



USA Masters Transition Team

March 2023 Town Hall FAQs



Q: What is the difference between squads & teams?

A: As part of the annual selection process, the Masters program will name squads for each age group for men and women. Age groups for both men and women include O-35, O-40, O-50, O-55, O-60 and O-65. Teams for specific domestic and international events will be named from the annually selected squads. Teams will be named to optimize the strength and availability (life events, cost, injury) of individual players, and the number of competitive teams that can be formed from the available spots. Teams may include players from different age groups.

Q: How do I know my age group?

A: The age that you turn during the calendar year determines the squad and possible teams on which you are eligible to play that year, regardless of the date of the event or your birth date. As an example, if you turn 40 at any time in 2023, you are eligible to play on the O-40 team throughout that year.

Players will be named to their age-appropriate Squads, regardless of skill or preference to play for a younger age group. Players are eligible to play for a younger age group and will be considered based upon skill and roster optimization.

Q: Are there specific citizenship requirements to participate in USA Masters Field Hockey?

A: No specific citizenship requirements exist to play USA Masters hockey domestically for tryouts, squad practices, Beach Bash or Shooting Star. For WMH-sanctioned international events (Pan-Am Continental Cup and World Cup events), WMH requires that a player must be "a national of that country or have been a resident of that country for a minimum of 12 months and not have represented any other country in that time period."

Q: Must I be a member of USA Field Hockey to participate?

A: Yes. Active USAFH membership is required to participate in tryouts, practices, or compete. To register for an event (tryout, squad practice, domestic tournament for example), you must have an active USAFH membership through the end of the Masters event period.

If your membership expires before the end of the event or you do not have a current membership, you will be required to renew/get a membership before signing up for the trials. If you are renewing your membership, the anniversary date will be the same as your prior membership, not the date of renewal, so you will not lose any days in your membership.

Q: What are the costs associated with participation in Masters Field Hockey?

A: Currently, all expenses associated with participation in Masters events are self-funded.

Costs to participate in the selection process ranges from \$50-\$100 for each tryout, not including any travel expenses. Costs to participate in domestic events vary based on the cost of the event and number of players on a team, but the costs typically range between \$50-\$150 per event, not including any travel expenses.

The cost of participating in international events varies significantly by location, approximately \$2000 for European destinations and \$3500 for destinations like South Africa or New Zealand. More specific cost estimates will be provided before asking for team commitments.



USA Masters Transition Team March 2023 Town Hall FAQs



Q: I currently play club hockey in my community. Can I continue to play for my club team while I am on the Masters squad or team?

A: Yes. You are encouraged to continue playing for your club team. However, if you have been selected for a specific Team, you may be asked to play with a Masters Team rather than your club team in a domestic event as part of preparation for an international event.

Q: How often does the Masters World Cup occur and how are locations selected?

A: World Masters Hockey (WMH) serves as the governing board who determines the locations for each World Cup. Both Outdoor and Indoor Masters World Cups are held every two EVEN years, with Continental Cups held the other ODD years (Pan American for the USA). WMH reviews bids from countries interested in hosting international events and selects the host nations.

The next Outdoor Masters World Cups will be hosted by New Zealand and South Africa in 2024. As of now, New Zealand will host:

- Men O45, O50, O55 and O60
- Women O45, O50, O55, O60, O65, O70 and Spirit of Masters.

South Africa will host:

- Men O35, O40, O65, O70, O75, O80 and Spirit of Masters
- Women O35 and O40.

Q: What if I have a question or comments not covered here?

A: Any additional questions or comments can be sent to [Kendra Lucking](#), the USA FH Lifetime Engagement Manager.