

**Minutes of the FIL General Assembly  
18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> June 2012  
Park Plaza Hotel, Amsterdam, Netherlands**

**1. President's Opening Remarks –Stan Cockerton**

Stan Cockerton (SC) welcomed all delegates, observers and guests. (For attendance list see Appendix 1.)

Membership changes were reviewed. (*since last GA*) - China, Russia, Israel, Uganda, Turkey, Thailand, Serbia, Peru, Hungary are new Associate members. Norway and Switzerland have moved to Full Members. SC acknowledged that the European Lacrosse Federation and the Asian Pacific Lacrosse Union have joined as Allied members. Haudenosaunee and Iroquois have unified as one National Governing Body (NGB). The Men's team will be called "Iroquois Nationals" for all FIL competitions.

Netherlands asked what is to be the relationship between the European Lacrosse Federation and the FIL. SC said that the relationship will start out as a communicative relationship, where both parties will share information.

SC thanked the past FIL event host countries-

2010 – England

2011 – Czech Republic and Germany

Future events

2012 – Finland

2013 – Canada

2014 – United States

2015 - Scotland

SC announced that the 2015 FIL Indoor World Championships had been awarded to the Haudenosaunee. Mr Neal Powless spoke for the Haudenosaunee and stated they are very excited to bring the indoor championships to Syracuse/Buffalo area. The center of the Haudenosaunee flag represents the capital of the land, where the championships will be taking place.

SC announced that the FIL had been accepted as the 106th member of Sportaccord on May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012. The next step will be to pursue the World Games Organization, the Pan Am games and the Commonwealth games.

The Delegates and Observers introduced themselves.

SC reviewed the outline of meeting agenda, arrangements / logistics for the next 2 days.

**2. Minutes of the 2010 General Assembly**

The United States proposed the acceptance of the 2010 General Assembly minutes. This was seconded by Canada and agreed unanimously.

### **3. Development Report**

Tom Hayes (TH) delivered the Development Report which had been previously distributed to the members. TH also noted the generosity of the United States Lacrosse for their contribution of \$20,000 to the FIL Development Account.

Switzerland is a new Full Member.

China and Peru are new Associate members.

Sites of Clinics and equipment grants reported.

TH spoke about the application process to Sportaccord and the addition of FIL as the 106<sup>th</sup> member.

### **4. Men's Sector Report**

Jack Emmer (JE) introduced the Men's Sector Committee Chairs in attendance:

Terry Harding, Rules Chair.

Don Blacklock, Officiating Chair,

Ron Balls, Competitions Chair.

### **5. Women's Sector**

Shelley Maher(SM) recognized the retirement of Susie Ganzenmuller as the Rules Chair and then named the other Women's Sector Committee Chairs:

Ann Hutchings, Officiating Chair.

Beth Stone, Competitions Chair.

### **6. Finance**

Ron Balls (RB) presented the Finance reports. A review of the FIL Financial Policy will be sent out for a postal vote following the General Assembly.

An over view of the income and expenditure was presented along with donations. The 2012-16 Budget was presented and the motion to accept the budget was made by Scotland, seconded by Canada.

Vote 15 - 0 approved.

### **7. Election of Directors**

The nominations for the Board positions:

President Stan Cockerton

Vice President Feffie Barnhill

Development Director Tom Hayes

Women's Director Shelley Maher

Agreed unanimously.

### **8. Documentation Proposals**

RB reviewed the documentation that had been sent out including:

Constitution  
Bylaws  
Policies  
Roles and Responsibilities

Motion to accept changes to the Constitution. Scotland/US 15-0  
Motion to accept changes to the Bylaws. Japan/Australia  
15-0  
Motion to accept changes to the Policies. Sweden/Wales 15-0  
Motion to accept changes to the Roles and Responsibilities.  
Wales/Scotland 15 -0

(Votes are recorded as # for - # against -# abstain)

Board recommended changes to Bylaws:

- A. Subscription Fees: Recommendation that the subscription fee for a member to move from Associate to Full Member is \$500. Australia/Wales 15-0
- B. Anti- Doping: Number of tests: during World Events, due regard must be given for the need for effective anti-doping measurement and the balance of the expense to be incurred. The numbers of tests will be agreed between the Event Organising Committee and the FIL Board. Canada/Italy 15-0
- C. Per-Diem Allowance: in recognition that all Board members and Committee Chairs are volunteers it is proposed that at meetings and events, where hospitality is not provided or centrally funded, that a per diem allowance of up to \$25 may be claimed. Scotland/England 15-0

Members proposed change to Constitution.

A. Australia requested the following change to the Constitution:

5.3 Meetings

5.3.1 The General Assembly (GA) shall meet every two years and the meetings should be aligned to a joint FIL world event in the June – August time frame.

Australia/Japan 3-12 DEFEATED

Men's World Event Bylaws

### Penalty for Bench numbers.

A warning to be given to the teams prior to the start of the game, by the Officials, to ensure that at game commencement the number is not exceeded.

If an offence is committed and numbers exceeded, a Technical foul will be awarded to the offending team. If the team offends again, this and all subsequent times will incur a Personal Foul. The penalty will be served by the In-Home US/Australia 15-0

### Women's World Event Bylaws

The Women's World Event Bylaws to be approved in its entirety with the following friendly amendments.

1.1.1 Any "Naming Rights" to be included as part of a major sponsorship for a FIL World Event shall be known as the "FIL..... WOMEN'S WORLD CUP/CHAMPIONSHIP" (subject to approval by the FIL Board). The host country is responsible for seeking sponsorship. If a major sponsor is granted, FIL will have final approval of the name.

2.20.1 The use of wireless AND ELECTRONIC communication on the sideline is not permitted unless in the case of an emergency. In this instance, the call must be made at the scorer's table.

Excluding #2 under Timer and #2 under Schedule in Appendix.  
Australia/Austria 14-0

Timer

#2 Show Yellow Flag when 2 minutes remain in each half; Show red flag when 30 seconds remain in each half **only if there is no visible clock** on the field. US/Australia 10-4

Wales proposed a change in the quarter final crossover matches.  
Wales/Scotland 10-0-4

Player Eligibility Criteria - The Women's Player Eligibility Criteria be approved in its entirety with the following friendly amendment to 1.1- "In addition, a country's own eligibility criteria must be met". Scotland/Italy 14-0.

### Officials Policies –

That the women's officiating policies listed below are approved in their entirety with the listed friendly amendment under "d":

- a) International Assessor policy
- b) National Umpires at World Cup Policy
- c) Emeritus Umpire Policy
- d) Mandatory Fitness testing policy- clarified  
Change 2-3 to 2 for failed attempts

Austria/Wales 14-0

## 9. Rule Changes

Unified Field. The discussion was led by Terry Harding who used power point slides which detailed the proposed changes in dimensions and field markings. After discussion, a vote was taken to approve the concept of unified field markings. US/Italy 15-0

### Men's Rules-

That all Minor House Keeping Changes be approved collectively

	Australia/Austria 15-0
Rule 15.3 & 48.1 i)	Japan/Haudenosaunee 14-1
Rule 19.1, 17.1, 47	Australia/Sweden 14-1
Rule 64.1, 82	Australia/England 14-0-1
Rule 16.6	Australia/Sweden 12-1-2
Rule 17.1	Wales/Austria 11-4
Rule 17	US/Italy 12-0-3
Rule 34.2	US/Sweden 11-2-2
Rule 38.1	Canada/Japan 14-1
Rule 81	Haudenosaunee/Austria 5-5-5 <b>DEFEATED</b>

### Women's Rules-

Rule 12.C	Australia/Wales 14-0
Rule 20.A.12	Wales/Japan 7-7 <b>DEFEATED</b>
Rule 21.A	withdrawn- postal vote to follow.
Stick Specification rules voted on as one-	Canada/Wales 13-1

## June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012

President Stan Cockerton opened the meeting at 9 AM

## 10. Future Championships – (see Appendix 2 for additional details)

### ***World Under 19 Championships (Men) 2012 - Turku***

Ron Balls gave an update on this event

- 12 teams, 5 teams in top div-Canada, Australia, Iroquois, US, England. 7 teams in two other groups-Czech Republic, Finland, Netherlands, Germany, Scotland, Wales, Korea.
- Coaches meeting 11 July, location to be advised.
- Mailing to be sent out this week covering a number of details including uniform selections, Player Registration forms, etc.
- Possible change in location for second facility.

### ***World Cup (Women) 2013 - Toronto***

Shelley Maher connected via Skype to Cheryl MacNeill, co-coordinator of 2013 Women's World Cup. Cheryl gave a verbal report on the event to be held July 11-20, 2013 in Oshawa, Canada. In addition, a Festival of Games and other Canadian Championships will run concurrently.

### ***World Championships (Men) 2014 - Denver***

Steve Stenersen introduced Bill Schoonmaker and Beth Porreca, USL event staff who then delivered a promotional video from Denver and slides of the event site, Dick's Sporting Goods Park and team housing, in University of Denver dorms. Dates for the event are July 10 -19, 2014. There will be a Men's Festival with Masters level teams running concurrently.

After some discussion, Ron Balls proposed the following motion, which will require a postal vote, seconded by Japan. 10-1-3

*To change the participation fee for the 2014 World Championship to two stages, \$500 (non-refundable) due Jun 30 2013, \$1000 Dec 31 2013.*

***World Indoor Championships (Men) 2015 - Syracuse/Buffalo***

Neal Powless and Gewas Schindler presented a powerpoint program of the Syracuse venue, Onondaga Nation arena, and the Buffalo venue, First Niagara Arena. Competition moved to September to improve attendance of pro players.

Dates are September 18-26, 2015.

***World Under 19 Championships (Women) 2015 - Edinburgh***

Thanks to FIL for accepting bid of Scotland.

Lorna Powell presented a powerpoint of the host accommodations, University of Edinburgh and the playing venue Peffermill grounds. A festival of games will occur during the championship.

Dates are July 23 - Aug 1, 2015

Website – u19wc2015.co.uk

***World Under 19 Championships (Men) 2016 - Coquitlam, B.C.***

Ron Balls reported there were bids from Canada and Poland (hosting World Games 2017). The event was awarded to Coquitlam, BC, Canada. Simon Fraser University will be the housing center and the Coquitlam site, same as the 2008 Championship has 4 artificial turf fields. Youth Invitational will run as well.

Dates are July 7 – 16, 2016

World Cup (Women) 2017 – bid under review, announcement soon

World Championship 2018 –

Intent to Bid - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2012

Bid submitted 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013

Decision date Mid 2013

3 "expressions of interest" so far

**11. FIL Web site –**

Shelley Maher spoke about the development of a new FIL website which was viewed by attendees on the large screen. A walk thru of the layout was conducted. Tim Morgan had tendered to develop the new website which will be more interactive and user-friendly. It will have more defined areas for the sectors (men, women, indoor) and a new area for officials. Members can administer data (i.e. CLA can edit Canada details), and countries will be responsible for keeping the information up-to-date. The new web site will be the home for all FIL event history with archives of all world events programs and results as pdfs. The site will be able to provide videos and “YouTube” style files.

Sweden delegate, John Sagrelius stated as member nations share more, we need to be cautious of copyrights for visuals and media/music.

Stan suspended the meeting for a FIL luncheon.  
Return at 13.45

## **12. Strategic Plan**

Feffie Barnhill presented a power point review of the progress made in the Strategic Plan over the 2011-2012 time period.

Discussion followed:

- Japan: If membership of FIL comes below 40, would FIL be expelled from Sportaccord? TH said the answer was not known but FIL were not going to go below 40 members.
- US: What does inclusion in the World Games 2017 mean? SC said that this has been discussed at an FIL Board Meeting. There will be a need to link with the World Games Organization and Poland organizers.
- US: Are the World Games (WG) at same time as FIL games? FB replied WG doesn't require highest level of play, U15 would be acceptable. TH stated FIL can use WG as development tool. It is up to the Federation.
- US: What does the FIL Board see as next big strategic issues? FB replied Marketing and Communication, as members of the board do not have this expertise. RB said it was necessary to look at the changing of roles of the Board members and add in people with specific skill sets. As a volunteer board, it is difficult to cover all aspects, and there is a need to look for outside support. Areas of need include Marketing, Visibility and Income as other sources of revenue are required. Support is also required for the tasks involved in the administration of the requirements of WADA. The FIL Board will follow this up by 2014 and will request help from the membership as to what they view as the issues.
- Australia- What is the FIL board's perspective on growth vs consolidation? We are at a cross-roads at capability of running large events (e.g. Denver). So far growth is focused on a larger number of countries and many want to participate, but not everyone can afford it. FB replied we need to look to other sports with similar issues, and possibly the idea of regional qualifiers. This could mean that not



everyone would get to play in a World Championship. Other views were offered to retain inclusivity. The Pan-Am or Commonwealth games might be used for training (officials) and preparation for teams.

### **13. WADA and Anti-Doping matters**

Shelley Maher gave a brief update on WADA issues.

The top 3 women's teams for 2013 (US, Australia and Canada) will be subject to involvement via their registration in the Registered Testing Pools and ADAMS (Anti-Doping and Administration Management System). These member countries will need to register via ADAMS. The FIL bylaws require this action to be implemented one year prior to the next event. SportAccord also requires this.

Will there be out-of-competition drug testing? SM stated that this is expensive, with 1 test costing ~ \$1,000 USD or more. These out of competition costs would be borne by FIL.

### **14. Competition**

Ron Balls commented on changes to the event contract – Naming Rights are “FIL.....” All contracts are signed by the National Governing Body.

RB presented several slides concerning the 2018 Men's World Championship. The concern is the size of the field and the ability of a host to handle the growing number of teams. FIL needs to determine format for future.

In current world events, all full and associate members can play, but associates cannot progress through to the medal rounds. This would only be advertised internally.

Event is, at the moment, inclusive. Do we keep inclusivity by including Festivals option for some teams?

Discussion following -

- Australia delegate, Mike Slattery, stated FIL Board needs to make decision; we're at a crossroads as to which way to go. Decision needed by Dec.30 for a profile of the event which may be less democratic, more autocratic. Australia as a bidding country needs some sort of guidance.
- Bill Schoonmaker commented that 2014 is prepared to handle up to 120 festival teams and the management requirement of a team participating in the WC is vastly different from the festival.
- Ron Balls stated his personal view was to maintain inclusivity, even if it is at a lower level, with the possibility of reaching the upper levels. However FIL is subject to what the membership wants.
- Steve Stenersen added the possible solution would be for more frequent competition at the highest level. This could add additional sources of income and build value to a WC
- Ron Balls: Should U19 be held every 2 years?

### **12. New Business**



Stan Cockerton stated the FIL Board considered investigating a disabled form of lacrosse and found USL has looked into it. Canadian LA has a draft proposal for rules and procedures. FIL will bring to the next GA information on wheelchair lacrosse in order to make sure our sport is available to many people.

Shelley Maher requested that each country should check with her re their correct national anthem to prevent the wrong anthem or wrong version being used. SM to follow up with the countries at the conclusion of the meeting.

US delegate, Steve Stenersen spoke concerning the FIL Bylaws requiring a member nation to confirm a tour with visiting nations. This is not being done at the moment. SC stated that in the Bylaws a national team travelling must inform host nation with time, schedule, etc. It's a courtesy. FB stated this is mostly an issue in the women's game; however, any member country who is touring with a team in preparation for a world event, must notify the visiting nation in advance.

#### **Stan Cockerton - closing remarks.**

SC said he had good feelings about the GA. He wished the best of luck to the hosts of the European Lacrosse Federation for their Championships. He also wished all countries the best with their development programs. He said that grassroots development is the key to success. SC invited countries to talk to Tom Hayes for assistance with development. He wished Delegates and Observers safe travel home and said he looked forward to seeing everyone in 2014.

#### **13. 2014 General Assembly –Denver**

Stan Cockerton announced that the next General Assembly will be held in Denver 2014, July 7-10. Exact dates to be confirmed shortly. Host hotel will be Denver Marriott Renaissance.

Motion to Adjourn- Canada/ Scotland  
Motion carried 15-0