

A blue-tinted photograph of ice hockey players in action on an ice rink. The players are wearing helmets and jerseys, with one player in the foreground wearing a dark jersey with the number 15. The background shows other players and the rink's surface.

# IIHF Skills 4 All Activities in Asia & Oceania

Harald Springfield

IIHF Sport Development Manager for Asia and Oceania

13 March 2022



**Harald Springfeld, Austria**

Married to 王慧 - Wang Hui

Son 王小龙 - Justin



*I live without the fear to think completely new and I live without the fear to think completely big.*

*I am visionary and realist at the same time, see, know and experienced by myself what it takes and is required to turn the vision into reality.*

Since 2022 | IIHF Sport Development Manager for Asia and Oceania

2018-2022 | 2022 Olympic Winter Games (CHN), Advisor

2015-2018 | 2018 Olympic Winter Games (KOR), Advisor

2011-2015 | IIHF Sport Development Manager for Asia

2004-2011 | Austria Ice Hockey Federation, Sport Manager



# Introduction of the IHF Asia and Oceania Strategic Planning Group (AOSPG)

1. About Asia and Oceania
2. The IHF Asia and Oceania Committee and Asia and Oceania Strategic Planning Group (AOSPG)
3. What is Ice Hockey in Asia and Oceania
  - Coaching
  - Officiating
  - Events
4. IHF Asia and Oceania activities in 2022/2023 Season
5. IHF Asia and Oceania activities in 2023/2024 Season





# The IIHF Asia and Oceania Committee

**Aivaz Omorkanov**  
IIHF Vice-President & Chairperson

Harald Springfeld, Secretary

- Mohamed Aref El Jachi (UAE)
- Wanchana Kasemsunt (THA)
- Hirotaka Saegusa (JPN)
- Harjinder Singh (IND)
- Shae Ganac (AUS), Expert
- Arslan Mergen (MGL), Expert

# The 25 IIHF Asia and 2 Oceania Strategic Planning Group Members

## Selfstanding Countries (7)

AUS, CHN, JPN, KAZ, KOR, NZL, PRK

## IIHF South East Region Countries (8)

HKG, INA, MAC, MAS, PHI, SGP, THA, TPE

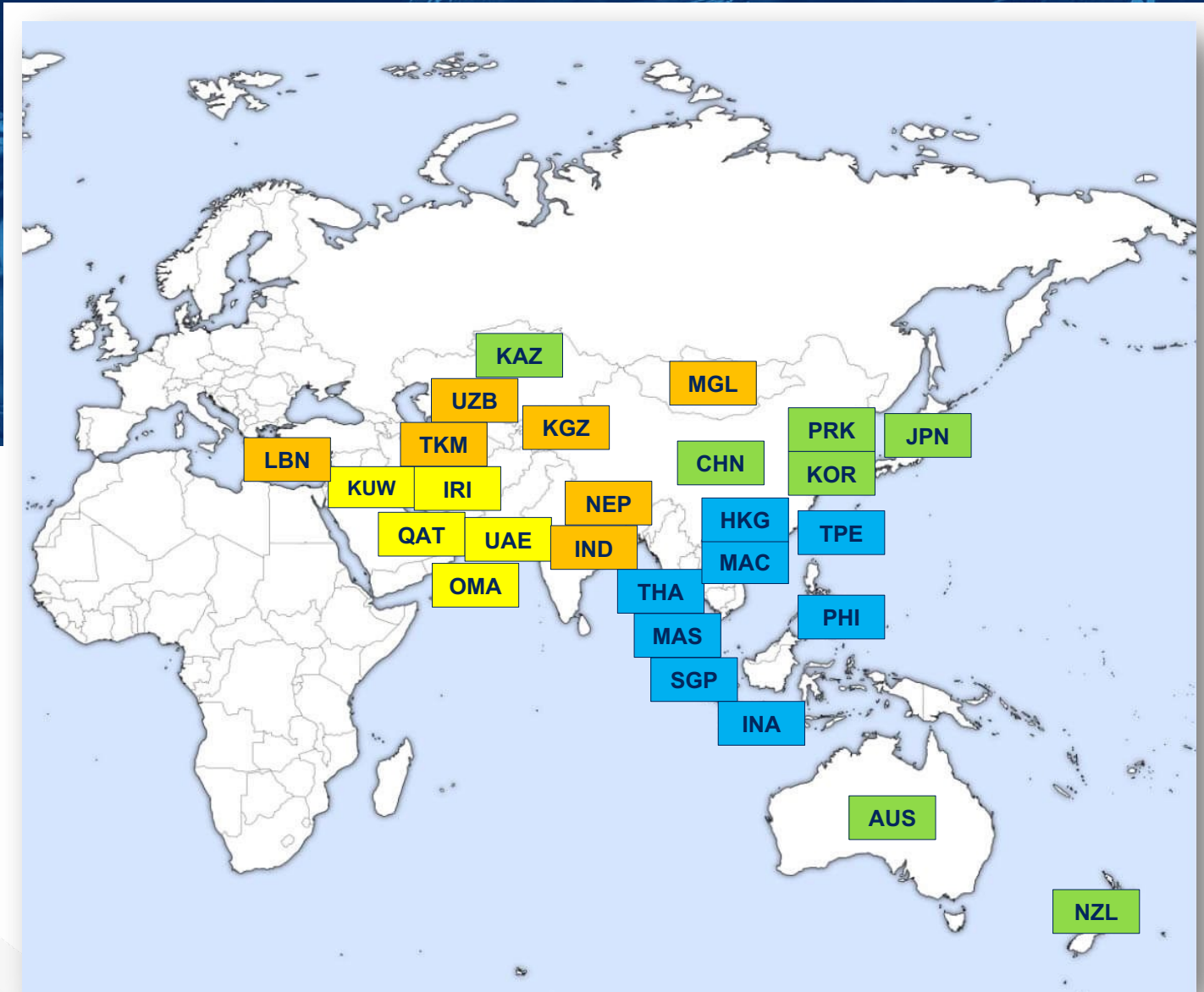
## IIHF Northern/Central Countries (7)

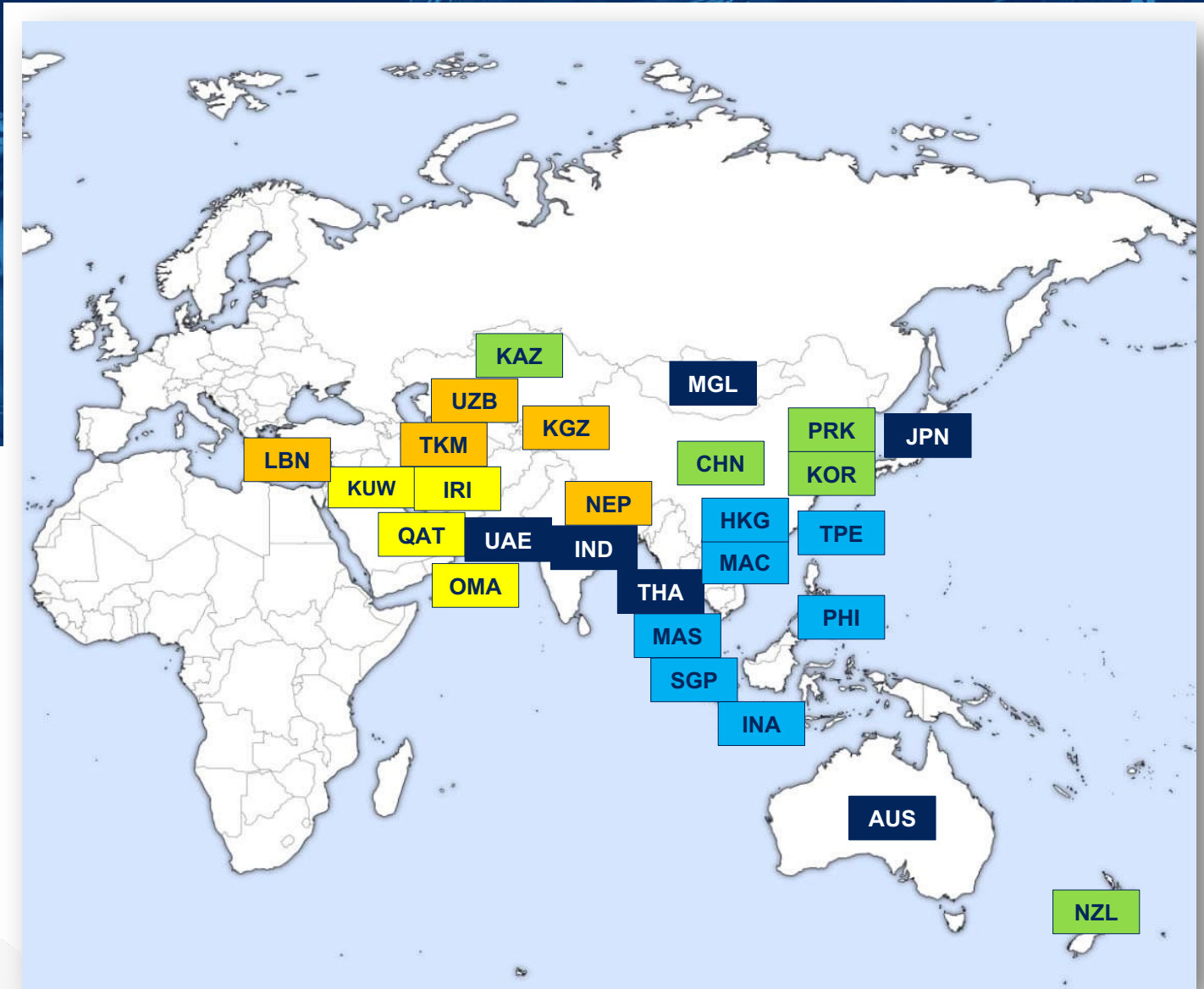
IND, KGZ, LBN, MGL, NEP, TKM, UZB

## IIHF Gulf Region Countries (5)

IRI, KUW, OMA, QAT, UAE











## First the down's...

Generally speaking &

Not applicable for all MNAs

- **Fragile foundation and MNA structure** in general → It can't be really compared with bigger Hockey Countries
- **Geographical disadvantage & distances...**
- **Lack of financial and sportive resources** to develop both the sport in every single area
- **Ice Hockey is not the sport #1....**
- **Other things come/need to come first**
- **English language in general** and translations → delay in applications of programs
- **Missing domestic leagues structure** (# games) and sportive level
- **The Upside Down Philosophy in Asia?!?!**



- **An untapped business market** with a huge potential but not developed
- From Olympic Winter Games to "No Ice Rink" **there is everything** (in between)
- **Historical countries and Newcomers**, the playing level can't be more different
- A region which hit **Covid x-times stronger** compared to other IIHF MNAs
- Except in "selfstanding MNAs" Ice Hockey is **mainly run by volunteers** as the sport is too young but they are picking up quick
- It's the same if you need to bring and **develop Badminton or Camel racing in Central Europe** and make it sports #1
- A region which **requires attention and investment**

... **AND**  
There is more  
(generally speaking)



# BUT



# Events





2011





# IIHF Asia and Oceania Championships

(formerly IIHF Challenge Cup of Asia)

- The first and last steps for MNAs (and Game Officials) to join the World Championship Program
- Played under IIHF rules and regulations incl. Player Eligibility
- Organisational Level: More then only remarkable and getting even better

Year	Men's	Women's	M20/Univ*	M18	W18
2008	X				
2009	X				
2010	X (9)	X (4)	X* (3)		
2011	X (6)	X (3)	X* (4)		
2012	X (7)	X (4)	X* (5)	X (5)	
2013	X (10)		X* (3)		
2014	DI (6) & DII (4)	DI (4) & DII (4)	X* (4)		
2015	DI (5) & DII (6)	X (3)			
2016	DI (5) & DII (5)	X (5)			
2017	DI (5) & DII (4)	X (7)			
2018	DI (5) & DII (4)	DI (4) & DII (4)	X (5)		
2019	X (7)	DI (5) & DII (4)	DI (4) & DII (4)		
2020					
2021					
2022			X (8)		
2023		X (8)		X (6)	

# AOSPG Members in the 2023 IIHF World Championship Program and registrations for the 2023 Asia and Oceania Championships

## 2023 IIHF World Championship program participation

Category	Teams	% AOSPG Members	AUS	CHN	HKG	INA	IND	IRI	JPN	KAZ	KGZ	KOR	KUW	LBN	MAC	MAS	MGL	NEP	NZL	OMA	PHI	PRK	QAT	SGP	THA	TKM	TPE	UAE	UZB
Men's	20	74%	x	x	x	x		x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x		x		x	x		x	x	x	x	x	
Women's	8	30%		x	x				x	x		x							x			x					x		
Men's U20	7	26%	x	x					x	x	x	x															x		
Men's U18	9	33%	x	x	x				x	x		x							x						x		x		
Women's U18	7	26%	x	x					x	x		x							x								x		
<b>Total</b>			4	5	3	1	0	1	5	5	2	5	1	0	0	1	1	0	4	0	1	2	0	1	2	1	5	1	0

## 2023 IIHF Asia and Oceania Championship registrations

Category	Host applicants	Teams	AUS	CHN	HKG	INA	IND	IRI	JPN	KAZ	KGZ	KOR	KUW	LBN	MAC	MAS	MGL	NEP	NZL	OMA	PHI	PRK	QAT	SGP	THA	TKM	TPE	UAE	UZB
Men's Top Division	THA, IRI, SGP	3						x																x	x				
Women's Top Division	THA, IRI	3						x																x	x				
Men's Division I	IRI	5				x	x	x					x	x															
Men's U20	IRI	1						x																					
Men's U18	<b>MGL, THA, IRI</b>	9					x	x							x		x						x	x	x		x	x	
Women's Division I	<b>THA, IRI</b>	7					x	x				x			x								x	x			x		
<b>Total</b>			0	0	0	1	3	6	0	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	4	1	0	2	1



# Officiating





2011







2023 MONGOLIA

# Coaching



**CONSOLIDATE  
GOING A NEW WAY  
RECONFIRM  
CHALLENGE**





# 2023 IIHF LEARN TO PLAY PROGRAM BANGKOK - THAILAND

**WHAT  
COMES  
FIRST**





# 2022/2023 IIHF Asia and Oceania Development Activities

## Officiating Development Activities

- Online: AOSPG RICNetwork
- On-site: Referee in Chief Summit
- On-site: Targeted Development

## Overall Development Activities (on-site)

- Ice Management Seminar
- Learn to Play EAST Asia and Oceania
- Learn to Play WEST Asia and Oceania
- OCA/IIHF Joint Venture Development Camp
- MNA National Association Assistance Program: Working structured and in a systematically way
- *MNA Self-assessment, MNA Developer Program*

## Events

- 2023 IIHF U18 Asia and Oceania Championship (11-17 March 2023), Ulaanbaatar / Mongolia
- 2023 IIHF Women's Asia and Oceania Championship (30 April - 7 May 2023), Bangkok / Thailand





**2023/2024 IIHF  
Asia and Oceania  
Development  
Activities**

**CONSOLIDATE  
GOING A NEW WAY  
RECONFIRM  
CHALLENGE**

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**1ON1 MEETINGS  
COACHING  
OFFICIATING  
CHAMPIONSHIPS**



# Conclusion

