



FIH Certified Turf Manufacturer

Information & Application Form

VER. 2023



INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY FEDERATION
FÉDÉRATION INTERNATIONALE DE HOCKEY

[fih.hockey/qp](https://www.fih.hockey/qp)

Why join the programme?



Research shows over 500 new synthetic turf hockey fields are built each year; some are dedicated hockey fields; others allow multi-sport use. To help ensure superior quality fields are built for all levels of play, from elite level competition to community development, the International Hockey Federation (FIH) has developed its internationally recognized quality-assurance programme – the FIH Quality Programme for Hockey Turf.

The programme provides consistent and dependable industry standards for the safety and durability of hockey turf installations worldwide and ensures the appropriate quality of performance for the intended level of play.

The FIH, through its independent Accredited Test Institutes, certifies hockey turfs and fields, ensuring their quality and protecting those investing in and using hockey facilities.

As a FIH Certified Turf Manufacturer, you become part of an exclusive group that is working in partnership with the FIH to ensure high quality, durable and environmentally sustainable hockey turfs are provided for the construction of hockey fields worldwide.

The success of the FIH Quality Programme now means that most new hockey fields have FIH Approved hockey turfs, manufactured by either FIH Certified Turf Manufacturers or FIH Preferred Turf and Field Suppliers.

By joining the programme, you not only demonstrate your commitment to the sport of hockey and highlight industry best practices, but you also benefit from the following:

- Increased worldwide marketing through your recognition by the FIH and your presence on the FIH's website and social media channels as well as the use of the FIH Quality Programme for Hockey Turf logo. Information on www.fih.ch/qp will include:
 - Company name and website
 - List of FIH Certified Fields which the company has been involved in building
- Improved business development through recognition as being able to build fields to the standards specified by the FIH.
- FIH Quality Programme Certificates for your company as well as Field Certificates for any fields that you build and are shown to meet the FIH's installation and performance standards.
- Input in industry development through attendance at FIH technical meetings and the ability to provide feedback on any changes made to the FIH Quality Programme for Hockey Turf.

Who can join the programme?



FIH Certified Manufacturers are companies that have a proven ability to manufacture hockey turf products to international standards and that also share our aims and objectives to develop hockey globally. Only companies that can demonstrate their commitment to hockey are awarded this prestigious recognition.

To qualify to be a FIH Certified Manufacturers a company shall:

- Be a manufacturer of hockey turf at the time of application and for the duration of the agreement.

Production may either be undertaken in-house or by external manufacturing facilities that produce their products under license. When an external manufacturing facility is used, the FIH Certified Manufacturer shall retain full responsibility for the quality and marketing of the product and there must be a formal third party manufacturing agreement between the FIH Certified Manufacturer and the third party company. Additionally, the FIH must be advised and approve the use of any external manufacturing companies before they produce FIH Certified Products.

- Manufacture at least one product (any category of hockey turf) that has been tested by a FIH Accredited Test Institute and shown to fully satisfy the Product Approval requirements of the current *FIH Hockey Turf and Field Standards*.
- Have been trading as a supplier of synthetic turf sports surfaces for a minimum of three years at the time of application.

In exceptional circumstances, companies may be admitted to the programme that have not traded for three years, but they must first be able to demonstrate outstanding merit, particularly in relation to their overall hockey turf production experience and financial stability.

- Operate a Quality Management Programme covering the manufacturing of synthetic turf products at the time of application and for the duration of the licensing agreement.

This is best demonstrated by ISO 9001 certification.

- Comply with all national/local employment laws and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

This is best demonstrated by means of an independent audit issued by an internationally recognized and experienced auditing company, which provides sufficient validated information to evaluate and prove compliance with a recognized Code of Conduct, such as that published by the World Federation Sporting Goods Industries – WFSGI-FIFA Pledge.

- Provide fully detailed maintenance instructions and guidance for their hockey turf products.

FIH Approved Products



Certified Turf Manufacturers can have their hockey turf products approved. Approved products are categorized as follows depending on their construction and performance:

- Global

Non-filled water based surfaces that are primarily used for international and top level national competitions.

- Innovation category (Dry Turf)

Surfaces designed to replicate the playing qualities of Global category wet turfs, without the use of water.

- National

Normally sand dressed or sand filled surfaces designed primarily for hockey. This category of surface is normally used for lower level national, regional and club play.

- Multi-Sport

Surfaces designed for several sports and on which community and development level hockey can be played.

For a product to be approved by the FIH it must be:

- Tested by an FIH Accredited Test Institute and found to fully comply with the appropriate requirements of the current (at the time of test) edition of the *FIH Hockey Turf and Fields Standards* (or successor documents).
- Be manufactured by an FIH Certified Turf Manufacturer.

A turf product will retain its approval by the FIH for as long as:

- Its composition does not change from that detailed in the original FIH Hockey Turf testreport.
- The requirements of the FIH Quality Programme for Hockey Turf do not change.
- The product is still produced by a FIH Certified Manufacturer.
- The manufacturer continues to be a FIH Certified Manufacturer.

Note:

If the FIH revises their *Hockey Turf and Fields Standards* (or successor documents) the manufacturer of the hockey turf must upgrade the testing of the product within 12 months of the new edition of the FIH Handbook being published.



Duration of FIH Certification and Fees



FIH Quality Programme membership for Certified Turf Manufacturers is based on an annual 12-month rolling contract, that is based on a calendar year.

The membership fee for an FIH Certified Turf Manufacturer is €25,000 per annum paid in a single installment before 31st January each year.

- For companies joining part way through a year (before 1st October) the fee is pro-rata for the remaining months of the first year of membership.
- Companies joining after the 30th June commit to retain their membership till at least the end of the following year (so for 18 months if they join on 1st July).
- For companies joining after 1st October – the initial membership fee will include the remaining months of the current calendar year plus the following 12 months (e.g., if you join in October you pay for 15 months).

There is no fee payable to the FIH for the approval of products. The only fee payable is that charged by the FIH Accredited Test Institute, which is agreed directly by the manufacturer and the Test Institute.

Notes:

1. If a company wishes to resign its membership it must give written notice at least three months in advance of the membership renewal date. Companies failing to honour this requirement will not be allowed to rejoin in the future.
2. If a company leaves the Quality Programme and then wishes to rejoin in the future, it is required to commit to remain a member for the year of rejoining and at least the following calendar year.

How to apply



To become a FIH Certified Manufacturer – the standards are high, but the process is simple:

- 1** Manufacturer submits at least one hockey turf product to a FIH Accredited Test Institute for assessment in accordance with the FIH Hockey Turf and Field
- 2** FIH Accredited Test Institute sends a copy of the test report to the FIH for review. If the product is found to be compliant the FIH invites the manufacturer to apply to become a FIH Certified Manufacturer.
- 3** The manufacturer submits the application form found at the back of this guide by email (facilities@fih.ch) or by post.
- 4** FIH reviews the application and should the application be successful, FIH issues the FIH Certified Manufacturer Agreement for signature and an invoice for the registration fee.
- 5** Manufacturer signs the agreement and on payment of the registration fee, FIH issues

Application to become a Certified Turf Manufacturer



1.1 Company name

1.2 Company address

1.3 Company phone

1.4 Company email

1.5 Company website

2.1 Company contact

2.2 Contact phone

2.3 Contact email

Description of company's principal business and its involvement in hockey.

Application to become a Certified Turf Manufacturer



4 Quality Management System – is the company ISO 9001 accredited?

- Yes. Submit proof with application.
- No. Provide full details of your Quality Management System.

5 Does the company comply with the WFSGI-FIFA Pledge?

- Yes. Submit proof with application.
- No.

6 Details of company's hockey products (please attach product datasheets).

7 Details of company's maintenance guidelines (please attach)

7. Details of why the company wishes to become a FIH Certified Manufacturer.

Send completed application form and supporting documents by email
to: facilities@fih.ch



Rue du Valentin 61
1004 Lausanne
Switzerland

www.fih.hockey