

Role Description

GB Hockey President



Introduction

Great Britain Hockey Limited (GBHL) is a membership organisation comprising the three home nations (HNs) of England, Scotland and Wales and is the body responsible for delivering Great Britain's success at the Olympic Games and other international events where the teams compete as GB.

The Board operates under the Great Britain Framework Agreement that the HNs signed in 2006. The Framework's main function is to provide GB Primacy that puts the athlete at its heart to ensure that administrators and coaches provide all GB athletes with the best possible chance of success at the highest level in hockey – the Olympic stage.

In order to fulfil its responsibilities, every four years GB Hockey appoints a "Nominated Country" (NC) from the 3 HNs. The Board delegates to the NC complete responsibility to lead both business and performance activity of GB Hockey and ensure GB Primacy. The "Non Nominated Countries" (NNCs) have committed to assist the NC in the performance of its obligations and ensure GB Primacy. GB Hockey maintains oversight of the responsibilities delegated to the NC.

GB President

The GB President is both the chair of and the senior representative of GBHL. The President is therefore responsible for all the policies of the company and initiatives taken by GBHL. The President will, at the invitation of the GBHL Board, act as the official representative of GBHL.

The President will chair all GBHL Board meetings unless unavailable. They will be responsible for working with the Chief Operating Officer (CEO of the NC) to ensure that appropriate agendas are set, meetings are held in a business-like fashion, and that minutes are recorded and circulated to all Board members.

The President acts as head of delegation of GB squads at official international events at home or abroad as appropriate, including the Olympic Games. The President also acts as host, on behalf of GBHL, at international events staged in this country in which GB competes. They will work with the GB Chief Operating Officer to ensure that such duties are clearly divided between them.

To enable the President to be fully briefed on the performance of the nominated country they would be expected to attend Board meetings of the nominated country or at the very least the performance related items on such agendas.

The President is responsible for ensuring statutory matters are adhered to by GBHL officers, including compliance with the UK Code for Sports Governance and the GB Hockey Framework.

GB Board

As much of GBHL's work is delegated to the NC the role of the GBHL Board is to:

- Toward the end of an Olympic cycle, call for applications for NC status and to appoint the NC for the following Olympic cycle
- Annually undertake a formal review of the performance of each home nation but particularly the NC and their delivery of the GB Performance Plan
- Protect GB Primacy at all times and manage the relationships between the three HNs
- Fulfil GBHL statutory obligations including UK Code for Sports Governance.
- Oversee and ensure that the Olympic performance cycle review takes place in accordance with the GB Framework.

GB Hockey's vision is: *Securing sustainable Olympic Games podium success*

The key priorities for GB Hockey are:

1. Monitor / check and challenge the NC and NNCs on the delivery of their performance plans.
 - o Ensure they are delivering against the GB Framework Agreement
 - o Ensure the performance plans are integrated in the GB performance plan (including progress on talent development and elite coaching).
2. Ensure the Olympic performance cycle review takes place every four years in accordance with the GB Framework.
3. Maintain effective communication
 - o Advocating GB primacy through the Home Nation representative on the GB Board
 - o Developing an effective route to hear the athlete voice
 - o Facilitating effective relationships across GB.
4. Identify, monitor and manage key risks in relation to GB achieving its vision.

Knowledge and experience

Essential:

- A strong understanding of the British sporting landscape, including the 'political' environment and international relations
- Practical experience of chairing decision-making committees/bodies
- Experience of building relationships and influencing decision-makers at a senior level, particularly in relation to external bodies

Desirable:

- Previous Board experience at Chair level or at senior NED Board level
- Knowledge of elite team sport, preferably hockey
- A knowledge and sound understanding of the governance framework and issues applicable to not-for-profit organisations
- Success in building, protecting and enhancing the reputation of an organisation with external bodies, the media, customers and the public

In addition to the knowledge and experience above, the successful candidate will be expected to possess the following skills and qualities

- Facilitates and encourages active engagement and appropriate challenge by all Board or Committee members in strategic matters and decision making
- Is able to sum up complex issues concisely
- Maintains a constructive and diplomatic style; promotes a culture of integrity, respect and collegiate approach
- Demonstrates robust preparation and the willingness to commit the time necessary to effectively deliver Board responsibilities
- Exhibits the courage to disagree, probe and challenge dispassionately with the ability to manage healthy conflict
- Builds trust through promoting constructive and open relationships
- Is open to personal feedback and constantly seeks to improve individual contribution and overall effectiveness of the Board
- Demonstrates sound business ethics; shows consistency with principles, values and behaviour
- Articulate communication and public speaking skills, with the confidence to engage groups of all sizes

Summary

The President fulfils a vital representative role for the sport, particularly with regard to the national athlete squads. The role requires dedication and a passion for the sport.

Time Commitment

This is four-year appointment, and the duties require approximately 15-20 days per annum, though this is likely to be more in the fourth year of the Olympic cycle. Some travel may be required to events especially when GB is playing at home but also to watch home nation events.

This is a voluntary non-executive director position and out of pocket expenses will be covered by GB Hockey.

HOW TO APPLY:

Please submit your CV detailing your experience and achievements and a covering letter highlighting the skills and qualities you can bring to the role to: HR@englandhockey.co.uk.

Closing Date: Midday on Sunday 14th December 2025

Interviews will take place on Wednesday 7th January 2026 in London

Second interviews planned for Wednesday 21st January 2026 if required

GB Hockey is committed to the principles of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and to recruiting a board that is representative of society. We encourage applicants from the widest range of backgrounds and are particularly keen to welcome applications from under-represented groups who can bring diversity of thought and new perspectives.