

FIR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2012

Fr 30. November 22:30

Park Inn/Stockholm

Sweden



AGENDA

1. Welcome note & member status
2. Sportaccord membership
3. Confirmation of finances and minutes AGM 2011
4. Report of the council 2011
5. Financial report 2012, preview 2013
6. Members report 2012
7. Changes in the Council 2013-2014
8. Council preview 2013
9. Requests by FIR members
10. Any other business

1. WELCOME NOTE

- Confirmation President and Country Representatives
- 37 members, 7 new countries in 2012 (in yellow)
- Malaysia excluded from 2013 due to lack of contact

1.	Armenia, 1	16.	Hungary, 3	31.	Scotland, 2
2.	Australia, 1	17.	India, 1	32.	Slovakia, 1
3.	Austria, 6	18.	Israel, 1	33.	Slovenia, 1
4.	Belgium, 3	19.	Italy, 3	34.	South Africa, 1
5.	Bulgaria, 1	20.	Latvia, 1	35.	Sweden, 6
6.	Canada, 2	21.	Liechtenstein, 1	36.	Switzerland, 6
7.	Czech Republic, 2	22.	F.Y.R.O. Macedonia, 1	37.	USA, 1
8.	Denmark, 1	23.	Malaysia, 1	Total 75 votes	(>50% = 38 votes)
9.	England, 5	24.	Mongolia, 1	65 votes present	(33 votes is majority)
10.	Estonia, 1	25.	Netherlands, 3		
11.	Finland, 3	26.	New Zealand, 1		
12.	France, 1	27.	Pakistan, 1		
13.	Germany, 6	28.	Poland, 2		
14.	Greece, 1	29.	Romania, 1		
15.	Hong Kong – China, 1	30.	Russia, 1		

1.2 POTENTIAL NEW MEMBERS

- Bangladesh, Manoranjan Mishra has visited them
- Brasil, Manoel L Santana big tournaments in Brasilia
- Croatia, Vedran Maljkovic is here with us
- Egypt, Karim Hanna is in contact
- Lebanon, Marc Mourad has played on World Tour
- Luxemburg, Tony Nightingale has played World Champs
- Iceland, Anbor Jon Porbarsson first contacts
- Ireland, Judy Lambert papers handed in
- Japan, Hiron first Japanese player ever at English Open
- Nepal, Manoranjan Mishra is in contact
- Norway, Lennart Eklundh in Squash contact
- Portugal, Still hoping for Jacob de Vries
- Qatar, Alexandra Rosca has played on World Tour
- Serbia, Puzant Kassabian in contact
- Turkey, Emre Ak is here with us
- Ukraine, Aija Klaseva first contacts
- Wales, Peter Bridgeman in contact with Keith Lesser
- Zimbabwe, Jessica Calder first contacts through Patric Kalous

1.3 APPLICATION NEW MEMBERS

- Iraq, Oday Z. Jasmin Badminton Federation

2. SPORTACCORD MEMBERSHIP

Sportaccord (former GAISF - General Association of International Sports Federations) groups together international sports federations. Sportaccords role consists in recognizing, assisting and representing the International Federations in realms of common interest within the Olympic and Sports Movement and governmental and non-governmental bodies. To become Sportaccord member Racketlon must be played in 40 countries (instead of 30 in GAISF) on three continents around the world and FIR must count the same number of legally registered national federations recognised by the NSF - National Sports Federations or NOC – National Olympic Comitees.

- FIR now has 37 member countries (40 needed)
- Members fact sheet 2012 including names of all Council Members
- National Registration paper of Non-Profit-Organisation including translation
- Statutes including short translation
- Paper stating recognition of FIR as sole body of worldwide Racketlon
- If available: recognition paper of national NSA or NOC
- Only 9 FIR members Armenia, Austria, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Italy, Latvia, Macedonia have got letter of NSF or NOC recognition
- Deadline 1st of August 2012 missed, next deadline 1st of March 2013

2. SPORTACCORD MEMBERSHIP

Sportaccord furthermore recommends:

- Letter by international TT, BAD, SQ and TE federations
- National federations simple websites online
- Continental Championships (European Champs, African Champs etc.)

Membership is so important for FIR:

- Officially recognized sport worldwide
- Funds from EC or other public institutions
- Guarantee of seriousness for sponsors
- Seriousness for media coverage
- Seriousness for betting companies
- Funds for national Racketlon federations
- To be clearly separated from the 4 racket sports TT, BAD, SQ and TE

2. LETTER OF NOC or NSF RECOGNITION

To

NOC – National Olympic Committee or

NSF – National Sports Federation

30. November 2012

Concern: Recognition of the “Country” Racketlon Federation

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,

Racketlon is the brother of Decathlon and Triathlon combining the four big Racketsports of the World: Tabletennis, Badminton, Squash and Tennis. The “Country” Racketlon Federation was registered in “place/date” (see documents) by “name of person” and is member of the world governing body of Racketlon: FIR – Federation Internationale de Racketlon, which is registered in Austria since 2003.

In order to ensure from our and your side that the “Country” Racketlon Federation is and stays the only governing body in “Country” we kindly ask you in the name of FIR and the “Country” Racketlon Federation for official recognition (not admission) by your “National Olympic Committee or National Sports Federation.”

Please be so kind to contact us per e-mail office@racketlon.net if you have any more questions and inform us if you need any more papers or facts to proceed. Thank you for your assistance!

Kind Regards,

FIR Executive President

Marcel Weigl

“Country” Racketlon Federation

“name of president or General Secretary“

4. REPORT OF THE COUNCIL 2012

- General Work, Executive President, Marcel Weigl (AUT)
- Balkan Countries, Puzant Kassabian (Bul)
- Rankings, Poku Salo (Fin)
- Rules, Karim Hanna (Sui)
- Subsidiaries/Arab countries Ahmad Bahadli (Irq)
- Tournament Support/America Dany Lessard
- Marketing, Gianpaolo Martire (Ita)
- Social Media, Gary Tovey (Eng)
- Vice President/Treasurer, Lennart Eklundh (Swe)

4.1 PRESIDENT MARCEL WEIGL

- Running FIR Office with RFA in Austria/Klosterneuburg
- Opening hours 14h/week, Mo 7-15, Fri 7-13
- No rent, around 400€ operational costs/month
- Subsidiaries from Austrian Government
- Re-launch and content of www.racketlon.net
- World Tour and Tournament Support
- E-Mail correspondence with players and officials
- VISA help for India, Russia and Pakistan
- Publications: WT Posters, 3rd Edition of FIR Magazine at World Champs
- World Tour history, collection of statistics and pictures
- Delegation of jobs in FIR, calling for Council Meetings, AGMs, Seminars

SPECIAL PROJECTS 2012

- Re-Launch of www.racketlon.net
- Webbased FIR World Tour application form
- Personal Meeting with SportAccord in Lausanne
- Resultreporter test of national version in Austria
- Players from FIR members only could take part in Olympic draws
- World Champs Magazine with pics from all former world championships
- FIR-Delegate List
- FIR Approved Balls List
- Internet live streaming on FIR World Tour

WORLD TOUR 2012

- Around 1900 Total no. of Single Entries, 500 Double Entries
- Minus 400 single entries compared to 2011
- 15 World Tour events: 2 WC, 3 SWT, 10 IWT (14 in 2011)
- 2 Challengers (4 in 2011)
- Licenses via Resultreporter work very well
- Biggest problem referees in olympic draws

FIR WORLD TOUR 2011/2012

RACKETLON WORLD TOUR 2011. Players fee summary

Tournament	Date	Status	entry s	entry db	Tot fee	licenses
Swedish Open	25-27.2	SWT	153	33	897	16
Czech Open	15-17.4	IWT	147	61	563	15
World C. Db+teams	29.4-1.5	WC		132	528	60
WIN FOR LIFE Belgium	3-5.6	SWT	146	36	692	36
Racketlon Allergan Ca	16-19.6	IWT	40		120	
World Sports festival Au	24-25.6	CH	41	4	88	26
Swiss Open	24-26.6	SWT	169	36	784	83
Dutch Open	15-17.7	IWT	48	11	166	11
Luciano Bulgarian IRC	22-24.7	IWT	29	11	109	24
German Open	29-31.7	IWT	164	49	590	4
Planancy English Open	19-21.8	IWT	107	20	361	0
Nieuwe Sloot Racketlon	2-4.9	CH	14	10	43	3
Alternate Open Germ.	30.9-2.10	IWT	110	34	398	5
Finnish Open	7-9.10	IWT	72	10	236	31
Hungarian Open+CH. L.	21-23.10	IWT	151		553	20
Gothenburg Open	4-6.11	CH	66	12	150	13
British Open		CH	51		102	
Novomatic WC singles	24-27.11	WC	405		2025	
licenses through Pay Pal						589
Total for 2011			1913	459	8405	936

RACKETLON WORLD TOUR 2012. Players fee summary

Tournament	Date	Status	entry s	entry db	Tot fee	licenses
Swedish Open	cancelled	SWT				
Vienna Classic	10-12.2	IWT	127	40	461	444
Czech Open	13-15.4	IWT	180	69	678	156
Hungarian Open.	4-5.5	IWT	67	19	239	144
Italian Open	18-19.5	IWT	32	11	118	
King of Rackets Belg	1-3.6	SWT	134	36	644	708
World Sport Festival	&.7	CH	16		32	0
Racketlon Allergan Ca	15-17.6	IWT	38		114	
Swiss Open	22-24.6	SWT	166	49	811	120
WC. Db+teams Bulg	12-15.7	WC	team27	116	734	444
German Open	27-29.7	IWT	130	22	434	12
Dutch Open	17-19.8	IWT	43	18	165	72
Novomatic Austrian Op	7-9.9	SWT	165	46	798	168
Alternate Open Germ.	21-23.9	IWT	82	33	312	48
Stealth British Open	28.9	CH	51	6	111	0
Finnish Open	5-7.10	IWT	53	8	175	276
English Open	26-28.10	IWT	114	16	374	0
WC singles Stockholm	29.11-1.12	WC	490		2450	0
licenses through Pay Pal						9396
Total for 2012			1890	489	8654	11988

4.2 BALKAN C., PUZANT KASSABIAN

- Double and Team World Champs in Bulgaria a big success
- 2013 Super World Tour event in Sofia
- Macedonia and Armenia became FIR members
- Turkey and Serbia are about to become FIR members

4.3 RANKINGS POKU SALO

- Endpositions checked by Poku
- RULE CHANGE 2013 Best 12 tournaments (instead of 8) in 24 months count
- RULE CHANGE but of these 12 tournaments a maximum of 4 SWT, 2 WC and at least 2 need to be Challengers
- Rankings document finished and to be published

4.4 RULES KARIM HANNA

- FIR has 4 set of rules: AGM: Rules of Racketlon, Statutes
- Council: Players & Draws Regulations, Tournament Regulations
- FIR Players and Draws Regulations NEW (1.6.2012)
- FIR Tournament Regulations NEW (1.1.2013)
- FIR Statutes NEW (1.1.2012)
- Karim Hanna has final decision for anything not in the rules

4.5 SUBSIDIARIES/ARAB COUNTRIES

AHMAD BAHADLI

- SportAccord visit in Lausanne with Marcel Weigl
- Iraq applies for FIR membership
- Contact and letter to ITTF – International Tabletennis Federation to recognise FIR

CONCERN: ITTF Support of Racketlon

Dear Mister President,

We take the liberty to get in touch with you to draw your attention to our sport called Racketlon. The sport combining the 4 biggest racket sports in the world: table tennis, badminton, squash and tennis. Two opponents meet each other and play one set to 21 points in each of the 4 sports to decide the winner. You will find more information on our official website: www.racketlon.net

Athletes from around the world who practice Racketlon come from diverse backgrounds but what gets them together are the 4 rackets of which table tennis is a part. We want to emphasize that we are no concurrent for any of the sports, in contrary we bring new players to play e.g. table tennis who would never have done so. All federations of the four sports can thus profit from Racketlon.

With 37 member countries on all continents we are not far away from SportAccord membership and therefor aim to get a support letter - stating that there is no objection of FIR – Federation Internationale de Racketlon becoming SportAccord member - from the international federations of table tennis, badminton, squash and tennis.

Our president Marcel Weigl (weigl@racketlon.net or 0043/664/4012575) and I are at your disposal for any additional information or for a personal meeting.

We do hope to receive a favorable response to our request and remain, Mr. President, with our most cordial greetings.

Ahmad Bahadli
FIR Council Member

4.6 AMERICA DANY LESSARD

- Solution to move federation of the USA
- More tournaments in Canada
- Contacts with Brazil where Racketlon tournaments with 100 players took place

4.7 MARKETING

- Only sponsoring 2011 3240€ cash Austrian Government for FIR international office in Austria
- In addition 5000€ office costs by Austrian Government for office together with RFA – Racketlon Federation Austria
- Problem to find sponsors, because FIR is not officially recognised by Sportsaccord yet
- Betting companies like Betandwin contacted, Racketlon not professional enough and connected to the referee situation
- Gus Hansen helping to find a World Tour sponsor
- Unique World Tour Logos and guidelines for all tournaments

4.8 SOCIAL MEDIA GARY TOVEY

- Facebook account opened, but no one takes charge
- Phil Todd new Social Media Officer takes charge
- Twitter
- Linkdn
- Youtube Channel
- Flickr

4.9 TREASURER LENNART EKLUNDH

- Balances 2011 finished and signed by auditors
- Auditors Hakan Granberg, Stefan Adamsson
- Preliminary Result 2012 presented
- Budget 2013 presented

5. FINANCES 2012, BUDGET 2013

Prel. result FIR 01/01 - 31/12 2012				
	Budget	Result	Fee Db	Prelim.
World Championships	2000	5	2909	4
SWT Tournament fee	2400	4	2253	3
IWT Tournament fee	3500	3	3085	2
Challenger tournament fee	800	2	143	1.5
Country/membership fee	1000	50	1850	
Players licens	11000	12	11581	
Champions league	500		60	
Sponsors/subsidy	10000		8240	
World Team championship	300		270	
Other				
Total	31500		30391	
Costs				
World Champs,AGM	-300		-300	
Developing new countries	0		-500	
Office hard costs	-5000		-5000	
Communication,Web page	-500		-1000	
Office, administration	-13000		-12000	
Printing material,	-600		-696	
Communication	-200		-200	
Bank costs	-250		-1150	
Other	0		-22	
Ranking charges	-2500		-1863	
Adm. Tour/ranking/players Id ++	-4200		-3869	
Players corner, 3000 players	-4000		-3500	
Total	-30550		-30100	
Result	950		291	

		2013	Fee Db	2012
World Championships	6	3000	5	2909
SWT Tournament fee	4	2500	3	2253
IWT Tournament fee	3	3200	2	3085
Challenger tournament fee	2	400	1.5	143
Country/membership fee	50	2000		1850
Players licens	12	12000		11581
Champions league		120		60
Sponsors/subsidy		5000		8240
World Team championship		300		270
Other				
Total		28520		30391
Costs				
SportAccord Membership		-3000		
World Champs,AGM		-300		-300
Developing new countries		-500		-500
Office hard costs		-5000		-5000
Communication,Web page		-1000		-1000
Office, administration		-13200		-12000
Printing material,		-300		-696
Communication		-200		-200
Bank costs		-1250		-1150
Other		-200		-22
Ranking charges		-2000		-1863
Adm. Tour/ranking/players Id ++		-3000		-3869
Players corner, 3000 players		-3500		-3500
Total		-33450		-30100
Result		-4930		291

6. MEMBERS REPORT 2012

- Each country representative is asked to give a very short report to the developments in his country, see minutes
- Marcel Weigl gives a brief report on not present countries

7. CHANGES COUNCIL 2013-2014

Marketing, Gianpaolo Martire is substituted by

Nathalie Zeoli, Germany

Date of Birth: 7.10.1988

Profession: Teacher

National Racketlon position: None

Involved in Racketlon since: 2009

Reason for joining FIR Council: To help development of Racketlon

Social Media, Gary Tovey is substituted by

Phil Todd, England

Date of Birth: 12.05.1972

Profession: Entertainer, DJ

National Racketlon position: North West England Development

Involved in Racketlon since: 2011

Reason for joining FIR Council: Develop ideas to promote Racketlon to new players online, and create a community for current players and new players

8. COUNCIL PREVIEW 2013 - 2014

FIR World Tour 2013

IWT	Vienna Classics	Vienna/Austria	1 - 3 February
IWT	Swedish Open	Göteborg/Sweden	22 - 24 February
SWT	Canadian Open	Toronto/Canada	8 - 10 March
IWT	Czech Open	Prag/Czech Rep.	12 - 14 April
IWT	Hungarian Open	Budapest/Hungary	3 - 5 May
SWT	King of Rackets	Oudenaarde/Belgium	31 May - 2 June
SWT	Bulgarian Int. Championships	Sofia/Bulgaria	28 - 30 June
WC	Doubles & Teams WC	Alphen an der Rijn/Netherlands	10 - 13 July
IWT	German Open	Nussloch/Germany	26 - 28 July
SWT	Austrian Open	Wr. Neudorf/Austria	6 - 8 September
IWT	ALTERNATE Open & Champions League	Linden/Germany	20 - 22 Sept.
IWT	Finnish Open	Kauniainen/Finland	4 - 6 October
IWT	English Open	London/England	25 - 27 October
WC	13 th FIR Singles World Championships	Zürich/Switzerland	22 - 24 Nov.

8. COUNCIL PREVIEW 2013 - 2014

- Members increase to at least 40 until June 2013
- At least 10 members must be recognised by NSF or NOC
- Resultreporter improvements and national versions
- Social Media concentration after Webpage relaunch www.racketlon.net
- Players can only take part in FIR World Tour events from member countries
- World Tour events must achieve even better quality
- FIR-Delegates receive annual education at a seminar
- 2015 Introduction of Continental Championships such as European, African Champs
- Sponsors for World Tour and subsidiaries for FIR must be found
- Sport of Racketlon more professional to get into betting industry

9. REQUESTS BY FIR MEMBERS

- RFA – Racketlon Federation Austria, www.racketlon.com
- RFA - Racketlon Federation Austria, FIR Challengers 2013
- ERA – English Racketlon Association, 2013 Champions League

- www.racketlon.com

RFA suggests and asks all FIR members to sign a petition asking Hans Mullamaa to hand over www.racketlon.com to the true owner FIR

Request taken back from RFA

- **FIR Challengers 2013**

We have a stable FIR Racketlon World Tour with between 13-15 tournaments per year.

FIR should invest in making the Racketlon World bigger (more players in the world ranking, more countries organising int. tournaments) and support the lowest category of int. tournaments, Challengers. Then we have a chance that these tournaments organise a World Tour Event in the future or that players who get a world ranking at this “starting tournament” start travelling to other world tour events.

9. REQUESTS BY FIR MEMBERS

a) Austria: Challengers confirmed

No License fees for players at first Challenger 2012 per country

If you make it easier for tournaments to get a Challenger standard – you make it easier for the organisers to promote the events, to get more sponsors and to become bigger in the future.

REQUEST:

x) NO PLAYERS LICENCE FOR THE PLAYERS WHO PLAY CHALLENGER EVENTS IN 2013 and 2014

x) FIR SHOULD COLLECT ONLY the Challenger fee of € 2,- / per Player to FIR (this are costs which are easy to calculate)

x) Goals for 2013 and 2014:

Challenger Event for the first time in South Africa, Brazil, Australia, Denmark, Israel, New Zealand, Poland, Russia, Scotland, Slovenia, Slovakia

x) First Challenger event in Racketlon countries who have only 1 int. event (like Canada, Belgium, ...)

x) Adapt the world ranking system so that at least 1 Challenger per year counts for world rankings no matter how many other tournaments are played

9. REQUESTS BY FIR MEMBERS

➤ 2013 Champions League rejected

Idea came from players at English Open including Stefan Adamsson and Duncan Stahl. Many others supported a change. The concept is similar to European club squash.

The idea is to limit the strength so the team is not just a shopping list.

Two proposed rules:

1. The squad must include at least four players from the country that is hosting the club.
2. A maximum limit of two world top ten players in the whole squad.

So either:

- A) two men in top ten
- B) one lady and one man
- C) two ladies

Change point 1 and 2: 3 top ten players max. a total number of Rankings 140 (20 average)

There are many more complicated possibilities and combinations but I believe this simple approach will see a more even competition in the future and encourage more teams to take part as more top ten players will be available for more teams.

Keith Lesser

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- FIR starts Hall of Fame to honour former players and officials
- Magnus Eliasson, Lilian Druve, Pär Carleke, Peter Landberg are honoured as first members at price giving ceremony of WC in Stockholm

**THANK YOU FOR your trust
AND YOUR WORK FOR
RACKETLON!**