



**MINUTES OF WORKING MEETING 2022**  
**Online Meeting (ZOOM)**  
**Saturday 26th February 2022**

**Participants:**

Erik Sommer (ES)	IISHF President	no vote
Ingo Goerke (IG)	IISHF Financial Director	no vote
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Michael Leitl (ML) <i>until 10:00</i>	Austria	no vote
Tamas Vaczi (TV)	Austria	with voting right
Claes Fréder (CF)	Denmark	no vote
Kim Rasmussen (KR)	Denmark	with voting right
Stefan Gehrig (SG)	Germany	no vote
Christian Keller (CK)	Germany	with voting right
Steven Dickinson (SD) <i>from 10:00</i>	Great Britain	with voting right
Arvindpreet Singh (Arvind Dhillon) (AS)	India	with voting right
Eli Abramovich (EA)	Israel	with voting right
Liliya Gretsova (LG)	Russia	no vote
Igor Kolesov (IK)	Russia	with voting right *
Daniel Biétry (DB)	Switzerland	no vote
Marco Eicher (ME)	Switzerland	with voting right

\* It was stated by Russia that in case IK will not be present for a moment of vote, LG is entitled to take over the vote for Russia – all NMAs approved.

**1. WELCOME / PRESENTATION**

**ES** opened the meeting at 09.00 AM and welcomed all of the delegates to the Online Working Meeting and thanked them all for coming. **ES** explained the setup with ZOOM for the meeting.

**IG** explained the organisation and schedule of the Working Meeting (WM) as well as of the Annual General Meeting (AGM) the following day.

For Saturday the most important point is – in addition to Title Events 2022 - Any Other Business.

Special attention was given to the war starting on Thursday 24.02.2022 with the Russian invasion in Ukraine. For that reason Ukraine was not able to take part in the meeting and the same was the case for the IISHF Vice-President André Poddubny from Ukraine.

Before the meeting Austria had asked for a postponement of the AGM due to the ongoing war. For legal and practical reasons in regard to the budget 2022 IISHF maintained that the AGM should take place as planned and the good participation from the NMA also shown the support for this decision. The other countries agreed to proceed with the WM.

**2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA / ESTABLISHING OF VOTING RIGHTS**

**IG** led this section of the meeting.

**IG** confirmed that no present National Member Association (NMA) is currently suspended and that all present NMAs fulfilled their payments regulations. According to point 11.11 IISHF Constitution the Members were entitled to vote as follows:

Tamas Vaszi (ML)	Austria	3 votes
Kim Rasmussen (KR)	Denmark	1 votes
Christian Keller (SG)	Germany	3 votes
Steven Dickinson (SD)	Great Britain	1 vote
Arvindpreet Singh (Arvind Dhillon) (AS)	India	1 vote
Eli Abramovich (EA)	Israel	2 votes
Igor Kolesov (IK)	Russia	1 vote
Marco Eicher (ME)	Switzerland	3 votes

Total number of votes is 15. In case of complete voting with 15 votes, 8 votes constitute a majority.

=> The agenda was confirmed unanimously (14 votes at the time of voting since Great Britain joined the meeting at 10:00).

**IG** informed that Lebanon has not paid outstanding amounts and for that reason Lebanon has been suspended since last year.

There was a discussion in regard to the Austrian reporting of teams changing their number of votes from 2 (50-99 teams) to 3 votes (more than 100 teams). ML stated that he has agreed Austrians this year way of reporting with IG, but this was contradicted by IG. IG stated that IISHF Constitution is clear for this and precisely refers to registered teams – this is also valid for many years in an unchanged way.

It was agreed that full transparency is important here and thus IISHF will publish all the full NMA reporting for each country in due course. The aim is for all NMA's to have the same understanding on what basis registered teams are reported. IISHF will also support a change of the reporting of teams in the future to be based on the last season rather than the coming season (so based on facts rather than estimation).

⇒ IISHF understand that a clarification is needed. Changes to the IISHF Constitution can be made at next AGM. The IISHF Presidium will prepare a proposal.

It was asked if the NMA's could accept a presentation for the WADA conducted by the IISHF Manager of development Maciej Postek under the point Any Other Business (AOB).

=> The request was accepted unanimously (15 votes).

**ES** agreed to take the minutes of the WM.

### **3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE WORKING MEETING 2021**

**IG** led this section of the meeting.

All delegates received the minutes from the previous WM 2021. According to point 11.17 IISHF Constitution no objections to the minutes have been sent to the IISHF within two weeks of receipt.

=> The minutes of the WM 2021 were approved unanimously (15 votes).

### **4. FLASH BACK 2021 / VIEW 2022**

**ES** led this section of the meeting and presented the IISHF report with a flashback of the actions and objectives for 2021 and then the objectives for 2022.

### **5. MOTIONS TO CHANGE THE CONSTITUTION**

**IG** led this section of the meeting and started with a short presentation of the main legal IISHF documents (Constitution, Regulations, Rule Book) and the procedures to amend them. **IG** explained that in the IISHF he is responsible Presidium member for finances and legal matters.

Changes to the Constitution can only occur every odd year, such as next year. In even years only fixing of errors is possible. Changes to the Rule book occur every even year. In odd years only fixing of errors is possible. Changes to the Regulation can occur every year.

Constitution and Rule Book allows only for adoption or dismissal of submitted proposals. Proposals to change the Regulations can be amended by the Council of Members at the AGM.

There were no changes proposed for the IISHF Constitution.

## **6. MOTIONS TO CHANGE THE REGULATIONS**

**IG** led this section of the meeting.

**IG** proposed to consider the proposals for amendments of the IISHF Regulations in two ways: A) only dealing with questions or B) elaborating on all proposals point by point?

=>The Council Members approved unanimously (15 votes) to only consider questions.

**IG** explained the various changes of the IISHF Regulations among a number of changes the Managers Meeting will now be done as an online meeting and the Feedback forms will be delivered online.

## **7. MOTIONS TO CHANGE THE IISHF RULE BOOK**

**SG** led this section of the meeting and explained the work of the IISHF Technical Committee (TC) and gave a report on the activities of the committee in the last year. SG then presented the working mode for the release of changes to the IISHF Rule Book as well as rule clarifications. Changes to rules are possible only every even year, updates/corrections every odd year.

## **8. TITLE EVENTS 2022 - 2023**

**ES** presented the Title Events sanctioned for 2022.

**TV:** Asked about Russian participation at the IISHF Title Events 2022. Due to current status Russia will take part at 3 Club Title Events 2022.

**IG:** Legally IISHF is currently not in position to exclude Russia from participation (Internal Remark: After the AGM 2022 with the call from IOC on 28.02.2022 for the suspension of Russia from all international sport participation IISHF has asked the NMA's participating at the IISHF Title Events 2022 with Russian participation to support the suspension of Russia.)

**IK + LG:** Bad surprise for them but Russia wants to participate in the IISHF Title Events 2022.

**TV:** Considering hosting U19 European Championships in 2023 in Austria.

**SD:** To host IISHF Title Events annual or biannual.

**CF + KR:** One suitable host at the moment is Gentofte but an additional hall close to Copenhagen will open this year.

**ME + DB:** U19 European Championship or Men European Championships maybe in 2023.

**ME:** Agreed already for hosting U13 European Cup 2023 in Rossemaison.

**CK:** German clubs especially interested in hosting European Cups for the younger age groups.

**SG:** No suitable venue for bigger events.

**EA:** Let's await outcome of Corona before considering hosting.

**IK + LG:** Maybe hosting with new arena with covered roof. Preparing also for a Russian National Team from 2023.

**AS:** Contact to other Asian countries

## **9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### **9.1 WADA Presentation (made at 15.20)**

**Maciej Postek** the IISHF Development Manager made the presentation.

**SG:** Requirements explained. Complexed that whereabouts have to be reported when we are not a professional sport. Noble goal but overdoing it. Of course we want to be a clean sport.

**DB:** What do we have to amend on the national level?

**SD:** How should costs be covered?

**CK:** No government funding in Germany for this.

**IG:** In Germany the cost for 1 test is at least 500 Euro to be paid by the host.

**TV:** Financial support for this in Austria and Ukraine also relevant for involving new countries such as Hungary and Slovakia. Relevant for sponsors.

**SD:** No direct benefit in UK.

**IG:** As IISHF Finance Director the main issue is the missing input in the presentation for the financial coverage of the payment of this WADA initiative. Two options here either costs paid by the NMA's willing to do so gaining advantage of this or sharing per vote. Or as alternative with an estimated investment of 20.000 Euro it would be appx. 1.200 Euro per vote.

**DB:** Surprised of the high costs. New countries care more about what events IISHF are hosting and not about WADA.

**KR:** Free doping test in Denmark. Sponsor wants strategy.

**EA:** Agree with KR + IG.

**IK + LG:** Agree with EA + IG but important with WADA.

**AS:** Agreed with above statement.

### **9.2 Sponsorship Regulations**

**SG:** Very problematic if not handled in a proper way. It's easier for the clubs. We need a strategy with a concept. Need to define our product.

**KR:** Need for a strategy.

**ES:** We need a working group with people from the NMA's willing to do the work. The Presidium can't do this alone.

### **9.3 Time Schedules**

**ES** led this section of the meeting.

**CF:** stopped time preferred. Final game 2 x 15 minutes preferred.

**ME:** IISHF together with the hosts should decide. Prevent running time. 2 x 20 minutes for final game rather than 3 x 15 minutes in European Cups. For European Championships it would be preferred with 3 x 20 minutes.

**SG:** Reduction of penalty times for games less than 30 minutes in the Rule Book for good reasons.

**SD:** 3 x 15 minutes for European Cups.

### **9.4 NMA Overview following Corona**

**IG** led this section of the meeting.

**Austria:** 3G controlled.

**Denmark:** Events in 2021 with pass and test.

**Germany:** Regular season fall 2021.

**Great Britain:** Maintained level of activity.

**India:** Nationals conducted.

**Israel:** Domestic games played.

**Russia:** Had all games outdoor.

**Switzerland:** Domestic games in all categories. Livestreaming of 40 games.

### **9.5 NMA Reporting**

**IG** led this section of the meeting and displayed figures for number of teams. AS already stated at the beginning of the WM it was confirmed that IISHF will publish all full NMA reports and will discuss to change reporting to cover teams from the last season / completed season.

### **9.6 IISHF Referee Department**

**CF** led this section of the meeting and informed all NMAs that new referees would first be assigned to B-events and then have to pass a written test before applying for IISHF Events. Currently 18 active referees and now 8 candidates from 3 countries. 3 referees have resigned. Paper will be published shortly about the selection process. Preparing Online Training for this request for video material. Intention to establish a working group for this.

**SG:** Contact Dennis Müller.

**DB:** Contact FSIH.

**CK:** A lot of material from Nations Cup 2021 contact André.

**TV:** Austria is missing a written feedback of the general assessments. Awaiting assignments for Title Events.

**CF:** Normally assignments will be done earlier but Corona has still an impact in regards to the planning.

**IG:** Dee Dalton is consulted for the Officials Nomination and Claes Frédér for the referee nomination, Instruction given from IISHF to wait after the AGM.

### **9.7 Website / Sportsengine**

**SG:** The request for birthday information is not legally validated in regards to GDPR and thus IISHF has to make sure that this issue will be changed before the start of first TE.

### **9.8 IISHF Legal Status**

**IG** led this section of the meeting. Many associations are located in Switzerland. Simple law fixed by Swiss Civil Code with reduced liability. Will prepare a statement explaining what is IISHF. If we change HQ country, then it has to be previously changed in the IISHF Constitution with 2/3 majority.

**TV:** Good action suggested by **IG**

**IG:** From 28.02.2022 IISHF will have a bank account only with IISHF as indicated owner.

### **9.9 Storage system for IISHF media and data**

This point postponed due the absence of André Poddubny (**AP**).

### **9.10 Activity of IISHF Managers working outside of TE**

This point postponed due the absence of André Poddubny (**AP**).

### **9.11 Currently Open positions at IISHF**

This point postponed due the absence of André Poddubny (**AP**).

### **9.12 NMA detrimental behaviour to the sport, partly through IISHF officials**

**TV:** Be aware how we talk about Title Events. We should work together.

**IG:** Last year bad incident for this IISHF will this year develop internally code of conduct.

**TV:** Nations Cup in Ukraine with some NMA's not participating with national teams.

**IG:** IISHF not responsible for conflict between Denmark and Ukraine.

**CF + KR:** Denmark not to send national team to the Nations Cup. Participating with a select / club team just like Germany.

**ME:** Not good with a B-event for National Teams for some nations.

**IG:** Potential disciplinary case against Ukraine stopped after official apology from Ukraine. Case now closed.

**SG:** Different opinion than IG since AP did not officially apologized for what he said.

**DB:** Share the feeling with SG.

### **9.13 Female Skaterhockey Development**

**TV:** Invest some energy. Goal to have an Women European Championship in 2023. Vision needed.

**DB:** Surprised about this initiative. We have not been contacted. The main goal for Switzerland is the U19 European Championships. For national teams and European Championships we need a concept to be done by the countries. Ready for women friendship games against Austria in Wolfurt.

**SD:** A lot of input from countries. There should be a working group for this. SD together with TV will take the lead on this working group. NMA contacts are displayed on the website. DB also interested in taking part.

**ME:** Women is not priority no. 1 but SD's approach is correct.

**CK:** Agree with SD + ME.

**IG:** Not shared opinion of **TV**. In past agreed that this is duty of the NMA's and it was also unanimously agreed that we need at least 4 countries participating and 4 countries hosting for a time frame of at least 4 years. It is not duty of IISHF but instead of the countries.

### **Conclusion**

**ES** thanked all participants for their cooperative participation.

The Working Meeting was closed at 17:20.

Signed by  
Erik Sommer  
IISHF President  
(Minutes Secretary and Agenda leader)

Signed by  
Ingo Goerke  
IISHF Finance Director