.

ARTICLE 23 RIGHTS OF CONFEDERATIONS

23.1 A Confederation shall have the following rights and obligations:

- a) to comply with and enforce compliance with the Statutes, Regulations and at decisions of IFF
- b) to work closely with IFF in every domain so as to achieve the objectives stipulated in Article 2 to organise International Competitions
- c) to organise its own International and Interclub Competitions, in compliance with the international calendar
- d) to ensure that International Leagues or any other such groups of clubs or Leagues shall not be formed without its consent and the approval of IFF
- e) at the request of IFF to grant Associations applying for membership the status of a provisional member. This status shall grant Associations the right to take part in the Confederation's competitions and General Assemblies. Any other rights and obligations of the provisional member shall be regulated by the Confederation's statutes and regulations. Provisional members of the Confederation may not take part in IFF final competitions.
- f) to appoint to the Confederation Central Board members to which they are entitled in compliance with these Statutes.
- g) to nurture relations and cooperation with IFF actively and constructively for the good of the Game through consultative meetings and to discuss and resolve any problems relating to the interest of the Confederations of IFF
- h) to ensure, that the representatives appointed to IFF bodies or the Confederation Central Board carry out their activities on these bodies with mutual respect, solidarity, recognition and fair play
- i) to set up committees that work closely together with the corresponding committees of IFF
- j) exceptionally to allow, with IFF's consent, an Association from another Confederation to participate in a Competition that it is organising
- k) with the mutual cooperation of IFF, to take any action considered necessary to develop the game of Floorball on the continent concerned, such as arranging development programmes, courses, conferences etc.
- l) to set up the bodies necessary to fulfil the duties incumbent upon it.
- m) to produce the funds necessary to fulfil its duties

23.2 The Central Board may delegate other duties or powers to the Confederations. To this end, IFF may conclude an appropriate agreement with each of the Confederations concerned.

23.3 The Confederations' statutes and regulations shall be submitted to IFF for approval.

III BODIES

ARTICLE 24 BODIES

The bodies of the IFF are:

- A) The General Assembly
- B) The Central Board (CB)
- C) The Executive Committee (ExCo)
- D) The Disciplinary Organs
- E) The Committees

A. THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

ARTICLE 25 ORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

25.1 The General Assembly is the supreme body of the IFF. An Ordinary General Assembly shall be held, every two years, in connection to the Men's World Floorball Championships in even years.

25.2 The General Assembly shall be announced by the CB at latest 90 full days in advance. The summons to the General Assembly together with the agenda, the CB reports, the financial report, auditors report, budget, nominations and any motions and proposals of the National Associations shall be sent to the National Associations at latest 30 full days in advance.

ARTICLE 26 EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

26.1 The CB or a 1/3 of the ordinary member Associations can claim the summoning of an Extraordinary General Assembly.

26.2 The Extraordinary General Assembly shall be held within 90 full days since the service of the claim. The procedure shall be equal to the one of the Ordinary General Assembly.

ARTICLE 27 NOMINATIONS, MOTIONS AND PROPOSALS

27.1 Candidates for election to any office in the IFF shall be nominated to the official address of the IFF at latest 60 full days in advance of the General Assembly. Only persons of an ordinary member are eligible for elections.

27.2 All proposals and motions of the member Associations shall be sent in to the official address of the IFF at latest 60 full days in advance of the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 28 AGENDA AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The functions and competence of the General Assembly are:

- a) Opening of the General Assembly
- b) Approval of present Associations and the voting roll.
- c) Election of the scrutinisers
- d) Approval of the Agenda
- e) Approval of the protocol of the last General Assembly (according to article 31 paragraph 3)
- f) Admission or expulsion of ordinary member Associations
- g) Approval of the CB reports
- h) Approval of the financial report and the auditors report
- i) Decision on freedom of responsibility for the CB
- j) Decision on membership fee
- k) Approval of the budget and working plan for the next two years
- l) Elections, for a period of four years:
 - IFF President
 - nine CB members
 - chairman of the Disciplinary Committee
 - two members and two substitutes of the Disciplinary Committee
 - chairman of the Appeal Committee
 - two members and two substitutes of the Appeal Committee
- m) Appointment of a chartered auditor and a substitute for two years
- n) Examinations and decisions on proposals and motions of the members
- o) Approval of Regulations within the meaning of article 15 paragraph 2 littera c)
- p) Decision on all affairs being reserved for the General Assembly by the statutes or by law
- q) Modification of the statutes
- r) Appointment of honorary member
- s) Decision on the meeting place for the next General Assembly

ARTICLE 29 VOTING STATUS

- 29.1 Each member Association is allowed to participate with two persons (delegates legitimated by the National Association) at the General Assembly. A person can only represent one Association.
- 29.2 Each ordinary member Association which has fulfilled its obligation's to IFF is entitled to one vote at the General Assembly. The CB informs the voting roll and distributes it together with the documents of the General Assembly latest 30 full days before the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 30 ELECTIONS AND DECISIONS

- 30.1 Elections and decisions are voted by open ballot unless at least two of the present ordinary members apply for a secret ballot.
- 30.2 Elections and decisions shall be taken by simple majority of the present votes.
- 30.3 When the voting concerns elections, the person or those persons with the most votes shall be considered elected. In the election of the CB the candidate of each gender, who have received the most votes, are first elected and the remaining seats are filled in order of most votes received.

ARTICLE 31 PROTOCOL (MINUTES)

- 31.1 The minutes shall be sent to the member Associations within 30 full days from when the General Assembly has been held.
- 31.2 The minutes is considered to be approved by the ordinary member Associations unless a substantiated objection in writing is sent to the CB of the IFF within 30 full days notice since the service.
- 31.3 In the case of an objection the next General Assembly decides on the approval respectively the corrigenda or the completions of the minutes.

B. THE CENTRAL BOARD

ARTICLE 32 FUNCTION

- 32.1 The Central Board (CB) is the executive body of IFF.
- 32.2 It leads the IFF and represents it externally.

ARTICLE 33 COMPOSITION

- 33.1 The CB shall consist of a President and ten members representing both genders. The President and nine members are elected by the General Assembly, while the tenth member is the Chairman of the Athletes Commission, elected by the latter after the GA.
- 33.2 No more than one person from the same ordinary member Association can be elected as member of the CB, with the exception of the President or the Athletes Commission Chairman. In all cases, the CB cannot be made up of more than two members from the same member Association.
- 33.3 The term of office for the President and members of the CB shall be four years. The retiring members and the President shall be eligible for re-election.
- 33.4 Vacancies during the term of office shall be co-opted by the CB upon proposal by the national Associations in question. If there are a vacancy co-opted during the first two years, it has to be confirmed by the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 34 CONSTITUTION AND ORGANISATION

- 34.1 Within the members of the CB there shall be appointed one Vice President and a Treasurer.
- 34.2 The procedure within the CB, the functions and competence of the CB members shall be governed by rules of procedure and responsibility lists.

ARTICLE 35 COMPETENCE AND VOTING

- 35.1 The CB shall be responsible for the management and administration of the IFF and shall take decisions on all matters which does not require a General Assembly decision. The CB may delegate some of its powers.
- 35.2 The CB shall appoint the Chairmen of the committees.
- 35.3 The CB enacts the IFF Regulations.
- 35.4 Each member of the CB is entitled within the limits of its particular function and in the execution of CB decisions to represent the IFF in its own power.
- 35.5 The CB can install working groups (WG) for specific duties with adequate competence. Also non CB members can be called into a WG.
- 35.6 In order to fulfil all the requirements in the administration the CB can appoint a General Secretary.
- 35.7 The CB shall have a quorum of six members, including the President or, in his absence, the Vice-President.
- 35.8 Decisions shall be taken by simple majority. In case of a draw in a CB voting the President's vote is decisive.

C. THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (ExCo)

ARTICLE 36 COMPOSITION AND COMPETENCE

- 36.1 The routine and urgent business of the IFF shall be dealt with by an Executive Committee (ExCo) comprised of the President, the Vice-President, the Secretary General and two additional members of the CB, the latter being proposed by the President and elected by the CB. In all cases, the ExCo cannot be made up of more than two members from the same member country.
- 36.2 The ExCo shall be responsible for the preparation of matters for the CB and handling urgent questions if the CB is not in position to reconvene.
- 36.3 Decisions shall be taken by simple majority. In case of equality of votes, the President decides.
- 36.4 Members of the ExCo shall not take part in the voting on items on the agenda, which are of particular interest to their National Federation, or the Federation in which they hold a position.
- If necessary, the said items shall be designated by a separate vote, in which the members in question shall not take part.

ARTICLE 37 EXCEPTION

In cases of extreme urgency, the President may take the decision alone. He shall inform the ExCo and the Central Board of these decisions, with-in one week of the decision.

D. THE DISCIPLINARY ORGANS

ARTICLE 38 ORGANS

The disciplinary organs of IFF are:

- (a) the Jury;
- (b) the Disciplinary Committee (DC);
- (c) the Appeal Committee (AC).

ARTICLE 39 COMPOSITION

- 39.1 The Rules and Competition Committee (RACC) appoints the Jury members to each competition.
- 39.2 The General Assembly elects the members of the DC and the AC for a period of four years.
- 39.3 The General Assembly appoints the Chairman of each Committee from among the members for the same period of four years.
- 39.4 At least the Chairman of the Disciplinary Committee shall be a lawyer.

ARTICLE 40 COMPETENCE AND PROCEDURE

- 40.1 The Jury is authorised to sanction any breach of IFF regulations during IFF competitions according to the Juridical Regulations in force.
- 40.2 The DC is authorised to sanction any breach of IFF regulations which does not come under the jurisdiction of another body according to the Juridical Regulations in force.
- 40.3 The AC is responsible for deciding appeals against any of the Jury's, DC's and CB's decisions that the IFF regulations do not declare as final or referable to another body.
- 40.4 The procedure is governed by the Juridical Regulations.

E. THE COMMITTEES

ARTICLE 41 STANDING COMMITTEES

The Standing Committees of IFF, appointed by the CB, are:

- Rules and Competition Committee (RACC)
- Referee's Committee (RC)
- Medical Committee (MC)

ARTICLE 42 COMPOSITION

- 42.1 Based on proposals submitted by each Committee Chairman, the CB appoints the members of each Committee for a four-year term.
- 42.2 Except for the MC, the Committees shall, in principle, be chaired by a member of the CB. The CB may decide otherwise.
- 42.3 The CB shall determine the number of members of each Committee.

ARTICLE 43 OBLIGATIONS

- 43.1 The Chairman shall represent his Committee. In consultation with the Office, the Chairman of a Committee shall set the dates of meetings, be responsible for the proper conduct of business and regularly report to the CB on the Committee's work.
- 43.2 The Committees shall advise the CB. The CB may delegate certain of its duties to a Committee.
- 43.3 The Committees shall draw up guidelines for their work, which shall be approved by the CB.

ARTICLE 44 SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND FUNCTIONS

- 44.1 The CB may create Special Committees for a temporary period in order to deal with urgent and specific matters.
- 44.2 The rules governing the composition and obligations of the Standing Committees shall apply to Special Committees.
- 44.3 The CB may appoint persons to Special Functions or to perform special tasks on behalf of the IFF.

IV ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE 45 OFFICE

The Office shall carry out all the administrative work of IFF under the direction of the Secretary General.

ARTICLE 46 SECRETARY GENERAL

46.1 The Secretary General is the chief executive of the Office and shall be appointed on the basis of an agreement governed by private law.

46.2 He shall be responsible for :

- a) implementing decisions passed by the General Assembly, the CB and the ExCo ;
- b) managing and keeping the accounts of IFF properly;
- c) compiling the minutes for the meetings of the General Assembly, the CB and the ExCo and standing and special committees;
- d) IFF's correspondence;
- e) relations with the Confederations, Members, Committees and Special Functions;
- f) organizing the Office;
- g) the appointment and dismissal of staff working in the Office ;
- h) signing decisions on behalf of any IFF committee, provided that no other ruling exists in the respective regulations.

V FINANCES

ARTICLE 47 REVENUES

The revenues of the IFF consist, amongst others, of:

- membership fees
- duties
- tolls
- sanction fees
- subventions, donations, gifts, legacies
- returns of trade and agreements

ARTICLE 48 MEMBERSHIP FEE

48.1 The membership fee consists of two parts: a basic fee and a fee based on the number of players in the National Association (sized-related fee).

48.2 An ordinary member pays an ordinary members basic fee, and the sized-related fee.
A provisional member pays a provisional members basic fee and the sized-related fee.

48.3 The amounts of the fees are settled by the General Assembly and appear in the IFF Financial Regulations.

ARTICLE 49 INDEMNITIES AND CHARGES

The indemnities and charges of any member of an IFF body or representatives of the IFF shall be governed by the IFF Financial Regulations.

ARTICLE 50 LIABILITY

The IFF is liable for its engagements exclusively and only with its own assets. It is excluded to have a recourse to the National Associations.

ARTICLE 51 EXAMINATION OF THE ACCOUNT / AUDITORS

The General Assembly shall appoint a firm of chartered accountants, one accountant and one substitute for a term of office of two years to examine the financial report of the IFF every year. The auditors' reports shall be submitted to the General Assembly.

VI DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

ARTICLE 52 DISCIPLINARY MEASURES

52.1 Sanctions are:

- a) Warning
- b) Reprimand
- c) Fine
- d) Disqualification from competitions
- e) Discharge from official position
- f) Suspension
- g) Expulsion

52.2 The Jury, the DC and the AC may impose the sanctions described in these Statutes and in the IFF Juridical Regulations on member Associations, clubs, players and officials.

52.3 In any case different sanctions can be combined.

52.4 Suspensions of National Associations are imposed by the General Assembly. In the case of emergency, the CB is empowered to impose suspension on National Associations. All Suspensions of National Associations shall become into force on the date of the decision.

52.5 Only a General Assembly or an Extraordinary General Assembly may expel an Ordinary Member Association, after granting it a hearing, in accordance with IFF Juridical Regulation.

52.6 The sanctions are enforced throughout the IFF and notice thereof shall be given by registered letter to the party concerned.

VII DISPUTES

ARTICLE 53 MEDIATION

53.1 Any dispute of international dimension arising between IFF and/or member Associations, their representatives, coaches, Teams, Referees, etc. shall be submitted to mediation in accordance with the IFF Mediation Rules.

53.2 If, and to the extent that, any such dispute has not been settled within 90 days of the commencement of the mediation, or if, before the expiration of the said period, either party fails to participate or continue to participate in the mediation, the dispute shall, upon the filing of a Request for Arbitration by either party, be referred to and finally settled by CAS arbitration pursuant to the Code of Sports-related Arbitration.

ARTICLE 54 ARBITRATION

54.1 The Court of Arbitration for Sport in Lausanne, Switzerland (CAS) shall have exclusive jurisdiction, to the exclusion of any ordinary court or any other court of arbitration, to deal with the following disputes in its capacity as an ordinary court of arbitration:

- a) disputes between IFF and associations, leagues, clubs, players or officials;
- b) disputes of international dimension between associations, leagues, clubs, players or officials.

54.2 The CAS shall only intervene in its capacity as an ordinary court of arbitration if the dispute does not fall within the competence of a IFF organ.

54.3 Any decision made by the DC upon disciplinary matters, any decision made by the AC upon competition matters and any decision made by the CB upon any doping abuse may be submitted exclusively by way of appeal to the CAS, to the exclusion of any ordinary court or any other court of arbitration. The time limit for appeal is twenty-one full days after the reception of the decision concerning the appeal.

54.4 An appeal before the CAS may only be brought after IFF's internal procedures and remedies have been exhausted.

54.5 The CAS is not competent to deal with:

- a) matters related to the application of a purely sporting rule, such as the Rules of the game or the technical modalities of a competition;
- b) decisions through which a natural person is suspended for a period of up to two matches or up to one month;
- c) awards issued by an independent and impartial court of arbitration in a dispute of national dimension arising from the application of the statutes or regulations of an association.

54.6 The CAS will resolve the dispute definitively in accordance with the Code of sports-related arbitration.

VIII MISCELLANEOUS

ARTICLE 55 GOVERNING LAW AND LEGAL FORUM

55.1 These Statutes shall be governed in all respects by Swiss law.

55.2 The legal forum shall be the legal seat of IFF.

ARTICLE 56 OFFICIAL LANGUAGE

The official language of the IFF is English. Each National Association shall be responsible for its own translation.

ARTICLE 57 MODIFICATION OF THE STATUTES

The modification of the IFF Statutes shall become effective by the decision of a 2/3 majority of votes present at the General Assembly.

ARTICLE 58 DISSOLUTION OF THE IFF

58.1 The dissolution of the IFF shall become effective only by a 3/4 majority of all official member Associations.

58.2 The dissolution must be repeated and granted by an extraordinary Dissolution Congress not later than six month after the first dissolution decision.

58.3 In the case of dissolution all financial claims have to be settled by a special Liquidation Committee (LC) elected by the dissolution General Assembly. The delegates of the Dissolution General Assembly shall decide about the use of the balance.

IX CONCLUDING CLAUSES

ARTICLE 59 ENACTING CLAUSE

These statutes were adopted by the IFF General Assembly in Zürich, in Switzerland on December 8th, 2012. They supersede those dated 10th of December 2010 and come into force immediately.

ARTICLE 60 TRANSITIONAL REGULATIONS

60.1 Facts that have accrued in advance of the enacting of these Statutes shall be judged/interpreted in accordance to the former Regulations.

60.2 Any decisions of the IFF Bodies shall stay to be effective as far as they are not contradictory to these Statutes.

I hereby confirm that these are the valid IFF Statutes, which has been approved by the IFF General Assembly on the 8th of December, 2012.

John Liljelund
Secretary General
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