



New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation
IIHF Annual Congress, General Secretary Report
(Cologne, 17-22 May 2017)

I attended the 2017 IIHF Annual Congress in Cologne, Germany as part of the NZIHF delegation.

I arrived late and my stay was shortened due to an unexpected family emergency.

Once I arrived, I immediately set about performing the following tasks:

Discussion and arrangements of 2018 IIHF World Championship Tournaments

Discussion and negotiation took place among the bidders to host the 2018 World Championship Tournaments that NZL would be attending.

Ice Blacks: Spain, Mexico and Israel were the candidates. Israel later came forward with no guarantee that they would be able to secure ice time for the tournament, and would like our support to Mexico if Israel were not able to host. Spain were granted the 2018 IIHF World Championship, Division II Group B.

Ice Fernz: There was much discussion regarding the expansion of the top division, whereby Australia would avoid relegation to Division II Group B, and New Zealand would see its seedings rise to second placement. Turkey and Spain were the bidders for the 2018 tournament, and lobbied hard. Spain were granted the 2018 IIHF Women's World Championship, Division II Group B.

NZU20: There was fierce discussion regarding the hosting of the 2018 IIHF World U20 Championship, Division III between Iceland and Bulgaria. I, on behalf of NZL voiced our concern regarding a tournament in Bulgaria and the abuse that was received from past years. Iceland offered Akureyri, the same venue and arrangements as was provided for the 2017 IIHF Women's World Championship. By a close vote, Bulgaria were granted the 2018 IIHF World U20 Championship, Division III.

NZU18: NZL were the only bidders for this tournament, as Hong Kong and South Africa did not wish to place a bid. As delegate, I clarified the arrangements for Queenstown and logistics within and to/from the ice arena. New Zealand (Queenstown) were granted the 2018 IIHF World U18 Championship, Division III Group B.

NZU18W: Please see Asian Strategic Planning Group notes.

International Transfer Card Waivers

As at past IIHF Congresses, I set about negotiating and securing agreements with other MNA's regarding additional fees charged on top of the standard ITC card. These fees are considered administrative/processing charges, and can be instituted by any MNA if they feel such is necessary. NZL have never charged such fees, and I set about securing more mutual agreements.

At this congress, I was able to secure:

- Iceland: New agreement to 31.12.2021.
- Ireland: New agreement to 31.12.2021.
- Finland: Renewal of agreement, to 31.12.2021.
- Mexico: New agreement to 31.12.2021.
- Japan: New agreement to 31.12.2021.
- Australia: Renewal of agreement, to 31.12.2021.

The NZIHF now has 27 mutual agreements with other MNA's, with many more renewals due in 2018.

I, along with the NZIHF President also went about collecting funds for invoices from other MNA's from past tournaments hosted in New Zealand.

The remaining tasks performed at the 2017 IIHF Annual Congress have been outlined in the President's Report.