



**To: FIL General Assembly 2017**

## **FIL World Rankings / Event Rankings**

One of the issues relating to the Haudenosaunee [Iroquois Nationals (IN)] being unable to participate in the 2010 World Championship (Men's) was the subsequent impact on 2014 (WC2014) with initially the "Blue Division" listing including Germany (placed 6<sup>th</sup> at WC2010) and the exclusion of the IN.

This clearly caused angst among a number of members in that whilst the Bylaws were followed it created a situation of a highly ranked team (within the top 6, if not the top 3, in the world) being placed outside of the Blue Division. Given the "snaked seeding format below Blue wherever they were placed made little difference except:

- a) To the teams also placed on their Division (non-competitive blow outs)
- b) No effective opposition to the IN
- c) Concern among the teams in the (relative) 7 – 15 likely positions who perceived that with IN undoubtedly winning their division this would mean only one play-in spot for a higher ranking, rather than the customary two.

A similar situation could arise in the future where a team wants to participate in an event but is unable to do so because of travel document limitations with a specific host or exceptional travel difficulties being encountered, e.g. the volcanic ash situation of a few years back.

This gives rise to the question of where a team, unable to participate in an event should be placed (for rankings) in the next Championship that they are eligible for and wish to compete in.

The situation could cause some difficulties as we move forward with Championships not being on an all-inclusive basis but based on a number of pre-determined teams (from their ranking in the previous Championship) and Regional Qualifiers.

A way forward is to change the criteria for World Events from previous Event Ranking to a World Ranking.

The World Ranking would be primarily based on the previous event but would allow the FIL Board flexibility to bring other factors into consideration including the situation outlined above.

This has been considered with both a Men's Competition Focus Group and also by the Board.

The general view is that this is necessary going forward but should be based on a pre-determined action should a situation as above (travel difficulties) occur.

Of all the suggestions received to date the most viable option would be to place any team impacted in this manner three positions lower than their ranking from the previous championship.

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