



2009

**NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS
HANDBOOK
(NCCH)**

- INTRODUCTION -

Each year, Water Polo Canada provides teams with the opportunity to compete in National “Club” Championships. Water Polo Canada is committed to offering quality events with the objective of fostering growth in the number of participating teams. By so doing, we are helping our sport to grow, and providing the participants with positive and rewarding experiences.

**The Focus of the National Club Championships is to be the
PREMIER club event in Canada.**

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Water Polo Canada
National Club Championship Handbook (NCCH)

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N.B. All changes from the 2008 NCCH are highlighted in yellow. All clubs, coaches, PSOs, and athletes are expected to adhere to all rules and regulations in the ensuing pages. It is assumed all clubs, coaches, PSOS, and athletes are aware of all the rules and regulations listed in the ensuing pages.

2009 National Club Championships Costs and Deadlines

Event Entry Deadline Fee

Entry Deadline: January 30, 2009

\$CAD1, 700 Payable to BC Water Polo Association
(Dated January 30, 2009)

Masters Entry Deadline: March 25, 2009

\$CAD1, 700 Payable to BC Water Polo Association
Foreign teams: \$CAD2, 500
(Dated March 25, 2009)

The Host club is exempt from paying the entry fee for one (1) host team / event.

Event Roster Deadline

Event	Event Date	Location	Host	Roster Deadline
22U Men and Women	March 20-22, 2009	Ottawa, ON	Ottawa Titans	January 30, 2009
Senior Men	May 8-10, 2009	Richmond, BC	BCWPA	March 20, 2009
18U Men and Women	May 15-18, 2009	Winnipeg, MB	Winnipeg Bushido	March 27, 2009
16U Boys and Girls	May 28-31, 2009	Montreal, QC	CAMO and Dollard Water Polo Club	April 7, 2009
Senior Women	June 19-21, 2009	Montreal, QC	CAMO	April 30, 2009
Masters Men and Women	July 3-5, 2009	Montreal, QC	FWPQ	May 18, 2009

Please note:

Staff changes will be allowed up to and including the Pre-Competition Technical meeting, provided they are accompanied by PSO approval i.e.: registered, in good standing, and proper coaching certification.

For clubs with more than one team in the same event, a maximum change of two players from one roster to another will be allowed up to and including the Pre-Competition Technical meeting.

Please be aware that BC Water Polo must review and approve both your club's entry form and your club's rosters. The above dates are established by BC Water Polo in order to provide adequate review time prior to forwarding these documents to Water Polo Canada. BC Water Polo will submit these documents to Water Polo Canada prior to the deadline dates established by Water Polo Canada.

SECTION A

Governance, Categories, Definition, and Registration

1. Governance

Rules within the National Club Championship Handbook (NCCH) apply to all National Club Championships.

All National Club Championships are governed by Water Polo Canada in accordance with the By-Laws, rules and regulations set forth by the General Assembly, the Water Polo Canada Board of Directors, Operations Council (OC) and National Team Committee (NTC) of Water Polo Canada.

2. Categories of Play

National events will be played in the following Categories, unless otherwise specified in the letter of invitation:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| i. <u>16U Boys / Girls</u> | (formally Cadet) | (Born in '93 or later) |
| ii. <u>18U Men / Women</u> | (formally Youth) | (Born in '91 or later) |
| iii. <u>22U Men / Women</u> | (formally Junior) | (Born in '87 or later) |
| iv. <u>Senior Men / Women</u> | | (Open) |
| v. <u>Masters Men / Women</u> | (new category) | (Born in '79 or earlier- 30+ & Born in '69 or earlier- 40+) |

3. Definition

- i. Participants in a National Club Championship shall be understood to include: Players, coaches, referees, managers, chaperones, medical personnel, minor officials and volunteers. This will also include Team reps that will attend the Pre-Competition Technical Meeting. All participants must be registered members in good standing with Water Polo Canada.

4. Entry Format

- i. National Club Championships are open to Residents of Canada and members in good standing with Water Polo Canada. Any team wishing to enter a National Club Championship must complete the Entry Form, page 29 of the appendices, and return it to Water Polo Canada. The Entry Form (with cheques) must be received by Water Polo Canada by the specific set deadline (February 6, 2009). No late entries will be accepted. Provincial sanction must be received for all entries.
- ii. Fees: Entry fees must accompany the entry form for each team entered. Any cheque returned to Water Polo Canada for reasons of 'non-sufficient funds' ("NSF") will be returned to the point of origin immediately and an additional fee of twenty five dollars (\$CAD25.00) will be added to the entry fee.

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- iii. Team Rosters: The full names (first and last) and date of births of all participants must be included on the Roster Form- see page 30 of the appendix. A provincially sanctioned roster must be submitted to Water Polo Canada by the set deadline. Players may NOT be added to the roster after the respective roster deadline.
- iv. Staff changes will be allowed up to and including the Pre-Competition Technical meeting, provided they are accompanied by PSO approval i.e.: registered, in good standing, and proper coaching certification. For clubs with more than one team in the same event, a maximum change of two players from one roster to another will be allowed up to and including the Pre-Competition Technical meeting.
- v. All participants must be registered and in good standing with their respective team, club and provincial association. Individuals or teams not abiding by this rule will not be permitted to participate in a national event.
- vi. Any protests and or conflicts should be forwarded to Water Polo Canada twenty (20) days prior to the respective National Club Championship, so that a ruling can be made prior to the respective event.
- vii. If a player/team becomes in bad standing prior to the Championship, the PSO staff or Board member may request to the Water Polo Canada Office, in writing, that the player/team in question not be permitted to compete. The Water Polo Canada Rep at the event shall be responsible for enforcing the ruling.

SECTION B

General Rules

1. Rules of Play

- i. The rules of play for all categories shall be in accordance with the Federation International de Natation Amateur (FINA) 2005-2009 rules, except where specified elsewhere in this document.

2. Team Eligibility

- i. A club must be a member of their Provincial Water Polo Organization to be eligible to compete at a National Club Championship.
- ii. Teams/clubs must be Canadian based. No foreign teams may register for a Championship with the exception of the Masters category. Foreign teams registering for the Canadian Masters Championship will be charged \$CAD2, 500.
- iii. Any team taking minor age players (as per the provincial regulations of the location of the event) must bring, at its own expense, a chaperone (responsible adult) other than the head coach and/or a Championship referee, who will be responsible for the team (such an adult must be sanctioned by the provincial association and must be selected from and registered with the team's own province).
- iv. One of the members of the team staff must be of the same gender as the team competing, which can include the Head Coach. Chaperones or team staff of the same gender is not required for teams playing in their home town with all their players staying at home.
- v. A chaperone may appear on only one team roster per event.
- vi. A participant may only appear as a Head Coach on one roster per event.
- vii. All coaches must have successfully completed the online evaluation of Making Ethical Decisions (MED). Workshops are held by the Provincial Sport Organization, while the evaluation must be done online at www.coach.ca. It is not necessary to register for the workshop, coaches whom feel confident enough may take the online evaluation directly.
- viii. As a result of not having the proper coaching certification the Water Polo Canada Rep will enforce the following penalties and sanctions:
 - a. The game will not be forfeited;
 - b. The club will pay a fine of \$CAD200 per game (max \$CAD500/day) which will be paid to the Water Polo Canada Rep by cash or cheque;
 - c. The fine will not be enforced if the coach is absent due to a red card sanction;
 - d. If the certified coach does not attend any games during the Championship, an additional \$CAD500 will be paid to the Water Polo Canada Rep by the club;
 - e. Exceptional circumstances will be considered.

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- ix. Provinces with more than one team entered in Nationals must hold a play-down (prior to the respective National Club Championship roster deadline) in order to determine the seeding of teams from that province. Teams not attending their provincial play-down are not eligible to participate at the respective National Club Championship (within the same category).
- x. A maximum of fifteen (15) players and three (3) staff (all of whom should wear a common club “team” shirt) are permitted to sit on the team bench, all of whom must appear on the team roster form.

3. Player Eligibility

- i. Teams in all categories are permitted to select twenty (20) players, all of whom must be registered with their club as a Team, and fifteen (15) of whom will be permitted to play in a game.
- ii. Players on Canadian teams must be Canadian Citizens or Residents of Canada in good standing with their club, PSO and Water Polo Canada.
- iii. At National Club Championships, athletes must compete with the club with which they are registered on their respective PSO &/or Water Polo Canada roster deadline.
- iv. All athletes receiving funds under the Sport Canada Athlete Assistance Program must compete at a minimum of one (1) National Club Championship. All athletes training at the National Team training centres- Calgary (Men) and Montreal (Women) must complete the Water Polo Canada National Training Centre Member Club Declaration form in the appendix on page 31.
- v. Carded athletes who do not have a team/club to compete with at a given Club Championship may, through their PSO (as per the roster deadline date); apply for an exemption to compete with another club in another PSO. It is highly recommended that the said athlete play for a team within their PSO. If the athlete’s club in question is sending a team to the Championship in which the said athlete is challenging eligibility they will not be granted permission, subsequently, must compete with their “home” club. Moreover, athletes may not play for a team/club that medalled at the previous Championship played. Therefore, an athlete challenging to play in the senior category may not compete for a team who medalled at the previous senior championship. Athletes who wish to challenge must fill out the Player Transfer/Loan Form in the appendix on page 32 and send to the Water Polo Canada office via fax (613-748-5777) at least 45 days prior to the said Championship.
- vi. Each Provincial Association is to provide the following roster verification to Water Polo Canada by the respective roster deadline, in addition to verification for any staff additions that may take place at the Pre-Competition technical meeting:
 - a. All are registered members in good standing;
 - b. All have signed the Water Polo Canada Code of Conduct;
 - c. Each team has a certified coach at the required level for the Championship;
 - d. A staff of the same gender appears on the roster for traveling teams;
 - e. A chaperone is listed on the roster.

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- vii. Water Polo Canada will post Team Rosters on the event website, a minimum of fourteen (14) days prior to the Championship.

4. Duration of the Game

- i. 16U, 18U, and Masters will be four (4) periods of seven (7) minutes stop time with a two (2) minute break between periods;
- ii. 22U and Seniors will be four (4) periods of eight (8) minutes stop time with a two (2) minute break between periods with a two (2) minute break between periods;
- iii. If the game goes into overtime a 2 minute break will occur;
- iv. Overtime will proceed as per outlined by the FINA rule book;
- v. If at the end of the first two periods of extra time the score is equal, a penalty shootout will take place, as per outlined by the FINA rule book.

5. Pool Specifications

- i. The playing area for each National Club Championship shall be in accordance with FINA specifications WP 1.4:
 - a. The distance between the goal lines shall be not less than 20 metres and not more than 30 metres for games played by men. The distance between the goal lines shall be not less than 20 metres and not more than 25 metres for games played by women. The width of the field of play shall be not less than 10 metres and not more than 20 metres. The boundary of the field of play at each end shall be 0.30 metres behind the goal line.

6. Competition Format

- i. All competition formats are not to exceed four (4) days:
 - a. No more than two (2) games per team where possible;
 - b. Teams to have at least four (4) hours between games where possible;
- ii. See Tournament Format and Seeding in Appendices on page 35.

7. Tie Breaking Procedures

- i. In situations where teams are tied in ranking the following FINA application will apply: BL 8.6.3 Tie Breaking.
- ii. If two (2) teams shall have equal points, further classification shall be established as follows:
 - a. The team winning the game between the two (2) teams shall be placed higher;
 - b. If the game between the two (2) teams resulted in a tie, a further classification shall be established based on their results against the other teams including tied teams in order of their ranking; first based upon goal difference, and next, based upon goals scored. The comparison shall be made first, compared to the highest team or tied teams, and then, if still tied to the next highest team, and so on.

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- c. If they are still tied, the tie shall be resolved by each team shooting five (5) penalty shots at its opponent's goal in alternate succession. The first team shall take its first penalty shot and then the other team shall take its first penalty shot, etc. If a tie shall exist after that procedure, each team shall then take alternate shots until one team scores and the other misses. Different members of the team must shoot each shot. The procedure shall be conducted following the final game of that round or at the first practical opportunity.
- iii. If more than two teams have equal points, the team with the largest difference between goals for and goals against, amongst the teams tied shall be given precedence. In the event of goal difference being equal, then the team having scored the most goals in games involving only those teams tied (excluding goals scored in over time play) shall be given precedence. In the event of further equality please see section B, subsection 7-iv.
- iv. Penalty shoot out procedure will apply. See Section B, subsection 4.

8. Protests

- i. Tournament Committee: All decisions of this committee are final. A Tournament Committee shall be formed prior to the commencement of the competition. The Tournament Committee shall consist of three (3) Water Polo Canada delegates. There must be at least one (1) Water Polo Canada delegate present at each game. When reviewing on site game related incidents and protests, any member of the Tournament Committee who is perceived to have a conflict of interest with the matter at hand, must be removed from the review panel for that specific incident in question
- ii. The structure of the committee shall be as follows:
 - a. Tournament's Referee-In-Chief (RIC) and/or;
 - b. Tournament Chairperson/Director and/or;
 - c. Water Polo Canada Representative and/or;
 - d. Water Polo Canada Referee evaluator and/or;
 - e. Water Polo Canada Domestic Development Director.
- iii. Submission of Protests: All protests must be submitted to a member of the Tournament Committee, up to (30) minutes following the final game time signed by the referees, on the protested game sheet. A fee of one-hundred dollars (\$CAD100.00), in cash, must accompany the protest (the fee shall be refunded if the protest is successful). All monies will be collected by the Water Polo Canada Rep. Protests must be in writing, clearly indicating the nature of the protest, and the following information must be included:
 - a. What action or person is believed to be at fault;
 - b. In what time frame the action occurred;
 - c. Names of witnesses (if possible);
 - d. Team/game number (provide a copy of the game sheet);
 - e. Diagram (if applicable);
 - f. Signature of complainant(s).

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9. Conduct/Discipline

- i. The Tournament Committee (Section B, subsection 8-ii) must review the incident in all cases where a tournament participant has been guilty of gross misconduct, disrespect or brutality.
- ii. A referee who has ejected a participant from a game must provide the Tournament Committee with a written report of the incident within thirty (30) minutes following the game. A decision will be made immediately following review of the report. All findings of this Committee are final and no appeal or protest of its decision may be made. The Tournament Committee has the authority to prevent a participant from further competition in that specific tournament or a portion thereof.
- iii. The Tournament Committee must make a written report of all incidents and the Water Polo Canada Rep will forward it to Water Polo Canada within forty eight (48) hours of the conclusion of the tournament (see the Water Polo Canada Rep guide). The information will then be forwarded to the Incident Review Committee (Operations Council Chair, Program Domestic Committee Chair, the National Team Committee Chair, and individual submitting report or designate- see Water Polo Canada policies and procedures). The Water Polo Canada Rep will also submit a full written report to Water Polo Canada within thirty (30) days of the conclusion of the tournament.

10. Misconduct/Disrespect/Brutality

- i. For the National Club Championships the following FINA bench control interpretation will apply:
 - a. The Head Coach can speak and pass instructions to their team, but can not shout as if they are a radio commentator;
 - b. The Head Coach can stand and advance to their five (5) metre line only when their team is on the attack and must be behind their goal line on defence;
 - c. The Head Coach is responsible for the behaviour of all staff and players on the bench;
 - d. The Head Coach can not comment or make any gestures to the game referees and Water Polo Canada delegates;
 - e. It is forbidden for the coaches, staff, and players to go on the referees platform during the game;
 - f. All persons who are authorized to sit on the bench, are obligated to stay seated and not to intervene verbally, with the exception of the Head Coach;
 - g. In all cases the referee must sanction all persons that do not respect these rules by issuing a yellow (Head Coach only) or red card.
- ii. The “Yellow card / Red card system” has been adopted for the control of the water polo bench by the referees. FINA rules will apply:
 - a. The issuing (signalling) of the yellow card to the Head Coach by the referee, is an “official” warning and does not result in a loss of privilege;
 - b. The subsequent issuing (signalling) of the red card to the Head Coach by the referee is the signal that the offender must retire to the public area or to such a designated place

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as determined by the event technical committee (the game referee and or Water Polo Canada rep have the authority to remove a red carded coach from the area around the field of play if behaviour warrants it i.e.: pool deck, pool side spectator seating etc.);

- c. Once the offender (team staff, player and or head coach) receives a red card, he/she must retire to the public area or to such a designated place as determined by the event technical committee and they will also receive an automatic 1 game suspension (which may be carried from one Championship to another), with review for possible imposition of greater sanction depending on the severity of the incident; a second red card is an automatic 3 game suspension (which may carry from one Championship to another);
 - d. It should be noted, that should the actions of the Head Coach warrant, then the referee may issue (signal) with the red card without having issued (signalled) with the yellow card which in normal circumstances is really an initial warning;
 - e. If the offender is a team staff or player, it is an automatic red card. If the referee can not determine who the offender was, a yellow card may be issued to the Head Coach. Coaches may be listed on more than one roster and thus a coach receiving a red card will have applicable sanctions applied to the games of the team coached during the card incident and will have the same sanction applied to all teams coached at the Championship until the original sanction has been satisfied;
 - f. Play does not have to be stopped to award a yellow card to the Head Coach, but the referee must ensure that the offender, the officials' bench and the other game referee are aware that the card has been awarded.
- iii. Water Polo Canada will not tolerate any physical or verbal abuse toward the officials, coaches, Water Polo Canada staff/representatives, or the tournament organizers for the duration of any event sanctioned by Water Polo Canada (as defined in this document).
 - iv. The Tournament Committee will automatically warrant a tournament suspension to the offender guilty of any physical or verbal abuse. Further sanctions could apply pending review of the incident by the Investigation Committee.
 - v. FINA rules for brutality will apply: Brutality is an automatic one (1) game suspension. The Tournament Committee must also review the incident, in all cases where a tournament participant has been guilty of gross misconduct, disrespect or brutality to determine if any additional action is required. The decision of the Committee is final.

11. Forfeits/Defaults

- i. Any team which forfeits a game will lose by a score of 5-0. Additional action will be based on a review of the circumstances by the Tournament Committee. A forfeit is defined as a "no-show". A default is defined as a team withdrawing.

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12. Selection of Referees

- i. National Club Championship referees will be selected by the Officials Working Group (Officials Working Group) following the entry deadline for the Championships. The PSO and Officials WG Reps will confirm what referees are eligible for selection. All National Club Championship referees must sign a Code of Conduct with their respective PSO prior to the Championships.
- ii. If a referee has to be replaced, then the replacement will be the next available referee from the same PSO, and/or the identified substitute referee for the event.
- iii. Water Polo Canada has endorsed the referees for all National Club Championships based upon the following criteria:

Event	Referee Certification Level	Upgrade
Senior Men and Women	National B or higher	National A
22U Men and Women	National C or higher	National B
18U Men and Women	Provincial or higher	National C
16U Boys and Girls	Provincial or higher	N/A
Masters Men and Women	Provincial or higher	N/A

- iv. Water Polo Canada will assign where possible, a Championship evaluator whose sole job it is to evaluate and provide feedback to all Championship referees.
- v. The Officials Working Group will attempt to select one (1) referee from each participating province in the event, in addition to a minimum of one (1) neutral referee / event.
- vi. The Officials WG will also ensure that there is a minimum of one (1) FINA Referee at all other National Club Championships.
- vii. The Officials WG will use the following formula when calculating the number of referees required at each event:

Number of Participating Teams	Recommended Number of Referees
5 and under	4
6-8	6
8-16	8-12
17 and over	12+

- viii. The Host Organizing Committee is responsible for local ground transportation for all Referees (to/from hotel/facility/airport).

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- ix. Referees assignments (to also include referees assigned to the 30 second shot clock for all medal games), shall be appointed by the Referee-In-Chief, Water Polo Canada Rep, and/or Evaluator. The Referee-In-Chief shall come from a different province than the respective host. **The Referee-In-Chief, Water Polo Canada Rep, and/or Evaluator will ensure that the most qualified referees are assigned to the respective games, weighing such issues as referee qualifications, ranking, neutrality (by club) and availability in the assignment decision.**
- x. A minimum two (2) games per day will be a reference point for each Championship Referee.
- xi. The Water Polo Canada Rep may be required to play a role if the respective Team Coaches have a concern about a specific Referee assignment during the event.
- xii. Team Members and game referees may not discuss the game in any detail for at least a 30 minute “COOLING OFF” period after the game. Of course a simple thank you or acknowledgement is acceptable and encouraged but neither party (team members and/or game referees) may engage in any form of criticism/advice until the “COOLING OFF” period has elapsed. A breach in this policy could result in an event related sanction.
- xiii. **Referees will also be assigned for the final game played by the host team, to work as a goal judge or at any period in time throughout the event at the Referee-In-Chief, Water Polo Canada Rep, and/or Evaluator’s discretion.**
- xiv. In selecting referees for the medal round, the Water Polo Canada Delegates are allowed to consider a veto from each coach for the game in question. However, final selection should be based on performance at the event, not history or qualifications.

13. Water Polo Caps

- i. Participating teams are required to bring their own water polo caps for games.
- ii. **Teams must wear contrasting colors (i.e. dark and light).**
- iii. If a bathing cap is worn under a water polo cap, it must be the same colour as the water polo cap.

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14. Articles Causing Injury

- i. FINA WP Rule 6.4- "Prior to taking part in a match, the players must discard all articles likely to cause injury." The following objects are not permitted:
 - a. Rings;
 - b. Necklaces;
 - c. Earrings, (including visible body piercing);
 - d. Bracelets;
 - e. Eye-glasses;
 - f. Long finger or toe nails;
 - g. Swimming goggles, including prescription goggles- Soft, safety and prescription glasses are permitted;
 - h. Other objects not listed here will be examined by the RIC before the tournament begins.

15. Appeals

- i. Teams may appeal the following actions:
 - a. Player transfers/eligibility;
 - b. Administrative errors/omissions;
 - c. Team eligibility.
- ii. All appeals will be sent to the Water Polo Executive Director twenty-one (21) days prior to the Championship with a non-refundable \$CAD100 administration fee. Water Polo Canada will deal with the appeal and any members in conflict will not be included in the appeal proceedings.

SECTION C

General Information

1. **Pre-Competition Technical Meeting**

- i. The Water Polo Canada Rep will organize (with support from the host) and conduct a pre-competition Technical Meeting for coaches, officials and team personnel. This meeting will take place at the event hotel or Championship pool, at 10:00 pm the night prior to the start of the Championship. This meeting must be chaired by the respective Water Polo Canada Rep in conjunction with the Tournament Committee. All event referees are expected to attend. Special circumstances may apply.
- ii. The Host will send Technical Meeting and Schedule information to the participating teams, PSOs and Water Polo Canada by electronic mail at least thirty (30) days in advance.
- iii. Participating teams must provide to the host, prior to the Technical Meeting their travel and accommodation plans, along with who their Technical Meeting Rep. will be.
- iv. Water Polo Canada will ensure that all Water Polo Canada Delegates, Championship Referees, and Tournament Chairperson are in attendance.
- v. It is the responsibility of each team to ensure that one (1) rep/team is in attendance at the start of the Technical meeting with the team roster, which includes cap number for the competition. **A club who has multiple teams must have the same number of reps present.** A failure to do so will result in a \$CAD500 sanction (cash or cheque) due to the Water Polo Canada Rep prior to the respective team's first game of the event. Water Polo Canada will keep the sanction in trust until any appeals are finalized and then either return the sanction to the team.
- vi. The following agenda items will be discussed at the meeting:
 - a. Introduction and role of the Tournament Committee;
 - b. Verification of team reps in attendance;
 - c. Verification of team rosters: Head Coach, Chaperone, cap numbers and captain;
 - d. Tournament procedures: facility, scoreboard, 30 second clocks, minor officials, bench, kick out board, team benches, schedule, and any other pertinent information;
 - e. Review significant NCCH changes;
 - f. Verification of pre-game roster procedure;
 - g. Review All-Star selection procedure;
 - h. Review coaches concerns;
 - i. Tournament Chair to provide additional host information;
 - j. Competition rules and interpretations;
 - k. First round of referee assignments.

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2. Championship Awards

- i. A Championship banner and trophy will be provided by Water Polo Canada and presented by the closing ceremony host at the conclusion of the Championship.
 - a. The prior year's winning team will bring the Championship trophy to the Pre-Competition Technical Meeting in good condition which will involve polishing and an up-to-date engraving. A failure to do so, or if the trophy requires repairs, will result in a \$CAD250 administrative fee plus the actual costs to restore the trophy payable to Water Polo Canada in cash or cheque. The administrative fee must be paid prior to the team's first game of the Championship. If the trophy is lost the team/club returning the trophy must pay an administration fee of \$CAD250 plus the cost of restoring the trophy to current, not to exceed \$CAD1, 000, payable to Water Polo Canada in cash or cheque. The administrative fee must be paid prior to the team's first game of the Championship.
- ii. Water Polo Canada will provide to the host medals for the players and team staff of the gold, silver and bronze medal winning teams. A maximum **eighteen (18)** medals per team will be provided.
- iii. Water Polo Canada will provide to the host:
 - a. Six (6) All Star Athlete Awards;
 - b. One (1) Most Valuable Goalie Award;
 - c. One (1) Most Valuable Player Award;
 - d. One (1) Most Valuable Coach Award.
- iv. All athletes, including the goaltender, have the ability to win the Most Valuable Player Award. In the case the Most Valuable Player Award is given to a goaltender, that same athlete does not necessarily have to be given the Most Valuable Goalie Award.
- v. Any participant cited for disrespect, misconduct, red card, or brutality is not eligible for any of the awards listed in Section C, subsection 2-iii.
- vi. The Water Polo Canada Rep is responsible for ensuring that three (3) stars are selected for each game and announced after each National Club Championship game is played.
- vii. The Tournament Committee will be responsible for selecting the awards listed in Section C, subsection 2-iii.

SECTION D

Responsibilities

1. Obligations of Water Polo Canada

- i. Will provide a media rep to work with all Championship Tournament Director on pre and post event nation-wide press releases.
- ii. To delegate an official representative (Water Polo Canada Rep) for the duration of the competition.
- iii. Assign a Referee-in-Chief who will come from out of province.
- iv. To provide to the Host:
 - a. **Eighteen (18)** of each- gold, silver and bronze medals;
 - b. A bilingual banners (large pennants) for the winning team;
 - c. Awards as listed in Section C, subsection 2-iii;
 - d. Five (5) official size Mikasa water polo balls;
 - e. **Electronic version of scoresheets and penalty sheets to be used for all games;**
 - f. Water Polo Canada golf shirts to be worn for the duration of the Championship for all Water Polo Canada Delegates including the Tournament Director;
 - g. Sponsorship banners to be hung at the Championship pool during the duration of the event;
 - h. **Travel information of all referees and Water Polo Canada delegates;**
 - i. Retail merchandise (optional).
- v. To collect the entry fees from each of the participating teams. The Host is entitled to have the entry fee waived for one of their teams entered in the respective event.
- vi. The Host will receive, upon the completion of all the obligations in this contract, \$CAD120 per game hosting grant for 7 minute quarters and a \$CAD130 per game hosting grant for 8 minute quarters as per the approved 2007 National Championship format.
- vii. Notify the Host of the teams that have entered the respective event a maximum of seven (7) days after the final entry deadline. Send all the relative information (team roster, mailing list, etc) a maximum of seven (7) days after the entry deadline.
- viii. To confirm with the respective PSOs that their Championship entries have been received and all participants are members in good standing with Water Polo Canada.
- ix. To ensure a sufficient number of referees are present at the event as per Section B, subsection 12-vii.
- x. **Designate a Tournament Committee to be composed of three (3) of the following personnel:**
 - a. **Tournament's Referee-In-Chief (RIC) and/or;**
 - b. **Tournament Chairperson/Director and/or;**

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- c. Water Polo Canada Representative and/or;
 - d. Water Polo Canada Referee evaluator and/or;
 - e. Water Polo Canada Domestic Development Director.
- xi. This committee will rule on any protest or disciplinary problem involving a participant in the competition. The decisions of this Committee will not extend beyond the dates of the competition and may be referred to the Incident Review Sub-Committee and/or the Discipline Review Committee if required.
 - xii. An honoraria of \$CAD150 per event will be paid to:
 - a. Referee-In-Chief;
 - b. Evaluator;
 - c. Water Polo Canada Rep (excluding paid staff).
 - xiii. Publish the tournament results.
 - xiv. Provide PMTs logos of Associations and sponsors.
 - xv. Provide post-event evaluations along with Water Polo Canada Rep reports to the PSOs.
 - xvi. Create a tournament schedule, and ensure the schedule is posted on the Water Polo Canada web site and e-mailed to all participating teams and PSOs a minimum of twenty-eight (28) days prior to the start of competition.

2. Obligations of the Host

- i. To abide by obligations assumed by the Association as part of its contractual agreement for the television coverage of the event.
- ii. Assure the availability of the pool for tournament play by booking required pool time, which will include an adequate swimming area for warm-up, or a designated fifteen (15) minute period prior to each game in the competition pool.
- iii. To send to Water Polo Canada a written confirmation of the preliminary rental agreement along with the signed contract. Water Polo Canada will only accept the terms of this contract once the host provides to Water Polo Canada written proof of the pool time availability.
- iv. Ensure a hospitality room is setup for all Water Polo Canada delegates, coaches, and volunteers.
- v. Supply all the following equipment required for the proper running of the competition:
 - a. One (1) game clock (visible);
 - b. At least two (2) 30-second clocks (visible);
 - c. Penalty clock (if possible);
 - d. Stop watches or other back-up timing devices;
 - e. Sound system for announcing scores and penalties;
 - f. Water polo goals meeting FINA WP 2 regulations;
 - g. Red, white, and blue penalty flags;

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- h. Minimum five (5) official size Mikasa water polo balls (provided by WPC);
- i. Two (2) team benches and three (3) chairs;
- j. Fog horns- one (1) for each bench;
- k. Penalty and time-out board (visible);
- l. Scoresheets and penalty sheets (provided by Water Polo Canada)- preferably electronic version;
- m. Minor officials table, Water Polo Canada delegate table, and coaches' table (all on the opposite side of the team benches);
- n. Field of play markings:
 - i. Four (4) red flags or markings (2M);
 - ii. Four (4) yellow flags or markings (5M);
 - iii. Six (6) white flags or markings (centre and goal lines).
- o. Whistles or fog horns for the minor officials;
- p. Ensure the presence of a sufficient number (6) of minor officials who have been certified as minor officials under the Water Polo Canada Officials Certification Program. All of whom must be dressed in white (or at least a white shirt). Minor official roles include:
 - i. Two (2) goal judges;
 - ii. Two (2) timekeepers (game clock and shot clock)
 - iii. One (2) secretaries (scoresheet and penalties).
- vi. Provide accommodation and Technical Meeting information as well as any other necessary information to the participating teams, PSO, and Water Polo Canada at least twenty-eight (28) days prior to the start of the event by e-mail.
- vii. The host will provide local transport to the event referees and Water Polo Canada Delegates that must include more than one (1) trip to the hotel-pool per day.
- viii. Organize a formal awards ceremony immediately at the conclusion of the tournament.
- ix. Assure the safekeeping of promotional banners loaned to the Host for the purpose of promoting the Association's sponsors. Should these banners be lost, stolen or damaged, the Host will be responsible for their replacement or repair.
- x. To acknowledge Water Polo Canada, Heritage Canada, and other major sponsors of Water Polo Canada in accordance with their marketing agreement.

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- xi. Produce a souvenir program for the Event. The program must include a schedule of games, team lists and photos, welcome note, and sufficient space to fulfill Water Polo Canada's obligations to its sponsors. The host must send the final draft version to Water Polo Canada at least ten (10) days prior to the beginning of the Championship for approval.
- xii. Return to Water Polo Canada, a complete statistical summary of the competition within thirty (30) days of the completion of the event, including the following:
 - a. Game schedule;
 - b. Photocopies of all local newspaper clippings;
 - c. List of all game results;
 - d. A copy of all game sheets (preferably electronic version);
 - e. The final ranking including games won and lost, goals for and against;
 - f. A list of the top goal scorers (at least 10);
 - g. A list of the all-star team, MVP, MVG, and MVC;
 - h. Two (2) copies of the souvenir program;
 - i. Financial statement detailing income and expenditures;
 - j. Any unused medals and awards, and all sponsorship banners.
- xiii. Appoint a Communications / Publicity Chairperson who will be responsible for:
 - a. Develop an event home page and ensure daily postings of game results, game stars, updated list of top scorers, any commentary about the games, and any pictures taken during the event. This should be done at least twice (2) per day;
 - b. Reporting of post event results to the Water Polo Canada media rep at the end of the gold medal game.
- xiv. Be subject to sanctions and / or penalties if found in breach of any of the above obligations. Such sanctions and/or penalties will be determined by the Operations' Council Chair when necessary.
- xv. Absorb any deficit which may be incurred from the competition.
- xvi. Doping Control: To provide adequate facilities, equipment, and volunteers for the Doping Control Station as specified in the Revised Canadian Doping Control Policy effective June 1, 2004.

3. Obligations of the Provincial Association

- i. The Provincial Association shall ensure the following:
 - a. That all participating teams within the province are endorsed;
 - b. That all team members are eligible and are registered in good standing with the province, club, team, and Water Polo Canada;

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- c. That all referees and coaches are eligible and are registered in good standing with the province, club, team, and Water Polo Canada;
- d. That all participants (coach, chaperone, referee and athlete) have the required signed Code of Conduct and have the necessary certification required;
- e. Sanctioning all the entry forms team rosters and forwarding the forms to Water Polo Canada by the appropriate deadline;
- f. Informing Water Polo Canada (via their provincial Officials Working Group Rep) of all available and eligible referees for each of the Championships. The Officials Working Group will select the referees who will attend the Championships, following the post National Championship entry deadline;
- g. Ensure that a play down is staged when more than one team is entered in a particular championship from that province, prior to the respective Championship.

4. Obligations of the Club / Team

- i. The club / team attending a National Club Championship shall ensure the following:
 - a. That the entry fee is paid to Water Polo Canada by the specific deadline;
 - b. That all players are registered with their respective Provincial Association;
 - c. That a completed Entry Form (appendix page 29) is submitted to your PSO prior to the appropriate entry deadline as set by the PSO;
 - d. That a completed Roster Form (appendix page 30) is submitted to your PSO prior to the appropriate roster deadline as set by the PSO;
 - e. That all Provincial rules and regulations are maintained and adhered to and that the club / team is in good standing with both the appropriate provincial association and Water Polo Canada;
 - f. That all expenses incurred by the team are paid for by the club organization;
 - g. That all persons attending a National Club Championship adhere to the Code of Conduct in Section E and sign the Release and Code of Conduct Form in the appendix on page 33;
 - h. Provide travel and accommodation information to the respective Championship host prior to the Technical Meeting, as well as the name of their representative for the meeting.

5. Water Polo Canada Sanctions

The following sanctions may apply if the above rules are not adhered to:

- i. Removal from the area of competition;
- ii. Loss of game(s) 5-0;
- iii. Non-acceptance of entry;
- iv. Probation as a member in good standing;

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- v. Forfeit of entry fee;
- vi. \$CAD1,000 performance bond;
- vii. Fines;
- viii. Declared a member in bad standing;
- ix. Ineligible for participation in the medal round;
- x. Other sanctions;
- xi. The following are specific sanctions which will be applied against the following infractions:
 - a. A team not having a chaperone (when required) during an event:
 - i. In the case where Water Polo Canada discovers the discrepancy at time of entry the following sanction applies: Non acceptance of entry;
 - ii. In the case where the discrepancy is discovered on site at the event; the following sanction must apply: \$CAD50 penalty plus an amount equal to the total cost that would have been incurred by the team had it provided the appropriate individual from the respective team's home city.
- xii. The following sanctions must apply to a team which drops out after the entry deadline:
 - a. Forfeit entry fee;
 - b. \$CAD1, 000 performance bond will be requested from the club prior to participation in any future Championships including the current year. This bond will be returned after full participation in the next event;
 - c. In addition to the aforementioned sanctions, the following fines will also apply:
 - i. A team that withdraws 15 - 30 days prior will receive \$CAD500 fine;
 - ii. A team that withdraws 1- 14 days prior will receive \$CAD750 fine;
 - iii. A team that withdraws less than 24 hours will receive \$CAD1, 000 fine.
- xiii. All fines are payable to Water Polo Canada before any other team from that club can participate in any sanctioned event. The club will be declared in bad standing until the fine is paid. Half of this fine will be given to the Host organization, to be used towards extra financial losses they have incurred due to the last minute withdrawal of this team.
- xiv. A team participates in a game with a non-registered or an illegal member (illegal as defined by FINA rules or due to not being a part of the roster) the following sanctions must apply:
 - a. A non-registered, or otherwise illegal, player, coach, or manager cannot take part in any game;
 - b. A team using non-registered or otherwise illegal athletes, coaches and / or managers shall lose by a score of 5-0 for each game in which the team uses such illegal participants.

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- xv. A team / club, or participant, fails to abide by any sanction imposed by Water Polo Canada the following sanction must apply:
 - a. The club / team, or individual participant, will be denied access to further Water Polo Canada activities until the complaint is rectified.
- xvi. If a team commits any infraction with the intention of gaining an advantage (e.g. use of non registered, illegal participants, forfeiting a game for the purpose of gaining or making another team gain a better ranking), the following sanction will apply:
 - a. The team cannot take part in the medal round;
 - b. The team shall lose by a score of 5-0 for each game in which they have intentionally tried to gain an unfair advantage.

SECTION E

Water Polo Canada Participant Code of Conduct

1. Participant Responsibilities

- i. A participant attending a Water Polo Canada National Club Championship shall agree that:
 - a. There will be no possession or use of any illegal substances and / or performance enhancing drugs;
 - b. If under the age of majority in the province of the competition, there will be no possession or use of alcohol;
 - c. If over the age of majority, there will be no supplying of alcohol to minors (as defined by the laws of the province of the competition);
 - d. Any physical damage occurring, or cost arising from missing items in a room, is the responsibility of the registered occupant(s) unless some other person(s) are proven responsible. If more than one person is sharing a room, cost will be shared equally, if there is no admission of guilt. The club involved shall be responsible for collecting any such costs;
 - e. Any contravention is sufficient grounds for a participant to be sent home at his / her own expense;
 - f. Any contravention of the above will be dealt with by the club involved. If the club fails to act responsibly, Water Polo Canada has the obligation to impose sanction and to collect any money outstanding.
- ii. Unacceptable behaviour shall include:
 - a. Committing any act which would be considered an offence under federal, provincial or municipal laws, or the rules of the facility. An offender shall immediately be sent home. When this is not possible, the offender shall, at their own expense, be sent home as soon as possible, disqualified from further games within the tournament, and the home provincial association staff person shall be informed by telephone or fax;
 - b. Gross misbehaviour;
 - c. Unsportsmanlike conduct;
 - d. A participant reporting for a game in an impaired condition;
 - e. Punishment for unacceptable behaviour, as described in the latter, and depending upon the circumstances, could vary from the above (as the extreme) to a written caution to the offender, with full or partial restriction on movement or participation in the event.
- vii. A report must be submitted on each individual incident, major or minor, so that the governing body (National / Provincial / Club) may decide what further action may be taken.
- viii. All clubs shall be sent a set of these rules and regulations.

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- ix. Since all clubs come under the jurisdiction of Water Polo Canada, clubs which send teams outside of their province are bound to supervise their teams in much the same way, and complaints which may arise from such teams shall be dealt with by the Discipline Committee.

2. Chaperone Responsibilities

- i. Be responsible for the safety and well-being in conjunction with the team coach; be responsible for the behaviour of players during the times they are not under the control of the coaching staff or manager.
- ii. Report to the coach any sickness or injury, and any incidents likely to bring discredit to the team, provincial association or country. Together with the coach, decide upon disciplinary action to be taken.

3. Coaches' Responsibilities

- i. Determine curfew times.
- ii. Determine team meeting times and places.
- iii. Control athletes during practices and games.
- iv. Assume duties of chaperone when chaperone is unavailable.

4. Referees' Responsibilities

- i. Be responsible for the safety and well-being in conjunction with the team coach, be responsible for behaviour of players during warm up, game time and post activity on the pool deck.
- ii. Represent yourself to the best of your ability in a neutral manner as a referee of Water Polo Canada.
- iii. Represent yourself to the best of your ability in a professional manner as a representative of Water Polo Canada.

Implementation of this code of conduct is the responsibility of each participating club. Any contravention of the above will be dealt with by the club involved. If the club fails to act responsibly, Water Polo Canada has the right and the obligation to impose sanction. Participation in National Club Championships commences when the participant leaves his / her home at the beginning of the event, and ends when the participant arrives home at the conclusion of the event. By attending a Water Polo Canada National Club Championships the participant has agreed to this code of conduct.

SECTION F

Doping Control

Water Polo Canada has fully adopted the policies of the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) effective June 1, 2004. Water Polo Canada strongly opposes the use, possession and supply of banned substances and practices in competitive water polo, either during training or competition in Canada or abroad by Canadian athletes, coaches, medical, para-medical, or other support staff.

As a deterrent, Water Polo Canada will participate in announced and unannounced doping control of athletes in accordance with the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport (CCES) "Canadian Policy on Doping in Sport" and the Canadian Doping Control Regulations. A copy of the latter is available online at www.waterpolo.ca.

Further information contact:
Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport
Ottawa, Ontario
613-521-3340
www.cces.ca

SECTION G

Canadian Masters Championship

1. Amended Rules

- i. Water Polo Canada will add to its docket of Canadian Club Championships a Masters age category in both genders:
 - a. 30 and older (born in '79);
 - b. 40 and older (born in '69).
- ii. The Canadian Masters Championship shall follow the same rules as all other Championships events except where highlighted.
- iii. The Canadian Masters Championship must be played in July or August.
- iv. The host will be selected through a bidding process as with the other Championships.
- v. The host to organize a social event on the Saturday evening of the event.
- vi. The event to be three (3) days in length- Friday through Sunday with a pre-competition technical meeting at 10:00PM Thursday. Each team must have a representative.
- vii. Foreign teams may enter this event at an entry fee of \$CAD2, 500.
- viii. The entry deadline for the Masters Championship is April 1st of the current NCC season.
- ix. All Canadian athletes and clubs must be members in good standing with their PSO and Water Polo Canada, foreign teams to be sanctioned by their respective NSOs.
- x. Participants who are registered with a different PSO than the Masters team they wish to compete for must follow the challenge application procedure. The Player Transfer/Loan Form is found in the appendix on page 32.
- xi. Coaches will not be required to have any certifications. The player/coach option is also allowed. All coaches are highly recommended to pass the online evaluation of Making Ethical Decisions at www.coach.ca.
- xii. The Officials WG will select the referees for the Championship. Referees must have a minimum of a Provincial certification.
- xiii. Referees will apply a more lenient interpretation of the FINA rules given the nature and intent of the event- Active for Life. The interpretation will be decided by the Referee-In-Chief and Water Polo Canada Rep.
- xiv. Medals will be issued to the top three (3) teams in addition to a Championship trophy and banner.
- xv. At the formal awards ceremony the following individual awards will be presented:
 - a. MVP
 - b. Best offensive player
 - c. Best defensive player
- xvi. If a PSO is the host for this event, there will be no waiving of the host entry fee.

APPENDICES

WATER POLO CANADA
- NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP ENTRY FORM -
(PLEASE PRINT/LETTRES MOULEES)

EVENT/EVENEMENT: _____

EVENT DATE: _____

TEAM NAME/NOM DE L'EQUIPE : _____

TEAM CONTACT/PERSONNE RESSOURCE: _____

ADDRESS/ADRESSE: _____

EMAIL/COURRIEL _____

TELEPHONE:(R) _____ TELEPHONE:(B) _____

FAX:(R) _____ FAX:(B) _____

I certify that all Water Polo Canada policies will be followed, that all fees will be paid and that the appropriate forms will be submitted on time by my club, related to this National Club Championship.

Je certifie que toutes les politiques de Water Polo Canada seront suivies, que toutes les paiements et tous les formulaires appropriés seront soumis en temps pour mon club.

SIGNATURE OF CLUB PRESIDENT
SIGNATURE DU PRESIDENT DU CLUB

SIGNATURE OF PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATION
SIGNATURE DE L'ASSOCIATION PROVINCIALE

**THIS FORM MUST BE SUBMITTED TO YOUR PROVINCIAL ASSOCIATION PRIOR TO THE
APPROPRIATE DEADLINE**

**VEUILLEZ RETOURNER CE FORMULAIRE AVANT LA DATE LIMITE A VOTRE ASSOCIATION
PROVINCIALE**

**The entry fee made payable to Water Polo Canada is \$1, 700
Deadline for all entries: February 6, 2009**

Forms must be faxed to the Water Polo Canada office (613) 748-5777

One (1) of the Host club's teams is exempt from paying the entry fee.

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WATER POLO CANADA
- NATIONAL CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP ROSTER FORM -

EVENT/EVENEMENT: _____ EVENT DATE: _____

TEAM NAME/NOM DE L'EQUIPE: _____

<u>Name</u>	<u>Yr. of Birth</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Yr. of Birth</u>
<u>Nom</u>	<u>Année de naissance</u>	<u>Nom</u>	<u>Année de naissance</u>
1. _____	_____	11. _____	_____
2. _____	_____	12. _____	_____
3. _____	_____	13. _____	_____
4. _____	_____	14. _____	_____
5. _____	_____	15. _____	_____
6. _____	_____	16. _____	_____
7. _____	_____	17. _____	_____
8. _____	_____	18. _____	_____
9. _____	_____	19. _____	_____
10. _____	_____	20. _____	_____

Head Coach / Nom de l'entraîneur: _____

Coach with required certification /
Entraîneur avec la certification requise: _____

Team Chaperone/Chaperon qui accompagnera l'équipe: _____

Other staff/Autres personnes: _____

Provincial sanction/
sanction provinciale: _____ DATE: _____

By Participate attending a Water Polo Canada National Club Championships has agreed to this code of conduct.

Forms must be faxed to the Water Polo Canada office, (613) 748- 5777

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**WATER POLO CANADA
- PLAYER TRANSFER/LOAN FORM -**

Please return this form to Water Polo Canada before the appropriate deadline.

Athlete's Name: _____

Birth date: _____

Category of Play: _____

Athlete's Signature: _____
(or signature of parent/guardian if athlete under the age of 18)

Transfer/Loan from

Province: _____ Club: _____

Coach's Name: _____

Authorized Club Name: _____
Signature

Print

Authorized Provincial Name: _____
Signature

Print

Transfer/Loan to

Province: _____ Club: _____

Coach's Name: _____

Authorized Club Name: _____
Signature

Print

Authorized Provincial Signature: _____
Signature

Print

REASONS: *Please explain in detail the reasons for which the player in question would like to transfer outside of their province. Please include a separate sheet of paper outlining the reasons.*

WATER POLO CANADA
- RELEASE AND CODE OF CONDUCT FORM -

This form must be submitted to your Provincial Association for a participant to be considered eligible.

Event(s): _____

Participant Name: _____

I hereby certify that I am eligible to compete in the National Club Championships as per Section B, I also certify that I have read and understood Sections E (Participant Code of Conduct) and F (Doping Control).

Date of Birth: _____
DAY / MONTH / YEAR

Address: _____
NO. STREET

CITY PROVINCE

POSTAL CODE

Telephone Number: (_____) _____

- RELEASE -

I, _____, my heirs, executors and administrators hereby release

Water Polo Canada and its representatives and the organizers (and/or their representatives) of this event, from any and all claims or actions I may have for any injuries I may sustain during the course of the event.

- CODE OF CONDUCT COMPLIANCE -

I certify that I have read and understand the terms of the Code of Conduct and will comply with it.

Signature of Participant

Date

Signature of Parent / Guardian
(If Participant under the age of 18)

Date

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WATER POLO CANADA - FORMAT AND SEEDING -

A three (3) day event will have a Thursday 10:00PM - Technical Meeting

A four (4) day event will have a Wednesday 10:00PM - Technical Meeting

*If two (2) events are hosted the same weekend at same location, the length of event may vary due to total number of teams at the event.

Four (4) and five (5) team tournaments

- Single round robin (each team plays each other once)
- Semi-final round
 - A. 1st place v. 4th place
 - B. 2nd place v. 3rd place
- Medal rounds
 - C. Winner of games A and B will play in the gold medal game
 - D. Loser of games A and B will play in the bronze medal game

Six (6) to ten (10) team tournaments

- Two (2) evenly distributed pools playing a single round robin
- Quarter-final round
 - A. 2nd place in pool A will crossover against 3rd place in pool B
 - B. 2nd place in pool B will crossover against 3rd place in pool C
- Semi-final round
 - C. Winner of game A will playoff against the winner of pool B
 - D. Winner of game B will playoff against the winner of pool A
- Medal round
 - E. Winner of games C and D will playoff in the gold medal game
 - F. Loser of games C and D will playoff in the bronze medal game
- For places five (5) through ten (10); the same format will follow suit.

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Eleven (11) and over team tournament

- Four (4) evenly distributed pools playing a single round robin
- Quarter-final round
 - A. 1st place in pool A will crossover against 2nd place in pool B
 - B. 2nd place in pool A will crossover against 1st place in pool B
 - C. 1st place in pool C will crossover against 2nd place in pool D
 - D. 2nd place in pool C will crossover against 1st place in pool D
- Semi-final round
 - E. Winner of games A and B will playoff against each other
 - F. Winner of games C and D will playoff against each other
- Medal round
 - G. Winner of games E and F will playoff in the gold medal game
 - H. Loser of games E and F will playoff in the bronze medal game
- For places five (5) through how many teams enter; the same format will follow suit.

Seeding

Seeding will be based on the prior year's Championship results- by Province. In the event that a Province has entered additional teams that were not entered in the prior year's event then they will be entered into a random draw with other similar Provinces to determine their Championship seeding. This draw will take place at Water Polo Canada by the Domestic Development Director.

When placing teams in their respective Championship division, according to their Championship seeding, the following order will apply:

Single pool round robin:

Seed #1

Seed #2

Seed #3

Seed #4

Seed #5

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Two (2) pool round robin:

<u>Pool A</u>	<u>Pool B</u>
Seed #1	Seed #2
Seed #4	Seed #3
Seed #5	Seed #6
Seed #8	Seed #7
Seed #9	Seed #10

Four (4) pool round robin:

<u>Pool A</u>	<u>Pool B</u>	<u>Pool C</u>	<u>Pool D</u>
Seed #1	Seed #2	Seed #3	Seed #4
Seed # 8	Seed # 7	Seed #6	Seed #5
Seed # 9	Seed # 10	Seed # 11	Seed # 12
Seed # 16	Seed # 15	Seed # 14	Seed # 13

Power of Seeding

Once the teams have been placed in their proper division, they will now carry a new seed within that division and the “Power of Seeding” will apply.

When applying the Championship format, Water Polo Canada must apply the “Power of seeding” principle, when determining the order of games that will occur for their respective Championship:

<u>Round I</u>	<u>Round II</u>	<u>Round III</u>	<u>Round IV</u>
#1 vs #8	#1 vs #7	#1 vs #6	Etc.
#2 vs #7	#8 vs #6	#7 vs #5	Etc.
#3 vs #6	#2 vs #5	#8 vs #4	Etc.
#4 vs #5	#3 vs #4	#2 vs #3	Etc.

The order of games may differ from the above, based on:

- Schedule format and required breaks;
- Distance teams are traveling to the event and the time zone they have traveled from;
- Host games will be allowed to account for scheduled TV coverage;
- Rationale for game order change can be provided upon request to the Domestic Development Director.