



# USA Masters Transition Team

## March 2023 Overview



USA Field Hockey remains committed to

- Grow the number of players over 35 years of age who are involved domestically, and
- Field strong, competitive international teams.

The Masters Survey identified two major themes in support of these goals.

- *Improve the competitiveness of our international teams* through ideas such as improved selection processes, developing squads from which teams will be selected and emphasizing fitness to play at an elite level.
- *Pursuing sponsorship* to decrease the cost of participation.

### New selection process

The selection process for try-outs was designed and is managed by the High Performance and Selection committees. The process has several new features including limitations on who can serve as a selector, the criteria for selection and the link between squads and teams. More details can be found [here](#).

Selectors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High Performance/Selection Chair and/or Vice-Chair will have a presence at all sites.</li> <li>• Selectors included representation from both Men’s and Women’s field hockey, with some designated to select both the Men’s and Women’s Masters Squads.</li> <li>• Selectors who are trying out will only evaluate players outside of their age groups and age groups adjacent to theirs (a 53-year-old evaluator will not select for O45, O50, or O55 age groups).</li> </ul>
Selection Criteria	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Trial Format will be consistent across all sites and age groups.</li> <li>• Goalkeepers will have goalie-specific drills with videotape as needed, reviewed by the goalie selectors.</li> <li>• No specific fitness tests will be included in the try-outs; however, general fitness will be observed as part of try-outs for the squads and selection for team.</li> <li>• 2022 World Cup Team coaches will provide feedback on respective players from 2022 World Cup Teams.</li> </ul>
Squads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Squad Selection will be based upon age and player skill, not a specified roster size.</li> <li>• Teams will be named for specific events based upon the number of opportunities, available players, and the most competitive team composition that is possible, potentially drawing from various aged squads to optimize player availability and competitiveness.</li> <li>• Teams will be named, ultimately with input from respective coaches</li> </ul>



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### Calendar

#### 2023 OUTDOOR Preliminary Calendar

Date	Event
TBD	Squad Practices from Outdoor selections
April 29-30	Beach Bash tournament (Women Only)
Summer	Shooting Star
December 6-17	Pan Am Continental Cup – Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### 2023-2024 Masters INDOOR season

Teams will be named from the squads to compete in domestic events in 2023 **and for the 2024 Indoor World Cup (expected to occur in early 2024, date/location TBD)**. [CLICK HERE](#) to register for the tryouts to be held on April 15<sup>th</sup> in Spring City, PA.

#### 2023-2024 INDOOR Preliminary Calendar

Date	Event
TBD	Squad Practices from Indoor selections
January 2024	Boston Cup Indoor Tournament
January 2024	BFHA Indoor Tournament (Baltimore)
January/February 2024	Indoor World Cup (TBD by WMH)
February/March 2024	NIT Tournament (TBD)
March 2024	Big Apple Tournament (Spring City, PA)
March 2024 (3 <sup>rd</sup> weekend)	CanAm series (TBD, trying to add Masters divisions to this Canada vs. USA Junior/Senior national teams indoor games weekend)



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### Evolving Structure for Masters Hockey

Since the formation of the Transition Team by USA Field Hockey and the merger of the women's and men's Masters organizing efforts, the Transition Team aims to:

- Develop a new structure and strategy for Masters leadership.
- Create an inclusive & diverse masters leadership team with open access to positions representing all genders, race, age, geography, etc.

As the Transition Team's vision for the new Masters leadership structure takes shape, they are naming individuals to serve on committees based upon the established process of submitting an Expression of Interest (EOI) and subsequent application for consideration including a resume and recommendations. This initial structure will evolve in phases and is subject to change based upon organizational learning and dynamic needs.

They recently named 'round 1' of committees which started working in late February to support the new Masters structure: Governance, Communications, Finance, High Performance, and Selection.

The Transition Team is in the process of naming 'round 2' of committees: Nominating, Commercial Partnerships, Kits, Support Staff and Social based upon prior EOI/applications.

They are now soliciting additional EOI for individuals interested in serving on 'round 3' committees: Indoor, Umpiring, Event Management, and Domestic Play. To submit your EOI to serve on one of these committees, please [CLICK HERE](#) before Monday April 10, 2023 at 11:59pm ET.

Of note, far fewer men have submitted EOIs to date than women and the Transition Team remains committed to having balanced leadership and effort to fuel the Masters structure. Additional committees or sub-committees will be considered as needed.