



Chair's Report 2025 AGM

From: Kerry Moynihan, Chair, Field Hockey Canada Board of Directors
Attn: Field Hockey Canada Member PSOs
Date: August, 2025

As with every year, the last season has been an incredibly busy one. FHC has continued to lead governance, system and national team activation across all regions and is pleased to report strong progress at this annual meeting.

The past season has been the final year of our current strategy. This strategy focused heavily on bringing stability, structure and governance to the organization and work. Planting seeds in system and governance that will grow and flourish for the future. Connecting FHC into communities and building an organization and sport which is truly representative of all Canadians and of Canada. Strong governance, strong financial management and system building have been a major focus. As FHC reflects, we see progress across all these areas. It will continue to be an ongoing work, but we are in a good place. Our recent assessment from the Government of Canada validates this and we are particularly proud and pleased to have received a significant increase in core funding at a time when many national sport organizations are seeing funding cuts.

International performance is directly related to funding levels. Over the past year we have not played as many internationals as we need or want to due to funding levels directed to national teams. FHC has the people. FHC has the high-performance strategy. What we need is more funding to support our national teams. As we move into a new strategic cycle, this focus will take up much of our board leadership focus as we continue to look to support and unleash staff potential to deliver across all areas, including international performance.

2024 / 2025 Highlights

Strategic Objective: A Stronger Organization

- Stewardship of Field Hockey Canada into the new national safe sport program: Canadian Safe Sport Program (CSSP) as administered by the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES).
- System wide engagement to produce an updated risk management assessment and registry and a new strategic plan which will guide FHC's focus and investment in the coming years.
- Continued focus on building strong governance, financial stability, and system alignment
- Delivery of a four-year plan and budget to onboard Field Hockey Canada into the new Sport Support Program (SSP) funding framework within Sport Canada. This has resulted in a significant increase in core funding from the government.

Strategic Objective: A Stronger System

- Member support - Continued monthly member meetings to provide forum for engagement and discussion as we continue work towards an aligned, safe, well governed and thriving sport system. Member support extends to targeted assistance to progress where required.
- Competition Strategy – Fall 2024 saw the inaugural FHC USports National Championship held in Ontario, with four universities from across Canada playing some fantastic hockey under a new competition format and delivery model / leadership.
- Community Sport for All Initiative. The activation of over 60 community projects, with \$400,000 delivered directly into communities across Canada continues to change lives and communities through hockey.

Strategic Objective: Stronger International Performances

- National Teams have been training hard over the past year as they look towards qualification for the 2026 World Cup and 2028 Olympic Games. The athletes, staff and plan are in place and although the budget available lags other top nations, FHC remains committed to building a world class program and providing the best opportunities to reach our ambition of world top 10 and consistent podium performers.
- The JNT program continues to grow and thrive. Both JWNT and JMNT qualified for the 2025 JWC's to be held in later this Fall. Prior to that, both teams are competing in the inaugural Junior Pan American Championship as I write this report. Their first multi-sport games experience, this event is an incredible opportunity for FHC to grow the talent pool and prepare for future international performance.
- International Youth Tours for the next generation of Canadian MNT and WNT took place in spring and fall and continue to provide unparalleled international experience for the NextGen athletes.

On behalf of the Board of Directors I would like to thank the CEO Susan Ahrens and Field Hockey Canada staff for their tireless efforts in delivering across the three strategic objectives. Thanks also to all directors for the tremendous amount of work, dedication and progress made during this past year.

A thank you to all the chairs and the members of our ad hoc committees who work with the Board and the CEO to help achieve our strategic goals and are a crucial part of FHC's governance structure.

- Hall of Fame: Dr. Sue Neill and Mary Cicinelli
- Coach Education Committee: Ann Doggett and Nancy McCutcheon
- Officials: Laurie Hogan
- U sports: Deb Whitten and Nancy Mollenhauer
- Masters: Ronald Prins and Gord Plottel
- Sponsorship: Kerry Moynihan, Ronald Prins and Nick Laxton
- COF Women's Fund: Sharon Rajaraman
- COF Men's Fund: Hari Kant, pending appointment of a new chair
- Athletes Council: James Kilpatrick and Shanlee Johnston

Thanks to Heather Banham and Sue Neill for their years of dedication to committee work. Both stepped back this year and will undoubtedly be missed.

A special thank you to the board director and former chair who exited in this past season: Deb Whitten for her years of service and dedication to Field Hockey Canada. Welcome to new Directors Nick Laxton, Gurinder Hundal and Halley Chopra who are proving fantastic additions to the board.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express gratitude to all the volunteers who make sport happen at all levels.

Sincerely,

Kerry Moynihan

Kerry Moynihan
Chair, Field Hockey Canada