



A.S.B.L. **BELGIAN AMERICAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE** V.Z.W.

Siège social: **Avenue de Bouchoutlaan 9**

**1020 Bruxelles-Brussel**

Numéro d'identification/registratienummer: 11077/96

Numéro d'entreprise/ondernemingsnummer: RPM 457954123

Compte bancaire/bankrekeningnummer: ING 310-1988400-83

## **MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING**

**HELD ON 24 FEBRUARY 2018**

The meeting is opened on 2 pm and chaired by Mr David Richelle.

Mr Roald Piqueur is appointed as secretary to the meeting, and is charged with taking all the measures required for the drawing-up of the minutes of this meeting, and obtaining the required signatures.

After signature of the attendance list by the members present or by their representatives, the chairman states and the meeting formally records that the required majority of the members is present or represented. The General Assembly to proceed with the modification of the statutes, so that the meeting can validly discuss the items on the agenda.

The Chairman states that the agenda of the meeting is as follows:

1. Verification of the voting rights.
2. Verification and approval of memberships.
3. Report of the board on the activities of the Federation.
  - a. Evaluation of the program after the first year of competition.
  - b. Various points related to organization, transfers, regulations, international players, representation, management of procedures.
4. Presentation of the programs.
5. Annual accounts up to 31 December 2017.
6. Discharge to the board of directors.
7. Budget for the year 2017.
8. Elections.
9. Miscellaneous.

### **1. Verification of the voting rights**

The voting rights are verified and approved as listed on the attendance list of the meeting.

The following members participate in the meeting:

Brussels Black Angels, Leuven Lions, Antwerp Argonauts, Izegem Tribes, Waasland Wolves (proxy), Brussels Bulls, Limburg Shotguns, Ghent Gators, Brussels Tigers, Waterloo Warriors, Charleroi Coal Miners, Wapi Phoenix, Verviers Mustangs.

### **2. Verification and approval of memberships.**

The memberships of the fill members present at the meeting are verified and approved as listed on the attendance list of the meeting.



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### **3. Report of the board on the activities of the Federation**

The board of directors presents the report on the activities of the Federation during the year closed on 31 December 2017.

A copy of this report was communicated before the meeting and remains attached to these minutes.

### **4. Presentation of the programs**

The programs set up by the board of directors are explained and detailed.

Information regarding the programs of the board of directors are included in the report and remain attached to these minutes.

Following unanimous vote, the General Assembly requires the BAFOC to proceed with a licence and equipment check prior to the Elite Division games. The BAFOC will draw-up a template procedure and forward it to the board of directors for communication to the members before the start of the championship.

A majority of the members informs the board of directors of their wish to see the restructuring of the BAFL to be processed faster and to have the current second divisions brought back on a national level. The board of directors reminds the meeting that the national championship was part of the long-term reintegration of the championship started a couple of years ago, that the national championship was only started in 2017 and that by the end of 2016, some teams were still preferred to play on a regional level because of development issues, travel distances and costs incurred in the framework of the participation in a national competition.

At the start of the 2017 competition, it was agreed with the teams that the national championship (Elite Division) would be in a test phase during the first two years of competition in order to evaluate the capacity of the leagues and teams to settle a stable competition.

Considering the general request of the teams, the board confirms that it will speed up the work on the extension of the national competitions to second division teams and in case this proves to be possible, to division three teams. This process should be completed by the end of this year with a view to implementation as from the 2019 competition. Once the first phase is completed, the project will be shared with the teams and adapted where necessary.

In the meantime, the board will focus on the harmonization of discrepancies in the FAFL, LFFA, BAFL and IFAF rules applicable to football in our country, the goal of this process being to set up a single regulation applicable in our country.

Questions arise as to what concerns the international situation of Belgium towards the IFAF. It is explained that the situation between IFAF Paris and IFAF New-York remained unclear up a very recent ruling by the CAS. The board explains the reasons why it was decided back in 2015 to follow the Paris group in order to avoid cutting the contacts with other European Federation that had mainly followed the Paris group and to wait for the legal situation to be clarified between the two opposing bodies. It is also explained that the payment of the membership fees was suspended in



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2017 in order to make it easier for Belgium to request a reinstatement as a member of the IFAF once the legal proceedings in front of the CAS have come to a conclusion. The board notices the fact that the teams would like this situation to be clarified as quickly as possible and will complete the reinstatement process as quickly as possible once it is opened by the IFAF.

The members do emphasize the need for a better information flow from the board to the teams. The board of directors agrees with the fact that both the information flow and participation of the members has to be widely improved. It is therefore proposed to hold general meetings twice a year instead of once as this was done during the previous years. It is also proposed to schedule several online open-meetings during the year in order for the teams to easier address their questions to the board. The board also explains that following the retirement of the former communication officer, the job is still to be provided and that it is currently tried to find the right communication officers to take this duty in charge.

The members request the board to explain the meaning and operation of the National Committees. The board explains that the National Committees have been set up in order to act as think tanks and where necessary as executive organs helping the board of directors on key subjects. The goal of these groups is to enable volunteers from as many teams as possible to actively contribute to the work of the Federation by participating in the thinking and balancing of the programs with the board of directors. It is explained that several Committees, such as the officiating, youth and coaching committees are already working well together and that other committees (safety, regulatory...) should be started in the course of 2018. The board reminds the members that those committees are open to all teams and welcome any help available.

The members ask the board of directors for additional information regarding the youth program and setting-up of the Junior national team. The board of directors explains that there is a general misunderstanding as to what concerns the Junior national team and the YTDP program. The board reminds that the YTDP program was first started as a private organization and was then integrated in the BAFL organization. A communication stating that the YTDP program was issued during the past year and was quickly rectified. It however appears that it is widely understood that the YTDP program would become the national team. The board however explains that the YTDP program is intended to be a "player development program focusing on the development of athletes" and open to all. This program is led by the youth committee of the BAFL involving volunteers from various teams and is not meant to be transformed in a national team.

The Junior national team, on the other hand is in the first phase of development and has to be understood as a competition program. The Youth Committee is currently setting-up the grounds of the programs and investigating the best applicable system in order to guarantee a smooth transition between the Junior and the Senior national programs. It is reminded that the Youth Committee will liaise with the management of the Senior program to ensure the most effective cooperation between the programs.

## **5. Annual accounts up to 31 December 2017.**

The balance sheet per 31 December 2017 is submitted to the approval of the members. After deliberation, the General Assembly approves balance sheet per 31 December 2016.



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A copy of this balance sheet was communicated to the members before the meeting and will remain appended to these minutes.

## **6. Discharge to the board of directors**

The General Assembly grants discharge to the board of directors for the execution of their mandates during exercise closed on 31 December 2017

## **7. Budget for the year 2017**

The budget for the year 2017 is presented to the members. A copy of this budget remains appended to these minutes.

## **8. Elections**

The mandate of the five directors in office ends at this meeting. All directors except Mr Thomas Dofny present themselves for re-election.

The 6 candidates are as follows:

### National group :

Mr Pascal Decoo  
Mr Christophe Olenaed  
Mr Roald Piqueur  
Mr David Richelle

### FAFL Group

Mr Benjamin Machiels (FAFL group)

### LFFA Group

Mr Georgy Baudart (LFFA group)

The candidatures are submitted to the vote of the General Assembly. The vote is taken by secret ballot. Mr Bart Killens acts as scrutineer and supervises the count of the votes.

The result is as follows:

Mr Pascal Decoo	10 votes
Mr Christophe Olenaed	9 votes
Mr Roald Piqueur	12 votes
Mr David Richelle	10 votes
Mr Benjamin Machiels	7 votes (out of 7)
Mr Georgy Baudart	5 votes (out of 5)



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All directors gathering a majority of the vote in their groups are elected as new directors of the Association. In accordance with the Articles of Association of the BAFL, the duration of their mandate was set at 2 years, viz. up to the Ordinary General Assembly to be held in 2020.

There being no further item on the agenda, the chairman closes the meeting.

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David Richelle  
Chairman

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Roald Piqueur  
Secretary