

# Annual Report 2015 by the IFA President

## Introduction:

This report briefly outlines the major developments and improvements made in 2015 with regard to the IFA Strategic Plan 2011 – 2015 of the International Fistball Association (IFA).

As foreseen the IFA Board of Directors met 4 times in 2015.

In 2014 the IFA Board of Directors together with the established IFA Future Development Working Group prepared necessary changes of the IFA Statues according to the Strategic Plan. They were communicated to all IFA Member Federations and approved by the IFA Congress dated 14 November 2015 in Cordoba (ARG).

## IFA Athletes' Commission

The IFA Congress 2015 has unanimously approved of a proposal made by the Board of Directors to amend the IFA Statues in order to establish a full voting-right for the chairperson of the IFA Athletes' Commission in the Board of Directors.

## Administration

The administrative tasks will still be carried out by a member of the board (Secretary General) on a voluntary basis. To guarantee an effective, efficient but also a productive management the Board of Directors hired Alwin Oberkersch as a part-time employee as service spot for the IFA Member Federations in 2015.

In 2015 the legal seat of the International Fistball Association was transferred to Austria to share personal and logistical resources with the Member Federation of Austria. In addition to this the State of Austria provides funding for the IFA headquarters. IFA plans to establish a permanent office with additional personal resources according to its Strategic Plan in 2016.

## Finance

As foreseen in the Strategic Plan 2011 – 2015 IFA increased the membership fee from € 500,00 in 2011 to € 770,00 in 2015 by decision of the IFA Congress.

Next to the increase of the membership-fees the Board contracted as official IFA sponsors the ball manufacturers Sportastic and Ludwig as well as the marketing company Profs/DieDerflingers.

## Competitions

In view of the standardization of the economic conditions for the IFA competitions the IFA Sports Commission (formerly named Technical Committee) reviewed all IFA 2015 event contracts, organization plans and guidelines in the preparation of upcoming World Championships and World Cups under the supervision of the IFA Board of Directors.



office@ifa-fistball.com | www.ifa-fistball.com

President: Karl Weiss | Secretary General: Jörn Verleger | Vice President: Carlos Hessel  
Treasurer: Franz Peter Iten | Chair of Sporting Commission: Winfried Kronsteiner

Deutsche Bank | Kaiserswerther Str. 239 | 40474 Düsseldorf | Germany  
IBAN: DE37 3007 0024 0741 9229 00 | BIC/SWIFT-Code: DEUTDE33



Another task was to fully integrate the South American championships into the IFA competitions which was fulfilled in 2015 by organizing all Fistball competition in south America under the supervision of IFA and establishing the 1<sup>st</sup> IFA Pan American Fistball Games.

### **Sportaccord / The World Games**

One strategic goal was to secure the position of Fistball in the international sports world. In 2015 IFA played an active role in the funding of AIMS as a sport umbrella organization. IFA President Karl Weiss was elected as AIMS Director within the framework of the AIMS Conference in Bangkok (THA) in August 2015.

IFA was represented by a delegates in the SportAccort Convention 2015 in Sotchi (RUS) and the IF Forum 2015 in Lausanne.

### **Game Rules**

In 2015 suggestions to change the IFA Rules of Fistball have been developed by the IFA Sports Commission (formerly named IFA Technical Committee) which have been approved by the IFA Congress dated 14 November 2015 in Cordoba (ARG).

### **Anti-Doping**

Valid from 1.1.2015 the IFA Board of Directors adopted the new IFA Anti-Doping Rules based on Wada's Models of Best Practice for International Federations and the World Anti-Doping Code on basis of the new World Anti-Doping Code (Code). Following the principles of the World Anti-Doping Code (Code) IFA agrees to make its testing program more efficient and intelligent.

During the meeting in Vienna dated 20 June 2015 the Board of Directors discussed the members of the IFA Anti-Doping bodies and approved Jörn Verleger (GER) as new IFA Anti-Doping Administrator.

On 2 October 2015 the Board of Directors approved the IFA Test Distribution Plan (TDP) 2015 and established a Testing Pool (TP) of 9 athletes based on the team results of the prior IFA World Championships plus a team member of the IFA World Championship hosting country federation.

### **Development**

The number of IFA Member Federations has increased to 54 at the end of 2015 with the acceptance of the associations of Afghanistan, Benin, Central African Republic, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Kuwait, Poland, Sri Lanka, Togo, Netherland in 2015.

Together with the IFA Sports Commission the Board of Directors ran through a case by case decision, a development and education program in the recent years in Argentina, Colombia, Brazil, USA, Spain, Italy, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Chile and Namibia. The concentration for this program was on the education of coaches, referees and administrators.

New relevant documentation (e.g. videos, etc.) has been produced.

### **Regional Associations:**

In 2015 the European Fistball Association (EFA) was founded.

## **Marketing**

As the only way of IFA and its stakeholders to strengthen the brand of Fistball is to build a much stronger and closer interaction with all our partners the Board of Directors contracted the marketing company Profs/DieDerflingers on a value in kind basis to develop and run marketing measures during the IFA events in 2015 e.g. the IFA 2015 Fistball Men´s World Championships in Cordoba (ARG).

## **Summary**

IFA has fulfilled their Strategic Plan 2011 – 2015 in many fields of action.

In January 2016 the newly elected Board of Directors approved a new Strategic Plan 2016 – 2019.

I would like to thank all members of the IFA bodies and Member Federations for their work and passion to develop “Fistball all over the world”.

  
Karl Weiss  
President