

## Competition rules

### ✓ Purpose of the Grant Thornton Inclusion Award

The Grant Thornton Inclusion Award honours Belgian hockey clubs that make an exceptional commitment to inclusion and diversity. The award recognizes initiatives that contribute to a more accessible, diverse, and inclusive hockey community.

### ✓ Who can participate?

Any Belgian hockey club that actively works on inclusion and diversity can participate. Clubs with projects or initiatives around themes such as G-hockey, gender equality, cultural diversity, or poverty reduction are eligible.

### ✓ How to register?

Clubs can register via the online registration form that will be made available after Golden Stick Night 2025 on August 31. The form asks for an explanation of the club's inclusion initiatives and optionally allows supporting material to be added.

### ✓ Selection procedure

After the registration period, a jury will conduct an initial screening. Selected clubs will be invited for an online interview for a detailed screening. Based on the scores and jury deliberation, a shortlist of nominees will be drawn up. The final winner will be chosen by Grant Thornton and the Belgian Hockey Federation.

### ✓ Evaluation criteria

Clubs will be assessed on their active commitment to inclusion, accessibility and involvement, measurable impact, support and sustainability, policy and vision on inclusion, and cooperation with external partners.

### ✓ Timeline

- Launch of registrations: September 1, 2025
- Registration deadline: March 13, 2026
- Interviews & jury: April-May 2026
- Announcement of nominees: June 8, 2026
- Announcement of winner: Golden Stick Night 2026

### ✓ Prize

The winner of the Grant Thornton Inclusion Award 2026 will receive:

- Official recognition as 'most inclusive hockey club of 2026'
- An exclusive label for communication and promotion
- Visibility through the channels of Grant Thornton and Hockey Belgium

### Contact information

For more information or questions about the Grant Thornton Inclusion Award and the registration process, you can contact Manon Withaegels via [marketing@be.gt.com](mailto:marketing@be.gt.com)