

Minutes of the first meeting of FIFA (translated from the French original)

## **FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DE FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION**

International Congress for Association Football

Held in 1904 at the headquarters of the Union des Sociétés Françaises de Sports Athlétiques in Paris (229 Rue St Honoré).

### ***Meeting of 21 May 1904***

The meeting opened at 2.30 pm under the chairmanship of Mr Fringnet, Vice-President of the USFSA.

Present:

Hirschman (Nederlandsche Voetbal Bond)

Schneider (Association Suisse de Football)

Sylow (Dansk Boldspil Union)

Robert Guérin and A Espir (Union des Sociétés Françaises de Sports Athlétiques)

Muhlinghaus and Kahn (Union Belge des Sociétés de Sports Athlétiques)

Mr Fringnet welcomed the foreign delegates.

Correspondence:

Letter from Dr Karding intimating the replacement of Mr Manning by Mr Heineken (DFB).

Letter from the FA of England apologising for not being represented, and announcing that a Congress would be held in London in 1905.

Letter from Madrid FC apologising for not sending delegates but appointing a proxy (Mr Espir represents Spain).

Mr Robert Guérin reported a discussion he had had with Mr Kornerup, vice-president of the Swedish Federation (Svenska Bollspil Förbundet), which endorses the Congress and the treaty (Mr Sylow will also represent Sweden).

The meeting times are set as follows:

2.30 pm to 5.00 pm on Saturday (21 May)

10.00 am to noon on Sunday (22 May)

9.00 am to noon on Monday (23 May)

2.00 pm to 5.00 pm if necessary (23 May)

The delegates present, after an exchange of views on the draft treaty, decided to include in the agenda of the session on the 22nd a final discussion on the following questions and proposals related to the various articles of the draft:

Article 1. Proposal of Mr Hirschman: to grant the International Committee the power to authorize matches with clubs belonging to federations which have not signed up to the treaty.

Proposals by Messrs Schneider and Sylow: that the treaty should come into force on 1 September 1905.

Article 2. Comment by Mr Hirschman on the case of a player who has been abroad and returns to his country of origin.

Article 4. Proposal by Messrs Schneider and Espir: that any fine which is levied should be paid to the International Federation and not to the clubs.

Observation by Mr Hirschman on the situation of clubs operating in border areas.

Additional question by Mr Robert Guérin on subject of the Czech Association.

The meeting adjourned at 6.00 pm.

*A Espir.*

### **Meeting of 22 May 1904**

Present:

Muhlinghaus and Kahn (UBSSA)

Schneider (ASF)

Hirschman (NVB)

Sylow (DBU and SBF)

Robert Guérin (USFSA)

Espir (USFSA and Madrid FC).

The meeting opened at 10.15 am.

After being reminded that each federation only has the right to a single vote, the delegates opened a discussion about the drafts and proposals on the agenda.

Articles 1 to 6 were approved unanimously.

The following questions and proposals were carried over to the agenda of 23 May:

Mr Schneider: in their respective countries, the delegates will act as intermediaries between the International Federation and their own federations.

Mr Hirschman: The Committee will draft regulations for international matches.

Mr Guérin and Espir: The creation of an international championship.

Membership fees to be paid by the Federations.

The meeting rose at 1.10 pm.

*A Espir.*

### **Meeting of 23 May 1904**

Present:

Schneider (ASF)

Sylow (DBU and SBF)

A Espir (USFSA and Madrid FC)

Robert Guérin (USFSA)

Kahn and Muhlinghaus (UBSSA)

Hirschman (NVB).

The session opened at 9.20 am.

The Congress noted a telegram from Dr Karding (DFB). Germany joins the Congress.

Articles 6 to 10 were approved unanimously, as were the administrative regulations of the International Federation.

It was agreed unanimously that the Committee of the Federation for 1904 will be composed as follows:

President: Mr Robert Guérin (France)

First Vice-President: Mr Schneider (Switzerland)

Second Vice-President: Mr Hirschman (Holland)

Secretary: Mr Muhlinghaus (Belgium)

Deputy Secretary: Mr Sylow (Denmark).

The meeting adjourned at 12.05 and reopened at 1.20.

The treaty and the Statutes of the International Federation were adopted unanimously on the second reading and were signed by the delegates. Mr Muhlinghaus, on behalf of the foreign delegates, offered sincere thanks to the representatives of the USFSA for the hospitality they had extended to their colleagues from other federations.

The meeting adjourned at 3.00 pm.

*A Espir.*