

# **FIB General Secretary Report**

FIB Ordinary Congress Lidköping, SWE, 29 March 2025

## FIB 2.0

## Dear Colleagues,

This Report, called **FIB 2.0**, is presented to you for the period starting on 8 June 2024 (2024 FIB Congress) ending by the 2025 FIB Congress.

Let me start with a word of celebration: FIB commemorates its 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2025 and we wanted to ensure that we remember and celebrate this important milestone with a small present for our members at the Congress.

Following the elections at the 2024 FIB Congress, the newly composed FIB EC started its mandate, for the first time having representative from both genders and from the Athletes.

Since I started in 2022, transparency was one of the key principles I applied during my operation – that makes my Report short and easy since there is not much we have not reported and published already. For this reason, the Report is more like a summary of the key achievement in the recent period, submitted for your kind information, in the below main areas:

## 1. Administration / Operation

FIB Office consists of dedicated professional staff, only two part-time engaged beside me. **Ms. Ildiko Barczi** is in charge of Anti-Doping and administrations, **Mr. Kjell Anderstedt** is in charge of website and events.

We all are at your disposal so please do not hesitate to contact us anytime in case you have any questions or concerns.

The work of the FIB Office is supported by an active Executive Committee, having

- 3 in person EC meetings
- 3 online EC meetings
- 2 online decisions

#### 2. Governance

As part of our Governance improvement, Marketing Committee has been established, and further By-Laws were created and published on the website.

One of the biggest improvements in this area is the <u>election of the Athletes</u> <u>Committee</u> members – directly by the Athletes during the World Championships (both in Uppsala and Lidköping), the results to be announced at the Congress!

In a broader context, we started to elaborate the <u>FIB Strategic Plan</u> and you will be contacted soon in order to have your feedback as well, ensuring an inclusive process.

To rightfully remember and respect individuals who provided significant contribution to the sport and FIB, the **FIB Hall of Fame** was created, and the first induction will be held at the Congress.

#### 3. Communication / Media

We applied an open communication approach toward our stakeholders, trying to be proactive in our communications.

Our intention is to have an open and ongoing dialogue with all of you, not only sharing information during the Congress.

We launched the <u>new website</u> with a more modern design and a user-friendly environment.

Applying basic Good Governance principles in our daily operation, we continue to publish all latest regulations (Statutes, By.Laws, Conditions, Guidelines, Terms of References, Policies, etc) and meeting minutes (Congress, Executive Committee and Committees) on the Website for greater transparency.

To ensure bandy's promotion in the media, **Press Releases** are regularly sent to media outlets and partners. Thanks to that, bandy news are included in IOC's, <u>ARISF</u>, platforms and online mediums like <u>Sportsin.biz</u>, <u>insidethegames.biz</u> are regularly reporting on bandy.

We continue to focus on the **Social Media** as well to increase our presence and fan base in the digital environment.

We recently engaged a Social Media partner to increase the quantity and quality of our activity in this area and I hope you already see the development. Just to highlight one platform, we started the season on Instagram with about 800 followers and during this World Championships we passed 1800 followers already that is more than 120% increase!

Please help us by sending your news and sharing, tagging on Facebook, Instagram and X(twitter).

In cooperation with Staylive, we launched <u>FIB TV</u> being the official platform for live stream of FIB tournaments, beside being the archive library of former tournaments.

All matches of the 2025 FIB World Championships are presented globally on different platforms, webcasted on Bandyplay and BandyPuls (PPV) and the finals will be broadcasted in the Swedish and hopefully Finnish TV as well.

Soon after the World Championships, all footage will be available on FIB TV being our free of charge library.

#### 4. Finance

Thanks to the financial control implemented, a better financial discipline has been achieved, and no new significant outstandings have been created recently.

FIB has no overdue liabilities either.

However, our financial situation is far from ideal, and we have to put more focus on a commercial approach in our operation, finding new revenue sources.

My operational goal is to reduce the expenditures (while we provide a better service to our stakeholders) and increase our revenues. Following some reorganisation within the administration and renegotiation with existing service provider, FIB could achieve significant reduction of expenditures.

While the financial loss in 2021/2022 was about 258k, we decreased it to 173k in 2022/2023 and 91k in 2023/2024, and I hope soon we can turn our result to be positive.

We hope that the recently established **Marketing Committee** will significantly contribute to develop our financial situation.

### 5. Events

In the season of 2024/2025, many tournaments have been organised, World Championships, World Cup and European Championships, for youth and senior, men and women:

- World Championships, Men & Women
- World Championships, Women 17
- World Championships, Men 17, Men 19
- World Cup, Men 17, Men 19
- World Cup, Men 16
- World Cup, Women 17
- European Championship Rinkbandy Men 19

A big thank you for Sweden and Slovakia to hosts these events!

## 6. Partnership

Ongoing partnership with external stakeholders was maintained with special focus on the **International Olympic Committee** (IOC):

- promotion of Olympic Day
- FIB participated at
  - o Paris 2024 Olympic Games, IOC Session
  - o IF Forum
  - Association of Recognised International Sport Federations (ARISF)
    General Assembly
  - IOC Good Governance Workshop
  - WADA education seminar
  - o TAFISA seminar as a speaker

FIB recently made a partnership with **Profixio** becoming our official data partner, providing live results and FIB branded match protocols.

On a commercial side I am happy to report that we also signed a partnership with KOSA Sport AB, providing financial contributions and VIK.

## 7) Anti-Doping

FIB, being a WADA Code signatory International Federation, has to follow the WADA requirements without hesitation. The requirements are quite demanding, but that is not optional in order to maintain our WADA Code compliance status.

Results Management of 2 Anti-Doping Rule Violations has been closed, athletes have been sanctioned and published on our website.

While we shall put more focus on the **education**, the key pillars of our Anti-Doping activity remain the Out of Competition (OOC) and In Competition (IC) testing.

I kindly ask you to support our Anti-Doping activity as this is critical in our Olympic journey!

Here I have to draw your kind attention that while **online education** is only recommended this season, it will be obligatory for the next season in order to participate at the World Championships!

## 8) Conclusion

FIB has been in a very difficult operational, financial, leadership, etc. situation a few years ago. Today I believe we have managed to solve the critical issues and built a solid foundation, and we already started to establish our successful future – **FIB 2.0.** 

We together have achieved significant improvements in many areas as detailed above.

Despite our achievements we can never rest and we have to continuously adjust our organisation and operation, especially when we know the future will not be easy.

While it is called the 'General Secretary Report' and often you see me in the front, these achievements are the result of a small, dedicated Team with Ildiko and Kjell, and a few expert advisors – a big thank you for all!

Finally, I would like to thank my colleagues, the Committees, the EC members, the President, and last but not least all of you for the continuous support.

Attila Adamfi

**General Secretary**