Hockey tournaments

Version: 30.06.2026

The following outlines the structure for hockey at UNICON 22. While the structure of the tournaments is mostly set, the hockey directors are still clarifying details regarding hall times and the exact number of participating teams. Therefore, there may be a few minor adjustments to playing time.

Competitions

Hockey tournaments at UNICON 22 will provide an official open tournament (**A Tournament**) to decide the world champion team, as well as several convention-style tournaments where the winners will not receive an official title or medal.

Three convention-style competitions will be offered; an open **B tournament**, a **Women's tournament**, and a **Junior tournament** (see below for further details). Athletes may only compete in one open grade tournament (**A or B**). In addition to one open-grade tournament, eligible athletes may also participate in the **Women's tournament** and/or the **Junior tournament** (if eligible).

All teams are required to appoint at least one **referee** (see below for further details).

Additionally, we will offer practice and scratch match sessions in a smaller gym.

A tournament (Official World Championship)

Ten teams will participate in the A Tournament, and it will be conducted as a three-stage format (*see Appendix 1*):

1. **Initial group stage:** Round robin play
2. **Upper and lower division stage:** Separate round robin competitions in the upper (5 teams) and lower halves (5 teams) of the tournament. Matches of the first and second stage will count together to give a ranking of the upper half and a final ranking of the lower half.
3. **Finals stage:** Semifinals and finals, all played as 2 × 20-minute matches. Additionally, the last of the upper division will play against the first of the lower division for rank 5 in a 2 × 20-minute match.

Match duration is preliminarily set to 2 × 8 min in the first stage and 2 × 12 min in the second stage.

B tournament

The B Tournament will be organised into three groups. The B Tournament is played in a two-stage format:

1. **Initial group stage:** Round robin play in 3 groups. Each group will play on one of the days of August 3rd to 5th.
2. **Finals stage**

Junior tournament & Women's tournament

We would also like to add a Junior Tournament and a Women's Tournament to UNICON 22. These competitions will be run as a convention style tournament similar to the B competition (no medals or official recognised title).

Important: The Junior's and Women's Tournaments will require at least 5 teams each to take place.

Eligibility

Players may compete in the Junior and/or Women's tournament in addition to the Open A or Open B tournament. Participation in a Junior or Women's tournament does not need to be a player's only competition.

A junior female player may compete in one Open tournament (A or B), the Junior tournament, and the Women's tournament.

- **Junior tournament:** All players of the team must be 16 years old or younger in 2026, based on the date of birth provided in their UNICON registration.
- **Women's tournament:** All players of the team must have selected "Female" as their competitive gender in their UNICON 22 registration.

Tournament Structure Women's Tournament

The Women's Tournament will be organised into two groups and is played in a two-stage format:

1. **Initial group stage:** Round robin play in 2 groups
2. **Finals stage**

Rules

Matches will use the 2019 IUF rulebook.

Round Robin and Knockout Match Rules (all tournaments)

All tournaments will be played in several stages (see details according to tournament). The following rules apply for all round robin and knock-out stages.

Round Robin

For round robin stages, a match can end in a win for either team or in a draw. For a win, a team receives 3 points, the team that lost receives 0 points. If the match ends with a draw, each team receives 1 point.

At the end of a round robin stage, the following rules apply for ranking the teams:

1. Number of total points
2. Number of points in direct matches of teams on equal points*
3. Difference between goals scored and goals conceded in games involving teams on equal points*
4. Difference between scored and received goals in all games of the current stage
5. Number of scored goals in the games of the teams on equal points
6. Number of scored goals in games of the current stage
7. Penalty shootout between teams. If 3 teams have identical points and goals, they play a penalty shootout against each other team. A win after 3 shots is worth 3 “virtual” points (points only used to decide the rank between the teams with equal points, not counted otherwise), a win after more shots is worth 2 points, a defeat after more than 3 shots is worth 1 point, and a defeat after 3 shots is worth 0 points. All 3 shots are played in full to allow for fair comparison of scored and received goals.

*If a team is better or worse than the other teams, they get assigned their rank, and ranking rules 2 and 3 are repeated for the rest of the teams. Example: 3 teams have 3 points each with 3 points from their direct games (Team A vs Team B 4:1, Team A vs Team C 0:1, Team B vs Team C 2:0). Team A scored 4:2, Team B 3:4 and Team C 1:2, Team A is first and as the difference between scored and received goals is the same for Teams B and C, the points from their match is evaluated, thus Team B is second.

Knock-out games

All knock-out games must end with a win for either team.

After regular playing time, play is continued for 5 min golden goal. Teams do not switch sides for this 5 min period. If no goal is scored during this extra time, a penalty shootout follows.

Exception: For the small and big finals, golden goal is played for 10 min instead of 5 min. For the 10 min golden goal, teams will begin in the same half they were previously in prior to the start of the golden goal period. A half time of 2 minutes will be given after 5 min of play, after which the teams will switch end for the second 5 min golden goal period.

Refereeing

All teams need to assign referees that referee for them. For the A Tournament, each team needs to assign at least 2 referees, for all other competition, all teams need to assign at least 1 referee.

Any non-competitor or competitor registered for UNICON may be a hockey referee for a team, without the need to be registered as a hockey player or as a hockey player for the specific competition / grade.

Attending the referee workshop is mandatory for all hockey referees (see below).

Referee workshops

We will hold two referee workshops. All referees need to attend one of these. Tentative dates:

- Sunday, 26.07.26, 14:00 – 16:00
- Sunday, 02.08.26, 10:00 – 12:00

Venues and Halls

Venue Hockey A: City Hall Tabor

The playing field for the hockey A tournament measures 42m x 24.5m and is surrounded by dasher boards of approximately 1m height. The playing field can be entered / exited at three dedicated spots.

Important: Black tyres are not permitted in the city hall as they may mark the floor.

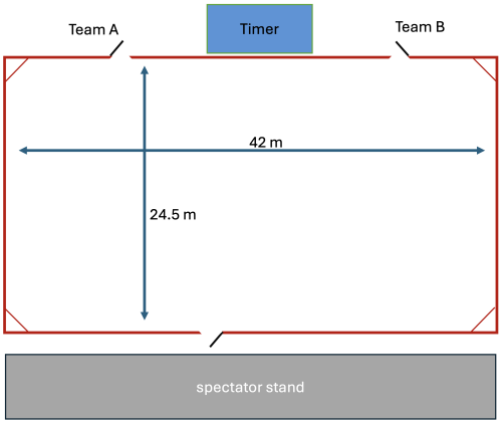


Figure 1 (left): Playing field in the hockey A tournament and locations of exit / entrances.

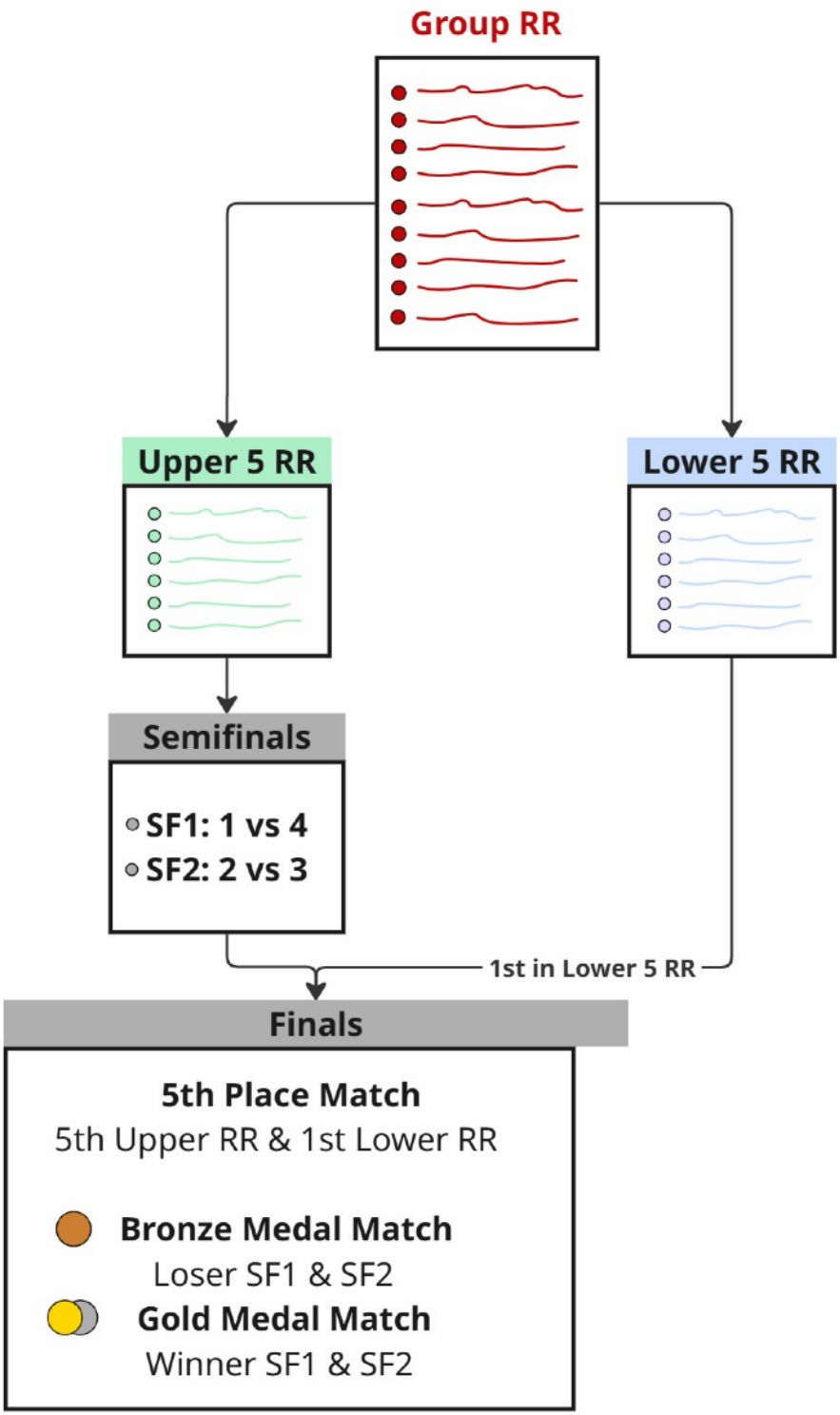
Figure 2 (right): Hockey A hall and dasher boards.

Venue Hockey B: ATV Hall

The playing field measures approximately 38m x 20m and is surrounded by floorball rink boards of 50cm height.

Communication

You can reach us (the hockey directors) at hockey@unicon22.at.

Important updates including information about referee meetings, match schedules, practice sessions and availability of the hockey hall for scratch games will be communicated via email and a WhatsApp community. The UNICON hockey tournament community can be joined at https://chat.whatsapp.com/HiBKEIludDdHt9D9sT0wrB. The WhatsApp community will also provide dedicated space for discussions and finding members for the pick-up teams. Joining the community and the sub-groups is optional and all information will also be shared via email.

Appendix 1 – A tournament structure