



FIELD HOCKEY CANADA

Policy Name SELECTION OF OFFICIALS POLICY		Policy Category TECHNICAL
Date of Approval March 2, 2021	Activation Date March 31, 2021	Replacing Previous Version June 14, 2009
Approved By Board of Directors		Review Cycle Officials Committee – every two years or sooner due to program updates

1. PURPOSE

The policy outlines Field Hockey Canada (FHC) criteria for eligibility, selection and / or assignment of officials to national championships and other domestic events, and consideration for international games, tournaments and other competitive events.

2. PRINCIPLES

The selection of officials for positions at FHC national championships will:

- a. be made with transparency;
- b. work to help officials meet their personal goals; and
- c. support the long-term health of the sport.

3. APPLICATION

The policy applies to all officials appointments and recommendations that are made by, and under FHC's jurisdiction.

4. SELECTION OF OFFICIALS FOR DOMESTIC EVENTS

4.1 Responsibilities of the Officials Committee

The Officials Committee Terms of Reference include the following responsibilities regarding selection of officials to domestic events:

- a. Manage the call for officials as it relates to major domestic events;
- b. Manage the list of eligible/qualified officials for domestic events including officiating level, qualifications, future goals, and recent assessments/evaluations;
- c. Appoint officials for major domestic events, while balancing opportunities for development, geographic representation and potential cost restrictions;
- d. Ensure opportunity for individual evaluations are provided and feedback given to each official participating in a major domestic event.



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4.2 Timelines for Selection for a National Championships

The selection process of officials to National Championships events will be as follows:

- a. Notice to all Officials to “Save the Date” - no later than 3 months prior to the event
- b. Call for Applications from eligible Officials Opens
- c. Call for Applications Close
- d. Selections Announced – no later than 1 month prior to the event

All selections will be announced publicly on the FHC website. Unsuccessful applicants will be advised as to why they have not been selected for the championship in question.

4.3 Eligibility for Selection to National Championships

4.3.1 Required Umpire Certification

The Umpire Development Model sets out the required certification standard for each level of National Championship:

1. REGIONAL UMPIRE – U18 National and Regional Championships
2. CANADIAN UMPIRE – All National events

4.3.2 Additional Criteria

In addition to the above certification standards, officials must meet the following criteria to be considered eligible for appointment to a National Championship:

- a. Be a registered participant in good standing with FHC;
- b. Be at a level of competence as defined by FHC rating and current performance;
- c. Be an active official. The official must be officiating (umpiring or technical table) on a regular basis at the level of tournament for which selection is being considered;
- d. Be available if requested to officiate at all levels and genders of tournaments for which they qualify, to assist with the overall development of hockey in Canada;
- e. Be prepared to assist financially with their development as an official; and
- f. Be committed to assisting with the development of other officials locally, provincially, and nationally, such as being active on committees, running clinics, coaching or mentoring.

4.3.3 Exemption Allowance

The Officials Committee does have the authority to accelerate the advancement of an official to a higher level tournament than may be allowed based on certification standards, if the committee believes that it is in the best development interests of the official and the sport to do so. In support of appointment transparency, the rationale for the appointment will be indicated with the announcement.

4.3.4 Other Domestic Events for Officials

From time to time, officials may have opportunities to apply for additional domestic workshops, conferences or opportunities to work with national team training camps. When such opportunities arise, all officials will be notified of the standards and eligibility criteria set by the Officials Committee for the event, any costs that need to be borne by the official to participate, and the application process that will be used for selection.



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Selection to these events will be announced publicly on the website. Unsuccessful applicants will be advised as to why they have not been selected for the event in question.

5. CANADIAN CRITERIA FOR INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

5.1 Responsibilities of the Officials Committee

The Officials Committee Terms of Reference include the following responsibilities regarding consideration of officials for international appointments:

- a. Develop and maintain a roster of officials qualified for International appointments and a long-list of emerging officials who show potential for future international appointments;
- b. Manage the list of eligible/qualified officials for international appointments and recommend to FHC for approval, the appointment of officials for such appointments when given the option from PAHF and/ or FIH.

5.2 Responsibility for International Appointments

The FIH and PAHF are responsible for naming the officials appointed to games, tournaments or championships under their specific jurisdiction.

5.3 Eligibility Criteria for International Appointments

All criteria listed in 4.3.2 must be met, in addition to the following:

- a. have successfully completed their Canadian rating;
- b. meet the necessary national and international age and fitness standards;
- c. inform the National Office prior to accepting an international appointment;
- d. make themselves available if requested to officiate at all levels and genders of tournaments to assist with the overall development of hockey in Canada;
- e. be prepared to assist financially with their own development as an international official;
- f. make themselves available for advancement opportunities such as national team involvement, test series, FIH/PAHF events; and
- g. be committed to assisting with the development of other international officials nationally, including being active on committees, running national clinics, coaching or mentoring other Canadian officials.

6. APPEALS OF DOMESTIC EVENT AND NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP SELECTION DECISIONS

Officials can submit an appeal to FHC through the FHC ***Appeals Policy*** if they believe that FHC has not followed the ***Selection of Officials Policy*** as outlined in this document.