



The ISVT Journal

ALL THE HOCKEY THAT'S FIT TO PRINT — SINCE 2016



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GOLD, GOALS AND OLD FRIENDS: THE NINTH ISVT DELIVERS

*Three days of sunshine, 180 matches and 765 players from nine nations.
Once again Tilburg felt like the centre of the veterans hockey universe.*



Serious business under a flawless May sky: the umpires were, as always, here to help.

TILBURG — They came from all corners of Europe: from the Scottish Highlands, the English shires and the Welsh valleys, from Paris and Berlin, from Spain, Italy and Belgium, and of course from every province of the Netherlands. On the first weekend of May, 51 teams — 37 men's and 14 women's sides — turned the grounds of HC Tilburg into what it has become every spring since 2016: a village of friends who happen to play hockey.

For three days, 555 gentlemen and 210 ladies of the super-veteran persuasion contested 180 matches across seven pitches, kept in line — gently but firmly — by a flying squad of 47 umpires. In six poules, from the Women O50 & O55 to the evergreen Men O75, the hockey was competitive, the third half legendary, and the applause never far away.

And the weather? It simply refused to misbehave: a magnificent spring sun shone on the Oude Warande from first push-back to final whistle, filling the terraces and colouring the faces. By Sunday evening, tired legs and wide smiles told the whole story.

All results and final standings: www.isvt.eu/final-standings-2026

BY THE NUMBERS

- 51** teams (37 men, 14 women)
- 9** nations
- 765** players — 555 men, 210 women
- 180** matches in 3 days
- 7** pitches
- 6** poules
- 47** umpires

Netherlands • Belgium • Germany •
France • Spain • Italy • England •
Scotland • Wales

ROLL OF HONOUR 2026

The winners of all six poules, as recorded by the tournament office.

Poule	Winner
Women O50 & O55	Dutch Masters W O55
Women O60	Alliance Women Blue O60
Men O60	Archangels Men O60
Men O65	England Tigers Men O65
Men O70	Dutch Lions Men O70 A
Men O75	Dutch Lions Men O75 A



Medals and smiles at the prize-giving.

BERNARD VERBUNT CHALLENGE CUP: A SALUTE TO THE LX TEAMS

The moment of the prize-giving ceremony belonged not to one team but to a whole family of them. The **Bernard Verbunt Challenge Cup 2026** was awarded to **all LX teams**, in recognition of their many years of loyal participation in the ISVT. The cup was presented by Pepe Borell, vice-president of the WGMA.

Year after year, the men in the famous LX colours have crossed the North Sea to Tilburg — in the O60, O65, O70 and O75 poules alike — bringing fine hockey, fair play and impeccable after-match manners. This year the LX Men O75 even added silver to the family collection. The cup that carries the name of our co-founder could hardly find worthier hands.



The Cup in happy LX hands. Photo: Geert Brekelmans

SATURDAY NIGHT: THREE COURSES, TWO SHOWS AND ONE 14-YEAR-OLD DJ

On Saturday evening the clubhouse traded hockey sticks for white tablecloths. Tilburg caterer **De Commanderie** — whose motto 'Creating Memories' might as well be the ISVT's — served a delicious three-course dinner built on fresh produce from its own Brabant countryside.

Between the courses, **RooxLive**, self-proclaimed 'creator of special moments', proved its title with a show that had the room singing along. And when the plates were cleared, the youngest artist of the weekend took over: **DJ Mick**, fourteen years young, kept a dance floor full of super-veterans moving until late — a 60-year age gap has rarely sounded so good.



Swaying along with RooxLive. Photo: Geert Brekelmans

2027: THE TENTH — SAVE THE DATE

Nine editions, one big hockey family. Next year the ISVT turns ten — and that jubilee will be celebrated the way only Tilburg can: more hockey, more music, more friends, more memories. This is the one you cannot miss. Gather your team and claim your spot — Tilburg is waiting.

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