

Definition

- The FIH World League is a new competition that will start in 2012 and be played every two years.
- Starting with the FIH World Cup 2014, the World League will be used to decide which teams will qualify alongside the Continental Champions and Hosts (subject to IOC approval for the Olympic Games) for future Olympic Games and FIH World Cups

Competition

- FIH will invite members to enter and offer to host Rounds 1 and 2 in April in odd years
- The competition will be played over 4 rounds
 - ❖ **Round 1** will be local – not necessarily within a country's own continent
 - ❖ The number of Round 1 tournaments will depend on the number and location of entries.
 - ❖ Formats for Round 1 tournaments will probably be different in different continents.
 - ❖ **Round 2** will be regional – generally more than one continent.
 - ❖ There will be 4 Round 2 tournaments, with 6 teams in each. The format will be a single pool.
 - ❖ **Round 3** – the semi-finals; will be global.
 - ❖ There will be 2 Round 3 tournaments with of 8 teams divided into 2 pools of 4 with classification matches
 - ❖ **Round 4** – the finals
 - ❖ One tournament of 8 teams divided into 2 pools of 4 with full classification matches
- At the time of seeking entries, teams ranked 1 – 8 in the FIH World ranking will be given a bye to round 3; teams ranked 9 – 16 will be given a bye to round 2.

Principles

- The competition is open to all members of FIH.
- To encourage entries, FIH will seek to ensure that costs to hosts and participants are kept as low as possible in Round 1.

Qualification for Olympic Games and FIH World Cup

- From 2014 Olympic Games and FIH World Cup qualification will be –
 - ❖ The Host (subject to IOC agreement for Olympic Games)
 - ❖ The 5 Continental Champions
 - ❖ 6 / 7 from FIH World League (depending on Host also being Continental Champion)

Dates

- FIH will seek to try and ensure tournaments, particularly Rounds 3 and 4, are played within FIH windows (December – February and June – August). However, there will be times when this is not practicable.
- From 2013/14, generally
 - ❖ Round 1 will be played between June / August
 - ❖ Round 2 will be played between December / February
 - ❖ Round 3 will be played between May / July
 - ❖ Continental Championships will be played after Round 3
 - ❖ Round 4 will be played from September onwards

World Ranking Points

- All teams playing in FIH World League will gain World Ranking Points
- Because FIH World League will replace the qualifying tournaments for Olympic Games and FIH World Cup, there will be an adjustment to the number of World Ranking Points to be gained from those events from 2014.