

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA
WATER POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS
RULES AND GUIDELINES

Note: These Rules and Guidelines should be read in conjunction with the School Sport Australia Constitution and School Sport Australia Policies and Guidelines.

1.0 COMPETITION RULES

1.1 Rules of the Game

The School Sport Australia Water Polo Championships is to be played annually and run according to FINA rules unless otherwise specified by these Rules and Guidelines.

1.1.1 Championship games should run no longer than five (5) school days, being Monday to Friday.

1.1.2 Where possible high profile boys and girls round robin games should be played at night to allow the local community to attend.

1.1.3 The School Sport Australia Water Polo Championships are to be held in the second or third week in May.

1.2 Player Participation

A statement from the Principal of the Secondary school that each player attends must be presented on or before the Managers' Meeting. The statement shall verify eligibility. States/Territories competing must present full team documentation (bona fides) to the National Secretary or host state at the Managers/Officials meeting prior to the commencement of the Championships.

1.3 Team Documentation (See School Sport Australia General Policies)

1.3.1 Age eligibility
Players shall be full time students at a registered Secondary School in the State or Territory that they are representing and under the age of eighteen years as at 31 December in the year of competing.

1.3.2 The ACT shall have an age dispensation of twelve (12) months.

1.3.3 All States and Territories of the Commonwealth of Australia shall be eligible to enter.

1.4 Team Size

1.4.1 Teams shall be limited to a maximum of thirteen (13) players,

2.0 COMPETITION STRUCTURE

2.1 Draw

2.1.1 These shall be done by the host state using a full 'round robin' format.

2.1.2 If there are only four (4) states/territories competing then a double round robin may be applied to the draw.

2.1.3 Following the round games 1v4, 2v3 semi-finals, and winners to advance to the final. Losers to advance to play-off for 3rd and 4th. Play-offs for 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th will also take place.

2.1.4 The last day of competition will comprise the games deciding positions 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th place only and games will start at 8.00am.

2.2 Points Allocation

2.2.1 Win 3, Draw 2, Loss 1.

2.2.2 At the end of the rounds if two teams are equal, the team who won the game between the two teams during the round shall receive the higher position

2.2.3 At the end of the rounds if more than two teams are equal it goes to goal averages between the teams involved

2.2.4 After this the FINA guidelines are followed.

2.3 Match Times

2.3.1 The times required for all matches in the Championships will be in accordance with FINA Rules (4 x 8 minutes actual time), where possible.

2.3.2 There will be no time outs to be called in round games

2.4 Timekeeping

Timekeeping facilities as per FINA requirements.

2.5 Scoring

As per FINA laws

3.0 FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT

3.1 Playing Area

As per FINA laws. Maximum to be used.

3.2 Equipment

As per FINA laws.

4.0 MATCH OFFICIALS

4.1 Referees

4.1.1 For all Championships, the host state shall provide Level 1, or higher, referees where possible.

4.1.2 Each state is to have a designated referee currently rated as a minimum Level 1 referee within their team officials who may be called upon to officiate at the Championships.
In addition, each state is to be requested to include a qualified referee to the touring party, who is additional to the touring party and the appointed coach and managers.

4.1.3 Where possible, neutral referees should be appointed to all matches.

4.1.4 The AWPI will provide a Chairperson of referees whose role will be to organise refereeing duties, offer guidance to officials refereeing and grade the referees at the championships. In the event of this person not being able to be present at the championships, daily referee organization shall be the responsibility of the host state.

4.1.5 Student referees - as per School Sport Australia Policy.

4.1.6 If necessary, the host state may include the cost of referees in the Event Budget.

4.2 Student Officials

4.2.1 Student Officials will, during the 'round robin' games of the Championships, be rostered to perform the duties of goal judge, timekeeper and secretary.

4.2.2. The students rostered as timekeepers must be supervised by one of their own team officials at all times.

4.2.3 For semi-finals involving positions 1st to 4th, and for all finals games, the duties of goal judge, time keeper and secretary will not be performed by student officials.

5.0 REPRESENTATIVE TOURING TEAMS AND SELECTION PROCEDURES

5.1 Representative Teams – Internal Tours

- 5.1.1 A team of thirteen (13) unranked players will be chosen.
- 5.1.2 The representative team officials, once elected, shall determine the final size of the touring party.
- 5.1.3 Five (5) reserves will be chosen and ranked in their appropriate playing positions.

5.2 Representative Teams – External Tours

- 5.2.1 A team of fifteen (15) unranked players will be chosen in their appropriate playing positions.
- 5.2.2 Eleven (11) reserves will be chosen and ranked in their appropriate playing positions.

5.3 Selection Procedures

- 5.3.1 Selectors for representative teams to consist of:
 - (i) A Chairperson of selectors from the host state.
 - (ii) A maximum of three (3) selectors from other competing states elected by ballot at the Managers' Meeting prior to each Championship.
- 5.3.2 If the team coach is unable to attend the Championships, then all three (3) selectors will be elected from the participating states.
- 5.3.3 Nominations for the position of selector to be received from the floor, with each nominee to provide a maximum one half (1/2) page curriculum vitae to be given to the chairperson prior to speaking to that nomination. The applicant or chairperson may present that CV to the meeting.
- 5.3.4 The chairperson will be responsible for convening selectors meeting(s), and for determining selection criteria and procedures.
- 5.3.5 Managers/Coaches will present to the National Secretary or Carnival Manager a full team list including permanent cap number, school, year grade at school, age and selection availability at the Opening management meeting.
- 5.3.6 The Selection Committees will be responsible for deciding/selecting recipients for Perpetual Trophies, where necessary.
- 5.3.7 In a situation of a player not being in attendance at a SSA Water Polo Championship but who would like to be considered for selection in the Australian schoolboys or schoolgirls team, the following will apply:

Situation 1

If a player is a member of an Australian Open Squad and is unable to participate at the Championship. Consideration for selection is automatic, provided that the player formally advises the ASSWPA before the Championships of his/her availability.

Situation 2

If a player is injured or ill during the ASSWPA Championships and is unable to play but would like to be considered for selection in the Australian schoolboys or schoolgirls team, then they must submit the following documentation through their team manager at the opening conference:

- (i) a letter of intent for selection consideration
- (ii) a medical certificate detailing the injury/illness with advice as to the duration of incapacity

- (iii) a summary of recent playing history. The player concerned must be a member of the state team participating at the Championships in accordance with ASSWPA rules and guidelines.

6.0 TROPHIES AND MEDALS

6.1 Trophies

- 6.1.1 Trophies presented at the presentation ceremony will be:
- * Mullins Perpetual Trophy (Boys Champions)
 - * SSAWP Perpetual Trophy (Girls Champions)
 - * Janette Rayner Trophy (Most Improved State, Girls)
 - * Turnball Trophy (Most Improved State, Boys)
 - * SSAWP Encouragement Awards (Boys and Girls)
 - * SSAWP Most Outstanding Player (Boys and Girls)
 - * Kathy Parkes Trophy (Goalkeeper Encouragement Award, Girls)
 - * Keith Harron Trophy (Goalkeeper Encouragement Award, Boys)
- 6.1.2 States/Territories holding trophies will be responsible for updating and maintaining same and will ensure they are presented at the Managers/Officials pre-Championship meeting.

6.2 Medals

- 6.2.1 Medals shall be presented in accordance with School Sport Australia guidelines.
- 6.2.2 Outstanding Player and Encouragement Award winners should be presented with an embroidered towel by the host state.

7.0 JUDICIARY AND DISPUTE COMMITTEE

7.1 Committee

- 7.1.1 At the pre-Championship meeting, a nominee from each state will be appointed as a potential member
- 7.1.2 When the Committee is required to meet, the nominees from the state involved in any incident will be excluded.
- 7.1.3 The host state will chair the meeting unless they are involved.
- 7.1.4 The Judiciary will meet as soon as practicable following any charge and shall receive a written report from the referee, player and the other player's team official (other persons as required).

7.2 Brutality/Disrespect

- 7.2.1 For brutality/disrespect, if found guilty, the minimum suspension for a brutality charge will be an automatic two (2) games.
- 7.2.2 The minimum suspension for a disrespect charge will be an automatic one (1) game.

7.3 Misconduct

- 7.3.1 Players guilty of misconduct at the Championships or on Tours may be banned from the current Championship/Tour and sent home at the parent's expense (for serious misconduct).
The manager/coach may speak for the player involved (where possible) but may not vote.
All decisions will be made by the committee at the Championships and by the coaches and managers on tour.

7.4 School Sport Australia and SSAWP "CODE OF BEHAVIOUR"

- 7.4.1 All players and officials need to be made aware of the code and see it is enforced at all times during the championships.

8.0 COACHING As per FINA laws

9.0 UNIFORM As per FINA laws

10.0 GUIDELINES FOR ORGANISATION

Sports Management Committee Meetings

10.1 Pre-Event Meeting

- 10.1.1 The Sports Management Committee shall meet prior to the commencement of the competition as per School Sport Australia guidelines. The agenda for this meeting shall be prepared by the host state.
- 10.1.2 All team officials are to attend this meeting.
- 10.1.3 A quorum at a Sports Management Committee meeting shall be at least one (1) voting delegate from each competing state.

10.2 Post Event Meeting

- 10.2.1 The Post Event Meeting shall be held during the concluding period of the Championships.
- 10.2.2 Each competing state may be represented by two (2) delegates. The School Sport Australia Executive Officer and any invited persons may attend and speak but cannot move or second a motion, or vote.
- 10.2.3 The agenda for the Post Event meeting shall be prepared by the National Secretary.
- 10.2.4 A quorum at the Post Event meeting shall be at least one (1) voting delegate from each competing state.

10.3 Sub-Committee Meetings

Sub-committees shall be convened as required and shall report back to the governing body.

10.4 Voting As per SSA Constitution.

10.5 Opening Ceremony

- 10.5.1 The Opening Ceremony shall be held on the first day of competition and shall be a maximum of thirty (30) minutes in duration.
- 10.5.2 Students are to wear team uniforms including track shoes and socks.
- 10.5.3 Teams will move out in an orderly manner as directed by the Opening Ceremony coordinator and accompanied by team management.

10.6 Closing Ceremony

The Closing Ceremony shall be held on the final day of competition and shall be a maximum of thirty (30) minutes in duration.

10.7 Excursions and Social Activities

These will be organised by the host state in accordance with School Sport Australia guidelines

10.8 Medical

- 10.8.1 During the Championships no players are to drink from the same water bottle.
- 10.8.2 All other medical situations are to be dealt with as per FINA rules.

APPENDIX

1. SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA AWARDS

LIFE MEMBERS

NAME	STATE	YEAR
Ray Mullins	NSW	1984
Mark Turnbull	ACT	1991
Keith Harron	QLD	1992
Peter Waterman	NSW	1994

SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS

NAME	STATE	YEAR
Rhonda Turnbull	ACT	2003
Paul Andrews	ACT	2003

1. AUSTRALIAN SECONDARY SCHOOLS WATER POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS DUTIES OF A SELECTOR

The role of a National Selector is of utmost importance to the School Sport Water Polo and should therefore be carried out in an unbiased and professional manner by providing the National Coach with the best players available from the tournament.

The duties of the selector include:

1. To critically watch all games that your team is not participating in.
2. To confer as often as possible as a group with the chairperson. It is recommended that one meeting per day be held during the Championships. Australian Water Polo Incorporated will provide a non-voting chairperson of selectors. He/she will be responsible for convening selector(s) meetings and determining criteria and procedures.

The Selection Procedures Involve:

1. Conferring with coaches on day one to ascertain their priority list of players as a guideline.
2. Each selector constructing a Selectors List of all players they consider to be in contention. These lists will then be the basis of the committee's discussion and used to rank/evaluate players during games and at meetings. Thirteen (13) field players must be selected with five (5) named and another five (5) unnamed reserves. **SELECTORS LIST**

(Reserves and Unnamed Reserves must be Ranked!)