

Qualification Criteria FIH Youth Hockey5s World Cup 2026

Events (2)

Men's Events (1)	Women's Events (1)
12-team tournament	12-team tournament

Athletes Quota

1. Total Quota for the Event

	Qualification Places	Host Country Places	Total
Men	11 teams	1 team per gender	12 teams (120 athletes) + (24 staff)
Women	11 teams		12 teams (120 athletes) + (24 staff)
Total	22 teams	2 teams	24 teams (240 athletes) + (48 staff)

2. Maximum Number of Athletes and Staff Members per Team:

	Quota per Team
Men	1 team (10 athletes + 2 Staff members)
Women	1 team (10 athletes + 2 Staff members)

Athlete Eligibility

Age

To be eligible to participate in the FIH Youth Hockey5s World Cup 2026, athletes must have been born between 1 January 2008 and 31 December 2013

Qualification Pathway

The 12-team tournament for both men and women shall consist of two (2) national teams from each Continental Championship Qualifier, the host and an additional team from the Continent of the winner of the last Youth Olympic Games, Buenos Aires 2018.

Each continent will organise one Continental Hockey5s Qualification Tournaments:

- Africa will organise a Hockey5s tournament (men and women: dates and venue to be confirmed)
- Asia will organise a Hockey5s tournament (men and women: dates and venue to be confirmed)
- Europe already organized a Hockey5s tournament (men and women: 3 - 6 July 2024, Zagreb, Croatia)
- Oceania will organise a Hockey5s tournament (men and women: dates and venue to be confirmed)
- Pan America will organise a Hockey5s tournament (men and women: dates and venue to be confirmed)

QUALIFICATION PLACES

MEN & WOMEN

Number of Quota Places	Qualification Event
D.1: 10 men teams 10 women teams	D.1 Continental Hockey5s Qualification Tournaments The top 2 teams from the following Continental Hockey5s Qualification Tournaments will be allocated one (1) quota place respectively: • Africa • Asia • Europe • Oceania • Pan America Should the Host national Association finishes as one of the Top 2 teams in the African Qualifier, the Continental Quota place will be allocated to the third place of the African Hockey5s Qualification Tournament.
D.2: 1 men team 1 women team	D.2 Additional quotas awarded based on the final ranking in Buenos Aires 2018 Youth Olympic Games The winners of the last Men's and Women's Youth Olympic Games, Buenos Aires 2018, will grant an additional quota to their Continents. These quotas shall be attributed to the third places of the following Continental Hockey5s Qualification Tournaments: Men: • Asia: one (1) additional quota Women: • Pan America: one (1) additional quota

HOST COUNTRY PLACES

The host country will automatically qualify one (1) men's and one (1) women's team to the Event.

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED HOST COUNTRY PLACES

Any unused Host Country Places will be reallocated to the next best-ranked Team of the respective gender, not yet qualified under D.1, from the African Hockey5s qualifying tournament.

If the quota place is still available, the quota place will be reallocated using the same principles established under section D.2 of Reallocation of Unused Quota Place.

Confirmation process for quota places

CONFIRMATION OF PARTICIPATION

FIH shall confirm the qualification place(s) immediately following each qualifying event. National Associations will then have to confirm in writing to the FIH confirming their participation by 1st October 2026

Reallocation of unused quota places

REALLOCATION OF UNUSED QUALIFICATION PLACES

D.1

Any unused quota places through D.1, in both genders, will be reallocated to the next best-ranked team in the Continental Hockey5s Qualification Tournament of the team that rejected the invitation.

D.2.

Any unused quota places through D.2, in both genders, will be reallocated to the Continent of next best-ranked team in the last Youth Olympic Games, Buenos Aires 2018, not yet qualified under D.1 or under the host country quota, following the order of priority below:

Men:

1. Asia
2. Pan America
3. Africa
4. Europe
5. Oceania
6. Europe
7. Asia
8. Pan America
9. Pan America
10. Africa
11. Oceania

Women:

1. Asia
2. Asia
3. Africa
4. Oceania
5. Europe
6. Europe
7. Africa
8. Pan America
9. Africa
10. Pan America
11. Oceania

Qualification timeline

Period	Date	Milestone
Continental Qualification Events Must be played by 1st June 2026	3 - 6 July 2024	EuroHockey 5s u16 Championship – Zagreb (CRO)
	20 – 25 July 2026	2026 Men's & Women's Asian Hockey5s U18 – Muscat (OMA)
	TBC	African Hockey5s Continental Qualification – venue to be advised
	TBC	Oceania Hockey5s Continental Qualification – venue to be advised
	TBC	Hockey5s Pan American Youth Championship – Montevideo (URU)
	TBC	Asian Hockey5s Continental Qualification – venue to be advised
Inform and Confirm	Following each qualification event	FIH to inform National Associations of their allocated quota places
	TBC	NAs to confirm use of allocated quota places to FIH
Reallocation	TBC	FIH to reallocate all unused quota places and NAs to confirm
	TBC	End of reallocation period
Team entry Deadline	27 November 2026	Entries deadline on Global TMS
Event	10 - 13 December 2026	FIH Youth Hockey5s World Cup 2026