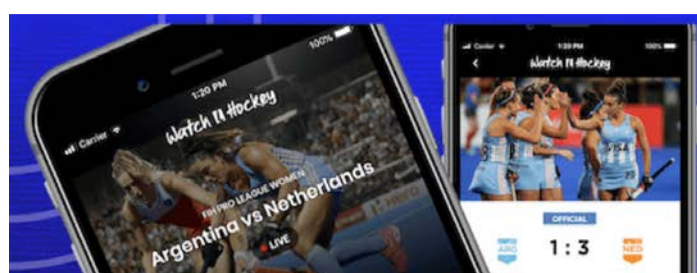




MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY FEDERATION (FIH)  
Friday 27 August 2021



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### FIH HOCKEY STARS AWARDS 2020-21: SHORTLISTS REVEALED AS VOTING OPENS

### TOKYO 2020 REFLECTIONS



India men on track for more success, says D'Souza

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) is delighted to reveal the shortlists for the FIH Hockey Stars Awards 2020-21, with players, coaches, media and fans being able to register their votes for the nominees in the respective women's and men's Player, Goalkeeper, Rising Star and Coach of the Year categories from today (Monday 23 August).



A challenging start is bearing fruit for the Cherry Blossoms

With no Hockey Stars Awards in 2020 due to the impact of the COVID-19 global health pandemic on the international calendar, this year's awards cover the period from January 2020 through to the conclusion of the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, meaning that the 2020-21 edition of the FIH Hockey Pro League has been very much taken into consideration. In another change from the norm, the Hockey Stars Awards nominations and voting will now take place around August and September of each calendar year going forward, moving away from its traditional December-January launch period.



Paving a bright future for hockey in South Africa

The voting process for the FIH Hockey Stars Awards 2020-21 will remain open until Wednesday 15 September 2021, with the winners being announced in late September / early October 2021.

More information about the nominees and how to vote can be found by clicking the below link.

[Full Story Here](#)



India women ready to step up

### WORLD RANKINGS PROVE ICING ON THE CAKE FOR BELGIUM MEN AND NETHERLANDS WOMEN



#Tokyo2020 - a message from FIH President Dr Narinder Dhruv Batra

With the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 coming to its exciting culmination with the national men's team of Belgium and the women's team of Netherlands taking the gold medals, there has been jostling for positions in the FIH World Rankings.



"The highest level of tournament hockey we have seen"

For Belgium men, winning the Olympic medal in a scintillating match against their close rivals Australia brought another prize - a jump in rankings to number one in the world. The victory moved Belgium onto 2716 points, ahead of Australia who are on 2642 points.



Eva de Goede: Three times a champion

India men enjoyed a fantastic competition, beating Germany in exciting fashion in the bronze medal match. This was India men's first medal since they last won gold in 1980. The 41-year wait ended with a bronze medal and wins over Argentina, Japan, Great Britain and Germany in the pool and knock-out stages, sees the India (2362) move to third in the world rankings, ahead of the Netherlands (2115) in fourth and Germany (2072) in fifth.

There is, once again, no change at the very top of the women's FIH World Rankings where Olympic champions the Netherlands remain resolutely in the number one position.



This is 'just the start' for Vanasch and his Lions

Argentina's loss in the Olympic final, combined with Great Britain's bronze medal win, sees England (2275), who represent Great Britain in the world rankings, leapfrogging Argentina (2261), Australia (2234) and Germany (2165) to move to second in the world rankings. The quarter-final losses suffered by Australia [to India] and Germany [to Argentina] caused both teams to slip two places down the rankings.

[Full Story Here](#)

### OTHER NEWS

### HOCKEY POD EPISODE 10 - OLYMPIC SPECIAL: ALYSON ANNAN, MARK HAGER & THOMAS BRIELS



When neighbours become good friends



HC Schaap shirt offers support in dark times

Following the conclusion of the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020, we have a real treat in store for all



hockey fans. The tenth episode of HockeyPod - the FIH's monthly podcast - is a very special one, with three of the biggest names in the sport joining in conversation with hosts Sarah Juggins and Rich Stainthorpe.



Giant steps as Chile and Papua New Guinea punch above their weight

Fresh from guiding the Netherlands women to a stunning Olympic gold medal in Tokyo, head coach Alyson Annan - herself a double Olympic gold medallist with Australia's Hockeyroos - talks at length about her team's desire to prove themselves as the best in the world, and how her players coped with the pressure of being tournament favourites.

Annan is joined by another Australian in the shape of Mark Hager, who competed as a player at the Seoul 1988 and Atlanta 1996 Games, who discusses coaching Great Britain to a superb bronze medal in Tokyo. It was a case of third time lucky for the former Kookaburras striker, having finally claimed an Olympic medal as a coach after fourth place finishes with New Zealand at London 2012 and Rio 2016.



Junior Pan American Championships 2021 provide springboard to stardom

We are also joined by an undisputed legend of Belgian hockey, as Thomas Briels reflects on a magnificent ending to his international playing career by adding an Olympic gold medal to his World, FIH Hockey Pro League and European titles.

It is a cracking conversation that also includes some surprising revelations, not least the Netherlands players convincing Alyson Annan to indulge in some reality TV during the Games.

You can find the podcast on the Watch.Hockey app. We hope you enjoy the conversation!

[Full Story Here](#)



TOKYO 2020 - GOLD MEDAL MATCHES

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Netherlands defeat Argentina to take women's Olympic crown



Belgium men crowned Olympic champions in Tokyo

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### Diary dates - FIH Hockey Pro League

Competition	Dates	Location
Women's competition	6 October 2021 - 19 June 2022	Various
Men's competition	16 October 2021 - 30 June 2022	Various

