



Media Kit

FIH Hockey World Cup 2026 Qualifiers

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For all media queries relating to the event, please contact media@fih.hockey

ABOUT THE EVENT

Event title FIH Hockey World Cup 2026 Qualifiers
When 1 – 14 March 2026
Where Santiago, Chile & Ismailia, Egypt & Hyderabad, India

TEAMS

City of Santiago, Chile

Women's Competition

Pool A: Australia, Chile, France, Switzerland

Pool B: Japan, Ireland, Canada, Malaysia

Men's Competition

Pool A: Chile, France, Wales, Scotland

Pool B: Canada, Ireland, Korea, Poland

Ismailia, Egypt

Men's Pool A: Egypt, England, Japan, USA

Men's Pool B: Austria, China, Malaysia, Pakistan

Hyderabad, Telangana, India

Women's Pool A: Austria, England, Italy, Korea

Women's Pool B: India, Scotland, Uruguay, Wales

EVENT WEBSITE

City of Santiago, Chile: <https://www.fih.hockey/events/world-cup-qualifiers-chile-2026>

Ismailia, Egypt: <https://www.fih.hockey/events/world-cup-qualifiers-egypt-2026>

Hyderabad, Telangana, India: <https://www.fih.hockey/events/world-cup-qualifiers-india-2026>



SOCIAL MEDIA

The FIH will provide comprehensive coverage of the event via our social media channels, including [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter/X](#) and [YouTube](#).

HASHTAG

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WELCOME MESSAGE FROM FIH PRESIDENT TAYYAB IKRAM

Dear Friends,

It is with great pride and anticipation that I welcome you to the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers 2026!

The FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers represent everything that makes our sport special: excellence, diversity and the unifying power of hockey across borders and cultures.

At the heart of these qualifiers are the athletes. Across every match, every venue and every continent, players will step onto the field carrying years of ambition, dedication and sacrifice. For many, this journey is the culmination of a lifetime of commitment; for all, it is a moment to give their all on a global stage, representing not only their teams and nations, but the very best values of our sport — passion, resilience and teamwork, with the ultimate aim of securing their nations a spot at the upcoming FIH Hockey World Cup!



This qualification phase is truly global in nature. Taking place across the **three continents of Asia, Africa and the Americas**, it brings the world of hockey closer to fans and communities everywhere. From established hockey nations and past World Cup winners to emerging forces aiming to make their World Cup debut, teams from all regions will compete with the same objective: to earn their place at the upcoming showcase event of our sport — the FIH Hockey World Cup Belgium and Netherlands 2026!

What makes these qualifiers especially powerful is their inclusivity and reach. 32 teams across two genders and the three venues of Hyderabad (India), Ismailia (Egypt) and Santiago (Chile), demonstrate that hockey is a global game, played, followed and loved in every corner of the world. Each tournament venue becomes a meeting point of cultures, styles and stories, united by a shared passion for hockey.

On behalf of the International Hockey Federation, I extend my sincere thanks to the host nations, organisers, officials, volunteers and partners whose dedication makes these events possible. Most importantly, I congratulate the athletes who have earned the right to compete at this level. Your performances will inspire the next generation and continue to grow our sport worldwide.

I wish all teams the very best in their pursuit of qualification and look forward to witnessing outstanding hockey across all venues.

Yours in Hockey,

Tayyab Ikram

President, International Hockey Federation (FIH)

ABOUT SANTIAGO



Santiago is the capital city of Chile and largest in the country. It is well-known for its cultural landscape; museums, gastronomy, vineyards, urban promenades, and the Sky Costanera, the tallest viewpoint in South America.

Santiago is surrounded by hills and framed by the Andes Mountain range, which reaches as high as 5,424m with Cerro El Plomo. One of the main hills in the city is Cerro San Cristobal. One can reach this point by hiking, or by a funicular, and take a glimpse of the stunning views of the city.

The Parque Metropolitano, the city's urban park, is the fourth largest in the world and is a major tourist attraction. Santiago has diverse neighbourhoods, the city's architectural fabric is a rich tapestry of its history. Barrio Italia, for instance, features a mix of old semi-rural buildings.

The city's gastronomy scene incorporates Chilean culinary traditions with influences from neighbouring and even distant countries. Santiago also has a vast network of bike lanes, offering bike rentals for safe, ecological transportation through its historic neighbourhoods and landmarks, such as Lastarria, Concha y Toro, and Yungay.



The energetic and cosmopolitan nature of Santiago makes it a wonderful place to explore, giving visitors a chance to visit various cultural spaces, such as museums, the pedestrian malls, and various architectural sites within the city. Hillside parks and green spaces are inviting for meandering and restful picnics during the day, while the active nightlife can be experienced through sidewalk eateries, restaurants, beer halls, and cafes.

Useful links

Santiago on [Lonely Planet](#)

Santiago on [Trip Advisor](#)

Santiago on [Wikipedia](#)

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ABOUT ISMAILIA



Ismailia is a vibrant canal city in northeastern Egypt, best known for its laid-back waterfront atmosphere and its unique position along the Suez Canal. Often called the “City of Beauty and Enchantment,” Ismailia blends greenery, colonial-era charm, and a strong connection to modern Egyptian history, making it a refreshing destination away from the bustle of Cairo.

The city is framed by water on multiple sides: the Suez Canal runs alongside it, while Lake Timsah sits at its edge, giving Ismailia an open, breezy feel that’s rare for an inland Egyptian city. The Corniche along the lake is one of the most pleasant places to wander, especially in the late afternoon when families gather, boats drift across the water, and the sky turns golden over the canal.

Ismailia’s architectural character reflects its past as a planned city developed during the construction of the canal. Tree-lined streets, old villas, and remnants of European-style buildings still appear in pockets of the city, forming a distinct contrast with newer neighbourhoods. The city also carries deep national significance, with landmarks and memorials that speak to Egypt’s struggles and pride tied to the canal zone.

The local food scene is strongly shaped by the surrounding waters, with fresh fish and seafood taking centre stage in many restaurants. Alongside classic Egyptian dishes, visitors will find casual cafés, juice shops, and lively eateries where evenings stretch late into conversation, tea, and shared plates. Markets and small shops add to the city’s everyday energy, offering a glimpse into daily life in the canal region.

With its walkable waterfront, relaxed pace, and inviting public spaces, Ismailia is an excellent place for slow exploration. Whether you’re strolling beside Lake Timsah, discovering hidden historic streets, or enjoying a meal by the canal, the city offers a softer, greener side of Egypt—one where water, history, and community shape the experience.

Useful links

Ismailia on [Britannica](#)

Ismailia on [TripAdvisor](#)

Ismailia on [Wikipedia](#)

ABOUT HYDERABAD



Hyderabad, the capital city of Telangana, is one of India's most dynamic metropolitan centres, known for its seamless blend of history, innovation, and rich cultural heritage. Often referred to as the "City of Pearls," Hyderabad is celebrated for its historic monuments, thriving technology sector, bustling bazaars, and world-famous cuisine.

The city's skyline reflects its dual identity. The iconic Charminar stands at the heart of the Old City, surrounded by lively markets such as Laad Bazaar, renowned for bangles and traditional crafts. Nearby, the grand Mecca Masjid and the opulent Chowmahalla Palace echo the legacy of the Nizams, whose influence shaped much of Hyderabad's architectural and cultural fabric. In contrast, the western corridor of the city — home to HITEC City and the Financial District — showcases gleaming towers, global companies, and modern infrastructure.

Hyderabad is dotted with scenic lakes and rocky landscapes that add character to its urban setting. Hussain Sagar Lake, with its towering Buddha statue at the centre, is a popular gathering place for evening strolls and boat rides. Parks and green spaces such as Lumbini Park and the expansive KBR National Park offer respite from the city's energetic pace.



The city's gastronomy is legendary. Hyderabad biryani, with its fragrant rice and slow-cooked spices, draws visitors from across the country and beyond. Traditional dishes such as haleem, kebabs, and double ka meetha reflect influences from Persian, Turkish, and Mughal cuisines, while contemporary cafés and fine-dining restaurants cater to the city's cosmopolitan population.

Hyderabad's neighbourhoods reveal its layered personality — historic quarters rich with heritage, upscale residential areas, and vibrant commercial hubs. The city's festivals, arts scene, and bustling nightlife contribute to its spirited atmosphere. Whether exploring centuries-old monuments, shopping in colourful markets, enjoying lakeside views, or engaging with its modern tech culture, Hyderabad offers a compelling experience where tradition and progress coexist in remarkable harmony.

Useful Links

Hyderabad on [Lonely Planet](#)

Hyderabad on [Trip Advisor](#)

Hyderabad on [Wikipedia](#)

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ABOUT THE FIH HOCKEY WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS

The FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers 2026 mark the final, decisive stage of the journey to the FIH Hockey World Cup Belgium & Netherlands 2026 (15 – 30 August). [With 9 men's and women's teams already qualified](#), these tournaments will determine the remaining 7 nations that will earn their place at hockey's biggest stage later this year:

- The top three teams from each tournament automatically qualify.
- Additionally, the highest world-ranked fourth-placed team across the events also earns a coveted World Cup berth. ([See qualification criteria here](#))

For teams just outside automatic qualification from continental events or Pro League qualification, this is the last chance to secure a place in August's showpiece.

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MATCH SCHEDULE

City of Santiago, Chile (1– 8 March 2026) – Match schedule [available here](#)

Ismailia, Egypt (1–7 March 2026) – Match schedule [available here](#)

Hyderabad, Telangana, India (8 – 14 March 2026) – Match schedule [available here](#)



TEAMS

Below you will find some general information as well as the squad lists for the teams that will compete in each pool at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers 2026. All squad information is correct as of 31 January 2026.

City of Santiago, Chile

Women's Competition

Pool A: Australia, Chile, France, Switzerland

Pool B: Japan, Ireland, Canada, Malaysia

Men's Competition

Pool A: Chile, France, Wales, Scotland

Pool B: Canada, Ireland, Korea, Poland

Women's Teams

Australia

Nickname: Hockeyroos

World Ranking: 5

Notable Honours: 3x Olympic gold medallists (1988, 1996, 2000), 2x World Cup winners (1994, 1998), 3x World Cup silver medallists (1990, 2006, 2014), 2x World Cup bronze medallists (1983, 2022), FIH Hockey Pro League silver medallists (2019), 6x FIH Champions Trophy gold medallists (1991, 1993, 1995, 1997, 1999, 2003), 8x Oceania champions (1999, 2001, 2003, 2005, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2023), 4x Commonwealth Games gold medallists (1998, 2006, 2010, 2014)

About: After enduring a difficult 12 months by their own high standards, Australia have an opportunity to put the past behind them by putting together a strong campaign at the qualifiers and punching their ticket to the World Cup.

In September 2025, Australia hosted the Oceania Cup in Darwin, where a World Cup ticket went to the winner of a three-match series against rivals New Zealand. It ended in heartbreak, with the Black Sticks taking the decider in a shoot-out to push Australia into the 2026 World Cup Qualifiers. It marked the end of Katrina Powell's tenure as head coach, with the legendary Hockeyroos striker and double Olympic gold medallist making the decision to step down after four and a half instrumental years rebuilding both the team and the culture of the Hockeyroos.

Despite recent challenges, the squad still boasts a blend of experience and exciting young talent. Key players such as outstanding shot-stopper Jocelyn Bartram, defender Kaitlin Nobbs, attacker Grace Stewart, and midfielders Steph Kershaw and Claire Colwill – the former named Hockeyroo of the Year 2024, the latter an FIH Rising Star Award nominee in 2024 – will be central to their hopes.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Japan

Nickname: The Cherry Blossoms

World Ranking: 12

Notable Honours: Asian Games gold medallists (2018), Asian Games silver medallists (1986, 1994, 2006), Asian Games bronze medallists (1990, 2002, 2010), Asia Cup gold medallists (2007, 2013, 2022), Asia Cup silver medallists (1985, 1989, 2004), FIH Hockey Nations Cup bronze medalists (2023) 8th place – FIH Champions Trophy (2014), FIH Champions Challenge 1 gold medallists (2011), 8th place – Olympic Games (2004), 5th place – FIH Hockey World Cup (2006)

About: Japan are coming into the World Cup Qualifiers as one of the favourites to secure qualification to the premier hockey event.

Ranked 12th in the world, Japan are seeded second in the competition, behind Australia, who are the highest ranked team, coming in as World Ranked 6th team. Japan have strong pedigree in the competition as well, having qualified for the World Cup on the previous six occasions.

Japan will be banking on their youth at the event, with just six players over the age of twenty five, and no player with three digit international caps. The team will rely on the likes of Miyu Suzuki, Mai Toriyama and captain Amiru Shimada, who are young players themselves — but with more international experience in their bag than their teammates — to guide the remaining majority of the squad through their first major international competition, with a World Cup spot at stake.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Ireland

Nickname: The Green Army

World Ranking: 13

Notable Honours: 2nd Place – FIH Women’s World Cup (2018), 11th Place – Hockey World Cup (1994, 2022), 2nd Place – FIH Nations Cup (2023-24, 2024-25), 5th Place – EuroHockey Nations Championship (2019, 2023)

About: Ireland’s Green Army having just completed the first half-season of their debut FIH Hockey Pro League campaign, are strongly positioned to secure World Cup Qualification.

Their promotion to the Pro League followed an excellent showing at the FIH Hockey Nations Cup 2025 in Santiago, Chile, where they defeated Scotland (3–0), New Zealand (1–0), Korea (2– 0) and USA (2–1) to reach the final and a second meeting with the Black Sticks. Although they suffered a heartbreaking shoot-out loss in the title match, New Zealand later declined their Pro League invitation, opening the door for Ireland.

Through the first half of the season Ireland have put together impressive performances in the Pro League with narrow losses to Argentina and Belgium, draws against England and Australia, and an outright 4-1 win against Australia that capped off the first half of the season as well.

While this squad is renowned for being greater than the sum of its parts, there is real individual quality throughout the group. Ayeisha McFerran (134 caps) – named Goalkeeper of the Tournament at the London 2018 Women’s World Cup, where Ireland claimed a sensational silver medal despite entering as the second-lowest ranked team – remains one of the world’s outstanding shot-stoppers. Captain Sarah Hawkshaw (96) along with Katie Mullan (246), and Roisin Upton (136) are seasoned veterans in international hockey, providing vast experience and leadership. Talented attacker Mikayla Power, named Best Young Player at the 2025 Nations Cup thanks to a series of eye-catching performances, is another player capable of producing big moments.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Chile

Nickname: Las Diablas

World Ranking: 15

Notable Honours: South American Games gold medallists (2022), Pan American Cup silver medallists (2017, 2022), FIH Nations Cup bronze medalists (2024), Pan American Cup bronze medallists (2009), Pan American Games bronze medallists (2011, 2023), South American Championship silver medallists (2003, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2016), South American Games silver medallists (2006, 2014, 2018), 13th – FIH Hockey World Cup 2023

About: The Chile women's hockey team, known as Las Diablas, has emerged as a rising force in international hockey, driven by passion, skill, and a strong team spirit. With their recent history littered with impressive performances in the Pan American Championships, South American Games and a breakthrough appearance at the FIH Hockey Women's World Cup 2022, Chile continues to showcase its growing presence on the global stage.

Backed by a dedicated fan base and with the advantage of playing on home soil, Las Diablas will be eager to return to the FIH Hockey World Cup for the second time in a row, but the task won't be easy, with three teams ranked higher than them in the competition.

Chile are placed in Pool B with Australia, France and Switzerland, and the first task for them will be to qualify for the semi-finals. With Australia having struggled in recent times and two teams ranked lower than them, Chile can capitalise through their squad, which is filled with experienced players. Fernanda Villagran (119), Denise Losada (207), Fernanda Flores (223), Sofia Filipek (185), Manuela Urroz (255), Constanza Palma (208), Agustina Solano (103), Maria Maldonado (106) make it eight players in the Chile squad to have reached at least 100 international appearances, which makes them the most experienced side in the competition, which along with the home support, makes Chile a fearsome proposition for their opponents.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

France

Nickname: Les Bleues

World Ranking: 17

Notable Honours: 1x Gold Medal - FIH Hockey Nations Cup 2 (2025), 1x Gold Medal - EuroHockey Championship II (2023), 1x Silver Medal - EuroHockey Championship III (2021), 1x Gold Medal - EuroHockey Championship III (2019)

About: France arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers on the back of a period of meaningful progress and high-level competition. The women's team earned the right to compete on the Olympic stage as hosts at Paris 2024, marking their first appearance at the Summer Games and finishing 12th overall among the world's elite teams — an encouraging milestone in the programme's development and exposure on home soil.

Building on that momentum, Les Bleues captured gold at the inaugural Women's FIH Hockey Nations Cup 2 in Wałcz, Poland in June 2025, triumphing in a dramatic final against Uruguay after a 3–3 draw to secure the title in a shoot-out. This success underscores France's rising confidence, depth and competitive edge on the international stage. With a blend of experienced leaders and exciting talent driving their play, France bring resilience, tactical discipline and ambition to the World Cup Qualifiers as they aim to convert recent achievements into further success.

While France haven't appeared in the World Cup since 1981, they are strongly positioned to break the streak and make an appearance in Hockey's showpiece event after a 45-year hiatus.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Canada

Nickname: Canadian Wolf Pack

World Ranking: 22

Notable Honours: FIH Hockey World Cup silver medallists (1983), FIH Hockey World Cup bronze medallists (1986), Pan American Games silver medallists (1991, 2019), Pan American Games bronze medallists (1987, 1995, 1999, 2015), Pan American Cup bronze medallists (2001, 2004, 2013), 5th place – Olympic Games (1984)

About: The Canada women's hockey team, known as the Wolf Pack, brings a proud legacy and determined spirit to the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers. With a rich history dating back to their first World Cup appearance in 1978 and a runner-up finish in 1983, Canada has shown flashes of high-level performance on the global stage in the past. Despite performances being up-and-down over the past couple of years, the North American side remain focused on climbing the world rankings and returning to the sport's biggest events with renewed ambition and resilience. Canada's dynamic blend of experienced leaders and exciting young talent continues to develop under a strong coaching setup as they strive for consistent results in major international competition.

After missing out on the World Cup for six straight editions between 1998 and 2018, Canada returned to hockey's premier competition in 2022, where they finished in 15th position. Their buildup to the qualifiers has been marked by valuable competitive exposure and growth, including strong performances in regional as well as global events such as the FIH Hockey Nations Cup, where they gained important match experience against international opposition.

The Wolf Pack enter the World Cup Qualifiers with a clear focus: maintain a disciplined defensive structure, capitalize on quick transition play, and harness the collective belief that has driven their progress. With World Cup qualification on the line, Canada's blend of tactical acumen and defensive solidity will be on full display as they take on top-level opponents and aim to write the next chapter in their international hockey journey.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Malaysia

Nickname: Speedy Tigresses

World Ranking: 21

Notable Honours: 1x Bronze Medal - Asian Games (1982), 1x Bronze Medal - Asia Cup (1985), 1x Bronze Medal - Asian Champions Trophy (2013), 8x Gold Medals - South East Asian Games (1997, 1999, 2001, 2007, 2013, 2015, 2017, 2023), 2x Silver Medals - South East Asian Games (1993, 1995)

About: Malaysia's women's team arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers as one of Asia's most dynamic and fast-improving sides. Known for their pace, attacking intent and technical flair, the Speedy Tigresses combine quick ball movement with an energetic press that can unsettle even the most experienced opponents. Regular contenders in continental competition, they have started to consistently feature at the top end of Asian events, reflecting the steady growth of the women's game in the country and the impact of a strengthened high-performance pathway.

Blending experienced internationals with an emerging generation of confident young players, Malaysia continue to build depth and resilience in their squad. Exposure to higher-level global tournaments in recent seasons has sharpened their tactical discipline and composure in key moments, while their trademark speed on transition remains a defining strength.

Their upward trajectory was evident at the FIH Hockey Women's Nations Cup 2 in Poland, where Malaysia delivered a series of competitive performances against an emerging field of international opponents. The tournament provided valuable exposure and match experience in a high-pressure environment, further strengthening the team's depth and confidence.

Blending experienced internationals with an exciting young core, Malaysia will look to turn that momentum into results at the Qualifiers, bringing ambition, belief and a fearless approach as they push for a place at the FIH Hockey World Cup.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Switzerland

World Ranking: 38

Notable Honours: 1x Gold Medal - EuroHockey Championships III (2009), 3x Silver Medal EuroHockey Championships III (2023, 2021, 2017), 3x Bronze Medal EuroHockey Championships III (2019, 2013, 2007), 7th - EuroHockey Championship II (2011), 8th - FIH Hockey World Cup (1976)

About: Switzerland's women's team arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers as a side continuing to make steady strides on the international stage. Representing a nation where the sport is developing rapidly, the Swiss will look to defy the odds as the team with the lowest world ranking in the competition. Their structure without the ball and commitment to team defence are hallmarks of their game, while an increasing emphasis on technical development and fitness has added greater confidence in possession and attacking transitions.

With a squad built around a committed core of experienced players and a growing group of emerging talent, Switzerland have gained valuable exposure through consistent participation in European competitions against higher ranked opponents. Each continental campaign has contributed to their tactical maturity and resilience in high-pressure moments.

At the World Cup Qualifiers, the Swiss side will look to harness that experience, embracing the opportunity to test themselves against diverse opposition as they aim to continue their upward progression on the global stage.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Men's Teams

France

Nickname: Les Blues

World Ranking: 9

Notable Honours: 4th place – Olympic Games (1920, 1936), 7th place – FIH Men's World Cup (1971, 1990), 8th place – FIH Men's World Cup (2018), 6th place – FIH Champions Trophy (1992), 4th place – EuroHockey Nations Championship (1970), 5th place – EuroHockey Championship (2023), FIH Hockey Nations Cup silver medallists (2023-24)

About: France's men's team arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers as one of Europe's most exciting and upwardly mobile sides. Over the past decade, Les Bleus have established themselves as consistent contenders on the international stage, combining tactical discipline with athleticism and technical quality. Their structured defensive systems, quick counter-attacks and clinical penalty corner execution have become defining features of a team comfortable competing against the world's elite.

A landmark moment in their modern history came with qualification for the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, marking their return to the Olympic stage and providing invaluable experience competing at the highest level in front of a home crowd. That exposure further accelerated the team's growth, reinforcing their belief and sharpening their competitive edge against top-ranked opponents. France have also shown their credentials in FIH global competitions in recent seasons, underlining their status as a side capable of challenging established powers.

Blending experienced leaders with a confident new generation of talent, France continue to build depth and resilience across all areas of the pitch. Their ambition is clear: to convert steady progression into consistent podium contention. At the World Cup Qualifiers, Les Bleus will look to harness their momentum, playing with intensity, intelligence and collective belief as they pursue a place at the men's FIH Hockey World Cup for a third edition in a row.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Ireland

Nickname: The Green Machine

World Ranking: 11

Notable Honours: Olympic silver medallists (1908), European bronze medallists (2015), 10th Place – Paris 2024 Olympic Games, 10th Place – Rio 2016 Olympic Games, 12th Place – FIH Men’s World Cup (1978, 1990), FIH Hockey Nations Cup silver medallists (2022), EuroHockey Championship II gold medallists (2005, 2009, 2023)

About: Ireland’s men’s team arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers with a reputation for resilience, structure and big-tournament pedigree. Over the past decade, Ireland have firmly established themselves among the world’s competitive hockey nations. Built on defensive organisation, disciplined pressing and a strong team ethos, Ireland are known for their ability to frustrate higher-ranked opponents and capitalise on key moments.

The Green Machine have continued to feature regularly in major international competitions, including recent World Cups, European Championships and FIH Hockey Pro League. Their consistent exposure to elite opposition has reinforced a tactical identity centred on structured build-up play, counter-attacking speed and efficiency from penalty corners. Ireland’s ability to perform under pressure has become a hallmark of the squad, particularly in knock out tournaments, where composure and experience are critical.

Blending seasoned internationals with emerging talent from a strong domestic and collegiate pathway, Ireland maintain depth and leadership across the pitch. At the World Cup Qualifiers, they will look to combine their trademark work rate with clinical execution, carrying forward a belief shaped by past success and driven by the ambition to return to the sport’s biggest stage at the FIH Hockey Men’s World Cup.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Korea

World Ranking: 16

Notable Honours: Olympic silver medallists (2000), 4x Asian Games gold medallists (1986, 1994, 2002, 2006), 5x Asia Cup gold medallists (1994, 1999, 2009, 2013, 2022), 4th place – FIH Men’s World Cup (2002, 2006). FIH Champions Trophy silver medallists (1999). FIH Champions Trophy bronze medallists (2000, 2009), FIH Hockey Nations Cup bronze medallists (2022)

About: The Korean men’s team bring a proud legacy and distinctive style to the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers. Long recognised as one of Asia’s most successful hockey nations, Korea have built their reputation on speed, structure and clinical efficiency, particularly from set pieces. Their silver medal at the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games and multiple Asian Games titles remain defining achievements, underlining a tradition of competing and succeeding on the biggest stages in world hockey.

While recent years have seen a slight drop off from their lofty standards, Korea have continued to demonstrate their continental strength through consistent performances in the Asian Champions Trophy and Asian Games, while maintaining a presence in global FIH competitions. Their game is characterised by disciplined defensive organisation, rapid counter-attacks and technical precision, with an emphasis on teamwork and tactical clarity. Korea’s ability to control tempo and capitalise on set pieces makes them a constant threat in tightly contested matches.

Blending experienced campaigners with a new generation of athletic, skillful players, Korea enter the World Cup Qualifiers determined to reaffirm their standing among the world’s elite. Having appeared in the World Cup across seven of the last eight editions, Korea are a staple at Hockey’s premier global event. With a proven winning culture and a clear competitive identity, Korea will look to make it eight appearances in the last nine editions of the men’s FIH Hockey World Cup.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Wales

World Ranking: 15

Notable Honours: Olympic bronze medallists (1908), 6th Place – EuroHockey Championships (1978, 1999, 2019), Silver medallists – EuroHockey Championship II (2017), 6th Place – Commonwealth Games (2022), 1st Place – European Qualifier Men’s FIH Hockey World Cup (2022).

About: Wales’ men’s team arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers as a side that has steadily strengthened its reputation through discipline, resilience and a fearless competitive mindset. Wales have grown into a difficult opponent for any team, combining strong defensive organisation with high energy and a collective work ethic that reflects the identity of the programme. At the 2024-25 Men’s FIH Hockey Nations Cup in Kuala Lumpur, Wales put in commendable performances against strong field teams, earning draws with South Africa and France in the pool stage and ultimately finishing third in Pool A before competing in the 5th–8th classification matches, where they secured a victory over Japan and Malaysia to close out the tournament.

In recent seasons, Wales have gained valuable experience through regular participation in European competition and FIH events, sharpening both their tactical structure and their confidence in possession. The team’s game is built around smart decision-making, quick transitions and an increasing willingness to attack with pace when opportunities open up. Their development has been supported by a growing core of experienced internationals, alongside younger players stepping into bigger roles, making them increasingly competitive in high-pressure contexts and ready to challenge for qualification.

With momentum continuing to build, Wales enter the Qualifiers determined to translate progress into a major breakthrough on the world stage. Backed by a strong team culture and a clear tactical identity, they will bring intensity, unity and ambition to every match as they pursue qualification for the FIH Hockey Men’s World Cup for a second straight edition in the competition’s history.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Scotland

World Ranking: 20

Notable Honours: 1x Gold FIH Hockey Nations Cup 2 (2025), 1x Bronze Olympic Games (1908), 1x Gold EuroHockey Championship II (2017), 1x Silver EuroHockey Championship II (2021), 3x Bronze EuroHockey Championship II (2007, 2011, 2015)

About: Scotland's men's team arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers with growing confidence and a clear competitive identity. Known for their intensity, physicality and structured team play, Scotland are rapidly becoming a consistently dangerous opponent on the continental and international stage. Their game is built around disciplined defending, high work rate across the pitch and attackers possessing great attacking flair, allowing them to compete strongly against a wide range of styles and opposition.

That momentum was underlined by Scotland's victory at the inaugural FIH Hockey Men's Nations Cup 2, where they captured the title and demonstrated their ability to deliver in high-pressure tournament settings. The triumph highlighted the squad's balance between defensive resilience and attacking efficiency, as well as their composure in key moments. It also reflected the steady progress of the programme, with a core group of experienced internationals complemented by emerging talent stepping up on the global stage.

Blending proven leaders like Lee Morton, Struan Walker — who have also represented Great Britain — and captain Robert Field, with a new generation of dynamic players, Scotland enter the Qualifiers determined to build on recent success and take the next step toward a first ever World Cup qualification! With belief strengthened by recent silverware and a strong collective spirit, Scotland will bring energy, organisation and ambition as they pursue a place at the FIH Hockey Men's World Cup.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Canada

Nickname: Red Caribou

World Ranking: 19

Notable Honours: 4x Gold Medallists Pan American Games (1983, 1987, 1999, 2007), 1x Gold Medalists Pan American Cup (2009), 1x Silver Medalists FIH Champions Challenge (2014), 8th - FIH Hockey World Cup (1998), 10th - Olympic Games (1976, 1984, 2000, 2008)

About: Canada's men's team arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers carrying a proud tradition and a reputation for strong performances on the international stage. Regular participants at World Cups and Olympic Games across past decades, Canada have long been one of the leading nations in the Pan American region. Since 1971, Canada have finished on the podium at every edition of the Pan American Games, which is reflective of a programme built on structure and a strong team ethos.

In recent years, the Red Caribou have continued to evolve their playing style, blending physicality and fitness with greater tactical discipline and composure in possession. Canada's game is often characterised by organised defensive systems, quick counter-attacks and a willingness to aggressively contest every phase, particularly in tight matches. Regular exposure to FIH global events like the FIH Hockey Nations Cup and high-level continental tournaments has strengthened the squad's depth and sharpened their competitive edge against diverse international opposition.

With a balanced mix of experienced internationals like Devon Teixeira (139), Matthew Sarmiento (177) and Balraj Panesar (111) combining for over 400 caps along with emerging talent stepping into key roles, Canada enter the Qualifiers focused on reclaiming their place among the world's elite. Driven by a strong collective identity and ambition to return to the sport's biggest stage, they will look to qualify for the World Cup after missing out on the previous edition.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Poland

World Ranking: 24

Notable Honours: 2x Gold EuroHockey Championship II (2007, 2015), 1x Silver EuroHockey Championship II (2011), 1x Gold EuroHockey Championship III (2023), 1x Bronze FIH Hockey Men's Nations Cup 2 (2025), 4th Place - Olympic Games (1980), 8th Place - FIH Hockey World Cup (1980, 1984)

About: The Poland men's team arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers as a proud and competitive European side with rich hockey history, that they are looking to get back to. Poland has made multiple appearances at both the FIH Hockey World Cup and Olympic Games, and continues to develop its identity through structured play, strong defensive organisation and a collective work ethic that makes them a tough matchup for any opponent. Their game combines disciplined tactics with moments of attacking flair, backed by a squad that blends experience and emerging talent committed to elevating the programme on the world stage.

Poland's competitive momentum and recent rise was on display at the inaugural FIH Hockey Men's Nations Cup 2 in Muscat, Oman, where they secured a bronze medal after a dramatic shoot-out win over the United States, highlighting their ability to perform under pressure in tournament play. This podium finish underscores Poland's growing confidence and tactical maturity, creating valuable match experience against international competition and reinforcing their belief in challenging for key honours.

Despite being the lowest world ranked team at the qualifiers, Poland will look to harness that recent success and continue their upward trajectory. With a strong team culture grounded in collective discipline, competitive intensity and ambition, they aim to build on recent achievements and demonstrate their capability to compete with the world's best as they pursue a coveted place at the FIH Hockey Men's World Cup 2026, which would be their first since the 2002 edition.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Chile

Nickname: La Roja

World Ranking: 22

Notable Honours: 1x Silver Pan American Games (2023), 4x Bronze Pan American Games (1983, 2007, 2011, 2015), 1x Silver Pan American Cup (2022) 1x Bronze Pan American Cup (2004), 4x Silver South American Games (2006, 2014, 2018, 2022), 1x Gold South American Championship (2016), 4x Silver South American Championship (2003, 2008, 2010, 2013)

About: Chile's men's hockey team arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers as a spirited and rapidly developing side on the international stage. Known for their commitment and tenacity, Chile have become a consistent force in the Pan American region, frequently contending with regional rivals and showcasing a style marked by energy, tactical grit and wholehearted effort. Their performances at events such as the Pan American Games and FIH Nations Cup have helped build a foundation of experience that the squad continues to enhance as it competes against higher-ranked opposition.

The team's identity is anchored in a strong work ethic, disciplined defensive organisation and a willingness to seize opportunities in transition. Chile's players combine physicality with increasing technical confidence, harnessing strategic positioning and speed on the break to create scoring threats. This blend of resilience and energetic play has allowed them to test stronger teams and maintain competitive intensity throughout tightly contested matches. The squad's ongoing development is powered by a core group of experienced internationals alongside exciting younger talent stepping into more significant roles.

As Chile enter the World Cup Qualifiers, they bring ambition and belief built from years of regional competition and incremental international progress. Chile made their World Cup debut in the 2023 edition of the competition and with strong home support cheering them on in Santiago, Chile will aim to make it two in two in terms of men's FIH Hockey World Cup appearances.

Squad: [Click Here](#)



Ismailia, Egypt

Men's Competition

Pool A: Egypt, England, Japan, USA

Pool B: Austria, China, Malaysia, Pakistan

England

World Ranking: 7

Notable Honours: Olympic gold medallists (1908), World Cup silver medallists (1986), European champions (2009), 2x EuroHockey Championship silver medallists (1987, 2023), 7x EuroHockey Championship bronze medallists (1978, 1991, 1995, 1999, 2003, 2011, 2017), FIH Champions Trophy silver medallists (2010), 4x Commonwealth Games bronze medallists (1998, 2014, 2018, 2022).

About: England's men's hockey side will arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers as one of the sport's premier and most accomplished programmes, having not missed out on World Cup qualification on any occasion outside of the inaugural edition in 1971. A powerhouse on the international stage, England have consistently competed at the highest levels — including multiple World Cup campaigns, Olympic appearances and medals in major FIH events. Renowned for their physical style and attacking flair, the English side blend structured build-up play with creative forward movement, making them a formidable opponent in every phase of the game.

The team's recent history is marked by sustained success and strong performances against top-ranked teams. Their disciplined defensive systems with some of the best defenders and goalkeepers in the world including the likes of James Albery, Jack Waller, Oli Payne and James Mazarelo, along with fluid transition play that features modern greats like Zach Wallace and Sam Ward, allow England to control tempo and create scoring opportunities through intelligent possession and incisive movement. With a squad boasting a wealth of experience, including players who have also featured for Great Britain at the Olympic level, England possess leadership and depth across all areas, anchored by a culture of excellence and high performance.

As they enter the World Cup Qualifiers, England will look to leverage their blend of seasoned internationals and exciting emerging talent to secure qualification and build momentum toward future global honours.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Malaysia

Nickname: Speedy Tigers

World Ranking:13

Notable Honours: 8th Place – Olympic Games (1972), 4th Place – Hockey World Cup (1975), 6th Place – Champions Trophy (1993), FIH Champions Challenge 1 Bronze medallists (2014), Commonwealth Games Silver medallists (1998), Asian Games Silver medallists (2010), Asia Cup Silver medallists (2022), Asia Cup Bronze medallists (2007), Sultan Azlan Shah Cup gold medallists (2022), 4x Sultan Azlan Shah Cup Silver medallists (1985, 2007, 2013, 2014)

About: The Malaysian hockey team, arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers as one of Asia's most dynamic and exciting sides. Known for their speed, skill and attacking intent — the aptly named 'Speedy Tigers' combine technical flair with high energy and disciplined team structure. Their style of play, characterised by quick transitions, intelligent ball movement and energetic pressing, reflects a growing confidence and maturity on the international stage. Regular competitors in Asian competitions, including the Asian Games and Asian Champions Trophy, Malaysia continue to challenge established powers in the region and raise their profile globally.

In recent years, the team has shown steady progress through a blend of experienced campaigners and talented young athletes stepping into key roles. This mix has helped Malaysia strike a balance between tactical solidity in defence and creative freedom in attack, enabling them to adapt to different styles of opposition. Their commitment to an attacking brand of hockey, coupled with a resilient defensive mindset, has made them increasingly competitive in high-pressure moments and tight matches, typical of knock-out competition.

As they enter the World Cup Qualifiers, Malaysia will look to harness their speed, cohesion and tactical growth to pursue qualification for the FIH Hockey World Cup, which they have qualified for in each of the past three editions.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Pakistan

Nickname: The Green Shirts

World Ranking: 14

Notable Honours: 3x Olympic Gold medallists (1960, 1968, 1984), 3x Olympic silver medallists (1956, 1964, 1972), 2x Olympic bronze medallists (1976, 1992), 4x World champions (1971, 1978, 1982, 1994), 8x Asian Games gold medallists (1958, 1962, 1970, 1974, 1978, 1982, 1990, 2010), 3x Asia Cup gold medallists (1982, 1985, 1989), 3x Champions Trophy gold medallists (1978, 1980, 1994)

About: Few nations in world hockey can boast a heritage as rich as that of the Pakistan men's side. The four-time world champions and three-time Olympic gold medallists remain one of the sport's most storied sides, having shaped the global game with their artistry, flair and iconic players across generations. While recent years have brought challenges, the Green Shirts are rebuilding with ambition and purpose. A debut appearance in the FIH Hockey Pro League marked an important step in that journey in 2025-26, and a return to the FIH Hockey World Cup, where they still rank among the most successful teams in competition history will be the natural next step.

Pakistan earned their place in season seven of the Pro League thanks to an excellent campaign at the FIH Hockey Nations Cup 2024–25 in Malaysia, where they finished runners-up to New Zealand. Their performance in Kuala Lumpur was full of promise. Sufyan Khan, Rana Waheed and Abdul Rehman each netted three times, with 21-year-old drag-flicking defender Sufyan named Young Player of the Tournament. Sufyan's form carried into November, firing eight goals across two matches against Bangladesh to send Pakistan into the 2026 FIH World Cup Qualification pathway.

It was an impressive statement from a team intent on climbing back towards hockey's summit, which they will aim to repeat at the World Cup Qualifiers, seeking a return to the game's premium competition, after missing out on the previous edition.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Egypt

World Ranking: 17

Notable Honours: 2x Gold Africa Cup of Nations (1983, 1989), 7x Silver Africa Cup of Nations (1993, 2005, 2009 2013, 2017, 2022), 1x Bronze Africa Cup of Nations (1996), 3x Gold African Games (1991, 2003, 2023), 2x Silver African Games (1995, 1999), 1x Silver FIH Hockey Men's Nations Cup 2 (2025)

About: The Egypt men's national hockey team arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers with a growing sense of belief and a strong home advantage, as the Qualifiers are set to be played on familiar turf in Egypt. A steady presence in African competitions, Egypt combines disciplined defensive organisation with spirited attacking play, underpinned by a collective work ethic that reflects the team's identity. Over the years, they have built valuable experience through continental tournaments such as the Africa Cup of Nations and continental qualifiers for the World Cups and the Olympic Games.

That momentum was on full display at the inaugural FIH Hockey Men's Nations Cup 2, played in Muscat, Oman, where Egypt delivered an impressive campaign and finished as runners-up, narrowly missing out on the title after strong performances throughout the tournament. The team's ability to excel in high-pressure matches — combining physical intensity, smart transitions and clinical circle work — highlighted their progress and readiness for top-level qualification competition.

Now competing on home soil, Egypt will look to channel that recent success and home support into a commanding run at the Qualifiers. With a balanced squad featuring experienced veterans and dynamic young talent, they bring intensity and ambition to every match as they pursue qualification for the FIH Hockey Men's World Cup for the very first time, and aim to elevate Egyptian hockey further on the world stage.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Japan

Nickname: The Samurais

World Ranking: 18

Notable Honours: Olympic silver medallists (1932), 9th Place – Hockey World Cup (1971, 2006), Asian Games gold medallists (2018), Asian Games bronze medallists (1966, 1970), Asian Hockey Champions Trophy silver medallists (2013), Sultan Azlan Shah Cup gold medallists (2024)

About: Japan's men's national hockey team enter the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers as a disciplined, tactically astute side with a strong competitive tradition in Asia and beyond. Known for their organised structure, quick ball circulation and tactical flexibility, Japan blend technical precision with a tradition of relentless work rate, making them a challenging opponent for any team. Their style of play emphasises possession control, intelligent positioning and a commitment to both defensive solidity and creative attacking transitions, reflecting a program that values strategy as much as athleticism.

Over recent years, Japan have built valuable experience through regular participation in major continental tournaments such as the Asian Games and Asian Champions Trophy, as well as FIH international events like the FIH Hockey Nations Cup, that have sharpened their competitive edge. They have also showcased their ability to upset higher-ranked teams with disciplined performances and tactical execution, highlighted by their gold medal finish at the Sultan Azlan Shah Cup 2024.

As they take to the field at the World Cup Qualifiers, Japan will look to leverage their tactical cohesion and collective belief to pursue qualification for the FIH Hockey Men's World Cup 2026, after missing out on the previous edition held in India in 2023. With a balanced squad and a clear identity built on strong work ethic and smart decision-making, Japan are a tough match-up for any side that faces off against them.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Austria

Nickname: Red Capricorns

World Ranking: 21

Notable Honours: 1x Gold EuroHockey Championship II (2021), 2x Silver EuroHockey Championship II (2007, 2015), 2x Bronze EuroHockey Championship II (2013, 2019)

About: The Austria men's hockey team has been making significant strides on the international stage. As of January 2026, they are ranked 21st in the FIH world rankings. In the FIH Hockey Olympic Qualifiers held in Valencia in January 2024, Austria competed in Pool B alongside Spain, Korea, and Egypt. Despite a tricky group stage, Austria gave a great account of themselves, relying on a solid defence and quick counter attacks. Ultimately, Austria finished 6th in the tournament, narrowly missing out on Olympic qualification, but showcasing their great forward progress over the past few years.

More recently in 2025, during the inaugural FIH Hockey Nations Cup 2, Austria continued to showcase their steady rise in the global game, registering wins over eventual champions Scotland, Oman, Chile and China. Despite a fifth place finish, due to a narrow loss to USA in the pool stage ruling them out of semi-final contention, Austria could count their overall performance in the competition a success, having won four of their five matches across the event against varied international competition. Under the guidance of head coach Robin Rösch, the team continues to build on these experiences, aiming to enhance their performance in future international competitions like the FIH Hockey World Cup.

Austria have a rich history in the indoor format of Hockey, with five consecutive podium finishes, including two gold medals in 2018 and 2023 editions of the FIH Indoor Hockey World Cups. With the team progressing rapidly in the outdoor format of the sport over the past few years, a first ever appearance at the men's FIH Hockey World Cup in 2026 is well within their grasp.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

China

World Ranking: 23

Notable Honours: 1x Silver Asian Games (2006), 2x Bronze Asia Cup (1982, 2009), 1x Silver Asian Champions Trophy (2024)

About: The China men's national hockey team has been a consistent presence in Asian hockey in recent times. As of January 2026, they are ranked 23rd in the FIH world rankings. Their notable achievements include a silver medal at the 2006 Asian Games in Doha and bronze medals at the Asia Cup in 1982 and 2009.

But their crowning achievement came much more recently in 2024, when they reached the finals of the Men's Asian Champions Trophy held in Hulunbuir, China. They finished the competition as runners-up, but only following a narrow 1–0 loss to India in the final. Under the guidance of new head coach Anthony Farry, the team gave a good account of themselves at the Hero Asia Cup in 2025, finishing the competition in fourth position, showcasing that their recent string of results have been no flukes.

Given the rapid rise of their women compatriots, who won the silver medal at the Olympic Games Paris 2024, opponents will have to be wary of the men's side making similar strides, the hints of which have already been spotted through their performances in the Asian Champions Trophy in 2024, where they got the better of higher ranked teams like Pakistan and Malaysia on the way to the silver medal, and the Asia Cup 2025 where they played a draw against Japan and defeated Korea, with both teams placed higher than them in the world rankings.

China made their first and only men's FIH Hockey World Cup appearance in 2018, and while the side missed out on the 2023 edition of the competition, a return to Hockey's premier event in 2026 will align perfectly with their recent upward trajectory.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

United States

Nickname: United Wolves

World Ranking: 25

Notable Honours: 1x Bronze Olympic Games (1932), 5x Bronze Pan American Games (1967, 1987, 1991, 1995, 2019) 2x Silver Pan American Cup (2025, 2009), 1x Bronze Pan American Cup (2017).

About: The United States men's hockey team arrives at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers with growing confidence and momentum, driven by recent standout performances on the international stage. Over the past few seasons, the U.S. squad has demonstrated significant progress through disciplined play, athletic intensity and tactical growth, competing with belief against strong global competition. Anchored by experienced leaders and complemented by emerging talent, the team's blend of structured defence and dynamic transition play makes them a challenging opponent and an exciting side to watch.

That momentum was clearly evident at the inaugural FIH Hockey Men's Nations Cup 2 in Muscat, Oman, where the United States delivered an impressive run and narrowly missed out on a podium finish with a fourth-place result against a competitive field of international teams. [OBJ] Their ability to stay competitive in tight matches under pressure signalled a growing maturity and resilience within the squad, laying a strong foundation for qualification play ahead.

The USA men's team also capped a memorable year with a silver medal at the 2025 Pan American Cup in Montevideo, underscoring their status as one of the top teams in the Americas. Despite falling to Argentina in the final, the tournament showcased their ability to perform consistently against quality opposition and secured their spot in the World Cup Qualifiers. With ambition, unity and belief at the core of their identity, the United Wolves will bring intensity and competitive drive to every match as they pursue a first ever qualification to the FIH Hockey Men's World Cup.

Squad: [Click Here](#)



Hyderabad, India

Women's Competition: England, India, Scotland, Korea, Italy, Uruguay, Wales and Austria

Pool A: Austria, England, Italy, Korea

Pool B: India, Scotland, Uruguay, Wales

England

World Ranking: 8

Notable Honours: World Cup bronze medallists (2010), European champions (1991, 2015), Hockey World League bronze medallists (2012-13), Champions Trophy bronze medallists (2010), Commonwealth Games gold medallists (2022), Commonwealth Games silver medallists (1998, 2002, 2014).

About: England's women's hockey team arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers as one of the favourites to secure a spot at the FIH Hockey World Cup Belgium and Netherlands 2026. Renowned for their tactical intelligence, technical precision and work-rate intensity, England have long been a fixture among the world's top sides, combining structured build-up play with creative attacking flair. Their defensive organisation, strong ball retention and ability to execute under pressure have seen them earn podium finishes at major FIH events and maintain a presence at World Cups and Olympic Games (as Great Britain).

In recent years, the team has continued to blend experienced campaigners with exciting emerging talent, ensuring leadership and depth across every line. At the qualifiers England will field seven players with over 100 caps in Anna Toman (168), Elena Rayer (143), Tessa Howard (124), Fiona Crackles (115), Sophie Hamilton (102), Lily Owsley (263) and Grace Balsdon (167). This makes them amongst the most experienced sides across the breadth of the competition.

A whole host of the players have also featured for Great Britain on the Olympic stage and bring added high-level exposure and strategic nous that elevate the group's collective performance. England's commitment to a high-tempo, possession-oriented style — coupled with tactical adaptability — has made them a consistently difficult matchup for opponents at all levels of international competition.

As they enter the World Cup Qualifiers, England will look to harness that experience, and competitive pedigree — having qualified for every edition of the World Cup since 1983 — to secure qualification and build momentum toward future global honours.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

India

World Ranking: 9

Notable Honours: FIH Champions Challenge bronze medallists (2002), Commonwealth Games gold medallists (2002), Commonwealth Games silver medallists (2006), 4th Place – Olympic Games (1980, 2021), Asian Games gold medallists (1982), Asian Games silver medallists (1998, 2018), 3x Asian Games bronze medallists (1986, 2006, 2014, 2023), 2x Asia Cup gold medallists (2004, 2017), Asia Cup silver medalists (2025), Asia Cup bronze medallists (2022)

About: The India women's hockey team arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers as one of the most dynamic and highest ranked sides in the competition. With a rich history and passionate support at home, India has emerged over recent years as a global contender, blending flair and skill with strong tactical discipline. Known for their sturdy defence, inventive attacking play with fast paced forwards willing to chase all outlet balls, the Indian women bring intensity and creativity across all areas of the pitch. Their performances on the world stage have earned them respect and admiration from opponents and fans alike.

India's recent competitive record highlights their continued rise in elite competition. The team has featured prominently at major events including the FIH Hockey Women's World Cup, the Olympic Games, and FIH Hockey Pro League, to which they earned promotion in 2023, but suffered relegation in 2025. Players with vast international exposure like Savita (308), Navneet Kaur (201), Lalremsiami (177) and captain Salima Tete (145) help shore up the defence and drive a cohesive and confident style of play, whether building methodically from the back or launching incisive attacks in the circle. The team's adaptability and tactical awareness make them a consistent threat to top-ranked sides, capable of turning tight contests in their favour.

As they step into the World Cup Qualifiers, India will look to harness their deep pool of talent and home support in Hyderabad to secure a place at the FIH Hockey World Cup 2026.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Scotland

World Ranking: 14

Notable Honours: 8th place – FIH Hockey World Cup (1983), 6th place – Commonwealth Games (2002, 2006, 2014, 2022), 5th place – EuroHockey Championship (1991)

About: Scotland's women's team arrives at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers with a proud tradition of strong tournament performance, frequently punching above their weight. Known for their disciplined defensive structures, cohesive team play and tenacious attitude, Scotland consistently challenge higher-ranked opponents on the international stage. Their tactical organisation, strong work rate and ability to compete physically across all phases of play have helped them earn respect in major European and global events.

Over recent years, Scotland have continued to develop their game through participation in key competitions such as the Women's FIH Hockey Nations Cup, European Championships and other high-level continental fixtures that have sharpened their tactical awareness and competitive depth. The squad blends experienced internationals with the likes of captain Sarah Robertson (226), Amy Costello (158), Charlotte Watson (139) and Fiona Burnet (104), who have also played as part of the Great Britain team, with emerging talent, creating a balance of leadership and youthful dynamism. This mix allows Scotland to adapt strategically to different styles of opposition, whether competing in tight defensive battles or quick transition phases.

Entering the World Cup Qualifiers, Scotland will look to capitalise on that experience and flexibility as they pursue qualification for the FIH Hockey World Cup. The Scottish women's side had a consistent spell of appearances in the women's FIH Hockey World Cups between 1983 to 2006 — appearing in four out of the five editions in that period — but have yet to make an appearance since 2006. With a clear identity built on a fearless competitive mindset and strong tournament performances in recent times, Scotland are poised to make a strong push towards qualifying for Hockey's premier showcase event once again after a 20-year hiatus.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Korea

World Ranking: 16

Notable Honours: 2x Olympic silver medallists (1988, 1996), Hockey World Cup bronze medallists (1990), FIH Champions Trophy gold medallists (1989), FIH Champions Trophy silver medallists (1995), FIH Champions Trophy bronze medallists (1987), 2x FIH Champions Challenge silver medallists (2002, 2007), 5x Asian Games gold medallists (1986, 1990, 1994, 1998, 2014), 3x Asia Cup gold medallists (1985, 1993, 1999)

About: The Korean hockey team arrives at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers as one of Asia's most respected and strategically disciplined sides historically. With a rich tradition in international competition — including Olympic and World Cup podium finishes along with multiple gold medal showings at Asian Games and Asia Cup tournaments — Korea blend structured defence, tactical intelligence and swift transition play.

With such a rich history, the Korean teams frequently went into most events as strong favourites, but the team is undergoing a transition, and with the emergence of China and India in Asia, finds itself on the back foot in the continent as well.

After missing out on an Olympic qualification for just the second time in 34 years at Paris 2024, Korea will aim to bounce back in international hockey by qualifying for a tenth edition of the women's FIH Hockey World Cup, an event that they have qualified for consistently since 1990.

Despite fielding a youthful side in the recent competitions, Korea's hallmark style of compact organisation combined with fast, incisive movement through the midfield, has been a consistent theme, allowing them to compete effectively against technically gifted and physically dynamic opponents alike.

As they step into the World Cup Qualifiers, Korea will look to lean on their tactical nous and a strong competition pedigree to return to the FIH Hockey World Cup for a tenth straight time.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Italy

Nickname: Team Azzurre

World Ranking: 18

Notable Honours: 1x Gold Medal - EuroHockey Championship II (2013), 3x Silver Medal - EuroHockey Championship II (2005, 2009, 2019), 1x Bronze Medal - EuroHockey Championship II (2017)

About: Italy are a team on the rise in the European circuit with a young team on a clear long term plan to catch up to their continental rivals. Italy, with their young squad, produced fantastic results at the EuroHockey Championships in 2023. Two draws against higher ranked Ireland and Scotland in the classification stage of the championship put them in the spotlight and helped them qualify for the FIH Hockey Olympic Qualifiers in Ranchi, India.

Italy continued their impressive run at the Olympic qualifiers with a sixth-placed finish, giving higher ranked New Zealand and USA a run for their money and defeating Chile in the qualification matches. And while they didn't manage to qualify for the Olympics, their steady rise in international hockey continues to impress.

Their uptick continued at the FIH Hockey Nations Cup 2 in 2025, where they scored impressive wins over Czechia and Malaysia, along with a draw against Wales. Italy narrowly missed out on a semi-final spot due to goal difference, but their attacking flair consistently stood out in the competition and will be the facet of their team they will rely on strongly as they aim to make just their third appearance at the women's FIH Hockey World Cup.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Uruguay

Nickname: Cimarronas

World Ranking: 19

Notable Honours: 1x Silver Medal - FIH Hockey Women's Nations Cup 2 (2025), 1x Bronze Medal - Pan American Cup (2025), 1x Bronze Medal - Pan American Games (2003), 1x Gold Medal - South American Championship (2016), 1x Silver Medal - South American Championship (2018), 6x Bronze Medal - South American Championship (2003, 2006, 2008, 2010, 2013, 2014)

About: The Uruguay women's hockey team, known as the Cimarronas, arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers with real momentum and rising confidence on the international stage. Traditionally a spirited and resilient side, Uruguay have combined strong defensive organisation, fast transitional play and prolific goal-scoring skills to compete effectively against higher-ranked teams. Their recent results reflect a team that continues to elevate its competitive standards and belief across major tournaments.

Uruguay's impressive run at the inaugural FIH Hockey Women's Nations Cup 2 saw them narrowly miss out on gold in a dramatic final against France, finishing as runners-up after a thrilling shoot-out, having showcased tenacity and attacking intent throughout the competition. This performance highlighted their ability to compete in high-pressure situations and reinforced the squad's growing international stature. Adding to that success, Uruguay made history at the 2025 Pan American Cup in Montevideo by securing their first ever Pan American Cup medal with a bronze-medal finish, a landmark achievement for the programme.

Blending seasoned internationals with emerging talent, Uruguay enter the World Cup Qualifiers determined to build on these breakthroughs and continue their ascent in women's hockey by qualifying for their first ever women's FIH Hockey World Cup.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Wales

World Ranking: 23

Notable Honours: 1x Bronze Medal - FIH Hockey Nations Cup 2 (2025), 2x Bronze Medal - EuroHockey Championship II (2009, 2023), 2x Gold Medal - EuroHockey Championship III (2007, 2013)

About: The Wales women's hockey team enter the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers with growing confidence and a strong sense of achievement following recent breakthrough performances on the international stage. In the recent times across both continental and international competitions, Wales have consistently challenged higher-ranked teams with smart tactical play and high energy across all phases of the game. Their commitment to cohesive team hockey and resilience under pressure has helped establish them as a competitive force emerging from the European circuit.

That progress was emphatically on display at the FIH Hockey Women's Nations Cup 2, where Wales exceeded expectations to claim the bronze medal — a remarkable achievement given they entered the tournament as one of the lower-ranked sides. Their success in securing bronze highlighted the team's belief, tactical discipline and ability to rise to the occasion in pivotal moments. With a blend of experienced internationals — some of whom have been a part of the Great Britain set-up as well — and dynamic young players, Wales demonstrated strategic adaptability and competitive maturity throughout the competition, earning well-deserved recognition for their performance.

As they step into the World Cup Qualifiers, Wales will look to channel that momentum and further elevate their game as they pursue just a second ever qualification for the FIH Hockey World Cup, and a first since 1983. With confidence high and belief in their identity, Wales aim to build on recent success and continue writing new chapters in the growth of women's hockey at home and internationally.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

Austria

World Ranking: 33

Notable Honours: 2x Silver Medal - EuroHockey Championship III (2005, 2011), 1x Bronze Medal - EuroHockey Championship III (2009), 5th - Olympic Games (1980), 8th - FIH Hockey World Cup (1974), 4th - EuroHockey Championship II (2019),

About: The Austria women's hockey team arrive at the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers as a resilient and tactically disciplined side on the rise in European hockey. Austria have steadily built their programme around strong defensive organisation, strategic patience in build-up play and a collective commitment to pressing effectively without the ball. Their style balances structured shape with quick transitional moments, allowing them to compete with intensity and cohesion against diverse opposition.

Much like the men's Austrian side, the women's side has a strong history in Indoor Hockey as well, with back-to-back silver medal finishes at the FIH Indoor Hockey World Cups in 2023 and 2025. Their growth is not limited to indoor hockey as they continue to make strides in the outdoor format as well on a continental level.

In recent seasons, Austria have gained valuable experience through regular participation in European Championship divisions, sharpening both their tactical awareness and competitive depth. Their squad is primarily made up of young talent with a blend of some experienced leadership that gives them an advantage in terms of the familiarity the opponents will have with their game.

As they enter the World Cup Qualifiers, Austria will look to capitalise on that progress and demonstrate their growth on one of the sport's biggest stages. Austria have a history at the FIH Hockey Women's World Cup, having appeared in three of the first four editions of the competition. But qualification to hockey's premier event has eluded them since 1981. The young Austrian side will be eager to upset all odds as the lowest world ranked side in the competition as they aim to end their 45-year hiatus at the World Cup.

Squad: [Click Here](#)

COMPETITION OFFICIALS

A complete list of competition officials for the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers 2026 can be found at the following links:

City of Santiago, Chile:

<https://www.fih.hockey/events/world-cup-qualifiers-chile-2026/officials>

Ismailia, Egypt: <https://www.fih.hockey/events/world-cup-qualifiers-egypt-2026/officials>

Hyderabad, India: <https://www.fih.hockey/events/world-cup-qualifiers-india-2026/officials>

Information regarding the appointed officials for each match will be made available on the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers 2026 website around 24 hours before the start of the contest. To see this information, simply visit the link below, select the match that you are interested in and then click the 'match info' tab.

City of Santiago, Chile:

<https://www.fih.hockey/events/world-cup-qualifiers-chile-2026/schedule-fixtures-results>

Ismailia, Egypt:

<https://www.fih.hockey/events/world-cup-qualifiers-egypt-2026/schedule-fixtures-results>

Hyderabad, Telangana, India:

<https://www.fih.hockey/events/world-cup-qualifiers-india-2026/schedule-fixtures-results>



RANKINGS AND LOGO

FIH WORLD RANKINGS

To see the official FIH World Rankings, [click here](#).

FIH HOCKEY WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS LOGO

You can request the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers logo at media@fih.hockey.

FIH HOCKEY WORLD CUP QUALIFIERS PHOTOS

Photos from the FIH Hockey World Cup Qualifiers will be available to media members for download [here](#).

DATA HUB

For access to in-depth player and team statistics from all major international competitions, visit the FIH Hockey Data Hub by [clicking here](#).

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