

Qualification Criteria for FIH Hockey Junior World Cup 2027 (Men & Women)

Age Group

- All players shall be under 21 years of age as of 31 December 2026 that is all players shall be born on or after 1 January 2006.
- All players shall be at least 15 years of age by 1st January of 2027

Men

The FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2027 will consist of 24 teams

1.1. To qualify for the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2027, National Associations must compete in their respective Continental Federation (CF) Junior Championships/Qualifier.

1.2. The Host Nation – 1 quota place: The host nation.

1.3. Teams Qualified by Continental Federation – 15 quota places

The Continental quotas are as follows:

- Africa (3): The Top 3 teams in the Junior Africa Cup 2026
- Asia (3): The Top 3 teams in the Junior Asia Cup 2026
- Europe (3): The Top 3 teams in the EuroHockey U21 Championships 2026
- Pan America (3): The Top 3 team in the Junior Pan American Championship 2026
- Oceania (3): The Top 3 teams in the Junior Oceania Cup 2026

Note: when considering the Top 3 nations in each CF Championship, the JWC host nation is not included. Therefore, the continent of the host nation will have the Top 3 teams plus the host nation qualified,

1.4. The remaining 8 Teams will qualify via continental quotas calculated using the FIH Men's Junior World Ranking on 31 January 2026, provided that:

- They are not yet qualified under 1.2 and 1.3 above.
- The Continental quotas are calculated by considering the CF of each nation in the Junior World Rankings, and disregarding the top 3 nations from each CF. The CFs of the top 8 ranked nations that remain in the rankings then earn a continental quota for their CF. These 8 continental quotas are then filled by the highest finishing nations in each continental championship who have not already qualified for the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2027.

Illustration and explanation of this Continental Quota system using the Junior World Rankings

Based on the ranking as of 31 January 2026 and removing the top three (3) quotas already allocated to each Continental Federation in 1.3 (highlighted in yellow), the Top 8 nations are highlighted in green:

1	Germany	EH	1	1000.00	1000.00	1	1000.00	500.00	2	800.00	200.00	EH	3	650.00	2350.00
2	Spain	EH	2	800.00	800.00	3	750.00	375.00	7	550.00	137.50	EH	2	700.00	2012.50
3	Argentina	PAHF	4	700.00	700.00	7	550.00	275.00	1	1000.00	250.00	PAHF	1	750.00	1975.00
4	India	ASI	3	750.00	750.00	4	700.00	350.00	4	700.00	175.00	ASI	1	675.00	1950.00
5	Netherlands	EH	6	600.00	600.00	5	650.00	325.00	5	650.00	162.50	EH	1	750.00	1837.50
6	France	EH	7	550.00	550.00	2	800.00	400.00	3	750.00	187.50	EH	6	500.00	1637.50
7	Belgium	EH	5	650.00	650.00	9	450.00	225.00	6	600.00	150.00	EH	4	600.00	1625.00
8	Australia	OCE	11	350.00	350.00	6	600.00	300.00				OCE	1	750.00	1400.00
9	New Zealand	OCE	8	500.00	500.00	11	350.00	175.00				OCE	2	630.00	1305.00
10	South Africa	AFR	12	300.00	300.00	10	400.00	200.00	9	450.00	112.50	AFR	1	525.00	1137.50
11	Malaysia	ASI	13	275.00	275.00	12	300.00	150.00	8	500.00	125.00	ASI	4	540.00	1090.00
12	England	EH	9	450.00	450.00							EH	5	550.00	1000.00
13	Pakistan	ASI				8	500.00	250.00	11	350.00	87.50	ASI	2	630.00	967.50
14	Korea	ASI	19	155.00	155.00	13	275.00	137.50	10	400.00	100.00	ASI	6	450.00	842.50
15	Japan	ASI	14	250.00	250.00							ASI	3	585.00	835.00
16	Canada	PAHF	22	110.00	110.00	16	200.00	100.00	13	275.00	68.75	PAHF	2	549.50	828.25
17	Ireland	EH	10	400.00	400.00							EH	8	400.00	800.00
18	Egypt	AFR	21	125.00	125.00	14	250.00	125.00	16	200.00	50.00	AFR	2	402.50	702.50
19	Bangladesh	ASI	17	185.00	185.00							ASI	5	495.00	680.00
20	Chile	PAHF	15	225.00	225.00	15	225.00	112.50	14	250.00	62.50	PAHF	3	221.00	621.00
21	Austria	EH	18	170.00	170.00							EH	7	450.00	620.00
22	Switzerland	EH	16	200.00	200.00							EH	12	300.00	500.00
23	Poland	EH							12	300.00	75.00	EH	11	325.00	400.00

Therefore:

- Asia are awarded 3 additional quotas, to be filled by the three (3) highest-placed teams in the Junior Asia Cup 2026 not yet qualified under 1.2 or 1.3.
- Europe are awarded 5 additional quotas, to be filled by the five (5) highest-placed teams in the EuroHockey Junior Championships 2026 not yet qualified under 1.2 or 1.3.

2.1 Reallocation of Unused Quota Places under 1.3

If an allocated quota place is not confirmed by a Team qualified via the Continental Championship on the deadline established by FIH or is declined by the National Association, the quota place will be reallocated to the next highest placed team in that continental championship.

If the relevant quota remains unfilled, the quota place will be reallocated to the next highest placed team in the Junior World Ranking not yet qualified under 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4.

Example: If Oceania has only 2 teams in their Continental Qualifier, the third quota allocated to the Continent will be transferred to the Junior World Ranking, therefore Switzerland would grant an additional quota to Europe. The Junior World Ranking quotas are not connected to the team, but to the Continent that this team represents.

2.2 Reallocation of Unused Quota Places under 1.4

If an allocated quota place is not confirmed by a Team qualified via the Junior World Ranking quota on the deadline established by FIH or is declined by the National Association, the quota place will be reallocated to the Continent of the next highest placed team in the Junior World Ranking not yet qualified under 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4.

Example: If one of the 5 teams from Europe that qualified via the Junior World Ranking quota rejects the invitation, the next team invited is not necessarily from the same Continent, but the next in the Junior World Ranking list above. If the next team on the Junior World Ranking list is from a different Continent, the quota goes to this Continent. If the team is from Europe, the quota remains with Europe.

Qualification Timeline - Men

January 2026	FIH Executive Board approves qualification
7 – 18 April	Junior Pan American Championship 2026 (Santiago, Chile)
26 July – 1 August 2026	EuroHockey U21 Championships 2026
TBC	Junior Asia Cup 2026
TBC	Junior Oceania Cup 2026
TBC	Junior Africa Cup 2026
TBC	Invitations to participate issued to qualified National Associations
TBC	National Associations to confirm in writing to FIH their participation in the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2027
TBC	Team Entry Forms issued to competing National Associations
TBC	Team Entry Forms to be returned to FIH
TBC	FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2027 (TBC)

Women

The FIH Hockey Women's Junior World Cup 2027 will consist of 24 teams

1.1. To qualify for the FIH Hockey Women's Junior World Cup 2027, National Associations must compete in their respective Continental Federation (CF) Junior Championships/Qualifier.

1.2. The Host Nation – 1 quota place: The host nation.

1.3. Teams Qualified by Continental Federation – 15 quota places

The Continental quotas are as follows:

- Africa (3): The Top 3 teams in the Junior Africa Cup 2026
- Asia (3): The Top 3 teams in the Junior Asia Cup 2026
- Europe (3): The Top 3 teams in the EuroHockey U21 Championships 2026
- Pan America (3): The Top 3 team in the Junior Pan American Cup 2026
- Oceania (3): The Top 3 teams in the Junior Oceania Cup 2026

Note: when considering the Top 3 nations in each CF Championship, the JWC host nation is not included. Therefore, the continent of the host nation will have the Top 3 teams plus the host nation qualified.

1.4. The remaining 8 Teams will qualify via continental quotas using the FIH Hockey Women's Junior World Ranking on 31 January 2026, provided that:

- They are not yet qualified under 1.2 and 1.3 above;
- The Continental quotas are calculated by considering the CF of each nation in the Junior World Rankings, and disregarding the top 3 nations from each CF. The CFs of the top 8 ranked nations that remain in the rankings then earn a continental quota for their CF. These 8 continental quotas are then filled by the highest finishing nations in each continental championship who have not already qualified for the FIH Hockey Women's Junior World Cup 2027.

Illustration and explanation of this Continental Quota system using the Junior World Rankings

Based on the ranking on 31 January 2026 and removing the top three (3) quotas already allocated to each Continental Federation in 1.3 (highlighted in yellow), the Top 8 nations are highlighted in green:

World Rank	Country	CF	2025			2023			2022			2019 - 2024			Total Points
			Junior World Cup			Junior World Cup			Junior World Cup			Junior Continental Cup			
			Rank	Pts	100%	Rank	Pts	50%	Rank	Pts	25%	CF	Rank	Pts	
1	Netherlands	EH	1	1000.00	1000.00	1	1000.00	500.00	1	1000.00	250.00	EH	1	750.00	2500.00
2	Argentina	PAHF	2	800.00	800.00	2	800.00	400.00	5	650.00	162.50	PAHF	2	700.00	2062.50
3	Germany	EH	5	650.00	650.00	6	600.00	300.00	2	800.00	200.00	EH	3	650.00	1800.00
4	United States	PAHF	6	600.00	600.00	10	400.00	200.00	8	500.00	125.00	PAHF	1	750.00	1675.00
4	Belgium	EH	3	750.00	750.00	3	750.00	375.00				EH	5	550.00	1675.00
6	England	EH	8	500.00	500.00	4	700.00	350.00	3	750.00	187.50	EH	4	600.00	1637.50
7	Australia	OCE	7	550.00	550.00	5	650.00	325.00				OCE	1	750.00	1625.00
8	India	ASI	10	400.00	400.00	9	450.00	225.00	4	700.00	175.00	ASI	1	637.50	1437.50
9	Spain	EH	9	450.00	450.00	8	500.00	250.00				EH	2	700.00	1400.00
10	China	ASI	4	700.00	700.00							ASI	2	595.00	1295.00
11	Japan	ASI	11	350.00	350.00	7	550.00	275.00				ASI	4	510.00	1135.00
12	Korea	ASI	16	200.00	200.00	11	350.00	175.00	6	600.00	150.00	ASI	3	552.50	1077.50
13	South Africa	AFR	15	225.00	225.00	13	275.00	137.50	7	550.00	137.50	AFR	1	562.50	1062.50
14	New Zealand	OCE	19	155.00	155.00	15	225.00	112.50				OCE	2	700.00	967.50
15	Ireland	EH	13	275.00	275.00				9	450.00	112.50	EH	6	500.00	887.50
16	Uruguay	PAHF	12	300.00	300.00				13	275.00	68.75	PAHF	4	360.00	728.75
17	Wales	EH	14	250.00	250.00				14	250.00	62.50	EH	8	400.00	712.50
18	Chile	PAHF	18	170.00	170.00	12	300.00	150.00				PAHF	3	390.00	710.00
19	Scotland	EH	17	185.00	185.00							EH	7	450.00	635.00
20	Austria	EH	21	125.00	125.00				10	400.00	100.00	EH	10	350.00	575.00
21	Canada	PAHF	20	140.00	140.00	16	200.00	100.00	15	225.00	56.25	PAHF	5	275.00	571.25
22	Malaysia	ASI	22	110.00	110.00				11	350.00	87.50	ASI	5	330.00	527.50

Therefore:

- Asia is awarded 1 additional quota, to be filled by the highest-placed team in the Junior Asia Cup 2026 not yet qualified under 1.2 or 1.3.
- Europe are awarded 6 additional quotas, to be filled by the six (6) highest-placed teams in the EuroHockey U21 Championships 2026 not yet qualified under 1.2 or 1.3.
- Pan America is awarded 1 additional quota, to be filled by the highest-placed team in the Junior Pan American Championship 2026 not yet qualified under 1.2 or 1.3.

2.1 Reallocation of Unused Quota Places under 1.3

If an allocated quota place is not confirmed by a Team qualified via the Continental Championship on the deadline established by FIH or is declined by the National Association, the quota place will be reallocated to the next highest placed team in that continental championship.

If the relevant quota remains unfilled, the quota place will be reallocated to the next highest placed team in the Junior World Ranking not yet qualified under 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4.

Example: If Oceania has only 2 teams in their Continental Qualifier, the third quota allocated to the Continent will be transferred to the Junior World Ranking, therefore Canada would grant an additional quota to Pan America. The Junior World Ranking quotas are not connected to the team, but to the Continent that this team represents.

2.2 Reallocation of Unused Quota Places under 1.4

If an allocated quota place is not confirmed by a Team qualified via the Junior World Ranking quota on the deadline established by FIH or is declined by the National Association, the quota place will be reallocated to the Continent of the next highest placed team in the Junior World Ranking not yet qualified under 1.2, 1.3 and 1.4.

Example: If one of the 5 teams from Europe that qualified via the Junior World Ranking quota rejects the invitation, the next team invited is not necessarily from the same Continent, but the next in the Junior World Ranking list above. If the next team on the Junior World Ranking list is from a different Continent, the quota goes to this Continent. If the team is from Europe, the quota remains with Europe.

Qualification Timeline - Women	
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7 – 18 April	Junior Pan American Championship 2026 (Santiago, Chile)
26 July – 1 August 2026	EuroHockey U21 Championships 2026
TBC	Junior Asia Cup 2026
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TBC	Team Entry Forms to be returned to FIH
TBC	FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2027 (TBC)