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Finnish Hockey Association's environmental responsibility plan

The aim of the Finnish Hockey Association's environmental responsibility plan is to reduce the environmental impact of practicing the sport and to increase members' awareness of environmental considerations. This plan outlines specific actions through which the association can contribute to promoting environmental responsibility.

The Finnish Hockey Association is committed to environmental responsibility and strives to incorporate sustainable development principles into all its activities. The goal is for practicing the sport to avoid causing additional harm to the environment.

The association is dedicated to reducing environmental impacts according to the principle of continuous improvement. The program is monitored and updated annually. We inform and encourage member clubs and sports enthusiasts to consider environmental issues in their own activities.

The environmental responsibility plan is part of a broader responsibility program jointly approved by the sports community. The Finnish Hockey Association is committed to complying with the Sports Act, Fair Play principles, and environmental legislation and regulations in all its activities.

Status

Field hockey is practised throughout Finland on outdoor courts, primarily on artificial grass or sand fields. In winter, the sport is played indoors in various sports halls. The number of training facilities for the sport is limited, and these facilities are often managed by cities or commercial operators.

The Finnish Hockey Association strives to ensure that environmental issues are considered in all aspects of its operations. The protective gear and equipment used in the sport typically last for many years and can be recycled. The best ways to influence the association's administrative

matters include the organisation of events, the procurement and recycling of equipment, and the promotion of environmental awareness.

Objectives for 2025-2026

Administration of the Federation

The association's board primarily meets remotely, and its documents are managed electronically. Paper documents are rarely used.

The association's training and meetings will be held either remotely or in a hybrid format.

Actions

1. Continue following best practices for remote meetings.
2. When training is held on-site, preference should be given to locations that are easily accessible by public transport. Encourage participants to prioritise public transport and carpooling.
3. Avoid using disposable tableware at meetings.
4. Electronic documents should continue to be preferred over paper.

Organisation of competitions and events

Federation events are held at locations with suitable teams and fields. Tournament formats are preferred at these events, as they help reduce traffic-related emissions. Match minutes and other materials are provided through electronic systems.

Actions

1. Competitive events in tournament format are prioritised.
2. Players are encouraged to use public transport or carpool whenever possible.
3. If cafeterias are available at gaming events, proper recycling of trash will be ensured.
4. Electronic documents are preferred over printed ones.

Purchase of equipment

The federation's national teams wear representative uniforms that are recycled year after year. Players often purchase some of their gaming equipment from abroad due to limited domestic availability. They generally acquire their own equipment, and recycling is limited because the sport is relatively small. New returnees frequently receive loaned equipment from their teams.

Actions

1. New equipment and national team uniforms are acquired with care.
2. When equipment is ordered from abroad, shared orders are prioritised to minimise emissions from transport.
3. Efforts are being made to improve the recycling of equipment among players.

Sports facilities

The number of training facilities for the sport is limited, and these facilities are often managed by cities or commercial operators.

Actions:

1. Administrators of sports facilities will be encouraged to consider environmental issues in their operations.
2. We encourage participants to choose emission-free modes of transport and to favor public transportation or carpooling when traveling to training sessions.

Communication

The association communicates with its members primarily through email and an electronic newsletter, with minimal paper correspondence.

Actions

1. We inform our member clubs and players about sustainability and provide tips on actions everyone can take to improve environmental impact.
2. Environmental and other responsibility issues will be highlighted in a dedicated section on the association's website.

Person responsible for the plan

The Association's Board of Directors is responsible for implementing the content of the environmental responsibility plan, updating it and disseminating it.

Evaluation and monitoring

The success of the plan's actions and concrete goals is reviewed annually.