



SECTION 1

IIHF Official's Development Program Structure



SECTION I

An Understanding of the International Ice Hockey Federation and the International Ice Hockey Federation Official's Development Program

Upon completion of this section you will be better prepared to:

- Explain the structure of the IIHF and the decision making process within its structure;
- Describe the five different classifications of hockey in the International Ice Hockey Federation Sport Development Program by explaining the specifics and objectives of each classification;
- Explain the International Ice Hockey Federation Official's Development Program and the objectives of each of its levels.

Structure of the International Ice Hockey Federation

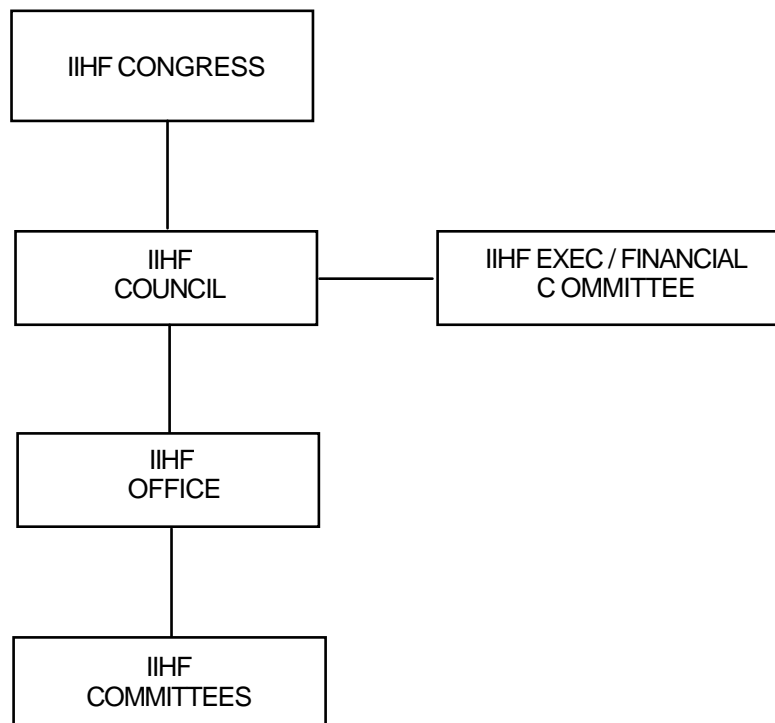
Founded in 1908, the International Ice Hockey Federation is a federation of member national hockey associations governing the sport of ice hockey and in-line hockey for both men and women.

The IIHF is recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as the only governing body for international ice hockey.

The objectives of the IIHF are:

- To govern, develop and promote ice hockey throughout the world.
- To develop and control international ice hockey.
- To promote friendly relations among the member national associations.
- To operate in an organized manner for the good order of the sport

IIHF Organization Chart





SECTION I

.IIHF Organizational Chart Description

IIHF Congress:

The International Ice Hockey Federation Congress is the final decision making body within the IIHF. The Congress is responsible to review debate and discuss the policies, guidelines and proposals for the operation of IIHF sanctioned activities. The member National Associations are represented at this level and meet twice a season - once at the Annual Congress in early May and again at the Semi-Annual Congress in late September.

IIHF Council:

The IIHF Council is the body that is elected by the IIHF Congress to collectively formulate and develop the policies, plans, proposals and guidelines for the successful organisation and operation of IIHF sanctioned activities. Such activities are targeted at the promotion, education and world-wide growth of ice hockey. The Council is responsible to manage the activities on behalf of the member National Associations.

IIHF Executive and Finance Committee:

The IIHF Executive and Finance Committee is under the chairmanship of the IIHF President and is composed of the three IIHF Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer and the General Secretary. This committee is responsible for the long range operational planning and financial management of the IIHF and its activities. This committee reports to the IIHF Council and is responsible for proposing plans and recommendations for the continued growth of the sport and the Federation.

IIHF Office:

The IIHF Office is responsible for the day-to-day operation of all IIHF initiatives, sanctioned activities and services for IIHF member National Associations. The office is staffed by full time employees responsible for the initiation and implementation of the Federation activities. The staff is under the supervision of the General Secretary who is responsible to the IIHF Executive Committee for managing the daily operations of the Federation.

IIHF Committees:

The IIHF Committees are appointed working bodies established and mandated by the IIHF Council to perform the specialised work of the Council. The committees are under the control and supervision of an IIHF Council member and are responsible for preparing the necessary detailed proposals, plans, guidelines, resources and recommendations to Council for consideration in their respective field of expertise.

IIHF Member National Associations

Andorra (AND)

Federacio Andorrana d'Esports de Gel

Argentina (ARG)

Asociaicion Argentina de Hockey

Armenia (ARM)

Ice Hockey Federation of Armenia

Australia (AUS)

Ice Hockey Australia

Austria (AUT)

Osterreichischer Eishockey-Verband

Azerbaijan (AZE)

Ice Hockey Federation of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Belarus (BLR)

Belarus Ice Hockey Association

Belgium (BEL)

Royal Belgian Ice Hockey Federation

Bosnia and Herzegovina (BIH)

Bosnia and Herzegovina Ice Hockey Federation

Brazil (BRA)

Confederacao Brasileira de Hoquel no Gelo

Bulgaria (BUL)

Bulgarian Ice Hockey Federation

Canada (CAN)

Hockey Canada

China (CHN)

Chinese Ice Hockey Association

Chinese Taipei (TPE)

Chinese Taipei Ice Hockey Federation

Croatia (CRO)

Croatian Ice Hockey Association

Czech Republic (CZE)

Czech Ice Hockey Association

Denmark (DEN)

Danmarks Ishockey Union

DPR Korea (PRK)

Ice Hockey Association of the DPR Korea

Estonia (EST)

Estonian Ice Hockey Association

Finland (FIN)

The Finnish Ice Hockey Association

France (FRA)

French Ice Hockey Federation

Germany (GER)

Deutscher Eishockey Bund e.V.

Great Britain (GBR)

Ice Hockey UK

Greece (GRE)

Hellenic Ice Sports Federation

Hong Kong (HKG)

Hong Kong Ice Hockey Association Limited

Hungary (HUN)

Hungarian Ice Hockey Federation

Iceland (ISL)

Ice Hockey Iceland

India (IND)

Ice Hockey Association of India

Ireland (IRL)

Irish Ice Hockey Association

Israel (ISR)

Ice Hockey Federation of Israel

Italy (ITA)

Federazione Italiana Sport Ghiaccio

Japan (JPN)

Japan Ice Hockey Federation

Kazakhstan (KAZ)

Kazakhstan Ice Hockey Federation

Korea (KOR)

Korean Ice Hockey Association



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IIHF Member National Associations

Latvia (LAT)

Latvian Ice Hockey Federation

Liechtenstein (LIE)

Liechtensteiner Eishockey und In-Line Verband

Lithuania (LTU)

Lithuanian Ice Hockey Federation

Luxembourg (LUX)

Fédération Luxembourgeoise de Hockey sur Glace

Macau (MAC)

Macau Ice Sport Federation

Macedonia (MKD)

Ice Hockey Association of Macedonia

Mexico (MEX)

Federacion Mexicana de Deportes Invernales, AC

Mongolia (MON)

Mongolian Ice Hockey Federation

Namibia (NAM)

Namibia In-Line Skating Association (NISA)

The Netherlands (NED)

Ice Hockey Association of The Netherlands

New Zealand (NZL)

New Zealand Ice Hockey Federation

Norway (NOR)

Norwegian Ice Hockey Association

Poland (POL)

Polish Ice Hockey Federation

Portugal (POR)

Federacao Portuguesa de Desportos No Gelo,
A.P.D.

Romania (ROU)

Romanian Ice Hockey Federation

Russia (RUS)

Ice Hockey Federation of Russia

Serbia (SER)

Ice Hockey Association of Serbia

Singapore (SIN)

Skating Federation of Singapore

Slovakia (SVK)

Slovak Ice Hockey Federation

Slovenia (SLO)

Ice Hockey Federation of Slovenia

South Africa (RSA)

South African Ice Hockey Association

Spain (ESP)

Federacion Espanola Deportes de Hielo

Sweden (SWE)

Swedish Ice Hockey Association

Switzerland (SUI)

Swiss Ice Hockey

Thailand (THA)

Ice Hockey Association of Thailand

Turkey (TUR)

Turkish Ice Hockey Federation

Ukraine (UKR)

Ice Hockey Federation of Ukraine

United States of America (USA)

USA Hockey

IIHF Office Structure

The IIHF office is the administrative hub for the operation of all IIHF activities. It is through this office that all sanctioned international competitions, programs and activities are facilitated. Under the direction of the IIHF Council and managed by the General Secretary, the IIHF office operates within four departments: Administration, Finance, Sport and Marketing. Each department is responsible for providing the necessary administrative service to the IIHF Council, its member committees and to all member National Associations regarding their particular programs and initiatives.

The IIHF office acts as a central clearing house for all questions on the operation of international hockey while performing as an independent and neutral site for resolving international hockey difficulties.

IIHF Sport Development Program

Philosophy

Our interest is in growing the game of ice hockey globally with internationally compiled resources of coaching, player, medical and officiating educational material. This material is designed for and recommended for use as either a supplement to existing programs which exist in your country or as your core program.

The IIHF and the National Associations are in a “Partnership for Progress” to enhance the game of ice hockey globally.

Mission Statement

Our challenge is to support each member National Association in the growth and development of hockey within their country in order to foster and develop the game of hockey around the world.

We will teach National Associations to educate their own hockey membership.

In our quest to develop coaches, hockey players, medical officers and game officials our aim is also to develop life skills in the youth of the world through the game of ice hockey.



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Vision

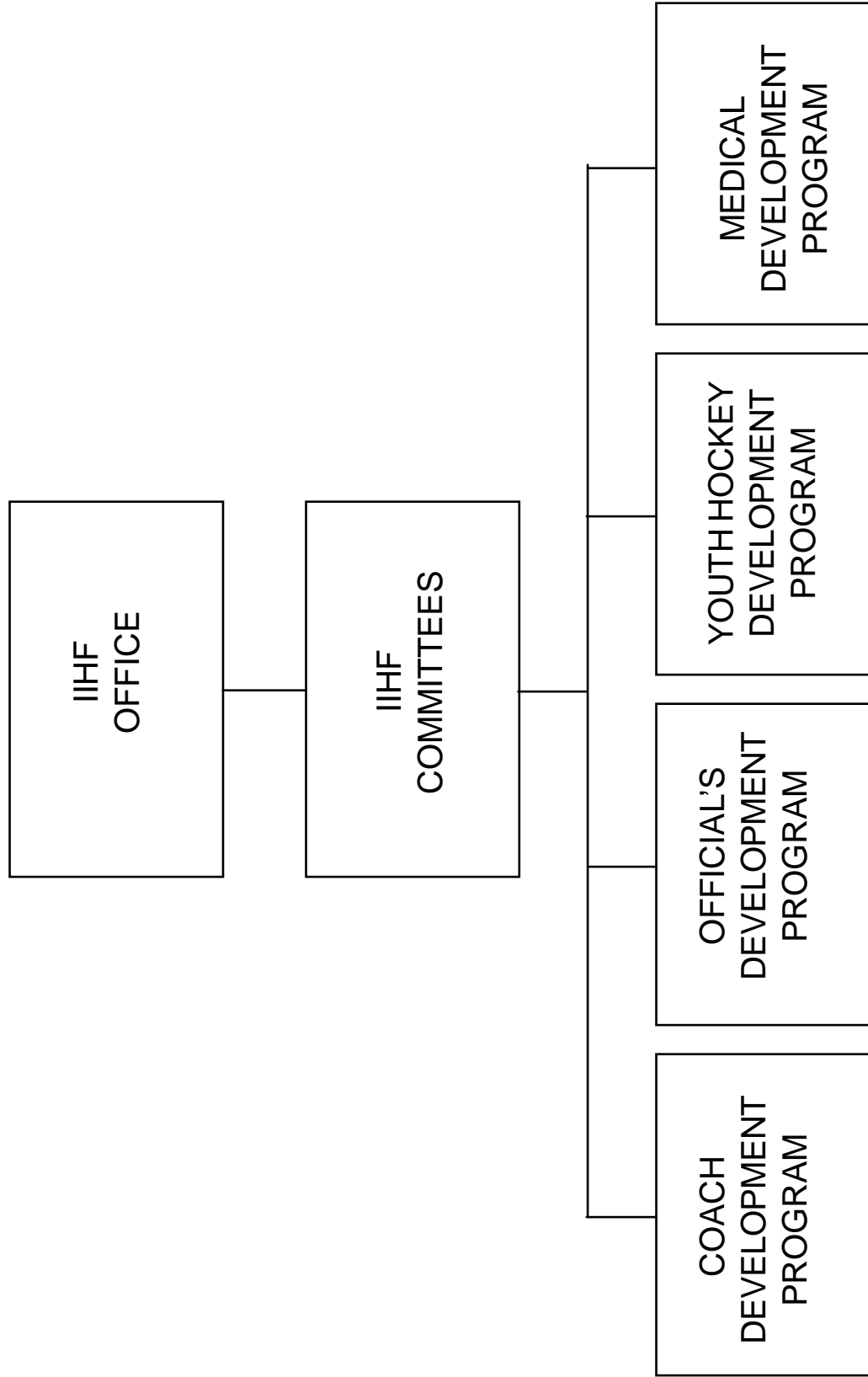
Our aim is to compile an international library of coaching, player, medical and officiating educational materials, including books and videos which have been developed by the IIHF and National Associations, and to create a centre where coaches, players, game officials and medical officers can come in to look at and purchase the material of their choice.

We will discuss each country's requirements and provide them with the best assistance possible to develop the game within their own country's culture and hockey situation.

“Partnership for Progress”



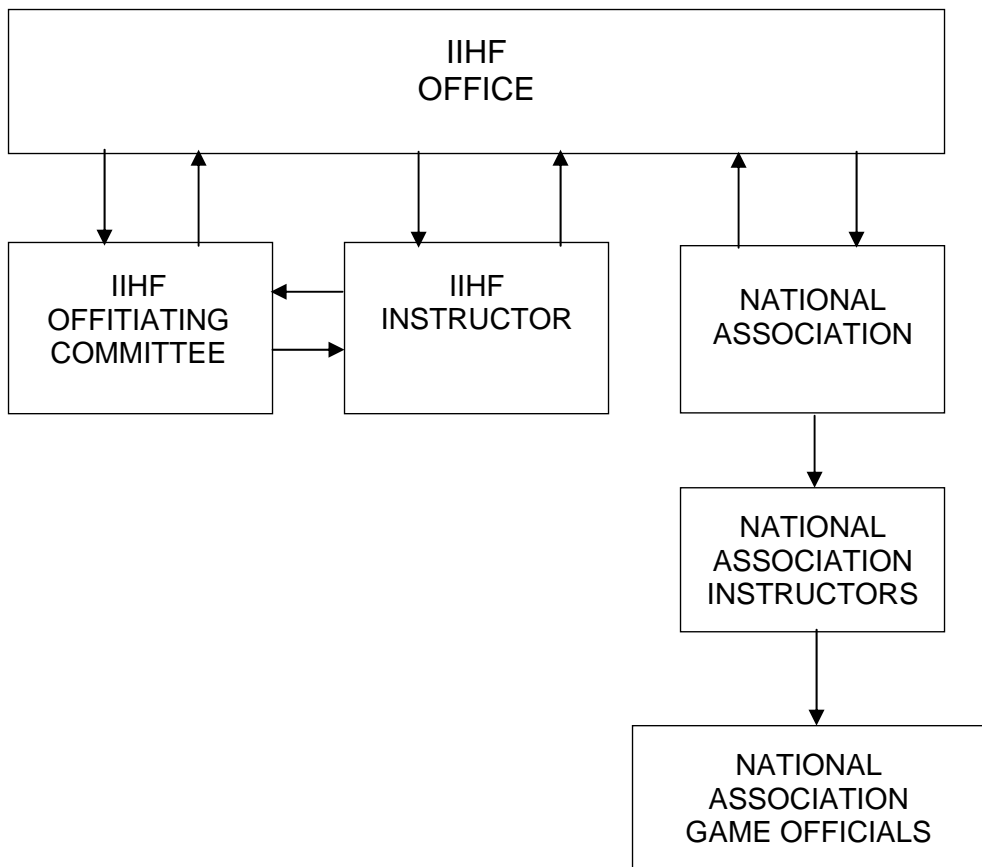
IIHF Sport Development Program Organizational Chart (Tentative)





SECTION I

IIHF Official's Development Program Organizational Chart



IIHF Official's Development Program Organizational Chart Description

IIHF Officiating Committee

The IIHF Officiating Committee will be responsible for developing the strategies and plans, as well as overseeing the operation of the IIHF Official's Development Program, including course curriculum and contents. This includes the contents of the resources and the various training seminars. This educational program is designed to follow the "Partnership for Progress" strategy whereby the program operates as a joint venture between the International Ice Hockey Federation and National Associations. That is to say that, when a National Association has committed time, people and resources, the IIHF will reciprocate.

IIHF Office

The IIHF office will manage the daily operations of the IIHF Referee Development Program from the office in Zurich, Switzerland.

IIHF Instructor

The IIHF will recruit and train IIHF Instructors. Their role will be to:

- Conduct a seminar for the training of National Association Instructors at various times throughout the year.
- Assist the National Association Instructors in conducting officials' clinics within their country for their membership.
- Remain as a resource person for the National Association Instructors.
- Compile information from National Association Instructors and make recommendations to the Referee Committee.
- Instruct National Association game officials at IIHF Hockey Development Camps and some special IIHF seminars



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National Association Referee Instructor

The National Association Instructors will be nominated by the National Association following the “Recommended Selection Criteria for National Association Head Instructors”. Their role will be to:

- Attend an Instructor Seminar which will be conducted by an IIHF Instructor.
- Conduct referee and linesmen clinics within their country with the assistance of an IIHF Instructor for their members.
- Remain as a resource person for the National Association game officials.

National Association Game Officials

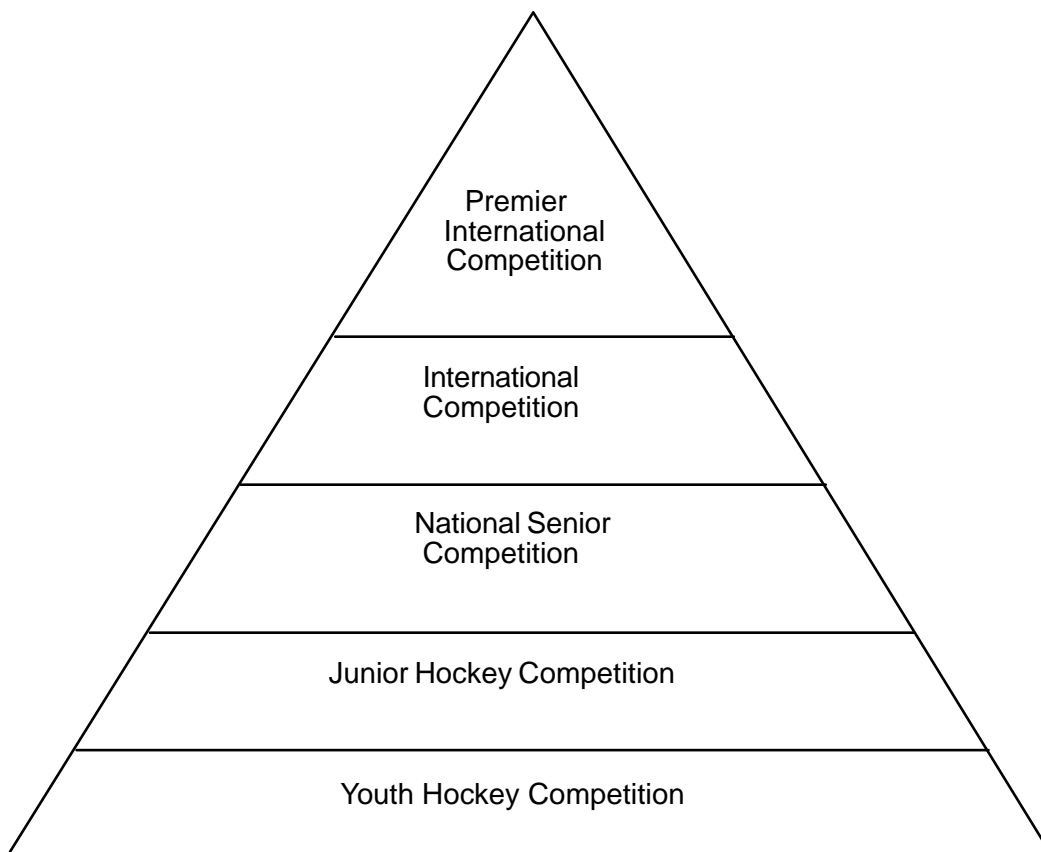
The National Association game officials will be selected by the National Association. Their role will be to:

- Attend referee clinics which are organized by the National Association. The clinics will be conducted by the National Association Instructors who will at times be assisted by an IIHF Instructor.
- The game officials will continue to use their National Association Instructor as a resource person for the IIHF Referee Development Program.
- Whereas hockey has its roots in the club system, it is important that game officials are provided with the best possible resources to ensure that the game is played in a safe and proper environment, and as defined by the playing rules. With respect to this, referees and linesmen play a very important role in the growth and development of hockey in their country.

IIHF CLASSIFICATIONS OF COMPETITION

The International Ice Hockey Federation has identified five classifications of competition in hockey being played around the world. These classifications are:

1. Youth Hockey Competition
2. Junior Hockey Competition
3. National Senior Competition
4. International Competition
5. Premier International Competition





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DESCRIPTION OF THE CLASSIFICATIONS OF COMPETITION

In order to understand the relationship between the classifications of competition and the levels of the IIHF Official's Development Program, it is important to understand what each classification addresses.

Within each of these classifications, each individual National Association will set up age groups, sub-levels of classifications and the criteria for each age group to best fit their unique hockey situation.

Following are brief descriptions of the classifications and suggested contents and objectives as to what they could offer their participants.

1. Youth Hockey Competition

Youth hockey is the "Grass Roots" level of hockey. This is where the base of all programs begins and this is where the leadership and initiative of the National Association is very important to have a successful program. All players begin their hockey careers here and emphasis should be on ENJOYMENT and SKILL DEVELOPMENT. This classification should include players up to 16 years of age, depending of the National Association competition level.

On this level the officials should establish their officiating skills and routines to reach the Junior Hockey Competition level a game official needs to develop his officiating skills to meet the demands of the new level.

For game officials Youth Hockey is the level where they can choose their career path as an official, either officiating for fun (hobby) or goal to be one of the top officials.

Objectives for game officials:

- Have fun.
- Stimulate interest in hockey and a desire to continue participation.
- Develop basic officiating skills.
- Introduce individual knowledge of hockey.
- Obtain a sense of achievement.
- Promote physical fitness.

- Introduce officials to the concepts of developing “Life Skills” such as COOPERATION, SPORTSMANSHIP, and LEADERSHIP.
- Encourage initiative.
- Provide a game to fit the needs of the participants.
- Create a social environment.
- Encourage the oldest youth hockey players to officiate for the younger age groups.

2. Junior Hockey Competition

After having had a positive experience in youth hockey and developed the skill base necessary, as well as basic individual skills and knowledge of hockey, the officials may move into junior hockey competition. During these very important formative years of development as a game official, and more importantly as a young person, it is very important that the National Association take positive and progressive measures to ensure that everyone involved has a positive experience in all aspects. This classification should include players up to 20 years of age, depending of the National Association competition level.

On this level the officials should continue to develop their officiating skills and routines to reach the Senior Hockey Competition level as a game official. He needs continuously to develop his officiating skills to meet the demands of the new level.

For game officials Junior Hockey is the level where they can finally choose their career path as an official, either officiating for fun (hobby) or goal to be one of the top officials.

Objectives for game officials:

- Have fun.
- Refine basic officiating skills.
- Begin to learn and understand team tactics.
- Promote physical fitness.
- Continuing development of “Life Skills” such as COOPERATION, SPORTSMANSHIP, and LEADERSHIP.
- Provide a game to fit the needs of the participants.
- To identify himself as a role model for Sport of Ice Hockey.



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- Assist in an individual's physical development.
- Create a social environment.
- Encourage players to officiate in youth hockey competition.

3. National Senior Competition

Within this level of competition is the "elite" or "first" division as well as other sub levels of senior competition.

For game officials the National Senior Hockey is the level where they will be divided into two groups by their career path as an official, either continuing officiating for fun (hobby) on sub levels of senior competition or goal to be one of the top officials.

Dividing the officials into two groups on this level can be determined by their officiating skills, by their own interest, or maybe by the results of their evaluations by their National Associations.

At the top level, males and females should continue to develop and improve their officiating skill as well as their knowledge of hockey. This is the highest level within the country.

Objectives for game officials:

- Have fun.
- Refine officiating skills and learn good communication skills.
- Continue to learn and understand team tactics.
- Promote physical fitness.
- Continuing development of "Life Skills" such as COOPERATION, SPORTSMANSHIP, and LEADERSHIP.
- Provide a game to fit the needs of the participants.
- Assist in an individual's physical development.
- Encourage players to officiate in youth hockey competition.
- To continue to improve himself as a role model for Sport of Ice Hockey.
- To work in order to achieve an opportunity to progress to a higher level of competition (international competition).
- Encourage players to officiate in youth hockey competition.

4. International Competition

This classification encompasses the international competitions from youth hockey to senior hockey, excluding the Olympic Winter Games, World Senior (Men & Women) Championship and the World Junior Championship U20 and U18.

To participate in International Competition a game official shall be licensed by his National Association with the IIHF. Practically this means that the game official is rated as a top official in the country.

Objectives for game officials:

- Have fun.
- Further refine hockey skills.
- Role model functions for the National Association and the sport of ice hockey.
- Promote physical fitness.
- Continuing development of “Life Skills” such as COOPERATION, SPORTSMANSHIP, and LEADERSHIP.
- To work in order to achieve an opportunity to progress to a higher level of competition (premier international competition).

5. Premier International Competition

This classification encompasses the international competitions at the top level, including the Olympic Winter Games, World Senior (Men & Women) Championship and the World Junior Championship U20 and U18.

To participate at this level in International Competition a game official shall be licensed by his National Association with the IIHF. He shall have received favourable evaluations by IIHF Referee Supervisors in previous IIHF Competitions.

Objectives for game officials:

- Have fun.
- Further continue to maintain top level officiating skills and knowledge of hockey.
- Role model functions for the National Association and the sport of ice hockey.
- Maintain a high level of personal physical and mental fitness.



SECTION I

- Continuing development of “Life Skills” such as COOPERATION, SPORTSMANSHIP, and LEADERSHIP.

IIHF Official’s Development Program Objectives

- To standardize the methods and techniques of officiating in both the two, three and four man officiating systems.
- To acquire uniformity throughout the world with respect to rule interpretation.
- To offer participants international recognition for their achievements.

Definitions of the IIHF Official’s Development Program Levels

The IIHF Official’s Development Program has been structured into four program levels. The program caters to the needs of all officials from the novice Level I through to an international Level IV official. The recommended levels in this manual can be adjusted based on the needs of the National Association.

The following chart demonstrates the correlation between the classification of competition and the recommended level of official for each classification.

CLASSIFICATIONS OF COMPETITION	LEVEL I	LEVEL II	LEVEL III	LEVEL IV
Youth Hockey Competition	X	X	X	X
Junior Hockey Competition		X	X	X
National Senior Competition			X	X
International Competition			X	X
Premier International Competition				X

Following are the IIHF Official’s Development Program recommended purpose, registration/ guidelines for certification and delivery for each level.

SECTION 1



LEVEL I

PURPOSE

- To prepare a young or new official to officiate youth hockey competition.
- To further enhance the training and skills of youth hockey officials.
- To enjoy the sport of hockey as a hobby

REGISTRATION/GUIDELINES FOR CERTIFICATION

- Each National Association is responsible for the certification of their own officials.
- An individual must attend and participate in all sessions of a Level I clinic to be qualified for certification.
- An individual should complete a written national association examination and obtain a minimum of 70%.
- It is recommended that the minimum age to obtain a Level I status is 15 years.
- An on-ice evaluation should be performed by a qualified National Association Official's Development Program Instructor to complete this certification.
- It is recommended that the officials go through the on-ice skating evaluations.

DELIVERY

- Minimum of ten hours of instruction.
- May be presented over two evenings, or on a Saturday or Sunday.

NOTE

1. Upon completion of the Level I requirements the official will receive a certificate designed by the National Association.
2. Completion of the clinic should include a successful result in both the written examination and the on-ice evaluation.



SECTION I

LEVEL II

PURPOSE

- To prepare officials capable of officiating junior hockey competition, top levels of youth hockey, and at an introductory level to national senior competition.
- To enjoy the sport of hockey as a hobby

REGISTRATION/GUIDELINES FOR CERTIFICATION

- Each National Association is responsible for the certification of their own officials.
- Officials must be fully certified at Level I and should officiate a minimum of one year at that level.
- An individual must attend and participate in all sessions of a Level II clinic to be qualified for certification.
- Officials must obtain a minimum of 80% on a written National Association examination.
- Officials must pass a practical on-ice skating evaluation performed by a qualified National Association Official's Development Program Instructor.
- Officials must be judged capable of officiating junior hockey competition.
- An individual should be a minimum of 16 years of age to obtain Level II status.

DELIVERY

- A minimum of 12 hours of instruction.
- An official at Level II will have a thorough knowledge of the playing rules and the role of an official.
- Similar delivery options as in Level I.

NOTE

1. Upon successful completion of the Level II (clinic, examination and on-ice evaluation) the official will receive a Level II certification as designed by the National Association.
2. A novice official, 16 years of age or older, may obtain Level I and II certification in one year based on ability. This is the only opportunity within the National Association Official's Development Program to accomplish two levels in one year. This is designed to encourage persons with playing or coaching experience to consider officiating.

LEVEL III

PURPOSE

- To prepare officials capable of officiating in national senior competition.
- To prepare officials capable of officiating international competition excluding the Olympic Winter Games, World Senior (Men & Women) Championship and the World Junior Championship U20 and U18, providing that the official has been licensed by the IIHF.

REGISTRATION/GUIDELINES FOR CERTIFICATION

- Each National Association is responsible for the certification of their own officials.
- Officials must be fully certified at Level II, and one year of officiating at that level is recommended.
- An individual must attend and participate in all sessions of a Level III clinic to be qualified for certification.
- Officials must obtain a minimum of 80% on a written National Association examination.
- Must undergo fitness and skating tests.
- Officials must pass a practical on-ice evaluation performed by a qualified National Association Official's Development Program Instructor.

SECTION I

- Officials must be judged capable of officiating national senior competition and international competition and be evaluated at this level.
- If an official fails the practical on-ice evaluation or the written examination, certification will not be validated; however, the official may request a second evaluation. The second evaluation will be done at the convenience of and at no extra cost to the National Association.

DELIVERY

- A minimum of 14 hours of instruction, usually presented over an entire weekend.
- The topic areas for a Level III clinic are outlined by the IIHF Official's Development Program.
- National Associations are encouraged to contact the IIHF Sport Development Manager for assistance in staging a Level III clinic.

NOTE:

1. Upon successful completion of the Level III (clinic, examination, fitness and skating tests and on-ice evaluation) the official will receive a Level III certification as designed by the National Association.

LEVEL IV

PURPOSE

- To prepare competent officials capable of officiating in premier international competition including the Olympic Winter Games, World Senior (Men & Women) Championship and the World Junior Championship U20 and U18, providing that the official has been licensed by the IIHF. The game officials shall have received favourable evaluations by IIHF Referee Supervisors in previous IIHF Competitions.
- The game officials, who have reached this level of competency, should be encouraged to become involved in the development of the younger game officials.

REGISTRATION/GUIDELINES FOR CERTIFICATION

- Each National Association is responsible for the certification of their own officials.
- Officials must be fully certified at Level III, and a minimum of one year officiating at that level is recommended.
- Attendance at Level IV will be by National Association invitation only – certification at Level III does not automatically make one eligible for Level IV.
- Officials must attend and participate in all sessions of a Level IV clinic to be qualified for certification.
- Officials must obtain a minimum of 80% on a written National Association examination.
- Must undergo fitness and skating tests.
- Officials must pass a practical on-ice evaluation performed by a qualified National Association Official's Development Program Instructor.
- Officials must be capable of officiating international competition and premier international competition and be evaluated at these levels.
- If an official fails the practical on-ice evaluation or the written examination, certification will not be validated; however, the official may request a second evaluation. The second evaluation will be done at the convenience of and at no extra cost to the National Association.

DELIVERY

- A minimum of three days of instruction.
- The topic areas for a Level IV clinic are outlined by the IIHF Official's Development Program.
- National Associations are encouraged to contact the IIHF Sport Development Manager for assistance in staging a Level IV clinic.

NOTE

1. Upon successful completion of the Level IV (clinic, examination, fitness and skating tests and on-ice evaluation) the official will receive a Level IV certification as designed by National Association.



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2. All officials reaching Level IV are required to pass an annual written National Association examination and fitness and skating tests to qualify for premier international competition.

Level IV Re-Write and Re-Evaluation Guidelines

- If an official fails the examination administered at the Level IV Seminar, the official may be eligible to write a supplementary examination at the discretion of the National Association. A fee may be charged to the official for writing the supplementary examination. Only one re-write per year will be permitted.
- If an official fails the original practical evaluation, a second opportunity may be given at the National Association's convenience, but at no extra cost to the National Association.
- If an official fails the Level IV supplementary examination or practical evaluation certification shall be denied for that season and the official will be recognized as a Level III Official.
- When the candidate is formally advised of the Level IV status (completion or failure), copies of the documentation shall be sent to the National Association Referee-in-Chief, who shall report the National Association's General Secretary.

Examination Procedures

Written examinations are to be prepared by the National Association for each level in the program. These examinations are to be revised annually and prepared for the fall of the year. Beginning at Level I, a passing mark on the exam is established and a candidate cannot be certified at this or higher levels until this passing grade is met. A breakdown for each level is noted below:

Level I	70%	Level II	80%
Level III	80%	Level IV	80%

As noted above, the exam for each level is to be revised annually.

Further policies pertaining to the examinations are listed below:

- All exams will be administered at the conclusion of the clinic; take home exams are not acceptable.
- Participants must hand in an answer sheet and the examination.

- If possible, examinations will be marked and recorded immediately at the conclusion of the clinic.
- When an individual fails to achieve the minimum at any level, that individual may request one supplementary re-write exam. Passing marks for the supplementary exam remain the same as noted above.

If the official fails the supplementary exam:

- The individual must attend another clinic of the same level one year after failing the examination.
- Though uncertified, the individual may still officiate at higher levels of hockey within his National Association, but certification will not be complete until the official passes the exam.
- The National Association must encourage officials to complete certification requirements the following year.

Practical Assessment

The practical assessment phase of certification is equally important as participation in the clinic, the written examination and the fitness and skating tests. An individual may do extremely well at the clinic and on the examination or testing, but may prove to have problems on the ice once the puck is dropped to start the game.

To ensure the further development of its officials, a National Association must invest considerable time and effort in the development of supervisors qualified to complete the practical assessment. In order to assist these supervisors the Supervision section of this manual has been produced. This section has been designed to provide the tools for more effective evaluation and supervision.

It is strongly recommended that individuals involved with supervision and assessment be provided with a copy of this officiating procedures manual to ensure consistency with this procedure.

The following policies have been agreed upon with respect to practical assessment:

- An official must have been assessed/supervised before certification is complete.

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- An official may complete the practical assessment phase of certification before or after the National Association Official's Development Program clinic (i.e. an individual may have been officiating at national senior competition for a year or two before attending a Level III clinic). However, Level III certification would not be granted until the official passed the examination.
- When certified at a level, it does not mean that an individual is qualified to officiate in all levels of hockey identified by that level, just as an individual does not have to be able to officiate in all levels of hockey identified within a level before being certified (i.e. at Level III, an individual may officiate in national senior competition, yet may not be able to officiate in international competition).
- It is recommended that an evaluation form be completed and that copies of the report be distributed to:
 - The official being evaluated.
 - The supervisor should retain one copy.
 - The National Association office.
 - The IIHF Office (Level IV IIHF licensed officials only).
- Supervisors must discuss their report with the official before it is submitted. The process is designed to help the official improve and is not just to criticize mistakes.
- The practical assessment process can take many forms:
 - Minimum one or two full-length game supervision.
 - National Association tournaments.
 - Game sessions at clinics.

Each National Association, or even regions within a National Association, will have different resources available for assessment, thus the method they follow may differ.

Certification Procedures

Certification at all levels is a two-part process involving clinical and practical assessment. From the point of view of the clinic, the official must attend all sessions and must obtain the minimum mark on the examination.

The practical assessment is very important, and it is also the most difficult to consistently apply across the entire program. It is strongly recommended that all supervisors be provided with a copy of this officiating procedures manual to ensure a consistent approach to this task.

Officials must feel a certain pride and responsibility once they obtain their certificate at any one level. They must act accordingly and not jeopardize the quality and importance of the program for personal desires. If an official is unwilling to abide by the guidelines of the IIHF Official's Development Program or fails to properly follow the playing rules of the IIHF, then certification must be suspended until such time as the official demonstrates behaviour in favour of the program and the playing rules.

General Certification Procedures

- Certification by the National Association at any level following the guidelines of the IIHF Official's Development Program does not make an individual automatically eligible for entry to the next higher level. Demonstration of ability or potential ability is necessary to move to the next level.
- Being certified at any one level does not necessarily mean that an individual will be able officiate all categories of hockey defined at that level.
- Conversely, an individual does not have to officiate all categories of hockey labelled at a certain level in order to gain certification at that level.
- Certification is not complete until both phases - Clinical and Practical - have been completed.
- It is recommended that an individual be at least 15 years of age to be certified at Level I or higher.
- Where it has been determined (through supervision) that officials are no longer able to officiate at a certain level, they will be certified at a lower level in line with their present ability.
- Once certified, it is essential that an official continue to update yearly and be completely familiar with new rule interpretations and officiating techniques.

Re-Certification Procedures for Level I, II and III

PURPOSE

- To monitor and maintain the calibre of Level I, II and III officials.

SECTION I

PROCEDURE

- To maintain one's present level of certification, an individual must attend a full National Association Official's Development Program re-certification clinic and write a National Association examination every year with appropriate passing mark. An open book exam is not acceptable for re-certification purposes.
- Where applicable the officials must also complete fitness and skating tests and an on-ice evaluation.
- Should an official fail any level of examination, the National Association may allow the candidate to write a supplementary examination during the current season. This second exam shall be different from the first one and shall originate from the National Association office.
- An individual will be eligible to advance more than one level of the National Association Officiating Program per season for Levels I and II only. Certification at the higher level cannot be granted until one year has passed.
- When an official has not officiated for a season or more, the individual must attend a full National Association Official's Development Program clinic at the appropriate level and successfully complete a practical assessment.

Re-Certification Procedures for Level IV

PURPOSE

- To monitor and maintain the calibre of the top premier international competition level of officiating as stated on the preceding pages.

PROCEDURE

- In order to be eligible for re-certification, a certified Level IV official must be registered with the National Association and be licensed by the IIHF and regularly officiate in premier international competition.
- The re-certification will consist of:
 - fitness testing
 - skating tests
 - rules examination on which a passing mark of 80% must be achieved
 - a practical on-ice evaluation performed by a National Association Official's Development Program Instructor or Referee Supervisor

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- If a Level IV official fails the re-certification examination or practical evaluation, the official shall still be recognized as a Level III official. The official would be eligible to request a supplementary re-certification examination or practical evaluation to qualify for Level IV certification.
- If a Level IV official fails the re-certification supplementary examination or practical evaluation, re-certification shall be denied for that season.
- When the Level IV official is formally advised of his status (validation or denial of Level IV), copies of the documentation shall be sent to the National Association's General Secretary.
- When a Level IV official has not officiated for a season or more and wants to regain Level IV status, the individual must first obtain Level III status within the National Association. The candidate may then apply to the National Association for the Level IV certification, which requires the successful completion of the Level IV examination and an on-ice evaluation by a National Association Instructor or supervisor.



SECTION I

IIHF CAREER PATH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The IIHF Official's Development Program provides National Associations with the resources to organize and operate the Official's Development Program within their country. It is the National Association's responsibility to provide the highest quality of instruction training and supervision in order to develop referees and linesmen to enhance the level of hockey within their country, and ultimately, to participate at IIHF championship competitions.

To help National Association officials reach their maximum potential it is recommended that National Associations organize a Career Path Development Program similar to the IIHF Career Path Development Program which is outlined below.

The goals of the IIHF Career Path Development Program are to ensure that the nomination procedure to assign officials to IIHF sanctioned events is controlled and to guarantee that IIHF licensed game officials have reached a certain standard of officiating. By providing the IIHF with a ranking list of their officials, National Associations help to ensure that the nomination procedure is fair and consistent and that it is in the best interest of the game.

The major role of the IIHF Career Path Development Program is to provide IIHF licensed game officials with the necessary information and the opportunities to improve their officiating skills, which will result in a high standard of officiating at all IIHF championship competitions.

Through an evaluation system based on their performance, ability, age and conditioning, IIHF licensed game officials are assigned to officiate at IIHF events where their abilities correspond directly to the calibre of competition to be played. This evaluation system is called Career Path Development.

As part of the process to develop individual career paths, all IIHF licensed game officials are assigned a specific classification based on IIHF Referee Supervisor evaluations from IIHF world and continental championships, tournaments and other sanctioned events. Game officials may be reclassified annually depending upon their evaluations and performance.

CLASSIFICATION OF IIHF OFFICIALS

The IIHF assigns officials to a particular classification of officiating based upon previous IIHF and National Association evaluations and rankings. The classifications were created to ensure that an IIHF licensed game official advances through the IIHF Career Path Development Program in a defined and progressive manner.

Competition Classifications for IIHF Licensed Officials

All championships, tournaments and events, where IIHF officials are nominated, have been classified according to the level of competition and the difficulty of officiating. Based on season end summary evaluations, game officials may be nominated the following season by the IIHF to another competition within the same classification of events or moved to a higher or lower classification depending upon their evaluations.

The following is a summary list of the Classifications of IIHF Competitions:

	<u>Male Championships</u>	<u>Female Championships</u>
Classification 1	OGM WM	OGW WW
Classification 2	WM20 WM18 CHL Final	WW18
Classification 3	OGMQ CC Final WMI	OGWQ WWI EWCC Final
Classification 4	CCQ OGMPQ WM18I WM II WM20 I	OGWPQ WWII WW18Q EWCCQ WW18 I
Classification 5	WMIII and Q WM20 II WM20 III WM18 II WM18 III WM18 IIIQ	WWIII WWIV WWV



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Any qualification events are classified one level lower than the classification of the event for which the teams are qualifying to participate in.

It must be noted that before game official can be nominated to the WM, WM20 or to the Olympic Winter Games an official should be evaluated at a previously held Classification 3 event.

International Transfer of Officials

Officials may transfer from one country to another through a very simple process:

- A transferring official must contact his current National Association's Referee-in-Chief and obtain information regarding to his transfer
- The new National Association Referee-in-Chief shall contact the office of previous National Association in order to obtain necessary information of the transferring game official.
- The Referee-in-Chief of the National Association that the official is transferring from can use the sample transfer form attached. (See page 33) and forward it to the new Referee-in-Chief.
- Assignment of the transferring official to games in the new National Association becomes the responsibility of the new Referee-in Chief. Certification of the transferring game official in the new National Association becomes the responsibility of the new National Association, in accordance with that National Association's Officiating Program. The transferring official may not be assigned to officiate at the same level as in his old National Association until the new Referee-in-Chief has had an opportunity to assess his abilities.

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OFFICIAL'S TRANSFER FORM (Sample)

OFFICIAL'S NAME: _____

ADDRESS (NEW): _____

CITY (NEW): _____ COUNTRY (NEW): _____

TEL (HOME/NEW): _____ TEL (MOBILE): _____

Last season I was registered with:

National Association: _____

Please check (3) the level of certification you have attained:

Level I _____ Level II _____ Level III _____ Level IV _____

**Please check (3) the category of hockey in which you officiated in
20_____**

International _____ Senior _____ U20 _____ U18 _____

U16 _____ U14 _____ U12 _____ U10 _____

***I wish to declare that the above official is in good standing and is qualified
officials the following levels of hockey:***

_____ AS A REFEREE

_____ AS A LINESMAN

REMARKS: _____

DATE: _____

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION REFEREE-IN-CHIEF



SECTION I

IIHF RULE CHANGE PROCESS

The International Ice Hockey Federation reviews the playing rules every four or five years in order to ensure that the game is played in a safe and a fair environment. The IIHF Competition Committee is responsible for ensuring that the playing rules are constantly monitored. If necessary, the committee will provide clarification and interpretation guidelines to the membership on the application of the rules. The IIHF Competition Committee is composed of representatives from all aspects of the game, including players, coaches, referees, team officials and medical personnel.

The interpretations of the rules can be found in the IIHF Case Book. The IIHF Case Book will be updated for every season.

IIHF Rule Book and the IIHF Case Book are available on the IIHF websites.

One year before the review of the playing rules, the IIHF Competition Committee will circulate a bulletin to all member National Associations asking that rule change proposals be submitted to the IIHF Office. The submission also requires that the National Association indicate the purpose of the proposed rule change and identify the existing rules that will be affected should the proposal be accepted.

The IIHF Competition Committee is responsible for reviewing the submissions and proposing to IIHF Council their recommendations from the submissions received. After a review by IIHF Council, the proposed rule changes are presented to the membership during the next Annual Congress for discussion, followed by adoption or rejection of the proposals.

Once approved, the new rules are presented and explained to the Referees-in-Chief of the National Associations at an international rules seminar held within 30 days of being adopted. This allows National Associations to distribute the new rules and their interpretations to their members during clinics held in the off-season, allowing each country to begin implementing the new rules at the start of the upcoming season.

Summary

The International Ice Hockey Federation is dedicated to developing hockey throughout the world while providing an enjoyable environment in which to participate.

The IIHF Official's Development Program is designed for you, the official. Your successful development as an official will directly enhance not only your enjoyment of the game, but that of the players, coaches and spectators.

The International Ice Hockey Federation has established this comprehensive program to assist you in meeting the needs of your very responsible role.