

SA MASTERS HOCKEY ASSOCIATION

WORLD CUP SQUAD ANNOUNCEMENT



February 2026

It gives the **SA Masters Hockey Association** great pleasure to announce the final selections for the **World Masters Hockey World Cup 2026** to be held in **Netherlands** and **Belgium**. We believe that the selected individuals will do our country proud at these prestigious tournaments.

We extend our sincere thanks to everyone who participated in the extensive selection process, which included the first round of trials, the AMI Series, and the National Selection Camp. The standard of participation was highly competitive, reflecting the depth of talent and commitment within our Master's hockey community.

A special word of appreciation goes to the individuals entrusted with the responsibility of selecting our teams. The task of choosing players to represent South Africa at the highest level is never easy. It requires experience, insight, integrity, and courage. We have been fortunate to have a world-class panel of selectors and coaches who brought their collective knowledge and expertise to bear in fulfilling this responsibility. We thank them sincerely for the professional manner in which they executed this task.

Our hearts go out to those who were not included in the final selections. We deeply value the investment, commitment, and effort demonstrated by every player throughout the process. We understand the disappointment that accompanies this outcome and encourage you to remain involved and continue striving toward your World Cup dream. Experience has shown that circumstances can change, and opportunities may arise through withdrawals or unforeseen events.

Dispensations granted to certain players are always a sensitive and often controversial matter. **This year, dispensations were limited to fifteen players out of a total squad of 400.** These were granted only in exceptional circumstances, primarily where specific skills and experience were identified as critical to strengthening our competitiveness at international level. While attendance and participation remain important considerations, selection to represent our country must ultimately be based on the broader needs and balance of each team. We have exercised this discretion with the utmost care and restraint.

Congratulations to every individual selected to the World Cup squad. Representing South Africa at this level is a tremendous honour and privilege. The responsibility now shifts to the coaches, managers, and players to ensure optimal preparation in the months ahead. We urge everyone involved to leave no stone unturned in pursuit of excellence, so that we may represent our country with pride and distinction.

"For the Badge"

- We represent South Africa, our sport, our team
- We play to win
- We play for each other

"For the Love of the Game"

- We find "enjoyment" playing the game
- We respect and nurture the game

"In the Spirit of Masters"

- Integrity
- Fair play
- Respect our opponents and officials

And here are the dates again ...

Please note the change in venue for M&W35 & 40 WC teams

M&W O35 - O40 National teams

- HC Schiedam, Schiedam, Netherlands
- 22nd July to 1st August 2026.



WO45- O50 National & O35-O50 International Masters Cup MO45- O50 National & O35-O50 International Masters Cup

- HC Rotterdam and HV Victoria, Netherlands
- 22nd July to 1st August 2026.



WO55 - O70 National & International Masters Cup

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MO55- O60 National & International Masters Cup

- KHC Dragons, Brasschaat, Belgium
- 6th to 16th August 2026



MO65- O80 National & International Masters Cup

- BHV Push Breda, Breda, Netherlands
- 6th to 16th August 2026



Further details to follow on the finance plan and kit arrangements. Sponsorship letters will be made available as soon as possible.

Wishing all teams all the best in your preparations

For the love of the Game SA Master Executive

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