

# Field hockey – Pakistan call Scotland ‘home’



Action at Glasgow's National Hockey Centre between Grange and Edinburgh University. The venue will now host Pakistan. Picture John Preece

Pakistan men will play their home matches of the International Hockey Federation's (FiH) Hockey Pro League at the Glasgow National Hockey Centre.

The Pakistan Hockey Federation (PHF) was looking for a neutral venue with a track record of delivering world-class hockey events for their home matches and found Glasgow as the ideal location.

Glasgow's National Hockey Centre, a 2014 Commonwealth Games legacy venue, will now host Pakistan's home matches in the tournament from 2019 until 2023.

The men's FiH Hockey Pro League will feature Pakistan, England/GB, Australia, India, Argentina, Belgium, Germany, New Zealand, and the Netherlands, and will run from January until June each year from 2019 for a minimum of four years.

The competition is a new initiative where the world's top teams play each other in a series of televised globally home and away matches, leading to Olympic and World Cup qualification.

Pakistan will also play five matches annually against Scotland men at venues across the country as part of the agreement.

There will also be the opportunity for visiting teams to play competitive matches against Scotland as part of their

preparation for matches against Pakistan.

Scottish Hockey and the PHF will also work together on community projects in Scotland to develop hockey within the Scottish-Pakistani community. This will offer a significant boost in growing the sport in Scotland at a grassroots level.

There will also be opportunities for Scotland's umpires and officials to take part in matches across Scotland, officiating some of the best international teams in the world.