



Richard MacLean
Canada
March 1st 2018

Dear Nations,

I am very pleased to announce that earlier today the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) issued its full Arbitral Award in the matter of *IFAF et. al. v. Tommy Wiking*. In addition to the declarations contained in its Partial Award from September 22, 2017, which confirmed Mr. Wiking's resignation and that his acts as IFAF President or on behalf of IFAF after April 30, 2015, were null and void, CAS has ruled that:

1. Mr. Roope Noronen was elected ad interim President of IFAF on 17 July 2015; and
2. Mr. Richard MacLean was elected President of IFAF on 17 September 2016 and is IFAF's current President.

With this clear victory, I wish to first and foremost thank all the member nations that have stood by IFAF during this time.

I also want to take this opportunity to emphasize the importance of continuing the work we've done over the last two years. At the 2017 Congress in Vancouver, Canada, we revised our statutes and introduced a variety of membership options so that all American football playing countries could find their place in our federation. The establishment of clear membership guidelines and expectations has helped establish a strong foundation from which to build. This was a necessary step toward sound governance.

Looking to the future, it is imperative that we continue our work to strengthen IFAF, our membership, and our competitions. These efforts will begin immediately in order to ensure a productive August 11, 2018, Congress in Panama City, Panama.

It is my full intention that our federation's continued recovery efforts be done without malice or prejudice towards any athletes. Athletes are fundamental to our federation and we must continue to prioritize them as we move forward.

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The IFAF Board recognises that our efforts to re-establish IFAF as a respected international federation in the Olympic Movement will come with growing pains but we are confident that with the backing of our members we can do so by continuing to strengthen our federation, improving transparency, and creating long-term stability. IFAF's operation must be based on sound policies, clear procedures, and long term strategic planning, all focused on the betterment of our sport.

As your President, it is my primary focus to help us continue to grow into a unified federation that will one day send athletes to the Olympic Games to showcase American football on the world's grandest athletic stage.

In light of today's victory, I am proposing that the day before the Congress, August 10, 2018, our leadership and member nations meet as one to develop and certify a strategic plan for IFAF's next four years and we commit to revisiting and revising this plan regularly at future Congresses.

A strong federation has an engaged membership, clear criteria for new members with options and opportunities for both emerging and established nations, and meaningful planned competitions. These are qualities that we have focused on and will continue to emphasize in our strategic plan for 2018-2022.

I look forward to talking with everyone over the next few months and seeing federation delegates in Panama City in August so that we may take the first step in our Federation's newest journey.

Yours in American Football,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard MacLean". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Richard MacLean

President | International Federation of American Football

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