In Egypt, the field hockey, played even before Christ: there are two men playing with the hockey sticks and ball-like object on the pyramid of that period in the valleys of the Nile. The diggings show that this game was familiar to the residents of the Ancient Greece. The latter historical records show that hockey was known in Japan, South America, at the Aztecs and the Red Indians. The game got the modern development in England in the early nineteenth century. Then it was acknowledged in Belgium, Germany, France, USA, Netherlands, New Zealand, India, South Africa, Australia, and Japan.

The field hockey is one of the first sport games which was included in the program of the Olympic Games of 1908 (men), and women in 1980 in Moscow.

The International Ice Hockey Federation / IICF /-was established in 1924.

Today, the members of the International Ice Hockey Federation / IIHF / are the National federations of 143 countries and the European Ice Hockey Federation / EIHF / includes 45 countries.

The first attempts of some clubs in Russia are tapped into the modern field hockey dates from 1912. However, they had not met with success, because they were not supported by either majority of clubs or government agencies. Then there were two more short-time and unsuccessful attempts to embark on work on the popularization of this sport in our country - in 1933-1934 and 1954-1956.

The team members on the field ball hockey of the Central House of the Soviet Army came forward with an initiative in the 1950-s to popularize the games. In July 18, 1954 in Moscow, the demonstrative meeting of the Army athletes on the field hockey took part in the in the park of the Central House of the Soviet Army, devoted to the Day of the All-Union Sportsman. In 1955-1956 the All-Union tournaments on the field hockey were hold. In 1956 it was assumed even to send the national team to the Olympic Games in Melbourne.

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In October 26, 1969 the United Federation of the field ball hockey with a ball and on the grass of the Soviet Union was unanimously got into the member of the International Federation at the meeting of the Board of IIHF.

1977 was the year of the first great success of the national team of the USSR: in Riga our players won the qualifying tournament of the III<sup>rd</sup> European Championship, gaining the right to play in the final tournament in Hanover (1978) at the Intercontinental Cup in Rome, where they won the bronze medal.

In 1975 in the USSR there were the first women's teams in the field hockey. Since 1976 they have been organized as well as in Moscow and the Moscow Region.

In 1979 the 1st USSR Champions among the women's teams. The team "Andizhanka" (Andijan city) became the champions, the silver medalists were the athletes from the Moscow Region - "Spartak" (the Moscow Region).

After the bronze medals of the Olympic Games 1980 our hockey players won the third place at the World Championships in Buenos Aires (1981), confirming that their successful debut at the Moscow Olympics was not accidental.