



## **2026 MANITOBA WINTER GAMES**

### **Hockey Technical Package**

Technical Packages are a critical element of the Manitoba Games. They guide the selection of teams by detailing age and eligibility requirements, govern competition by outlining tournament formats and scoring procedures, and identify the minimum/maximum number of participants permitted by region.

Technical Packages are developed 12-18 months prior to the Games by the relevant Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) following the standards set in place by Sport Manitoba.

After publication, any changes to the Technical Packages must be approved by Sport Manitoba – requests should first be sent to the PSO for consideration. Adjustments to age groups, eligibility requirements, team sizes, or competition formats will not be considered within six months of the start of Games.

## 1. SPORT: HOCKEY

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## 2. PARTICIPANTS

### 2.1. Athletes

Male: Up to 15 athletes per regional team.

Female: Up to 15 athletes per regional team.

### 2.2. Coaches and Managers

Male: Up to 2 coaches (1 head coach, 1 assistant coach) and 1 manager per regional team.

- At least 1 coach must be male.

Female: Up to 2 coaches (1 head coach, 1 assistant coach) and 1 manager per regional team.

- At least 1 coach must be female.

### 2.3. Regional Teams

| Region        | Number of Teams |
|---------------|-----------------|
| North         | 1               |
| East          | 1               |
| South         | 2               |
| West          | 2               |
| Winnipeg Blue | 1               |
| Winnipeg Gold | 1               |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>8</b>        |

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## 3. CLASSIFICATION

*Male*

**U13:** Open to athletes born in the year 2013.

*Female*

**U14:** Open to athletes born in the years 2013–2014.

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## 4. ELIGIBILITY

### 4.1. Athletes

All athletes must meet the eligibility requirements identified in the Manitoba Games Eligibility Policy.

All athletes must be registered as part of a sanctioned Hockey Canada minor hockey program.

### 4.2. Coaches and Managers

#### 4.2.1. Sport Manitoba Requirements

All coaches and managers participating in the Games must have completed:

- Criminal Record Check
- [Respect in Sport](#)
- [Understanding the Rule of Two eLearning Module](#)

#### 4.2.2. Sport-Specific Requirements

All coaches and managers must be at least 18 years of age as of January 1, 2026.

Head Coaches must be minimum NCCP Coach 1 Certified at least 30 days prior to the Games.

Assistant Coaches must be minimum NCCP Coach 2 Trained at least 30 days prior to the Games.

## 5. COMPETITION

### 5.1. Competition Format

Competition will consist of:

- Round robin
- Quarterfinals
- Semifinals
- Placement
- Bronze medal game
- Gold medal game

#### *Round Robin*

Each team will participate in two round robin games. All round robin games will be played as two 20-minute periods followed by a 5-minute 3-vs-3 overtime period if needed.

*Quarterfinals*

Teams will be ranked 1-8 following the round robin based on their results. All quarterfinal games will be played as two 20-minute periods followed by a 5-minute 3-vs-3 overtime period if needed.

Quarterfinal matchups will then be as follows:

1. 1 vs 8
2. 2 vs 7
3. 3 vs 6
4. 4 vs 5

*Placement Games*

Teams that lose their quarterfinal matchup will play one placement game with the highest seed playing the lowest seed. All placement games will be played as two 20-minute periods followed by a 5-minute 3-vs-3 overtime period if needed.

*Semifinals*

Winners of the quarterfinal matchups will move on to the semifinals with the highest seed playing the lowest seed. All semifinal games will be played as three 18-minute periods followed by a 5-minute 3-vs-3 overtime period and then a 3-player shootout if required.

*Medal Round Games*

All medal round games will be played as three 18-minute periods followed by a 5-minute 3-vs-3 overtime period and then a 3-player shootout if required.

**5.2. Competition Rules**

Competition will use standard Hockey Canada rules.

All games will be worked by a 3-official crew consisting of one referee and two linesmen.

**6. MEDALS**

Gold, silver, and bronze medals will be awarded to the athletes on the first, second, and third-place teams respectively.

**7. EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS****7.1. Regional Team Uniforms**

Competitive uniforms will be supplied by the Provincial Sport Organization in the following colours as per the Manitoba Games Competitive Uniform Policy.

| <b>Region</b>        | <b>Primary Colour</b> | <b>Secondary Colour</b> |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>North</b>         | Black                 | Orange                  |
| <b>East</b>          | Grey                  | Purple                  |
| <b>South</b>         | Red                   | Maroon                  |
| <b>West</b>          | Dark Green            | Light Green             |
| <b>Winnipeg Blue</b> | Light Blue            | Dark Blue               |
| <b>Winnipeg Gold</b> | Yellow                | Gold                    |

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## **8. PROTESTS AND APPEALS**

### **8.1. Guiding Rules**

- 8.1.1. Appeals will only be considered for sport-specific, technical issues affect the field of play and competition structure.
- 8.1.2. Appeals are only considered when submitted by a regional team's coaching staff.
- 8.1.3. All appeals must be made in writing within one hour of the end of competition or the time of the initial decision being rendered. Extensions may be considered due to logistical challenges.
- 8.1.4. Sport Appeal Committees will be led/chaired by the PSO Technical Representative (Tech Rep) and include the Sport Committee Chair(s), Head Official of the game/competition in question (if applicable), and a representative of Sport Manitoba.
- 8.1.5. Decisions of the Sport Appeal Committee will be final.

### **8.2. Procedure**

- Participants protesting the result of a competition decision must request an appeal form from the Sport Committee Chair(s).
- Upon completion, the form must be submitted to the Sport Committee Chair(s).
- The Sport Committee Chair(s) will contact the PSO Tech Rep and request they convene a Sport Appeal Committee.

- The Sport Appeal Committee will review the submission, request additional information and/or meetings if desired, and make their decision within an hour of the time the protest was submitted.
  - Relevant parties will be notified of the Sport Appeal Committee's decision.
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## **9. ATHLETE FILL POLICY**

### **9.1. Sport Manitoba Requirements**

Regional teams may utilize athletes from outside of their region's boundaries to fill out rosters in accordance with the Manitoba Games Regional Team Policy.

Regional teams outside of Winnipeg may only use athletes from the North, East, South, or West regions to fill their rosters. Winnipeg Blue or Winnipeg Gold regional teams may only use athletes from the Winnipeg region to fill their rosters.