



2026 IIHF WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP  
**BID PACKAGE**





## DEAR PROSPECTIVE HOSTS,

The International Ice Hockey Federation World Junior Championship is the most anticipated hockey tournament across the world every season and we're excited to have been selected as the host nation for the 2026 World Juniors, which will be the 50th anniversary of the Championship.

On only five other occasions has the U.S. had the opportunity to host the event, which features the best men's players in the world under the age of 20. The World Juniors includes the future stars of the NHL and features high-octane games filled with jarring swings of momentum, jaw-dropping skill and overall high drama.

We appreciate your interest in partnering with USA Hockey to host this event. Along with the economic benefits, the tournament also provides great visibility to hosting communities through a significant worldwide television audience.

In the pages ahead you'll find a more detailed overview of the tournament and what's involved in serving as host. Please know that our USA Hockey staff is available to answer any questions you may have.

Kind regards,

Mike Trimboli  
President, USA Hockey

Pat Kelleher  
Executive Director, USA Hockey

Dwayne Dillinger  
Vice President, USA Hockey





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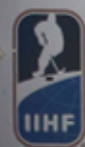
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IIHF

# WORLD JUNIORS HISTORY IN THE U.S.



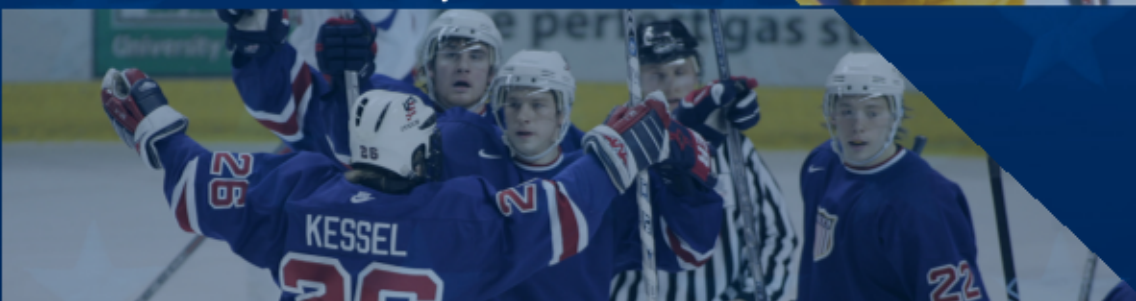
**1989 - Anchorage, AK**



**1996 - Boston, MA**



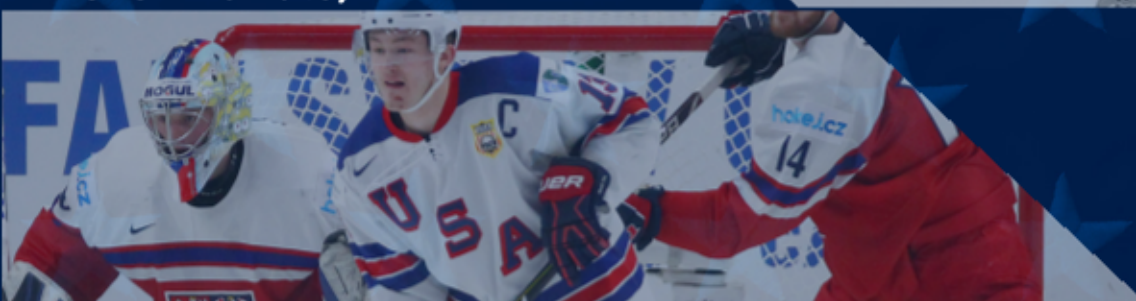
**2005 - Grand Forks, ND**



**2011 - Buffalo, NY**



**2018 - Buffalo, NY**



**2026 - TBD, USA**



# GLOBAL REACH

## WJC ON THE INTERNATIONAL STAGE



### Notable American-Born Players

- Patrick Kane '07
- Dylan Larkin '15
- Auston Matthews '15 '16
- Jack Hughes '19
- Cole Caufield '20 '21
- Trevor Zegras '20 '21

### Notable International Players

- Wayne Gretzky '78
- Alexander Ovechkin '03 '04 '05
- Leon Draisaitl '13 '14
- David Pastrnak '14 '15 '16
- Connor McDavid '14 '15
- Patrik Laine '15

### 2023 World Junior Championship

- Total attendance: estimated 250,000+ (junior hockey venues)
  - 36.4M+ TV viewers across 10 different countries and 9 outlets\*
- \*USA is not included, NHL Network (broadcast in U.S.) is not rated

### USA - 2011 & 2018 World Junior Championship

- Total attendance: 320,000 in 2011 and 220,000 in 2018, including a record-breaking crowd at the USA-CAN outdoor game in 2018
  - \$5.5M+ direct economic impact in 2018 (participants only)

### USA Hockey Social Media Channels

- Reach of 21.3M+ on Facebook and Instagram, and 73.4M+ impressions on Twitter during WJC coverage for '21, '22 and '23
- In 2023, there were an average of 723K impressions/day on Twitter

### IIHF Social Media Analytics - 2023 WJC

- 74.8M impressions, 6.5M engagements across all platforms
- 4.4M social media valuation increase from August 2022 WJC
- Web traffic: 17.5M page views with 2.6M unique users

# ECONOMIC IMPACT

## WJC IMPACT ON HOST COMMUNITIES

During the most recent World Juniors hosted in Canada, the event generated approximately \$20M in economic activity and attracted more than 100,000 people to Moncton, N.B. alone, the secondary host city in the event (CTV News Atlantic, Jan. 2023). Additionally, the local community saw a 40 percent increase in hotel bookings in the month of December as well as \$2M in provincial tax revenue collected.

The province of British Columbia, Canada, hosted the WJC in 2019 and brought an estimated \$35-\$45M in spending to Vancouver, with another \$10-\$15M in Victoria (Vancouver Is Awesome, Jan. 2019). Even with Team Canada knocked out in the quarterfinals, a total of 304,000+ spectators attended the event.

In 2012, the last time the event was held in two NHL venues, Calgary and Edmonton saw approximately 445,000 total spectators with an additional 53,000 purchasing tickets to the pre-competition games held in the surrounding region (Sport Tourism Canada, July 2012). Local spending generated approximately \$86M in economic activity for the province of Alberta as a whole.

## 2026 WJC ESTIMATED TO GENERATE \$75.7M IN DIRECT SPENDING

Calculated using the Sports Tourism Index, the 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship will generate \$75.5M in direct spending, 6,000 room nights from participants alone and approximately \$60K in lodging tax from those room nights. Ultimately, the event will bring in 400+ participants from around the world and is targeted to draw more than 250,000 spectators over the official event dates, with increased potential when factoring in spectators for pre-competition games.

The 2026 IIHF World Junior Championship will benefit the host city and region in more than just economic spending, and can positively impact the Host in the following ways:

- Job creation and growth
- Restaurants and area attractions
- Incremental hotel spending
- Showcase the community on a global stage
- Marketing exposure in digital and print media
- Discretionary income spending
- Visitors to region for an extended period of time
- Pre-competition spending





## BID SUBMISSION COMPONENTS

To assist interested parties in their creation and submission of a bid and ensure that all pertinent areas have been addressed, USA Hockey has provided specific bid requirements listed in the checklist below.

### **Bid Submission Checklist:**

	Organizational Structure/Host Organizing Committee
	Arena Requirements
	Venue Maps (Blueprint/CAD Drawings)
	Revenue Categories and Guarantee
	Sample Budget
	Draft Marketing Plan
	Accommodations and Transportation
	Staffing and Volunteer Structure
	Community Support
	Draft Pre-Competition Plan

### **USA Hockey Site Selection Committee**

- Pat Kelleher - Executive Director
- Mike Trimboli - President
- Dwayne Dillinger - Vice President and International Council Chair
- Tony Driscoll - Assistant Executive Director, Marketing, Communications & Events
- John Vanbiesbrouck - Assistant Executive Director, Hockey Operations
- Madison Brown\* - Director, Events

*\*Site selection committee primary contact.*

For any questions related to the 2026 World Junior Championship and the bidding process, please contact Madison Brown at 719-538-1167 or [madisonb@usahockey.org](mailto:madisonb@usahockey.org).

## EVENT DATES

### **Official Event Dates**

The official event dates will be December 25, 2025 through January 7, 2026. Preliminary round games will begin on Dec. 26 and the event will conclude with the Gold Medal Game on Jan. 6. Teams will arrive into the U.S. and the region approximately 5-10 days prior to the start of the Championship for pre-competition practices and games. Most teams will depart in the morning on Jan. 7, however, teams eliminated before the medal round games could potentially depart earlier. Details regarding pre-competition are addressed on page 24.



## CONTRACT AND SELECTION TIMELINE

### **Term Sheet, Contract and Selection Process Timeline**

At the time of the selection, the Host must be willing to sign a binding term sheet with USA Hockey. From the term sheet, a legal contract will be created by USA Hockey and must be signed by both parties by June 2024. A timeline of the selection process is listed below:

RFP published, bidding process opened	March 2023
Bid applications due	July 1, 2023
Initial site visits completed	Aug - Sept 2023
Finalists selected	Oct 1, 2023
Final documents due, IIHF site visits	Oct 2023
Host site selected and notified	Nov 15, 2023
Binding term sheet finalized and signed (formal contract to follow by June 2024)	Dec 15, 2023
Formal announcement*	Dec 2023/Jan 2024

\*The target date to announce the site selection is during the 2024 World Junior Championship, however, a final date will be mutually agreed upon by the IIHF, USA Hockey and the Host to maximize the impact of the announcement.

### **Post-Event**

Host will provide USA Hockey with post-event reports and analytics to include ticket and revenue documentation and economic impact data that covers visitor spending, hotel room pickup, GDP and tax data.







## **ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE & USA HOCKEY INTERFACE**

As the IIHF member federation in the United States, USA Hockey is responsible, on behalf of the IIHF, for the staging and management of the Championship and will form a partnership to oversee the operation of the Championship with the Host.

To ensure the Championship is conducted in accordance with acceptable international standards, a host organizing committee will be structured to manage the hosting operation as follows:

### **Host Organizing Committee**

The Host Organizing Committee will represent the Host and USA Hockey in the day-to-day management of the hosting obligations. It will be responsible for the staging and promotion of the Championship and will be made up of the Host-appointed USA Hockey Liaison, USA Hockey's Assistant Executive Director of Marketing, Communications and Events, USA Hockey's Director of Events and other personnel, as necessary.

Required positions appointed by the host:

- Liaison to USA Hockey to manage the day-to-day planning with USA Hockey's Director of Events
- Local medical chairperson
- Local stats coordinator(s) to manage the stats operations and personnel at the both venue(s)

Recommended areas of focus within the Host Organizing Committee include, but are not limited to:

- Hockey operations
- Arena operations
- Ticketing
- Marketing & promotions
- Local sports commission/CVB representation
- Team services (laundry, supplies, etc.)
- Media
- Transportation
- Volunteer operations

### **Host-Appointed Liaison to USA Hockey**

The Host will be expected to appoint a dedicated event executive to assist with the management of the day-to-day preparations of the Championship, beginning at the time of Host selection. The appointed member will work directly with USA Hockey's Director of Events and provide regular updates.



## COMMUNITY OVERVIEW & RATIONALE FOR BID SUBMISSION

In order for a community to be considered as a potential host of the Championship, the bid must support the rationale for wanting to host the Championship and be able to demonstrate its ability to meet minimum hosting standards as outlined below:

- The host community and proposed venue(s) must have demonstrated the ability to stage sporting events in a highly successful manner, both financially and logistically
- The host community and satellite communities (if applicable) must have a sufficient population base from which to market the Championship
- The host community must be in close proximity to a designated international airport and secure assistance from the airport for dedicated support through Customs and Border Patrol and TSA. The maximum distance to/from the airport should not exceed two hours travel time.
- The host community must have a strong volunteer base with the business and hockey communities from which to draw on for leadership and staffing/volunteer support
- There must be no major international or national sporting events in the metropolitan area of the host community thirty (30) days prior to or following the Championship
- The host community must show a connection and role with the support, growth and development of youth hockey
- Special consideration will be given to sites that commit financial support from the local sports commission/CVB or government funding





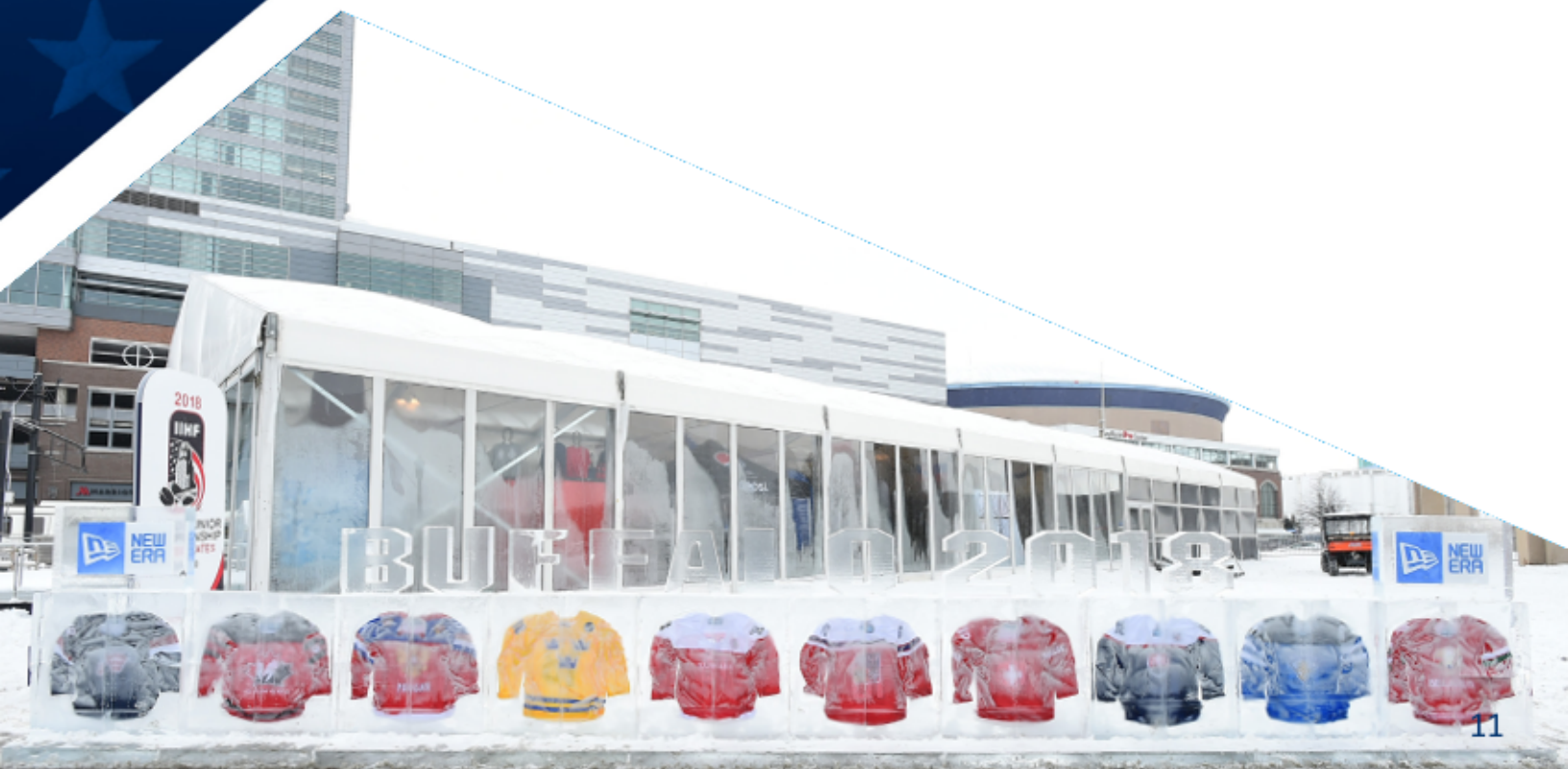
## COMMUNITY OVERVIEW & RATIONALE FOR BID SUBMISSION

### **Community Engagement Opportunities**

The bid shall contain unique characteristics of the host community and support how the community, venue(s) and surrounding region will be able to support and elevate the Championship to a new level. Maps of the host community and satellite communities (if applicable) that highlight locations of the key facilities (venues, hotels and ancillary facilities) will also help provide clear insight.

Additional opportunities and ideas to engage the local community:

- Opening and closing ceremonies that celebrate the region, the local communities and culture of the region
- Utilizing individuals from the local community to present awards for post-game ceremonies throughout the event
- Youth hockey programming to include clinics, learn-to-play, tournaments, games, etc.
- Coaching clinics and seminars
- Officiating clinics and seminars
- Programming with local schools tied into learning opportunities
- Fan festival and engagement outside of competition
- Local marching bands or other groups to incorporate in fan engagement and game presentation
- Local embassy/consulate support
- Pre-competition games hosted within the region, outside of the immediate host community (more information on pre-competition specifications can be found on page 24)





## VENUE REQUIREMENTS

### Venues

The host must secure a maximum of two (2) competition venues, with one designated as the primary venue, which will include medal-round games. Special consideration will be given to competition venues that have two (2) sheets of ice within one building. If there are two (2) separate competition venues, both should be within the same geographical region, and not more than approximately two hours travel time by vehicle.

- Primary venue: ideal seating capacity of 15,000 or more
- Secondary venue: ideal seating capacity of 5,000 or more

The proposed venues must be available to the Host exclusively and on a “clean” basis, beginning December, 24, 2025, and ending on January 7, 2026. That is, the Championship must have exclusive advertising rights within the venues including, but not limited to: dashers, bench boards, penalty boxes, and in-ice logos, and flexibility with incremental interior and exterior signage. All venue contracts entered into by the Host regarding the Championship will be subject to the prior approval of the Host Organizing Committee.

Although not an inclusive breakdown, the following minimum technical standards and event needs pertaining to the venues must be met and outlined within the bid submission:

### Pre-Event

- Dedicated ice time for one (1) test game at each venue 1-3 days prior to the start of the Championship
  - Date(s) of the games are TBD based on venue availability and IIHF staff arrivals

### Ice Time

- Daily practice ice for all teams and officials as required by IIHF Sport Regulations
  - Teams have one-hour practices on non-game days and 30-minute morning skates on game days
  - Officials will have one hour of practice ice on the first practice day and 30- or 45-minute practice ice on all other days, based on need
- Designated ice time for any ceremonial rehearsals prior to and during the Championship
- Scheduled ice time for installation of all dashers, in-ice logos and bench signage prior to the Championship
- Adequate time for ice maintenance before and throughout the Championship to maintain the highest quality ice

### Hockey Operations

- The IIHF requires the use of Marsh Pegs for nets on game ice
- Goal review camera and replay system on both game ice sheets



## **VENUE REQUIREMENTS, CONT.**

### **Locker Rooms**

- Each team should have one area for the duration of the Championship that includes the following:
- A team locker room that has private (not shared between teams) shower and bathroom facilities and 25 stalls/spots for players with shelving above each stall/spot
- A separate coaches locker room for each team
  - If separate coaches areas are not possible, temporary coaches areas for teams during their practices and games are required
- A separate medical room per team, if possible
- Team locker rooms ideally include clocks that are wired to reflect the game clock time in the game venue
- Ample space for team skate sharpeners and equipment repairs in close proximity to the locker rooms for each team
- One large locker room for 26 officials for the duration of the Championship (only needed at one venue)
- Smaller game-day room for 4-person officiating crew for all games to include shower and bathroom facilities (both venues/ice sheets)

### **Additional Rooms and Spaces**

- One (1) doping control room at each venue: one room on ice level; must contain a bathroom
- One (1) medical room at each venue: one room on ice level that will serve as the overall event medical room to include all medical supplies, training tables, etc.
- One (1) stats room at each venue: one small room on ice level with space for 1-2 people
- Media workroom: one (1) room within each venue
  - Tables and chairs set up to have 40 designated spots for members of the media. Wifi connectivity and power required.
  - Does not need to be on ice level

### **Medical Operations**

- Host will appoint a medical chair and coordinate all medical services needed on-site and on-call for the duration of the event
- Team-dedicated ambulance (ALS) and EMTs on-site for all games
- Athletic trainers needed on-site for the duration of the event

### **Parking Needs**

- 1-5 parking spots for team buses during practices and games
- Approximately 15 spots at each venue to accommodate staff, officials and shuttle vehicles
- Parking for one ambulance at both venues during all games



## **VENUE REQUIREMENTS, CONT.**

### **Media, Broadcast and Statistics**

- Minimum of 14 computers to accommodate the IIHF Hydra statistics web-based system (7 per ice sheet/venue). Computers need Microsoft Office and have the capability to access the internet.
- Press box and/or other space on both rinks for stats personnel (minimum 1 position on ice level in scorer's box, and minimum 6 positions in press box/other space)
- Suitable television/live stream and radio broadcast space, including a press box or platform for broadcast cameras at both venues
- Mixed zone: a space on ice level within close proximity to the ice/locker rooms at both venues to conduct interviews
  - Will need space to set up media backdrops in these locations
- Press box facilities in both rinks capable of hosting media representatives (50 at primary rink, 30 at secondary rink)
- Space inside or directly outside the venue(s) to park a broadcast production truck (one per venue, if using two venues)
- Designated spots in media workroom or office space for IIHF photographers to work before, during and after games
- Media workroom: addressed in "additional rooms and spaces" above
- Sufficient internet to accommodate wifi and broadcast needs

### **Other Rights**

- Exclusive rights to distribute promotional and premium items at both venues (e.g. sponsor giveaways, American flags, etc.)
- Right for IIHF, USA Hockey and event sponsors, at no expense, to have product displays in lobby and/or concourse areas

## **EVENT RIGHTS**

### **Event Logo and Trademarks**

The official event logo for the Championship will be developed by the Host and approved by USA Hockey and the IIHF. The expense of creating the event logo will be the responsibility of the Host. The use and/or application of the official trademarks and logos for the event are subject to the prior approval of USA Hockey.

The Host will follow the [IIHF Competition Branding Guide](#) when creating the logo but is encouraged to draw inspiration from the region and community when considering the overall design.

### **Broadcasting and Digital Media**

The IIHF and USA Hockey reserve and own all broadcast and digital media rights to include TV, radio, official tournament website and web streaming. USA Hockey will work directly with IIHF/event television and radio broadcast partners.

## ACCOMMODATIONS, TRANSPORTATION AND TRAVEL

### **Hotels and Meals Overview**

The Host will assist in securing hotel(s) for the Championship. A single hotel with the ability to house all teams, officials and staff is preferred, however, multiple hotels will be accepted.

The bid should include quotes for both guest rooms and meals based on the room and meal requirements for teams, officials and staff listed below. Additionally, other hotels should be sourced as host hotels with room blocks for the following groups: media, scouts, friends and family, and fans.

A breakdown of the room blocks can be found in Appendix E.

### **Teams**

- Minimum 12 doubles and 6 singles per team, with the ability to add additional rooms based on delegation size (each team will likely need 4-8 extra rooms beyond 18)
  - One meeting space per team for the duration of the event
  - Setup will be banquet-style for up to 40 people per team and include a projector and screen with HDMI connectivity
  - Complimentary internet access required
- Four meals a day (breakfast, lunch, dinner, snack) per team for a minimum 29 persons (most teams will bring 32-40 persons total)
- Hotel(s) will be tasked with creating a menu template to distribute to teams well in advance of the Championship, with the ability for teams to make reasonable changes to the menu to accommodate cultural and regional food differences
  - A description of menu requirements is included in Appendix C
  - Hotel(s) must have the ability to accommodate early morning and late evening meals for all teams. All teams will schedule meals at different times due to the practice and game schedule.

### **Officials and Staff**

- 28 single rooms for officials and referee supervisors
- 20-30 single rooms for IIHF and USA Hockey staff
  - USA Hockey staff will likely arrive 5-10 days prior to the start of the event, depending on team arrivals and event preparations
  - 5-10 complimentary suite upgrades for staff and VIP guests
- Three (3) additional meeting spaces for the duration of the event, to be used for meals and meetings for officials, IIHF staff and USA Hockey event staff
  - Only breakfast will be served to these three groups
  - There is the option to serve lunch and dinner to the officials at the hotel, if the hotel can accommodate the schedules of all officiating crews throughout the event due to varying schedules
- Complimentary internet access required

## ACCOMMODATIONS, TRANSPORTATION AND TRAVEL, CONT.

### **Bus Transportation and Box Trucks**

The Host will secure coach bus transportation for all teams for the duration of the Championship as well as box trucks to transport team equipment for team arrivals, departures and any movement after the conclusion of the preliminary round. The bus company will be tasked with creating a shared bus schedule for all teams with the following in mind:

- All team transportation will be covered by 56-passenger buses
- Airport arrivals and departures will be accommodated for each team, regardless of date of arrival (if early)
- Transportation group will do its best to minimize the number of buses being used while maintaining first-class service
- A sample bus schedule can be found in Appendix D

### **Shuttle Transportation**

The Host will be required to arrange a shuttle service for team support staff, officials and other staff for the duration of the event. In addition, as part of the volunteer structure, the Host should appoint personnel to oversee the scheduling and communication leading up to and during the event. The schedule will be determined based on travel time to/from venue(s) and will potentially be scheduled on a constant rotation. Shuttle services include:

- Team support staff going to the venue(s) early/departing late
- Game officials working each game (4-6 persons per game)
- Additional needs for doping control officers, select event staff, etc.

### **Travel**

Special consideration will be given to host sites that include airport Customs and Border Patrol and TSA coordination in their bid proposals. This includes the ability of the host airport to allocate private Customs lanes for arriving teams, officials and IIHF staff, as well as private TSA lanes for international team and staff departures.





# REVENUE

The bid submission should incorporate a financial overview reflecting all potential revenue channels associated with the hosting of the Championship.

Categories of these revenue channels include, but are not limited to: ticketing, concessions and catering, merchandising, sponsorship sales, parking, grants, government funding, and other revenue opportunities deemed to be available by the Host. Bid submissions should also include a financial guarantee net to USA Hockey after expenses as part of the overall budget.





## REVENUE CATEGORIES

### **Ticketing**

With IIHF and USA Hockey approval, the Host will be responsible for the management and oversight of all aspects of the ticketing process including, but not limited to: box office operations, pricing structure, ticket package offerings, ticket production (if applicable), and distribution plan. As the rights holder of the Championship, USA Hockey will share the ownership rights to the ticket database with the Host. Host must include ticketing revenue projections within the bid submission.

#### Ticket Hold Requirements (per game):

- 100 tickets in the best available location of the main rink at no cost
  - Final usage determined three (3) months prior to Championship
- 100 tickets in the best available location of the secondary rink at no cost
  - Final usage determined three (3) months prior to Championship
- 29 tickets at no cost for each of the participating teams for the games in which they play, excluding Team USA and Team Canada
- 100 tickets at no cost for all games in which Team USA plays
- 60 tickets at no cost for all games in which Team Canada plays
- 100 tickets in one section (seat kills) for all games to serve as the participant tribune. These are intended only for the use of non-playing participant teams, immediate team staff members and officials, and all should be located in the same section for every game
- TBD seat kills for photography and broadcast requirements

#### Suites:

- Revenue derived from all suite sales must be included as ticketing revenue back to the event budget
- Two (2) suites in each venue will be provided to the IIHF at no cost for the duration of the Championship. Food and beverage costs will be the responsibility of the IIHF.
- Two (2) suites in each venue will be provided to USA Hockey at no cost for the duration of the Championship. Food and beverage costs will be the responsibility of USA Hockey.

#### Family and Friends Areas:

- If possible, special consideration for two rooms/spaces at the competition venue(s) for Team USA and Team Canada friends and family to gather for games (one room/space per team)
- If there is only one room available, priority will be given to Team USA friends and family



## **REVENUE CATEGORIES, CONT.**

### ***Sponsorship\****

The Host can develop a sponsorship sales strategy to be included with the bid submission, including details of sample sponsor packages that will be proposed to local/regional organizations.

\*The IIHF retains the sponsorship rights to all camera-visible inventory in both venues (dashers, bench signage, in-ice logos, etc.), however, other opportunities for sponsorship include, but are not limited to, the following: non-camera-visible dashers, two corner in-ice logos, penalty bench signage, ice resurfacing machines, on-ice officials advertising, non-camera-visible signage inside and outside the venue(s), sponsor booths and tabling, fan festivals, premium tickets, hospitality, Player of the Game Awards, social media marketing, pre-competition venues and marketing assets, etc.

There are several category-exclusive partners for this event and a full list will be provided to the host site well in advance of the Championship.

All local corporate sponsor packages are subject to the prior approval of USA Hockey and the IIHF.

### ***Merchandising***

The Host will work directly with USA Hockey's third-party merchandise group, Legends, to establish the merchandise plan for the Championship. A contract between the Host and Legends will be negotiated directly between the two parties, with all logo and graphic approval run through USA Hockey and the IIHF. USA Hockey will help manage the approval process with the IIHF.

### ***Grants and Government Funding***

The Host is encouraged to seek local, state and federal grants that recognize the multicultural celebration and help support the hosting of this international event.

### ***Special Functions***

The Host is encouraged and afforded the opportunity to create special functions that dually serve as opportunities to increase the celebration of the event and generate incremental revenue. Fan/community engagement initiatives such as concerts, hospitality spaces, outdoor activities and viewing parties hosted within the vicinity of the venues have been successful at past events and are encouraged to be included to enhance the bid proposal.

### ***Additional Revenue Opportunities***

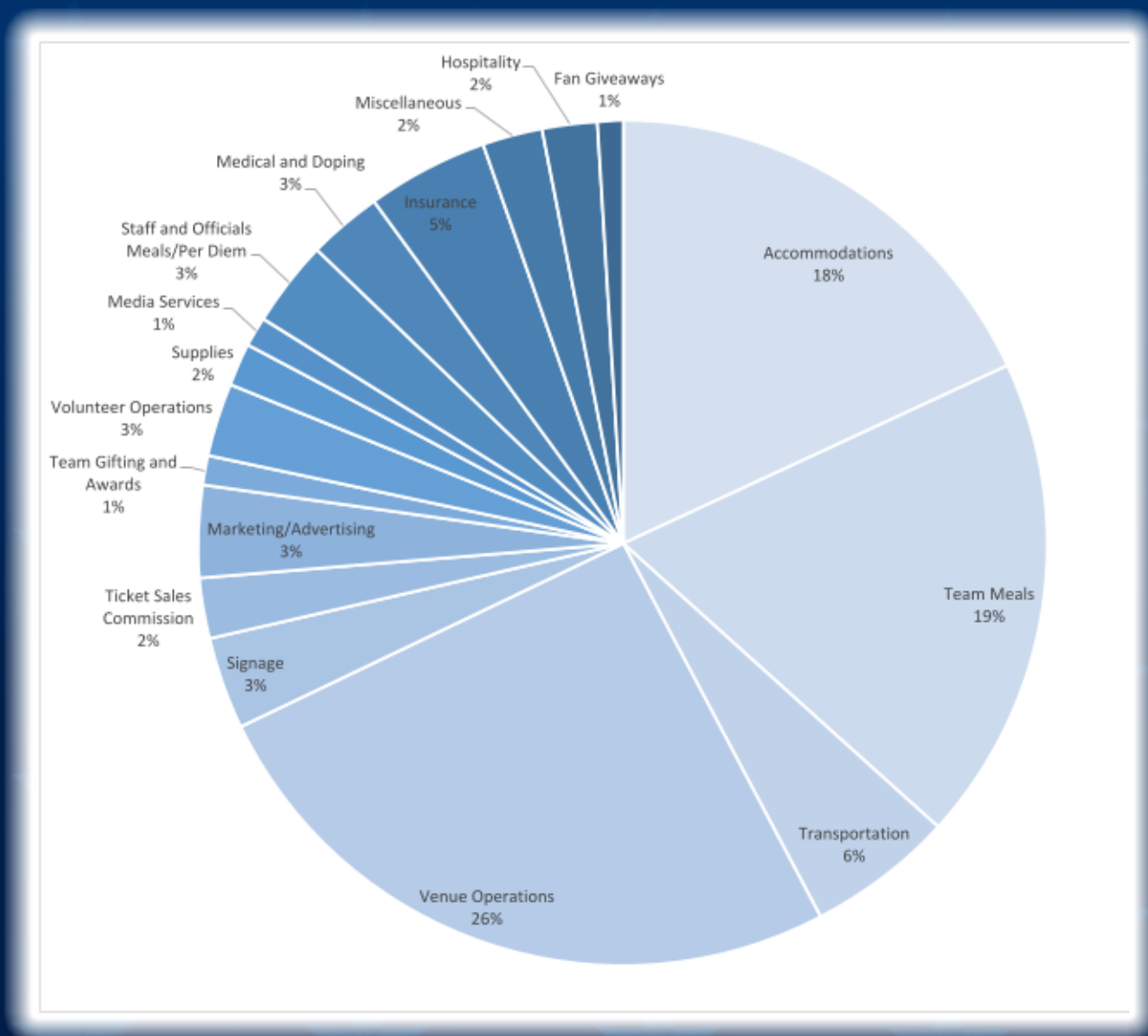
- Ticketing/facility fees
- VIP ticket, travel and hospitality packages
- Concessions and suite catering
- Hotel commissions and rebates (friends and family, fan blocks, etc.)
- Parking

# EVENT EXPENSES

## Event Budget

The event budget for the 2026 World Junior Championship is estimated at \$2,150,000, but it will vary according to local costs and conditions. A comprehensive breakdown of expenses is listed in the diagram below, with more specific information on each category in the pages to follow.

The event budget will be managed jointly between the Host-appointed liaison and USA Hockey's Director of Events throughout the planning process. All event expenses will be included in the overall event budget.





## **EVENT EXPENSES BREAKDOWN**

*For the purposes of expense tracking, the official event dates begin on December 25, 2025, and conclude on January 7, 2026.*

### **Teams, Officials and Staff Accommodations**

- 18 rooms per team (10 teams) over the official event dates
  - Teams will be responsible for extra rooms beyond the 18 provided and any early dates for pre-competition
- 28 rooms for officials over the official event dates
- Approximately 15 rooms for IIHF staff to begin Dec. 24, 2025 (full staff list to be determined three months prior to the Championship)
- Approximately 10 rooms for USA Hockey staff to begin 5-10 days prior to the start of the Championship. Final staff list and dates to be determined six months prior to the Championship.

### **Meals, Per Diem and Honorarium**

- Four (4) meals per day (breakfast, lunch, dinner, snack) for all teams at the event hotel(s) over the official event dates. The event is responsible for covering the cost of 29 persons per team.
  - Teams will cover the cost of any persons above 29 for the duration of the event, and all persons for early dates during pre-competition
- Breakfast for all officials (28), IIHF staff (15) and USA Hockey staff (10) for the duration of the event at the event hotel(s)
- Per diem for officials, IIHF staff and USA Hockey staff for lunch and dinner for the duration of the event (unless meals are provided at the venues)
- Honorarium for all officials working the event over the official event dates (approx. \$107 per official per day)

### **Transportation**

- Coach bus transportation (56-passenger) for each team upon arrival into the country and departure post-event from/to the designated airport
- Coach bus transportation (56-passenger) for all teams to cover all practices and games over the official event dates
  - Teams will cover the cost of any pre-competition transportation not including airport arrival
- Arrival and departure transportation for all officials, IIHF staff and USA Hockey staff from/to the designated airport
- Daily shuttle transportation for officials and staff to/from the venue(s) and hotels

*Final numbers of IIHF and USA Hockey staff attending will be determined in advance of the Championship.*



## **EVENT EXPENSES BREAKDOWN, CONT.**

### **Venue Operations**

- Cost to operate the venue(s) over the official event dates to include all operational expenses including, but not limited to: staffing, maintenance, power/electricity, cleaning, supplies, materials, etc.
- Hockey operations costs: ice time, laundry facilities, equipment and personnel, supplies, operations, practice pucks, etc.
- In-ice logo and dasher installation
- Game operations and game presentation staffing
- Ticketing, concessions, ushers and security staff for all games

### **Signage, Creative and Marketing/Advertising**

- All event signage to include in-bowl, concourse and outdoor
  - Dashers, in-ice logos, bench signage, concourse graphics, outdoor venue signage, community activation, etc.
- Host to create the overall branding of the event to include signage, advertising and game presentation elements
- Marketing/advertising costs associated with the event to include digital advertising, TV spots, radio, billboards, email marketing, etc.

### **Supplies**

- Locker room supplies to include tables, box fans, bottled water, personal hygiene products, rolling racks with hangers, refrigerators, bottled water, etc.
- Accreditation supplies to include printers, paper, laminating pockets, lanyards, etc.
- Carpeting for the on-ice elements of the opening ceremony and all post-game ceremonies

### **Additional Expense Categories**

- Team Gifting and Awards:
  - All participants will receive a gift bag including various event items
  - Two (2) 'Player of the Game' awards per game
- Volunteer Operations: all apparel and meals provided to volunteers, based on the final volunteer program guidelines established
- Ticket Sales Commission: incentive for ticket sales representatives to sell group and sponsor packages for the event
- Medical and Doping: EMTs and ambulances for all games, athletic training staff, anti-doping supplies and services, etc.
- Media services: supplies, F&B and equipment needed for the media workroom and mixed zone
- Hospitality: F&B provided to VIPs, scouts, sponsors, and others throughout the event

## **STAFFING AND VOLUNTEERS**

*In addition to typical venue operations and game staffing, the Host should be prepared to fill staffing and volunteer needs in the following categories:*

### **Team Hosts**

- 1-2 Team Hosts per team for the duration of the Championship. Team Hosts will serve as the liaison between the team and organizing committee and be a resource to the team throughout the event.

### **Statistics**

- One (1) local stats coordinator (can be two if there are two venues) to oversee the overall stats operations for the event including training the full stats crew. This position reports directly to the IIHF Result Manager(s) throughout the Championship.
- A minimum of nine (9) statisticians are required for each game to operate the IIHF Hydra system/assist in spotting for stats categories

### **Off-Ice Officials and Game Presentation**

- Off-ice officials positions needed: clock operator, penalty box operators, TV timeout coordinator, video goal review operator
- Game presentation to include, but not limited to: PA announcer and music/DJ, game director, promotional team, video board operator, in-game host, ceremonies coordinator, mascot, etc.

### **Team Services**

- Facilitate daily laundry services for teams and officials
- Daily restocking of bottled water, snacks and supplies to locker rooms

### **Doping Control**

- 1-2 male chaperones per game assigned, needed only for post-game
- The final testing schedule will be created by the IIHF medical staff

### **Transportation**

- Transportation coordinator
- Shuttle and/or box truck drivers

### **Accreditation**

- 1-2 persons leading up to and during the event. This includes managing the input of names and headshots, printing and laminating all credentials prior to the event, and facilitating limited accreditation needs once the event begins through the final day of competition

### **Media/Communications**

- 1-2 persons to oversee the media workroom and mixed zone operations at each venue, gather media requests during practices and games and be a resource for media for the duration of the event



## PRE-COMPETITION INFORMATION

Most, if not all, teams will travel to the U.S. earlier than the official event dates for pre-competition practices and exhibition games. Arrival dates will range from 5-10 days prior to the event. The target date to finalize arrival dates for teams is no later than six (6) months prior to the event.

Host sites are encouraged to submit a proposal for pre-competition sites in their overall bid submission that incorporates cities and communities within the region but outside of the city where the event will take place.

Pre-competition games create further opportunities to celebrate the community and boost awareness of the event taking place in the region, increase sponsorship inventory for local activation outside of the official event and generate additional revenue (tickets, concessions, parking, etc.) during exhibition games with the participating teams.

### Logistics and Details

- Sites: with the potential for 10 teams arriving early, it is recommended that anywhere from 2-4 host sites are selected to house teams, with an even number of teams at each site (to ease scheduling of exhibition games). Community-based rinks with a seating capacity of approximately 1,000-1,500 seats are recommended and encouraged.
- Practices: 1-2 per day per team (1-2 hours each), with one practice in the morning and one in the afternoon/evening on non-game days. On game days, teams would likely practice in the morning (1-2 hours).
- Games: each team will play 1-2 exhibition games during this time. USA Hockey will work with the teams to determine the exhibition game schedule well in advance of the arrival dates and determine which cities teams will be placed in.
  - USA Hockey will schedule on-ice officials for all exhibition games
  - Sites will need to provide off-ice officials and other game staffing
- Hotels, Meals and Transportation: adhere to the same guidelines listed in pages 15-16 on this document
- Locker Rooms: teams will move into the rinks and occupy locker rooms for the duration of the pre-competition dates. Other rink programming can still be scheduled outside of the teams' ice time.
- Team Services: teams will need laundry services at the rinks for the duration of these dates, or a plan in place for sites to execute team laundry services if they are determined to be off-site
- Expenses: teams will be responsible for all costs associated with pre-competition to include hotels, meals, transportation, ice time, on-ice officials, etc. Best efforts should be made to keep team costs low.
- Move Day: Host will provide personnel and secure box trucks to move teams from pre-competition locations to the event venue(s)



# TOP TAKEAWAYS

## 2026 IIHF WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP RFP



### By The Numbers

- 10 countries
- 28 officials
- 1 host region
- 250 players
- 30 event staff
- 100s of volunteers
- 120 team staff
- 2 ice sheets
- 1 world champion

### Event Dates

Official event practices will begin on Dec. 25, 2025, with games starting Dec. 26 and the Gold Medal Game taking place on Jan. 6, 2026. Teams will arrive anywhere from 5-10 days early in the region for pre-competition practices and games.

### Economic Impact

Calculated using the Sports Tourism Index, this event is estimated to generate \$75.5M+ in total spending. Taking into account only event participants, a minimum of 6,000 room nights will be utilized (but likely more) with approximately \$60K in lodging tax.

### Hotels, Meals and Transportation

Each team will require a minimum of 18 rooms but likely a range of 23-28 rooms per night, four meals per day and daily coach bus transportation to practices and games. Teams will be in the region for the event anywhere from 15-22 days.





## APPENDIX A

### Sample Game Schedule

Below is a sample game schedule created using the guidelines in the IIHF Championship Regulations. The preliminary game schedule will be created by USA Hockey based on the venue(s), final 2025 seeding and broadcast, with the final schedule approved by the IIHF and all participating federations.

#	Date	Time	Home & Away	Venue
1	Fri. Dec 26	12:00	CZE - LAT	Arena 2
2		14:00	CAN - FIN	Arena 1
3		16:00	GER - SWE	Arena 2
4		18:00	AUT - USA	Arena 1
5	Sat. Dec 27	14:00	SUI - GER	Arena 2
6		18:00	SVK - CAN	Arena 1
7	Sun. Dec 28	12:00	LAT - SUI	Arena 2
8		14:00	FIN - AUT	Arena 1
9		16:00	SWE - CZE	Arena 2
10		18:00	USA - SVK	Arena 1
11	Mon. Dec 29	14:00	GER - LAT	Arena 2
12		18:00	CAN - USA	Arena 1
13	Tues. Dec 30	12:00	CZE - GER	Arena 2
14		14:00	FIN - SVK	Arena 1
15		16:00	SWE - SUI	Arena 2
16		18:00	AUT - CAN	Arena 1
17	Weds. Dec 31	12:00	SUI - CZE	Arena 2
18		14:00	SVK - AUT	Arena 1
19		16:00	LAT - SWE	Arena 2
20		18:00	USA - FIN	Arena 1
	Thurs. Jan 1		Day Off	
21	Fri. Jan 2	12:00	Relegation 1	Arena 1
22		14:00	Quarterfinal 1	Arena 2
23		16:00	Quarterfinal 2	Arena 1
24		18:00	Quarterfinal 3	Arena 2
25		20:00	Quarterfinal 4	Arena 1
	Sat. Jan 3		Day Off	
26	Sun. Jan 4	12:00	Relegation 2*	Arena 1
27		16:00	Semifinal 1	Arena 1
28		20:00	Semifinal 2	Arena 1
29	Mon. Jan 5	12:00	Relegation 3*	Arena 1
30		16:00	Bronze Medal Game	Arena 1
31		20:00	Gold Medal Game	Arena 1

\*The relegation series might transition to only one game by the time of hosting in 2026



## APPENDIX B

### Sample Practice Schedule

Below is a sample practice schedule over a 3-day period created using the guidelines in the IIHF Championship Regulations. The final practice schedule will be based upon the game schedule and ice availability, with final approval from the IIHF and participating federations. Teams receive one half-hour of practice ice on game days and one hour of practice ice on non-game days.

Date	Time	Team	Venue
Thurs. Dec 25*	11:00 - 12:00	GER	Arena 2
	11:00 - 12:00	AUT	Arena 1
	12:15 - 13:15	SUI	Arena 2
	12:15 - 13:15	FIN	Arena 1
	13:30 - 14:30	CZE	Arena 2
	13:30 - 14:30	USA	Arena 1
	14:45 - 15:45	SWE	Arena 2
	14:45 - 15:45	CAN	Arena 1
	16:00 - 17:00	LAT	Arena 2
	16:00 - 17:00	SVK	Arena 1
	17:15 - 18:15	Officials	Arena 1
Fri. Dec 26	8:00 - 8:30	Officials	Arena 1
	8:00 - 8:30	CZE/LAT	Arena 2
	8:45 - 9:15	FIN	Arena 1
	8:45 - 9:15	SWE	Arena 2
	9:30 - 10:00	CAN	Arena 1
	9:30 - 10:00	GER	Arena 2
	10:15 - 10:45	USA	Arena 1
	11:00 - 11:30	AUT	Arena 1
	11:00 - 12:00	SUI	Arena 3
	12:15 - 13:15	SVK	Arena 3
Sat. Dec 27	8:00 - 8:30	Officials	Arena 1
	8:00 - 8:30	GER	Arena 2
	8:45 - 9:15	CAN	Arena 1
	8:45 - 9:15	SUI	Arena 2
	9:30 - 10:00	SVK	Arena 1
	9:30 - 10:30	LAT	Arena 2
	10:15 - 11:15	AUT	Arena 1
	10:45 - 11:45	SWE	Arena 2
	11:00 - 12:00	CZE	Arena 3
	11:30 - 12:30	FIN	Arena 1
	12:45 - 13:45	USA	Arena 1

*\*Practices on the first official day depend on team arrivals*



## APPENDIX C

### Team Meal Requirements

Host hotel(s) must have the ability to provide four meals per day (breakfast, lunch, dinner, snack) to each team (approximately 350-400 people total).

Athletes require more food than most hotel guests. The host hotel(s) must ensure that an appropriate amount of food is available, as well as ensure that the selection accommodates cultural differences.

Once a menu template is created with the host hotel(s), teams will be given the opportunity to make reasonable changes and/or additions to the menu to accommodate regional and cultural food differences.

Host hotel(s) must have the ability to accommodate the different schedules of each team, given that all teams are practicing and playing games at varying times throughout the event.

### Preparation Considerations

- Each meal should include a carbohydrate source and protein source
- Serve at least 2 entrée choices
- Serve at least 2 carbohydrate choices; to include pasta
- Self-serve foods should be available at all meals and snacks (ex. breads, fruits, salad buffets, sandwich fillings, soup, etc.)
- A salad and soup should be served at every meal (lunch and dinner)
- Breakfasts should include hot and cold buffet
- Snacks will vary based on the day

### Sample Menu - Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

Breakfast	Lunch	Dinner
Bread selection	Salad buffet	Salad buffet
Fruit selection	Fruit selection	Fruit selection
Cereal selection	Bread selection	Bread selection
Oatmeal	Minestrone soup	Vegetable broth soup
Scrambled eggs	Pasta (spaghetti)	Pasta (fettuccine)
Potatoes	Baked chicken breast	Meat marinara sauce (on side)
Ham	Broiled white fish	Pork tenderloin
	White rice	Sweet potato wedges
	Steamed broccoli	Brown rice
	Sautéed green beans	Boiled mixed vegetables
		Steamed asparagus



## APPENDIX D

### Sample Bus Schedule

The chart below is a 5-day schedule from the 2022 IIHF U18 Women's World Championship in Madison, Wisconsin. The colors designate shared buses.

DATE	Bus	To Arena	Practice Time	Team	Arena	To Hotel	Game Time	To Arena	To Hotel	
Sunday, June 5	1	10:40	12:00 - 13:00	SWE	Arena 1	14:00				
		13:10	14:30 - 15:30	CAN	Arena 1	16:30				
	2	11:20	13:30 - 13:30	SVK	Arena 2	14:30				
		13:50	15:00 - 16:00	SUI	Arena 2	17:00				
	3	11:55	13:15 - 14:15	FIN	Arena 1	15:15				
		14:25	15:45 - 16:45	USA	Arena 1	17:45				
	4	12:35	13:45 - 14:45	GER	Arena 2	15:45				
		15:05	16:15 - 17:15	CZE	Arena 2	18:15				
Monday, June 6	1	7:40	9:00 - 9:30	FIN	Arena 1	10:30	16:00	13:40	19:30	
		9:10	10:30 - 11:00	USA	Arena 1	12:00	20:00	18:40	23:30	
	2	7:50	9:00 - 9:30	CZE	Arena 2	10:30	16:00	13:50	19:30	
		9:20	10:30 - 11:00	GER	Arena 2	12:00	20:00	18:50	23:30	
	3	8:25	9:45 - 10:15	CAN	Arena 1	11:15	16:00	13:40	19:30	
		9:55	11:15 - 11:45	SWE	Arena 1	12:45	20:00	18:40	23:30	
	4	8:35	9:45 - 10:15	SVK	Arena 2	11:15	16:00	13:50	19:30	
		10:05	11:15 - 11:45	SUI	Arena 2	12:45	20:00	18:50	23:30	
	Tuesday, June 7	1	7:40	9:00 - 9:30	SWE	Arena 1	10:30	16:00	13:40	19:30
			9:10	10:30 - 11:00	FIN	Arena 1	12:00	20:00	18:40	23:30
2		7:50	9:00 - 9:30	GER	Arena 2	10:30	16:00	13:50	19:30	
		9:20	10:30 - 11:00	SVK	Arena 2	12:00	20:00	18:50	23:30	
3		8:25	9:45 - 10:15	CAN	Arena 1	11:15	16:00	13:40	19:30	
		9:55	11:15 - 11:45	USA	Arena 1	12:45	20:00	18:40	23:30	
4		8:35	9:45 - 10:15	CZE	Arena 2	11:15	16:00	13:50	19:30	
		10:05	11:15 - 11:45	SUI	Arena 2	12:45	20:00	18:50	23:30	
Weds., June 8	1	8:40	10:00 - 11:00	SWE	Arena 1	12:00				
		11:10	12:30 - 13:30	CAN	Arena 1	14:30				
	2	8:50	10:00 - 11:00	SUI	Arena 2	12:00				
		11:20	12:30 - 13:30	SVK	Arena 2	14:30				
	3	9:55	11:15 - 12:15	FIN	Arena 1	13:15				
		12:25	13:45 - 14:45	USA	Arena 1	15:45				
	4	10:05	11:15 - 12:15	CZE	Arena 2	13:15				
		12:35	13:45 - 14:45	GER	Arena 2	15:45				
Thursday, June 9	1	7:40	9:00 - 9:30	SWE	Arena 1	10:30	16:00	13:40	19:30	
		9:10	10:30 - 11:00	CAN	Arena 1	12:00	20:00	18:40	23:30	
	2	7:50	9:00 - 9:30	SUI	Arena 2	10:30	16:00	13:50	19:30	
		9:20	10:30 - 11:00	SVK	Arena 2	12:00	20:00	18:50	23:30	
	3	8:25	9:45 - 10:15	FIN	Arena 1	11:15	16:00	13:40	19:30	
		9:55	11:15 - 11:45	USA	Arena 1	12:45	20:00	18:40	23:30	
	4	8:35	9:45 - 10:15	CZE	Arena 2	11:15	16:00	13:50	19:30	
		10:05	11:15 - 11:45	GER	Arena 2	12:45	20:00	18:50	23:30	



## APPENDIX E

### Room Block Details

The room blocks for each team consist of two different parts:

- 18 rooms per team from December 25, 2025 through January 7, 2026 that will be contracted with the hotel
- Rooms needed prior to December 25, 2025 and all rooms above the 18 provided during the official tournament dates. These rooms can be contracted, however, they must have flexible terms.

The breakdown of these rooms is listed in the table below. Each team will be required to submit their room needs four (4) months in advance of the Championship with the flexibility to make small changes within that timeframe. Exact dates for staff will be confirmed six (6) months in advance.

### Teams (10 total):

Pre-Competition:

	15-Dec	16-Dec	17-Dec	18-Dec	19-Dec	20-Dec	21-Dec	22-Dec	23-Dec	24-Dec
Single	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100
Double	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120

Official Event Dates:

	25-Dec	26-Dec	27-Dec	28-Dec	29-Dec	30-Dec	31-Dec
Single	60	60	60	60	60	60	60
	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
Double	120	120	120	120	120	120	120

	1-Jan	2-Jan	3-Jan	4-Jan	5-Jan	6-Jan
Single	60	60	60	60	60	60
	40	40	40	40	40	40
Double	120	120	120	120	120	120

The red highlight denotes additional team rooms (beyond the minimum of 18) that should be held with flexibility.

### Officials, IIHF Staff and USA Hockey Staff

All officials, IIHF staff and USA Hockey staff will require single rooms.

	14-Dec	15-Dec	16-Dec	17-Dec	18-Dec	19-Dec	20-Dec	21-Dec
USAH	6	6	6	6	6	6	10	10
IIHF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Officials	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	22-Dec	23-Dec	24-Dec	25-Dec	26-Dec	27-Dec	28-Dec	29-Dec
USAH	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
IIHF	4	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Officials	0	0	28	28	28	28	28	28

	30-Dec	31-Dec	1-Jan	2-Jan	3-Jan	4-Jan	5-Jan	6-Jan
USAH	10	10	14	14	14	14	14	14
IIHF	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Officials	28	28	28	28	28	28	28	28

