Field Hockey BC Governance Policy and Procedure

FHBC Provincial Athlete Selection Policy and Protocol

Purpose

The purpose of this FHBC Provincial Athlete Selection Policy and Protocol document is to provide the transparency of purpose in the evaluation and selection of performance stream athletes at the Provincial Level. The document is intended to provide information on the stepped process towards the formal evaluation and selection of Athletes to the FHBC Team BC Program, as well as aspiring Athletes within the FHBC Regional Team Program.

FHBC Athlete Pathway Review

FHBC conducted a thorough Provincial Athlete Pathway review during the 2025-26 season. The FHBC Provincial Athlete Selection Policy and Protocol document reflects the decisions and associated structures from this pathway assessment and is subject to further review each season.

FHBC Athlete Eligibility for Selection

- The Athlete must be a registered participant in good standing with Field Hockey BC and Field Hockey Canada for the current registration year.
- The Athlete must be medically fit to participate in training and Competitions
- Team BC Program Athletes are expected to attend all training sessions and Competitions. Athletes with scheduling conflicts will not be considered for selection to a Team BC program unless approved based on exceptional circumstances.
- For more information please see:
    - FHBC Provincial Program Athlete Attendance & Injury Policies
    - FHBC Provincial Program Fitness Policy

FHBC Athlete Evaluation and Selection

Following an annual Fall Planning and Review Window, FHBC will commit to a communications strategy informing the membership of the process and timeline for athlete evaluation and selection in the forthcoming calendar cycle.

The FHBC evaluation process is an opportunity for the most highly ranked athletes to demonstrate their potential and be selected to a FHBC Provincial Team (Team BC) or a Development Team (that would normally be targeted towards Tier 2 National Championship Competition).

Athletes are evaluated through a scored metric aligned to the nationally recognized **Gold Medal Profile (GMP)**.

Updated prior to the 2026/27 season, there are two steps required to be eligible for provincial team selection:

1. An up-to-date GMP score (from the previous 12 months)

    - In the event that an athlete does not have an up-to-date GMP score, or wants to improve on their current score, please see the Athlete Accelerate Page for information on available evaluation opportunities (September/November/January)

2. Participation at the Tactical Team Preparation and Competitive Peak Event – the Provincial Team Evaluation & Selection point

    - FHBC will be hosting both a U18 and a U16 Female AAP Competitive Tournament over the Easter Long Weekend. FHBC will consider the feasibility to host similar U18 and U16 Male competitive peaks, however this will be subject to sufficient critical mass (minimum of three team rosters per age group).

    - An athlete's GMP score forms the basis for event inclusion. An up-to-date GMP that meets the standard required to move forward to the Tactical Team Preparation and Competitive Peak stages of the program is required prior to registration. The required standard will be assessed on a yearly basis.

    - For 2027, these tournament competitive peaks will take place at Tamanawis Park in Surrey, March 26-29, 2027.

In the event of an excused absence from evaluations, an athlete's previous GMP score (from the previous 12 months) will be considered, either from a recent equivalent FHBC or FHC program or event.

Provincial Team Selection (Team BC – Tier 1 National Championship):

Team BC Provincial teams are selected immediately following the Competitive Peak event by FHBC appointed Evaluators (Selectors).

Athlete selections are discussed by the Evaluation Team and are principally made based on the Athlete GMP score and rankings. However, athletes are also filtered by playing position to ensure productive team composition.

Selectors may also consider other tangible benefits to the team dynamic (that may be outside of the GMP rankings) **for the final two athlete selections per team**. This provides the Head Coaches in particular the opportunity to select an athlete with specialty skills or an X-factor that is not fully captured by their GMP score.

The number of teams selected for any given age group and/or gender will be based on the competitive depth of that cohort. While FHBC's goal is to have at least two Team BC Provincial teams per age group/gender, the Society can only do so if there is a sufficient number of athletes with the ability to perform at the assigned level.

Development Team Selection (Tier 2 National Championship):

Where appropriate, Regional Teams will be selected at a final evaluation that could include athletes from both Stage 1 and Stage 2 that were not selected to a Team BC Provincial team.

In the event that there are not enough athletes in a particular region to form a team, either no team will be formed, or athletes from across regions will be invited to form a combined Tier 2 Regional team.

The Regional Team Program is designed to provide a National Championship training and competitive opportunity with the desire to inspire athletes to continue within Field Hockey Performance Programming either in aspiring to be selected to Team BC and/or in being talent identified for future FHC NextGen participation.

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This Policy and Protocol document will be reviewed and updated after each Annual Talent Identification, Selection, and Program Cycle.