

2nd FIR Council Meeting 2011

Friday 21st October 20:15 – 22:15

Győr/Hungary/Chammpions League & Hungarian Open

Present: Marcel Weigl, Lennart Eklundh, Poku Salo

Not Present: Thomas Troedsson, Marc Veldkamp, Ray Jordan, Martti Vottonen, Karim Hanna, Michi Dickert

Marcel Weigl opens the 2nd official Council Meeting of the year and is a little frustrated that only 3 of 9 Council members are present.

Agenda

- 1) Welcome Note, Member States update
- 2) Resultreporter
- 3) Rankings
- 4) Olympic Draws
- 5) World Tour 2011, 2012
- 6) Tournament Support 2011
- 7) Rules
- 8) Marketing
- 9) FIR Finances
- 10) FIR Website
- 11) FIR Elections
- 12) Any other Business

1) Welcome note (Marcel Weigl)

a) FIR Member Countries

Marcel reports that his trip to Sofia was a big success and a handful of potential new member countries are at hand and have been invited to the AGM 2011 during World Champs in Austria. In Hungary first contacts have been made to Qatar (Alexandru Rosca) and Lebanon (Marc Mourad).

Australia	Leigh Sanders, Calum Munro
Brasil	Manoel L Santana, Luiz Jimenez
China	Yan Shiduo, Gong Shihua
Denmark	Kasper Jonsson, Jesper Ratzner
Luxemburg	Tony Nightingale, Tom Pfeiffer
Iceland	Arnþór Jón Þorvarðsson
Ireland	Judy Lambert
New Zealand	Jason Granville
Portugal	Luis Barbossa, Jacob de Vries, Carlos Graca
Romania	Radu Ionescu
Turkey	Emre Ak, Ersoy Korner
Wales	Nick Macey, Steve Kneller

b) Sportaccord Update

With Austria, Estonia, Finland, Latvia and the Czech Republic only five of the 29 FIR member states are officially recognised by their national NOC – National Olympic Committee or NSF – National Sports Federation. FIR still needs official answers by NOC or NSF in all countries even if they are negative. Only then and when FIR finally has at least 40 member states can we apply at Sportaccord for official recognition. Nevertheless Marcel will travel to Lausanne in spring 2012 for a first meeting with Sportaccord General Secretary.

c) Membership Fees

There are still some member countries that have or will pay the annual membership fee for 2011: France, Greece, India, Malaysia, Slovenia, USA. It is agreed that Council shall decide which countries get subsidiaries for each year, but all countries membership fees must be in the budget otherwise they can not be counted as members according to Austrian law.

To Do:

- Marcel to be in contact with potential new members
- National Federations to e-mail or request per post official answers from NOC or NSF

2) **Resultreporter** (Marcel Weigl on behalf of Rickard Tauson)

The switch to the new Resultreporter Server after the problems at Team and Doubles World Champs in Milano worked fine and since then there were no more problems with RR. The manual is permanently updated and can be found on www.resultreporter.com/manual

Much of the Resultreporter To Do List 2011 has already been taken care of, here are the open points:

a) Must Developments

- find a way of showing walk overs and retirements
- Introduce a button finish all remaining matches with one click
- we need to get the complete pdf results of the world rankings onto the page. John has them, please solve with him how we can get them on
- Change text from license to annual license and introduce license for e.g. 2012, 2013
- add more pictures of players??? Is there a way i can do that easily!

- In Doubles: new text who to enter first and that make sure the other player has paid license
- Change wording from FIR supervisor to FIR delegate

b) Nice to have Developments

Live Scoring:

- Matchpoint indicator, how to calculate
- Before tennis is started we should have a text saying "Player x needs x points to win" if it's not totally equal before tennis one player always has the opportunity to win without getting 21 points in tennis.

- make live score on the screen bigger
- Below each draw program something that one can see e.g. 9:00 these 4 matches start, 9:30 this four. See www.tournamentsoftware.com
- See the nationality on the registration list.
- BUGG: When changing country the players cache in LIVE part isn't updated.
- BUGG: Validate match id on scan dialog so that a user can't go to next without a matchid
- Delete functionality to delete a ranking, should be implemented so that one ranking/date could be deleted
- Add forum functionality to result reporter

c) Development in the future

- Resultreporter with language support, how to get out a list of strings to translate?
- Pool play with two or more pools then playoffs
- Web based sheet for tournament reports and payment specification
- Calculation for use of national tournaments
- Fun elements for webpage, make it livelier. Most importantly chat
- Result reporter with language support, how to get out a list of strings to translate
- Pool play with to pools then playoffs
- Players for one tournament should be able to rank the tournament after playing the tournament

To Do:

- Rickard Tauson and Marcel Weigl to have a meeting at World Champs to go through the points

3) Rankings (Poku Salo)

a) World Rankings complete results

The Pdf complete results must be added to resultreporter.

b) Juniors Rankings

The Juniors Rankings have been reviewed, mixed doubles is still to be introduced after Double World Champs.

c) Seniors Rankings

There is a problem with the Seniors Rankings, because there are too many points awarded in 45+ comparing it to lower classes. A new ranking matrix for 2012 has to be decided. Also both Seniors and Juniors a filter shall be integrated in the Rankings, so that e.g. each age group can be displayed separately. 45+ shows all players, 55+ only the ones over 55 and so on.

d) Seniors Women 45+

Shall be started from 2011 after World Champs Singles including a ranking group.

e) Points Matrix

Hakan Granberg has come up with a proposal for a new points matrix from 2012. It would mean that the gap between first and last players is widened and the top 4-8 players are progressively rewarded. FIR Council agrees in principle with Hakan and asks Poku to work on the new matrix and present per e-mail to be decided at the next council meeting

To Do:

- Marcel to make sure with Rickard that the pdf with complete results is added and ask about integrated filter
- John Buchanan to prepare Women +45 Rankings and Juniors Mixed Double Rankings to go online 1st January 2012
- Poku to prepare new matrix suggestion for next Council Meeting and new Seniors and Juniors Ranking system

4) Olympic Draws (Marcel Weigl)

Marc is now doing all Olympic Draws Men Elite Singles, Women Elite Singles, Men Elite Doubles, Women Doubles, Mixed Doubles by FIR. Whenever possible draws shall be done in public at other tournaments two weeks in advance. FIR is now executing from 2012 strictly the pull out and no show rule, that players have to pay the full entry fee no matter what the reason for pulling out after the entry deadline. FIR has decided on an extra 50€ penalty fee from 2012 for non payment of entry fees. FIR has a list and informs players plus bans them if they have not paid yet. For that reason and the many pairs the new classed Mixed Doubles B – Amateur shall be introduced.

To Do:

- Marcel to open up Mixed Doubles B – Class
- Marcel to inform players 2012 about the 50€ penalty fine

5) World Tour (Marcel Weigl)

a) World Tour 2011

Lennart reports that the World Tour 2011 has fewer entries than 2010.

b) World Tour 2012

World Tour 2012 with a new record of 15 Tournaments in 13 countries has been published. To intensify marketing all World Champs 2011 participants shall receive an A1 poster and the FIR magazine with the World Tour on the backside. From 2012 FIR shall publish a list of official balls required in all sports for Olympic Draws.

c) World Champs 2013, 2014, 2015

To allow better preparations for World Champs events, FIR has decided to allocate World Champs Singles, Doubles & Teams earlier for the future. At the AGM 2011 all countries shall be notified that they can apply for all World Champs 2013 – 2015 until End of February 2012.

FIR Racketlon World Tour 2012

- | | | | |
|---------|-----------------|-------------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. IWT | 10 - 12 Feb | Vienna Classics | Austria |
| 2. IWT | 13 - 15 April | Czech Open | Prague |
| 3. IWT | 4 - 6 May | Hungarian Open | Pecs |
| 4. IWT | 18 - 20 May | Italian Open | Milano |
| 5. SWT | 1 - 3 June | King of Rackets | Oudenaarde/Belgium |
| 6. IWT | 15 – 17 June | Racketlon Allergan | Granby/Canada |
| 7. SWT | 22 - 24 June | Swiss Open | Zürich |
| 8. WC | 12 - 15 July | Doubles/Teams World Champs | Sofia/Bulgaria |
| 9. IWT | 27 – 29 July | German Open | Nussloch/Heidelberg |
| 10. IWT | 17 – 19 Aug | Dutch Open | Rotterdam |
| 11. SWT | 7 - 9 Sep | NOVOMATIC Austrian Open | Wr. Neudorf/Vienna |
| 12. IWT | 21 - 23 Sep | ALTERNATE Open | Linden/Germany |
| 13. IWT | 5 - 7 Oct | Finnish Open | Kauniainen |
| 14. IWT | 26 - 28 Oct | English Open/Champions League | London |
| 15. WC | 29. Nov – 2 Dec | Singles World Champs | Stockholm/Sweden |

To Do:

- Marcel to prepare list of required balls for Olympic Draws
- Marcel to prepare World Champs application procedure

6) Tournament Support (Marcel on behalf of Ray Jordan)

It is hard to find FIR Delegates for all tournaments; FIR only has a handful of delegates who took care of all the tournaments this year: Christoph Krenn, Ray Jordan, Marcel Weigl, Lennart Eklundh, Poku Salo, Michael Dickert. It is up to the new council to find a better solution for 2012. From 2012 Tournament Delegates shall not only have free accommodation, but also free boarding.

To Do:

- Marcel to put on the new council agenda
- Marcel to develop with Rickard an online evaluation sheet on RR

7) Rules (Marcel Weigl on behalf of Karim Hanna)

Voting Power

Council has decided to stick to the current system in principle, where votes are based on the number of players in the World Rankings, but basic votes shall be reduced from 2 to 1 (now that all 29 member federations are legal and registered) and the maximum number of votes per country shall be six. FIR Council requests a change of the voting power at the General Meeting 2011. The exact wording proposals in the FIR statutes see below:

- 1.1.1. Each member with voting power receives one basic vote according the principle *one country, one vote*. Half of the voting power shall be the sum of the total number of basic votes.
- 1.1.2. The other half of the voting power is the sum of the basic votes plus 1 vote ("variable votes"). Those votes are allocated to the members in direct proportion to the *racketlon size* of the country in accordance with the Hagenbach-Bischoff-System, whereas the maximum number of variable votes per member may not exceed five (5). Residual votes shall be allotted to those members who according the Hagenbach-Bischoff-System have the highest ratio calculated until all variable votes are allotted.
- 1.1.3. The first distribution of votes shall be calculated according the following formula of the Hagenbach-Bischoff-System: $\text{No. of Votes} = \text{No. of licensed players as of Jan 1} / (\text{total no. of licensed players} / (\text{no. of variable votes} + 1))$. The ratio used for the allotment of the residual votes is calculated according the following formula: $\text{No. of licensed players} / (\text{No. of votes allotted} + 1)$.
- 1.1.4. The *racketlon size* of a country is defined as the number of players from that country on the world ranking. The world ranking as of January 1st of the respective year shall be the basis for the calculation of the *racketlon size* and accordingly the voting power.

8) Marketing (Marcel Weigl)

Austrian Sports Ministry was the only FIR sponsor in 2011 again as in 2010 and has increased the total amount from 10.000€ to 11.480€ (6480€ cash + 5000€ office). Gianpaolo Martire, who will run for Marketing Officer from 2012 can imagine to put up 5000€ in 2012 with small sponsors. Lennart Eklundh has had a first meeting with Stiga who might be interested because they are expanding their market to China. Marcel is in contact with Austrian Sports Ministry for 2012, betting industries and with Luca Villa and Alessandro Rosso concerning a FIR Racketlon clothing line. New Council member Ahmad Bahadli says there are funds in Lausanne we have to find. The situation is urgent, something must be done for 2012 otherwise the finances of FIR will not break even.

To Do:

- Marcel and Gianpaolo to work on marketing concept 2012
- Marcel to contact betting industries, Austrian sports ministry and work on clothing line
- Lennart in contact with Stiga including World Champs 2012
- New Council to decide on procedure concerning Lausanne after World Champs 2011
- All Council Members are reminded to help with ideas to get in more money and especially find a World Tour sponsor.

9) FIR Finances (Lennart Eklundh)

The financial situation of FIR is as always very tense and the new FIR Council from 2012-2014 must find ways and solutions to produce more income.

a) Final result for 2010

The actual result for 2010 is positive with 1094€. The final result shall be signed by FIR Auditors Hakan Granberg and Stefan Adamsson at the AGM 2011.

b) Preliminary result 2011

The preliminary result by Treasurer Lennart Eklundh with an even budget of around 34.000€ for 2011 cannot be held due to less tournament fees of about 5000€. The result before the World Champs would be around 500€ deficit, but can still be change depending on the entries at the World Champs.

c) Budget prediction 2012

The first budget prediction for 2012 sees an even budget of around 33.000€.

d) Licenses

All tournaments are recommended to allow entries only with valid license, this worked very well in 2011. FIR Council has decided to raise the license fee for 2012 for the first time since introduction to 12€.

d) Paypal Solution

There is a problem with paypal, because FIR bank account is in Sweden, but FIR registered in Austria. An option paypal does not offer, thus it is very expensive to take out the money from the paypal account and transfer to Swedish bank account. Either FIR opens a second seat in Sweden or a second bank account in Austria to solve this.

To Do:

- Auditors to sign budget 2010
- Lennart and Marcel to find a solution for paypal
- New Council to find solutions of more income. Raise tournament fees from 2013 to 15%?

10) FIR New Website (Marcel)

a) New Website www.racketlon.net

In October 2011 the new website by Rickard Tauson was finally released and now integrates www.racketlon.net with www.resultreporter.com. The Url was transferred from Finland to a hosting company in Sweden. Rickard and Marcel are now meeting during the World Champs to finalise and make some more improvements.

b) www.racketlon.com

Hans Mullamaa still resists to hand over www.racketlon.com. FIR Council wants all country members to sign a petition to Hans Mullamaa and Peter Landberg that www.racketlon.com because it is not even up to date is harming Racketlon and should be transferred to FIR. Hans is asked for a statement until the World Champs. Other options to be looked into are www.internationalracketlon.com and www.racketlon.org because FIR is an organisation.

To Do:

- Marcel and Rickard to finalize the new website
- Marcel to prepare a petition and put on Racketlon.net and RR and to check other urls

11) FIR Elections 2012 - 2014

At the Annual General Meeting 2011 during World Champs Singles (24.-27.11.2011) in Vienna/Austria elections for the new FIR Council from 2012 to 2014 will be held. Marcel has agreed to run as president again and will found a team which will look a little different. It involves Non-Europeans for the first time in FIR history and no more than one member per country is member. It is the only team running for the elections:

Name Country Probable position/responsibility

Marcel Weigl	Austria	Executive-President
Lennart Eklundh	Sweden	Vice-President and Treasurer
Poku Salo	Finland	Rankings
Karim Hanna	Switzerland	Rules
Gianpaolo Martire	Italy	Marketing
Gary Tovey	England	New Media
Puzant Kassabian	Bulgaria	Balkan
Dany Lessard	Canada	America
Ahmad Bahadli	Iraq	Asia and Subsidiaries

Next Council Meeting

Old Council:	3/2011: Thursday 24. Nov. (12:00)	World Champs Sports Centre, Wr. Neudorf
New Council:	4/2011: Sunday 27. Nov. (9:00)	World Champs Sports Centre, Wr. Neudorf