



MINUTES FROM THE FIB TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (TC) MEETING

Date: 15 October 2024
Place: Online
Present: Arne Anderstedt (SWE) – chairman
Pär Gustafsson (SWE)
Neal Logan (USA)
Frank Peters (NED) – secretary
Andreas Sjöblom (FIN)
Tor Audun Sørensen (NOR)
Ravi Sunder (IND)
Also present: Attila Adamfi (HUN) – vice president and general secretary FIB
Stein Pedersen (NOR) – first vice president FIB
Egil Larsen (NOR) – chairman FIB Rules and Referee Committee (RRC)
Kjell Anderstedt (SWE) – FIB information manager
Hans-Elis Johansson (SWE) – chairman FIB Olympic Task Force
Not present: Yury Molotkov (RUS)

1 NEW MEMBERS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

We welcome **Ravi Sunder** and **Neal Logan** as new members in the TC. They introduced themselves shortly. Introduction of the other attendees was not needed.

2 ITEMS FROM LAST MEETING

Short bandy – playing rules

Egil Larsen has visited Prague, here is his report:

Sending a summary from my visit to Prague. I watched 6 short bandy matches. The main impression is that this form of bandy is a good supplement to rink bandy. The style of play shares several similarities with traditional bandy, especially in that the game does not continue when the ball crosses the end line. Play resumes with a corner. There is no play behind the goals, which causes the game to be stopped more frequently, either by a goalkeeper's throw or a corner. By not playing behind the goals or near the boards, we avoid dangerous tackles and high-speed collisions behind the goal. I discussed the rules with Lukas Turza and referee Michal Korva. We agreed that certain parts of the rules need to be changed.

Here are a few examples:

- *Rule C 2.1 Equipment*
- *Rule C 2.2 Player who loses their equipment*
- *Rule 5. The player is responsible for their own stick. They must bring it to the bench themselves to get a new one.*
- *Rule 7.2 (This should be written similarly in both sections.)*
- *Rule 16. This one needs to be changed.*

Beyond this, the rulebook should be revised to ensure proper English text.

Action Egil Larsen: adjusting the rules to FIB standard.

Mixed participation in WCS/WCC

Would we allow mixed participation (and different age group for women in men tournament - if they normally play in this team) in the future as a standard exemption in article 5.6 of the Conditions. And if so, for which Conditions WCS/WCC Senior/Youth this will be.

Decision after some discussion: We allow women in men WCC tournaments. Only in WCC Youth and Senior. In youth tournaments the women may be maximum one year older as the normal age group. Conditions will be adjusted by **Frank Peters** and **Tor Audun Sørensen**.

International transfers document

Frank Peters reviewed the FIB ITC document.

Three main things to discuss:

- ITC is no longer a paper document, but a website sending emails. All items about paper can be removed? ITC (Certificate) will be ITA (Approval)? Is this legally valid?
Decision: Frank Peters will contact **Christer Malmsten** with this question. **Attila Adamfi** in cc.
- Do we adjust the financial amounts to inflation?
Decision: No.
Administration fee stays EUR 300 (EUR 100 to FIB plus EUR 200 to member association).
Total compensation for education stays EUR 6000.
- 9.4 Number of days release for national team gathering is not the same as in our timetable document. This document will be aligned to the Timetable release days.

2 TIMETABLE 2024-2025

WCS Senior A and B (Men and Women) - Sweden

Sign up needs to be done before 20 October. Until now only 2 men and 3 women teams have accepted the invitation.

The workgroup promotion-relegation has discussed the grouping for the World Championships Men 2025. The following proposal was accepted by TC (by mail):

Considering the following:

- *The previous WCS in 2023 was played with 5 teams in group A. This was not very practical. Each day one team was free, and only two matches could be played.*
- *Swedish Bandy Federation have informed us that they expect to have 6 teams in group A in this world championship tournament.*
- *Hungary won both two last world championship tournaments in group B (2020 and 2023).*

Proposal to TC:

- *Group A in 2025 will consist of 6 countries:*
 - o *The 5 countries that have played WCS 2023: Sweden, Finland, Norway, Kazakhstan, and USA.*
 - o *Hungary as 6th participating team.*
- *Group B in 2025 will consist of the other countries that are able to participate.*
 - o *By this way also other countries will get the possibility to become world champions in group B.*

End of proposal

Hungarian Bandy Federation does not agree with this. This is their response:

We have received the invitation for the upcoming men's World Championship. The Hungarian Bandy Federation disagrees with the decision putting Hungary in the A group based on the following reasons:

- *the extra costs (membership fee, additional days and costs at the WCS) would be around 8.000-10.000 EUR that HBF and its players will not be able to cover*

- *for the sport promotion (and both for HUN and other teams) it would not be great to have matches with result of huge goal difference*

For the above reasons we kindly ask the technical committee to re-consider this decision as we don't see it being beneficial for the sport.

End of response

A long discussion followed. Additional to the above mentioned points, additional comments have been made to explain both positions:

- There is a clear difference in level of the game between the current five group A teams and group B teams (including Hungary).
- In the past, under the old financial conditions, we had more teams competing in both groups, including 8 teams in group A.
- In earlier years, the automatic promotion was not always executed.
- Earlier rules said that if you win a group, you must be promoted. Since teams must pay for their own accommodation etc this rule is paused. For this, workgroup promotion-relegation was established to propose about groups to TC.
- USA went up and down many times. What if they also want to go to group B?
- What happens in next season if Hungary denies going up this season and maybe win group B again?
- Why does Hungary need exemptions if they don't want to promote to group A?
- If Hungary does not want to go up, they block the development of other teams.
- Costs: In the past, teams did not pay the higher group A fee in the first year. Is that a FIB rule? At least for some attendees this is new information.
- Costs: WCS Group B is only one day shorter than WCS Group A. This difference in costs is not big.

No clear decision could be made, a mandatory promotion is not in the rules now. This is a strategic question for the future that could be discussed with regards to the strategic plan of FIB.

Decision: Hungarian Bandy Federation will reconsider their position in this, if they do not need to pay the higher fee in the first year of Group A. **Attila Adamfi** promised a response within 3 days.

Incoming mail after the meeting: On 19 October, Hungarian Bandy Federation (by Kristian Marosi) informed that considering the new financial conditions (same participation fee as in group B), they will participate in group A.

WCC Y17 Women

Proposal for match schedule is received.

3 REQUEST FINLAND: ADD WEEK 4 TO INTERNATIONAL WINDOWS?

This is about women national team match(es) Finland – Sweden Y21.

Pär Gustafsson will check with the league in Sweden and inform Finland.

4 APPOINTING TOURNAMENT DIRECTORS

Not so much time in the meeting left, so now only for the upcoming tournaments.

WCC Y17 Women - **Pär Billsmon**

WCC Y16 Men - **Egil Larsen**

Frank Peters will send mail to **Egil Larsen** about the small extra allowances we have in Bollnäs because this is the first year they must use the new Conditions. Maybe some practical issues occur. We expect a small report of that.

End of meeting.

Next online meeting: Wednesday 6 November, 14:00h CET (duration 1.5 h).