



Hockey5s World Tour

Court infrastructure requirements



Venues hosting FIH World Tour
events on temporary courts

Version 01 (2022)



1 Introduction

The *Lausanne Hockey5s* tournament, held in June 2022, has shown how temporary courts, built in iconic locations, can showcase Hockey5s in a way that has never been possible before. When the major components of a temporary court can then be relocated for use elsewhere it makes the concept even more attractive to municipalities, governments and private investors wishing to host top-level hockey events.

This document has been prepared to assist those organisations wishing to host such events. It describes what the necessary court facilities comprise.

2 Layout

The layout and dimensions of a top-level competition standard Hockey5s court are shown on Drawing 01.

Wherever possible, the court should be aligned in a north/south orientation ($\pm 15^\circ$).

3 Court construction

The court comprise a number of key components:

- The hockey turf carpet
- A shockpad underlayer
- A rigid base on which the hockey turf and shockpad are laid

3.1 Base

The base on which the playing surface is laid needs to provide a smooth, level, and stable platform. Ideally, it should be a hard paved area (asphalt, concrete, or similar – see Figure 1).

If a non-paved area is to be used the ground must be suitably compacted and covered with a rigid load bearing board or panel system (see Figure 2).

Unless agreed in advance with the FIH, the maximum gradient in any direction (including diagonal and combined gradients, etc.) should not exceed 1.0%, and the gradients should be consistent in each direction of play.

The base must not have any troughs or humps that could adversely affect the playing qualities of the surface. This should be checked using a 3 m straightedge; there should be no low or high spots greater than ± 6 mm. Additionally, there must not be any sudden steps, or depressions greater than ± 3 mm under a 300 mm straightedge. If required any depressions should be made infilled using a suitable screeding material. Any high spots should be removed by grinding, planning, etc.

If heavy or persistent rain is likely to occur during the tournament, the base should have some form of positive rainwater drainage to ensure the playing surface can drain vertically and not become saturated.

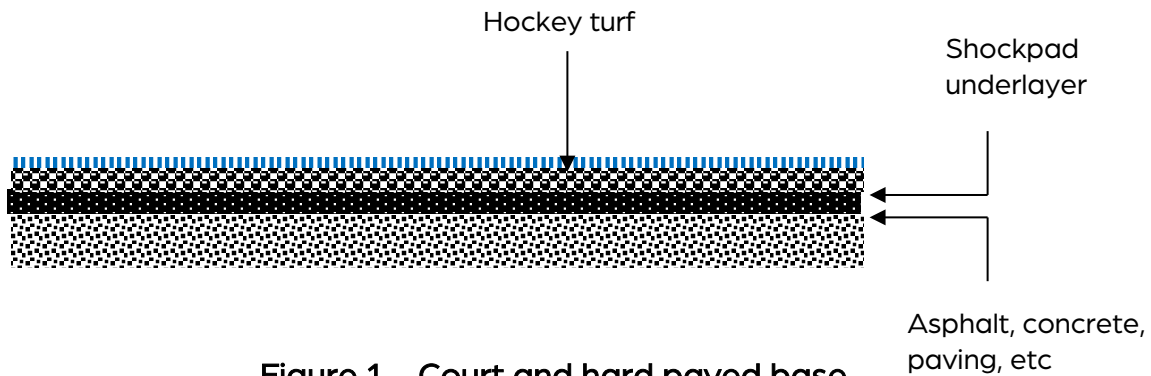


Figure 1 – Court and hard paved base

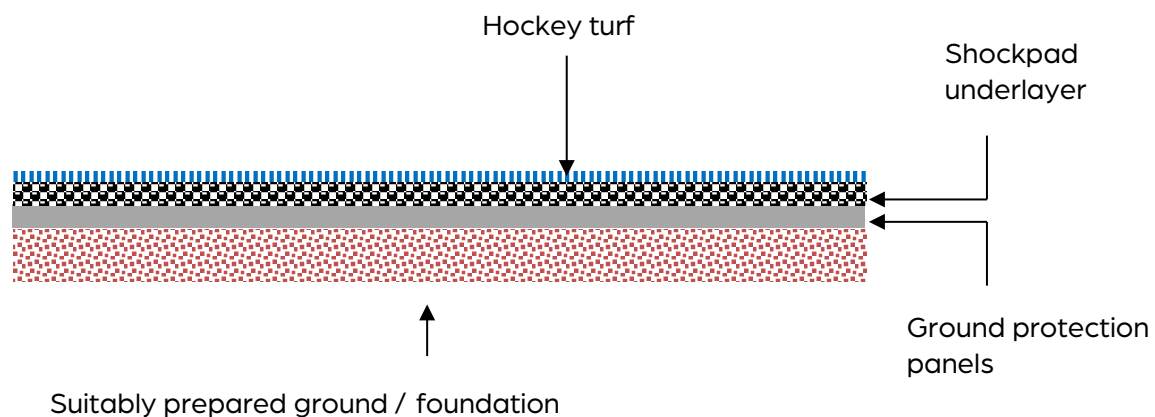


Figure 2 – Court and non-paved base construction

3.2 Playing surface

It is important that the combination of hockey turf and shockpad provide satisfactory levels of performance and player protection, so the turf system should be a FIH Approved Hockey Turf. As temporary courts need to be simple to construct and remove, the use of irrigated turfs and sand dressed surfaces is not recommended. The following categories of turf are considered most suitable:

- Non-irrigated (Innovation category) hockey turfs – these are hockey turfs designed to replicate, (as far as possible) the qualities of a wet hockey turf, without the use of water
- Non-filled National category hockey turfs

Details of suitable surfaces can be obtained from facilities@fih.ch.

Unless otherwise agreed with the FIH, the court must be a single shade of approved blue, as specified in the *FIH Hockey Turf and Field Standards*.

The turf should be laid in continuous rolls, lying across the court.

The method of joining the rolls must ensure that the joints are robust and will not fail during the tournament. Bonded, stitched and heavy-duty Velcro joints are all considered acceptable.

3.3 Line markings

The court must be line marked in accordance with the *Rules of Hockey5s*. The markings comprise:

- Goal lines, 75 mm wide and marked within the goal frame so the back of the line is level with the front of the goal frame and back-line rebound boards, as shown in Figure 3.

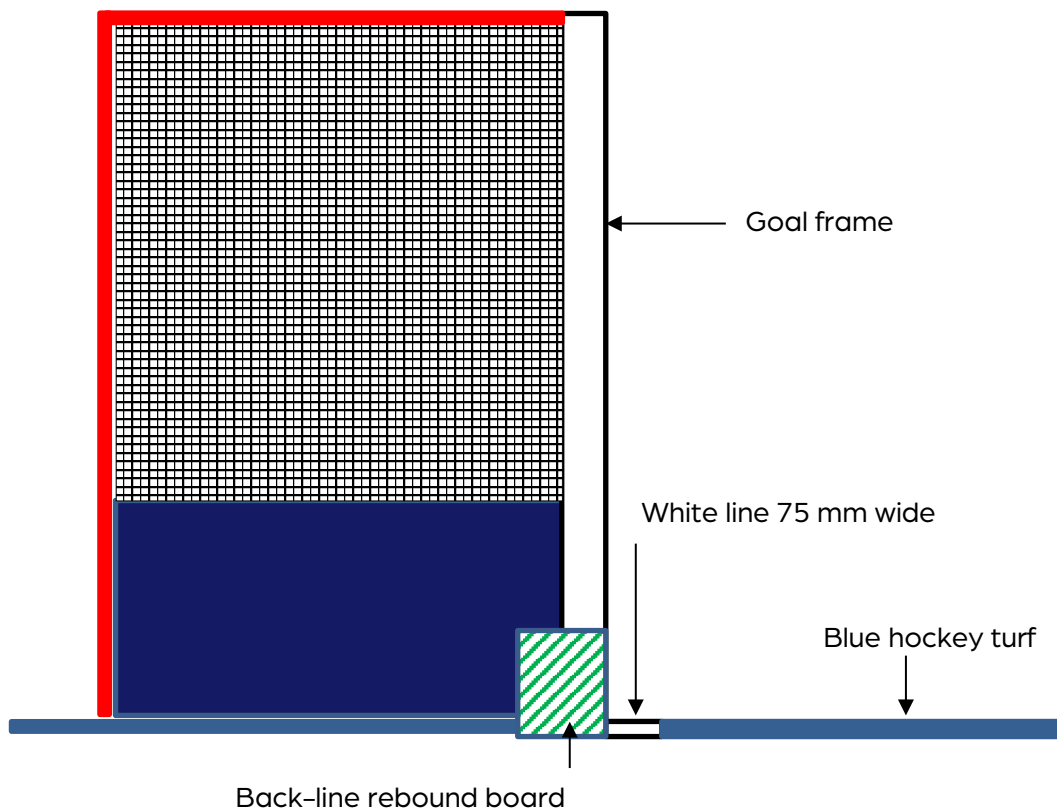


Figure 3 – goal line position

- Penalty spots: 150mm in diameter, with the centre of each spot 6.40 m from the inner edge of the goal-line
- Centre line, 75 mm wide and marked equidistance from the back-lines
- Quarter-line markings should be applied to the perimeter rebound boards (using contrasting coloured tape, etc) at a distance of 10m from each back-line.

Ideally, the centre line will be tufted into the hockey turf, whilst the back-lines and penalty spots are inlaid during installation. If painted lines are to be used, the quality of the paint must ensure the lines remain clearly visible for the duration of the tournament, without any smudging, etc.

Unless approved by the FIH, there must not be any logos or other markings on the court surfacing.

4 Court fencing

To ensure the public are protected from balls leaving the court, ball catch netting must be installed on each boundary of the court. The netting can either be hung from cables suspended

between ground mounted posts (see figure 4) or be part of portable fencing system (see figure 5) comprising a lower section of panels and an upper section of netting.

Fencing heights should be determined on a site by site basis, by assessing the potential the risk of balls leaving the court and striking spectators, event officials, etc.

The minimum fencing heights should be:

Side-line boundaries		Minimum	2.0 m
Back-lines	Spectator seating behind the back-lines	Minimum	2.0 m or height of highest tier of seating, whichever is greater
		Recommended	1 m above highest tier of seating
	No spectator seating or public access along back-line	Minimum	3.0 m

To ensure balls cannot pass through the netting, but ensuring the spectator view is not adversely restricted, the mesh size should be between 40 mm and 45 mm.

The netting should be suspended in a way that ensures it will not billow in windy conditions.

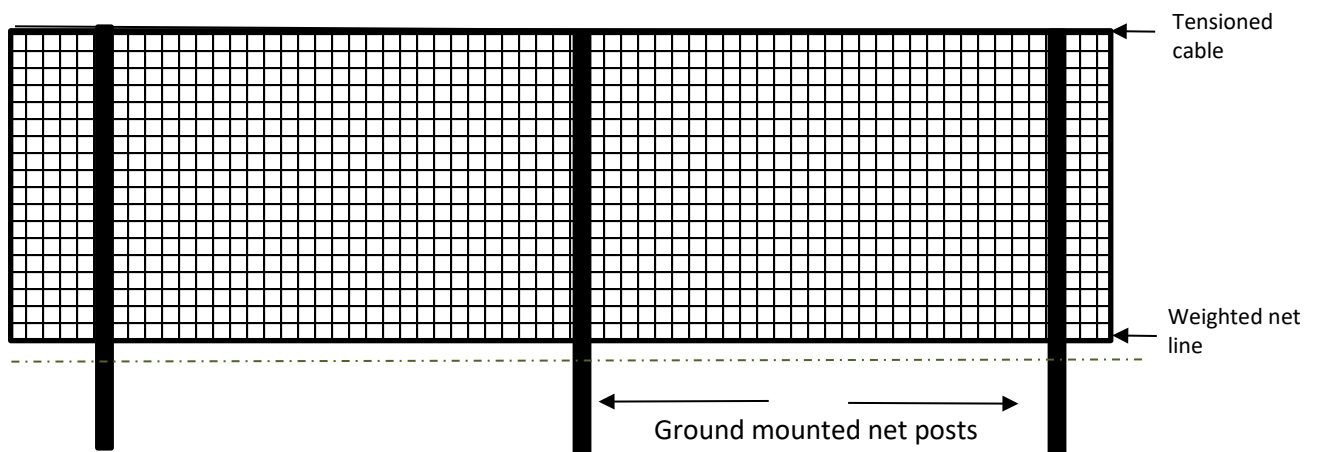


Figure 4 - Suspended ball catch netting

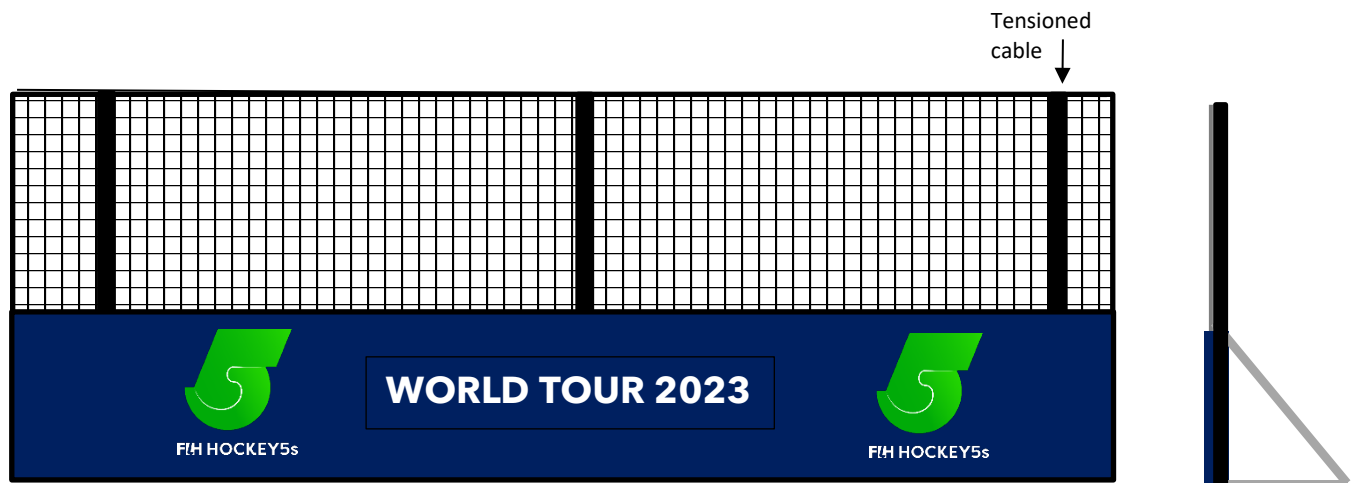


Figure5 - Portable fencing system

5 Rebound boards

A key tactical feature of Hockey5s is playing off the perimeter rebound boards. This means it is very important that the boards provide an adequate and consistent rebound. Therefore, the rebound boards must be FIH Class 1 or Class 1 - 2 approved Hockey5s rebound boards (see [FIH Quality Programme for Field Equipment | FIH](#) for a list of approved boards and their suppliers).

6 Hockey Goals

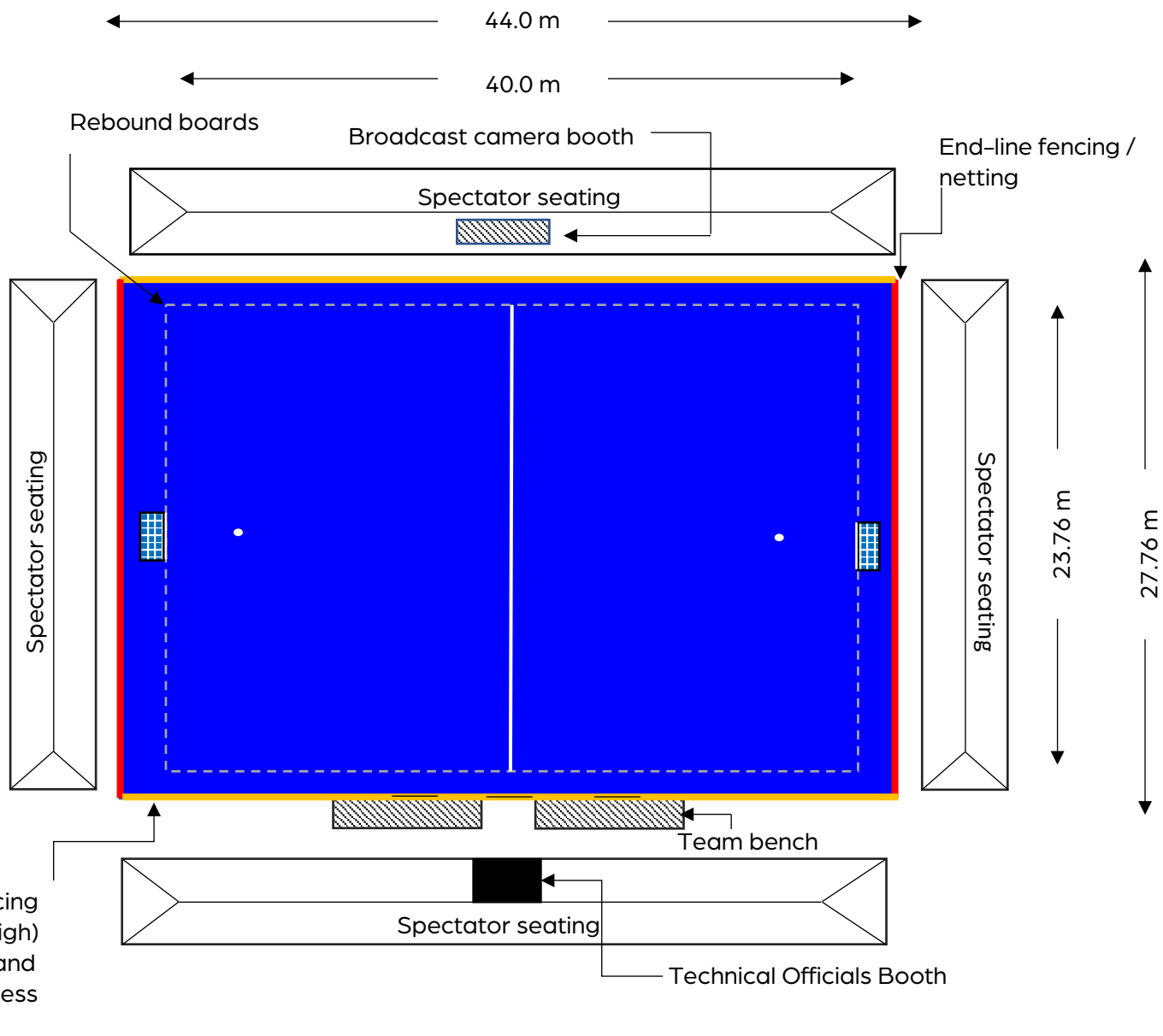
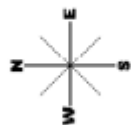
The goals (including goal nets) should be self-weighted FIH approved Class 1 hockey goals (see [FIH Quality Programme for Field Equipment | FIH](#) for a list of approved goals and their suppliers).

7 Team Benches

The team benches should have seats for at least six people. Ideally they will be free standing FIH approved team benches (see [FIH Quality Programme for Field Equipment | FIH](#) for a list of approved benches and their suppliers).

8 Lighting

Providing broadcast quality floodlighting, to allow night-time play on a temporary court, is challenging and expensive, so most events will schedule play during daylight hours only. If a venue wishes to consider hosting night-time play, they should contact facilities@fih.ch for guidance on what levels of lighting will be required.



FIH

INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY FEDERATION

PROJECT TITLE:

FIH Hockey5s World Tour

DRAWING TITLE: COURT LAYOUT

APPLICATION:

TEMPORARY COURT LAYOUT

DRAWING NO

REV

SCALE

001

Not to scale

DRAWN BY:

A Cox

DATE:

24/10/2022

NOTES:

Spectator seating, Team Benches, and Technical Officials Booth may be located on either boundary, as agreed with FIH & Event Broadcasters



Rue du Valentin 61
1004 Lausanne
Switzerland
www.fih.hockey