

28.02.2022.

To:
World Curling Federation

Statement regarding the invasion in Ukraine

Member associations listed below strongly condemn the invasion of Ukraine by the Russian government. We are also aware that this unlawful invasion is strongly supported by the government of Belarus. Actions by Russia and Belarus are cruel, violent and do not support The Spirit of Curling in any way. Ukraine as a country and nation is being destroyed and in current situation their athletes can't participate in the international competitions in a fair way.

Since Russia's invasion in Ukraine on 24.02.2022. neither Russian Curling Federation (RUS) nor Belarusian Curling Association (BLR) have expressed condemnation or other negative opinion on their official web pages and/or social networks about the Russia's government aggression against sovereign country of Ukraine. RUS hasn't even published that European Curling Championships 2022 won't be hosted in Perm, Russia anymore because of the invasion in Ukraine to maintain the positive image of Russian government in the eyes of local people in Russia.

As Ukrainian people right now are fighting and dying to protect their land or flee from their own county to become refugees, we feel that it is our duty to protect the interests of Ukrainian Curling association (UKR), which is the WCF's member association, and its members. Until invasion in Ukraine is not resolved, RUS and BLR should not take part in international curling events at any level.

We strongly believe that any changes in Russia's and Belarus attitude and actions are possible only if the pressure to change comes from both outside and inside of the countries. We also strongly believe that WCF has the power to make changes, express a strong opinion and help the Ukrainian people. We as member associations of WCF believe that we can't stay silent and let RUS and BLR compete in international sport events like nothing has happened.

Therefore, according to WCF Constitution paragraph 16.13.5. we ask WCF Board immediately to:

1. Suspend member association status of RUS and BLR.
2. Suspend RUS and BLR representatives from all WCF Commissions.
3. Move forward motion to the Annual General Assembly for expulsion of RUS and BLR from the WCF.
4. Cancel any previously approved or planned WCF competitions in Russia and/or Belarus.
5. Ban RUS and BLR players from all competitions organized by the WCF Member associations.

6. Move forward motions to International Olympic Committee and International Paralympic Committee for suspension or expulsion of Russia and Belarus.

This request is supported by the following Member Associations (listed alphabetically):

1. Austrian Curling Association (AUT)
2. Czech Curling Association (CZE)
3. Danish Curling Association (DEN)
4. Estonian Curling Association (EST)
5. Finnish Curling Association (FIN)
6. French Ice Sports Federation (FRA)
7. Guyana Curling Federation (GUY)
8. Israel Curling Association (ISR)
9. Latvian Curling Association (LAT)
10. Lithuanian Curling Association (LTU)
11. Ukrainian Curling Association (UKR)

List of the authorized signatories is attached.

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