

FRANZ REINDL

IIHF COUNCIL ELECTION 2026 · CANDIDATE

INTRODUCTION

The IIHF has navigated challenging years, making principled decisions in the best interest of our sport. Yet there are areas where we must do better. The years ahead will demand the same effort, if not more — and only together can we secure the future of international ice hockey for the next generation. The key areas are outlined below; a detailed description will follow in my manifesto.

*My objective is to contribute to a **strong, stable and future-oriented Council**, drawing on five decades of experience as a **player, coach, manager, World Championship organizer, federation president and Council member**. I am ready to serve in a leading role where I can add the most value for the IIHF.*

UNITY & PARTNERSHIP

- Reunite the perceptible divided IIHF family and rebuild trust.
- Maintain open, transparent and regular dialogue with MNAs, leagues, clubs, players and all stakeholders.
- Establish a standing dialogue with the IOC and the NHL/NHLPA on Olympic participation.
- Build a long-term strategic partnership with the NHL/NHLPA — covering the Olympic Games, the World Cup of Hockey and joint market growth.
- Strengthen marketing and commercial partnerships.

COMPETITIONS & ATHLETES

- Secure the Men's World Championship as our financial pillar.
- Strengthen the championship structure, with openness to new formats.
- Enhance athlete conditions and the player experience.

GROWTH & SUSTAINABILITY

- Support the growth of emerging hockey nations.
- Prioritize the growth of women's hockey as a key market opportunity.
- Secure youth hockey as the foundation for long-term development.
- Expand the IIHF's arena modernization program worldwide.
- Build sustainable, environmentally responsible operations.

GOVERNANCE & INTEGRITY

- Ensure full compliance with the IIHF Statutes, Bylaws and Ethics & Integrity Code.
- Maintain the right balance between the Council's strategic role and the Office's operational role.
- Leverage the diverse strengths and expertise of all Council members.

ABOVE ALL

Protect the **long-term stability, integrity and global development** of international ice hockey.

Experience · Respect · Communication · Teamwork

— what will guide us forward.