





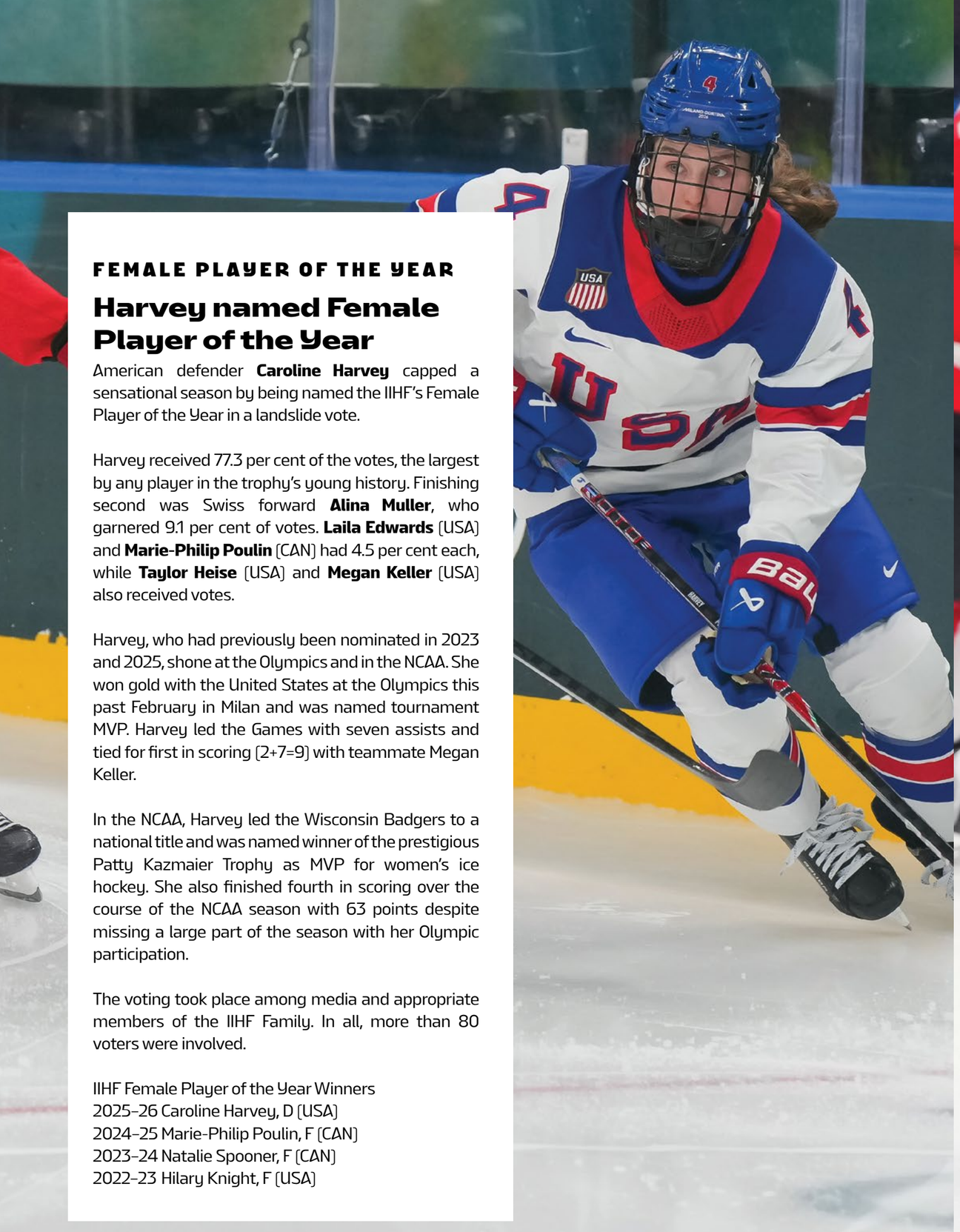


INTERNATIONAL ICE HOCKEY FEDERATION

YEAR IN REVIEW 2025-26



YEAR IN REVIEW 2025-26



FEMALE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Harvey named Female Player of the Year

American defender **Caroline Harvey** capped a sensational season by being named the IIHF's Female Player of the Year in a landslide vote.

Harvey received 77.3 per cent of the votes, the largest by any player in the trophy's young history. Finishing second was Swiss forward **Alina Muller**, who garnered 9.1 per cent of votes. **Laila Edwards** (USA) and **Marie-Philip Poulin** (CAN) had 4.5 per cent each, while **Taylor Heise** (USA) and **Megan Keller** (USA) also received votes.

Harvey, who had previously been nominated in 2023 and 2025, shone at the Olympics and in the NCAA. She won gold with the United States at the Olympics this past February in Milan and was named tournament MVP. Harvey led the Games with seven assists and tied for first in scoring (2+7=9) with teammate Megan Keller.

In the NCAA, Harvey led the Wisconsin Badgers to a national title and was named winner of the prestigious Patty Kazmaier Trophy as MVP for women's ice hockey. She also finished fourth in scoring over the course of the NCAA season with 63 points despite missing a large part of the season with her Olympic participation.

The voting took place among media and appropriate members of the IIHF Family. In all, more than 80 voters were involved.

IIHF Female Player of the Year Winners
2025–26 Caroline Harvey, D (USA)
2024–25 Marie-Philip Poulin, F (CAN)
2023–24 Natalie Spooner, F (CAN)
2022–23 Hilary Knight, F (USA)



MALE PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Celebrini named Male Player of the Year

Macklin Celebrini, the 19-year-old from North Vancouver, British Columbia, was voted the IIHF's Male Player of the Year for the 2025–26 season. Finishing second in the voting was American goalie **Connor Hellebuyck**, and third was Finnish forward **Sebastian Aho**. Behind Aho was Canada's **Connor McDavid**, followed by three Americans **Jaccob Slavin**, **Quinn Hughes**, and **Jack Hughes**.

Voting was open to nearly 200 members of the media and appropriate members of the IIHF family.

Celebrini received 40.8 per cent of all votes while Hellebuyck was half that, 20.4 per cent. Aho was at 14.3 percent and McDavid 12.2 per cent.

Celebrini had a magical year both in the NHL and in international ice hockey. He led the Olympics in goals (5) and was second in scoring (5+5=10). He helped Canada win a silver medal and was named to the tournament All-Star Team as a forward. He later played in the World Championship, where he captained Team Canada and finished second in scoring. He was named IIHF Directorate Best Forward and again named to the All-Star team.

In the NHL, Celebrini finished fourth in scoring with 115 points. That total was the third highest ever by a teenager after **Wayne Gretzky** (137 in 1979–80) and **Sidney Crosby** (120 in 2006–07).

IIHF Male Player of the Year Winners
2025–26 Macklin Celebrini, F (CAN)
2024–25 Sven Andrighetto, F (SUI)
2023–24 Roman Cervenka, F (CZE)
2022–23 Connor Bedard, F (CAN)

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President's Report

It is with great pride and privilege that I look back on my five years as President of the IIHF. I stepped into this role during a challenging period for our sport and our world, guided by one clear motivation: to leave international ice hockey stronger than I found it.

This past season, and the four that came before it, have marked important steps forward in the continued development of our game around the world. Perhaps no moment better symbolizes that progress than the return of NHL players to the Olympic Winter Games after more than a decade. Their return ensured that the world's best players were once again able to compete on sport's greatest stage. Congratulations to every team and player who competed with such passion, and especially to the women's and men's teams of the United States on capturing Olympic gold.

Across our championships, we witnessed remarkable performances and historic achievements. From the grassroots of our game to our biggest stages, records were broken, new milestones were reached, and unforgettable moments were created. Our players and teams left everything they had on the ice, while passionate fans around the world came together to cheer on their countries, teams, and favourite players. Together, they reminded us what makes international ice hockey so special.

After the difficult years our sport experienced, it is particularly rewarding to see our flagship IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship in such a strong position. The extraordinary success of the 2024 Championship in Czechia, which set a new all-time attendance record, demonstrated the enduring passion for international ice hockey. That momentum continued in Switzerland in 2026, where once again we saw packed arenas, passionate supporters, and a celebration of our game at its very best. Our top Championship is in excellent shape, providing a strong foundation from which we can continue to grow the entire international game.

Our two Players of the Year also demonstrated the extraordinary level of talent in today's game. Caroline Harvey was exceptional for the United States, while Canada's 19-year-old sensation Macklin Celebrini showcased his remarkable ability on both the Olympic and World Championship stages.

Beyond individual performances, there were achievements that demonstrated the growing strength and resilience of our Member National Associations. The Netherlands enjoyed an extraordinary season, earning promotion in three competitions – the Men's U20 Division II Group B, Men's U18 Division II Group B and Women's Division I Group B. Ukraine once again showed fierce determination, competing in four tournaments and maintaining its position in each despite the immense challenges the country continues to face at home.

We also expanded opportunities for national teams to compete. For the first time, we launched an IIHF European Cup of Nations tournament and also hosted successful IIHF Asia Championships. These competitions represent an important step in creating more meaningful international games, providing national teams with additional opportunities to compete and develop while strengthening our competition structure across different regions and levels of the game. They help to ensure that international ice hockey continues to grow not only at the top, but throughout our entire global hockey family.

Our progress was not limited to competition. We celebrated the inauguration of a new ice rink in Morocco, the finest rink in Africa now. We also took an exciting step into the future with the launch of 3x3 Ultimate Hockey, with the inaugural event taking place in Innsbruck, Austria. Fast, dynamic and designed to showcase skill, creativity and speed, the new 3x3 format introduced a fresh way to experience our sport. More than simply a new event, it marked the beginning of an exciting new discipline for the IIHF.

We also continued to build the future of the women's game through the World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend and Global Girls' Game, which set a Guinness World Record for "Most host countries for the same ice hockey exhibition match event". This shows how our sport of how our sport can connect girls and women across borders through a shared love of hockey.

And who could forget the Global Hockey Forum? For the first time, we brought the international ice-hockey family together on this scale — 485 participants representing 68 Member National Associations — to exchange ideas, learn from one another, and tackle the opportunities and challenges shaping the future of our sport.

With all of this, we continued to invest in development initiatives focused on mental health, integrity, women's hockey, and the overall well-being of the international ice hockey community.

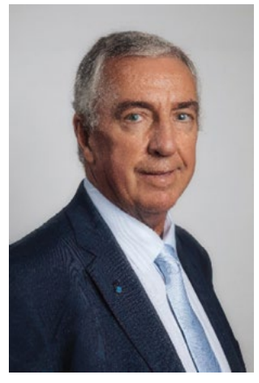
The scale of our international program continues to be something of which we can all be proud. During the 2025–26 season, the IIHF staged over 30 events that welcomed more than 1.3 million fans around the world. While circumstances beyond our control meant that not every event could take place as planned, we are proud that more than 400 referees and linespersons from 50 countries took to the ice across our competitions. Their professionalism, dedication and expertise were essential to the success of our championships and once again demonstrated the truly global nature of our game.

The season concluded with two very special days of IIHF Hall of Fame celebrations in Zurich, first honouring our Contributors and then welcoming our newest Inductees. For me, it was a celebration that will remain close to my heart for many years to come.

As I reflect on this last year and the last five years, I know that our achievements have only been possible through a collective effort.

My sincere thanks go to all our Member National Associations, whose passion and commitment drive the development of our game around the world. I also thank my fellow IIHF Council members and the members, Chairpersons, and Secretaries of our 20 Committees for their dedication, expertise and continued support.

Together, we have strengthened international ice hockey and created new opportunities for our sport to grow. We have much to be proud of, and even more to achieve as we continue building a stronger game for the future.



Luc Tardif, IIHF President and Historical Committee Chairperson

Luc Tardif's Presidency

The IIHF Hall of Fame was originally set to welcome seven new inductees in 2026. However, following Luc Tardif's announcement that he would step down as IIHF President, a member of the IIHF Historical Committee requested an Extraordinary meeting to consider an exceptional addition to the Class of 2026.

The Committee met virtually in April and voted unanimously to induct Luc Tardif into the IIHF Hall of Fame. Luc initially resisted the idea, reluctant to receive such recognition while still serving as President. But following the unanimous decision of the Committee, he ultimately accepted the honour with great humility and pride.

It was a fitting recognition of a journey that began with the IIHF in 2008, when Tardif joined the Competition Committee. Two years later, he was elected to the IIHF Council, before becoming IIHF Treasurer in 2012 and Chairperson of the Finance Committee in 2016. In 2021, he was elected IIHF President.

At the Hall of Fame induction ceremony this past May, Tardif was introduced by Amélie Oudéa-Castéra, President of the French National Olympic and Sports Committee and former French Minister for Sport and the 2024 Summer Olympic and Paralympic Games.

"This is my last World Championship as president, my last Hall of Fame ceremony, and I really want to share this honour with all of you," Tardif said during his acceptance speech. "I started off in France coaching my kids, and then the league needed a president of the minor hockey association. From there, I became president of ice hockey within the bigger organization of all ice sports in France, 15 disciplines in total. But I never understood why hockey couldn't have its own federation in France, so I became involved in the politics of the sport. In April 2006, we got approval to start our own federation."

Luc Tardif at the 2026 IIHF Hall Of Fame Ceremony.



IIHF Presidents

Louis Magnus (FRA) – 1908–1912 & 1914
Henri van den Bulcke (BEL) – 1912–14 & 1914–20
Major Bethune Minet "Peter" Patton (GBR) – 1914
Max Sillig (SUI) – 1920–22
Paul Loicq (BEL) – 1922–47
Dr. Fritz Kraatz (SUI) – 1947–48 & 1951–54
George Hardy (CAN) – 1948–51
Walter Brown (USA) –1954–57
John "Bunny" Ahearne (GBR) – 1957–60 & 1963–66 & 1969–75
Robert Lebel (CAN) – 1960–63
Thayer Tutt (USA) – 1966–69
Dr. Gunther Sabetzki (GER) – 1975–94
Dr. René Fasel (SUI) – 1994–2021
Luc Tardif (FRA) – 2021–2026

IIHF Life President

Dr. René Fasel

IIHF Life Members

Christer Englund
Frank Gonzalez
Beate Grupp
Kai Hietarinta
Yuri Korolev
Kalervo Kummola
Philippe Jacques Lacarriere
Fred Meredith
Tony Rossi
Juraj Siroky
Alexander Steblin
Shoichi Tomita
Vladislav Tretiak
Thomas Wu

IIHF Honourary Members

Oscar Frei (SUI)
Gerhard Mosslang (GER)

IIHF Council (2021–2026)

Luc Tardif (FRA), President
Matti Nurminen (FIN), Director General
Petr Briza (CZE), Senior Vice-President
Bob Nicholson (CAN), Vice-President
Henrik Bach Nielsen (DEN), Vice-President
Aivaz Omorkanov (KGZ), Vice-President
Zsuzsanna Kolbenheyer (HUN), Council Member
Marta Zawadzka (POL), Council Member
Franz Reindl (GER), Council Member
Pavel Bure (RUS), Council Member
Andrea Gios (ITA), Council Member
Heikki Hietanen (FIN), Council Member
Viesturs Koziols (LAT), Council Member
Anders Larsson (SWE), Council Member
Raeto Raffainer (SUI), Council Member

IIHF Council for the 2021–26 term.



2025 Semi-Annual Congress

The 2025 IIHF Semi-Annual Congress in Nice, France, produced two days of lively discussion. Ensuring more meaningful games for international teams was a focal point, as was celebrating the rise of sustainability in the sport.

Delegates also voted on a range of amendments to the IIHF's Event Codes, Integrity Code, Disciplinary Regulations, and Transfer Regulations, as well as hearing updates on preparations for the 2026 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship in Switzerland, and progress reports for the upcoming Olympic Winter Games in both Milano Cortina 2026 and the French Alps 2030.

Changes to the established six-team round-robin tournament format could be introduced for the 2026–27 season, with a view to maximizing competition and excitement as the event progresses.

"We want to have a format where the last games have meaning," said IIHF President **Luc Tardif**. "We want to see teams on the last day playing for promotion, playing for a bronze medal, or playing to escape relegation."

A presentation of the proposed new competition schedule, which would affect most IIHF tournaments from Division I-A and below, showed teams split into two groups of three. They would then play three days of group games, with countries in Group A facing their rivals in Group B. The top two teams in each group would progress to semi-finals and the medal games, while the third-place teams would play a two-game relegation series.

The tournament would still be played over seven days. There would still be 15 games in total, and each team would still play five games.

The coming season sees the launch of a new European Cup of Nations for senior men's teams. The tournament will occur during the traditional international breaks in November, December, and February, with 18 nations playing in three- or four-team competitions across the continent.

The participating countries include recent Olympic and World Championship medalists such as Germany, Slovakia, and Latvia and reaches down to Division I-B nations. The new tournament fulfils the Ice26 plan to generate more meaningful international action each season.

The organizing committee for the 2025 IIHF World Championship in Herning won this year's Sustainability Award. The Danes were praised for a combination of environmental action, social inclusion, and legacy planning.

"This tournament shows that ice hockey can be sustainable," said **Beate Grupp**, who chairs the IIHF's Sustainability Committee. The event in Herning managed a record 65% recycling rate and also delivered extensive social and educational programs.

Czechia took second place for its work in organizing the 2025 Women's World Championship in Ceske Budejovice. The Czechs were praised for consciously building on the legacy of the 2024 IIHF World Championship and sharing expertise from that event to show how sustainability can translate into strong spectator and participant experiences as well as long-term economic success.

This was the first year that the competition was open to countries that did not host a tournament. That enabled Portugal to claim third place for its work on developing a sustainable venue at the Serra da Estrela arena.

There were eleven applications in total this year, including the first ever entry from an Asian nation – Hong Kong, China – and two submissions from Denmark, one as a tournament host and another as an MNA. The full entry list included Bulgaria, Canada, Czechia, Denmark, Hong Kong, China, Hungary, Mexico, Poland, Portugal, and Sweden.

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The Semi-Annual Congress also voted to elevate Armenia and Uzbekistan to full member status. Uzbekistan played its first IIHF World Championship event last season, winning Division IV. Armenia, back in competitive action for the first time since 2010, hosted that tournament in Yerevan and won silver.

The 2025 Semi-Annual Congress oversaw a full agenda, including the announcement of Sustainability Awards and elevating Armenia and Uzbekistan to full-member status.

2026 Annual Congress

When IIHF President **Luc Tardif** welcomed the 80 Member National Associations – 74 present in the room and the rest connected digitally – to the 2026 IIHF Congress, he did so knowing it would be his final Congress as President.

He reaffirmed his decision to step down, and then recapped his time as President. Tardif said he wanted to look back at his term now rather than at the Semi-Annual Congress in the fall so that the focus in September could be on the election of the new President.

Tardif started 2021, when he took the helm of the organization in the middle of a global pandemic. Tournaments were cancelled, and everything was up in the air. But what goes up must come down, and Tardif wanted to make sure the IIHF would hit the ground running. A new strategy, ICE26, was drafted. Its three cornerstones have been Innovation, Collaboration, and Expansion – all positive, outward-looking values that seek to bring out the best in people. Those three words have guided the organization's operations, and Tardif took it upon himself to lead by example, building bridges and bringing people together.

The IIHF has undergone a major digital transformation under Tardif's guidance. A new app was developed, as was a new accreditation system. Player data tracking has been introduced, and IIHF Fantasy has been added to the portfolio. In 2025, the IIHF also launched IIHF.tv, and this past year the IIHF unveiled its new brand identity.

"The growth [of our digital platform] has been between 80 and 540 percent, depending on the category," Tardif said.

As for collaboration and expansion, Tardif explained, the IIHF has both brought the ice hockey family together through projects such as the Global Hockey Forum and reached out to the NHL to build mutual understanding.

"We haven't met all our goals, but we have achieved 84 per cent of them," Tardif continued. "We have fully integrated sustainability into our operations, from event codes to sustainability plans, carbon-footprint calculators, and energy conferences."

The women's game is also taking major strides. "There are 15 per cent more female players now than there were in 2021, and more than 50 Member National Associations now have women's ice hockey programs," he added.

The IIHF has supported women's ice hockey through initiatives such as a summit, the HER Network for female coaches, the World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend, and the Global Girls' Game, which set a Guinness World Record for most countries competing in an ice hockey game.

Later in 2026, the IIHF will also launch women's European and Asian Cups of Nations events, similar to the competitions established on the men's side in 2025.

In 2022, the IIHF established its Development Department, and over the past four years, more than nine million Swiss francs have been allocated to development programs around the world. More recently, the 3-on-3 Breaking the Ice Tour in Innsbruck showcased another initiative designed to grow the sport and attract new fans.

"Being IIHF President is a 24/7 job. It has been a great honour to serve the IIHF, but it's not about one man. It's a team effort," Tardif said. "When I was elected, I made a crazy promise that I would visit all Member National Associations, but I missed that," he said. "I did get to 67, though," he added with a smile.

Tardif ended by offering the delegates some advice. "Choose someone who loves the game and wants to serve it. The IIHF is a fantastic federation. We've always wanted to give more to the sport," he concluded.

IIHF Year in Review 2025–26







The 2026 Congress in Zurich was the last for outgoing president Luc Tardif. He used the opportunity to summarize the IIHF's accomplishments from five years of his successful mandate.



SPOTLIGHT

Crosby & Doughty make history

When Canada won a silver medal at the Milan Olympics, two of its players joined an exclusive club. **Sidney Crosby** and **Drew Doughty** also won gold in 2010, and that 16-year gap between medals is a rare achievement. Only eight players have equalled or bettered that in the more than century of Olympic play.

Switzerland's **Richard "Bibi" Torriani** won bronze at the 1928 Olympics and, incredibly, won another bronze 20 years later. **Igor Larionov** had an 18-year gap between gold in 1984 and bronze in 2002. Finland's **Teppo Numminen** had the same – silver in 1988 and silver again in 2006.

Three Finns also won bronze 16 years apart – in 1994 and again in 2010 – **Saku Koivu**, **Jere Lehtinen**, and **Ville Peltonen**. And Finns again were part of a 16-year gap between 1998 (bronze) and 2014 (bronze) – **Kimmo Timonen** and **Teemu Selanne**.

Canada's Sidney Crosby has won Olympic medals 16 years apart, a rare achievement.



Poulin adds to her legend

Canada's "captain clutch," **Marie-Philip Poulin**, played much of the 2026 Olympics with a knee injury that required surgery in the summer. But even on one leg, she still managed to add to her legacy. She played in her fifth Olympics, tying the all-time record, and she won a silver medal, her fifth (3 gold, 2 silver), tying another record. She also scored three goals and became the all-time leading scorer in women's ice hockey at the Olympics with 20.

Marie-Philip Poulin is now the all-time goals-scoring leader in Olympic play.



Meriguet's magical year

Switzerland's **Laure Meriguet** had an unexpectedly amazing 2026. On New Year's Day, while getting ready to play in her record-tying fourth Women's U18 tournament, she got a call from **Colin Muller**, coach of the senior team. He wanted her to play in Milan, at the Olympics. The 17-year-old was overwhelmed, but imagine her delight when **Alina Muller** scored in overtime to give the Swiss the bronze medal. Meriguet could not have seen that magic coming.

Switzerland's Laure Meriguet played at the WW18 and then the Olympics in 2026.



Haukeland's incredible World Championship

Coming into the 2026 World Championship, Norway's goalie **Henrik Haukeland** had had a fine career with the national team. It included seven WM appearances and one Olympics, but his 9–0–20 record was not exactly sensational. Yet in Switzerland last May, Haukeland was absolutely incredible. He posted a 7–1 record, tied for the tournament lead with three shutouts and, most significant of all, led Norway to its first ever medal at the WM, a bronze.

Norwegian goalie Henrik Haukeland (left) led his country to an improbable bronze medal at the World Championship.



Genoni's shutout record

While Haukeland was playing well for the Norwegians, **Leonardo Genoni** was setting records for the Swiss. He also posted three shutouts, giving him 15 for his career. This was the most in IIHF history, more than Holecek, Tretiak, Hasek, and all the other incredible goalies who have played at the World Championship since 1930. And Genoni also won his fourth silver medal along the way.

Leonardo Genoni of Switzerland is now the all-time leader in shutouts at the World Championship with 15.



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Berglund's brilliant hat trick

On May 17, 2026, Norway's **Jacob Berglund** scored a natural hat trick in the second period of his team's 4–0 win over Slovenia. That might not sound like much, but in Norwegian ice hockey, hat tricks don't grow on trees. In fact, there have been only 14 in the nation's history dating back to 1937, and only once before has a player scored three in a period – **Bjorn Gulbrandsen** in 1949. But **Ragnar Rygel** also scored in that period, meaning Berglund is the only Norwegian to score the only three goals of a period. Pretty amazing.

Jacob Berglund (left) scored a natural hat trick in the second period against Slovenia, a rare achievement in Norway's ice hockey history.



Novak's five assists

Tommy Novak had a special game for the United States against Hungary on May 25, 2026, during the round robin of the World Championship in Zurich. He recorded two assists in the first period, two more in the second, and a fifth in the third. Only ten times previously has a player had as many as five, and only twice has a player had six



American Tommy Novak recorded five assists in a game during the 2026 World Championship.

Nela's record-breaking WW18

Slovakia's **Nela Lopusanova** came to Nova Scotia for the 2026 Women's U18 with records on her mind. This was her fourth WW18, tying a record, and she had **Kendall Coyne Schofield** in her sights for most career goals and points. Indeed, Lopusanova tied Coyne Schofield on both counts, recording her 22nd goal and 33rd point, and she tried to eclipse those numbers in grand style. In her final game, against Sweden, she attempted a lacrosse move and almost made it, but Sweden captain **Ebba Westerlind** knocked Lopusanova's stick before she could score.



Slovakia's Nela Lopusanova is tied for the all-time lead in goals and points at the Women's U18.

Daley's goals record

While Nela was doing Nela things for Slovakia, **Jane Daley** was having a special WW18 tournament with the gold-medal-winning United States. Daley had hat tricks in each of her first three games, then had two goals and one in her next games. That gave her 12 for the tournament, most all time (**Haley Skarupa**, USA, had eleven in 2012).



Jane Daley's scoring record garnered her MVP honours at the 2026 WW18 in Cape Breton.

Smits shines three times

Alberts Smits started the 2025–26 season as Latvia's top prospect. A big defender mature beyond his years, the 18-year-old proceeded to have a remarkable season. He played at the World Juniors in December–January, then the Olympics in February, and, finally, the World Championship in May. Not surprisingly, he was drafted 5th overall by the New York Rangers in June, the highest selection ever for a Latvian player.



Latvian defender Alberts Smits played in three IIHF events in 2025–26.

Thompson, Keller make IIHF history

Americans **Tage Thompson** and **Clayton Keller** made history at the 2026 Olympics. Once the U.S. won gold, they became the first players in IIHF history to have won career gold at the four IIHF events – U18, World Juniors, World Championship, Olympics. The key to this achievement came in 2025, when they helped the U.S. win gold at the World Championship for the first time since 1933.



Clayton Keller (below, left) and Tage Thompson (inset) are the only players to win gold at all four IIHF events.



Slavin in rare company

Jaccob Slavin didn't get his name into the record books until after the IIHF season had ended. But when he helped the Carolina Hurricanes win the Stanley Cup, he became only the ninth player to win Olympic gold and Stanley Cup in the same season. The first to do it was **Ken Morrow** (1980, USA & New York Islanders). After that, it was seven Canadians between 2002 and 2014 – **Brendan Shanahan**, **Steve Yzerman**, **Duncan Keith**, **Brent Seabrook**, **Jonathan Toews**, **Jeff Carter**, and **Drew Doughty**.

Team USA's Jaccob Slavin won a sensational double in 2026—Olympic gold and the Stanley Cup.



GROWING THE GAME

HER helps women help women

Since April 2025, when HER, the new coaching network for female coaches, was launched, the platform has gotten busier and busier. This past season, the initiative was available at the Global Hockey Forum in Nice, France, with a dedicated booth of its own.

"We have so many amazing ambassadors and stories to share," said **Blanka Elekes Szentagotai**, the IIHF Women's Program Manager, just weeks before the launch. "The main focus of HER is life coaching, networking, and mentorship – women helping women. We've seen this in other historically male-dominated professions, from lawyers to doctors. Right around the globe, we're encouraging female coaches to communicate online, get together in person, watch some ice hockey, and talk to one another, as well as with young female players."

While there are a growing number of opportunities for women in coaching, the lack of female coaches is still a real issue.

"We know from camps and other events that we've organized that woman-to-woman communication is just different. We know it works," Elekes Szentagotai added.

Today, it's obvious that the demand is there. "HER is doing very well. We have several hundred registrations, and it's become a thriving platform," she continued.

What the network does well is to lower the threshold for everyone to engage in conversations in an environment where asking questions and sharing information are encouraged.

"Fortunately, the conversations flow organically, which feels really good. HER is a safe space, but there's also a lot of knowledge from all over the world, where all your ice hockey-related questions can be answered," she said.

"The platform is such a healthy place that members feel comfortable asking anything ice-hockey related, but also other questions, such as what to consider when moving to another country," she said.

Earlier this year, HER was put to a true test when the IIHF launched an Ask Me Anything series in which the more experienced coaches in the network shared their expertise.

"They took questions for an hour, sometimes even longer, because the conversations were filled with knowledge," Elekes Szentagotai noted. "We want to spread the word as much as possible to grow this community even bigger. We're definitely going to have a presence at various events wherever we can give HER visibility, and hopefully, down the line, there are going to be even bigger events and coaching conferences."

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HONE helps mental health

There's an old sports cliche – "look good, play good." Like many cliches, there's a kernel of truth in that – but surely it should also be "feel good, play good"?

In the last decade, dealing with mental health has come a long way from being something players not only didn't talk about but hid, to now being another wellness factor to consider.

HONE Athletics is a tool that gives athletes a way to tell the coaching staff about how they feel, and for the coaches to quickly take the temperature of the team. Co-founders **Jessica Renney** and **Paula McQuaid** are certified psychotherapists with experience across a variety of teams, associations, universities, and national-level sporting organizations.

Renney is the daughter of **Tom Renney**, a former NHL and Team Canada coach. She knows that ice hockey needs a better tool to help players.

"HONE is a digital platform that teams can use. We ask athletes sport-specific questions that have to do with disconnections, relationships, fatigue, criticism, and pressure, to get a sense of where they are at and how they're coping," Renney explained.

These anonymous responses are then delivered to the coaching staff which can get a better view of how the team is feeling. With better information, the coaches can make more informed decisions as they plan the team's activities and better support their players.

"When I was coming up, a lot of things weren't discussed in coaching clinics. There was a lot of talk about the Xs and Os, but these days mental health is a big part of a coach's job, and there are better tools now," said **Pete DeBoer**, a long-time NHL coach.

"I've used HONE with my teams at the professional level," he added. "When you're dealing with today's athlete, you can't ignore mental health and its impact on the team and day-to-day work. It's not enough to have conversations with coaches. It must go deeper than that, and athletes need better tools because not everyone is comfortable talking about mental health."

While mental health isn't something you address only once in a while, HONE has proven to be a good tool even in short tournaments like the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship.

"We've used HONE at the Worlds," said **Gord Woodhall**, Team Canada's under-18 women's goalie coach from 2018 to 2023 and current goalie and video coach of the New York Sirens in the PWHL. "It provides us coaches with tangible data. The players would fill in the information in the morning, and we'd analyze the team right away. It's information you don't usually get. If the team was feeling good, we knew we could push them a little, and conversely, we knew to build our team up when they needed that kind of support," he added.

Tools like HONE aren't something a coach should introduce only when players aren't feeling well. It's not only useful to confirm a coach's intuition in those cases, but there's also always room for improvement.

"We communicate more, and our student-athletes have expressed appreciation for considering more than just their on-ice performance. With the survey results being anonymous, I believe the feedback is honest and genuine, and it allows us to better understand how they are doing and make changes, if possible," added IIHF Hall of Famer **Vicky Sunohara**, head coach of the University of Toronto's women's team.

IIHF Joins Mental Health Day

The IIHF joined the global community in recognizing World Mental Health Day last October, reinforcing its dedication to the well-being of athletes, coaches, officials, and fans across the ice hockey world.

The theme in 2025, "Mental Health is a Universal Human Right," underscored the message that mental well-being was just as vital as physical health.

"Having good mental health is not a luxury – it's a necessity," said IIHF president **Luc Tardif**. "We want every player, official, and member of the ice-hockey community to know that it's okay to speak up, seek help, and support one another."

In the past year, the IIHF has taken significant steps to support mental health, including:

Education and awareness campaigns: Promoting mental health literacy during IIHF tournaments, through Member National Associations, and at IIHF events such as the Global Hockey Forum in October 2025 in Nice, France.

Mental health resources for athletes: Providing access to wellness tools and support networks during competitions.

Partnerships with mental health organizations: Collaborating with experts to ensure well-being is embedded in high-performance environments.

New e-learning for coaches: Introducing an online mental wellness performance module in the 2025–26 season to strengthen awareness and skills among team leaders.

In-event wellness support: Establishing pre-event planning, in-tournament education, and post-event evaluations to create consistent care pathways for athletes.

Mental health affects everyone, and addressing it requires unity. From teammates checking on each other, to coaches fostering positive dressing-room culture, to fans showing compassion both online and in the stands, the ice hockey community plays a vital role.

To mark World Mental Health Day, IIHF-affiliated teams and players were invited to wear green tape or armbands in solidarity; participate in awareness activities; and, share personal stories using the hashtag #IIHFMindMatters.



The IIHF has placed an ever greater importance on mental health in recent years.

Integrity Workshop

The IIHF held its fourth Integrity Workshop in November 2025, targeted to top ice hockey federations. Representatives from a record 28 Member National Associations gathered in Dublin, Ireland. This event also marked the first time that mental health featured prominently on the agenda, joining previous workshop themes of anti-doping, competition manipulation, and abuse and harassment.

The three-day workshop served as a key platform for IIHF Integrity Officers to share experiences, exchange best practices, and strengthen the growing international integrity community within ice hockey.

The event's speakers included ice hockey insiders such as IIHF Integrity Ambassador Brandon Kozun, who recently retired from ice hockey, and experts from outside the ice hockey world, such as **Alan Darfi** from the English Football Association.

On the first day, Signify Sport account manager **Georgia Relf** spoke about online abuse – a topic many participants were familiar with. Relf detailed the wide-ranging consequences of online harm on athletes, coaches, officials, and their families, including anxiety, performance disruption, security concerns, and even real-world threats.

The IIHF is now partnering with Signify and its AI monitoring service, Threat Matrix, which tracks social media to detect, assess, and investigate abuse which targets participants at IIHF Championships. The system alerts the IIHF to risk behaviour on social media, such as homophobia, racism, match-fixing threats, and violent language.

In 2025, Threat Matrix analyzed almost 250,000 posts and comments made during IIHF World Championship events. Approximately 6,000 were escalated for human review, and 500 resulted in formal reports.

Another important item on the agenda was the IIHF Mental Wellness and Performance Coaches module that had been developed by mental health expert **Martin Mrazik** and the IIHF. Modern coaches have to be supportive. They have to trust players and learn to look for signs of mental fatigue and depression.

But it's not only athletes and coaches who need to evolve and learn. When the Irish Football Association published their Youth Review a few years ago, every representative from leagues and clubs said parents were the main problem in youth football. As a result, it developed workshops for club leaders and designed parent-engagement modules into their coaches' education courses.

The Association also drafted short guides for parents on how to behave on a gameday before the game ("prioritize sleep"), during the game ("supportive sidelines"), and after the game. The "Car Ride Home" leaflet included seven subjects parents could ask their children to foster a healthier sporting experience.

The IIHF held its most recent Integrity Workshop in November 2025.



IIHF Launches "Hold the Line" Campaign

From January 19–23, 2026, the IIHF brought together its global ice hockey community for a dedicated week focused on integrity. Through the campaign "Holding the Line Together" the IIHF focused on awareness, open dialogue, and shared responsibility, reinforcing the collective commitment to protecting and strengthening the sport.

"Integrity is the foundation of our sport," said IIHF President **Luc Tardif**. "It is not something we focus on for just one week each year; it is a core value that guides everything we do at the IIHF and in our sport."

While Integrity Week provided a dedicated opportunity to raise awareness, integrity itself remains a constant presence within the IIHF. It is embedded across competitions, governance, education programs, and development initiatives, ensuring ice hockey continues to grow in a safe, fair, and trustworthy environment worldwide.

This year's campaign showcased the collective involvement of the entire IIHF community – from players, officials, and coaches to administrators, volunteers, and federation leaders – all of whom play a critical role in upholding integrity both on and off the ice. Through storytelling, digital engagement, and shared reflections, "Holding the Line Together" emphasized that integrity is not the responsibility of a few, but a commitment held by all.

"Integrity is not just a principle. It is a daily commitment," Tardif continued. "Whether on or off the ice, holding the line means making the right decisions, even when they are not the easiest ones. Integrity Week is an opportunity for our entire community to reflect, speak up, and reinforce the values that keep our sport fair and respectful."

Throughout the week, IIHF platforms, as well as those from Member National Federations around the world, featured campaign messages, community voices, and real-world examples of integrity in action. These highlights reflected how the IIHF's integrity pillars are applied in everyday situations – from competition and officiating to governance and athlete welfare – demonstrating that protecting the game requires consistency and collaboration.

Participants across the global ice hockey family were encouraged to engage with campaign content, share perspectives, and contribute stories that illustrate what it means to hold the line. Information on available resources, reporting mechanisms, and ongoing integrity support was shared to ensure that awareness leads to action.

The "Holding the Line Together" campaign is not a one-time event. It is a reminder of a continuous responsibility.



IIHF Partners with Safe Harbour

In January 2026, the IIHF announced its active partnership in the Safe Harbour project, an initiative co-funded by the European Union under the Erasmus program. This project unites a diverse range of European stakeholders, including the International Olympic Committee (IOC), National Olympic Committees (NOCs), international federations, academic institutions, and safeguarding experts, all working together to strengthen safeguarding mechanisms across Europe's sporting landscape.

The Safe Harbour project represents a unified commitment within the European Olympic movement to enhance responses to safeguarding concerns in sport. The initiative aims to identify and address gaps in safeguarding responses and services; map stakeholders and clarify responsibilities to ensure a coordinated approach; develop a European response framework, along with complementary national strategies; provide training and raise awareness among stakeholders at all levels; and, establish the European Network for Safe Sports (ENSS), a long-term hub for safeguarding knowledge and action.

As a key project partner, the IIHF committed to leveraging its expertise and international reach to integrate safeguarding principles within the ice hockey community and the broader sporting world. The IIHF's contributions will include:

Supporting the development and dissemination of the European safeguarding framework within the ice hockey community;



Engaging with national member associations to raise awareness and enhance capacity on safeguarding issues;

Sharing best practices and collaborating with other international sports organizations to strengthen collective safeguarding efforts;

Promoting the project's key messages and outcomes through IIHF's communication channels and events.

The IIHF is committed to helping foster a culture of safety and respect within sport and looks forward to working closely with its partners to achieve the project's objectives.

The IIHF's participation in the Safe Harbour project strongly aligns with the federation's existing Integrity Program, which is designed to protect ice hockey from all forms of abuse, misconduct, and unethical behaviour.

IIHF Releases New Mental Health Guide

In January 2026, the IIHF released a new educational module titled "Athlete Mental Wellness and Performance: A Guide for Coaches," as part of its ongoing Coach Education Course on Abuse and Harassment. This module reflects the IIHF's commitment to strengthening the mental well-being of athletes and equipping coaches with the knowledge and tools to support athletes effectively.

The new module, which takes approximately 20–30 minutes to complete, provides coaches with a framework for understanding mental wellness, recognizing signs of distress, and guiding players towards appropriate help and support. By integrating mental-health education into its coach training, the IIHF is acknowledging that psychological wellness is not just a matter of personal well-being, but central to athletic performance and safety. The module consists of information, coach-led experiences through videos, animations, an interactive quiz, and defined learning outcomes.

A key contributor to the development of this module was **Professor Martin Mrazik**, a clinical neuropsychologist in the Department of Educational Psychology at the University of Alberta. Dr. Mrazik brings decades of experience in the study of neuropsychology, sports-related concussion, and athlete mental performance. He has served as a neuropsychological consultant to major professional sports leagues, and his research includes traumatic brain injury, psychological outcomes following concussion, and the mental well-being of athletes.

Additional expertise came from renowned and knowledgeable coaches and sport professionals, including **Vicky Sunohara**, **Daniel Alfredsson**, **Peter DeBoer**, **Gregory Tarle**, **Andre Lysenstoen, Iara Haiek**, and **Dr. Frauke Kubischta**, whose extensive backgrounds in high-performance sport and sport coaching further strengthen the module's development.

By placing this module within its broader Coach Education Course on Abuse and Harassment, the IIHF is aligning its educational strategy. Earlier modules addressed cultural change, power relationships, discrimination, and the signs of abuse, while this new module expands that foundation to include mental wellness and performance support.

In practical terms, the module encourages coaches to take a proactive and caring approach: listening actively, identifying when a player may be struggling, and helping them access professional support. Rather than treating mental wellness as a separate topic, it is integrated into how coaches think about performance, trust, and team culture.



The IIHF released a guide to mental health specifically to help coaches.

Developing Sustainable Arenas

Following the successful first edition in Berlin last year, the conference New Energy for Arenas returned to Tampere, Finland in February 2026.

This international conference invited arena owners and operators, municipalities, federations, engineers, architects, sustainability experts, researchers, and industry leaders to lead an important discussion about the future of ice-sports facilities.

The main purpose of the conference was to collect and exchange the latest information on new projects, innovative approaches, and technological solutions that ensure the sustainable and cost-effective development of ice-sports facilities worldwide. As energy challenges, environmental responsibilities, and operational costs continue to grow, the future of our ice sports depends on smarter, more efficient arena design and day-to-day management.

The Tampere edition of the conference was built on strong international cooperation between the IIHF, ISU, Finnish Ice Hockey Association FIHA, and the City of Tampere – reflecting a shared commitment to sustainable development across ice sports disciplines.

The New Energy for Arenas Conference is aimed at finding sustainable solutions for hockey rinks.



Rescue on Ice

The Rescue on Ice initiative is a key part of the IIHF's attention to safety. Although many fans might think ROI stands for "Return on Investment," in the ice hockey world it means something much more important.

Rescue On Ice is the coordinated medical response implemented when a player, referee, or staff member suffers a serious injury during a game. In those critical moments, every second matters, and the response must be immediate. Play is stopped without hesitation, and trained medical personnel enter the ice to assess the situation, stabilize the injured individual, and ensure safe and efficient evacuation from the playing surface.

What makes ROI especially effective is not just the speed of the response, but the preparation behind it. At every IIHF event, the home team medical staff and the event's dedicated medical team work side by side, following clearly defined protocols. These procedures are not improvised; they are carefully rehearsed in advance, ensuring that when an emergency occurs, the response is smooth, coordinated, and precise.

To give fans and stakeholders a closer look at this essential aspect of the game, the IIHF has produced two new videos to help promote consistent standards and readiness across all competitions. One focuses on the educational foundations of Rescue on Ice, while the other shows how the protocol is applied in a real on-ice scenario.

Rescue on Ice is a reminder that beyond the intensity and excitement of the game, there is a dedicated system working quietly in the background, one built on expertise, teamwork, and care. It's an essential part of modern ice hockey, ensuring that the sport remains not only thrilling to watch, but safe for everyone involved.

"Rescue on Ice" is about preparation as much as execution.



Partnership for Progress

More than 200 youth ice hockey coaches gathered in Bratislava in April 2026 for one of the IIHF Partnership for Progress Programs which focused on one central theme: Coaching the next generation – creating environments where players thrive.

The conference was aimed at Slovak youth and junior coaches, particularly those working with players in the U12–U16 categories. Coaches from Austria and Hungary also participated, helping to create a valuable platform for sharing ideas across different ice-hockey cultures and development systems.

One focus of the conference addressed the global challenge of keeping young people engaged in the sport. Speakers included Professor **Sergio Lara-Bercial**, internationally recognized expert in coach development and director of the iCoachKids project; **Vicki Guy** from Sport Ireland, who focused on inclusive and development-oriented coaching environments; **Dr. Gary Hodgson**, Leeds Beckett University, whose work centred on youth sport and coach development; and, **Vladislav Bespomoshchnov** from the Norwegian School of Sport Sciences, who connected sport science, pedagogy, and ice hockey practice.

The sessions also translated these principles into the ice hockey context. Topics included understanding why young athletes stay in or drop out of sport; designing practices that support learning; giving players more voice in their development; and, using feedback in a way that helps athletes think, decide, and grow. One of the key messages was that skill is more than technical capacity, and that athletes improve most effectively when they are active participants in solving game situations.

Participants take part in the 2026 IIHF Partnership for Program initiative in Bratislava.



Global Hockey Forum Spurs Change for Women

There was a special mood in the women's ice hockey sessions at the Global Hockey Forum last October. The mood advanced the idea that it's time for the women's game to take the next step, on a wide front.

"It was an amazing two days of discovery and learning, and we have a huge opportunity, as the entire ice hockey ecosystem, to make ice hockey more ubiquitous across the globe," said **Kim Davis**, Senior Executive Vice President, Social Impact, Growth Initiatives & Legislative Affairs at the NHL. "I think everyone felt really empowered after these two days," she added at the end of the meetings.

Moderator **Cassie Campbell-Pascall**, IIHF Hall of Famer and former Team Canada captain, recapped the event with her key takeaways:

"Expectations without agreement are only expectations. Diversity does not mean lowering the bar. Inclusion is not copying and pasting. Leadership lives where skills meet will, and the other side of fear is freedom," she said, quoting some of the speakers in the women's ice hockey track.

"I expect change, and I hope people go home with the understanding that if we want to grow the game, we need both men and women," she added.

The first Women's World Championship was played in Ottawa in 1990. Since then, the women's game has grown exponentially, and today there's a professional league for women in North America, and women are making headway on all fronts – as coaches, analysts, and managers at all levels of ice hockey.

The growth hasn't been linear, however, and it hasn't been fast enough. Ice hockey is not alone in that, noted **Barbara Zibret Kralj** in her talk, "Women in Leadership: Where Do We Stand in Business and Sport? A Data-Backed Comparison."

"At the current pace, reaching global gender parity for chairs and CEOs in business will not be achieved before 2073 and 2111," she noted. "Women hold only 20 percent of senior leadership roles, even though 50–60 percent of business and STEM graduates in Europe are women."

In sports, female representation isn't any better. Only 12 percent of sports federations have a female president, and just 29 percent have women as vice presidents or board members. And representation matters, said **India Gary-Martin**, founder and CEO of Leadership for Execs.

Representation became visible during the second day of the Global Ice Hockey Forum when the speakers in the women's track formed a real All-Star Team of former players turned coaches and GMs, from **Mel Davidson** to **Gina Kingsbury**, from **Kim Martin-Hasson** to **Maria Rooth** and **Emma Terho**.

"It's been an amazing event, and this is the right way to go. We got a lot of people and many federations together, and there was a lot of knowledge in the room," said Martin-Hasson, GM of Frolunda.

"There are new opportunities for women, both on the ice and in leadership roles. The game is growing. Even if sometimes it doesn't feel like you're doing much in your country, you're creating pathways for others, and sooner or later, you'll get your opportunity to shine. Every effort to make the game better is important," she added.

As Campbell-Pascall and Davis noted, the future of the game depends on growth on the women's side, both on the ice, in dressing rooms, boardrooms, and in the stands.

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Cassie Campbell-Pascall (middle) moderated the IIHF's Global Hockey Forum in October 2025.

"There is data pointing to the fact that if ice hockey wants to thrive, it's going to depend on the women's game and women. Women already make up 42 percent of the fan base in the NHL — we'd better start talking about that. We also know that more than 50 per cent of Chief Marketing Officers are women, and they're the ones making sponsorship decisions," Davis said.

"What we spent two days talking about is: let's get to action. We need to start sharing best practices across groups that face similar challenges. The NHL has been testing and learning for the past five to seven years, and we need to start sharing our best practices globally as smaller nations build their programs. And there's a commitment to do that," Davis added.

"We also need to integrate these streams. Marketing, development, and women should be horizontal, not vertical. If there's one takeaway, it's that we need to collaborate with the big H in mind: how do we grow the game of ice hockey – because it will depend on the growth of women," she added.

"Just believe in us. Treat us as equals. Show us that we are a priority," Campbell-Pascall concluded.

United Hockey Camp

As part of its Sustainability Agenda, the IIHF is committed to making ice hockey more inclusive, accessible, and globally connected.

Guided by its core values of integrity, respect, passion, and community, the IIHF continues to support initiatives that use ice hockey as a platform for education, integration, and international cooperation.

One of the flagship projects within the IIHF Sustainability Agenda is the Diversity and Inclusion Hubs initiative. In this context, the IIHF partnered with the Coubertin Meets Dunant Foundation to organize the United Hockey Camp, held in Langnau, Switzerland, from 17–23 May 2026.

The camp brought together approximately 40 young players from Switzerland, Germany, Ukraine, Iran, and Lebanon. Through a week of shared experiences, participants trained and lived alongside players from Swiss and German U20, U18, and U16 teams, including members of the SCL Young Tigers.

The objective was not only to develop ice hockey skills but also to foster intercultural understanding, teamwork, and lasting friendships across borders.

The IIHF played a central role in the project, providing both financial and organizational support. Through its involvement, the Federation demonstrated its commitment to investing in the future of the game beyond elite competition and major tournaments.

The United Hockey Camp reflects the IIHF's belief that ice hockey can serve as a powerful tool for social integration and personal development.

Throughout the week, participants enjoyed a program that combined ice hockey, education, and cultural exchange. Activities included on-ice sessions led by prominent coaches and former players including **Martin Gerber**, **Mathias Seger**, and **Thierry Paterlini**; attending games during the 2026 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship; and, visiting the IIHF headquarters in Zurich.

A key event of the week was a panel discussion moderated by **Steffi Buchli**, which highlighted the long-term vision for the initiative. The discussion focused on establishing a camp model linked to future IIHF Ice Hockey World Championships, with each host country organizing the next edition and welcoming international participants. The aim is to create a sustainable cycle of exchange and inclusion through ice hockey.

The camp week also included company visits, community activities, and a charity game, bringing together participants, supporters, and leaders from across the ice hockey world. The project received strong support from prominent figures in international and Swiss ice hockey. Guests at the charity dinner included IIHF President **Luc Tardif**, Swiss Ice Hockey Federation President **Urs Kessler**, SCL Tigers President **Peter Jakob**, and ice hockey legends Seger and Gerber.

On 22 May, Tardif visited the United Hockey Camp, attended the exhibition game, and participated in the charity dinner. He later had the opportunity to present the winning trophy to the players, celebrating the success of a week defined by learning, friendship, and international exchange.

The closing moments of the camp reflected the spirit of the entire initiative. In a surprise presentation, the participants gave Tardif a jersey signed by all players – a symbol of the friendships formed and the values shared throughout the week.

The gesture captured the essence of the United Hockey Camp: using ice hockey to bring people together, build understanding, and create connections that extend far beyond the rink.

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IIHF President Luc Tardif participated in the Diversity and Inclusion hub in Langnau, Switzerland, during the 2026 World Championship this past May.

TRIBUTE TO LUC TARDIF

Before the IIHF

Growing up in Quebec, Tardif was an outstanding player in his teens. He began his professional playing career in Belgium in 1975 and moved to France two years later to play for Chamonix. He stayed there for seven seasons, leading the league in scoring four times and helping the team win two national championships.

Tardif became a naturalized French citizen and continued to play until 1990, after several seasons as a player-coach with Rouen. After retiring as a player, Tardif continued to live in Rouen and worked in the construction business as a commercial engineer. In 1993, he started to coach minor ice hockey and later became president of the minor hockey association.

In 2000, Tardif started what would become the most important part of his ice-hockey life. He was hired by the French Ice Sports Federation as the head of the ice-hockey department. Tardif, however, saw the limitations that ice hockey had when operating under this umbrella organization which oversaw all skating sports in France.

Tardif worked tirelessly to establish an independent organization for ice hockey, which finally was established in 2006. He served as the president of the French Ice Hockey Federation (FFHG – Federation française de hockey sur glace) for 15 years, during which time he brought stability and greater popularity to the top French league, Ligue Magnus.

Tardif (right) and Eric Ropert hold the flag bearing the first FFHG logo in 2006 after creating an independent organization for ice hockey in France.



Elected President

Tardif's work with the IIHF started in 2008 when he joined the Competition Committee. Two years later, he was named to Council, and he was made IIHF Treasurer in 2012. Four years later, Tardif became Chairperson of the Finance Committee.

During this time, he was also the Chef de Mission for France at both the 2014 and 2018 Olympic Winter Games and served on the committee that created Paris's bid for the 2024 Summer Games.

These cumulative experiences made Tardif realize he could contribute more to international hockey, and in 2020 he decided to run for IIHF president when the elections were held a year later. In the interim, he contacted every federation, listening to their concerns rather than trying to convince them to vote for him. His efforts were rewarded.

Tardif was elected the new IIHF President at the Semi-Annual Congress in September 2021. He became the 14th IIHF President and the second from France after founding President Louis Magnus.

"I only have my determination, my crazy passion for this sport, my sense of teamwork, my respect for the people, and my honesty to offer," he said during his acceptance speech. "Believe me, I will do everything to be at the level of your expectation. I'm committed to open our beautiful sport, to promote it, to defend it, to prepare it for the future but above all to respect it with dignity. Alone we go faster, but together we go further."

Tardif celebrates being elected new IIHF president at Congress in September 2021.



Highlights of Presidency

Luc Tardif started his presidency in October 2021, and within two months the new IIHF ice-hockey season was a mess because of Covid. Tournaments had to be cancelled, but in each case Tardif vowed they would be completed if world health allowed them to be played safely. Indeed, throughout the summer of 2022, when rinks are normally dark, the ice has melted and staff and players are on vacation, IIHF events were, indeed, re-scheduled so the teams could compete.

The Olympic Winter Games were played in Beijing in February 2022, thanks to stringent protections to ensure the safety of everyone involved, but Tardif's greater ambitions lay in 2026 for Milan. He worked tirelessly with the NHL and NHLPA to ensure full NHL participation, a commitment which all parties agreed to extend to 2030 as well. These two events bridge the gap to 2034 when the Olympics returns to Salt Lake, where NHL participation can also surely be expected, thus paving the way for another generation of best-on-best.

As well, Tardif helped re-imagine the purpose of international breaks in the ice hockey calendar while also focusing on doping, competition manipulation, elimination of racism, and other ethical initiatives to help ice hockey develop worldwide.

And his endeavour to create more exciting events in the lower divisions started this past season as well. WM18-III-B featured six teams, but unlike the other events this one featured two groups of three teams and a playoff round, which proved popular for fans and players alike.

Tardif has also been an advocate of 3x3 ice hockey becoming an official medal sport at the Olympics, and he has spear-headed a movement to make this happen.

After more than half a century in ice hockey, as a player and administrator, Tardif leaves the game healthier for his contributions and his dedication to making the game better, on ice and off.

One of the joys of being IIHF president is presenting medals to the winning teams.



Stepping Down

As the 2025–26 season progressed, the international ice hockey world grew more and more interested in the upcoming Congress in October 2026. Would Luc Tardif run for president again? On March 29, 2026, he answered that question by releasing the following statement:

"After 25 years of service within the IIHF family – as a member, committee member, Council member, Treasurer, and now President – I am incredibly proud of what we have built together for the sport of ice hockey.

I am incredibly proud to have been a guardian of our sport, our events, our organization, and our values, safeguarding them during these critical and uncertain times. However, none of this would have been possible without your trust, your collaboration, and your unwavering support. For that, I truly thank you.

With the IIHF in a strong and stable position, I feel it is the right time to pass the puck to a younger leader. After much deliberation, I have made the decision not to seek re-election as IIHF President, as I believe that it is time for a new leader to take the reins and continue to move our sport forward. I am taking the opportunity to announce this today as I want to ensure that our organization and future leaders prepare themselves for the road ahead.

While I plan to spend more time with my family, ice hockey will always be a part of me and you can be assured that I will always continue to support our great sport, especially with the preparations to welcome you all to France in 2028 for the Men's World Championship and, of course, the French Alps in 2030 for the Olympic Winter Games."

Tardif closes the 2026 World Championship, his last as IIHF president.



Inducted into IIHF Hall of Fame

The IIHF's Historical Committee held a virtual Extraordinary meeting in April 2026 and voted unanimously to induct Luc Tardif into the IIHF Hall of Fame.

Tardif's work with the IIHF started in 2008 when he joined the Competition Committee. Two years later, he was named to Council, and he was made IIHF Treasurer in 2012. Four years later, he became Chairperson of the Finance Committee, and in 2021 he was elected IIHF president.

At the induction ceremony in May, Tardif was introduced by **Amelie Oudea-Castera**, the president of the French National Olympic Sports Committee and the former Minister of Sport for the 2024 Summer Olympics.

"This is my last World Championship as president, my last Hall of Fame ceremony, and I really want to share this honour with all of you," Tardif said during his acceptance speech. "I started off in France coaching my kids, and then the league needed a president of the minor ice hockey association. From there, I became president of ice hockey within the bigger organization of all ice sports in France, 15 disciplines in total. But I never understood why ice hockey couldn't have its own federation in France, so I became involved in the politics of the sport. In April 2006, we got approval to start our own federation."



Tardif gives his induction speech after being elected to the IIHF Hall of Fame.

Receiving the Olympic Order

Luc Tardif was awarded the Olympic Order by IOC President **Kirsty Coventry** in June 2026 during the 146th IOC Session in Lausanne, Switzerland.

The Olympic Order, the highest distinction of the Olympic Movement, was presented in recognition of Tardif's outstanding service and longstanding commitment to the development of ice hockey worldwide and his significant contribution to the Olympic Movement.

Tardif has played a leading role in advancing ice hockey on the international stage, strengthening the sport's global reach and ensuring its continued growth within the Olympic program. His dedication to promoting the Olympic values of excellence, friendship, and respect has helped inspire generations of athletes, officials, and fans around the world.

Under his leadership, the IIHF has continued to enhance the Olympic ice-hockey tournaments, one of the most prestigious and widely followed competitions of every Olympic Winter Games. Tardif has also been a strong advocate for international cooperation and athlete-centered decision-making, working to ensure that the Olympic Games remain the pinnacle of the sport.



Tardif was given the Olympic Order in June 2026 in Lausanne, Switzerland.

"Receiving the Olympic Order is a tremendous honour," Tardif said. "I accept this distinction on behalf of the entire ice hockey community – the players, coaches, officials, volunteers, and administrators who dedicate themselves every day to our sport. The Olympic Games represent the very best of what sport can achieve, bringing people together across cultures and borders. I am proud that ice hockey continues to play such an important role within the Olympic movement."

TOURNAMENT HIGHLIGHTS











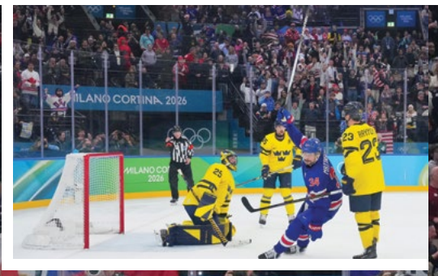
Men's Olympic finalists survive QF scare

The Canada-Czech quarter-final game in Milan was fraught with tension. Although Canada led 1–0 early, they later trailed 2–1 and, with less than eight minutes to go, 3–2. But Nick Suzuki got the tying goal with just 3:27 left in regulation and **Mitch Marner** scored a highlight-reel goal in OT to send Canada on to the semis.

Later that night, the Americans faced a similar hurdle against Sweden. They led 1-0 through most of the third period, but **Mika Zibanejad** tied for Tre Kronor at 18:29. **Quinn Hughes** scored the winner in OT en route to gold.

Mitch Marner (below) counted the QF winner for Canada while Quinn Hughes (inset) scored for USA in OT of the quarter-finals as well.





XXX Place for caption

Americans make double gold history

First the women, then the men. Both U.S. teams won gold. Both times against Canada. Both times in overtime. Both by a 2–1 score.

For the women, it was **Megan Keller**, who made a sensational deke on **Claire Thompson** and then an equally nice move on **Ann-Renee Desbiens** to score the golden goal.

Three days later, **Jack Hughes** took a great pass from **Zach Werenski** and ripped a one-timer past **Jordan Binnington** to give the men a 2–1 win over Canada, the first gold for the American men since 1980s Miracle on Ice.

USA's men's team celebrates their golden goal while Megan Keller (inset) scored a beauty to give the U.S. women Olympic gold as well.





The five Olympics club

Coming into Milan, only five women had played in five Olympics, but in Milan four more names were added to this exclusive club. Finns **Jenni Hiirikoski** and **Michelle Karvinen** joined compatriots **Emma Laaksonen** and **Karoliina Rantamaki** with their fifth, and **Marie-Philip Poulin** joined fellow Canadians **Hayley Wickenheiser** and **Jayna Hefford** as well. **Hilary Knight** became the first American to play in five in what she had said was her final Olympics.

Jenni Hiirikoski, Finland's sensational defender and captain, played in her fifth Olympics in Milan.





Switzerland's Alina Muller celebrates her bronze-medal-winning goal in overtime against Sweden in Milan.

Muller magic nets an Olympic bronze

Alina Muller was just 15 years old when she played her first tournament for Switzerland, the 2014 Olympics in Sochi. The Swiss made it to the bronze-medal game against Sweden but trailed 2–0 after two periods. Muller helped in the comeback, assisting on the tying goal and scoring the empty netter to seal the 4–2 win. Now, 12 years later, she was a 27-year-old veteran, and the Swiss were back playing for bronze in Milan, against Sweden again. This time, the 1–1 game went to overtime, and Muller provided the heroics by finishing a nice give-and-go with **Ivana Wey** for the win and a second bronze for the Swiss women.

Norway makes history at Canada's expense

Norway joined the IIHF in 1935 but had never come anywhere near a medal at the World Championship. They finished a distant fourth in 1951, and in more recent years their best result was a 6th-place finish in 2011. Yet here they were in Switzerland at the 2026 WM winning games with a consistency that belied their world ranking of 13. They advanced to the quarter-finals for only the third time, and a 2–0 win over Latvia put them in the semi-finals. The Swiss ended any dreams of a miracle gold, but the Norwegians faced Canada for bronze. They led 2–0 for the longest time, but to no one's surprise Canada staged a wild rally to tie the game and send it to overtime. But Norway prevailed on a **Noah Steen** goal, giving them their first ever medal in IIHF competition at the top level.

Noah Steen scored the winner for Norway in a bronze-medal upset over Canada at the 2026 World Championship.





Switzerland has been to the gold-medal game of the World Championship five times since 2013 and lost each one, including to Finland in 2026.

Finns win WM gold, and the Swiss finish second...again

Since making their first appearance in the gold-medal game in 2013, the Swiss have played for top prize five times. Only Canada (seven) and Finland (six) have played more in that time. But the Swiss have now lost all five finals, including 2026 when they went down to the Finns, 1–0, in overtime. The Swiss have now appeared in the last three gold-medal games and lost 2–0, 1–0, and 1–0, a goal-scoring drought that belies their tremendous tournaments. As for the Finns, they have been to the finals three of the last six years, all of those games going to OT. **Konsta Helenius** was the hero in 2026, scoring at 10:42 of the fourth period for Suomi.

Sweden wins junior double

The Swedes have historically been a top team at the senior level and a middling team at the U18 and U20 level. But in 2026, they did the reverse, finishing out of the medals at the Olympics and Worlds while winning gold at the U18 and World Juniors. This had happened only four times previous: Canada in 2008, the United States in 2010 and 2017, and Finland in 2016.





The Swedes won double-junior gold in 2026, claiming both the World Junior title (below) and U18 title (right).

Latvia produces best ever U18 result

The Latvian junior program had been building and moving towards some success, but it was a long time coming. They didn't play at the top until 2007, and they didn't make the playoffs until 2019. But they qualified for the quarter-finals every year from 2022–25, even though they lost each game, and in 2026 they finally broke through. They beat the U.S., 5–2, to advance to the semis, and although they lost that game and the game for bronze, their 4th-place finish was by far their best result at this level.



Latvia pulled off a massive upset at the Men's U18 quarter-finals, beating the U.S., 5-2.

Norway shocks Germany at WM18

The relegation game at the 2026 men's U18 was very simple. The winner stays up; the loser is demoted. This past year, Norway faced Germany in what turned out to be a white-knuckle showdown. The Norwegians led 2–0 early in the second, but Germany rallied to go ahead 3-2 with six minutes left in the third period. But the Germans took two penalties on the same play late in the game, and Norway pulled their goalie to create a 6-on-3. They tied the game at 18:45 and won it at 19:37. Both goals were scored by **Niklas Aaram Olsen**, the hero of the day.

Norway defeated Germany in the game for relegation at the Men's U18, Niklas Aaram Olsen scoring two late goals to secure the victory.



USA's perfect gold at WW18

It had never been done before. No team at the Women's U18 Worlds had ever gone through a tournament without having trailed in a game or been tied after 0–0, but in 2026, the Americans did just that. They won four of six games by shutout, and allowed one goal in each of the other two games. The toughest opponent was Canada in the gold-medal game, but that was a 2–0 win for the Americans. It was a special tournament for them, and they made IIHF history along the way.

The U.S. women's U18 team became the first to go through a tournament without trailing or being tied after 0-0. Perfect gold.





Spain beat the Netherlands on the final day of the WM-I-B to remain up another year. The Dutch were demoted to WM-II-A for 2027.

Barbo the hero for Spain

Division I-B of the Men's Worlds came down to the final day at the bottom of the standings. Both Spain and Netherlands had 0-4 records and had one simple goal – to win the final game against the other team to stay in the division. The loser would be demoted. But on the final day, Spanish goalie **Raul Barbo** was a brick wall. He stopped all 29 shots, and Spain got goals from four players to win, 4-0. The Dutch were demoted. This marked the third straight year under coach **Luciano Basile** that Spain stayed in I-B, an important accomplishment for the program

Thais produce big win at the end

Thailand had been demoted to WM-III-A for 2026 but had a tough time during the round robin, winning only one game before the final day. That left them vulnerable to Turkmenistan, who could have demoted the Thais with a win. It was a back-and-forth game that went to overtime and a shootout at 5-5. No team had more than a one-goal lead at any time. But in the shootout, the Thais won, 3-1, and sent Turkmenistan down for the first time since 2018.

Thailand survived a scare from Turkmenistan in a shootout and remained in WM-III-A.



Turks move up in WM play

Mexico needed to beat Turkey in regulation on the final day of the WM-III-A to earn promotion, but Turkey proved to be too strong. It was a 4-3 game for the Turks midway through, but Mexico couldn't produce a final push and lost, 6-3. As a result, they stayed in III-A while Turkey earned promotion to II-B, where they had played in 2023 and 2024.



Turkey (red) is returning to WM-II-B after earning promotion with a 6-3 win over Mexico.



Mishigsuren delivers crucial push

At the lower end of the WM-III-B standings were Mongolia and Philippines, both with 0-4 records heading to a final-day showdown. But on this day, **Chinzolboo Mishigsuren** came up with a stellar game, scoring three goals and assisting four others in a 13-4 romp. The win kept the Mongolians in III-B, where they had played the year before after promotion from Division IV, an impressive achievement under fourth-year coach **Mergen Arslan**.

Mongolia (white) remained in WM-III-B with a crucial 13-4 win over the Philippines in 2026.



Ukraine resolve beats France at U20

Division I-A of the U20 featured Ukraine and France on the final day. Ukraine had the edge in that they had three points in the standings to France's one. France needed to win in regulation to avoid relegation. They took a 2-0 lead in the first period, only to see Ukraine fight back to make it a 2-2 game in the second. As time wound down in the third, the French had no choice – they had to pull their goalie in a 2-2 game to try to win. The move didn't work as **Danylo Denysenko** scored the empty netter for the win and the Ukraine right to play in I-A again in 2027.

Ukraine's U20 team will play in WM20-I-A again in 2027 after a 3-2 win over France on the final day of play in 2026.



Bate books Africa in III-B again

South Africa and Iran both had 0-4 records on the final day of the WM20-III-B in 2026, but when the teams collided with relegation on the line, it was a mostly African game from the start. They jumped into a quick 2-0 lead and skated to an impressive 4-1 win, staying in III-B as they had since 2016. **Jacob Bate** scored two goals for the winners, the second on a penalty shot, no less. For the Iranians, their winless tournament was impressive all the same because this was their first time ever participating in this event.

Jacob Bate scored two goals to give South Africa (green) a 4-1 win over Iran on the final day of play in WM20-III-B, keeping them at that level for 2027.



Oschgan leads Austria up

Austria and Lithuania played for promotion on the last day of the men's U18, I-B. Austria had just been demoted, so they were the better team on paper, but Lithuania, under Canadian coach **Mario Durocher**, had finished second in I-B the last two years. Alas for Durocher's boys, they finished runner-up one more time as Austrian captain **Jonathan Oschgan** took charge when it mattered most. He had two goals and an assist in a 4-1 win, and Austria was back in I-A for 2027.

Austria defeated Lithuania in WM18-I-B action to earn promotion to I-A for 2027.



Jaratkorn stuns Iceland

The Thais had played in the U18 level only three times, all in III-B. Iceland, however, had been demoted from III-A the year before, and they had been at that level for five years. Yet on this day, the Thais pulled off a major upset, winning 4-3 in overtime thanks to a golden goal from captain **Chayaphon Jaratkorn**. It was his third goal of the game and eighth of the tournament.

The Thais earned promotion in WM18-III-B with a final day, 4-3 overtime win over favoured Iceland in 2026.



Big third spurs Korea

Kazakhstan had 12 points and Korea 11 as teams took to the ice with promotion on the line in WW18-II-A at the Zeytinburnu Ice Rink in Istanbul. A goalless first gave way to a Kazakh opening goal from **Sofiya Zubkova**, but the Koreans came out in the third and tied the game in the early going. Midway through, they exploded for three goals in 73 seconds, and that more or less decided the game. The final was 5-1, and Korea was headed up to I-B, where they had played the year previous.

Korea earned promotion to WW18-I-B by beating Kazakhstan 5-1 to finish first in the WW18-II-A standings in 2026.



Poland's women back to Division I

Slovenia had a slight chance to earn promotion to I-B in the Women's Worlds, but they had to beat Poland on the final day to do so. Poland, however, had just been demoted after nearly a decade in I-B and were the stronger team from start to finish. Shots favoured them, 69-5, and they skated to a 2-0 win. **Nadia Ratajczyk** earned the easy shutout and longtime captain **Karolina Posniewska** was back in I-B. She led the tournament with eight goals and 13 points in four games.

Poland (right) took a decade to return to WW-I-B but in 2026 they finally did it by defeating Slovenia on the last day of WW-II-A in 2026.










EDMONTON

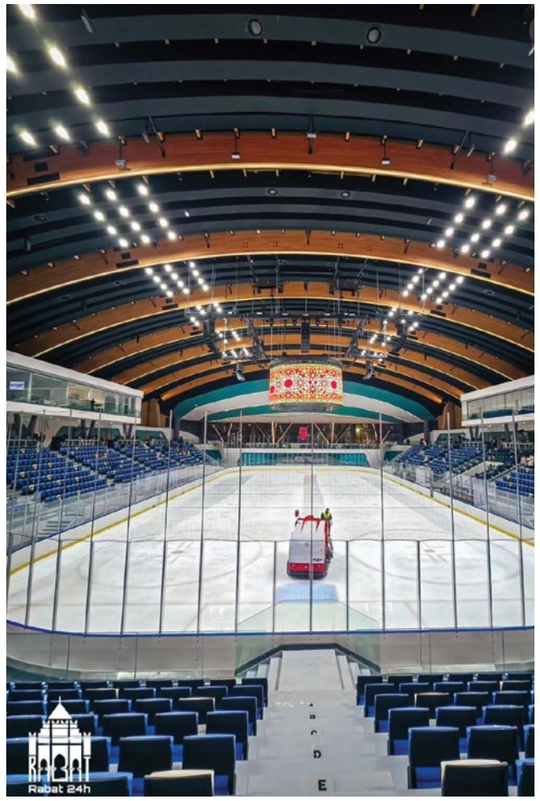

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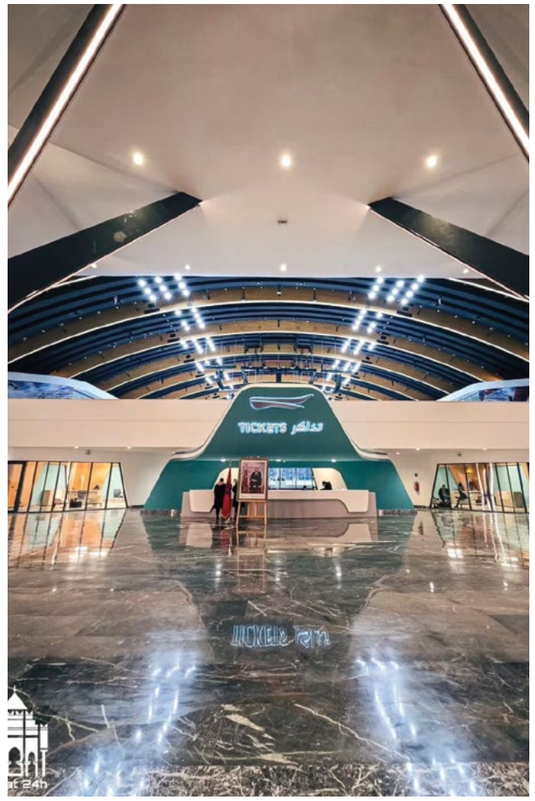
Morocco's New Arena

A new era began in Morocco on 24 January 2026 when its first indoor ice hockey arena opened in Rabat, by the sea. The Olympic-size venue accommodates about 2,500 spectators and is a spectacular facility that will help drive interest in the game throughout the country. It is the most modern arena in continental Africa.

The team's first game was an exhibition game against Portugal (see next page, bottom two rows). Prior to the game, a ceremony on ice featured (l-r) assistant captain **Charles Hichem Balha**, **Salim Harchi**, captain **Youssef Kabbaj**, **Adil El Farj**, **Jeremy Serfaty**, and **Idriss Bouhmouch** (next page, middle row, right).



















Tardif Visits Shenzhen

Luc Tardif visited Shenzhen and Hong Kong, China in May for the 2026 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship Division I-B and met with representatives of the Chinese Ice Hockey Association and the Hong Kong, China Ice Hockey Association.

The visit focused on reviewing the progress of ongoing development initiatives, strengthening cooperation with MNAs, and exploring future opportunities in, among other things, event hosting.

At the same time, several IIHF Development Programs for coaching and officiating were held in cooperation with the Chinese Ice Hockey Association. The tournament was further used to implement and enhance its On-Ice and Off-Ice Official License Program, while also advancing its Learn to Play Program.

"Over the last three years, the IIHF has worked with the Chinese Ice Hockey Association to implement several development projects and activities," said Tardif. "It is now time to further consolidate the programs and events already established and take the next steps to continue growing ice hockey. China is interested in establishing several new initiatives in the coming season, including our Youth Ice Hockey Director Program. We are very much looking forward to seeing what the future holds."

In neighbouring Hong Kong, China, the Hong Kong, China Ice Hockey Association hosted a record three IIHF World Championships during the 2025–26 season.

"The service level the Organizing Committee provided to the teams and the IIHF, along with the promotional activities and fan engagement, was exceptional," Tardif noted. "They set the bar high and were trendsetting in many areas. Ice hockey in Hong Kong, China has improved significantly, and everyone is eager to take the next step and continue to progress."

Tardif (second left) visited the WM-I-B in Hong Kong, China, during the 2025-26 season.



Coaching Symposium

More than 200 coaches from 25 countries participated in the 2026 IIHF International Coaching Symposium in Zurich on 22–23 May 2026. It was organized by the IIHF in cooperation with the Swiss Ice Hockey Federation as an off-ice highlight of the 2026 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship.

Former Swiss national team players including **Damien Brunner**, **Martin Gerber**, **Daniela Diaz**, and **Evelina Raselli** were just a few of the noteworthy registrants.

IIHF President **Luc Tardif** opened Friday's session by noting that he also spent years as a coach. He emphasized that it is vital for up-and-coming ice hockey nations to invest in coaching and development to spur their progress.

"For me, there is a huge future in development all over the world," said Tardif. "Ice hockey is more international than ever. If we all together do our job, I think ice hockey can become one of the most important international sports."

At the symposium, British-Canadian sports scientist **Steve Norris** – a longtime associate of the Canadian women's national team – warned against early over-specialization in one sport and pointed out that children also grow physically at different rates. Based on a survey, Norris noted that young athletes have simple but achievable needs: "Just let me play; encourage me more; let me express myself during games; teach me more in practice; avoid yelling; and, provide drinks and snacks."

Swiss sports psychologist **Tim Hartmann** offered useful insights in his presentation entitled "How Do We Motivate People to Learn?" The need to use body language, guide with questions, give praise, break down objectives, build commitment, and reflect on purpose were among the key takeaways for coaches.

Jackie Crum, a longtime assistant coach who has won six NCAA national titles with the Wisconsin Badgers women's team, spoke about "Empowering Your Coaching Staff." She underlined the importance of every staff member having a defined role, maintaining healthy communication, and keeping everyone aware that each person is more than a coach. "You need compassion, grace, and an understanding of when roles need to shift," Crum said.

Former NHLer and current HC Davos head coach **Josh Holden** delved into the topic of "From Player to Coach: Leadership Perspectives." The symposium also included presentations by veteran bench boss **Marco Bayer** ("Step by Step: From Swiss Youth Coach to National League Coach"), broadcaster **Ailish Forfar** and certified psychotherapist **Jessica Renney** ("The Athlete's Perspective on Mental Health and Safe Sport"), pediatric heart surgeon **Dr. Rene Pretre** ("Every Beat Matters: Preparation, Communication, and Self-Management"), and Columbus Blue Jackets assistant coach **Scott Ford** ("Developing Defence: Transferring Skill Development to the Game").

More than 200 coaches took part in the Coaching Symposium, held during the World Championship in Zurich.



Blended Refs Hold Training Camp

In October 2025, under the auspices of the IIHF's Officiating Manager **Danny Kurmann**, referees and linesmen from the international ice hockey world and NHL met in preparation for the blended officiating that was part of the Milan Olympics.

One of those men was **Jake Davis**, an American linesman who had worked IIHF tournaments for the last decade, most recently the 2025 World Championship (including the bronze-medal game) and the 2025 World Juniors (gold-medal game).

"It was a blend of IIHF officials and NHL officials," he explained. "It was a three-day camp, and the priority was to get to know both sides. A lot of us haven't met each other, so just to make those connections, get to know them, their routines, how they work, is really important. The goal is that we are all together as one unit when it comes to the Olympics."

Blended officiating is nothing new, but it isn't recent either. The last time officials from both sides of the Atlantic worked together was at the 2014 Olympics. Many new faces have come up through the system since then, so a camp only made sense.

"We also had some classroom sessions, to go through videos, know what the standards will be in February because the NHL and IIHF have slightly different standards, but we're close. We just want to be sure we're unified," Davis added.

The IIHF and NHL rule books have become closer in language and nuance in the last few years, but there are still differences that need to be addressed and understood. "When it comes to restraining fouls, stick fouls, things like that, it's pretty much the same," Davis continued. "The videos we watched were on things like, what constitutes a minor versus a major penalty, what is a boarding versus a major or no penalty. The discussion was mostly about the physical fouls, and making sure we're aligned. The tournament is so short, so every game is important. And we discussed if we are going to give a player a game misconduct, that's a lot of the tournament, so we want the coaches and players to know the standard."



The 2026 Olympics was another historic moment for the men's on-ice officials, who came from both the NHL and IIHF pool of talent.

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Ultimate Hockey 3x3 Launches

In late 2025, ProOxy AG and the IIHF launched the "Ultimate Hockey – Breaking the Ice Tour," a global event bringing the new 3x3 ice hockey format to prominent urban locations for the first time.

The international kick-off was scheduled for the first quarter of 2026. The venues will be set in the heart of major cities, known for their vibrant urban culture and their growing sports communities.

Ultimate Hockey is a complementary, modern style of ice hockey: faster, younger, and more intense, without replacing the traditional sport. It is played 3-on-3, on a smaller surface, with two, 12-minute periods of playing time. The game is defined by maximum pace, no stoppages, quick decisions, and constant action – ideal for today's viewing habits and modern fan expectations.

As part of its development program, the IIHF has been a driving force behind the global growth of 3x3 ice hockey. The Federation first introduced the format together with the IOC at the 2020 Winter Youth Olympic Games (YOG) in Lausanne followed by the 2024 edition in Gangwon. Both events showcased the popularity and potential of the discipline, receiving outstanding feedback from athletes and coaches alike.

Building on this success, the IIHF incorporated 3x3 ice hockey development into the "Expand" cluster of its ICE26 strategic plan, underlining its commitment to nurturing innovative ice hockey formats and making the sport more accessible worldwide.

The Ultimate Hockey – Breaking the Ice Tour delivers an exceptional on-site experience while presenting Ultimate Hockey globally through a new generation of TV and media production. An innovative camera setup featuring spider cams, in-goal cams, tower cams, and a "pipeline cam" offers dynamic perspectives and captures the intensity of the 3x3 game with precision.

The Breaking the Ice Series merges sport and entertainment into a new "sportainment" experience: ice hockey in the middle of the city, in the middle of everyday life – open to new audiences, young fans, families, and urban communities. Each event site transforms into an energetic festival: live concerts, DJ sets, street-food markets, light installations, interactive experience zones, and contemporary urban entertainment.

The Ultimate Hockey League hopes to expand the popularity of 3x3 ice hockey and get it into the Olympics in the near future.



Ingvar Jonsson Hangs 'em Up

During the day, **Ingvar Thor Jonsson** is a mild-mannered mathematics and physics teacher in his mid-40s in Akureyri, Iceland. In his free time, he transforms into a colossus on defense. He has represented Iceland's men's national team in 23 World Championships.

But now the Icelandic saga has reached its final chapter. Following a brief comeback for Skautafelag Akureyrar at the 2026 IIHF Continental Cup First Round Group A in Vilnius, Lithuania, Jonsson is bowing out from IIHF-organized events at the age of 45.

Jonsson debuted for Iceland as an 18-year-old at the World Championship D-pool in Krugersdorp, South Africa, in April 1999. A quarter century later, he captained Iceland at the IIHF 2024 World Championship Division II Group A in Belgrade, Serbia, at the age of 43.

"Everything about Icelandic ice hockey has improved. When I played in my first meń s World Championship, we didn't even have an indoor rink in Akureyri," said Jonsson. "But with only three indoor rinks, it's hard for us to improve Icelandic ice hockey and be consistent at an international level. Playing with the same teammates and against the same two or three teams over and over again also doesn't give us the same competitive edge as a 6- to 10-team league would."

Currently sitting in 34th place in the IIHF World Ranking, Iceland's best overall performance came with Jonsson as captain during the 2014 IIHF World Championship Division II Group A in Belgrade, Serbia. Losing just once, Iceland claimed silver behind an outstanding Estonian team. Jonsson capped a memorable week by being selected the tournament's top defender.

As the curtain now falls on a long and distinguished international career, what has been Jonsson's secret to such longevity?

"The short answer is that I've genuinely loved playing in these tournaments and feeling like a professional athlete for a couple of weeks. I've also been lucky to stay healthy, at least around tournament time. My playing style probably helps, too, as I rely more on decision-making and positioning than on skill or power," he said.



Iceland's Ingvar Jonsson has skated in 23 World Championships at various levels for his country.

German Bronze 50 Years Ago

The 1976 Olympics came down to the final day. There were two thrilling parts to the possible medal winners. The gold medal came down to a game between the Soviets and Czechs. The Soviets won that game, 4–3, to take gold, and Czechoslovakia took silver. That was the final game of the Games.

But earlier in the day, there were two games that decided bronze, and things got complicated quickly. Simply put, the United States had the upper hand. They had four points in the standings. Finland and West Germany each had two. The Finns beat Poland, 7–1, and West Germany played the Americans.

"Before our final game against the U.S., our coach said we need to win the game by four goals, and if we do, we win the bronze," explained **Franz Reindl,** a 21-year-old on the team and now a longtime IIHF Council member. "That was our goal, and everyone was so excited. We knew we could do this."

Germany opened the scoring midway through the second period and made it 2–0 early in the third. But the Americans answered right back. 2–1. **Alois Schloder** made it 3–1 at 7:59, and **Ernst Kopf** made it 4–1 at 14:49.

"Late in the game, the score was 4–1," Reindl narrated. "We needed one more goal. Now, two minutes to go. The older players were saying to the coach in harsh words, get the goalie out! But he refused. The players got really mad. In the dressing room after, some players cried, and some were really mad at the coach."

But what no one fully understood was the math. Miro Subrt, a Czech Council member at the time, had created a complex tie-breaking formula for three or more teams. You make a mini-standings of the results between the tied teams, and then calculate goal RATIO. Today, it is goal differential, which is much easier to calculate.

So here's what happened. West Germany, Finland, and the United States all ended up with four points. Within the mini-standings, all teams had won a game and lost a game. Goals differential favoured Finland at 9–8. The Germans were 7–6, and the U.S. 6–8. So clearly the Americans were out of the running. But Finland's ratio was .529 and West Germany's was .538.

"Miro came in to the dressing room," Reindl explained, "and took out a piece of paper. He started writing out the numbers, and he looked up and said, you've won bronze. I can still hear his voice: Germany has bronze.' It was incredible."

That was 50 years ago. Many of the players celebrated on that exact date, February 14, 2026, at an event organized by Alois Schloder, one of Reindl's teammates at the Innsbruck Olympics. Germany won a bronze in 1932 and a silver in 2018, and these remain the only three Olympic medals for the country. But the one in '76 was special, both for Reindl and the country.

The year 2026 marks the 50th anniversary of Germany's historic bronze medal at the 1976 Olympics in Innsbruck.





IIHF Year in Review 2025–26

Jack Manson Celebrates 100th Birthday

Jack Manson, a goalie who helped Canada win gold at the 1950 IIHF World Championship in London, England, celebrated his 100th birthday in Edmonton on 17 March 2026 becoming only the second known centenarian in IIHF history.

Risto Tiitola, a Finn who played one game at the 1939 World Championship, passed away in 2015 several months after celebrating his 100th birthday.

Manson shared the goaltending duties some 76 years ago in London with **Wilbur Delaney**, and together they led Canada to a perfect 7–0 record. Manson was in goal for four of those wins, allowing just five goals, including the final game, a 3–1 win over Tre Kronor on 22 March 1950. In that finale, **Doug MacAuley** scored in the first period and **Hassie Young** and **Leo Lucchini** in the second to give Canada a 3–0 lead. **Holger Nurmela** scored for Sweden midway through the third, but they could get no closer. Canada had a 32–12 edge in shots and brought home the gold.

Born in Edmonton on 17 March 1926, Manson put his life and career on hold at the tender age of 17, when he enlisted in the RCAF. He trained as a pilot but soon after re-mustered to air gunner and reached the rank of sergeant. He was too young to be sent overseas and was discharged in 1945, but he maintained connections to the RCAF for many years after.

Manson first rose to prominence in the ice-hockey world during the 1947–48 season when he led the Edmonton Flyers to victory in the Allan Cup finals. A celebratory parade down **Jasper Ave**. in Edmonton drew some 60,000 fans, which at that time amounted to half the city's population. To this day, this Flyers team is the only Edmonton representative to win the Allan Cup.

Two years later, Manson was on the Edmonton Mercurys team that represented Canada at the World Championship. He was the only player on both of these champion teams. The Mercs travelled to Europe well before the start of the Worlds in March to tour and promote Canadian ice hockey. In all, the team played 33 games in Scotland, Belgium, Sweden, Holland, Switzerland, Italy, and England. They won 30 of those games, Manson and Delaney more or less splitting the goaltending duties.

"The crossing took seven days, and we were a bit nervous," Manson explained from Kipnes Centre for Veterans in Edmonton, his current home, "because we knew we were expected to win gold. It was a wonderful win, but a relief as well."

"The story I remember hearing about as a child," Janet, the second-oldest of Jack's six children recalled, "was dad telling us that if they were well ahead in an exhibition game, he would do a little figure-skating show for the crowd between periods, in full ice hockey gear, goalie pads and all! He had never taken figure-skating lessons, but he was a real joker and a bit of a showman. He told us that he would get a great response from the fans!"



Goalie Jack Manson, who helped Canada win gold at he 1950 World Championship, celebrated his 100th birthday on 17 March 2026, only the second centenarian in IIHF history.

Number of competing nations

	OG-M	WM	WM20	WM18	MEN TOTAL
1920	7				7
1924	8				8
1928	11				11
1930		12			12
1931		10			10
1932	4				4
1933		12			12
1934		12			12
1935		15			15
1936	15				15
1937		11			11
1938		14			14
1939		14			14
1947		8			8
1948	9				9
1949		10			10
1950		9			9
1951		13			13
1952	15				15
1953		9			9
1954		18			18
1955		14			14
1956	13				13
1957		8			8
1958		8			8
1959		15			15
1960	9				9
1961		20			20
1962		14			14
1963		21			21
1964	16				16
1965		15			15
1966		19			19
1967		21			21
1968	14				14
1969		20			20
1970		21			21
1971		22			22
1972	11	20			31
1973		22			22
1974		22			22
1975		21			21
1976	12	21			33
1976-77	12	21	8		41
1977-78		24	8		32
1978-79		24	16		40
1979-80		26	16		42
1980-81	12	24	16		52
1981-82		24	16		40
1982-83		24	20		44
1983-84	11		24		35
1984-85		24	22		46
1985-86		26	22		48
1986-87		28	22		50
1987-88	12		24		36
1988-89		29	21		50
1989-90		28	23		51
1990-91		25	24		49
1991-92	12	32	25		69
1992-93		32	24		56
1993-94	12	35	24		71
1994-95		39	33		72
1995-96		36	32		68
1996-97		36	34		70
1997-98	14	40	34		88
1998-99		40	35	18	93
1999-2000		42	35	18	95
2000-01-		40	37	36	113
2001-02-	14	43	34	35	126
2002-03-		43	39	42	124
2003-04-		45	40	41	126
2004-05-		45	40	43	128
2005-06-	12	45	40	40	137
2006-07-		45	40	42	127
2007-08-		45	41	44	130
2008-09-		45	34	43	122
2009-10-	12	48	38	44	142
2010-11-		45	41	42	128
2011-12-		46	39	40	125
2012-13-		50	40	43	133
2013-14-	12	46	40	43	141
2014-15-		46	39	43	128
2015-16-		47	41	43	131
2016-17-		48	42	43	133
2017-18-	12	50	42	43	147
2018-19-		52	42	44	138
2019-20-		54	42	46	142
2020-21-		16	10	10	36
2021-22-	12	49	42	41	144
2022-23-		55	42	44	141
2023-24-		56	43	44	143
2024-25-		58	44	46	148
2025-26	12	46	46	46	150
	OG-M	WM	WM20	WM18	MEN TOTAL



There were a record 237 nations that competed in IIHF events during the 2025–26 season.

OG-W	WW	WW18	WOMEN TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL
	8		8	59
				49
	8		8	77
				56
	8		8	79
				72
				68
	8		8	78
6			6	94
	21		21	114
	24		24	119
	26		26	139
8			8	134
	26		26	150
	27		27	153
	30		30	158
8			8	145
	33		33	160
	33	8	41	171
	21	13	34	156
8		14	22	164
	35	14	49	177
	32	20	52	177
	35	20	55	188
8	28	19	55	196
	38	20	58	186
	36	22	58	189
	37	24	61	194
8	29	25	62	209
	37	27	64	202
	12	28	40	182
	10	0	10	46
10	38	28	76	220
	41	31	72	213
	45	32	77	220
	45	36	81	229
10	45	32	87	237
OG-W	WW	WW18	WOMEN TOTAL	GRAND TOTAL

Summary of participation

Australia			WM20-II-B	WM18-II-B		WW-II-A	WW18-I-B
Austria		WM	WM20-I-A	WM18-I-B			WW18-I-B
Belgium			WM20-III-A	WM18-II-B		WW-II-B	WW18-II-B
Bosnia		WM-III-A	WM20-III-A	WM18-III-B		WW-III-B	
Bulgaria		WM-II-B	WM20-III-A	WM18-III-A		WW18-III-A	
Canada	OG-M	WM	WM20	WM18	OG-W		WW18
China		WM-I-B	WM20-II-A	WM18-II-A		WW-I-A	WW18-I-B
Croatia			WM20-II-A	WM18-II-A		WW-III-A	
Czechia	OG-M	WM	WM20	WM18	OG-W		WW18
Denmark	OG-M	WM	WM20	WM18			WW18-I-A
DPR Korea		WM-III-B					
Estonia		WM-I-B	WM20-I-B	WM18-I-B		WW-III-B	
Finland	OG-M	WM	WM20	WM18	OG-W		WW18
France	OG-M	WM-I-A	WM20-I-A	WM18-I-B	OG-W	WW-I-A	WW18-I-A
Germany	OG-M	WM	WM20	WM18	OG-W	WW18-I-A	
Great Britain		WM	WM20-II-A	WM18-II-A		WW-I-B	WW18-I-B
Hong Kong		WM-III-B	WM20-III-B	WM18-III-A		WW-II-B	
Hungary		WM	WM20-I-B	WM18-I-A		WW-I-A	WW18
Iceland		WM-II-B	WM20-II-B	WM18-III-B		WW-II-A	WW18-II-B
Iran			WM20-III-B				
Israel		WM-II-B	WM20-II-B	WM18-III-A		WW-III-B	
Italy	OG-M	WM	WM20-I-B	WM18-I-B	OG-W	WW-I-A	WW18-I-A
Japan		WM-I-A	WM20-I-B	WM18-II-A	OG-W	WW18-I-A	
Kazakhstan		WM-I-A	WM20-I-A	WM18-I-A		WW-I-B	WW18-II-A
Korea		WM-I-B	WM20-II-A	WM18-I-B		WW-I-B	WW18-II-A
Kyrgyzstan		WM-II-B	WM20-III-B				
Latvia	OG-M	WM	WM20	WM18		WW-I-B	WW18-II-A
Lithuania		WM-I-A	WM20-I-B	WM18-I-B		WW-II-B	
Luxembourg		WM-III-B	WM20-III-B	WM18-III-B			
Mexico		WM-III-A	WM20-III-B	WM18-II-B		WW-II-B	WW18-II-B
Mongolia		WM-III-B					
Netherlands		WM-I-B	WM20-II-B	WM18-II-B		WW-I-B	WW18-II-A
New Zealand		WM-II-B	WM20-II-B	WM18-III-A		WW-II-B	WW18-II-A
Norway		WM	WM20-I-A	WM18		WW-I-A	WW18-I-A
Philippines		WM-III-B				WW-III-B	
Poland		WM-I-A	WM20-I-B	WM18-I-A		WW-II-A	WW18-I-B
Romania		WM-I-B	WM20-II-A	WM18-II-A		WW-III-A	WW18-II-B
Serbia			WM20-II-B	WM18-II-B		WW-III-A	
Singapore						WW-III-B	
Slovakia	OG-M	WM	WM20	WM18		WW-I-A	WW18
Slovenia		WM	WM20-I-A	WM18-I-A		WW-II-A	
South Africa		WM-III-A	WM20-III-B	WW18-III-B		WW18-III-B	WW18-II-B
Spain		WM-I-B	WM20-II-A	WM18-II-A		WW-I-B	WW18-I-B
Sweden	OG-M	WM	WM20	WM18	OG-W	WW18	
Switzerland	OG-M	WM	WM20	WM18-I-A	OG-W	WW18	
Chinese Taipei		WM-II-B	WM20-III-A	WM18-II-B		WW-II-A	WW18-II-B
Thailand		WM-III-A	WM20-III-A	WM18-III-B			
Turkey		WM-III-A	WM20-III-A	WM18-III-A		WW-III-A	WW18-II-A
Turkmenistan		WM-III-A	WM18-III-B				
Ukraine		WM-I-A	WM20-I-A	WM18-I-A			
United States	OG-M	WM	WM20	WM18	OG-W	WW18	
Uzbekistan		WM-III-B		WM18-III-A			

Promoted/Demoted

	Promoted for 2027	Demoted for 2027
WM	---	Italy, Great Britain
WM-I-A	Kazakhstan	Japan
WM-I-B	Estonia	Netherlands
WM-II-A	cancelled	
WM-II-B	Israel	Chinese Taipei
WM-III-A	Turkey	Turkmenistan
WM-III-B	Uzbekistan	Philippines
WM-IV	cancelled	
WM20	---	Denmark
WM20-I-A	Norway	France
WM20-I-B	Hungary	Italy
WM20-II-A	Korea	Spain
WM20-II-B	Netherlands	Israel
WM20-III-A	Chinese Taipei	Bosnia & Herzegovina
WM20-III-B	Kyrgyzstan	Iran

Kazakhstan won WM-I-A and will play at the top level of the Men's World Championship in 2027.

	Promoted for 2027	Demoted for 2027
WM18	---	Germany
WM18-I-A	Switzerland	Poland
WM18-I-B	Austria	Korea
WM18-II-A	Japan	Spain
WM18-II-B	Netherlands	Chinese Taipei
WM18-III-A	Uzbekistan	New Zealand
WM18-III-B	Thailand	Luxembourg
WW-I-B	Netherlands	Spain
WW-II-A	Poland	Israel
WW-II-B	Hong Kong, China	Belgium
WW-III-A	Romania	Bulgaria
WW-III-B	Estonia	Singapore
WW18	---	Finland
WW18-I-A	Germany	Italy
WW18-I-B	China	Australia
WW18-II-A	Korea	New Zealand
WW18-II-B	Romania	South Africa
WW18-III	cancelled	



On-ice Officials

#	Surname	First name	R/L	NAT	Event
	ABDYKALYKOV	Yntymak	L	KGZ	WM20-III-B
	AIR	Nicholas	L	AUS	WM-III-B
	AL ALI	Fatima	L	UAE	WW-III-A
	ALAMERI	Helan	L	UAE	WM18-III-B
68	ALBINATI	Nicholas	L	CAN	WM20
	ALKAN	Ceren	L	TUR	WW18-II-A
96	ALLAN	Scott	L	USA	WM20
	ALPYSPAYEV	Nurlan	L	KAZ	WM18-I-B
	ANDERSEN	Frederik	L	DEN	WM18-II-B
	ANDERSON	Francis	R	GBR	WM18-II-B
	ANKERSEN	Rasmus	R	DEN	WM20-I-A
98	ANKERSTJERNE	Albert	L	DEN	WM20
	ANSELL	Krysta	R	USA	WW18-I-B
	ANSELM	Vanessa	R	GER	WW18-I-A
62	ANTTILA	Helina	L	FIN	WW18
	ARNOLD	Eathan	L	GBR	WM20-II-B
	AXMAN	Michal	L	CZE	WM20-I-A
	AYGUN	Murat	R	TUR	WM20-III-B
18	BACA	Michal	R	POL	WM-I-A
	BACHELUT	Fabrizio	L	SUI	WM18-I-A
	BAHL	Michaela	R	USA	WW-I-A
16	BARCELO	Geoffrey	R	FRA	WM-I-A
	BARLOW	Grace	R	CAN	WW-I-A
	BEDARD	Maxime	L	CAN	WM18-I-A
	BEECROFT	Brandy	R	CAN	WW-I-A
	BEELEN	Lodewijk	L	NED	WM20-III-A
	BENN	Elin	R	SWE	WW-III-B
	BEREHOVENKO	Artem	L	UKR	WM18-II-B
	BERES	Alannah	L	CAN	WW-I-A
65	BERESFORD	Danny	L	GBR	WM
44	BEREZOWSKI	Jennifer	R	CAN	WW18
50	BILLING	Christian	L	SWE	WM-I-B
54	BIRKHOFF	Brian	L	CAN	WM
25	BJORK	Tobias	R	SWE	WM

#	Surname	First name	R/L	NAT	Event
13	BLOYER	Nolan	R	USA	WM
	BOLTON	Janice	L	USA	WW-I-A
28	BORGA	Cedric	R	SUI	WM
33	BORGA	Cedric	R	SUI	WM20
	BORSOS	Barna	L	ROU	WM20-II-A
	BORYAYEV	Anton	R	KAZ	WM-III-A
	BOURDON	Gaelle	L	FRA	WW-II-A
	BOWSHALL	Bethany	L	AUS	WW-II-A
	BOYADJIEV	Martin	L	BUL	WM-II-B
29	BRANDER	Riku	R	FIN	WM
	BRONDI	Paolo	L	ITA	WM18-I-B
	BROZ	Dominik	L	CZE	WM18-II-A
62	BRUEGGEMANN	Vincent	L	GER	WM18
	BRUNN	Melissa	L	CAN	WW18-I-B
	BRYNILDSEN	Torjus	R	NOR	WM20-II-B
	BUBLIKOVA	Eliska	L	CZE	WW18-I-A
56	BUCKNER	Sarah	L	USA	WM20-I-B
14	BURZMINSKI	Taylor	R	CAN	WM
11	BUSS	Uldis	R	LAT	WM-I-A
	BUTT	Caroline	R	GER	WW-I-B
	BUTTON	Richard	R	NZL	WM-III-A
	CALERO SCANLAN	Alba Louise	L	ESP	WW18-II-B
	CALLOVINI	Anna	L	ITA	WW-II-A
	CAMANE	Sintija	R	LAT	WW-II-B
	CAMRA	Lubos	R	CZE	WM-II-B
52	CATTANEO	Eric	L	SUI	WM-I-A
	CHAE	Jungoh	L	KOR	WM20-II-B
	CHAN	Ka Hei	L	HKG	WM-III-B
59	CHARTRAND	Jessica	L	CAN	WW18
	CHAVEZ	Maria	R	MEX	WW-III-A
	CHERMASHENTSEV	Tymur	R	UKR	WM18-II-B
38	CHEVROUX	Alexia	L	FRA	WW18
52	CHI	Hongda	L	CHN	WM-I-B
	CHUA	Jien Yang	L	MAS	WM18-III-B

#	Surname	First name	R/L	NAT	Event
	CLASSON	Ottilia	L	SWE	WW-I-A
	CONFIDENTI	Ines	L	SLO	WW-II-A
	COUTURE	Marie-Eve	R	CAN	WW18-I-A
	CREGUT	Nicolas	R	FRA	WM18-I-A
18	CRMAN	Filip	R	SVK	WM18
10	CZECH	Wojciech	R	POL	WM-I-B
	da RECH	Mara	L	ITA	WW-III-A
	DAIROVA	Elvira	L	KAZ	WW-III-A
	DALE	Mariko	R	SUI	WW18-I-A
56	DALSGAARD	Emil	L	DEN	WM-I-B
63	DAVIDONIS	Renars	L	LAT	WM
	DAVIS	Winifred	L	NZL	WW-II-B
	de la POMPA CARRERA	Claudia	R	ESP	WW18-II-A
	de PARIS	Nicola	L	SUI	WM18-II-A
	DEBUCHE	Cyril	R	FRA	WM20-I-A
	DEHN	Christopher	L	NOR	WM20-I-A
	DELAVENNA	Erin	L	FRA	WW-III-A
	DIKOV	Konstantin	L	BUL	WM20-III-A
	DINANT	Marine	R	BEL	WW18-I-A
	DJOKIC	Aleksandar	L	SRB	WM18-II-B
	DOCKERY	Thomas	L	USA	WM20-II-A
	DOW	John	L	AUS	WM18-II-A
	DRUSEIKS	Emils	R	LAT	WM20-I-A
	DUCHESNEAU	Joanie	L	CAN	WW18-I-A
68	DURMIS	Oto	L	SVK	WM
	EGGER	Daniela	L	ITA	WW-II-B
	ELFORD	David	R	CAN	WM20-II-A
	ELIASSON	Ingolfur	L	ISL	WM20-III-B
53	ENGLISCH	Kenneth	L	GER	WM18
	ERMAKOV	Sergey	L	UZB	WM20-III-B
	ERNST	Leonie	L	GER	WW-I-A
	ESPINO	Aleix	L	ESP	WM18-II-B
	ESTIRADO REVUELTA	Luis	L	ESP	WM-II-B
	FAUVEL	Johan	L	FRA	WM-II-B
18	FENG	Lei	R	CHN	WM-I-B
	FERLAND	Maxime	L	CAN	WM18-I-B
	FILIP	Cristian	R	ROU	WM20-III-B
73	FISCHER	Lara	L	GER	WW18
	FJELDSTAD	Anette	L	NOR	WW-I-B
57	FLEISCHMANN	Lukas	L	ITA	WM-I-B
	FOLKSTRAND	Kristoffer	R	SWE	WM20-II-A
12	FORBES	Adam	R	CAN	WM-I-B
	FORTIN	Beatrice	R	CAN	WW-I-B
57	FRALEY	Ryan	L	GBR	WM18
	FRITSCHI	Michael	R	SUI	WM18-I-B
	FROHAUG	Maren	L	NOR	WW18-I-A
	FU	Dahe	L	CHN	WM18-III-A
	FU	Zhennan	L	CHN	WW-III-B
	FUGLSANG	Andreas	L	DEN	WM-III-A
76	GAGNON	Stephanie	L	CAN	WW18
	GAL	David	R	USA	WM18-III-A
	GATOL	Maximilian	L	AUT	WM-III-A
22	GEBEI	Gergely	R	HUN	WM18
53	GEGAN	Tomas	L	SVK	WM-I-B
13	GERBER	Roland	R	SUI	WM-I-B
51	GERNE	Michal	L	POL	WM-I-B
	GHEORGHIES	Andries	L	ROU	WM20-II-A
59	GIBBS	Mitchell	L	CAN	WM
	GIESEN	Tom	L	GER	WM18-II-A
	GIRARD	Audrey-Anne	R	CAN	WW-II-A
	GLOUDEMANS	Willem	L	NED	WM-III-A
63	GLOVER	Kathryn	L	USA	WW18
	GOMEZ	Emilio	L	MEX	WM18-II-B
	GONZALEZ	Lucero	L	MEX	WW-III-B
	GOOIJER	Fabienne	R	NED	WW18-II-B
79	GORCOFF	Bryan	L	USA	WM20
	GOTTLIBET	Zora	L	HUN	WW-I-B
19	GOUR	Jesse	R	CAN	WM
89	GREENEN	Erika	L	USA	WW18
	GROZAJ	Tomislav	L	CRO	WM-III-B
	GROZNIK	Bostjan	R	SLO	WM-II-B
14	GRUHL	Logan	R	USA	WM-I-A
	GUNNARSSON	Oli	L	ISL	WM20-II-B
	GUNNARSSON	Sindri	R	ISL	WM20-III-A
62	GUSTAFSON	Shane	L	USA	WM
63	GUTAUSKAS	Laura	L	CAN	WM20-I-B
	GVOZDEVA	Baiba	R	LAT	WW-III-B
	HAACK	Tijana	R	GER	WW-I-A
	HACAPERKA	Tomas	R	CZE	WM18-I-B
16	HAJKOVA	Kristyna	L	CZE	WM20-I-B
15	HAMMAR	Anna	R	SWE	WW18
	HANNING	Philip	L	SWE	WM18-I-A

#	Surname	First name	R/L	NAT	Event
	HANSON	Kaylen	R	USA	WW-I-B
14	HARNEBRING	Andreas	R	SWE	WM-I-B
28	HARRIS	Sydney	R	USA	WW18
	HASCALL	Tyler	R	USA	WM20-I-A
	HASHIMOTO	Go	R	JPN	WM18-I-B
	HASHIMOTO	Masa	R	JPN	WM18-III-A
	HAUHIA	Mari	L	FIN	WW-III-A
66	HAUTAMAKI	Onni	L	FIN	WM
	HEFFNER	Tim	R	GER	WM18-II-A
14	HEIDEMANN	Samuel	R	USA	WM18
93	HEINEN	Matthew	L	USA	WM20
	HELMSTROM	Julia	L	SWE	WW18-I-B
14	HENRIKSSON	Ida	R	SWE	WM20-I-B
	HENRIKSSON	William	L	SWE	WM18-I-B
12	HILLER	Samantha	R	USA	WM20-I-B
10	HINTERDOBLER	Killian	R	GER	WM-I-A
	HJALMARSDOTTIR	Elva	R	ISL	WW-III-B
64	HNAT	Stanislav	L	CZE	WM18
26	HOLM	Christoffer	R	SWE	WM
	HOLZER	Bernadett	R	HUN	WW-III-A
	HOWIE	Clare	R	CAN	WW18-II-A
20	HRONSKY	Tomas	R	SVK	WM
	HUANG	Qiwei Benjamin	L	SGP	WM-III-B
14	HUBER	Andreas	R	AUT	WM20
	HUNG	Chi-Lun	L	TPE	WM-III-B
	HURLEY	Charlotte	R	USA	WW18-I-A
24	HYVARINEN	Toni	R	FIN	WM18
	ILIC	Dana	L	SRB	WW-III-B
15	INGALLS	Chad	R	CAN	WM18
	IORI	Chiara	R	ITA	WW18-II-A
	ISKAKOV	Timur	L	KAZ	WM20-II-B
	JAKSYS	Benas	R	LTU	WM20-III-B
15	JAROS	Jan	R	CZE	WM-I-B
63	JEDLICKA	Peter	L	SVK	WM18
21	JOBBAGY	Martin	R	SVK	WM20
	JOHANSSON	Mikael	R	SWE	WM-III-A
98	JOHNSTON	Ashley	L	USA	WW18
	JONAKOVA	Magdalena	L	SVK	WW18-II-B
61	JONSSON	Gustav	L	SWE	WM
58	JUERGENS	Kai	L	GER	WM-I-A
	JUHASZ	Luca	L	HUN	WW18-II-A
	JURE	Eloise	R	FRA	WW-I-B
	JUSI	Niko	L	FIN	WM20-I-A
	KACZMAREK	Bartosz	R	POL	WM18-I-A
17	KARKLINA	Agnese	R	LAT	WW18
30	KAUKOKARI	Mikko	R	FIN	WM
	KEIJZERS	Amy	L	NED	WW-II-B
	KETONEN	Kaisa	R	FIN	WW18-I-A
	KEY	Ellen	L	GBR	WW-III-A
	KILINC	Alkan	L	TUR	WM20-III-A
	KINNINMENT	Sarah	R	AUS	WW18-II-A
	KISIL	Ilia	L	GBR	WM18-I-A
	KLEMM	Anja	L	AUT	WW18-I-A
17	KLIJBERG	Jeroen	R	NED	WM18
	KNOCHE	Chazz	R	USA	WM18-I-A
	KNOESEN	Nicklas	R	DEN	WM18-II-A
59	KNOX	Spencer	L	CAN	WM18
	KOCUR	Michal	R	SVK	WM18-III-B
18	KOHLMUELLER	Lukas	R	GER	WM
53	KONC	Daniel	L	SVK	WM-I-A
	KONC	Juraj	R	SVK	WM20-II-A
	KOSTERS	Britt	L	NED	WW18-I-B
	KOT	Piotr	L	POL	WM18-I-A
	KOVACS	Peter	L	HUN	WM18-II-A
	KRAUT	Breana	L	USA	WW-I-A
	KUBOTA	Rinka	L	JPN	WW-II-B
	KULLER	Sabina	R	SWE	WW18-I-A
18	KURODA	Anna	R	JPN	WW18
50	LAGUZOV	Patrick	L	GER	WM
	LAKSOLA	David	R	SWE	WM18-I-B
58	LaPOINTE	Anthony	L	CAN	WM20
	LEBEN	Jan	R	SLO	WM20-II-B
	LEET	Kaire	L	EST	WW-III-B
	LEHNHART	Manuela	L	AUT	WW-III-A
	LEVITES	Ariel	L	ISL	WM20-III-A
55	LIM	Junseo	L	KOR	WM-I-A
	LINDBLOM	Daniel	L	FIN	WM18-I-B
6	LINDNER	John	R	USA	WM20
	LIU	Jiabo	R	CHN	WM18-III-A
	LIU	Lu	R	CHN	WW-I-B
	LOH	Chee Seng Michael	L	SGP	WM-III-B
	LOVENSNO	Veronica	R	SWE	WW-I-A

#	Surname	First name	R/L	NAT	Event
	LUENAM	Wachara	L	THA	WM18-III-B
12	LUNDSGAARD	Niclas	R	DEN	WM-I-A
23	LUSI	Reetta-Kaisa	R	FIN	WW18
11	MacFARLANE	Sean	R	USA	WM
24	MAGNUSSON	Richard	R	SWE	WM20
	MAIFELD	Anhelina	L	UKR	WW-I-B
56	MAKINEN	Teo	L	FIN	WM18
67	MAKINEN	Luka	L	FIN	WM20
	MALA	Gabriela	R	CZE	WW18-I-B
	MALECKIENE	Ramune	R	LTU	WW-III-A
31	MARTIN	Amy	R	CAN	WW18
	MATOUSKOVA	Sabina	R	CZE	WW18-I-B
	MATSUO	Kumiko	L	JPN	WW-II-A
	MAURER	Domenica	L	SUI	WW18-I-B
10	McKENNA	Michelle	R	CAN	WM20-I-B
	MEDISONE	Sindija	L	LAT	WW18-II-A
29	MEJZLIK	Tomas	R	CZE	WM20
	MENCIS	Toms	L	LAT	WM18-I-B
56	MERK	Markus	L	GER	WM-I-A
	MIKKONEN	Eleonoora	L	FIN	WW-II-A
	MIZUHORI	Mai	R	JPN	WW-III-A
	MLADENOVIC	Uros	L	SRB	WM18-III-B
	MOLEKOVA	Eva Maria	L	SVK	WW-I-B
	MONARD	Jamie	L	SUI	WW-I-A
	MONNAIE	Frederic	L	BEL	WM-III-A
	MOSCHEN	Andrea	R	ITA	WM20-II-B
	MOTTINGER	Hunter	R	USA	WM18-I-B
	MOTZKO	Shannon	R	USA	WW-I-A
	MRKVA	Haris	L	BIH	WM20-III-B
	MUGGLI	Gian	L	SUI	WM20-II-B
	MUNROE	Felicity	L	GBR	WW-II-B
	MURNIK	Petja	L	SLO	WM18-II-B
13	MURRAY	Cianna	R	CAN	WM20-I-B
15	MURRAY	Troy	R	CAN	WM20
	MUSOVIC	Eldar	L	BIH	WM18-III-B
	NAGYOVA	Natalia	L	SVK	WW18-II-A
	NAKAYAMA	Miyuki	R	JPN	WW-I-B
19	NEARY	Shauna	R	CAN	WM20-I-B
	NEENAN	Hollie	R	GBR	WW-I-A
	NELSON	Odin	L	USA	WM18-I-A
16	NEVA	Henri	R	FIN	WM-I-B

#	Surname	First name	R/L	NAT	Event
	NIIRANEN	Valtteri	L	FIN	WM18-II-A
70	NIITTYLA	Tommi	L	FIN	WM
	NIKOLIC	Matija	L	SRB	WM20-II-B
11	NURMI	Anniina	R	FIN	WM20-I-B
	NYGAARD	Andreas	R	DEN	WM-II-B
	NYHEIM KVAM	Silje	L	NOR	WW18-II-A
64	NYQVIST	Anders	L	SWE	WM
	OBERG	Hanna	R	SWE	WW18-II-B
	ODINS	Vladislavs	L	LAT	WM20-III-A
15	OFNER	Christian	R	AUT	WM
	OKSANEN	Johanna	R	FIN	WW-II-A
12	ONDRACEK	Jiri	R	CZE	WM
55	ONDRACEK	Jiri	L	CZE	WM
	ORLANDINI	Anneke Katharina	R	ITA	WW-I-A
23	OSTERBERG	Alexander	R	SWE	WM20
	OSTROUKH	Oleh	L	UKR	WM18-I-A
	OVSTEDAL	Oskar	R	NOR	WM20-I-A
13	PALKOVI	Zsombor	R	HUN	WM-I-A
	PARK	Jung Yoon	L	KOR	WW-II-B
	PAULHEIM	Adrienn	L	HUN	WW-II-A
	PAVLACKOVA	Natalie	L	CZE	WW18-II-B
	PEKER	Gokhan	L	TUR	WM18-III-A
72	PEKKALA	Joni	L	FIN	WM20
	PEREZ	Oscar	R	MEX	WM20-III-A
	PETER	Csilla	R	HUN	WW-II-A
20	PILNY	Ludek	R	CZE	WM18
	POLASEK	Kresimir	L	CRO	WM-II-B
	POTTER	Hayden	L	NZL	WM18-III-A
	POZAR	Stefan	R	SRB	WM18-II-B
	PUFF	Wolfgang	L	AUT	WM20-I-A
	PUNGER	Mark	R	EST	WM18-I-B
56	PYE	Luke	L	CAN	WM20
	RADU	Gabriel	R	ROU	WM18-II-A
	RADUE	Guillaume	L	RSA	WM18-III-A
60	RAMPIR	Lukas	L	CZE	WM
	RANKI	Aino	L	FIN	WW-I-B
	RASALAHTI	Eetu	R	FIN	WM18-I-A
	RAVA	Voldemars	L	LAT	WM20-I-A
	REINOLD	Jonas	L	GER	WM20-II-A
	REPSTOCK-ROMME	Cassandra	L	DEN	WW18-I-A
57	REY	John	L	USA	WM

#	Surname	First name	R/L	NAT	Event
58	RIGONI	Daniel	L	ITA	WM18
	RIMBALOVA	Zuzana	R	SVK	WW-II-B
	ROCHE	Erin	R	GBR	WW18-II-B
	ROSHCHYN	Alexey	R	ESP	WM20-III-A
64	SAARIMAKI	Tiina	L	FIN	WM20-I-B
	SAKOVIC	Marko	L	CRO	WM20-III-A
	SALZMANN	Jennifer	L	SUI	WW18-II-B
	SASCENKOV	Aleksej	L	LTU	WM18-III-B
	SATO	Niina	L	JPN	WW18-I-B
60	SCHAFER	Quinn	L	USA	WM18
	SCHAUER	Jakob	R	AUT	WM20-II-A
56	SCHLEGEL	Dominik	L	SUI	WM
8	SCHMIDLEIN	Laura	R	USA	WW18
27	SCHRADER	Andre	R	GER	WM
72	SCHUEPBACH	Anina	L	SUI	WW18
	SEREBRIAKOV	Oleg	R	UKR	WM20-II-A
	SERIN	Gonca	R	TUR	WW18-II-B

#	Surname	First name	R/L	NAT	Event
	SEWELL	Joe	R	GBR	WM20-I-A
	SHEN	Yen-Chin	R	TPE	WM-III-B
	SHODA	Motoaki	L	JPN	WM18-III-A
	SIMON	Thomas	L	FRA	WM18-I-B
	SKENE	Tyler	R	CAN	WM18-I-A
61	SMETKOVA	Kamila	L	CZE	WW18
	SNOJ	Tadej	R	SLO	WM18-II-B
	SONG	Meina	R	CHN	WW-II-B
	SOOS	Daniel	R	HUN	WM18-I-B
61	SORHOLM	Teodor	L	SWE	WM18
58	SOSTUMOEN	Njaal	L	NOR	WM
	SPARER	Daniel	L	AUT	WM-II-B
9	STACHOWIAK	Rocco	R	USA	WM20
58	STAIGER	Reica	R	SUI	WW18
92	STALDER	Michael	L	SUI	WM20
	STANTON	Jessica	L	RSA	WW-III-B
	STANZEL	Matus	L	SVK	WM-III-A

More than 400 officials from 50 nations were assigned IIHF tournaments during the 2025-26 season.



#	Surname	First name	R/L	NAT	Event
	STEPANEK	Frantisek	L	CZE	WM20-II-A
	STEPANKEVICIUS	Laurynas	R	LTU	WM18-III-B
	STERKENS	Ramon	R	NED	WM20-III-A
12	STERNAT	Christoph	R	AUT	WM18
23	STEWART	Tyson	R	CAN	WM18
16	STROEBEL	Phillip	R	SUI	WM18
88	STROMBERG	Rasmus	L	SWE	WM20
	STRUBE	Julia	L	GER	WW18-II-A
	STUCKI	Fabienne Lea	R	SUI	WW18-I-B
	SUCHANEK	Natalia	L	POL	WW-I-A
	SUHHOV	Nikolai	L	EST	WM18-II-B
	SUSKI	Bartosz	R	POL	WM18-II-B
18	SVOBODOVA	Zuzana	R	CZE	WM20-I-B
	SZPYT-JUCHA	Monika	L	POL	WW-II-B
	SZTWIERTNIA	Eryk	L	POL	WM20-II-A
	TAGHINEZHAD	Safoora	L	IRI	WW18-II-B
	TERAKADO	Goro	R	JPN	WM18-III-B
	THIEBAULT	Leevan	R	FRA	WM20-II-B
	THOMSON	Sophie	L	CAN	WW-I-A
	THORSTEINSDOTTIR	Gudlaug	L	ISL	WW18-II-B
61	THUMA	David	L	CZE	WM20
	TICHY	Jozef	L	SVK	WM20-II-B
	TIONGSON	Kevin Anacta	L	PHI	WM20-III-B
16	TOBIAS	Adam	R	USA	WM20
50	TODD	Justine	L	CAN	WM20-I-B
	TRANKALIS	Elvijs	R	LAT	WM-III-A
	TROBAJO	Carlos	R	ESP	WM-III-B
	TRUSWELL	Oliver	R	GBR	WM20-II-A
	TSANG	Yin Kwan Serena	L	SGP	WW-III-B
24	TSCHERRIG	Michael	R	SUI	WM
	TVRDON	Miroslav	L	SVK	WM-III-B
	TZIRTZIGANIS	Tim	R	BEL	WM18-III-A
	UBOLLUCK	Aomsin	R	THA	WM-III-B
51	UGOLINI	Quentin	L	FRA	WM-I-A
55	URFER	Aurelien	L	SUI	WM18
	van den ACKER	Maarten	L	BEL	WM-II-B
	van GRINSVEN	Chris	R	BEL	WM18-III-B
	van GRINSVEN	Nicolaas	R	NED	WM-III-B
	van RIJZEWIJK	Brian	L	NED	WM18-II-A
	van ROOYEN	Jason	L	RSA	WM-III-A
48	VERBEEK	Hayden	R	CAN	WM20
	VINCAITYTE	Greta	L	LTU	WW-III-B
	VLACIL	Jan	R	BUL	WM20-III-B
7	VOLKANOVA	Martina	R	CZE	WW18
	VONT	Andre	L	EST	WM20-III-B
	VYSSIOS	Andreas	L	NOR	WM20-II-A
	WACIK	Hanna-Sophie	L	AUT	WW18-II-B
	WALKER	Brennan	L	CAN	WM20-I-A
	WANG	Hui	L	CHN	WW18-I-B
22	WANNERSTEDT	Marcus	R	NOR	WM
25	WEDIN	Johan	R	SWE	WM18
	WEEGH	Harriet	R	GER	WW-I-B
4	WELSH	Kirsten	L	CAN	WM20-I-B
	WESTLUND	Wilma	L	SWE	WW18-I-A
	WILHELMSEN	Niklas	L	NOR	WM20-III-A
50	WILLIE	Tyler	L	USA	WM18
	WILLINER	Karin	R	SUI	WW-II-B
	WOELZMUELLER	Marius	R	GER	WM18-I-A
	WONG	Chun Hang	L	HKG	WM18-III-A
	WOOD-SCHATZ	Jesse	R	CAN	WM18-II-A
10	WUORENHEIMO	Janne	R	FIN	WM20
	XU	Hehao	L	CHN	WM-II-B
	YANG	Chang-Hsing	L	TPE	WM20-III-B
	YANG	Chang-Lin	L	TPE	WM18-III-A
	YOUNG	Hamish	L	AUS	WM-III-A
	ZABORSKA	Katarzyna	L	POL	WW18-I-B
60	ZACH	Erin	L	CAN	WM20-I-B
54	ZAK	Michal	L	POL	WM-I-A
21	ZAK	Marek	R	SVK	WM18
54	ZGONC	Gasper Jaka	L	SLO	WM-I-B
	ZHANG	Wenxi	L	CHN	WW-I-B
	ZIOLA	Amanda	L	USA	WW-I-B
	ZOTOV	Vladislav	R	KAZ	WM-II-B
	ZUNDE	Davis	R	LAT	WM20-II-A

Attendance

Event	GP	ATT
OG-M	30	288,124
OG-W	28	158,040
TOTAL	58	446,164
WM	64	466,314
WM-I-A	15	15,001
WM-I-B	15	10,509
WM-II-A	15	cancelled
WM-II-B	15	1,664
WM-III-A	5	2,660
WM-III-B	15	3,457
WM-IV	---	cancelled
TOTAL	169	499,605
WW-I-A	15	8,210
WW-I-B	15	2,234
WW-II-A	10	1,596
WW-II-B	15	3,593
WW-III-A	15	1,309
WW-III-B	10	5,041
TOTAL	80	21,983

Event	GP	ATT
WM20	29	184,708
WM20-I-A	15	2,810
WM20-I-B	15	8,212
WM20-II-A	15	8,601
WM20-II-B	15	4,455
WM20-III-A	15	2,358
WM20-III-B	15	10,698
TOTAL	119	221,842
WM18	29	70,377
WM18-I-A	15	3,448
WM18-I-B	15	7,158
WM18-II-A	15	5,524
WM18-II-B	15	4,191
WM18-III-A	15	4,650
WM18-III-B	15	1,570
TOTAL	119	96,918
WW18	21	26,710
WW18-I-A	15	3,706
WW18-I-B	15	2,732
WW18-II-A	15	11,463
WW18-II-B	15	1,950
WW18-III	---	cancelled
TOTAL	81	46,561

More than 1.3 million fans attended IIHF events during the 2025–26 season.



GRAND TOTALS

34 TOURNAMENTS

626 GAMES

1,333,073 FANS

IIHF Year in Review 2025–26

Olympic Winter Games – Men



2026 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES
MILAN, ITALY
11–22 FEBRUARY 2026

GROUP A	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
CAN	3	3	0	0	0	20	3	9
SUI	3	1	1	0	1	9	8	5
CZE	3	1	0	1	1	9	12	4
FRA	3	0	0	0	3	5	20	0

GROUP B	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
SVK	3	2	0	0	1	10	8	6
FIN	3	2	0	0	1	16	5	6
SWE	3	2	0	0	1	11	9	6
ITA	3	0	0	0	3	4	19	0

GROUP C	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
USA	3	3	0	0	0	16	5	9
GER	3	1	0	0	2	7	10	3
DEN	3	1	0	0	2	8	11	3
LAT	3	1	0	0	2	7	12	3

QUALIFICATION PLAYOFF
GER 5–FRA 1
SUI 3–ITA 0
CZE 3–DEN 2
SWE 5–LAT 1

QUARTER-FINALS
SVK 6–GER 2
CAN 4–CZE 3 (OT)
FIN 3–SUI 2 (OT)
USA 2–SWE 1 (OT)

SEMI-FINALS
CAN 3–FIN 2
USA 6–SVK 2

BRONZE MEDAL GAME
FIN 6–SVK 1

GOLD MEDAL GAME
USA 2–CAN 1 (OT)



Finland (left) claimed Olympic bronze while Latvia (inset) was eliminated by Sweden in the Qualification Playoff.

IIHF Year in Review 2025–26

Olympic Winter Games – Women

2026 OLYMPIC WINTER GAMES
MILAN, ITALY
5–19 FEBRUARY 2026

GROUP A	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
USA	4	4	0	0	0	20	1	12
CAN	4	3	0	0	1	14	6	9
CZE	4	1	0	1	2	7	14	4
FIN	4	1	0	0	3	3	13	3
SUI	4	0	1	0	3	5	15	2

GROUP B	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
SWE	4	4	0	0	0	18	2	12
GER	4	2	1	0	1	10	8	8
ITA	4	2	0	0	2	9	11	6
JPN	4	1	0	0	3	7	14	3
FRA	4	0	0	1	3	4	13	1

QUARTER-FINALS
SWE 2–CZE 0
USA 6–ITA 0
CAN 5–GER 1
SUI 1–FIN 0

SEMI-FINALS
USA 5–SWE 0
CAN 2–SUI 1

BRONZE MEDAL GAME
SUI 2–SWE 1 (OT)

GOLD MEDAL GAME
USA 2–CAN 1 (OT)





The Italian women (right) had an impressive Olympics while France (above, blue) failed to qualify for the playoffs.

World Championship – Men



2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
ZURICH & FRIBOURG, SWITZERLAND
15–31 MAY 2026

GROUP A	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
SUI	7	7	0	0	0	39	7	21
FIN	7	6	0	0	1	31	11	18
LAT	7	4	0	0	3	24	17	12
USA	7	3	1	0	3	25	21	11
GER	7	3	0	1	3	23	22	10
AUT	7	3	0	0	4	17	29	9
HUN	7	1	0	0	6	14	38	3
GBR	7	0	0	0	7	7	35	0

QUARTER-FINALS
FIN 4-CZE 1
CAN 4-USA 0
SUI 3-SWE 1
NOR 2-LAT 0

SEMI-FINALS
SUI 6-NOR 0
FIN 4-CAN 2

BRONZE MEDAL GAME
NOR 3-CAN 2 (OT)

GOLD MEDAL GAME
FIN 1-SUI 0 (OT)

Hungary (white) and Austria both managed to stay in the top level of the Men's World Championship for 2027.

GROUP B	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
CAN	7	6	1	0	0	33	13	20
NOR	7	4	1	1	1	25	14	15
CZE	7	4	0	1	2	19	17	13
SWE	7	4	0	0	3	27	16	12
SVK	7	3	1	0	3	21	19	11
DEN	7	1	1	1	4	15	26	6
SLO	7	1	1	1	4	13	25	6
ITA	7	0	0	1	6	5	28	1

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP I-A
SOSNOWIEC, POLAND
2–8 MAY 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
KAZ	5	3	2	0	0	20	8	13
UKR	5	3	0	1	1	14	12	10
FRA	5	1	2	1	1	12	11	8
POL	5	2	0	2	1	12	12	8
LTU	5	0	1	2	2	7	12	4
JPN	5	0	1	0	4	9	19	2

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP I-B
SHENZHEN, CHINA
29 APRIL–5 MAY 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
EST	5	4	0	1	0	27	10	13
CHN	5	2	2	0	1	21	16	10
ROU	5	3	0	1	1	19	9	10
KOR	5	3	0	0	2	20	17	9
ESP	5	1	0	0	4	11	25	3
NED	5	0	0	0	5	5	26	0

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP II-A
AL AIN, UAE
CANCELLED

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP II-B
SOFIA, BULGARIA
6–12 APRIL 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
ISR	5	3	2	0	0	26	14	13
NZL	5	3	0	1	1	29	20	10
ISL	5	3	0	0	2	21	18	9
BUL	5	2	0	0	3	15	21	6
KGZ	5	1	0	1	3	16	23	4
TPE	5	1	0	0	4	17	28	3

China hosted WM-I-B and finished second in the tournament behind Estonia.

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP III-A
CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA
13–19 APRIL 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
TUR	5	5	0	0	0	28	10	15
MEX	5	2	1	1	1	26	20	9
BIH	5	2	1	0	2	17	14	8
RSA	5	2	0	1	2	17	26	7
THA	5	1	1	0	3	18	29	5
TKM	5	0	0	1	4	19	26	1

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP III-B
HONG KONG, CHINA
13–19 APRIL 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
UZB	5	5	0	0	0	97	11	15
PRK	5	4	0	0	1	28	32	12
HKG	5	3	0	0	2	35	20	9
LUX	5	2	0	0	3	13	33	6
MGL	5	1	0	0	4	27	56	3
PHI	5	0	0	0	5	15	63	0

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP IV
KUWAIT CITY, KUWAIT
CANCELLED



World Championship – Women

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONPSHIP I-A
BUDAPEST, HUNGARY
12–18 APRIL 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
FRA	5	3	1	1	0	20	8	12
HUN	5	3	1	0	1	14	7	11
ITA	5	3	0	1	1	19	11	10
SVK	5	3	0	0	2	19	10	9
NOR	5	1	0	0	4	8	15	3
CHN	5	0	0	0	5	1	30	0

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP II-A
BLED, SLOVENIA
13–18 APRIL 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
POL	4	4	0	0	0	23	2	12
SLO	4	2	0	0	2	14	12	6
TPE	4	0	2	0	2	10	22	4
AUS	4	1	0	1	2	8	13	4
ISL	4	1	0	1	2	9	15	4

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP III-A
ZAGREB, CROATIA
23 FEBRUARY–1 MARCH 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
ROU	5	3	1	0	1	18	9	11
THA	5	3	0	1	1	15	13	10
TUR	5	3	0	0	2	14	15	9
CRO	5	2	1	0	2	16	11	8
SRB	5	0	1	2	2	13	18	4
BUL	5	0	1	1	3	10	20	3

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP III-B
KOHTLA-JARVE, ESTONIA
28 FEBRUARY–6 MARCH 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
EST	5	5	0	0	0	37	3	15
BIH	5	4	0	0	1	25	12	12
RSA	5	2	0	0	3	11	14	6
ISR	5	2	0	0	3	19	12	6
PHI	5	2	0	0	3	15	19	6
SGP	5	0	0	0	5	2	49	0

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP I-B
PUIGCERDA, SPAIN
12–18 APRIL 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
NED	5	4	0	1	0	18	4	13
GBR	5	2	2	1	0	13	9	11
KAZ	5	2	0	1	2	10	14	7
KOR	5	2	0	1	2	16	17	7
LAT	5	0	2	0	3	16	21	4
ESP	5	1	0	0	4	8	16	3

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP II-B
HONG KONG, CHINA
30 MARCH–5 APRIL 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
HKG	5	5	0	0	0	19	7	15
LTU	5	3	1	0	1	15	11	11
UKR	5	3	0	1	1	20	11	10
NZL	5	2	0	0	3	15	18	6
MEX	5	1	0	0	4	14	18	3
BEL	5	0	0	0	5	10	28	0



Spain (white) made its debut in WW-I-B and hosted the tournament as well, but the Netherlands (blue) finished tops in the standings and earned promotion.



Turkey (red) beat Romania 4-3 in WW-III-A action.

World Junior Championship

2026 IIHF WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP
ST. PAUL & MINNEAPOLIS, UNITED STATES
26 DECEMBER 2025–5 JANUARY 2026

GROUP A	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
SWE	4	4	0	0	0	21	8	12
USA	4	3	0	0	1	17	15	9
SUI	4	2	0	0	2	10	8	6
SVK	4	1	0	0	3	13	13	3
GER	4	0	0	0	4	5	22	0

GROUP B	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
CAN	4	3	1	0	0	25	11	11
CZE	4	2	1	0	1	18	12	8
FIN	4	2	0	1	1	19	11	7
LAT	4	1	0	1	2	9	17	4
DEN	4	0	0	0	4	8	28	0

QUARTER-FINALS
SWE 6-LAT 3
CZE 6-SUI 2
FIN 4-USA 3 (OT)
CAN 7-SVK 1

SEMI-FINALS
SWE 4-FIN 3 (PSS)
CZE 6-CAN 4

BRONZE MEDAL GAME
CAN 6-FIN 3

GOLD MEDAL GAME
SWE 4-CZE 2



Great Britain (blue) faced Romania in WM20-II-A in 2026, Britain prevailing, 2-1.

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY U20 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP I-A
BLED, SLOVENIA
7–13 DECEMBER 2025

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
NOR	5	4	1	0	0	37	11	14
KAZ	5	2	1	1	1	27	26	9
AUT	5	3	0	0	2	25	18	9
SLO	5	1	1	1	2	17	26	6
UKR	5	1	1	1	2	12	19	6
FRA	5	0	0	1	4	16	34	1

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY U20 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP I-B
MILAN, ITALY
8–14 DECEMBER 2025

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
HUN	5	3	1	0	1	18	9	11
EST	5	2	1	1	1	18	14	9
LTU	5	3	0	0	2	10	11	9
POL	5	2	0	2	1	13	13	8
JPN	5	1	1	0	3	12	16	5
ITA	5	1	0	0	4	11	19	3

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY U20 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP II-A
BUCHAREST, ROMANIA
4–10 JANUARY 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
KOR	5	5	0	0	0	33	6	15
GBR	5	3	1	0	1	15	13	11
CRO	5	2	1	0	2	18	27	8
ROU	5	1	1	1	2	16	19	6
CHN	5	1	0	2	2	15	18	5
ESP	5	0	0	0	5	11	25	0

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY U20 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP II-B
BELGRADE, SERBIA
18–24 JANUARY 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
NED	5	5	0	0	0	40	3	15
AUS	5	3	0	0	2	29	21	9
ISR	5	2	1	0	2	20	18	8
SRB	5	2	0	1	2	14	19	7
NZL	5	1	0	0	4	11	44	3
ISL	5	1	0	0	4	15	24	3

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY U20 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP III-A
SOFIA, BULGARIA
19–25 JANUARY 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
TPE	5	4	1	0	0	42	14	14
BUL	5	3	1	0	1	29	13	11
BEL	5	2	0	3	0	27	16	9
TUR	5	2	1	0	2	34	15	8
THA	5	1	0	0	4	11	35	3
BIH	5	0	0	0	5	6	56	0

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY U20 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP III-B
BISHKEK, KYRGYZSTAN
18–24 JANUARY 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
KGZ	5	5	0	0	0	38	10	15
HKG	5	4	0	0	1	31	11	12
MEX	5	3	0	0	2	18	15	9
LUX	5	2	0	0	3	21	15	6
RSA	5	1	0	0	4	9	25	3
IRI	5	0	0	0	5	6	47	0

Men's U18 World Championship

2026 IIHF U18 MEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
TRENCIN & BRATISLAVA, SLOVAKIA
22 APRIL–2 MAY 2026

GROUP A	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
SVK	4	3	0	1	0	17	9	10
CAN	4	3	0	0	1	22	2	9
FIN	4	2	1	0	1	13	12	8
LAT	4	1	0	0	3	10	14	3
NOR	4	0	0	0	4	3	28	0

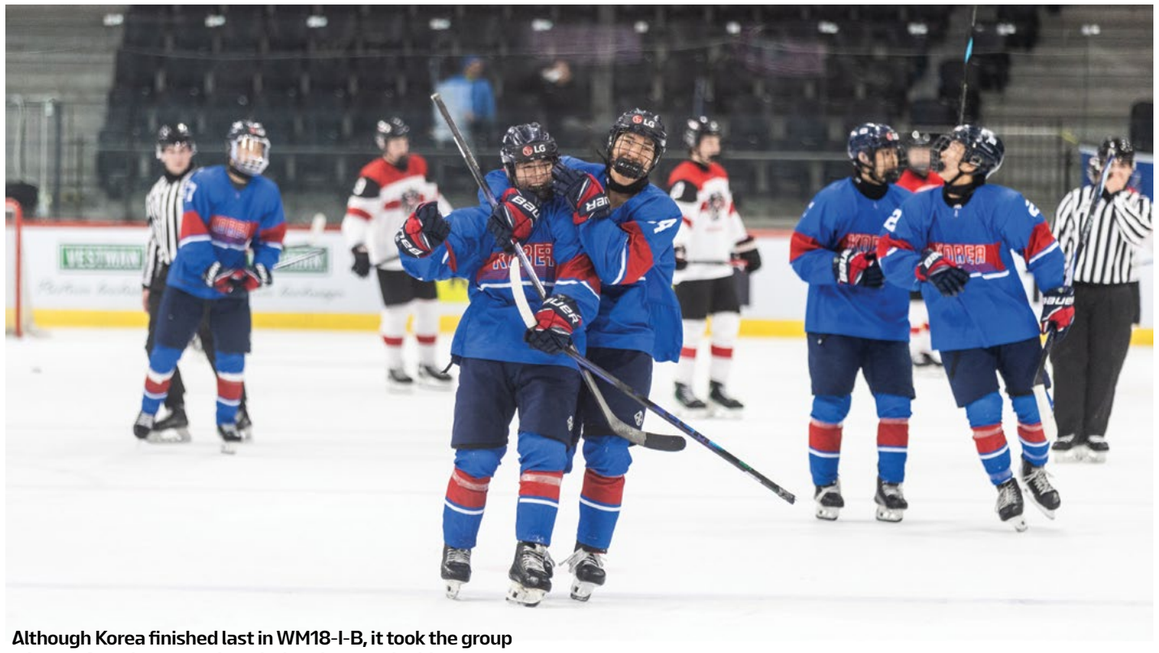
GROUP B	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
USA	4	3	0	1	0	24	6	10
CZE	4	2	1	1	0	16	7	9
SWE	4	2	0	0	2	19	14	6
DEN	4	1	0	0	3	6	22	3
GER	4	0	1	0	3	8	24	2

QUARTER-FINALS
CZE 2-FIN 1
SWE 4-CAN 2
LAT 5-USA 2
SVK 7-DEN 1

SEMI-FINALS
SVK 1-LAT 0
SWE 4-CZE 3 (OT)

BRONZE MEDAL GAME
CZE 4-LAT 1

GOLD MEDAL GAME
SWE 4-SVK 2



Although Korea finished last in WM18-I-B, it took the group winners Austria to overtime during the round robin.

2026 IIHF U18 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP I-A
KRYNICA-ZDROJ POLAND
18–24 APRIL 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
SUI	5	4	1	0	0	30	11	14
KAZ	5	3	1	0	1	25	12	11
UKR	5	2	0	1	2	22	22	7
HUN	5	2	0	0	3	16	19	6
SLO	5	1	0	1	3	14	23	4
POL	5	1	0	0	4	10	30	3

2026 IIHF U18 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP I-B
TALLINN, ESTONIA
25 APRIL–1 MAY, 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
AUT	5	3	1	0	1	20	12	11
LTU	5	3	0	1	1	14	12	10
FRA	5	3	0	1	1	15	9	10
EST	5	1	1	0	3	14	19	5
ITA	5	1	0	1	3	9	13	5
KOR	5	1	0	1	3	10	17	4

2026 IIHF U18 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP II-A
TARGU SECUIESC, ROMANIA
12–18 APRIL 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
JPN	5	5	0	0	0	31	7	15
CHN	5	4	0	0	1	11	5	12
GBR	5	2	0	0	3	14	13	6
ROU	5	2	0	0	3	11	20	6
CRO	5	2	0	0	3	13	19	6
ESP	5	0	0	0	5	8	24	0

2026 IIHF U18 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP II-B
BELGRADE, SERBIA
5–11 APRIL 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
NED	5	3	1	0	1	22	16	11
MEX	5	2	1	1	1	16	13	9
SRB	5	3	0	0	2	22	14	9
AUS	5	2	1	0	2	19	19	8
BEL	5	1	0	2	2	13	23	5
TPE	5	1	0	0	4	12	19	3

2026 IIHF U18 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP III-A
HONG KONG, CHINA
2–8 MARCH 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
UZB	5	4	1	0	0	37	16	14
HKG	5	4	0	0	1	33	14	12
ISR	5	3	0	0	2	30	23	9
TUR	5	2	0	1	2	29	25	7
BUL	5	1	0	0	4	15	32	3
NZL	5	0	0	0	5	8	42	0

2026 IIHF U18 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP III-B
SARAJEVO, BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA
13–19 FEBRUARY 2025

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
THA	3	3	0	0	0	20	7	9
ISL	3	2	0	0	1	19	6	6
BIH	3	1	1	0	1	13	18	5
TKM	3	1	0	0	2	5	11	3
RSA	3	1	0	0	2	12	11	3
LUX	3	0	0	1	2	10	26	1

SEMI-FINALS
THA 14-TKM 0
ISL 8-BIH 2

BRONZE MEDAL GAME
BIH 4-TKM 1

GOLD MEDAL GAME
THA 4-ISL 3 (OT)

Women's U18 World Championship

IIHF ICE HOCKEY U18 WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP
SYDNEY & MEMBERTOU, CANADA
10–18 JANUARY 2026

GROUP A	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
CAN	3	3	0	0	0	32	2	9
SWE	3	2	0	0	1	9	10	6
SUI	3	1	0	0	2	2	12	3
HUN	3	0	0	0	3	1	20	0

GROUP B	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
USA	3	3	0	0	0	36	1	9
CZE	3	2	0	0	1	17	12	6
SVK	3	1	0	0	2	7	22	3
FIN	3	0	0	0	3	3	28	0

QUARTER-FINALS
SWE 7-SVK 2
CZE 2-SUI 1
USA 9-HUN 0
CAN 12-FIN 0

SEMI-FINALS
USA 9-SWE 1
CAN 8-CZE 1

BRONZE MEDAL GAME
CZE 4-SWE 3

GOLD MEDAL GAME
USA 2-CAN 0



The Hungarians were not only back in the top level of WW18 for the first time since 2014 – they defeated Finland in the relegation game and stayed in the top for 2027.

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY U18 WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP I-A
RITTEN, ITALY
12–18 JANUARY 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
GER	5	4	0	1	0	12	5	13
JPN	5	4	0	0	1	34	7	12
FRA	5	2	1	0	2	13	12	8
NOR	5	2	0	1	2	10	23	7
DEN	5	1	1	0	3	15	18	5
ITA	5	0	0	0	5	8	27	0

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY U18 WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP II-A
ISTANBUL, TURKIYE
19–25 JANUARY 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
KOR	5	4	1	0	0	25	3	14
KAZ	5	4	0	0	1	35	9	12
LAT	5	2	0	1	2	12	19	7
NED	5	2	0	0	3	10	16	6
TUR	5	2	0	0	3	8	12	6
NZL	5	0	0	0	5	3	34	0

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY U18 WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP I-B
KATOWICE, POLAND
5–11 JANUARY 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
CHN	5	4	1	0	0	30	6	14
POL	5	3	1	1	0	27	11	12
AUT	5	3	0	1	1	27	7	10
GBR	5	2	0	0	3	9	13	6
ESP	5	1	0	0	4	5	23	3
AUS	5	0	0	0	5	3	41	0

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY U18 WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP II-B
CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA
26 JANUARY–1 FEBRUARY 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
ROU	5	4	0	0	1	47	3	12
ISL	5	2	1	1	1	35	14	9
TPE	5	2	1	1	1	21	14	9
MEX	5	2	1	1	1	20	10	9
BEL	5	1	1	1	2	19	14	6
RSA	5	0	0	0	5	1	88	0

Men's European Cup of Nations

GROUP A/LANDSHUT, GERMANY
6–9 NOVEMBER 2025

GROUP A	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
GER	3	2	0	0	1	9	6	6
SVK	3	2	0	0	1	10	6	6
LAT	3	1	0	0	2	6	10	3
AUT	3	1	0	0	2	9	12	3

GROUP B/EPINAL, FRANCE
6–8 NOVEMBER 2025

GROUP B	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
FRA	3	2	0	0	1	9	7	6
NOR	3	1	1	0	1	7	6	5
DEN	3	1	0	1	1	8	7	4
HUN	3	1	0	0	2	9	13	3

GROUP C/SOSNOWIEC, POLAND
6–8 NOVEMBER 2025

GROUP C	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
POL	3	2	0	1	0	7	5	7
ITA	3	1	1	0	1	10	10	5
SLO	3	1	1	0	1	10	6	5
GBR	3	0	0	1	2	5	11	1

GROUP D/ELECTRENAI, LITHUANIA
6–8 NOVEMBER 2025

GROUP D	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
LTU	2	2	0	0	0	4	2	6
UKR	2	1	0	0	1	5	3	3
ROU	2	0	0	0	2	2	6	0

GROUP E/TALLINN, ESTONIA
6–8 NOVEMBER 2025

GROUP E	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
EST	2	2	0	0	0	14	2	6
ESP	2	1	0	0	1	6	10	3
NED	2	0	0	0	2	2	10	0

GROUP F/BANSKA BYSTRICA, SLOVAKIA
10–12 DECEMBER 2025

GROUP F	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
SVK	2	1	1	0	0	10	6	5
LAT	2	1	0	1	0	6	3	4
NOR	2	0	0	0	2	4	11	0



Hosts Germany captured the Deutschland Cup, which doubled as Group A of the Men's European Cup of Nations.

GROUP H/BUCHAREST, ROMANIA
11–13 DECEMBER 2025

GROUP H	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
UKR	3	2	1	0	0	10	7	8
ROM	3	0	0	1	2	7	10	1

GROUP I/EDINBURGH, GREAT BRITAIN
5–7 FEBRUARY 2026

GROUP I	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
UKR	3	2	0	1	0	10	7	7
SLO	3	2	0	0	1	10	9	6
GBR	3	1	1	0	1	10	10	5
POL	3	0	0	0	3	9	13	0

GROUP J/OSLO, NORWAY
5–7 FEBRUARY 2026

GROUP J	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
NOR	2	1	1	0	0	10	6	5
AUT	2	1	0	0	1	6	6	3
HUN	2	0	0	1	1	5	9	1

GROUP K/BRASOV, ROMANIA
5–7 FEBRUARY 2026

GROUP K	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
EST	2	2	0	0	0	14	2	6
ESP	2	1	0	0	1	6	10	3
NED	2	0	0	0	2	2	10	0

Women's Asia Championship

2026 IIHF ASIA CHAMPIONSHIP, WOMEN
OSKEMEN, KAZAKHSTAN
5–8 NOVEMBER 2025

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
JPN	3	3	0	0	0	17	0	9
CHN	3	1	1	0	1	9	6	5
KAZ	3	1	0	0	2	3	13	3
KOR	3	0	0	1	2	3	13	1

Women's Asia Winter Games

ASIA WINTER GAMES, WOMEN
HARBIN, CHINA
3–14 FEBRUARY 2025

PRELIMINARY ROUND

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
KAZ	4	3	1	0	0	27	1	11
KOR	4	3	0	1	0	22	3	10
TPE	4	2	0	0	2	13	10	6
THA	4	1	0	0	3	3	25	3
HKG	4	0	0	0	4	2	28	0

FINAL ROUND

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
JPN	3	3	0	0	0	18	1	9
KAZ	3	2	0	0	1	5	5	6
CHN	3	1	0	0	2	4	11	3
KOR	3	0	0	0	3	1	11	0

Men's Asia Championship

2026 IIHF ASIA CHAMPIONSHIP, MEN
BEIJING, CHINA
20–23 NOVEMBER 2025

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
KAZ	3	3	0	0	0	13	6	9
KOR	3	2	0	0	1	6	4	6
JPN	3	1	0	0	2	7	6	3
CHN	3	0	0	0	3	2	12	0

Men's U18 Asia & Oceania Championship

2026 IIHF ICE HOCKEY U18 ASIA & OCEANIA CHAMPIONSHIP, MEN
BISHKEK, KYRGYZSTAN
27 APRIL–3 MAY 2026

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
UZB	3	3	0	0	0	26	5	9
KGZ	3	2	0	0	1	34	5	6
MGL	3	2	0	0	1	25	9	6
INA	3	1	0	0	2	12	28	3
IND	3	1	0	0	2	15	25	3
MAC	3	0	0	0	3	1	41	0

Uzbekistan finished first at the Men's U18 Asia & Oceania Championship played in Bishkek.





Uzbekistan (above, blue) finished first in the Men's U18 Asia & Oceania Championship while Indonesia (below) finished fourth.



Euro Women's Ice Hockey Tour

4 NATIONS
KLOTEN, SWITZERLAND
28–30 AUGUST 2025

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
FIN	3	3	0	0	0	15	4	9
CZE	3	1	1	0	1	8	9	5
SUI	3	1	0	1	1	7	9	4
SWE	3	0	0	0	3	3	11	0

LIDL HOCKEY GAMES
ANGELHOLM, SWEDEN
5–8 NOVEMBER 2025

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
FIN	3	2	1	0	0	8	3	8
SWE	3	1	0	2	0	6	5	5
CZE	3	1	0	0	2	3	8	3
SUI	3	0	1	0	2	3	4	2

4 NATIONS
LAHTI & HAMEENLINNA, FINLAND
10–12 DECEMBER 2025

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
SWE	3	2	0	0	1	10	6	6
CZE	3	2	0	0	1	8	4	6
SUI	3	1	0	0	2	7	10	3
FIN	3	1	0	0	2	6	11	3



Finland's Michelle Karvinen (blue) helped her country win two of the three tournaments that made up the Euro Women's Tour in 2025.

Continental Cup

FIRST ROUND, GROUP A
VILNIUS, LITHUANIA
17–19 OCTOBER 2025

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
HK Mogo	3	3	0	0	0	32	4	9
Hockey Punks	3	2	0	0	1	15	18	6
Skautafelag Akureyrar	3	0	1	0	2	8	17	2
Narva PSK	3	0	0	1	2	10	26	1

FIRST ROUND, GROUP B
REMETEA, ROMANIA
17–19 OCTOBER 2025

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
ACS Gyergyoi HK	3	3	0	0	0	28	1	9
HC Kremen-chuk	3	2	0	0	1	15	13	6
Budapest JAHC	3	1	0	0	2	12	10	3
SKHL Crvena zvezda	3	0	0	0	3	3	34	0

SECOND ROUND, GROUP C
ANGERS, FRANCE
14–16 NOVEMBER 2025

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
Angers Ducs	3	2	0	0	1	12	9	6
HK Mogo	3	2	0	0	1	13	8	6
SG Cortina	3	2	0	0	1	9	9	6
ACS Gyergyoi HK	3	0	0	0	3	6	14	0

FINAL ROUND
NOTTINGHAM, GREAT BRITAIN
14–17 JANUARY 2026

PRELIMINARY ROUND

GROUP A	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
Nottingham Panthers	2	2	0	0	0	8	0	6
GKS Katowice	2	0	1	0	1	3	6	2
HK Mogo	2	0	0	1	1	2	7	1

GROUP B	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
Torpedo Ust-Kamenogorsk	2	1	0	1	0	8	5	4
Herning Blue Fox	2	1	0	0	1	6	7	3
Angers Ducs	2	0	1	0	1	4	6	2

CONTINENTAL CUP FINAL
Nottingham Panthers 4-Torpedo Ust-Kamenogorsk 2



Champions Ice Hockey League

	GP	W	OTW	OTL	L	GF	GA	PTS
Ilves	6	6	0	0	0	24	7	18
KalPa	6	5	1	0	0	24	8	17
Frolunda HC	6	5	0	0	1	21	11	15
Sparta Praha	6	4	1	0	1	18	9	14
Lukko	6	4	0	1	1	21	14	13
ERC Ingolstadt	6	4	0	0	2	23	15	12
SC Bern	6	3	0	1	2	21	14	10
Kometa Brno	6	3	0	1	2	21	22	10
Lulea HF	6	2	1	2	1	13	13	10
Brynas IF	6	3	0	0	3	14	10	9
Red Bull Salzburg	6	3	0	0	4	14	11	9
Storhamar	6	3	0	0	3	9	16	9
EV Zug	6	2	1	0	3	20	18	8
Bruleurs de Loups	6	2	1	0	3	21	24	8
ZSC Lions	6	2	0	1	3	12	13	7
Fischtown Pinguins	6	1	2	0	3	16	17	7
Mountfield HK	6	1	1	2	2	13	19	7
EC KAC	6	2	0	0	4	14	20	6
HC Bolzano	6	1	1	1	3	14	21	6
Lausanne HC	6	1	1	0	4	18	24	5
Odense Bulldogs	6	1	1	0	4	15	27	5
Eisbaren Berlin	6	1	0	1	4	13	22	4
Belfast Giants	6	1	0	1	4	14	31	4
GKS Tychy	1	0	0	0	5	12	19	3

ROUND OF 16 (2 GAMES, TOTAL GOALS)
Ilves 8-Fischtown Pinguins 4 (3-2, 5-2)
KalPa 8-ZSC Lions 6 (4-4, 2-4)
Frolunda HC 4-Bruleurs de Loups 3 (3-1, 1-2)
EV Zug 8-Sparta Praha 3 (6-0, 2-3)
Lukko 8-Storhamar 4 (3-2, 5-2)
ERC Ingolstadt 9-Red Bull Salzburg 6 (6-2, 3-4)
Brynas IF 6-SC Bern 5 (OT) (1-2, 5-3)
Lulea HF 9-Kometa Brno 6 (6-1, 3-5)

QUARTER-FINALS (2 GAMES, TOTAL GOALS)
Lulea HF 6-Ilves 2 (3-2, 3-0)
Brynas IF 8-KalPa 3 (5-1, 3-2)
Frolunda HC 5-ERC Ingolstadt 3 (3-1, 2-2)
EV Zug 4-Lukko 3 (1-3, 3-0)

SEMI-FINALS (2 GAMES, TOTAL GOALS)
Lulea HF 6-EV Zug 4 (3-2, 3-2)
Frolunda HC 4-Brynas IF 2 (2-0, 2-2)

FINALS
Frolunda HC 3-Lulea HF 2 (OT)

It was an all-Sweden Champions Ice Hockey League final as Frolunda (left, in red) defeated Lulea, 3-2, in overtime of the championship game.





Ultimate Hockey 3x3

INNSBRUCK, AUSTRIA
10–12 APRIL 2026

GROUP A	GP	WG	WH	TG	TH	LG	LH	GF	GA	PTS
HUN	4	2	2	1	4	1	2	24	23	8
GER	4	2	4	0	1	2	3	26	24	7
EST	4	1	2	1	3	2	3	23	26	6

GROUP B	GP	WG	WH	TG	TH	LG	LH	GF	GA	PTS
GBR	4	4	5	0	2	0	1	32	20	11
NED	4	2	2	0	1	2	5	32	29	5
AUT	4	0	3	0	1	4	4	22	37	4

SEMI-FINALS
HUN 11-NED 2
GBR 4-EST 3

BRONZE MEDAL GAME
EST 6-NED 5

GOLD MEDAL GAME
HUN 9-GBR 4

Hungarian players celebrate victory in the inaugural Ultimate Hockey 3x3 tournament held in Austria.







Argentina hosted a test event for 3x3 hockey in Buenos Aires last November. Puerto Rico defeated the hosts to win the event, which also included teams from Brazil and Columbia.



IIHF Inducts Seven

On the final day of the 2026 World Championship, the IIHF Hall of Fame welcomed its seven newest members in a ceremony held at the Zurich Kongresshaus – Players **Andres Ambuhl**, **Patrice Bergeron**, **Cassie Campbell-Pascall**, **Niklas Kronwall**, **Florence Schelling**, and **Thomas Vanek**, and Builders **Ralph Krueger** and **Luc Tardif**.

A new IIHF Hall of Fame class is always special, but this year, the IIHF Historical Committee took the unusual step of waiving the two-year waiting period for Andres Ambuhl, who retired after the 2024–25 season. Ambuhl has played more World Championship games than any player (151), and his 20 World Championships at the top level is also a record that won't be broken in the near future.

"Playing the game was my happy place. I felt so free playing ice hockey," Ambühl said in his speech. "Going to the World Championship was always the highlight of the season because, for a Swiss player of my generation, that was a unique opportunity to test yourself against the best."

Patrice Bergeron made IIHF history as a teenager when he won a World Championship gold medal in 2004 before winning World Junior Championship gold in 2005. He's also Triple Gold Club member number 25.

"This is not about me; it's about all the people who've supported me along the way," Bergeron said. "Ice hockey is the ultimate team game."

Cassie Campbell-Pascall captained Canada at two Olympics and two Women's Worlds. She is the only captain in history – male or female – to lead Team Canada to two Olympic gold medals. She won ten medals in IIHF women's competitions, including eight gold.

Tre Kronor defender Kronwall is member number 20 of the Triple Gold Club. He won Olympic and World Championship gold in 2006, and the Stanley Cup with Detroit in 2008. Kronwall was named MVP of the 2006 World Championship, leading Sweden in scoring with ten points in eight games.

"For me, ice hockey is more than just a sport. Losing my father when I was eleven, ice hockey became the place where I could be just me. I also found role models there," Kronwall said. "The values you learn in ice hockey set you up for the rest of your life."

Florence Schelling started her international career in 2004 at the age of 15, and by the time she retired 15 years later, she had played in more games at the Women's World Championship (44), more minutes (2,578:35), and won more games (21) than any other netminder in history. In her career, she played in 63 of a possible 70 games for her country and led Switzerland to an Olympic bronze medal in 2014 when she was named tournament MVP.

"When I was three, I told my parents I wanted to play ice hockey. They told me girls didn't play ice hockey, and apparently, my reply was, 'I don't care,'" Schelling said.

Thomas Vanek is the greatest player ever to come out of Austria. He represented his country at every opportunity and played at the 2014 Olympics – where he also served as team captain – and three World Championships between 2004 and 2013. He was also the first Austrian to wear the "C" for an NHL team, in Buffalo.

"The dream was to play for my club team, and hopefully represent my country," Vanek said. "I moved to Canada at 14. I didn't speak English, and I didn't even know what I was chasing. When I told people I was from Austria, they said, 'Wow, kangaroos,'" he joked.

Former Switzerland head coach Ralph Krueger was inducted as a Builder. In all, he coached the national team at 12 World Championships and three Olympics, departing after the 2010 Olympics.

"Who would have thought that when that five-year-old with long, bushy hair, born to German immigrants, stepped on the ice and took his first strides, it would lead to this," Krueger marvelled. "Thank you, ice hockey, for filling my life with so much passion. Ice hockey filled my life with inspiration and motivation – and what a life I've had."

The other Builder in the 2026 class was Luc Tardif, who became the 14th IIHF President in 2021.

"When the Historical Committee made the original selection in 2025, I wasn't among the inductees, but when I announced that I would not seek re-election, a member of the committee suggested that I be inducted," he said. "I felt like an intruder, but I finally accepted the honour."

(l-r) Niklas Kronwall, Patrice Bergeron, Florence Schelling, Luc Tardif, Cassie Campbell-Pascall, Andres Ambuhl, Ralph Krueger, Tomas Vanek.



IIHF Hall of Fame Contributors

On the final Sunday of the 2026 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship, the IIHF honoured the recipients of its annual Contributors' Awards at a ceremony in Zurich.

Veteran coach **Pat Cortina** was given the Paul Loicq Award for his outstanding contributions to the IIHF and international ice hockey. Slovak netminder **Zuzana Tomcikova** became the first woman ever to claim the Richard "Bibi" Torriani Award, which recognizes an outstanding career with an up-and-coming ice hockey nation. Veteran Czech ice hockey writer **Pavel Barta** received the IIHF Media Award. And Latvia's **Aleksandrs Cicurskis** got the Johan Bollue Award for his contributions to the development and growth of youth ice hockey.

Born in Montreal, Canada, Cortina has made an indelible impact on coaching in Italy, Hungary, and Germany. That encompasses men's and women's ice hockey in IIHF competition, as well as professional clubs in the Alpenliga, the DEL, and elsewhere. It's a career that the 61-year-old has relished for more than 35 years. From serving as an assistant coach for the Italian men at the 1992 Albertville Olympics to working as the head coach for Hungary's women at the 2025 IIHF Ice Hockey Women's World Championship in Ceske Budejovice, Cortina has done it all with humility, hard work, and a player-first approach.

"Probably the biggest lesson I've come to understand is that real winning is more than the scoreboard," Cortina said in his acceptance speech. "Of course, winning the next game is what we all want, but real winning is helping people grow, building trust, creating relationships, and bringing out the best of one another. When you do that, sometimes the scoreboard goes in your favour. Often it does not, but in the big picture, you never really lose. If we make this game about people, we all win."

Tomcikova helped to put Slovak women's ice hockey on the map with her spectacular goaltending, particularly between 2009 and 2011. After helping her country achieve promotion to the top division, she suited up as the starter at the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver. En route to MVP honours at the 2011 Women's Worlds, she recorded an extraordinary .948 save percentage and a 2.56 GAA to keep Slovakia among the world's elite.

Tomcikova spoke with passion about the opportunity and acceptance she got from her male coaches and teammates as a youngster, as she clearly proved she was good enough to compete alongside them. She fondly recalled playing with her older brother in Bratislava as his designated goalie. "Getting the phone call from the IIHF that I had been selected was very surprising to me," she said. "I am very happy and proud to receive this award."

As an internationally known journalist, Barta has documented ice hockey since the mid-1980s for outlets as diverse as *Hokej* (Czechia), *The Hockey News* (Canada), and *Kiekko-Lehti* (Finland). He also served at times as the media manager for the Czech national team. Four Olympics and 25 IIHF Ice Hockey World Championships are among the top-level IIHF events he has covered. Barta's most recent book is "Gudy", a biography of longtime Czech national team and NHL star defenceman **Radko Gudas**.

"Journalism changes, just like ice hockey itself," Barta said. "Over the past 40 years, I have come from the heavy typewriters to PCs and smartphones, from news dictated over the phone to podcasts. But what hasn't changed is that you need enthusiasm as well as the ability to remain level-headed, responsible, and humble. You also need teammates and a little luck, too. But the most important thing is to be dedicated to your work. I was very lucky to be able to turn my biggest hobby into my profession and lifelong mission."

Coaching youth players – including the Latvian U18 and U20 national teams – was the lifelong mission of Cicurskis. The Riga native was a cornerstone of the influential ice hockey school in Liepaja from 1998 to 2021. Just a few of the notable players Cicurskis shepherded along the way were **Sandis Ozolins**, the late **Sergejs Zoltoks**, **Aigars Cipruss**, and **Rudolfs Balcers**, who captained Latvia's 2026 IIHF WM team and set a new Latvian single-tournament record with seven goals.

"Being here...feels like a miracle," Circurskis said of his induction. "But ice hockey creates a miracle. Ice hockey was my dream and it became my life."

Aleksandrs Cicurskis helped develop many of Latvia's finest players of the last quarter of a century.



Hockey Hall of Fame

The Hockey Hall of Fame added eight new members to its pantheon of legends in November 2025 in Toronto. Honoured as Players were **Jennifer Botterill**, **Zdeno Chara**, **Brianna Decker**, **Duncan Keith**, **Alexander Mogilny**, and **Joe Thornton**. In the Builder category, honourees included coaches **Jack Parker** and **Danielle Sauvageau.**

Jennifer Botterill

Botterill played for Team Canada from 1998 to 2010, during which time she won eight gold medals and four silver. Three of those gold came at the Olympics. In four years at Harvard, she became the all-time scorer in NCAA history and to this day is the only two-time winner of the Patty Kazmaier Award.

"I will always remember at the end of our Olympic gold-medal games," she reminisced during her acceptance speech, "we would stand in a line as a team as we awaited the presentation of the medals. And I remember we could look up, and look down that line, and you could see your friends and teammates that were getting those Olympic gold medals placed around their necks."

Rob Blake (left) presents Duncan Keith with his Hockey Hall of Fame plaque.



Zdeno Chara

Chara was inducted into the IIHF Hall of Fame just this past May. He played in more NHL games than any defenceman in league history, winning the Stanley Cup in 2011. Chara became only the second European (after **Nicklas Lidstrom**) to captain his team to the Cup. He is equally remembered for his play with Slovakia's national team. He played in three Olympics, two World Cups, and seven Men's World Championships, most notably in 2000 and 2012.

"To be just the fourth Slovak-born player to be inducted after **Stan Mikita**, **Peter Stastny**, and my good friend **Marian Hossa**, is overwhelming," Chara said. "Growing up in a small Slovakian town like Trencin, you don't dream about a night like this. You dream about a patch of ice that doesn't melt before you finish practise. You dream about finding a stick that's not broken, or skates that will still fit for a couple of more years...I gave everything I had to the game, and it gave me so much more than I could ever have imagined."

Brianna Decker

Decker won consecutive gold at the first two Women's U18 World Championship, in 2008 and 2009, signs of things to come with the senior team. From 2011 to 2022 she won seven gold medals, including Olympic gold in 2018 and six gold at the Women's Worlds.

"It's hard to put this into words because no one gets here alone, and I certainly didn't," she began. "From the very beginning, I was surrounded by people who shaped me, not just as a player but as a person. Every teammate I've ever had has left a mark on me... There was always someone pushing me to be better. And it always reminded me of what it's like to be part of something that's bigger than yourself."

Duncan Keith

Keith represented Canada when the team won consecutive gold medals at the Olympics, in 2010 and 2014, and he won a silver medal at the 2008 World Championship in Quebec City. In the NHL, he played 17 seasons, 16 with Chicago partnered with **Brent Seabrook** on the blue line. They won the Stanley Cup three times – in 2010, 2013, and 2015 – and Keith was twice named Norris Trophy winner as the league's best blueliner (2010, 2014).

"We as inductees are recognized as individuals, and I'm incredibly grateful for it," he offered. "But if there's one thing I've learned in my career, ice hockey is the ultimate team game. It takes a supportive family, great teammates, great coaches, and great people for me to be here right now."

Joe Thornton

There wasn't much that "Jumbo Joe" Thornton didn't accomplish during his 24-year pro career. With Team Canada he won gold at the 1997 World Juniors and 2010 Olympics. He played at two World Championships as well, winning silver in 2005, when he was named tournament MVP. He also anchored the 2004 and 2016 Team Canada victories at the World Cup of Hockey, one of only two Canadians to play in both tournament wins (**Jay Bouwmeester**). In the NHL, he was one of the greatest passers the game has known.

"I couldn't stay away from the game," Thornton explained of playing in Switzerland during the lockout of 2004-05, "so I headed to Davos. I went over there with a 20-year-old **Rick Nash**, and we fell in love with the city of Davos, fell in love with the mountains, and had the time of our lives."

Alexander Mogilny

Mogilny, who did not attend the ceremony, was the #9 member of the IIHF's Triple Gold Club. He achieved this distinction by winning Olympic gold in 1988, World Championship gold in 1989, and the Stanley Cup, with New Jersey, in 2000.

Danielle Sauvageau

Sauvageau started as an assistant coach in the Hockey Canada program, but she had her greatest successes as the women's head coach, winning gold at the 1999 and 2001 Women's Worlds and, more famously, at the 2002 Olympics. She is the first woman inducted as a Builder.

Jack Parker

Parker enjoyed a 40-year career at Boston University, 1973-2013, winning the NCAA championship on three occasions (1978, 1995, 2009). His 897 wins at the NCAA level was the third-most all time when he retired.

"The main reason we won so many games at BU was that we had great players," he said. "We had a philosophy. If you want to win, build a team with the best players. We managed to do that most of the time."



Niklas Lidstrom (left) presents Zdeno Chara with his plaque.

Triple Gold Club (est. 2001)

These 30 players and one coach form the unique group that has won a gold medal at the IIHF Men's World Championship and the Olympic Ice Hockey tournament and the Stanley Cup.

Being given credit with one of these honours requires the player to have participated in at least one game of the event. Players are entered chronologically by date when the final championship of the triple has been achieved. If two or more players complete their triple on the same date, priority is given to the player who was the first to win one of the three titles. If two or more players have identical accomplishments, priority is given to the player who completes the triple at the younger age.

Legend: OG=Olympic Games; SC=Stanley Cup; WM=Men's World Championship
• IIHF Hall of Fame; ^ Hockey Hall of Fame

• 1. Tomas Jonsson, defence (b. Falun, Sweden, April 12, 1960)
SC 1982, 1983 (New York Islanders)
WM 1991 (Sweden)
OG 1994 (Sweden)
Triple Gold Club member as of February 27, 1994, Olympic final win vs. Canada

• 2. Mats Naslund, forward (b. Timra, Sweden, October 31, 1959)
SC 1986 (Montreal Canadiens)
WM 1991 (Sweden)
OG 1994 (Sweden)
Triple Gold Club member as of February 27, 1994, Olympic final win vs. Canada

• 3. Hakan Loob, forward (b. Roma, Sweden, July 3, 1960)
WM 1987, 1991 (Sweden)
SC 1989 (Calgary Flames)
OG 1994 (Sweden)
Triple Gold Club member as of February 27, 1994, Olympic final win vs. Canada

• 4. Valeri Kamenski, forward (b. Voskresensk, Soviet Union (Russia), April 18, 1966)
WM 1986, 1989, 1990 (Soviet Union)
OG 1988 (Soviet Union)
SC 1996 (Colorado Avalanche)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 10, 1996, Stanley Cup final win vs. Florida

5. Alexei Gusarov, defence (b. Leningrad (St. Petersburg), Soviet Union (Russia), July 8, 1964)
WM 1986, 1989, 1990 (Soviet Union)
OG 1988 (Soviet Union)
SC 1996 (Colorado Avalanche)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 10, 1996, Stanley Cup final win vs. Florida

•^ 6. Peter Forsberg, forward (b. Ornskoldsvik, Sweden, July 20, 1973)
WM 1992, 1998 (Sweden)
OG 1994, 2006 (Sweden)
SC 1996, 2001 (Colorado Avalanche)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 10, 1996, Stanley Cup final win vs. Florida

•^ 7. Vyacheslav Fetisov, defence (b. Moscow, Soviet Union (Russia), April 20, 1958)
WM 1978, 1981, 1982, 1983, 1986, 1989, 1990 (Soviet Union)
OG 1984, 1988 (Soviet Union)
SC 1997, 1998 (Detroit Red Wings)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 7, 1997, Stanley Cup final win vs. Philadelphia

•^ 8. Igor Larionov, forward (b. Voskresensk, Soviet Union (Russia), December 3, 1960)
WM 1982, 1983, 1986, 1989 (Soviet Union)
OG 1984, 1988 (Soviet Union)
SC 1997, 1998, 2002 (Detroit Red Wings)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 7, 1997, Stanley Cup final win vs. Philadelphia

9. Alexander Mogilny, forward (b. Khabarovsk, Soviet Union (Russia), February 18, 1969)
OG 1988 (Soviet Union)
WM 1989 (Soviet Union)
SC 2000 (New Jersey Devils)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 10, 2000, Stanley Cup final win vs. Dallas

10. Vladimir Malakhov, defence (b. Yekaterinburg, Soviet Union (Russia), August 30, 1968)
WM 1990 (Soviet Union)
OG 1992 (Russia)
SC 2000 (New Jersey Devils)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 10, 2000, Stanley Cup final win vs. Dallas

•^ 11. Rob Blake, defence (b. Simcoe, Ontario, Canada, December 10, 1969)
WM 1994, 1997 (Canada)
SC 2001 (Colorado Avalanche)
OG 2002 (Canada)
Triple Gold Club member as of February 24, 2002, Olympic final win vs. United States

•^ 12. Joe Sakic, forward (b. Burnaby, British Columbia, Canada, July 7, 1969)
WM 1994 (Canada)
SC 1996, 2001 (Colorado Avalanche)
OG 2002 (Canada)
Triple Gold Club member as of February 24, 2002, Olympic final win vs. United States

13. Brendan Shanahan, forward (b. Mimico, Ontario, Canada, January 23, 1969)
WM 1994 (Canada)
SC 1997, 1998, 2002 (Detroit Red Wings)
OG 2002 (Canada)
Triple Gold Club member as of February 24, 2002, Olympic final win vs. United States

•^ 14. Scott Niedermayer, defence (b. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, August 31, 1973)
SC 1995, 2000, 2003 (New Jersey Devils), 2007 (Anaheim Ducks)
OG 2002, 2010 (Canada)
WM 2004 (Canada)
Triple Gold Club member as of May 9, 2004, Men's World Championship final win vs. Sweden

•15. Jaromir Jagr, forward (b. Kladno, Czechoslovakia (Czech Republic), February 15, 1972)
SC 1991, 1992 (Pittsburgh Penguins)
OG 1998 (Czech Republic)
WM 2005, 2010 (Czech Republic)
Triple Gold Club member as of May 15, 2005, Men's World Championship final win vs. Canada

•16. Jiri Slegr, defence (b. Jihlava, Czechoslovakia (Czech Republic), May 30, 1971)
OG 1998 (Czech Republic)
SC 2002 (Detroit Red Wings)
WM 2005 (Czech Republic)
Triple Gold Club member as of May 15, 2005, Men's World Championship final win vs. Canada

•^ 17. Nicklas Lidstrom, defence (b. Avesta, Sweden, April 28, 1970)
WM 1991 (Sweden)
SC 1997, 1998, 2002, 2008 (Detroit Red Wings)
OG 2006 (Sweden)
Triple Gold Club member as of February 26, 2006, Olympic final win vs. Finland

18. Fredrik Modin, forward (b. Sundsvall, Sweden, October 8, 1974)
WM 1998 (Sweden)
SC 2004 (Tampa Bay Lightning)
OG 2006 (Sweden)
Triple Gold Club member as of February 26, 2006, Olympic final win vs. Finland

^ 19. Chris Pronger, defence (b. Dryden, Ontario, Canada, October 10, 1974)
WM 1997 (Canada)
OG 2002, 2010 (Canada)
SC 2007 (Anaheim Ducks)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 6, 2007, Stanley Cup final win vs. Ottawa

20. Niklas Kronwall, defence (b. Jarfalla, Sweden, January 12, 1981)
OG 2006 (Sweden)
WM 2006 (Sweden)
SC 2008 (Detroit Red Wings)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 4, 2008, Stanley Cup final win vs. Pittsburgh

21. Henrik Zetterberg, forward (b. Njurunda, Sweden, October 9, 1980)
OG 2006 (Sweden)
WM 2006 (Sweden)
SC 2008 (Detroit Red Wings)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 4, 2008, Stanley Cup final win vs. Pittsburgh

22. Mikael Samuelsson, forward (b. Mariefred, Sweden, December 23, 1976)
OG 2006 (Sweden)
WM 2006 (Sweden)
SC 2008 (Detroit Red Wings)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 4, 2008, Stanley Cup final win vs. Pittsburgh

23. Eric Staal, forward (b. Thunder Bay, Ontario, Canada, October 29, 1984)
SC 2006 (Carolina Hurricanes)
WM 2007 (Canada)
OG 2010 (Canada)
Triple Gold Club member as of February 28, 2010, Olympic final win vs. United States

24. Jonathan Toews, forward (b. Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, April 29, 1988)
WM 2007 (Canada)
OG 2010, 2014 (Canada)
SC 2010, 2013, 2015 (Chicago Blackhawks)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 9, 2010, Stanley Cup final win vs. Philadelphia

25. Patrice Bergeron, forward (b. Ancienne-Lorette, Quebec, Canada, July 24, 1985)
WM 2004 (Canada)
OG 2010, 2014 (Canada)
SC 2011 (Boston)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 15, 2011, Stanley Cup final win vs. Vancouver

26. Sidney Crosby, forward (b. Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, August 7, 1987)
SC 2009, 2016, 2017 (Pittsburgh)
OG 2010, 2014 (Canada)
WM 2015 (Canada)
Triple Gold Club member as of May 17, 2015, Men's World Championship final win vs. Russia

27. Corey Perry, forward (b. Haileybury, Ontario, Canada, May 16, 1985)
SC 2007 (Anaheim)
OG 2010, 2014 (Canada)
WM 2016 (Canada)
Triple Gold Club member as of May 22, 2016, Men's World Championship final win vs. Finland

28. Pavel Datsyuk, forward (Sverdlovsk, Soviet Union (Russia), July 20, 1978)
SC 2002 (Detroit)
WM 2012 (Russia)
OG 2018 (OAR)
Triple Gold Club member as of February 25, 2018, Olympic final win vs. Germany

29. Jay Bouwmeester, defence (b. Edmonton, Alberta, Canada, September 27, 1983)
WM 2003, 2004 (Canada)
OG 2014 (Canada)
SC 2019 (St. Louis)
Triple Gold Club member as of June 12, 2019, Stanley Cup final win vs. Boston

30. Valtteri Filppula, forward (b. Vantaa, Finland, March 20, 1984)
SC 2008 (Detroit)
OG 2022 (Finland
WM 2022 (Finland)
Triple Gold Club member as of May 29, 2022, Men's World Championship final vs. Canada

Triple Gold Club Coaches

1. Mike Babcock (b. Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, April 29, 1963)
WM 2004 (Canada)
SC 2008 (Detroit Red Wings)
OG 2010, 2014 (Canada)
Triple Gold Club member as of February 28, 2010, Olympic final win vs. United States

The original 22 Triple Gold Club Members gathered for a ceremony at the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver.



GIRLS' ICE HOCKEY

World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend

The World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend returned better than ever from 17 to 19 October 2025. This time more than 30 countries across six continents took part. As usual, it was a time when rinks opened their doors to thousands of girls and women, inviting them to take part in ice hockey events, often for the first time.

Canillo, Andorra

High in the Pyrenees, ice hockey continues to make progress in Andorra. The country, twice a host of the IIHF Development Cup, took the opportunity to attract new players during World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend. In total, 15 players aged 5–64 took part in the event at the Palau de Gel in Canillo.

Buenos Aires, Argentina

Sunday was Mother's Day in Argentina, and at Fantasy Skate in Buenos Aires, moms and daughters got together to play some ice hockey. There were about 15 girls involved, aged 8–15, joining an event at the specially-decorated rink. Players from the national team spent an hour on the ice with the youngsters, some of whom were skating for the first time.

Hasselt, Belgium

Haskey Hasselt joined the Royal Belgian Ice Hockey Federation to host its IIHF World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend event on Sunday. Nearly 40 girls took part, aged from six to 49, supported by players from the national team. **Tim Vos**, head coach of the Women's National Team, and several of his players, took charge of the practice stations in the first part of the morning, with three aspiring Learn to Play coaches also gaining practical experience.







Girls from Andorra (far left), Argentina (middle), and Belgium participated in a variety of events to help them learn and love the game.

Sao Paulo, Brazil

The Brazilian leg of World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend brought together national team players and a sports psychologist to introduce the game to 41 players. Most of the guests on the day were aged 18–35, but the full age range ran from 6–61. The session combined activities on and off the ice, introducing the game to a number of new players and also providing context on the rise of women's sports in Brazil and discussing the mental health and leadership benefits offered by being part of a team. The day coincided with the IIHF Leadership Seminar.

North Bay, Canada

World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend 2025 was a nationwide celebration in Canada, where more than 11,000 people got involved in 55 different events across the country. One of the highlights was in North Bay, Ontario, where the event coincided with local Fall North Bay Tournament.

Under the slogan "See them, be them" youth girls' teams had a day of games and practice culminating in a capacity crowd to watch the local Nipissing Lakers game. Members of the Lakers' U9s got to play an exhibition game during one of the intermissions, and players from the senior team were involved throughout the day for photo and autograph sessions, as well as answering questions from the youngsters.

"For a small community like North Bay to host such a successful large-scale women's ice hockey game is so special," said **Tessa Kosec**, Lakers alternate captain. "For both the fans watching, and for myself getting to play in the game, the opportunity to have a packed arena was so exciting. The support that we had, especially from the tight-knit ice-hockey community in North Bay, made the game such an unforgettable opportunity for everyone who was there."



Girls in Canada (below) enjoyed the ice time as did a contingent from Sao Paulo, Brazil (inset).

Prague, Czechia

Czech national team stars **Aneta Tejralova**, **Kristyna Kaltounkova**, **Daniela Pejsova**, and **Karolina Kosinova** were on hand to coach a group of 40 girls aged 11–13 at Sunday's event in Prague. After a warm-up session, the girls played a friendly game – team pink vs. team white – under the guidance of the pros. Later, there was an autograph and photo session.

Jyvaskyla, Finland

In Finland, there were 54 events in total. Many of them took place in advance of the official World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend to fit in with school holidays. With a celebration of girls' ice hockey up and down the country, there was room for one event on the weekend itself, in Jyvaskyla.

That event ran in partnership with the city's Liiga team, JYP. As well as two players from the men's team joining the girls on the ice, JYP promoted the girls' teams during their game on Saturday evening. There was also a fundraising push to support the girls' spring tour.

Hong Kong, China

The sisterhood stood tall in Hong Kong, where 94 participants – the youngest born in 2021 – came to the city's Mega Ice rink for an event on Tuesday evening. It's more than 30 years since Hong Kong, China got its first women's team and since then the sport has grown in popularity. Some national-team players became celebrities, with one getting her own ice hockey TV series. Players from the 2023 Division III-A-title-winning team were part of the event, which introduced the game to 51 newcomers.

Kish Island and Tehran, Iran

The tropical island of Kish in Southern Iran held its first ever international standard ice-hockey event as part of the country's fourth consecutive involvement in the IIHF World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend. Kish Island joined the capital, Tehran, in staging events that attracted more than 100 young girls onto the ice. Many of them came from the Learn to Play program; others were trying out the game for the first time.

Milan and Bolzano, Italy

At the start of this Olympic season, host city Milan took part in the WGIHW. The Diavoli Rossoneri Hockey Club and Palasesto rink ran successful sessions for under 10s and 10+ age groups on Saturday, inspiring plans to build on this as the city enjoys the winter sports spotlight in the coming months.

On Sunday, Italy's Ice Sports Federation (FISG) staged another event in Bolzano. The Sparkasse Arena welcomed 30 girls registered with the federation, plus five who were trying ice hockey for the first time. They worked with players and coaches from teams in Italy's top flight women's league and also heard from a female referee about her journey in the sport. This highlighted a range of opportunities that might sometimes be overlooked.

Fukuoka, Japan

Members of Japan's Olympic women's ice-hockey team worked with 42 girls and young women on and off the ice. The program started with a workshop about discovering identity, in which the Olympians shared their experience in competing at the highest level of world sport. Then came the on-ice session, where members of Japan's national team coached participants aged 9–22.

Various cities, Norway

WGIHW is getting bigger and bigger in Norway. This year, the country hosted 20 events, with hundreds of girls taking part. Many clubs followed a familiar format of opening their doors for a free practice session and encouraging girls onto the ice – often for the first time. But Oslo's Hasle Loren club tried a different tactic. One of the biggest events was at the Stavanger Oilers' DNB Arena. With 90 girls aged 7–10, this was a showcase for the club's younger age-groups and a chance for them to meet players from the elite women's team ahead of their home game on the weekend.

Muscat, Oman

In Muscat, World Girl's Ice Hockey Weekend coincided with Omani Women's Day on October 17. What better way to mark the occasion than heading to the local rink to play some ice hockey?

Various cities, Turkiye

There were eight events in the Turkish leg of World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend, straddling the length of the country from Istanbul in the west to Kars in the east. More than 300 girls aged 9–12 attended sessions in Ankara, Antalya, Bursa, Erzurum, Istanbul, Kars, Kocaeli and Samsun. At each venue the girls had about an hour on the ice, practicing basic skating and ice hockey skills before progressing into small, fun games.

Various cities, United States

USA Hockey is always keen to be at the forefront of celebrating girls' ice hockey. This year, it helped to organize 101 events across the country, with more than 3,000 participants. Hosts ranged from NHL teams to community ice hockey clubs; the largest single turn-out was 150 with the Carolina Hurricanes, but every session, large or small, did a great job in encouraging and promoting girls in our sport.







(Clockwise from top left) Prague, Czechia; Hong Kong, China; Bolzano, Italy; Tehran, Iran; Jyvaskyla, Finland.







(Clockwise from top left) Fukuoka, Japan; Istanbul, Turkey; Colorado, United States; Oslo, Norway.

Bayan, Kuwait

Inspiration and excitement were the watchwords in Kuwait, where about 60 girls aged 4–15 came to the KWGC Ice Rink in Bayan. A combination of on-ice skating and stick-handling drills, plus fun relays and skill challenges, provided a perfect introduction to the game for many newcomers.

Minsk, Belarus

Minsk Arena, the 2014 IIHF World Championship venue, hosted the biggest WGIHW event in Belarus with more than 80 girls aged 6–7 taking part. They came from more than 15 towns and cities across the country and were welcomed by players from the Belarusian National Women's Team and Dinamo Minsk.

Mexico City, Mexico

Skates replaced shopping at Mexico City's Buenavista mall as 30 players launched the Minor Girls' Ice Hockey League season. And the event at Ice Station was such a hit that it had to be extended for an extra hour. Players from Mexico's U18 national team helped to take two groups of girls – one for u13s, the other for teenagers – through several drills.

Nottingham, Great Britain

In Britain, 26 players aged 6–40 joined the Nottingham Vipers at the National Ice Centre. After an introduction session on ice, they played a mini game to test their new-found skills. And all were invited to join the Vipers and attend to the team's upcoming games.

Sofia, Bulgaria

Around 26 girls at age 10 to 35 from local teams and Bulgarian U18 and Women's National Teams came to Slavia Ice Rink in Sofia. At the beginning they were separated in groups according to age and experience. There were different exercises for each group – skating, passing, shooting, puck handling. "The girls had so much fun on the ice," said former national team player **Vanesa Gergieva**. "They were all extremely excited and happy to play side by side with members of the U18 and Women's National Teams."

Novi Sad, Serbia

Most of this year's players in Novi Sad, Serbia, were from the U10s and older groups. But the party also included one four-year-old. HK Vojvodina hosted an event that shared the joy and passion of ice hockey with all the girls. The youngsters had two hours on the ice, with plenty of fun and some useful skills and drills. "Seeing the smiles, support and teamwork that ruled the ice was priceless," said **Nemanja Jankovic** of the Serbian Ice Hockey Association. "These beautiful and inspiring moments are what makes ice hockey special."

Suwon, Korea

In Korea, eight girls aged 9–14 came to the national women's team training base in Suwon for a special session with some of the country's top players. They had a 90-minute on-ice practice, gaining one-on-one coaching from members of the national team.

Various cities, Kazakhstan

Kazakhstan's WGIHW program visited several cities. There were special events for girls in the ice hockey heartlands of Ust-Kamenogorsk and Karaganda, as well as Almaty and the capital, Astana. At each venue, girls had a chance to pick up ice-hockey skills as well as playing fun games and races. For **Viktoriya Sazonova**, Director of Women's Ice Hockey Development in Kazakhstan, the events helped grab the attention of girls across the country.

Tallinn, Estonia

It was a short step from trying ice hockey for the first time to joining the local team for several players at Tallinn's World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend event. Saturday's session was set up by the Grizzlyz club at the Tondiraba Ice Hall, and it was a huge success. The participants were smiling all day and many were reluctant to leave the ice. A few girls decided to join the club on the spot and came to their first regular practice the very next day.

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Riga, Latvia

Lauvas women's ice hockey club and Kurbads ice hockey school hosted the Latvian Ice Hockey Federation's WGIHW event in Riga. There were 36 participants, the youngest of whom was just three. Everyone got a tour of the Kurbads Ice Hall and a chance to meet players and coaches from Lauvas, the ice hockey school, and the federation.

Sisak and Karlovac, Croatia

Croatia staged two WGIHW events, one hosted by HK Siscia and KHL Sisak on ice in Sisak, the other at Admiral Karlovac's inline ice-hockey rink. There were 20 girls involved in total, aged 8–18. At both events, whether on ice or on wheels, the players practiced skating and stick-handling skills, trying out different drills and playing games.

Various cities, Spain

Nine venues across Spain took part in this year's World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend. For clubs with established women's and girls' teams it was a chance to attract new players. For clubs still developing the female game, it was an opportunity to celebrate the girls already involved in their junior set-ups. There were events in San Sebastian, Logrono, Valdemoro, Majadahonda, Puigcerda, Vitoria-Gasteiz, Jaca, and Huarte, with more to come in Barcelona next weekend. In total, more than 120 girls took part, aged from five upwards.

Brest, France

After a successful day in Brest, the local Albatros club had at least 10 new recruits for its girls' program. In total, 28 players aged 4–12 came to play. They had an introduction to ice hockey in France and worldwide emphasizing the rise of the women's game. Then it was onto the ice for a 90-minute session of practice drills and mini games. Many of the girls are eager to come back for more: the Albatros club has signed up several new players following a great recruiting day.

Tangerang, Indonesia

Before this year's event in Indonesia, some of the 33 newcomers thought ice hockey was "golf on the ice". By the end of the afternoon at the rink in Supermall Karawaci, several were signing up for further coaching sessions. At least eight participants signed up on the day when they found out about the event. The youngest players was six years old, and 21 of the group were under 15. Most of the girls were skating for the first time, but after an hour's practice many of them were ready to tackle a game session in the second half of the event.

Luxembourg City, Luxembourg

The WGIHW event in Luxembourg exceeded expectations, with about 20 first-timers trying ice hockey with the Tornado and Huskies clubs at the Kockelscheier rink. **Georges Clees** of Huskies Luxembourg, one of the event organizers, said there were plans to repeat this kind of open day regularly. "We had many more girls than we anticipated, so we will try to do these events more often," he said. "Everyone liked and many of them wanted to join the team. But we definitely need more rinks in Luxembourg to grow the sport."

Athens, Greece

The second year of World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend in Greece brought 14 girls aged 6–13 onto the ice. The 2025 edition was hosted with help from experienced female players, helping to establish links through all levels of the women's game in the country. They were on hand to share their skills and experience and encouraged many of the newcomers to join their local clubs. The whole event helped to gain exposure for women's ice hockey – an important first step, but one to be backed up with further efforts to keep this year's triallists in the game.

Global Girls' Game Sets World Record

The IIHF was officially recognized as the Guinness World Records title holder following the resounding success of the IIHF Global Girls' Game (GGG) in mid-March 2026.

The IIHF set the record for "Most host countries for the same ice hockey exhibition match event," after staging an unprecedented 43 games simultaneously across the globe.



Players in Buenos Aires competed in the Global Girls' Game.

At the heart of this historic milestone was the Global Girls' Game itself, an annual initiative aimed at encouraging female participation in ice hockey. The 2026 edition brought together players from Japan, the Philippines, Portugal, New Zealand, Argentina, South Africa, and Lithuania, among many others.

Each participating country hosted its own exhibition match as part of the synchronized event, contributing to the record-breaking total. The Guinness World Records recognition follows the submission and verification of official documents, photos, and video evidence from all participating locations.

IIHF President, **Luc Tardif** said: "This achievement reflects years of commitment to developing women's ice hockey at all levels, from grassroots programs to international competition. The Global Girls' Game continues to serve as a powerful platform to inspire young athletes and strengthen the global ice-hockey community."







(left) Girls in Australia enjoy a break during game action; (above) Players in Czechia celebrate a goal; (bottom) Serbian girls show their love for teammates and a fun day of hockey.









(Clockwise from top left) Players from Indonesia, Latvia, Iceland, and Bosnia & Herzegovina all competed in the Global Girls' Game.



Among the 43 participating nations that helped set a Guinness record were teams from Spain (above), Portugal (inset, above) and Chinese Taipei (below).





Asia Committee

The 2025–26 season set a new record for development activities and events in the region. It also demonstrated our ability to move faster than ever before, continue to close the gap, and further unlock the potential of the Asia region.

A total of twelve development activities and events were organized, reflecting the achievement of many key objectives while continuing to build a solid foundation for the long-term sustainable growth of ice hockey in Asia.

Our Youth Hockey Director Program – Phase II further focused on strengthening the long-term development of youth ice hockey. Participants identified areas for improvement within their current structures while gaining a deep understanding of international standards, best practices, and principles. The outcome will be a comprehensive assessment of each MNA's Youth Hockey Development Program, including a strategic plan and recommendations for presentation to the MNA President and General Secretary.

Coaching Education Level I builds upon the IIHF Learn to Play Program and was organized for the first time. It represents an important next step for MNAs that previously participated in the Learn to Play Program. During the coming season, we will continue with Coaching Education Level II.

The implementation of the League Management Program is the outcome of both the General Secretary Program and the Youth Hockey Director Program, where the need for such an initiative was identified. Implemented first as a pilot project, it focuses on league structures, youth hockey leagues, Women's and Girls' Hockey, disciplinary systems and, in the next step, on sponsorship, marketing and communications.

As with previous multi-sport events, the IIHF Asia Office supported and cooperated with the South East Asian Games Federation for the successful staging of the 33rd SEA Games in Bangkok, where, for the first time, a women's ice hockey event alongside the men's event was included in the games program.

The Asia Championship Series in Oskemen, Kazakhstan for Women and Beijing, China, for Men was once again organized at a high standard. During the season, efforts focused on increasing the championship's visibility through social media and national television to support MNAs in attracting future sponsors.

As the series now moves to Japan and Korea, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to the Chinese Ice Hockey Association and the Kazakhstan Ice Hockey Federation for providing an excellent environment from the start of this four-year pilot project.

Looking back over the past five years, there were areas in which we were able to move faster, areas where we needed to proceed more carefully and not as fast as would have liked, and areas that required pioneering work. The progress achieved has been the result of everyone's commitment and collective effort, for which I would like to express my sincere appreciation and thank everyone involved.

-- Aivaz Omorkanov, Chairperson



Efforts to grow ice hockey in Asia have proved evermore successful in the last year, resulting in more programs and tournaments across the region.



Associate Members Working Group

Raeto Raffainer, Chairperson
Adriaan Wijckmans, Secretary
Charles El-Mir (LBN)
Jorge Haiek (ARG)
Ferhat Tozunler (MKD)
Cristina Lopes (POR)
Joaquin de la Garma (MEX), Expert
Adnan Mrkva (BIH), Expert

The final year of the 2021–2026 mandate of the IIHF Associate Member Working Group focused on strengthening engagement with Associate Members and ensuring that their interests remain represented within the IIHF beyond the conclusion of the Working Group's term.

At the initiative of the Working Group, the first IIHF Development Afternoon was organized in conjunction with the 2025 IIHF Semi-Annual Congress in Nice. The Development Afternoon created a dedicated forum for development matters, with particular attention given to the needs and opportunities of Associate Members. It included discussions on IIHF 3x3 activities, development programs, and minimum-participation standards, as well as sessions concerning the Development Cup. The Development Afternoon attracted an excellent turnout and enabled Associate Members to engage directly with representatives of the IIHF Development Department.



Jim Aldred and his wife, Cristina Lopes (both left, in street clothes), have worked tirelessly to promote and develop ice hockey in Portugal, an Associate Member of the IIHF since 1999.

Building on this momentum, the Working Group later held an in-person meeting in Lisbon on 30 June and 1 July 2026. The meeting included discussions on the future of the Development Cup and IIHF 3x3, development programs, artificial ice and infrastructure solutions, transfer fees, governance matters, and the long-term development pathways available to Associate Members.

As this was the final year of the Working Group's mandate, particular attention was given to its legacy and the future representation of Associate Members.

The Working Group developed recommendations intended to ensure continuity, strengthen links with other IIHF committees, and support the continued growth and progress of Associate Members during the next electoral term.

––Raeto Raffainer, Chairperson

Athletes Committee

Franz Reindl, Chairperson
Stefan Grauwiler, Secretary
Sean Burke (CAN)
Renata Fast (CAN)
Jennifer Harss (GER)
Ivan Stimic Roitinic (CRO)
Angela Ruggiero (USA)
Dainius Zubrus (LTU)
Saku Koivu, Expert (FIN)

During the 2025–26 season, the Athletes Committee continued to provide the athlete perspective on important regulatory and development topics within international ice hockey. The Committee was consulted on proposed changes affecting the women's game and continued to support initiatives aimed at strengthening gender equality and the development of women's ice hockey. As Chairman, I was proud to represent the athletes and ensure that their perspectives were reflected in discussions, particularly at IIHF Council meetings.

The Committee worked on and discussed the following topics:

Full-Face Protection in the Women's Senior Category

The Committee discussed a possible removal of the mandatory full-face protection requirement in the women's senior category, which would allow players to choose between full-face protection and a visor.

While some members supported giving female players the same choice as male players, concerns were raised regarding an increased risk of facial and dental injuries, particularly as most women have no experience playing with only a visor. It was also noted that many players would likely continue to wear full-face protection.

The Committee emphasized that player safety should remain the priority and that any potential rule change should be introduced carefully, possibly through a trial or transition period.

Women's Results in the Distribution of IIHF Development Fees

The Athletes Committee welcomed the approval of the proposal to include women's results as a factor in the future distribution of IIHF Development Fees. The proposal was approved by both the IIHF Council and IIHF Congress. Including women's results in the calculation represents an important step toward greater recognition of women's ice hockey within the IIHF development framework and supports the continued growth and development of the women's game across Member National Associations.

Future Topics

Ramadan Considerations
Following a recommendation from the Medical and Player Safety Committee, the Committee discussed the potential impact of Ramadan on event scheduling, mealtimes, training schedules, and nutrition planning for athletes who are fasting.

Together with the Event & Championship Committee, the Athletes Committee emphasized the importance of taking these considerations into account in future event planning to ensure appropriate accommodations for affected athletes.

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The Athletes Committee helps give players a voice at the administrative level within the IIHF.

Expanded Athlete Surveys

The Committee agreed to further strengthen athlete feedback by conducting more comprehensive surveys across all categories. These surveys will help provide a broader understanding of athletes' perspectives and concerns on key issues affecting the sport and support future Committee discussions and recommendations.

My thanks go to all supporters of our Committee and to all athletes for their valuable input, including Secretary **Stefan Grauwiler**, Committee members **Sean Burke**, **Renata Fast**, **Jennifer Harss**, **Ivan Stimic Rojtinic**, **Angela Ruggiero**, and **Dainius Zubrus**, as well as expert **Saku Koivu**.

--Franz Reindl, Chairperson

Coaching Committee

Raeto Raffainer, Chairperson
Tom Renney, Co-Chair
Kim Pedersen, Secretary
Heinz Ehlers (DEN)
Anders Lundberg (SWE)
Gergely Majoross (HUN)
Sergei Zubov (RUS)
Baris Coskun, Expert
Kimmo Okarinen, Expert
Filip Pesan, Expert
Lars Weibel, Expert



The Coaching Committee helps coaches around the world keep up with the game, on ice and off.

As usual, the Coaching Committee had a full agenda during the 2025–26 season as it sought to stay on top of an ever-changing and developing game across the world. Education was a theme that weaved its way through many of the conversations. The Committee continued to work on the IIHF Coach Development Framework and the IIHF Coach Education Framework. We also reviewed the Minimum Participation Standards for coach education across MNAs and honed in on requirements and standards moving forward.

As for on-ice concerns, the Committee placed a strong emphasis on diving and embellishment and, more generally, game integrity. There was also input into the three-way process of communication between coaches, officials, and the Situation Room as well as the future role of the Situation Room.

The emerging 3x3 game also drew attention. We reviewed overtime rules, notably the no-return concept, and agreed further testing was needed before it could be implemented into game situations. We also agreed to improve and develop means by which coaches could become more familiar with the game of play and rules of the 3x3 discipline.

Women's ice hockey was also an important part of the Committee's discussions. We worked with the Competition & Coordination Committee to better understand the importance of women's international breaks. As well, we addressed the future of women's European competitions, including the European Cup of Nations. Other Committees we continued to work closely with included Coaching, Development, Sport, and Officiating.

The Committee offered technical input into new World Championship formats for lower divisions, which would see two groups of three play a round robin followed by a playoff. Additionally, we had a regular exchange concerning international coaching and player-development best practices and also discussed player pathways and the retention of young players in the game.

--Raeto Raffainer, Chairperson

Communication Committee

During the 2025–26 season, the Communication Committee continued to support the IIHF's evolution into a more connected, modern, and global media organization. Our focus remained on strengthening digital platforms, expanding the reach of international ice hockey, and building stronger connections with Member National Associations, athletes, and fans.

As Chairman, I was pleased to see significant progress across our digital ecosystem, particularly through the continued development of IIHF.TV, the growth of our social media platforms, and the work towards a more integrated fan experience.

Over the course of the season, our mandate focused on the following:

IIHF.TV

Following its launch in April 2025, IIHF.TV continued to grow as an important strategic platform, providing live and on-demand coverage of up to 600 games per season. Beyond our top championships, the platform gives greater visibility to women's hockey, junior competitions, and lower divisions, allowing more teams and athletes to reach audiences around the world.

Social Media and Digital Content

The IIHF continued to expand its social media presence through greater use of video, highlights, behind-the-scenes content and athlete-focused storytelling. With 74 per cent of hockey fans developing their interest in the sport before the age of 14, reaching younger audiences and creating lasting connections with the next generation remains a priority.

A Connected Fan Experience

The Committee supported the continued integration of the IIHF's website, Fan Engagement App, IIHF.TV, Game Centre, social media, and fan data. New technologies being explored include automated production, AI-assisted content, and personalization, which can offer further opportunities to create a more seamless and engaging fan experience.

Supporting Our Members

Strengthening collaboration with Member National Associations remained central to our work. Through better content sharing, coordination, tools, and training, our goal is to amplify the voices of our members and ensure that stories from every part of the international hockey family can reach a global audience.

Looking Ahead

Our priority is to continue building the IIHF as a year-round media organization: putting athletes and human stories at the centre, reaching new and younger audiences, strengthening our digital ecosystem and using data and technology responsibly.

IIHF.TV has given international hockey a new global platform; social media has expanded its voice; and our increasingly connected digital ecosystem is bringing fans closer to the game. The foundation is strong; our responsibility is to keep building on it.

My thanks go to the members of the Communication Committee, the IIHF team, our Member National Associations, athletes, media, broadcasters, and partners for their continued commitment to telling the stories of our game.

-- Andrea Gios, Chairperson

Competition & Coordination

Anders Larsson, Chairperson
Kim Pedersen, Secretary
Dmitry Kurbatov (RUS)
Martin Milanov (BUL)
John Vanbiesbrouck (USA)
Peter Zahner (SUI)
Johan Hemlin, Expert
Sami Kauhanen, Expert
Eric Ropert, Expert
Scott Salmond, Expert

It was another busy season for the Competition & Coordination Committee. It helped develop the new World Championship structures for Division play, below the top pool, and this will be implemented in Division I for the upcoming season.

On the women's side, the Committee looked into how to enhance international breaks for the 2026–27 season and initiated the development of a five-year calendar for these breaks. We also discussed the future of the Women's European Championship and the European Cup of Nations.

Other discussions at the tournament level included a better understanding of the World Ranking system and if it can be improved, as well as creating a ranking for club teams. On ice, the Committee agreed to expand the Situation Room's duties regarding embellishment, and including them for all top divisions of IIHF play.

On the business side, we reviewed performance-based financial support for IIHF Championships, international player transfer regulations, and emerging NCAA/CHL issues. Part of this included discussions about educational agreements and young players moving between leagues.

Other agenda items throughout the year included:

- Player release issues for U18 World Championships
- Player insurance, including potential WJC insurance solutions
- Development of international Farm Team Agreements
- Review of Sport Operational Status for IIHF Championships, including medical and event-related requirements
- Implementation of flexible boards and glass requirements
- Maintaining the coach's challenge system at the U18 World Championships

In the wider world of international ice hockey, we conducted our regular review of the World Cup and IIHF/NHL cooperation. We also monitored the development of NHL and PWHL Player Transfer Agreements. The Committee also provided input and coordination for the Milan Olympics and at the same time believed stronger involvement would be important to the planning for the 2030 Olympics.

--Anders Larsson, Chairperson

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Development Committee

Petr Briza, Chairperson
Harald Springfeld, Secretary
Ulrik Larsen (DEN)
Andy Mills (NZL)
Malin Andersson (SWE)
Theo van Gerwen (NED)
Igor Andrejkovic, Expert
Stoian Batchvarov, Expert
Manuela Groger-Schneider, Expert

The IIHF Development Department did not exist in 2021. Since then, however, significant progress has been made in establishing the structures, programs, and services that support Member National Associations. While there remains considerable work ahead, the department is increasingly providing strategic direction, practical support, and development opportunities that contribute to the long-term growth of ice hockey at all levels.

The implementation of an IIHF MNA Development Platform will also transform how the IIHF Development Department operates. Development activities, programs, and investments are now connected through one integrated system, enabling the complete development cycle to be managed, from assessment and planning to implementation, monitoring, and evaluation.

Through the platform, MNAs complete comprehensive self-assessments, identify their development priorities, and establish measurable SMART goals, creating a common framework for long-term planning and continuous improvement. As a result, future development initiatives, funding decisions, and support mechanisms are increasingly evidence-based. Moreover, the IIHF is also in the position to identify domestic, regional, and international trends and can allocate resources and establish programs accordingly.

One significant milestone we achieved was the creation of an IIHF MNA Developer Program, the membership of which surpassed 100 IIHF MNA Developers worldwide. This growing global network is strengthening the organizational capacity of MNAs and creating local expertise capable of driving sustainable development. At the same time, targeted initiatives such as the Growing the Game Fund and the Partnership for Progress Program continue to be impactful by providing tailored support where it is needed most.

The regional implementation and continued expansion of education programs for coaching, leadership, and organizational education have become central to the Development Department's operations. Programs are increasingly adapted to the specific development stage and strategic priorities of each MNA, ensuring greater long-term sustainability.

The overall development model is delivering tangible results. MNAs are making use of the services and expertise provided by the IIHF Development Department, which are reflected in higher participation levels, increased program applications, and stronger day-to-day engagement with the department.

Looking ahead, two priorities will be critical to sustaining this momentum: identifying and developing the next generation of key leaders through structured succession planning, and maintaining an uncompromising focus on athlete development, ensuring that every strategic initiative ultimately improves what happens on the ice.

--Petr Briza, Chairperson

European Professional Ice Hockey Committee

Petr Briza, Chairperson
Matti Nurminen, Secretary
Henrik Bach-Nielsen (DEN)
Denis Vaucher (SUI)
Marc Luthi (SUI)
Jörgen Lindgren (SWE)
Anders Larsson, Expert
Claus Grobner, Expert
Sami Kauhanen, Expert

In January 2022, IIHF President **Luc Tardif** formed a Presidential Task Force Group for European stakeholders – the IIHF, Hockey Europe, Alliance of European Hockey Clubs, Champions Hockey League, and IIHF European Member National Associations – to develop the coordination of European professional ice hockey.

In the spring of 2023, the IIHF Council decided to change the Presidential Task Force Group into an official committee called the European Professional Hockey Committee. In October 2024, the stakeholders of the committee signed an historical Memorandum of Understanding that described the purpose and the goals of a tighter cooperation between the parties.

The Committee's mandate is to discuss and make proposals to Council on any topic related to top-level ice hockey in Europe at the IIHF, MNA, national team, league, and club levels. It can also express its opinion and make recommendations on other international competitions and ice hockey-related topics, such as the Olympic Winter Games, World Cup of Hockey, international club competitions, and questions related to the NHL and NHL Players' Association.

The Committee held one official meeting and several informative update calls during the 2025–26 season. The main topic on the agenda throughout the season was the potential World Cup of Ice Hockey tournament in 2028 and its influence on European ice hockey. The committee played an important role in forming Europe's united approach to the negotiations with the NHL and NHLPA.

––Petr Briza, Chairperson



NHLers returned to the Olympics in 2026, and there is a World Cup planned for 2028 on a busy calendar involving the best of the best.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

Event & Championship Committee

Franz Reindl, Chairperson
Hannes Ederer, Secretary
Jan Cerny (CZE)
Kwangeun Choi (KOR)
Peter Forsberg (SWE)
Alexey Kireev (RUS)
Zoltan Kovacs, Expert
Petras Nauseda, Expert
Igor Nemecek, Expert
Kris Knauss, Expert

The IIHF Event & Championship Committee met in person in November 2025 and March 2026 for updates on the status of IIHF event applications and to discuss event-related topics.

First, the Committee convened in Milan at the headquarters of Milano-Cortina26. Besides reports and discussions about the organization and operation of both Olympic ice hockey tournaments, a site visit of both construction sites of the venues, MH1 and MH2, was also part of the program.

The IIHF Global Hockey Forum – one of the 12 key initiatives of the strategic plan ICE26 – took place in Nice and was an unqualified success. Over two days, some 485 participants representing 71 Member National Associations took part in 39 presentations and panel discussions led by global experts. Their focus was three key themes: development, marketing, and women's ice hockey.

Attention was also placed on the ICE26 initiative "IIHF Championship Structure" where the Committee provided input which led to new tournament formats for the Divisions. As well, the timing of the WW Championships was moved to November, a decision that was subsequently approved at the 2026 Annual Congress.

The next meeting focused on the allocation of various World Championships. The bidding process to host the 2030 IIHF World Championship was simplified because Finland and Latvia, as co-hosts, were the only applicants.

This 2030 bid builds on the successful co-hosting between the nations in 2023. However, while the same arena in Riga will be used in 2030, Helsinki will host the medal games in the reopened Veikkaus Arena (formerly Hartwall Arena).

For the first time, the last Congress followed the new organizational structure as proposed by the Committee. Further discussions led to a proposal for a new bidding procedure timeline for WM and WM-I events and the implementation of co-hosting guidelines to the event code.

In closing, I look back to the past term of this committee and enjoyed the constructive and productive work. The commitment of all members to find solutions to the current IIHF Championships was remarkable. I would like to thank my Committee Secretary **Hannes Ederer** and all Committee Members, namely **Jan Cerny**, **Kwangeun Choi**, **Petras Nauseda**, **Zoltan Kovacs**, **Peter Forsberg**, **Igor Nemecek**, and **Kris Knauss** for their concerted efforts. Of note, Kris Knauss joined the committee this season replacing **Dwayne Dillinge**r (both USA).

--Franz Reindl, Chairman

Facilities Committee

Viesturs Koziols, Chairperson
Cornelia Ljungberg, Secretary
Meshal H. Al-Ajimi (KUW)
Jesse Albers (CAN)
Ramil Nagimullin (RUS)
Michael Pfuhl (GER)
Andrei Basko, Expert
Antoine Descloux, Expert
Jeff Theiler, Expert
Manu Varho, Expert
Simon Stigenberg, Expert

During the 2025–26 season, the IIHF Facilities Committee continued to develop guidelines for the effective and sustainable operation of ice hockey facilities worldwide.

A major focus of our work this season has been the creation of the Ice Rink Operational Guidelines, a comprehensive framework designed to support rink owners, operators, and Member National Associations in managing modern-day challenges related to arena functionality, safety, energy efficiency, and long-term sustainability. The initial drafting phase is underway, and the full guideline is scheduled for publication in 2027 after consultations with relevant stakeholders are complete.

After the successful "New Energy for Arenas" conference in Tampere in March 2026, a follow up conference is also in the planning.

Regarding the construction and development of ice rinks worldwide, it is estimated that approximately 50–60 new arenas are built or reopened after renovation each year.

Unfortunately, it is also estimated that approximately 20–30 ice rinks close annually worldwide, highlighting the continuing need for investment, modernization, education, and long-term sustainability initiatives within the global ice hockey infrastructure.

The IIHF Facilities Committee has consulted with numerous MNAs and organized several important development and educational events, notably in Abu Dhabi, Romania, and Poland. And, from 28 August to 2 September 2026, an ice seminar was held in Istanbul.

As well, we have continued to collaborate with the Sustainability Committee. One priority we have made has been to establish a definition of what is meant by Sustainable Ice Arena. The following was approved by both the Facilities and Sustainability Committees and has further been accepted by the International Skating Union:

A sustainable ice arena is a facility designed and operated to deliver high-quality ice hockey conditions while ensuring long-term economic and social viability and minimizing environmental impact.

It integrates energy-efficient and low-emission technologies, including natural refrigerants, heat recovery, and renewable energy sources using well-trained and skilled personnel.

Sustainable arenas also prioritize efficient water management, waste reduction, and durable construction practices.

The IIHF emphasizes that true sustainability combines technical performance with community value, safety, and responsible resource use throughout the rink's lifecycle.

During its mandate period, the IIHF Facilities Committee conducted 12 meetings, when possible including local ice hockey communities in Canada, Netherlands, Switzerland, and Italy. Our work since 2022 has been focused on helping local organizers of the Milano Olympic Games, who were working under very challenging conditions. The Minutes of our committee meetings can be found at the IIHF Intranet.

--Viesturs Koziols, Chairperson

Historical/Hall of Fame Committee

Luc Tardif, Chairperson
Tanya Heimlich-Ng Yuen, Secretary
Christer Englund (SWE)
Zsuzsanna Kolbenheyer (HUN)
Peter Luthi (SUI)
Andrew Podnieks (CAN)
Phil Pritchard (CAN)
Jukka-Pekka Vuorinen (FIN)

The Historical Committee met in October 2025 in Zurich, hosts of the 2026 World Championship. The main order of business, of course, was to nominate the next class of Hall of Fame members which included Players and Builders as well as honourees for the Richard "Bibi" Torriani Award, the Paul Loicq Award, the Milestone Award, and Johan Bollue Award. In the end, it was agreed that no Milestone Award would be presented this year.

Additionally, the committee had a full agenda regarding matters past and present. It was noted that at tournaments the IIHF hands out a physical award for top-level tournament MVP for WM, WW, and WM20, but NOT for WM18 and WW18. It was unanimously agreed to add awards for the latter two events, which is what happened during the 2025–26 season.

The Committee also agreed to compile contact information for all past Hall of Famers to keep them informed as to IIHF activities that might be of interest to them and to make them feel more like lifelong family members.

There was discussion about what could be done for the 2027 World Junior Championship in Edmonton and Red Deer to honour 50 years of the world-famous tournament, and the idea of a 1st and 2nd All-Star Team seemed to be the most accepted.

An ongoing discussion also circled back to contacting certain MNAs about establishing a national hall of fame. There are several countries which have been members of the IIHF for many decades and which have long histories, but they do little to celebrate their greatest players and moments. We feel this needs to be corrected.

Everyone agreed that the process for determining the IIHF Male and Female Players of the Years was working well and should be kept. As well, the two-day format for IIHF Hall of Fame ceremonies has also been very well received whereby the final Saturday of the World Championship includes an IIHF Contributors' Ceremony and the final Sunday is devoted to the IIHF Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony. Both continue to be emceed with wonderful professionalism by Gord Miller.

--Luc Tardif, Chairperson





Zuzana Tomcikova (opposite, top) was the 2026 recipient of the Richard "Bibi" Torriani Award while Pat Cortina (opposite, bottom) was given the Paul Loicq Award.

Marketing Committee

The 2025–26 season marked an important period of progress for the IIHF's marketing and commercial activities. With new platforms, a new brand identity, and new partnership opportunities, we continued to strengthen the commercial foundations of international ice hockey and create greater long-term value for the IIHF and its Member National Associations.

We made significant progress across several important areas, from the commercialization of new digital platforms to the development of the IIHF brand and new commercial partnerships.

Key areas of focus included:

IIHF.TV and Digital Development

The launch and commercialization of IIHF.TV represented an important step forward, demonstrating both the growing audience demand and long-term potential of an IIHF-owned digital platform.

Since the launch, IIHF.TV has recorded close to 600,000 video views and generated 6.8 million page views. Together with the continued development of the IIHF App, website and wider digital ecosystem, IIHF.TV provides new ways to connect directly with fans while creating additional commercial opportunities and new revenue streams.

A New IIHF Brand

The launch of the new IIHF visual identity marked another milestone. A strong and consistent global brand is essential to increasing the visibility and value of international ice hockey and creating a more modern platform for future commercial growth.

New Commercial Opportunities

The successful commercialization of the IIHF jersey partnership was an important achievement for the organization. Agreements such as this demonstrate the commercial potential of the IIHF and provide a strong foundation for developing new partnerships and revenue opportunities in the future.

Supporting Member National Associations

Marketing was also placed firmly on the agenda at the first Global Hockey Forum. Dedicated marketing sessions provided Member National Associations with practical ideas and inspiration that can support their everyday work and help them strengthen the promotion and commercial development of hockey in their own markets.

Investing in the Future

All of these developments share an important objective: building a stronger and more sustainable commercial foundation for international ice hockey.

Growing the IIHF's revenues is not an end in itself. Greater commercial success creates more resources that can be reinvested into the development of the game, our competitions and, most important, our Member National Associations.

The progress made this season provides a strong foundation. Our responsibility is to continue creating value around the IIHF brand, developing new commercial opportunities and ensuring that the growth we achieve ultimately benefits the entire international ice-hockey family.

My thanks go to the members of the Marketing Committee, the IIHF team, our Member National Associations, and our commercial partners for their commitment and contribution throughout the season.

-- Heikki Hietanen, Chairperson

Officiating Committee

Marta Zawadzka, Chairperson
Scott Zelkin, Secretary
Danny Kurmann, Secretary
Lars Bruggemann (GER)
Vanessa Stratton (CAN)
Thomas Torsbrink (SWE)
Yahya Mohamed Aljneibi, Expert
Pavel Halas, Expert
Mihkail Karpushin, Expert



The 2025–26 season was a busy and successful one for the Officiating Committee. While the IIHF organizes dozens of events and games around the world, they all need referees and linespersons. In all, this past year saw some 34 IIHF tournaments and more than 600 games played. For us, that meant that more than 400 on-ice officials representing 50 countries also participated. It was a daunting task to organize it all.

This year, our theme was "Raising the Standard," and we believe we achieved this ambition with pride and distinction.

At the highest end, of course, we prepared the crews for the Olympics, men and women. On the men's side, there was an extra layer of detail to consider given that crews were blended between IIHF officials and officials from the NHL. Because this was the first Olympics with NHL players since 2014, it was also the first time we used blended crews in 12 years, meaning a new generation of referees and linespersons had to be trained.

To this end, we organized a three-day training camp in Buffalo. This was a crucial to the preparation for the officials in Milan, where working as one is such an important part of the group's success. This camp was the culmination of the IIHF's Road to Milan initiative. Although the NHL and IIHF rule books have never been closer, it was still important to learn consistency in calling the game, notably with restraining fouls and stick fouls, and learning what is a minor penalty and a major. Everyone had to be on the same page.

On the women's side, we made history in one respect. We wanted to give the women officials a camp of their own to prepare for the Olympics, and we decided the best way to do this was at the U20 World Championship, Division I-B, which was held in Milan as a test event for the Games. This was the first time an all-female crew handled a men's event, and they proved so capable and performed at the highest level that everyone was fully impressed.

Indeed, while the top-level events bring with them prestige, there is a commensurate pressure, and our on-ice officials throughout the program, from Olympics to World Juniors to the two U18 events, did an outstanding job.

History-making was also front and centre with another program in March 2026. For the first time ever, we held a meeting in Bangkok for the Chief Referees Network with the Referees-in-Chief of the lower-tier MNAs. This was the first time we have organized a dedicated event for the officiating leadership in the region.

All in all, it was a busy but fulfilling season. The extraordinary work done by referee coaches and officials made the Committee's job easier. Their professionalism and elite performance are all we can ever ask for.

--Marta Zawadzka, Chairperson

Medical & Player Safety

Henrik Bach Nielsen, Chairperson
Nadege Veintimilla, Secretary
Mark Aubry (CAN)
Jaan Moelder (EST)
Mike Stuart (USA)
Markku Tuominen (FIN)
Walter Kistler (SUI), Expert
Christiane Loinig-Velik (AUT), Expert
Paul Piccininni (CAN), Expert

The 2025–26 season was another highly productive year for the IIHF Medical & Player Safety Committee. Through its regular committee meetings and continuous collaboration with MNAs and international partners, the Committee continued to strengthen athlete health, player safety, and medical excellence across all IIHF competitions.

Mental health and performance remained one of the Committee's key priorities. Building on previous initiatives, the Committee continued to promote mental well-being as an essential component of athlete health and performance. A global mental-health awareness campaign was launched to encourage open discussion, reduce stigma, and improve understanding of mental health among athletes, coaches, medical personnel, and support staff.

A major achievement during the season was the development and launch of the e-learning module Athlete Mental Wellness and Performance: A Guide for Coaches. Led by Professor **Martin Mrazik** and developed in collaboration with internationally recognized experts and elite ice-hockey leaders – including **Vicky Sunohara**, **Daniel Alfredsson**, **Peter DeBoer**, **Gregory Tarle**, **Andre Lysenstoen**, **Dicky Haiek**, and **Dr. Frauke Kubischta** – the module provides coaches with practical tools to recognize mental health challenges, foster positive team environments, and support athlete well-being and performance. The initiative reinforces the important role coaches play in creating safe, healthy, and high-performing environments for athletes at all levels of the game.

Through these initiatives, the Committee continues to promote an holistic approach to athlete well-being, recognizing that both physical and psychological health are fundamental to safe participation and high performance.

The Committee also continued its support of the European Union's ERASMUS+ Sport projects, collaborating with international partners to further research and learn about athlete mental health and well-being. These initiatives reflect the IIHF's commitment to creating a supportive sporting environment.

The Committee also introduced a new Safety on Ice initiative aimed at improving the safety of medical personnel responding to emergencies on ice. Recognizing the risk of slips and falls while providing urgent medical care, the Committee equipped medical teams with specially designed ice grips to improve traction and stability during on-ice interventions. Approximately 200 complimentary sets were distributed to medical teams and championship personnel at IIHF events during the 2025–2026 season.

Related, a milestone during the season was the successful completion of the Rescue on Ice educational video project. Developed to standardize emergency response procedures during serious on-ice medical incidents, the training resource will now be used prior to IIHF championships to educate medical teams, on-ice officials, and event personnel. The project provides a consistent approach to emergency preparedness and strengthens the delivery of immediate medical care at all IIHF events.

The 2026 Olympics represented one of the Committee's most significant areas of collaboration during the season. Committee members worked closely with the IOC, the Olympic Organizing Committee, the NHL, the NHL Players' Association, MNAs, and team physicians to ensure the highest standards of medical care and player safety throughout the tournament. Particular emphasis was placed on harmonizing medical protocols, emergency procedures, concussion management, and athlete care.



The IIHF puts player safety as its number-one priority, making the Medical & Player Safety Committee one of its cornerstones.

Anti-doping also remained an important priority before, during, and after the Olympics, and throughout the IIHF championship season. The Committee supported the implementation of anti-doping programmes, ensuring that athletes were tested in accordance with international standards while continuing to promote education and awareness. Close collaboration with the International Testing Agency (ITA), the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), and National Anti-Doping Organizations (NADO) helped safeguard the integrity of competition and reinforce the Committee's long-standing commitment to clean sport.

The Committee continued to review and implement the latest concussion protocols, incorporating recommendations from the International Consensus on Concussion in Sport. Members reinforced the importance of concussion recognition, assessment, and return-to-play procedures, ensuring that player welfare remained the highest priority.

Injury surveillance and prevention remained central to the Committee's work. Particular attention continued to be given to women's ice hockey. Research into female athlete health also progressed during the season, with continued work examining the relationship between the menstrual cycle, athlete health, and performance. This initiative supports the Committee's commitment to advancing evidence-based, athlete-centred, and gender-specific sports medicine.

Through these initiatives, the IIHF Medical & Player Safety Committee continues to play a leading role in protecting the health, safety, and well-being of athletes while advancing medical standards throughout international ice hockey. By combining education, innovation, research, and collaboration with international partners, the Committee remains committed to ensuring that player welfare remains at the heart of the game and that every IIHF competition provides the safest environment for all participants.

––Henrik Bach Nielsen, Chairperson

IIHF Year in Review 2025–26

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Sustainability Committee

Beate Grupp, Chairperson
Anastasia Hiscock, Secretary
Anna Budykina (RUS)
Kristina Vikdahl (SWE)
Urs Scholl (SUI)
Jorg von Ameln (GER)
Naomi Bloetjes, Expert

Sustainability is critical to the IIHF as it directly impacts our ability to continue operating and growing ice-hockey in an environmentally responsible and socially inclusive manner. The IIHF recognizes that embracing sustainability is not only essential for reducing the sport's environmental footprint, but it also enhances our positive influence as a global leader in winter sports.

By driving sustainable initiatives, we aim to protect our arenas – both natural and indoor – while promoting ice hockey as a force for good, inspiring positive behavioural change and safeguarding the planet for future generations. By leveraging innovative technologies and practices, we are reducing carbon emissions, conserving water, and minimizing waste within ice rinks.

The IIHF has developed a Sustainability Roadmap with clear actions and timelines. We have initiated CO_2 footprint calculations for the top IIHF events, starting with the Swiss Organizing Committee 2026, after which we will expand this program to include future events. The results and reduction plan were published in September 2026.

As well, the organizing committee for the 2025 IIHF World Championship in Herning won this year's Sustainability Award. The Danes were praised for a combination of environmental action, social inclusion, and legacy planning. The event in Herning managed a record 65% recycling rate and also produced impressive social and educational programs.

Czechia took second place for its work in organizing the 2025 Women's World Championship in Ceske Budejovice. The Czechs were praised for consciously building on the legacy of the 2024 IIHF World Championship and sharing expertise from that event to show how sustainability can translate into strong spectator and participant experiences as well as long-term economic success.

This was the first year that the competition was open to countries that did not host a tournament. That enabled Portugal to claim third place for its work on developing a sustainable venue at the Serra da Estrela arena.

In all, there were eleven applications, including the first ever from an Asian nation – Hong Kong, China – and two submissions from Denmark, one as a tournament host and another as a Member National Association. The full entry list included Bulgaria, Canada, Czechia, Denmark (x2), Hong Kong, China, Hungary, Mexico, Poland, Portugal, and Sweden.

The IIHF also launched a Sustainability Agenda, which aligned with the ICE2026 strategy as a long-term action plan rooted in the progress already made in growing the game and bringing communities together. By collaborating with national federations, the Olympic community, and key stakeholders, we will continue to drive meaningful initiatives that enhance both the social and environmental sustainability of ice hockey. Whether through expanding opportunities in women's ice hockey, introducing new disciplines like 3x3, or strengthening development programs, we remain committed to making the sport more accessible in all ways.

With this strategy, the IIHF reinforces its leadership in driving positive change in sports. By leveraging our existing foundations and embracing new opportunities, we are shaping a future where ice hockey not only thrives but does so in harmony with the evolving needs of our global community.

--Beate Grupp, Chairperson

Top Mentorship Committee

Marta Zawadzka, Chairperson
Kalle Valiaho, Secretary
Alexander Kiknadze (RUS)
Bob Mancini (USA)
Aku Nieminen (FIN)
Anders Wahlstrom (SWE)
Christian Kunast, Expert
Corey McNabb, Expert

The Top Mentorship Committee just completed its fifth season, which consisted of one on-site meeting and two on-line meetings. The onsite meeting was held in tandem with the Development and Asia Committee meetings.

We reviewed the development activities that the IIHF has been running with their Member National Associations, notably Learn to Play programs, the new Coaching Developer programs, and the Developer Program. Perhaps our biggest success, though, was the establishment of our Development Platform. This initiative ensures all the information comes directly from the members and is updated annually.

This Platform has two components: the profile pages, and the assessment. The profile pages gather basic MNA information including contact information, number of Game Officials (Gos), Coaches (Cs), and Players (Ps), and Seasonal Plans, listing the top priorities for the season.

MNAs are divided in four different categories: Advanced, Established, Developing, and Entry level. The criteria of the assessment varies, but the categories are the same to ensure that everyone will be challenged enough to provide more thoughts and guidance in different areas. For now, this process is done by self-assessment, but in the future, it remains to be seen whether this style or an audit style fits better. The goal is that all assessments will be completed by the time of the Semi-Annual Congress in 2026.

The Committee also examined Growing the Game Fund (GGF) applications, a process which included having the secretary of the GGF committee introduce these proposals. Our Committee was also able to provide input for these projects. The current structure allows for MNAs to develop the sport at home. The trends show that more MNAs are applying for funding from the GGF, which is a great indicator that information is flowing towards the membership.

The Partnership for Progress exchange program also made strides this past season. For instance, the IIHF was able to provide financial support for MNAs to send people to various events run by USA Hockey during the summer of 2026. This included opportunities for coaches, goaltenders, and game officials to participate in summer development camps and seminars. The IIHF covered the cost of flights, accommodation, and related fees.

We anticipate stronger relationships with committees to help maximize the IIHF's development support for its members, and our Committee will continue to promote programs that will allow as many members as possible to use for their own benefit.

Thank you to everybody on the Committee who contributed to a productive and successful season, and we look forward to helping grow our sport the world over.

--Marta Zawadzka, Chairperson

Women's Committee

Zsuzsanna Kolbenheyer, Chairperson
Blanka Elekes Szentagotai, Secretary
Viktoriya Sazonova (KAZ)
Gina Kingsbury (CAN)
Katie Million (USA)
Tereza Sadilova (CZE)
Mel Davidson, Expert
Martin Kogler, Expert
Emma Terho, Expert
Olga Votolovskaya, Expert

Women's ice hockey is going through a time of fast-paced development, and the successful 2025–26 season culminated with the Olympic Winter Games in Milano-Cortina in February 2026.

Looking back further, the first major IIHF event of the season was the Global Hockey Forum in October 2025 where one of the topic streams was the state of the female game. This was hosted and moderated by 2026 IIHF Hall of Fame inductee, **Cassie Campbell-Pascall**.

Backed by data provided by Deloitte's **Barbara Zibret Kralj,** the speakers of the opening session provided information on how businesses thrive under diverse leadership. Best practices were shared by other sports including the WNBA, UEFA, and IBU. **Kim Davis**, the NHL's Senior Executive Vice President, spoke on ice hockey's best practices, and she was followed by a panel with **Dwight Mullins** and **Peter DeBoer**, moderated by Campbell-Pascall. The final session of the event provided inspirational female pathway stories about leadership, broadcasting, and sport diplomacy.

The growth of the female game was further buoyed by the IIHF Women's 3x3 series in Buenos Aires in November 2025. The five participating teams didn't just have the opportunity to play for their country but also experienced mixed-team practice sessions with IIHF mentors, a now well-established and well-loved feature of these events.

HER Coaching Network, the IIHF's female coaching and mentoring platform, is constantly growing, further proof that such support groups are essential. The network regularly hosts Ask Me Anything sessions where more experienced coaches or coaches with unique experiences share their stories and answer questions from around the world.

HER membership was also well represented at the first IIHF Coaches Conference dedicated exclusively to women's ice hockey. Held in Budapest during the WW-I-A in April 2026, it focused on current trends in the women's game. Presentations included current coaching trends, the physical game and how to teach it, and the development of young female players. Participating coaches also went on ice with IIHF presenters and mentors. Additionally, **Dr. Kaleb Dahlgren** made an impassioned presentation on how to build resilient teams. The crucial in-game relationship between game officials and coaches was also examined.

Following successful events in 2017 and 2019, in June 2026 the third Women's Goaltending Camp was organized in Budapest. The 60 camp participants represented 19 countries and had five intense days of learning both on and off ice. Each MNA was represented by both goaltenders and a goalie coach to ensure that the knowledge shared by the IIHF mentor team is transferred to federations in the most impactful way. Strength and conditioning were also highlighted. Swiss national team goalie **Andrea Brandli** made a presentation just days before she was drafted into the PWHL.

The IIHF continued its successful co-operation with the IOC's WISH (Women in Sport High Performance Pathway) program. Currently there are female ice hockey coaches enrolled in Cohorts 5, 6, and 7.

The 2025–26 season also included women's ice hockey promotional initiatives. World Girls' Ice Hockey Weekend, which took place in mid-October 2025, was the biggest to date with 49 countries participating. Its goals have remained consistent – to encourage young girls to try ice hockey.

The Global Girls' Game in March 2026 brought even more visibility to the female game as the IIHF set a Guinness World Record for the most host countries in the single ice-hockey game. With a total of 43 confirmed hosts, the game was played between Team Blue and Team White with the latter emerging victorious based on the cumulative goals total.

The IIHF Women's Committee held in-person and virtual meetings throughout the season and continued to reach out to all major stakeholders in the female game as well as other IIHF entities to ensure the best and most sustainable development pathways for the female game worldwide. The upcoming Women's Worlds in Denmark in November 2026, the first event held in this new date on the IIHF calendar, will be another great opportunity for increasing visibility and ensuring growth.

The next Olympic quad will be the biggest yet, and with united global effort the female game will be elevated to new levels for participation, growth, sustainability, and leadership.

--Zsuzsanna Kolbenheyer, Chairperson

Women's hockey is seeing growth and expansion in all areas, from grassroots enrollment to top-level competition.




INNOVATION
TARDIF Luc

Integrity

The IIHF oversaw two MNA Integrity Officer workshops in 2025–26, the first in October and the second a month later.

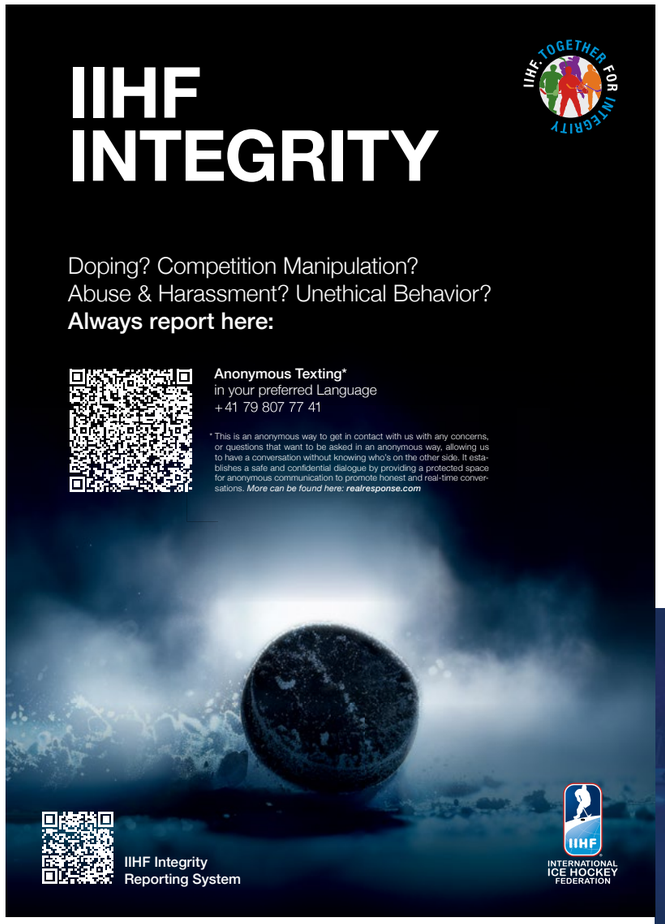
At the first workshop, which lasted two days, **Kirill Starkov** discussed the MNA Ambassador Program, and then he and **Sarina Sundara Rajah** related this to parents. ChildFund Sport for Development was the main focus on the second day as the group discussed safeguarding frameworks and action planning.

At the second meeting, in November, online abuse was the main focus of discussion. As well, **Martin Mrazik** talked about mental-health performance in sport and **Brandon Kozun** discussed the Ambassador Program.

Additionally, the IIHF has mandated education for coaches on abuse and harassment and ensured in-person education at all U18 events during the 2025–26 season, for both men and women. The focus of these initiatives included anti-doping, competition manipulation, and abuse and harassment. All athletes were required to attend these sessions, and in many cases these presentations were also provided to on-ice officials.

Another mandatory program at IIHF events was respect in the workplace. This was intended for all volunteers and OC members.

Integrity Week featured the Hold the Line campaign, and the IIHF also conducted due-diligence screening with officials at the Men's World Championship, together with the IIHF's integrity partner HAROD.



ICE26

Mission

To work with all stakeholders to make ice hockey an accessible, attractive, and competitive sport, and to generate added value for our members.

Vision

Global leader in winter sports

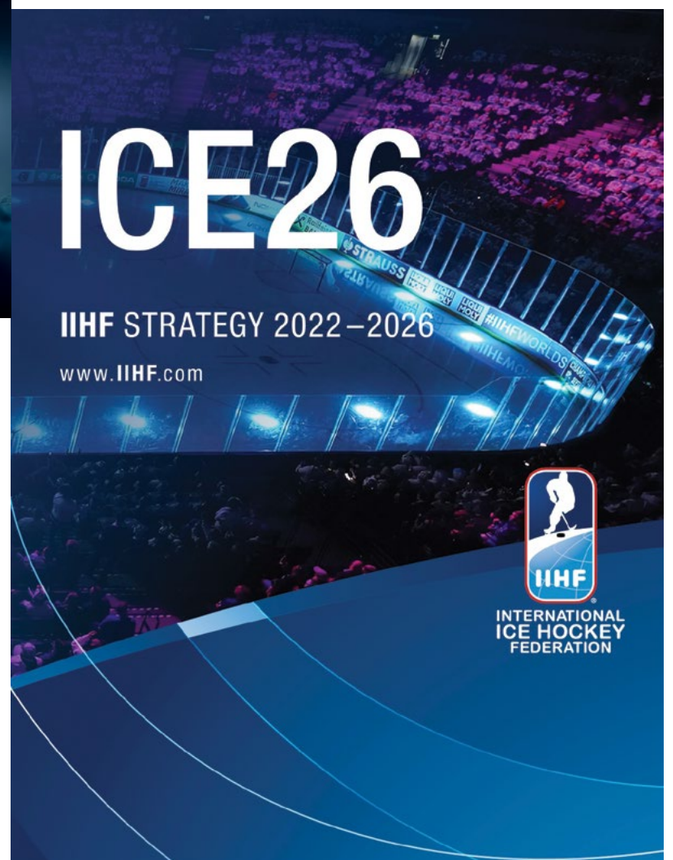
Values

INTEGRITY: The IIHF is fully committed to protecting ice hockey – its players, coaches, officials, and fans – against any form of cheating or abuse. In addition, it is the IIHF's top priority to strengthen the ethics in the sport and to tackle any ethical misconduct.

RESPECT: The IIHF, together with its Member National Associations, must strive to develop not just good ice hockey players but also good people. Through IIHF competitions, IIHF camps, and coaching seminars, we aim to instill values of fair play and respect at all levels of the game.

PASSION: Through inclusivity and promotion of the game, the IIHF aims to instill a passion for ice hockey among all players, coaches, administrators, and fans, that will carry over across generations and grow the game.

COMMUNITY: The strength of our sport comes from our unity. The international ice-hockey family is a real and tangible resource for our game, allowing our MNAs not just to compete together but also to support, share knowledge with, and assist each other with the development of the sport.



Strategy – Innovate, Collaborate, Expand

INNOVATE: To build our capacity as an organization that excels in the modern era

- Undertake a digital transformation
- Drive new sustainable initiatives
- Refresh the World Championship structure
- Strengthen the IIHF's global presence

COLLABORATE: To drive partnerships that serve the best interests of our sport and our players

- Develop an annual global ice hockey forum
- Increase collaboration with Olympic stakeholders
- Analyze use of international breaks

EXPAND: To reach more players and fans through stronger MNAs and new offerings

- Build a targeted development program
- Create engaging promotional campaigns
- Develop a fresh women's ice hockey concept
- Establish a new 3-on-3 discipline

Partners



NIKE/OFFICIAL APPAREL SUPPLIER OF THE IIHF

Nike, Inc. is the world's leading designer, marketer, and distributor of authentic athletic footwear, apparel, equipment, and accessories for a variety of sports and fitness activities. Since 1996, when Nike joined forces with the IIHF, it has produced the official IIHF uniforms at the Olympic Winter Games and Youth Olympic Winter Games, as well as for the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship, IIHF World Junior Championship, and IIHF Women's World Championship.



TISSOT/OFFICIAL TIMEKEEPER OF THE IIHF

Tissot is the Official Timekeeper and Official Watch of the IIHF and has been a partner of the IIHF Ice Hockey World Championship since 1998. Currently, Tissot watches are awarded to the Best Players at all levels of the IIIF Ice Hockey World Championship program for both men and women.

IIHF Supplier Pool



Thanks to the IIHF equipment support program, several of the federation's newest members were able to enhance their development programs in 2025–26 with on-ice training.

The IIHFs Equipment Support Program started in 1994. It has been essential in allowing the IIHF to work with equipment manufacturers to help grow ice hockey worldwide by distributing equipment to MNAs around the world for little or no cost.

Suppliers include Bauer and CCM, the two largest suppliers of equipment to players, as well as Oakley, Sherwood Inc, Tackla, True, and Warrior, all of which support ice hockey development around the globe at all levels of competition. Additionally, Gufex is the exclusive game puck provider of the IIHF.



IIHF launches Re-Brand

On October 3, 2025, the IIHF launched a new version of itself during the Semi-Annual Congress in Nice, France. Designed by TwelfthMan, the focus was a modern, fan-focused identity built around the brand essence 'Home Ice' and included a new icon and expressive wordmark.

TwelfthMan were tasked with creating a modern identity that supported the IIHF's approach to strengthening its global presence and its ongoing brand strategy to engage more closely with ice-hockey fans around the globe. The brand includes an updated logo and wordmark, visual identity, graphic language, colour palette and bespoke font built around the brand essence Home Ice.

TwelfthMan worked closely with renowned icon artist **Chris Mitchell** to create the logo, which retains the IIHF's brand equity by maintaining the silhouette of a player and its distinctive rink shape, but the gender-neutral player is now given more prominence and character.

A moving puck has been incorporated into the new wordmark, giving it a clear ice hockey reference as well as dynamism and personality. A bespoke typeface, meanwhile, captures the energy of the game with the flexibility to work in multiple tones across all levels of IIHF communications, from clear and confident to engaging and expressive.

TwelfthMan creative director **Mark Pidgeon** commented: "It has been a very collaborative process with the IIHF and we feel the new brand really captures the essence of the sport and their organization. We needed to make sure that the brand would work across the IIHF's many different competitions and initiatives as well as having the flexibility to speak to a wide-range of people, from governance to more expressive fan-focused content. We are really looking forward now to seeing the brand come to life."

"This new brand represents more than just a visual update – it's a statement of who we are and where we are going," said **Matti Nurminen**, the IIHF's Director General. "Home Ice reflects our belief that every fan, player and partner should feel a sense of belonging in the global ice hockey community. With this evolution, we are building a platform that is inclusive, modern, and ready for the future of our sport."



IIHF launches new fan app

On December 8, 2025, the IIHF launched its new Fan Engagement App, a major step forward in its long-term digital transformation and a key milestone within the federation's ICE26 strategy. The app marks a decisive shift toward a more modern, personalized, and globally connected fan experience.

Unlike the previous tournament-focused application, the new Fan Engagement App is designed to accompany fans throughout the entire ice-hockey season. It introduces an intuitive, tournament-agnostic structure that allows users to follow teams, nations, players, and events seamlessly in one place. For the first time, ice hockey followers can move fluidly between live games, detailed statistics, highlights, behind the scenes and editorial content, as well as player profiles.

"The IIHF is committed to bringing fans closer to the game, wherever they are and whenever they want to engage," said IIHF President **Luc Tardif**. "This new app is an important step in that direction. It not only improves how fans follow our tournaments, but also strengthens their connection to the sport throughout the year. It reflects the ambitions of our ICE26 strategy and our desire to modernize, innovate, and grow the global ice hockey community."

The new platform was shaped by extensive research, including the IIHF fan surveys conducted in 2024 and 2025, in-depth interviews, and multiple rounds of user testing.

Fans consistently indicated that they wanted faster access to scores and schedules, clearer navigation, high-quality video content, and more reasons to return to the app outside of tournament periods.

In addition, the app will offer a significantly improved live game experience, including real-time scores, schedules, and standings powered by IIHF's own stats system. A modern home feed brings together the day's key games, stories and highlights, while game, team and player pages provide accessible, structured information designed to increase the users individual experience.

Video content plays a key role in the user experience, IIHF.TV remains seamlessly connected to provide full-length live games, replays, and behind the scenes content to fans. In addition, by using AI-powered sports content technology the IIHF offers fans mobile-friendly clips and quick views across major IIHF events.

Unifying the IIHF's web, app, OTT and data environments into a connected ecosystem supports the federation's broader mission to grow the game globally across all genders and age groups, offering a scalable digital platform capable of evolving with the sport.

The app will made its full event debut at the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship in the United States, providing comprehensive live coverage, integrated video content, and enhanced storytelling throughout one of the sport's most prominent annual events.



Spotlight: Portugal

Portugal might not be a Full Member of the IIHF, but under the guidance of **Jim Aldred** and his wife **Cristina Lopes**, they are doing a tremendous job growing the game. In July 2025, select players participated in an international ice-hockey camp in Italy on a full-sized rink, a rare opportunity for players to experience the full IIHF sheet of ice.

In September 2025, Aldred met with the IIHF's Development Department and the President of Portugal's Olympic Committee. Aldred also attended the Global Hockey Forum. As well, Porto started its third season playing in the Spanish league.

In November, the federation started full speed into its winter program with practices for all players at all levels. A month later, Portugal took part in 3x3 games and also held Learn to Play sessions over the Christmas holidays.

The New Year started with a bang as the national team travelled to Rabat to help inaugurate the opening of Morocco's new arena, the crown jewel of all Africa.

In February, players participated in the IIHF Learn to Play Instructor Program for Europe and Africa, and the following month the IIHF held its Learn to Play program in Portugal. In May, Aldred represented Portugal at the IIHF International Coaching Symposium in Zurich.

Ending the season, Portuguese players travelled to Brussels in July 2026 to take part in an international ice-hockey camp again.





Jim Adred coaches the Portuguese team (above) and runs clinics on a regular basis to help develop skill levels for players of all ages (below, opposite).





Portugal does not yet have a full-size rink but that hasn't diminished the spirit of the players want to learn the game.

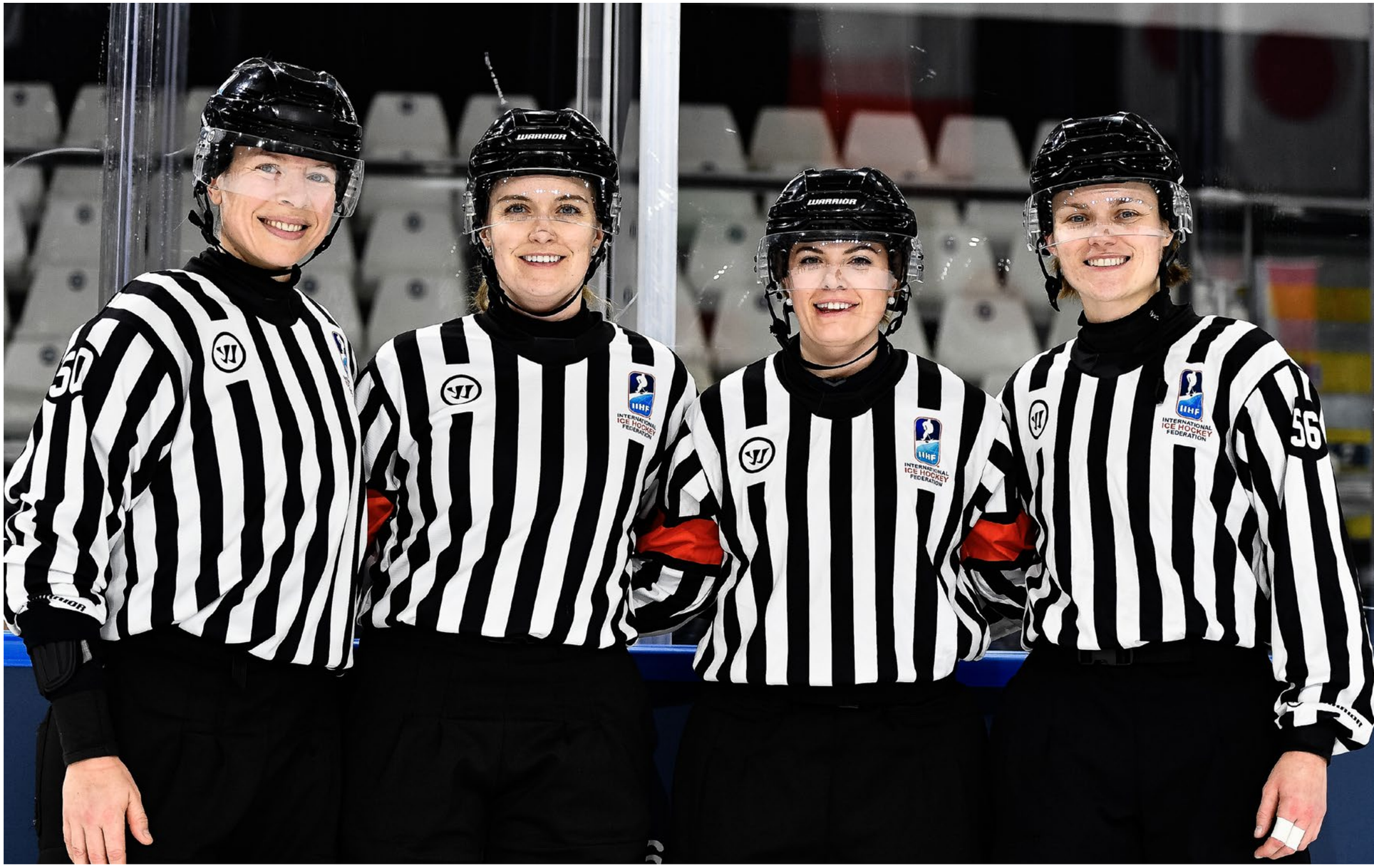
Spotlight WM20-I-B: Women Officiate Men's U20

History was made during the IIHF's WM20-I-B tournament this past season. Played in Milan in December 2025 as a test event for the Olympics, the men's U20 featured an all female on-ice officiating crew.

The IIHF held a camp and meeting for the 22 female officials who were assigned to the Milan Olympics, so a smaller group from that cohort stayed and worked the men's U20.

"This was a first for the IIHF, and they did great," said **Scott Zelkin**, the IIHF's Head of Officiating. "We have had officials who work regularly in the AHL and other top men's leagues, so in many respects they had more experience than some of the men we would normally assign to that championship."

Danny Kurmann, the IIHF's Officiating Manager, concurred. "In our opinion – and based on feedback from the participating teams – the ladies did a great job, and the guys were able to play some good, fair ice-hockey games."



(l-r) Justine Todd, Michelle McKenna, Samantha Hiller, and Sarah Bucker were among the women on-ice officials who worked the men's WM20-I-B in Italy last year.

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