



**B.F.F.** vzw-asbl

Belgian Floorball Federation  
Secretariat : Spechtbaan 1  
9472 Iddergem

Email : [bff@telenet.be](mailto:bff@telenet.be)  
Website : <http://www.floorball.be>  
Account : 310-1150955-39

International  
Floorball Federation

21 -04- 2006

DNo. \_\_\_\_\_

Resp. \_\_\_\_\_

Iddergem, 18<sup>th</sup> of April 2006

Concerning : appeal against the IFF executive committee decision of 11/02/2006

Dear Mr. Eriksson,

We were informed by Mr. Liljelund that the Appeal Committee would not take our case up for consideration since the Appeal Committee judged that the BFF had not met the requirements specified in the IFF Juridical Regulations. (Appendix 1)

The first request from the BFF to appeal the decision was sent per mail on 06/03/2006 which is within 21 days from the announcement of the first decision on 13/02/2006 (Appendix 2).

As specified in an email received from Mr. Kratz the receipt of payment had to be faxed to the IFF office ultimately Monday 13/03/2006 at 12:00 (noon). (Appendix 3)

A fax report from Mr. Paul Dubois (the BFF treasurer) clearly states that the receipt of payment was faxed to the IFF office Monday 13/03/2006 at 8:55 am but that the IFF fax machine did not respond. (Appendix 4)

The BFF is therefore kindly asking the IFF central board to review the AC decision and to take our appeal argumentation into consideration. (Appendix 5)

Best regards  
Giovanni Lombardi  
[bff@telenet.be](mailto:bff@telenet.be)  
+ 32 479/400.682

-----Oorspronkelijk bericht-----

**Van:** John Liljelund [mailto:liljelund@floorball.org]

**Verzonden:** dinsdag 14 maart 2006 12:00

**Aan:** 'BFF'

**CC:** eriksson@floorball.org; 'Orlando Renato, mdyw'; lasse.granqvist@gpab.nu

**Onderwerp:** VS: Belgium withdrawal - possible appeal

Dear Mr. Lombardi,

It is my duty to inform you that the IFF Appeal Committee chairman, Mr. Lasse Granqvist has in accordance with the IFF Juridical Regulations § 4.2., which clearly states that the Appeal shall be sent to the office of IFF within 21 days from the announcement of the first decision. The appeal shall be accompanied by a deposit of CHF 1000, decided that the BFF has not met these requirements and therefore there are no case to settle.

The payment of CHF 1000 paid on the 13.03. will be deducted from the debt of the Belgian Floorball Federation.

with kind regards,

John Liljelund  
Secretary General  
International Floorball Federation  
Alakiventie 2  
00920 Helsinki  
tel: +358 - 9 - 4542 1425  
gsm: +358 - 400 - 529 030

-----Oorspronkelijk bericht-----

**Van:** BFF [mailto:[bff@telenet.be](mailto:bff@telenet.be)]

**Verzonden:** maandag 6 maart 2006 19:04

**Aan:** 'lijjelund@floorball.org'

**CC:** 'eriksson@floorball.org'; 'renato.orlando@erz.be.ch'; 'Tomas Jonsson'; 'Thomas Gilardi'; 'Risto Kauppinen'; 'martin.vaculik@excaliburtours.cz'; 'Peter Lindström'; 'per\_innebandy@telia.com'; 'lasse.granqvist@gpab.nu'; 'tom.hedkrok@kolumbus.fi'; 'kjell.h.olsen@ncc.no'

**Onderwerp:** RE: World Championships Floorball 2006 - withdrawal Belgium

Dear Sirs,

The BFF central board has decided to appeal against the decision of the IFF executive committee concerning the withdrawal of the Belgian national team from the Floorball World Championships 2006, C-division. With this mail we want to inform you of our main arguments for the appeal. A more detailed letter will be sent to you within a couple of days.

We feel that the imposed fine is not according the principle of proportionality. The amount of 10.000 CHF is by far exceeding the financial means of the Belgian federation.

If not putting an end to the existence of the BFF, a fine of this size will certainly slow down the further development of floorball in Belgium significantly for several years.

We regret that we had to withdraw from the world championships, but we thought that the best thing to do was to inform the IFF as soon as possible of the problems we faced.

To illustrate our good will we also want to point out that the Belgian Floorball Federation has so far always paid its bills (be it membership fees or tournament participation fees) towards the IFF in due time.

We'd also like to inform you that 1.000 CHF appeal deposit has been transferred to your account.

Best regards

Giovanni Lombardi

President Belgian Floorball Federation (BFF)

+32 479/400.682

[bff@telenet.be](mailto:bff@telenet.be)

-----Oorspronkelijk bericht-----

**Van:** Stefan Kratz [mailto:kratz@floorball.org]

**Verzonden:** vrijdag 10 maart 2006 13:38

**Aan:** BFF

**Onderwerp:** SV: World Championships Floorball 2006 - withdrawal Belgium

Dear Mr. Lombardi,

On Monday 12:00 (noon) the fee must be in the account or a fax with the receipt of payment (signed and stamped) shall have been faxed to the IFF Office +358-9 454 214 50.

Thereafter the IFF Appeal Committee is deciding in the matter.

Kindest regards

Stefan Kratz

### Encodage d'un nouveau paiement international

 Votre demande d'exécution d'un paiement international a été acceptée.  
Cette exécution sera effectuée pour la date spécifiée.

<b>Statut :</b>	
<b>Date mémo</b> 13-03-2006 <input type="checkbox"/> Urgent	<b>Pays de destination</b> Suisse
<b>Compte donneur d'ordre</b> 310-1150955-39	<b>Montant</b> 1.000.00 CHF - Franc Suisse
<b>Nom et adresse du donneur d'ordre</b> BFF - FBF SPECHTBAAN 1 9472 IDDERGEM	<b>Compte bénéficiaire</b> CH13 0481 8055 9200 1100 0
<b>Communication</b> APPEAL BFF DECISION EXCO 11/02/2006	<b>Nom et adresse du bénéficiaire</b> INTERNATIONAL FLOORBALL FEDERATION ALAKIVENTIE 2 FIN -00850 HELSINKI FINLAND
	<b>Code BIC (adresse Swift) de la banque bénéficiaire</b> CRESCHZZ87B CREDIT SUISSE ALTE LANDSTRASSE 91 CH 8702 ZOLLIKON
<b>Frais</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tous les frais à charge du bénéficiaire	

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Votre conseiller personnel du lu. au ve. de 7h à 22h et le sa. de 9h à 17h au 02 464 60 02  
Procédure d'identification / Nouveau code secret  
PhoneBank

To: STEFAN KRATZ

FROM: Paul Dubois (accountant BFF)

hp officejet 5500 series 5510      Imprimante/Télécopieur/Copieur/Numériseur

Relevé pour  
Dubois-Vanhaelen  
003243583604  
13/3/2006 08:56

**Dernière transaction**

Date	Heure	Type	Identification	Durée	Pages	Résultat
13/03	08:55	Envoyé	00358945421450	0:00	0	Pas de réponse

**Ref. IFF Executive Committee decision concerning the withdrawal from the World Floorball Championships 2006, C-division – Belgium**

On 11.2., the IFF Executive Committee decided to fine the Belgium Floorball Federation for withdrawing its team from the C-World Championships in Spain. This decision was communicated to the Belgium Floorball Federation (BFF) by letter on 13.2.

The fine decided by IFF is based on IFF Juridical regulations, Article 2.8. b:

**2.8 Failure to participate in or organize a official IFF tournament or matches**

a) Failure to participate in international tournaments or other events recognized by IFF

b) Any NA or club that, after having registered for an official IFF tournament, withdraws after the draw is done and more than sixty (60) days from the starting date, shall be excluded from the two (2) subsequent official tournaments and shall be subject to a fine up to CHF 10.000.

On 6.3., the BFF sent its appeal against this decision.

The regulation opens a certain room for manouevring by stating that the concerned NA or club should be subject to a fine "**up to CHF 10.000**".

Applying this rule, the IFF has therefore to consider several aspects and in particular the principle of proportionality, the principle of good faith and the situation within the national association concerned. While recognising the applicability of Article 2.8. in the case above, the BFF considers that these principles have not been considered at all or only to an insufficient level by IFF when taking the decision.

1. The BFF decision to withdraw from the championship was not intended to harm the image of Floorball or the IFF, but was inspired by the fact that the number of players confirming their participation for the World Floorball Championships 2006, C-division was too limited to participate in such an event. This is not something which the BFF could foresee when registering for the tournament.
2. The amount of the fine should be proportional, id est related to the **financial means of the Federation** in question and to the **financial efforts the Federation would have undertaken by sending a team to the championship**.
3. The amount of 10.000 CHF is **by far exceeding** the financial means of the Belgian federation. If not putting an end to the existence of the BFF, a fine of this size will certainly slow down the further development of floorball in Belgium significantly for several years since all financial means would have to be taken to pay the fine.
4. The BFF, with 98 licensed players in 2005, is a small Federation. The total income (licences etc) of BFF in 2005 amounted to 5.876 Euro. The total budget of BFF in 2005 was 12.646,36 Euro. It follows clearly that BFF would

not be in a position to pay 10.000 CHF (around 7.500 Euro) in one year. It is therefore not excluded that – if the amount is confirmed – **BFF would have to cease its activity. In any case it would mean that any financing of Floorball development in Belgium would have to end** (support for youth tournaments, development plan for schools).

5. It is hardly to imagine that the **objective of IFF is to threaten the development of Floorball in Belgium** with a fine that would put the existence of the Belgium Federation under doubts.
6. The BFF had envisaged to spend around 1.500 Euro for the participation of the team in the championship (payments for trainer, other payments). Due to the financial situation of the Federation, most of the costs involved would have been taken over by the players themselves. For the last championships in 2004, the BFF spent 1.374 Euro.
7. It follows that with a correct application of the principle of proportionality the fine would have to be reduced by at least 80%.
8. The decision also does not take into account that the **BFF has always paid any fees or payments related to its membership in IFF or to IFF activities in time**. It is also the first time that a Belgium team withdraws from an official IFF tournament and is subject to a fine. To fine the maximum amount in this case is also not in line with the principle of proportionality.
9. The BFF considers to have acted in good faith to announce its withdrawal at the earliest possible occasion.

### **Subsidiary argumentation**

1. In case the Disciplinary Committee of IFF should confirm the decision by the Executive Committee, the BFF considers that the amount of 1.000 CHF paid for making an appeal should be deducted from the total fine.
2. It follows from point 4 above that the imposed fine would threaten the existence of BFF. In that case, each Federation must have the right of appeal regardless of its financial means or the payment of a significant appeal deposit. The right of appeal is a fundamental part of European law (Article 47 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights in the EU) and should not be limited.

International  
Floorball Federation  
21-04-2006  
DNo. \_\_\_\_\_  
Resp. \_\_\_\_\_

**A**  
PRIOR  


Tomas Eriksson  
Lundagatan 8B  
SE - 17163 Solna  
SWEDEN

**PRIOR**  
9472  
19.4.06-11  
BELGIQUE  
LE  
€ 0,18  
IDD ERGEM  
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BELGIE-BELGIQUE  
9300

