



Process for Trials for Scotland National Masters Hockey Squads for 2027 season

Trials

The trials for selection for Scotland Masters Hockey for the 2027 International season will be arranged in squads by age groups:

Men and Women will be divided into the following age group squads for the selection trials:

- the women age groups 35-50 will trial together
- the men age groups 35-50 will trial together
- the women age groups 55-70 will trial together
- the men age groups 55-75 will trial together

There will be two (2) trial selection sessions for each age group squads. Should there be numbers that prohibit the proper selection of squads in the allocated time, consideration will be given to holding a third trial for those particular cohorts.

The organisation of the trial selections has been arranged by the Board to be undertaken at the High School of Glasgow on the four Sundays in September.

Selection Sessions

Women's trials will be held on the first and third Sundays of September that is, the 6th and the 20th September. Men's trials will be held on the second and fourth Sundays of September, that is the 13th and the 27th September.

All sessions will run from 09:00 to 17:00, with a selector meeting at 09:00 and trials commencing at 10:00 for the 35s – 50s concluding at 13:00. The afternoon session will commence at 13:30 with a selector meeting followed by the 55s-70s (W) and 75's (M) commencing at 14:00 concluding at 17:00. This format will be followed for all trial days.

Age Requirements

Players must meet the age eligibility criteria as defined by the relevant masters age group on or before 31 December in the year of competition (e.g., Over 35s, Over 40s, Over 45s, etc.). There are two (2) exceptions to this rule.

If you are bordering the age group, that is, for example, between the ages of 39 or 40 at the time of the squad selection, and you will turn 40 or 41 on or before 31 December in the year of competition, you may trial for either the 35s or the 40s. You **MUST** choose which age group you wish to trial for and nominate through the Expressions of Interest Form. If you are 41 at the time of trials and turning 42 or older on or before 31 December in the year of competition, you may only trial for the 40s age group. This exception will apply to all age groups.

Given the nature of specialism required for goal keepers and, the potential lack of numbers for this position, there may be, based on availability and advice from the Chair of Selectors, special arrangements in this position across the squads.

Players

- All players will be required to attend at least one trial selection session.
- Exceptions may be made for **known** (current) representative players who have a legitimate reason for non-attendance. Examples of legitimate reasons may include:
 - **Injury or Illness:** If a player is injured or unwell, they may be unable to participate in the selection session.
 - **Work Commitments:** Players may have professional obligations that conflict with the selection session dates.
 - **Family Emergencies:** Unexpected family situations or emergencies can prevent a player from attending.
 - **Pre-Arranged Travel:** If a player has pre-booked travel plans that cannot be changed, this may be considered a legitimate reason.
 - **Personal Reasons:** Other personal circumstances that are deemed valid by the selection committee.

Selectors

- Selection will be overseen by independent chairs and coaches and will follow the selection process as approved by the SMH Ltd Board in September 2025 as amended for the 2027 International season.
- In the absence of enough appointed coaches for selection, senior players from outside the squad may assist in the selection process.
- Player/coaches will be permitted to select.

The Board does reserve the right to make selection decisions which it thinks are in the best interests of Scottish Masters Hockey Ltd.