

Commonwealth Games 2026



Hockey tournament Field, lighting and equipment specifications

Version 01 (09/2022)

1 General

This document has been prepared to enable the Local Organising Committee to provide hockey fields to the standards required for the Commonwealth Games. This document forms part of the FIH's Event Requirements for the CWG and should be read in conjunction with the other FIH documentation.

The FIH reserve the right to amend, delete or add to these requirements at any time.

For clarification or further information on the FIH's field, lighting and sports equipment requirements please visit www.fih.ch/gp or contact facilities@fih.ch.

2 Sustainability principles

The FIH is keen to ensure that the hockey facilities constructed for the Games are as environmentally sustainable as possible. Therefore the design, manufacturing and construction of the fields should be based on the principals of the IOC's *Guide to Sport, Environment and Sustainable Development* ISO 14001 and ISO 20121.

2.1 Non-irrigated hockey turfs

The FIH is currently working with the synthetic turf industry to develop hockey turfs that do not require irrigating prior to use, but still provide acceptable performance for top level hockey.

With the expectation that satisfactory turf products will be available prior to the CWG hockey fields being constructed, it is the FIH's wish that non-irrigated Global category hockey turfs are used for the Games.

Additionally, the Local Organising Committee is encouraged to use a hockey turf surface that:

- Utilises bio-based or recycled polyethylene yarns as far as possible.
- Is not bonded to the underlying shockpad, allowing the more straightforward resurfacing / relocation of the turfs in the future
- Is manufactured from a range of materials that allow the full recycling of the turf and shockpad (cradle to cradle) when it reaches the end of its life as a hockey playing surface.

2.2 Temporary overlay pitches (TOPS)

Temporary overlay pitch systems have been successfully used for international hockey events. These allow existing sports stadia to be converted into hockey venues. The FIH supports and endorses this approach and sees the potential benefits it offers events like the Commonwealth Games. Therefore, the FIH is willing to consider the use of Global Category Non-irrigated Temporary Overlay Pitches for the Commonwealth Games hockey venues, subject to them complying with the relevant requirements of the *FIH Hockey Turf and Field Standards* and this document.

2.3 Life cycle assessments

When selecting the hockey turf for the Games, the LOC is encouraged review life cycle assessments (LCA) for the turfs being offered. These will allow the full life cycle environmental impact of the turf's to be evaluated. It is recommended that the LCA is undertaken in accordance with the *Synthetic Turf Product Environmental Footprint Category Rules*, being developed by the European Synthetic Turf Council and the European Commission.

3 Definitions

Competition field – a field used for competitive games during the Event.

CWG – Commonwealth Games 2026.

Event – the Commonwealth Games hockey tournament.

FIH Hockey Turf and Field Standards – all parts of the *FIH Hockey Turf and Field Standards*. Unless otherwise specified by the FIH, this should be the edition current 24 months in advance of the Games.

FIH TV Lighting Guide – *FIH Facilities Guide – Sports Lighting for Broadcasting 11 a-side Hockey, Outdoors*. Unless otherwise specified by the FIH, this should be the edition current 24 months in advance of the Games.

FIH Lighting Guide – *FIH Facilities Guide – Sports Lighting for Non-televised Outdoor Hockey*. Unless otherwise specified by the FIH, this should be the edition current 24 months in advance of the Games.

Field – the full Hockey turf area comprising the Field of Play and Run-Offs. May also be described as the Pitch.

Field of Play (FoP) – the playing area contained within the side lines and goal lines.

Hockey turf – a synthetic turf surface specifically designed for the game of hockey and complying with the FIH Quality Programme.

LOC – Local Organising Committee.

Operational margin – a margin outside the run-offs that is used by event management for TV camera positions, advertising boards, etc.

Run-Offs – margins around the perimeter of the Field of Play that form deceleration and safety margins for players.

Temporary Overlay Pitch System (TOPS) – an FIH approved method of base and hockey turf surfacing that allows a hockey field to be temporarily built above an existing structure (e.g. overlaying a natural grass or synthetic turf sports field) and/or FIH approved method of base and hockey turf surfacing that can be removed and relocated elsewhere, at the end of an event.

Training Field – a supplementary field provided to allow teams to train prior to and during competition. The field should be located within 20 minutes' drive of the Athletes' village.

Warm-up field – a field located adjacent to the competition field, used by teams prior to match play.

4 Suppliers and contractors

The hockey fields being provide for the CWG are a major investment and it is therefore very important that they provide high quality, sustainable facilities that meets the expectations of the CWG Organisation, the FIH and the competing athletes. To minimize the risk of unacceptable hockey facilities being provided for all levels of hockey around the world, the FIH has developed its internationally recognized quality-assurance programme – the *FIH Quality Programme*. Membership of the programme is open to any company that can demonstrate an ability to satisfying the technical, quality, and administrative criteria specified by the FIH. A list of FIH certified companies can be found at www.fih.ch/qp

4.1 Hockey Turf manufacturer

The manufacturers of the hockey turf used on each field should be an *FIH Preferred Turf and Field Supplier*.

4.2 Field construction

The contractor appointed to build the hockey fields should either be an *FIH Preferred Turf and Field Supplier* or a *FIH Certified Field Builder*.

4.3 Sports lighting

The manufacturer of the sports lighting system used on the competition and warm-up fields should be an *FIH Certified Lighting Supplier*.

4.4 Field equipment

The manufacturer of the field equipment should be an *FIH Certified Field Equipment Supplier*.

5 Competition field

Number of fields required	One	
Dimensions	Field of play	91.40 m x 55.00 m
	End run-offs (to be surfaced with the same hockey turf as the FoP)	Min. 5.0 m at either end
	Side run-offs (to be surfaced with the same hockey turf as the FoP)	Min. 3.0 m at either side
	Total hockey turf area	101.40 m x 61.00 m
Operational zone	Minimum of 1.0 m on each boundary Note: The operational zone may be surface with hard paving or synthetic turf of a different colour to the FoP.	
Field orientation	Unless otherwise agreed with the FIH the field should be aligned North / South, with a maximum deviation from north of no more than $\pm 15^\circ$.	

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Type of hockey turf	FIH Approved Global category non-irrigated Note: It is envisaged that the <i>FIH Hockey Turf and Field Specifications</i> will be updated in 2023/24 to remove the requirement that Global category hockey turfs must be used under wet conditions.		
Age of hockey turf	No older than 12 months at start of CWG		
Turf colour	FoP	FIH approved shade of blue <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ultramarine Blue (RAL Colour 5002) • Gentian Blue (RAL Colour 5010) 	
	Run-offs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic Blue (RAL Colour 5017) • Capri Blue (RAL Colour 5019) 	
Line markings	The field should be line marked in accordance with the Rules of Hockey, including 5 m dashed circle lines. There should be no other markings on the field of play		
FIH and CWG 2026 event logos	Event logos (approximately 1.5 m in depth) should be incorporated into one side run-off, or one end run-off, as agreed with FIH Note: Event logos should be manufactured from hockey turf of the same specification as that used on the FoP.		
Hockey goals	Goal frames	FIH Approved Class 1 White in colour	Three (one set and one spare)
	Nets	FIH Approved Class 1 Blue (to match turf)	
Corner flags Note: Corner flags should be mounted on flexible (22mm diameter) posts and be fitted into ground sockets or be mounted onto surface base plates.			Six (one set and two spare)
Team benches	FIH Approved with individual seating for 11 people		Two
	Note: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Each team bench should be located no further than 5 m from the edge of the field. 2. Each team bench should be positioned behind a 1 m high fence/barrier to provide protection to players from balls leaving the field. 		
Technical Official's (TO) Booth	It should be located adjacent to the half-way line of the field, on the same side as the team benches. The location and design of the booth should allow match officials a clear view of the whole field. If incorporated into a spectator grandstand, the booth should measure a minimum of 6 m x 3 m and contain a table and seating for four people. The booth should have solid walls and a roof that separates match from the general public.		

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	If a pre-fabricated booth is used pitch-side, it should be FIH Approved Class 1 Technical Official's Booth, located approximately 4m from the edge of the field.	
Technical Official's (TO) Booth	Grandstand booth	If the TO Booth is to be incorporated into a spectator grandstand, it should measure a minimum of 6 m x 3 m and contain a table and seating for four people. The booth should have solid walls and a roof that separates match from the general public.
	Pitch-side booth	FIH Approved Class 1 Technical Official's Booth, located on the side of the pitch adjacent to the halfway line and set back so the front of the booth is approximately 4m from the edge of the field.
Suspended player seats	<p>Seating for suspended players (2 per team) should be provided. When the Technical Officials' booth is located pitch-side the seats should be provided either side or in front of the booth, but not within the field run-off.</p> <p>If the Technical Officials' booth is in a spectator grandstand the suspended player seats should be positioned at field level, in a position approved by FIH, that allows immediate access to the field.</p> <p>The seats should be positioned behind a 1 m high fence to provide protection to players from balls leaving the field,</p>	
Video Umpire's (VM) Booth	<p>A booth to accommodate the Video Umpire should be provided at a convenient location, as agreed with FIH. It should have adequate floor area to accommodate up to four people, be in a closed off area away from spectators, and be covered and enclosed.</p> <p>Note: The VM Booth may either be a room located within the main Grandstand, a suitable room or standalone cabin or within the TV broadcast truck.</p>	
Perimeter fencing & access gates	<p>Fencing heights should be determined by assessing the risk of balls leaving the field and striking spectators, event officials, etc. The minimum fencing heights should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • side-line boundaries: minimum of 1.2 m • back-line boundaries where spectator seating or public access is located: 7 m • along back-line boundaries where spectator seating or public access is not allowed: 4.5 m <p>Player and match officials' access to the field provided adjacent to the main point of access from the changing accommodation.. Gates should be at least 1.0m wide.</p> <p>At least one set of double gates should be provided to allow maintenance and emergency vehicle access to the field(s).</p>	

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Video screen and score board	To be located at the end or corner of the FOP, visible to the technical table, team benches and as many spectators as possible
Sports lighting	Floodlighting should comply with the performance requirements of the <i>FIH TV Lighting Guide – Category TV1</i>
Category of FIH Field Certification	Between 12 and 3 months prior to the Games the field and lighting system should be tested to allow the field to be certified as a FIH Category 1 hockey field

6 Warm-up field

Number of fields required	One		
Dimensions	Field of play	91.40 m x 55.00 m	
	End run-offs (to be surfaced with the same hockey turf as the FoP)	Min. 5.0 m at either end	
	Side run-offs (to be surfaced with the same hockey turf as the FoP)	Min. 3.0 m at either side	
	Total hockey turf area	101.40 m x 61.00 m	
Operational zone	Not required		
Field orientation	Unless otherwise agreed with the FIH the field should be aligned North / South, with a maximum deviation from north of no more than $\pm 15^\circ$.		
Type of hockey turf	Same as that laid on the competition field		
Age of hockey turf	No older than 12 months at start of CWG		
Turf colour	FoP	Blue - Same as competition field	
	Run-offs		
Line markings	The field should be line marked in accordance with the Rules of Hockey, including 5 m dashed circle lines. There should be no other markings on the field of play		
Hockey goals	Goal frames	FIH Approved Class 1	Four

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	Nets	(two sets to allow cross pitch play)
Corner flags Note: Corner flags should be mounted on flexible (22mm diameter) posts and be fitted into ground sockets or be mounted onto surface base plates.		Six (one set and two spare)
Team benches	FIH Approved, with seating for 11 people per bench	Two
Perimeter fencing & access gates	<p>Fencing heights should be determined by assessing the risk of balls leaving the facilities and striking spectators, event officials, etc. The minimum fencing heights should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • side-line boundaries: minimum of 1.2 m • back-line boundaries: minimum 4.5 m <p>Player and match officials' access to the field should be provided adjacent to the main point of access from the changing accommodation. Gates should at least 1.0m wide.</p> <p>At least one set of double gates should be provided to allow maintenance and emergency vehicle access to the field(s).</p>	
Sports lighting	Floodlighting should comply with the performance requirements of the <i>FIH Lighting Guide</i> – Non-televised Category 1	
Category of FIH Field Certification	Between 12 and 3 months prior to the Games the field should be tested to allow the field to be certified as a FIH Category 2 hockey field	

7 Training field

Number of fields required	One	
Dimensions	Field of play	91.40 m x 55.00 m
	End run-offs (to be surfaced with the same hockey turf as the FoP)	Min. 5.0 m at either end
	Side run-offs (to be surfaced with the same hockey turf as the FoP)	Min. 3.0 m at either side
	Total hockey turf area	101.40 m x 61.00 m
Operational zone	Not required	

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Field orientation	Unless otherwise agreed with the FIH the field should be aligned North / South, with a maximum deviation from north of no more than $\pm 15^{\circ}$.		
Type of hockey turf	FIH Approved – Global category. Preferably the same as the competition and warm-up fields		
Age of hockey turf	No older than 24 months at start of CWG		
Turf colour	FoP	Preferably Blue. Green, if agreed with FIH. No restrictions on run-offs.	
Line markings	The field should be line marked in accordance with the Rules of Hockey, including 5 m dashed circle lines. The field should also have cross-pitch circle lines to allow mini-hockey training activities. There should be no other markings on the field of play		
Hockey goals	Goal frames	FIH Approved Class 1	Four (two sets to allow cross pitch play)
	Nets		
Corner flags	Corner flags should be mounted on flexible (22mm diameter) posts and be fitted into ground sockets or be mounted onto surface base plates.		Six (one set and two spare)
Team benches	FIH Approved with seating for 11 people per bench		Two
Perimeter fencing & access gates	Fencing heights should be determined by assessing the risk of balls leaving the facilities and striking spectators, players, event officials, etc. The minimum fencing heights should be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • along side-line boundaries: minimum of 1.2 m • along back-line boundaries: minimum 4.5 m Player and match officials' access gates to the field should be at least 1.0m wide. They should be provided adjacent to the point of access from the changing accommodation. At least one set of double gates should be provided to allow maintenance and emergency vehicle access to the field(s).		
Sports lighting	Floodlighting should comply with the performance requirements of the FIH Non-televised Category 1		

Category of FIH Field Certification	At between 12 and 3 months prior to the Event the field must be tested by an FIH accredited test institute and certified as a FIH Category2 hockey field
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8 General requirements

8.1 Field design and construction

Each field should have been designed and constructed to ensure they can be certified to the specified requirements of the *FIH Hockey Turf and Field Standards*. The construction should be in accordance with the *FIH Facilities Guide – Building Hockey Fields* and will typically comprise a stabilised formation, sub-field drainage system (vertical or horizontal) compacted aggregate sub-base, engineered (asphalt) base, shockpad and hockey turf playing surface, all designed and constructed in accordance with sports field engineering best practice.

8.2 Field drainage

The FIH the fields should be designed to incorporate a sub-surface drainage system (vertical or horizontal) that is designed to cater for a rain-fall event of at least 150mm/h or a one in ten year's rain-fall event, whichever is greater.

The hockey turf surface should be designed to ensure water is able to drain vertically into the underlying sub-surface drainage system.

8.3 Field profile & gradients

A number of different field profiles may be used including single planes (end-to-end, side-to-side and diagonal falls), envelope and ridge profile. Irrespective of which is chosen the profile should be symmetrical around the central axis of the field. If envelope or ridge profiles are used, the change in grade should not adversely affect the consistency of the ball roll or exceed the requirements for surface regularity. The competition and warm-up fields should have the same profile.

Unless agreed in advance with FIH, the maximum gradients should be as detailed in Table 2.

Table 2 – field gradients	
Longitudinal gradients along the length of the field	≤ 0.2%
Lateral gradients across the width of the field	≤ 0.4%

8.4 Field markings

The fields should be marked in accordance with the current *Rules of Hockey* applicable at the time of the Games. Line markings should be 75mm wide, white in colour and be in-laid or tufted into the hockey turf carpet. All in-laid markings should be manufactured to the same specification as the main playing surface.

8.5 Field maintenance equipment

The LOC should ensure that all necessary maintenance equipment, as recommended by the hockey turf manufacturer, is available to enable the turf on each field to be fully maintained in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. They should also ensure an adequate

number of trained maintenance staff are available throughout the Event.

If intensive rainfall (thunderstorms, etc.) may be anticipated during the Event suitable squeegees to remove any excess water ponding on the hockey turf should be provided.

9 Video screen and scoreboard

Note: Ideally a dual video screen and scoreboard will be provided. The requirements for the video screen shall be as detailed in the FIH Event Requirements, Hockey – CWG.

9.1 Screen display requirements

The requirements for the scoreboard shall be as follow:

- Large Format LED Digital Scoreboard and Integrated Video Display Screen;
- Minimum screen size of 6.5 m x 4.4 m, with minimum resolution of 6,000 LED/m² and minimum intensity of 4,000 cd/m²;
- Minimum useable screen surface: 23m²;
- Control Panel, plus video interface control panel and PC linking to Technical Official's Booth

The screen should be able to indicate the varying specific times as required for international hockey matches. The following time periods are to be used in all matches:

Match time: 4 quarters of 15:00 minutes

Quarter time break: 2:00 minutes between 1st and 2nd quarters and 3rd and 4th quarters

Half time break: 10:00 minutes between 2nd and 3rd quarters

Penalty corner delay: 40sec. to 00 sec. countdown for when a PC is awarded (Note: match clock stopped by Technical Official)

Goal scored delay: 40sec. to 00 sec. countdown for when a goal is scored (Note: match clock stopped by Technical Official)

Shoot out: 8:0 sec. countdown to 00 sec. for each shoot-out; to be shown in at least tenths of second

9.2 Display functions

Purpose	Format	Function
To show Match score (goals)	00 : 00	To count up in single digits for each team from 0 : 0
To show team names	Free text	To display team names above score e.g. AUS, RSA, ENG, etc.

To show match time	MM:SS	To count down from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15:00 for each quarter; • 2:00 for quarter and three-quarter time • 10:00 for half time; • 8:00sec. (seconds) for a shoot-out to be performed (showing at least tenths of a second); In the last minute of a Match, it is desirable the clock counts down in seconds and tenths of seconds.
To show Goal / Penalty corner delay	SS	To count down from 40sec. to 00sec. (seconds)
To show pre-Match time	MM:SS	To count down from 30:00 to 00:00 (minutes and seconds).
To show actual time	HH:MM	As and when required, or when no other display is in use
To indicate the appropriate quarter of the Match	Q1, Q2, Q3 Q4	
To show status of team video umpire referrals	Red and green dots	To display as green when a team has their referral, or red once a team has lost their referral
To show TX feed	Video	To show live or replay TX from Match
To display graphics		To show other graphics, advertisements, Match information etc. as required
To display free text (desirable but not essential)	Free text	To show team lists, umpires names, flash messages and any other text messages as required before, during and after a Match
To indicate the end of a Match period	Audible signal	To make a loud audible sound (hooter) automatically and instantly when the clock reaches 00:00; the sound is to be short, sharp and loud

9.3 Display before a match

The scoreboard can be used to also show video replay, advertisements, graphics etc., but should have a count-down clock running to show minutes left until the teams leave the pitch for the pre-match protocol (e.g. from 30:00 to 00:00), and desirably, also be able to display each team list (starting line-up and substitutes), team officials (Coach and Manager) and the names of the umpires and technical officials.

The Match clock must have the ability to be set / reset to any minute as required.

9.4 Display during a match

The scoreboard must display the:

- team names,
- the Match score,
- the quarter and the clock in running down mode.

The clock should display period time countdowns as required. The 40 second countdown clock should be shown in addition to the Match time countdown clock, and they should operate

independently of each other.

Video replays can be shown as appropriate (e.g. goals, lead up to penalty corners etc.), and other graphics shown at set piece play (e.g. flash messages for a PC, yellow card, or to indicate a goal is scored etc).

Note: there is no need to show substitutions as these occur frequently throughout the match.

9.5 Display during Shoot-Outs

If the Match goes to a shoot-out, the displayed score should return to 0:0 and only converted goals should be shown.

A separate graphic should be used which shows 5 circles below each team name with the score at the end. A successful goal should turn the circle green, and the score should increase by +1. An unsuccessful attempt (no goal) should turn the circle red, and the score should be unchanged. It is necessary to show this graphic more than once if the teams remain equal after the first series of 5.

The scoreboard clock must display a countdown time of 8 seconds with a loud, audible hooter sounding immediately when the time reaches 00sec.. This clock should be located in the same position as the 40 second PC / goal countdown clock.

9.5 Display after a match

The screen should show the final result. It is desirable that the scoreboard also shows the list of goal scorers' names, types of goal (FG, PC, PS) and the minutes when goals were scored.

9.6 Display operation

The scoreboard should be controlled from the technical official's booth, with the following functions:

Clock: Start, stop, reset, time set functions required.

Audio: Automatic loud audible tone (hooter) when the countdown clock reaches 00:00 during any match period or shoot-out.

Scoreboard: + and - goals required on each side.

Video Umpire Referrals: To include indication of video umpire referrals per team. This is indicated by a circle beside each team name. The circle remains green to indicate a team is still eligible for a referral but is shown as red once that team no longer has the opportunity to ask for a video referral.

9.7 Flash Messages

The screen should enable the following messages to be displayed at specific occasions during a match:

Message	Video Umpire Referral	Team Referral:
During Regulation Time: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal • Penalty Corner • Penalty Stroke 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal • No Goal • Penalty Stroke • No Penalty Stroke 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal • No Goal • Penalty Corner • No Penalty Corner • Penalty Stroke • No Penalty Stroke

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No advice possible
During shoot-outs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal • Save • Miss 	Umpire Referral: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal • No Goal • Penalty Stroke • No Penalty Stroke • No Shoot-out re-take • Penalty Stroke • No Penalty Stroke • No advice Possible 	Team Referral <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Goal • No Goal • Shoot-out re-take • No Shoot-out re-take • Penalty Stroke • No Penalty Stroke • No advice possible

COMPETITION FIELD

Floodlighting FIH TV2 category

Scoreboard

Video
Umpires
booth

Covered spectator seating

Technical
Officials
Booth

Team benches

CWG 2026

FIH Category 1 hockey
field
FOP 91.4 m x 55.0 m
Total turf area 101.4 m
x 61.0 m

Spectator seating

Ball stop fence
(min 1.2 m high)

Ball stop
netting
(7.0 m high
behind goals)

Emergency vehicle access

Changing and match officials
rooms
within 25 m of competition field



WARM-UP FIELD

Ball stop fence
(min 4.5 m high)

Ball stop fence
(min 1.2 m high)

Team benches

FIH Category 2 hockey
field
FOP 91.4 m x 55.0 m
Total turf area 101.4 m
x 61.0 m

Ball stop fence
(min 1.2 m high)

Ball stop fence
(min 4.5 m high)

Floodlighting FIH non-
televised Category 1



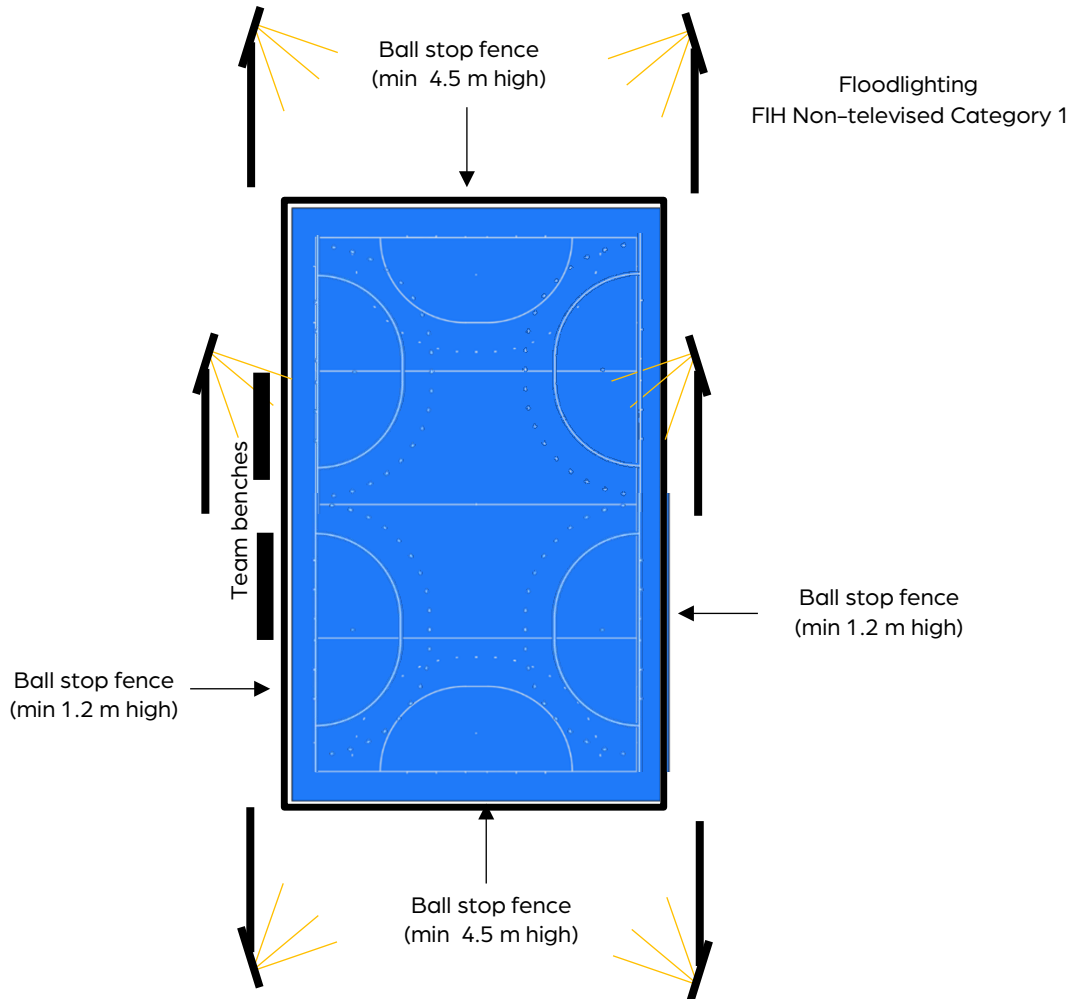
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Hockey field
indicative schematic layout

27/08/22

Drawing 001

TRAINING FIELD



	Commonwealth Games 2026	
	Hockey field indicative schematic layout	
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