



MINUTES OF WORKING MEETING 2009
Athenaeum Personal Hotel, Florence (Italy)
28th February 2009

Present:

Piergiovanni Gionchetta	IISHF President	(PG)	
Erik Sommer	IISHF Vice President	(ES)	
Ingo Goerke	IISHF Financial Director	(IG)	
Andreas Heidinger	Austria	(AH)	
Michael Kottas	Austria	(MK)	with vote (2 votes)
Claes Fréder	Denmark	(CF)	
Jens Tarp	Denmark	(JT)	with vote (1 vote)
Stefan Brütt	Germany	(SB)	with vote (3 votes)
Stefan Gehrig	Germany	(SG)	
Shaun Ryan	Great Britain	(SR)	with vote (2 votes)
Dee Dalton	Great Britain	(DD)	
Evgeni Mogilevski	Israel	(EM)	with vote (1 vote)
Igor Kolesov	Russia	(IG)	
Boris Mozhaev	Russia	(BM)	with vote (1 vote)
Tamara Bütikofer	Switzerland	(TF)	with vote (3 votes)
Ueli Strueby	Switzerland	(US)	

1. WELCOME ADDRESS FROM PRESIDENT/PRESENTATION

PG opened the meeting on 9.00 am and welcomed all of the delegates to the Working Meeting in Florence and thanked them all for coming. The new delegates being on a IISHF Meeting for the first time have been especially welcomed.

2. CONFIRMATION OF AGENDA

IG asked the members if they will agree and confirm the agenda.

=> **All agreed**

3. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE WORKING MEETING 2008 IN VALENCIA

All delegates had received the minutes from the previous meeting (Valencia). According to point 11.16 IISHF Constitution no objections to the minutes have been sent to the IISHF within two weeks of receipt.

=> **All agreed that the Minutes were a true and accurate record.**

4. FLASH BACK 2008 / VIEW 2009

PG presented the highlights 2007 and the view of 2008 on a powerpoint presentation. Following points were mentioned and also explained.

File attached (Flashback2008_View2009.pdf)

Objectives 2008

- Increase the number of Countries
- Elaboration a Job Description for each position
- Finalise the New Rules Book
- Improve the Title Event candidature process
- Organise Title Events in each Age Category
- Improve the quality of the Title Events
- Increase the IISHF Staff/Officers

Objectives 2009

- Increase the number of Countries
- Organise IISHF Referees Course
- Organise IISHF Technical Directors Course
- The New Rules Book is adopted 1:1
- Improve the Title Event candidature process
- Organise Title Events in each Age Category
- Improve the quality of the Title Events

5. MOTIONS TO CHANGE THE CONSTITUTION

IG led this section of the meeting and explained the proposed modifications under the following articles.

- => Article 10.2 only clarification, if you want to vote you have to be present.
- => Article 10.3 only clarification
- => Article 11.6 only clarification
- => Article 11.7 only clarification
- => Article 11.11 voting system
- => Article 11.12 change to January 15th
- => Article 11.13 change to January 15th
- => Article 11.14 change to January 15th

The proposals were primarily based on previous discussions with BISHA (Great Britain).

IG stated that for the future we might have to consider to give the option to change the text for a proposal to the constitution (regarding 11.6).

US remarked that three (3) weeks notice for proposal is too short it should be much longer. Perhaps 3 months (regarding 11.6). **IG** replied that perhaps 6 weeks before proposals and then announcement 4 weeks before would be more convenient for the countries.

MK asked if the AGM couldn't be held at the end of the season instead of February/March. **IG** answered that the fiscal end year ends December so the AGM can't be held before. Furthermore an AGM is of benefit to fix title events incl. all relevant details and thus an AGM does not make sense at the end of a calendar year.

The current voting system was discussed. Several countries (Great Britain, Israel and Russia) would prefer a one vote voting system as it would be a more fair voting system (regarding 11.11). **SG** remarked a single vote voting system then brings the matter of membership fee up for discussion. **JT** stated that the larger countries are the backbone of the sport and mentioned that the current voting system is designed to keep the balance. **IG** said that at the moment the voting system and the membership fees are linked. **US** stated that they agreed with Denmark for today. We are not ready for the change. But for the future we should see if can do something. **IG** suggested that be a working group should be made. **BM** noted that IISHF should find sponsors instead of charging membership fees. **PG** replied that it's not easy for a small sport especially in the current financial crisis. **SG** noted that it's not the time yet (as CH states) for an equal voting system. Supports a working group for a time table how to implement the equal working system without losing financial payment. **MK** was of the same opinion. Regarding sponsors this is a new sport with great brother icehockey who also host puck tournament FIRS, CERS, IIHF. From the marketing perspective we have to make our sport attractive for sponsors. **JT** suggested that a working group report should be made for the next AGM (2010).

=> IISHF Presidium will take initiative to a working group where each country should be represented.

Proposal was then withdrawn by SR (Great Britain).

MK: Proposed to use the number of teams from last year based on one single final report of the number of teams (regarding 11.12, 11.13 and 11.14). **IG** explained that the current constitution is a problem for BISHA. **IG** also noted that proposals for constitution can not be changed.

IK and **BM** expressed the difficulties for Russian teams to travel to tournament. It's difficult for them to get the necessary visas. **IG** and **ES** explained that IISHF is eager to help but need to know exactly what to write in the invitations for the tournaments that Russian teams will participate in.

6. MOTIONS TO CHANGE THE REGULATIONS

Proposals for regulations and rules of the game were presented to the NMA's in October/November 2008. **IG** led this section of the meeting and explained the proposed modifications under:

=> Article 3.4.d to be deleted covered by 20.10

=> Article 3.4.h

JT would check with the Danish Rollerskating Association what would happened if a doping test was done at an international event in Denmark since doping tests are done annually in Denmark. **EM** wanted that the fines should be higher than 100 Euros. **SR** suggested that the wording "minimum" should be added. **IG** stated that the fines should be fixed. Otherwise we have to do disciplinary proceedings. **SG** remarked that alcohol should be fixed fine, but doping should be handled by disciplinary proceeding. It was suggested that Great Britain (**DD**) and Denmark (**JT**) should prepare a wording for a new proposal.

3.4.h (change): Any player or Official found to have consumed alcohol. Fine: 100 Euros per each person plus immediate suspension from the venue.

3.4.i (new) Any player or Official found to have consumed any illegal substance that may result in unsuitable behaviour or which is not covered by the most recent version of the list of the prohibited substances provides by WADA. Fine: Disciplinary Action as decided by Disciplinary Committee.

No single vote required.

We will implement this into the Tournament Rules.

=> Article 3.9

EM noted that it should be one fixed fine. **JT** agreed. **US** remarked that it depended on the fine. **CF** remarked it should be clear in regulations (black or white) and suggested a fine of 200 Euro.

=> Article 3.10

CF suggested that it should be failure to take part with team representative. Delete bracket. New proposal to be made by **IG**.

=> Article 3.11

TB asked what would happen if no information was given in January. **IG** explained that no information currently gives the lowest number of votes. Will be changed in the new constitution 11.12 to the same number from last year.

=> Article 8.1

IG stated that the proposal from Great Britain will be handled by the working group. Relates to the similar proposal from constitution.

=> Article 8.2 and 8.3

Consequences of the new constitution.

=> Article 9.2

IG led the discussion about this topic. The requirement for a tournament is normally either 5 or 6 referees in addition to one Technical Director and one Technical Assistant. **DD** the costs should be distributed differently than today. It should be equally splitted by the number of teams. **ID**: The current system is an advantage for the bigger nations because they send more teams for cups. **EM** Clarify the costs and the income for a title event. **IG** clarified our needs for the cups per team. Men+Women: 400, U19-U16-U13: 300. Average: 345/350 Euro. **IG** noted that Switzerland (CH) and Germany (DE) will pay more. **JT** wanted to keep it simple and to divide it be the participating teams. **IG** mentioned the idea that the host don't pay for the referee cost. If so average will be 385 Euro. The following options were then presented. Option 1: National teams 500 Euro and European Cups 400 Euro per. Club (hosting team not paying). Option 2 National teams 500 Euro and European Cups 350 Euro per. Club

=> Article 9.4a

Implement a Technical Assistant. So they can be trained by the TD.

=> Article 9.4b+c

Clarification.

=> Article 15.1.c.18

Clarification.

=> Article 15.1.c.19
Host needs to help if required.

=> Article 15.1.c.20
Host responsibility.

=> Article 15.1.d.6
Team manager responsible not country.

=> Article 15.1.e
Clarification.

=> Article 15.2.e
Clarification.

=> Article 18.3
BISHA proposal seek that all countries can be present.

=> Article 18.8

EM: We don't have the facilities to host. **ID:** Explained that the current regulations don't work. That's why we need modification. If you take part you should host. **TB:** Asked if a country apply but are rejected then would that count. **US** said this proposal is a step forward. **ID** Underlined that It's just one event out of 40 events in 5 years that's required. **MK** mentioned that hosts have to pay a lot of cost. The alternative is that the host will receive money. The other countries will then have to pay. **IK** explained that their situation was the same as in Israel. **US** thought it was a good proposal but the amount should be fixed. **DD** it should be added that it should be subject to suitable facilities. **SR** said that BISHA is trying to solve the situation and that it looks promising. **SB** and **SG** stated that the proposal is needed. You can't take part without producing something to the community. Understand the rink situation. Netherland is a different matter. **JT** remarked that it's expensive to hosts and takes a lot of effort. The participating teams should contribute to everything. So it's a necessary proposal. **MK** agreed with the proposal. **IG** concluded that the majority is for the proposal and that it should include a fixed fee. **US** suggested 5000 Euro. **DD** underlined that it should be subject to suitable venue. **ES** had prepared a presentation about IISHF tournaments the last five years (2004-2008) which presented that Great Britain and Netherland would have to host tournaments in the future. Israel, Poland and Russia would not be required to do so at the moment if all the changes to the regulations were accepted.

=> Article 18.13
Clarification.

=> Article 18.14

ES explained the need to have clear rules for seeding the teams in IISHF Tournaments. **MK** and **US** agreed but preferred to avoid teams from same country to be in the same preliminary groups. **ES** would include this preference in to the proposal.

18.14. The seeding of teams for European Cups shall be fixed in the following order:

a) European Cup Holder (only Men and Women)

- b) National Champions sorted after national ranking from previous year European Championship (Men, Women, Junior/U19)*
- c) Vice-National Champions if qualified sorted after national ranking from previous year European Championship (Men, Women, Junior)*
- d) Other teams if qualified sorted after national ranking from previous year European Championship (Men, Women, Junior)*
- e) Host team if not part of 18.14 a) – d)*
- f) IISHF may distribute the teams differently than mentioned in a) – e) if required in order to eliminate the risk of having more than one team from the same country playing each other in the preliminary rounds.

* The ranking from previous year Junior European Championship does also apply for the seeding of Youth/U16, Pee Wee/U13 and Minnow/U10 teams.

* Regarding participation of Hosts Clubs (see §18.5)

=> Article 20.10

SG proposed that the deadline for ITC's should be 3 days before. **ES** agreed and would include this in a revised proposal.

20.10. Each National Member Association will be invoiced for each International Travel Document (ITC) having received by IISHF as follows:

- o Each ITC until two (2) weeks prior to the event 30 Euros
- o Each ITC until one (1) week prior to the event 100 Euros
- o Each ITC until three (3) days prior to the event 200 Euros

No ITC will be accepted from three (3) days prior to the event defined as there (3) days prior to the time for the managers meeting. Any ITC after three (3) days prior to the event will be handled according to §20.11.

=> Article 27.1-5

SG stated that the wording of the regulations should be in accordance with the Rules of the Game.

7. MOTIONS TO CHANGE THE RULES OF THE GAME

CF led this section of the meeting and explained the proposed modifications under:

- => Article 1.11 clarification.
- => Article 2.3.1 clarification.
- => Article 3.3.9 clarification.
- => Article 5.3.3 clarification.
- => Article 5.3.5 clarification.
- => Article 5.7.2 clarification.
- => Article 5.13.3 clarification.
- => Article 5.13.5 clarification.
- => Article 5.15.5 clarification.
- => Article 7 clarification
- => Article 7.10.3 clarification
- => Article 7.11.6 clarification
- => Article 7.12.5 clarification
- => Article 7.12.6 clarification
- => Article 7.12.10 with the intent to keep the players on the bench.

=> Article 8.3.1

CF explained at the moment in the current rule about Ball out of Play it has to be decided if it was deliberately. Denmark proposes to make the rule clear. **SR** answered that is very good. Provides consistency. **CF** added that it's actual done in CH. **SG** mentioned that this will provide a task for the timekeepers.

=> Article 8.12.3

CF explained that there is a reference to 8.19.2

=> Article 8.12.10 clarification

=> Article 8.18.4 taken out

=> Article 8.24.2 clarification

=> Article 8.27.1 clarification

=> Article 8.28.6 clarification

=> Article 8.32 Doping and Alcohol as discussed regarding Regulations.

8. TITLE EVENTS 2009 – 2011

ES presented the current hosts for Title Events 2009 and the coming two years. As most events are still open, the NMAs must support which means to inform all their clubs on time about vacancies and to support any application best as possible.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

TB raised the issue about double national identity. **MK** mentioned possible case with Italian player when Italy not member of IISHF if he can play for Switzerland with a Swiss passport. **IG** explained that the players have to decide (put this on the agenda for next AGM).

MK asked about players that play in two countries. **SG** remarked that's difficult to control this.

TB suggested that national disciplinary action should also count for the European Cups. **IG** answered that this should be solved on a national level.

NATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

National presentations were made by each country being present (see attachment).

The Working Meeting was closed on 07.00 pm.

La Heutte, 13.03.2009

Signed by
Piergiovanni Gionchetta
IISHF President

Signed by
Erik Sommer
IISHF Vice President (recording minutes)