



## **Next Gen Program – 2022/2023**

Dear Athletes, Parents, Coaches,

This letter is to provide information on our upcoming calendar year, and provide an update on our Next Gen Program, Talent Identification Camp evaluations, structure, plan and trainings as we enter 2022. Please note that all areas will be subject to COVID-19 restrictions in the respective provinces.

### **Next Gen 2022 – Changes to the Program**

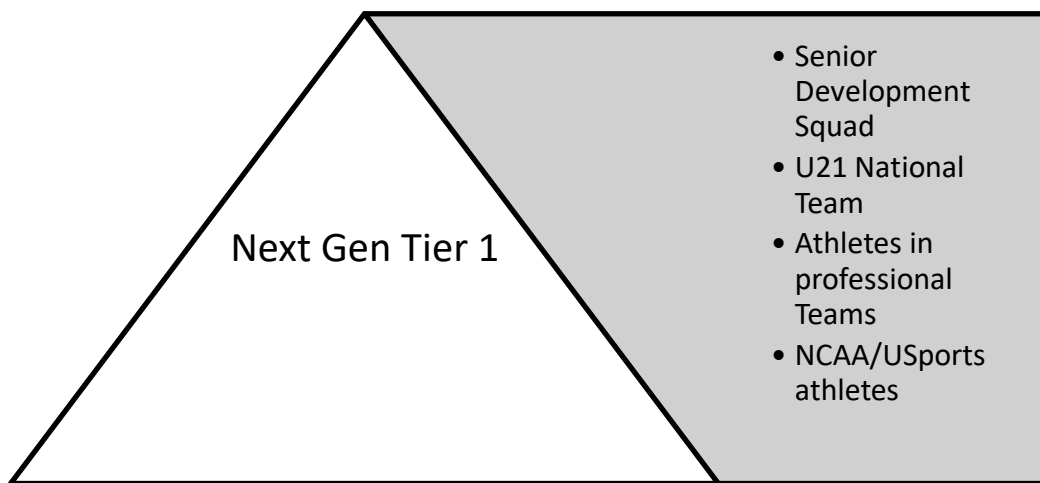
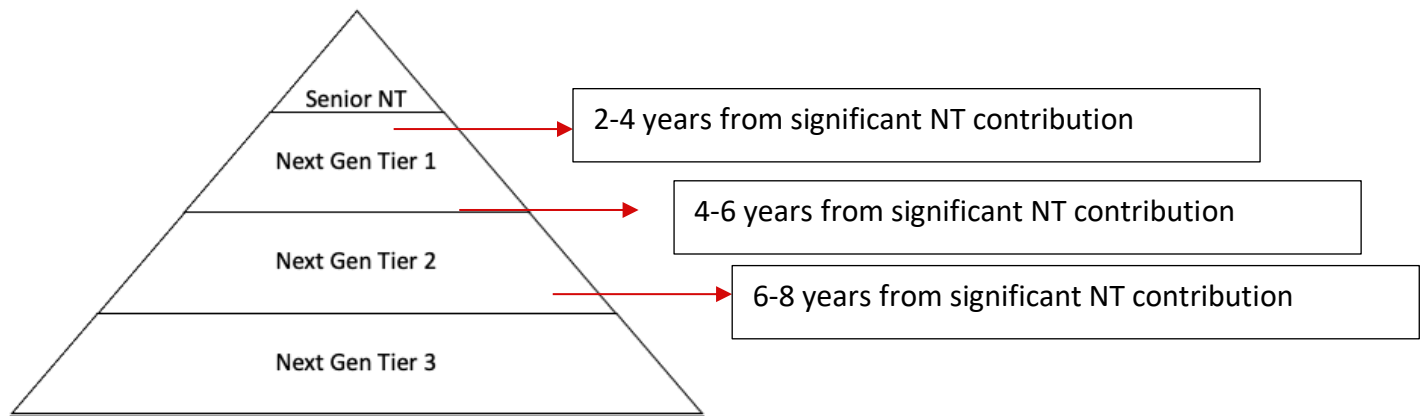
As we move into 2022, there will be a few changes in the structure and composition of our Next Gen Programming. Further details below.

- 1) A three tiered Next Gen structure to allow clearer movement on the athlete pathway from NG to the senior team.
- 2) The introduction of formalized junior national teams (u16/u18)
- 3) Integration between Men and Women's Next Gen program.

### **Three Tiered System**

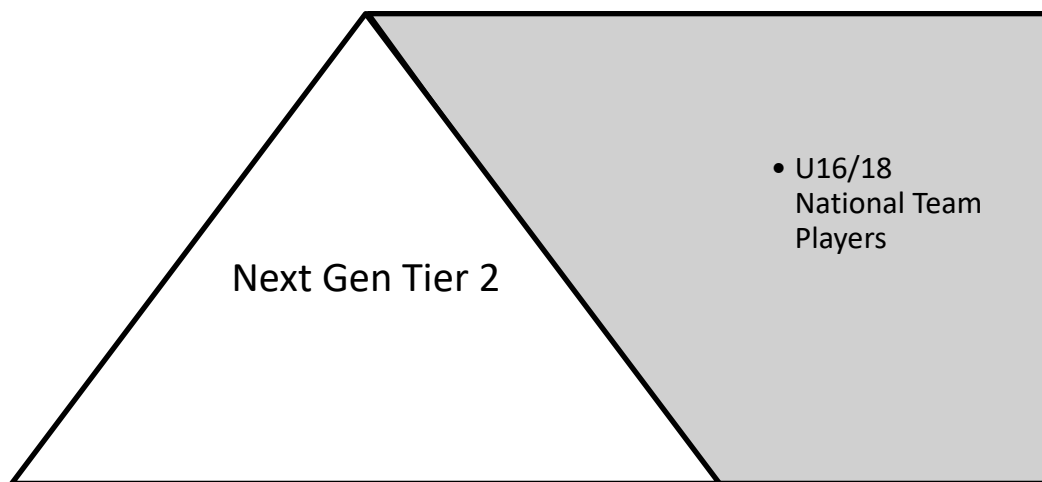
The Next Gen Program at Field Hockey Canada is to identify athletes that are 4-8 years away from making significant contributions to Senior National Team performance. Starting in January 2022, The Next Gen Structure will be categorized into three tiers of athletes (1,2,3). Athletes will be available for identification and selection into the Next Gen program at 16 years old.

A tiered Next Gen System is aimed at providing clarity within the athlete pathway, and providing a step by step approach to reach the senior team. A breakdown of the tiered approach and what falls within it are below. The tiered Next Gen system also provides coaches a breakdown of the 4-8 years away from significant National Team makeup.



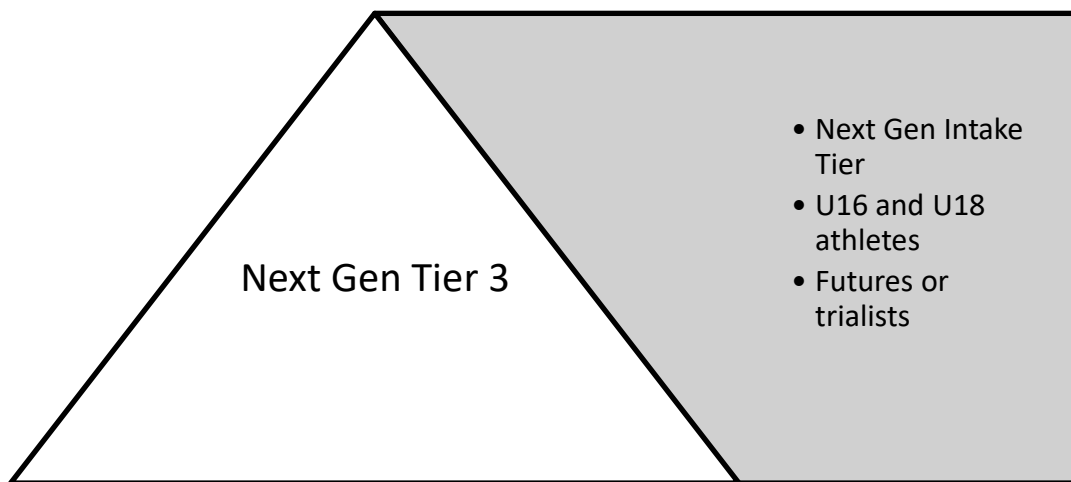
#### **Next Gen Tier 1 Athletes:**

- 2-4 years away from significant Senior NT contribution
- Full time FHC NTC programming for Canadian based athletes
- Athlete monitoring for overseas athletes, expectation is to be available for identified international competitions and qualification tournaments.
- U21 National Team Tours and Selection camps
- Centralization periods ahead of qualification and major events.
- Training for players moving between Senior National Team and Junior National Teams



### **Next Gen Tier 2 Athletes**

- 4-6 years away from significant Senior NT contribution
- Regular NTC programming for identified athletes based in Canada. Situation dependent on location, and capacity.
- Players still eligible to compete for provinces at National Championships
- U16/U18 tours, youth national team on a project basis.



### **Next Gen Tier 3 Athletes**

- 6-8 years away from significant Senior NT contribution
- Regular FHC programming.
- Identified intake point for Next Gen athletes (can be U16 or U18 intake point).
- Futures or trialists, as recommended by HP coach, on a temporary basis until next formal selection point.

## **How Athletes are Evaluated and Moved Through the Tiered System**

Recognizing that Field Hockey as a team sport, is highly subjective in terms of athlete selection, the Gold Medal Profile is aimed at providing objective evaluation metrics to be used as a tool in selection. The GMP will be published on the website. Player movement between Tiers is dependent on the following factors:

1. Improvement in GMP evaluation (movement between 4- 6 on the GMP scale above)
2. Identification by Junior National Team Coaches/Senior Team Staff
3. International Performances

## **Tiered Next Gen Talent Identification Model**

| <b>Event</b>                       | <b>Descriptor</b>  | <b>Timeline</b>  |
|------------------------------------|--|--|
| National Championships U23/U18/U16 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Next Gen Selection takes place for Tier 1, 2, 3.</li><li>• Next Gen Director to lead GMP review of athletes during National Championships alongside Junior National Team coaches/provincial coaches.</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• National Championships in July</li><li>• Selection Camp in July/August pending international calendar</li><li>• Next Gen roster announced in January of the following year</li></ul> |
| NTC-East Scouting Weekend          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Led by Next Gen Director or U21 HC</li><li>• Athletes in provinces close to NTC-Ontario to travel to NTC for scouting weekend.</li><li>• Will be done in conjunction with PSO</li></ul>                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spring/Fall ID Camp</li></ul>  |
| NTC West Scouting Weekend          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Led by Next Gen Director or U21 HC</li><li>• Athletes in provinces close to NTC-Ontario to travel to NTC for scouting weekend.</li><li>• Will be done in conjunction with PSO</li></ul>                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Spring/Fall ID camp</li></ul>  |

|                                      |   |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| HP Coach Recommendation for Next Gen | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HP coaches can recommend players to Next Gen staff at any point during the year. When vetted against current GMP, they are identified as Futures, or trialists until there is the next formal ID point.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Anytime</li> </ul> |
|--------------------------------------|---|---|

### **Junior National Teams**

Below is the plan for the three junior National Teams in 2022/2023

| National Team | Objectives   | Notes   |
|---------------|--|---|
| U21           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Qualification for Junior World Cup</li> <li>Improvement on Junior World Cup results cycle over cycle</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>International Matches between 10-15 a year.</li> <li>JPAC</li> <li>JWC</li> </ul>  |
| U18           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparing players for international qualification tournaments</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4-6 International matches a year</li> <li>USA Tour, partnership with USA Junior Teams</li> <li>Hosting USA</li> </ul>  |
| U16           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction to international competition</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4-6 International matches a year</li> <li>Project Based</li> <li>USA Tour Fall of 2022, partnership with USA Junior Teams</li> <li>Domestic Camp, Summer 2022</li> </ul> |

### **Talent Identification Camps**

For athletes that participated in the Talent Identification Camps, evaluations will be sent to each athlete based on their performance from the Talent ID Camps. The recommendation and evaluation from coaches will be based on whether or not the athlete will be entering the Next Gen Program. If they will not be entering the Next Gen program, they will receive technical, tactical and physical feedback on areas to improve ahead of the next talent identification pathway.

## **Timeline**

**January 5<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022:** Players receive Talent Identification Camp Feedback from technical staff

**January 11<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022:** Next Gen Tiered list is communicated to athletes (Men and Women)

**January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022:** Training Schedules communicated

Thank you,  
Adam Janssen

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