



## USA Floorball Board Meeting

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### USA Floorball Board Meeting Minutes March 17, 2019, 9.00 AM PST

Participants; David Nilsson, Calle Karlsson, Adam Troy, Anders Buvarp, Kim Aaltonen, Alyssa Zinsser Hall.

#### **Approve meeting agenda and select note taker.**

- Agenda approved and David Nilsson selected to lead the meeting and take notes.
- Quorum requirements were met.

#### **U19 Women's National Team (Anders Buvarp)**

- Report from Anders Buvarp:
  - A total of 19 IFF member associations registered to the Women's U19 2020 and this is also a new record. There is no news regarding the associated qualifications or the max roster size.
  - Brian Radichel (NTFA) invited a Women's team for Texas Open, which was a great idea and much appreciated. We had ten field players and one goalie coming from Minnesota, Colorado, Washington and Texas (Dallas+Austin). Four out of eleven of those players are eligible to play at the 2020 WFC.
  - Need players born 1/1/2001 to 5/5/2005 for the 2020 WFC.
  - WU19 intend to participate in the SGA in August including our own camp August 1-2.
  - Looking at hostels for 2020 WFC; Svartbäckens vandrarhem and Uppsala Vandrarhem.
  - Camp will be at "Mallboden Hostel" in Motala, Sweden starting 5/2/2020 and ending 5/5/2020.
  - Getting to/from Motala is an unresolved transportation issue. As usual cost is the main issue.
  - Ann Lövgren has a new idea for fund raising.
- Comments/discussions
  - Anders Buvarp will ask the IFF again (December and February inquiries sent with no response) about the qualification conditions.

#### **Women's National Team (Alyssa Zinsser Hall)**

- Report from Alyssa Zinsser Hall:

I'm finishing up sending out letters to players we are considering as candidates for the Women's 2019 WFC in Switzerland. It also includes details on two final options for players to get seen by team staff- US Nationals by playing on the women's team and attending the development camp or attending the team camp/training games in Motala, Sweden in September. At the end of those two events staff will make their final decision on our roster.

I will be organizing the team for Nationals once again.
- Comments/discussions
  - WFCQ spectators count on day 1 and 2, were; 158 and 159 respectively.
  - 40 letters went out to potential players.



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### Men's National Team (Adam Troy)

- Report from Adam Troy:
  - Working on the planning for the men's team and will be posting shortly to get people to email their interest in pursuing a spot on the national team moving forward. Have already posted internally on the men's Facebook team. Initially response was very slow but picked up after I posted about direct qualification to the WFC.  
Note I have not received anything official from the IFF but the notes from their latest meeting states that USA and Canada are qualified to the WFC due to the World Games. Current plan is a very open development camp at Nationals followed by an event with games in Europe Sept/Oct (possibly on conjunction with Great Britain in the Czech Republic) and another one in May (looking at Island or Spain) followed by another camp at Nationals.  
Have been emailing with Jukka Kotti to host a camp for all on the Friday.
  - The development camp will be open for everyone, all ages etc, and planning will be done once we see who has signed up. Joel Olofsson is set to lead the camp but if we have a lot of signups, we might need more coaches. It will be both for newcomers and players wanting to show their skills
  - Web
    - I did a video interview with Vince Faso when he was in Sweden and posted.
    - Got a flyer from Jukka to promote the youth division at the State Games in social but I adapted it a bit and created a post on our website and a little video and am testing a simple social media campaign with it.
- Comments/discussions on report
  - Adam is happy about being directly qualified:  
The 13th Men's World Floorball Championships will be played 4th – 12th of December 2020 in Helsinki, Finland. A total of 35 IFF member associations have registered to the Men's WFC 2020, which is a new record.
  - Due to the World Games 2021 in Birmingham the IFF CB also decided to give both Americas teams (USA and Canada) direct qualification to the WFC 2020. It was also decided that nine teams shall qualify from the European qualifications (in addition to Finland directly qualified as the organizer). The AOFC shall retain their four qualifying spots.
  - Source: <https://floorball.sport/2019/03/11/iff-cb-meeting-news-2-2019-central-african-republic-and-kiribati-new-iff-members>

### Tournaments (2019)

- US Nationals – August 2019 (with the State Games)
- See <http://www.usafloorball.org/tournaments/>
  - No further discussions.



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### **The World Games 2021, Birmingham, AL (Kim Aaltonen)**

- Kim Aaltonen working on sponsorships.

### **Regional Updates (Kim Aaltonen and Anders Buvarp)**

- Report from Kim Aaltonen and Anders Buvarp

- See Appendix A for full report.

The South-Central Region currently consists of too many states from Texas all the way to Alabama. Jukka Kotti is talking to a candidate (Jiří Zouzal) in Alabama. I've been chatting a bit with him and he is full of enthusiasm. An idea would be split South Central into two regions; South Central and South, with Jiří Zouzal being the director for "South". I've attached his bio.

The states for "South-Central" would be Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana. The states for "South" would be Mississippi, Alabama and Georgia.

If we do the above, South Carolina would be moved to "Atlantic" and "South-East" would be just Florida. Bear in mind Florida has a huge population, so I think that is just fine.

- ◆ Comments/discussions

- Issues identified in the attached regional report

- Letter has been requested from USA Floorball to address the impact of playing floorball on the surface of basketball gym surfaces, which has been an impediment for renting space.

- Anders Buvarp has published two letters in the dropbox.

- Anders Buvarp and Kim Aaltonen proposed to split South Central into two regions; South Central and South, with Jiří Zouzal being the director for "South".

- The board voted unanimously in favor on adding Jiří Zouzal as a regional director for the South region.

### **Schedule next meeting.**

- Sunday April 21, 2019, at 9.00 AM PST
- Sunday May 19, 2019, at 9.00 AM PST

### **Close meeting**

- David Nilsson adjourned the meeting.



## Appendix A – Regional Reports (Jukka Kotti)

### Northwest Region, Geoff Dugan

Washington, Oregon, Alaska

#### Washington

- David Crawford is actively building a floorball ecosystem in the Olympia area (south of Seattle and Tacoma). Offering camps for youth (8-14) and league for youth.
- Conducted outreach session (training/scrimmage) on March 3 for 18 people in Federal Way (between Tacoma and Seattle) led by David Crawford and attended by seven current ice hockey players (age 14-18, 5 boys/2 girls) and eleven players from the host church. Level of athleticism was high and play was highly spirited. It was a promising group and could lead to more activity.
- Idea has been put forward for consideration: Participate in the Desna Cup, a soccer-focused festival and sports event in Federal Way, WA in August. There could be a demonstration/participation activity to expose potential players to the sport of floorball.
- Letter has been requested from USA Floorball to address the impact of playing floorball on the surface of basketball gym surfaces, which has been an impediment for renting space.
- Two players traveling to Texas Open (Eli Dugan, MU19 age 15; and Loke Antonio. female age 18/19)

#### Oregon

- Current state of floorball is unknown

#### Alaska

- Current state of floorball is unknown --> Jukka added: Alaska Floorball Monkeys is an active floorball club.

#### Estimated Number of players:

Washington: <100 estimated in the Olympia area, mostly youth, otherwise unknown

Oregon: unknown

Alaska: unknown ☐ Jukka added: According to Ted Wu there are approximately 45 players in AK

### Southwest. Zack Geiser

AZ Pickup and mini league continue. Growing a bit but getting quality players.

I have a 16yo(male) who has hockey background and adapted super fast and is a very capable and aggressive player. Dad says they're willing to travel so I'm going to help them get connected with MU19

Kids Floorball ended today. Will be too hot to do April/May as we only have outside court.

Reached out to city of Mesa about youth Floorball. Haven't heard back.

Senon from Menlo Park sent me some used goalie gear. I'm re-organizing our gear and will send 2 full sets to New Mexico so they can get a head start on getting goalies. I also have 2 nets that I will send them so they can build some pvc frames for goals.

New Mexico hasn't secured a regular time at their venue yet.



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### North East - Mike Bonelli

North East region consist of Maine, VT, NH, RI & CT (New England) and will/can encompass New York, NJ, PA and MA

New York

- Spring / Summer league running through Peconic Hockey Foundation, Long Island

Connecticut

- Running an 8U floorball league in Darien with 40-50 kids for the spring; 10 week program

New Hampshire

- Working with HS coach in Laconia NH to develop spring and summer HS floorball/hockey opportunity

Estimated Number of players: NA

Jukka: NY has around 30 active players.

### South Central - Jukka Kotti

States included in South Central region are: Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama

Texas:

- Continuing to build and strengthen new and existing DFW area floorball locations. We have grown from 2 locations to 6 in last 3 months. One goal is to ramp up a city league between four (as of now) cities as soon as local teams are ready for it. Target to run first city league event is during 4H 2019.

• Update:

- Flower Mound – Team ready
- Lewisville – Enough players acquired to call it a team.
- Forth Wort – Enough players acquired to call it a team.
- Richardson – Not enough players to form a team yet. Working on to attract new players.
- Texas Open tournament March 9-10 – Completed and results posted on Facebook.
- Texas Special Olympics Training Camp March 9-10 – Completed a very successful training event. Next steps are to work with new local Special Olympics teams to a) get athletes trained and b) prepare teams for a North Texas Special Olympics floorball tournament.
- Floorball Goalie Camp April 6-7. Trainer: Aake Kettunen
- Youth Summer Camp July 9-12. Camp will be run by high level coaches from Finland. Both coaches have years of experience through long player and coaching careers.
- Very high focus on marketing campaigns to grow floorball divisions in Lynchburg, VA State Games of America.

Oklahoma:

- Three schools in Tulsa were introduced to floorball via Dallas Stars Fitness Stars program – No additional activities with OK during this month.

Arkansas:

- Trying to reach out to old contact who used to run floorball in AR to get activity status. – no response yet.

Louisiana:

- Contacted (and follow up done) several organizations in Louisiana to spark interest – no success yet.



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### Mississippi:

- Contacted several organizations late 2018. Follow up needed.

### Alabama:

- Contacted AL State Games. They are interested in floorball but not during 2019.

Additional activities: State Games project. All regional directors should contact state games organizations within their regions.

Concern: How to develop states that belong to a Regional Director whom does not have capability to manage activities outside his/her own home state?