



QUALIFICATION CRITERIA CHAMPIONS TROPHY, CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE I, CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE II

CHAMPIONS TROPHY

Definition of the competition

The competition shall be organised each year in a country selected by the FIH Executive Board.

The host country shall comply with the FIH financial, technical, marketing, sponsorship, advertising and presentation, media, television broadcast policy and protocol requirements applicable at the time the event is awarded.

The number of participating countries shall be 6 (six).

The duration of the competition shall be 9 (nine) days.

The competition shall be conducted in accordance with the FIH Tournament Regulations for One Pool Competition and for Final Classification Play-Off Competition following a One Pool Competition in force on the first playing day of the tournament, except as varied by Appendix VI of the FIH Tournament Regulations

The appointment of the Technical Officials shall be the sole responsibility of the FIH.

Method of qualifying for the competition following an Olympic Games or World Cup

The following countries shall qualify *ex-officio*:

- The Champions of the previous Olympic Games.
- The Champions of the previous World Cup.
- The Champions of the previous Champions Trophy.
- The host country.
- Winner of the previous Champions Challenge I (in even years only, even if the competition is played after the Olympic Games or World Cup in that year).

The other countries and the reserve countries shall be in order of those finishing in second and subsequent places, either in the previous Olympic Games or in the previous World Cup, whichever is the more recent.

The order of these countries shall be used to provide the necessary additional countries, to produce the six competing countries and the reserve countries

- where one or more countries qualify *ex-officio* under two or more headings;
or
- where one or more countries - including those qualifying *ex-officio* - do not wish to participate or withdraw.

Method of qualifying for the one or more competition(s) following a competition without an Olympic Games or World Cup intervening

The method of qualifying remains as above except as to the sixth country and reserve countries.

- The country having finished sixth (and last) in the previous Champions Trophy shall not qualify, even if qualifying *ex-officio*, unless it is the host country or unless the host country of that Champions Trophy had qualified in its capacity of host country only or unless it is the winner of the qualifying Champions Challenge, of which it was the host country. It shall be the 1st reserve country.
- The country having finished sixth (and last) and which had qualified for the previous Champions Trophy as the host country only, cannot qualify except as a reserve country according to its ranking in the previous Olympic Games or World Cup, unless it is again the host country or unless it is the winner of the qualifying Champions Challenge of which it was the host country.



CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE I

Definition of the competition

The competition shall be organised each uneven year in a country selected by the FIH Executive Board.

The host country shall comply with the FIH financial, technical, marketing, sponsorship, advertising and presentation, media, television broadcast policy and protocol requirements applicable at the time the event is awarded.

The number of participating countries shall be 8 (eight).

The duration of the competition shall be a maximum of 8 (eight) days.

The competition shall be conducted in accordance with the FIH Tournament Regulations for Two Pool Competition and for Cross-over Classification Matches following a Two Pool Competition in force on the first playing day of the tournament, except as varied by Appendix VI of the FIH Tournament Regulations.

The appointment of the Technical Officials shall be the sole responsibility of the FIH.

Method of qualifying for the competition

The following countries shall qualify *ex-officio*:

- The host country.
- Winner of the previous Champions Challenge II.

The other countries and the reserve countries shall be those countries not already qualified for the Champions Trophy of the same year, in order of their ranking, either in the previous Olympic Games (and then, if necessary, in the previous the Olympic Games Qualifier) or in the previous World Cup (and then, if necessary, in the previous World Cup Qualifier), whichever is the more recent.

The order of these countries shall be used to provide the necessary additional countries, to produce the eight competing countries and the reserve countries

- where the host country qualifies *ex-officio* under two headings;
or
- where one or more countries - including those qualifying *ex-officio* - do not wish to participate or withdraws.

The final two teams (or 1 depending upon the host nation) shall be the two highest FIH world ranked teams from the 3 teams ranked equal 2nd at the completion of the previous Olympic Games or World Cup Qualifiers, whichever is the more recent. The rankings shall be based upon the FIH world rankings as updated immediately following the Olympic Games or World Cup, whichever is the more recent.

The winner of the competition qualifies *ex-officio* for the Champions Trophy in the following year even if this competition is played after the Olympic Games or World Cup.



CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE II

Definition of the competition

The competition shall be organised each uneven year in a country selected by the FIH Executive Board.

The host country shall comply with the FIH financial, technical, marketing, sponsorship, advertising and presentation, media, television broadcast policy and protocol requirements applicable at the time the event is awarded.

The number of participating countries shall be 8 (eight).

The duration of the competition shall be a maximum of 8 (eight) days.

The competition shall be conducted in accordance with the current FIH Tournament Regulations for Two Pool Competition and for Cross-over Classification Matches following a Two Pool Competition in force on the first playing day of the tournament, except as varied by Appendix VI of the FIH Tournament Regulations.

The appointment of the Technical Officials shall be the sole responsibility of the FIH.

Method of qualifying for the competition

The following countries shall qualify *ex-officio*, namely:

- The country ranked eighth (and last) in the previous Champions Challenge I (unless it is the host country of the Champions Challenge I in the same year or unless the host country of that previous Champions Challenge I had qualified in its capacity of host country only).
- The host country.

The other countries and the reserve countries shall be those countries not already qualified for the Champions Challenge I in the same year, in order of their ranking, either in the previous Olympic Games Qualifier or in the previous World Cup Qualifier, whichever is the more recent.

The order of these countries shall be used to provide the necessary additional countries, to produce the eight competing countries and the reserve countries

- where the host country qualifies *ex-officio* under two headings;
or
- where one or more countries - including those qualifying *ex-officio* - do not wish to participate or withdraws.

The final one team (depending upon the host nation) shall be the highest FIH world ranked team from the 3 teams ranked equal 5th at the completion of the respective Olympic Games Qualifiers or World Cup Qualifiers, whichever is the more recent. The rankings shall be based upon the FIH world rankings as updated immediately following the Olympic Games or World Cup, whichever is the more recent.

The winner of the competition qualifies *ex-officio* for the next edition of the Champions Challenge I in two years time.



SPECIAL STATUS – GREAT BRITAIN

If Great Britain, as a result of its ranking in the Olympic Tournament, qualifies for the immediate next Champions Trophy (or Champions Challenge I or II, as appropriate), then the Home Country who had been nominated to qualify Great Britain for the next Olympic Tournament takes part in this Trophy (or Challenge I or II), and also, possibly, in the following Champions Trophy, if played prior to the FIH World Cup.

If Great Britain is qualified for the Olympic Tournament, then the Home Country which had been nominated to qualify Great Britain for that Tournament, is superseded, if qualified for the Champions Trophy played in the Olympic Year in between the Qualifying Tournament for the Olympic Games and the Olympic Games, by Great Britain. In other words, Great Britain takes part in this Champions Trophy, but not England, Scotland or Wales.

HOST COUNTRY OF CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE I QUALIFIED FOR CHAMPIONS TROPHY IN SAME YEAR

If the host country of a Champions Challenge I is qualified for the Champions Trophy of the same year, it shall only take part in that Champions Trophy. It shall not be permitted to organise or participate in the Champions Challenge I in that same year.

HOST COUNTRY OF CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE II QUALIFIED FOR CHAMPIONS CHALLENGE I IN SAME YEAR

If the host country of a Champions Challenge II is qualified for the Champions Challenge I in the same year, it shall only take part in that Champions Challenge I. It shall not be permitted to organise or participate in the Champions Challenge II in that same year.

WITHDRAWAL BY A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION AFTER QUALIFICATION AND ACCEPTANCE TO PARTICIPATE

In the event of the withdrawal by a qualified National Association that has accepted to participate in the competition less than 6 (six) weeks prior to the start of the competition, it shall be disqualified for the next two immediate following competitions for which it has qualified, even if it has been selected to be the host National Association.

The acceptability or not of the raised reasons for the withdrawal will be considered in first instance by the FIH Competitions Committee and in second instance by the FIH Executive Board. The decision is subject to appeal in accordance with the FIH Statutes.