

# 2021 Club Competition Feedback Summary



# Tackle Football

- European focus upon competitions
- Americas / Asia focus upon standalone games
- Review women's tackle options - especially for small-sided

## Feedback includes:

There is a desire to see IFAF deliver structured club activity on different continents.

This would take the form of structured competitions and sanctioned standalone games.

Any activity must be sanctioned and meet a set of criteria laid down by IFAF (from gameday experience and eligibility through to discipline and anti-doping through to media and marketing) but it could be delivered by a third party through a transparent contract arrangement.

There has to be representation for IFAF and crucially, its members whose teams will take part. No nation should exert a major share of control.

Competition structures will evolve so don't consider it has to be the finished article in Year 1.

For many clubs finance and schedules will mean limited [European] games and ideally a regionalisation of fixtures - either for a full tournament or as a qualifier for a final. Different tiers (based on finance etc) should also be considered.

In other continents the focus should be on standalone games between champions (or other teams based on merit) to see what is feasible.

Consideration of what constitutes an 'import player' and what is defined as 'semi professional' needs proper consideration - different nations have different rules on players / financial models.

# Tackle Football

- European focus upon competitions
- Americas / Asia focus upon standalone games
- Review women's tackle options - especially for small-sided

## Feedback continued:

IFAF should work to monetise the tournaments (streaming / sponsorships / entry fees) with 'profit' reinvested. This would be into IFAF; into the competing clubs and their federations; and into the competition organisers.

The exploration of a women's competition must be accelerated. Likely to just be one or two games (home and away - either between two or three teams) on a regional basis. Possible small-sided variant to start with to build opportunities for more nations to be involved.

All fixtures should have a minimum of one neutral official - with expenses built into tournament budget. For finals the crews should be neutral.

IFAF officiating must co-ordinate this.

ITC and wider regulations must be in force.

Entry of teams into sanctioned-competition should be approved by national federations in order to safeguard meritocracy at domestic level.

Possibly consider competition cycles longer than one year so teams can plan with a degree of certainty their inclusion.

# Flag Football

- Annual continental activity (continent-wide or regional)
- Get that stable before global event.
- Don't rely on federations or existing providers

## Feedback includes:

IFAF should look to hold annual continental flag championships (either one continental or broken down into regions if continent is too large).

This must be stable before a World Championship is included - possibly alternating between Continental and World each year.

Given scope - proper events company contracted (see principles of contract for tackle). Existing club events not of standard high enough - must be quality experience. This may mean having fixed locations for a number of events rather than a lottery of annual bidding. Build a proper event and avoid having federations bid to host - too political.

Some feedback suggests 'champions' tournament. Others suggest wider entry (subject to capacity). All agree it must reflect a national pathway for inclusion with teams nominated by member federations. All squads should be based on rosters from national competition - not super teams or pseudo national teams.

Financial modelling should see IFAF generate revenue to reinvest.