

# ITHF Delegates' Conference (March 2016)

## Minutes

**Place:** ITHF Discussion Board

**Date:** 8th - 21st of March 2016

**Minute keeper:** Simon Thomas, ITHF President

**Members eligible to participate:** Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Norway, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA

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### Votes (15 in total):

#### 1) Passing from defender to goalkeeper to defender

The following new game rule has been suggested:

"If a player passes the puck from one of their defenders to their goalkeeper in a way that is impossible for the opponent to intercept, the player is not allowed to then pass the puck from their goalkeeper to their other defender in a way that the opponent cannot intercept. If a player makes these two passes in succession, a face-off occurs, whereby the opponent can drop the puck."

Should the described pass combination be banned by adding the proposed rule?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
Yes	9	Canada, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Norway, Russia, Slovakia, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA
No	4	Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Sweden

**Result:** Proposed ban is [accepted](#) and comes into effect immediately.

#### 2) Timer malfunction

The EC suggests adding the following new Game Rule 10.5:

"If the timer malfunctions, play must be suspended. It is then necessary to determine how much time (if any) still has to be played, so the total match length is as close to 5 minutes as possible, and to ensure that no goals scored after 5 minutes count. If this cannot be decided via technical means, the organizer is responsible for implementing this rule during group rounds; during play-offs, this is the referee's responsibility, but if there is no referee, the players must agree on how best to implement this rule."

Game Rule 4.5 would then only say the following:

"When play resumes after an interruption, both players keep all goals they scored during the interrupted match."

Should the proposed changes to the rules on timer malfunction be introduced?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
Yes	7	Canada, Denmark, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA
No	5	Czech Republic, Finland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Norway

**Result:** Proposed changes are accepted and come into effect immediately.

### 3) Parallel timer

Should organisers have to operate a parallel timer?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
No	8	Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Norway, Sweden, USA
Yes	5	Canada, Russia, Slovakia, Switzerland, Ukraine

**Result:** Proposal is rejected.

### 4) Five-second rule

The EC suggests changing Game Rule 8.3 to the following:

"If the puck is kept in possession by one figure without passing or shooting, a warning can be given by the opponent after 5 seconds. Within 1 second after a valid "5 seconds" warning, the puck must enter an area where it is possible for one of the opponent's playing figures to touch the puck, otherwise the opponent can say "stop" and do a face-off. If a referee is present, a possession timer can be used, which gives one signal at 5 seconds and another at 6 seconds: here, the referee (or second official) can reset the timer whenever the puck moves from one figure's area to another and can allow the non-offending player a face-off if the 6-second signal sounds."

Should the suggested change to the 5-second rule be made?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
Yes	8	Canada, Czech Republic, Norway, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA
No	3	Denmark, Finland, Latvia

**Result:** Proposed change is accepted and applies immediately.

### 5) Faroe Islands

Should players be allowed to represent the Faroe Islands at European Championships?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
Yes	10	Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Norway, Slovakia, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA
No	2	Canada, Sweden

**Result:** Proposed change is [accepted](#) and applies immediately.

### 6) Kosovo

Should players be allowed to represent Kosovo at European Championships?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
Yes	8	Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, Latvia, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, USA
No	3	Kazakhstan, Slovakia, Ukraine

**Result:** Proposed change is [accepted](#) and applies immediately.

### 7) Dress code

The following rule has been suggested:

"At World Championships and European Championships, it must be clear which nation a player represents. All players shall play in their national team shirt. This could be a simple T-shirt with a symbol, flag or colors representing the nation."

Should the suggested dress code be introduced at World Championships and European Championships?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
Yes	7	Canada, Norway, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine
No	6	Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, USA

**Result:** Proposed change is [accepted](#) and applies immediately.

### 8) Substitutions during team competitions

The EC suggests changing Tournament Rule 2.5 x to the following:

"Substitution of players during team matches is allowed between each 5-minute round. Once a player has been substituted, that player cannot play again in that team match."

Should the suggested rule-change be made, so as to allow substitutions?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
Yes	12	Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Latvia, Norway, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA
No	0	

**Result:** Proposed change is [accepted](#) and applies immediately.

### 9) Ending knock-out team matches as soon as winner is known

The EC suggests that all knock-out matches (e.g. play-offs) in team competitions should end automatically as soon as the winning team is known. The final score would remain as it is when play stops.

Should knock-out matches in team competitions end automatically as soon as the winning team is known?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
Yes	7	Canada, Denmark, Finland, Latvia, Slovakia, Sweden, Ukraine
No	6	Czech Republic, Kazakhstan, Norway, Russia, Switzerland, USA

**Result:** Proposed change is [accepted](#) and applies immediately.

### 10) Allowing group matches in team competitions to end when winner is known

The following rule has been suggested:

"Group matches in team competitions can be ended as soon as the winning team is known, if both teams agree. In this case, the final score remains as it is when play stops."

Should the suggested rule be introduced, so group matches in team competitions can end when the winner is known, if both teams agree?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
No	10	Czech Republic, Denmark, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Norway, Russia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA
Yes	3	Canada, Finland, Slovakia

**Result:** Proposal is [rejected](#).

### 11) Mandatory referees

Should referees be mandatory for semi-finals and finals at Majors, Super Series, world championship and continental championship tournaments?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
Yes	11	Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Kazakhstan, Norway, Russia, Slovakia, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA
No	1	Sweden

**Result:** Proposed change is [accepted](#) and applies immediately.

## 12) Websites

The following rule has been suggested for tournament websites:

"Organisers of all tournaments on the World Tour, the World Club Championships, the World Championships and the European Championships must provide a website with all information in English. Other languages are also allowed, but English must be the primary language."

Should the proposed rule for tournament websites be introduced?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
Yes	11	Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, Latvia, Norway, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA
No	1	Kazakhstan

**Result:** Proposed change is [accepted](#) and applies immediately.

## 13) One team per country in all categories at international championships

The EC suggests changing the first sentence of Tournament Rule 2.5 vii to:

"Only one national team can represent each country in each team competition."

Should only one national team be allowed to represent each country in each team competition at international championships?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
Yes	12	Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Latvia, Norway, Russia, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA
No	0	

**Result:** Proposed change is [accepted](#) and applies immediately.

## 14) New way to gain active membership

The EC suggests changing article 6.2.1.1 of the constitution to the following:

"To either be officially registered by the national authorities as an organization connected with table hockey, or else have a clearly defined system for democratic decision-making and/or periodic democratic elections of a decision-maker"

Should the proposed new way of gaining active membership be adopted?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
Yes	9	Canada, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA
No	2	Czech Republic, Latvia

**Result:** Two-thirds of the countries entitled to vote are in favour, so this proposed change to the constitution is accepted and applies immediately.

#### 15) Extra votes for some countries

Should active member countries with 20+ players in the top 1000 be allowed an extra vote?

Option	# of Votes	Voting Countries
No	9	Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Latvia, Norway, Slovakia, Switzerland, Ukraine, USA
Yes	4	Finland, Kazakhstan, Russia, Sweden

**Result:** Proposal is rejected.

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*ITHF EC: Simon Thomas, Eric Krol, Martin Arenlind, Edgars Caics, Mykhaylo Shalomayev  
Tuesday, 22nd of March 2016*