

Manitoba Water Polo
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August 30, 2024

Re: 2024 MWPA School League

The 2024 water polo season is upon us! We have been working hard to get everything in place for the start of the season and we thank you for your patience.

Where to find information

We have spent a considerable amount of time this summer updating the webpage and making it easier to find information. All our newsletters, forms, policies and other important information will be added and updated regularly. For School league information, please consult: <https://www.manitobawaterpolo.com/school-league>.

An information session will take place online September 11, 2024 at 5:00 pm. Please see below sign information

Nicolle Moskven invited you to a Microsoft Teams Meeting:

School League

September 11, 2024

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. (CST)

Meeting link: [School League](#) | [Microsoft Teams](#) | [Meet-up-Join](#)

Format

The MWPA School League will continue with the water polo 4s format.

School rosters are limited to 10 players per team, no exceptions. Schools are encouraged to enter multiple teams.

High School League is gender specific, however individuals are welcome to participate with the team adjacent to their gender identity.

Middle Years League is co-ed.

Water polo hats are available for use (1 blue and 1 white set). Although these are supplied by the MWPA, it is everyone responsibility to make sure they are maintained, and returned after each use, so that other teams can use them.

Please note that if a game score is lopsided, the scoreboard will show a maximum differential of seven (7).

Rules

Rules of play are posted on our website:

https://d3076622-ad56-4b53-a8bd-249e4db2d04b.filesusr.com/ugd/6e0ac8_66357403fcb84736b749bd696dd6d0a3.pdf?index=true

All jewelry must be removed. An exception will be made for piercings that cannot be removed, in which case they must be covered by tape.

Nails must be kept short and will be checked each week.

Exclusion Fouls

Exclusion fouls will be called for the more serious offenses, for instance:

- Impeding either a free throw, goal throw or corner throw
- Holding or sinking an opposing player by pushing him beneath the surface
- Pulling back a player*
- Splashing water in an opponent's face
- Blocking a shot with 2 arms beyond the 6 metre mark
- Kicking or hitting another player (brutality)
- Incorrectly returning to the field of play

***This includes holding the swimsuit of another player. Grabbing swimsuits will not be tolerated and will result in an exclusion in defence and a contra foul in attack.**

When an exclusion is called for the offending player, they will be sent out of the playing area, leaving their team one person down. The player (or a substitution) may re-enter immediately.

Specific to High School League, If a player receives more than three personal faults, they will be ejected for the remainder of the game (may sit on bench).

Ejection for the entire game (Misconduct and Brutality)

Players guilty of misconduct shall be excluded from the remainder of the game, with substitution after the earliest occurrence.

Misconduct offences include the use of unacceptable language, violent or persistent foul play, refuse obedience to or show disrespect for a referee or official, or behaviour against the spirit of the rules and likely to bring the game into disrepute.

A brutality offence is called if a player deliberately, as deemed by the referee, strikes or attempts to strike another player using any part of the body the player will be excluded from the remainder of the game. Additional discipline may be imposed under the Discipline and Complaints Policy.

Registration & Fees

All participants (athletes, coaches and team managers) must be registered in RAMP prior to entering the water. Only those who are registered have insurance coverage.

Water Polo Canada has changed its membership structure for 2024/25. School League athletes now fall under the "Water Polo for Life" category. Individual registration fees are \$65 (Water Polo Canada \$35/ MWPA \$30).

Volunteers (Team Managers, and Minor Officials) are free (\$0) to register.

Coaches who are truly volunteering their time to the School League may register as a Volunteer in the RAMP system. If an individual also coaches with a Club or other program, they are required to register under the "Water Polo for Life" category.

Any Club members participating in school league must also register through the school league RAMP link. There is no additional membership fee for Club members.

Team league fees:

- High School League – 1st team \$850, 2nd team \$750, 3rd team \$650, 4th team \$650
- Middle School League – 1st team \$500, 2nd team \$400, 3rd team \$300, 4th team \$300

Invoicing for team fees will be sent to the schools early October 2024. Invoices must be paid prior to November 17, 2024 or teams will forfeit the remainder of the season.

Fees also include one 60-90 minute practice session each week. Please submit your first and second choices ASAP and we will do our best to accommodate.

Pan Am Pool

Mondays	4:00pm – 5:00pm	Fridays	6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Tuesdays	6:30am – 8:00am	Fridays	7:30 pm – 9:30 pm
Thursdays	6:30 am – 8:00 am	Saturdays	9:00 am – 10:30 am
Thursdays	4:00 pm – 5:00 pm	Saturdays	10:30 am - noon
Thursdays	8:00 pm – 9:30 pm		

Cindy Klassen Recreation Complex

Fridays 6:00pm – 9:00pm

Coach and Team Manager Requirements

Team Managers and Coaches are required to complete Respect in Sport and Making Headway in Sport prior to September 30, 2024. We also encourage Team Managers and Coaches to complete the NCCP Safe Sport module (<https://coach.ca/sport-safety/safe-sport-training>)

Each school is required to appoint a Safe Sport Ambassador. More details on this position will be provided at the meeting on September 11, 2024.

Team Managers and Coaches are also required to be screening according to the MWPA Screening Policy. At present, the policy requires a Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Check to be done every two years. Level 3 individuals (as defined by the Policy) are also required to provide a Child Abuse Registry Check every year. In the alternating years, a written declaration is required confirming that the individual has not been charged or convicted of an offence since their last screen.

Water Polo Canada has just changed their policy to require checks every three (3) years. We will be asking our Board to consider whether we should follow suit. If you have someone in this position (needing to renew checks after second year), please have them fill out the Declaration Form and we will confirm if the Policy has been amended after our meeting of September 16.

We also wanted to emphasize that just because someone has a criminal record, it doesn't automatically disqualify them from being a coach, however there are certain presumptive offences as outlined in the Policy. Any other offences will be reviewed by a Screening Committee for a determination of whether the person will be allowed to participate and in what capacity.

Coaches are required to have completed the minimum NCCP accreditation of WPC Community Sport. If you are interested in coaching, but have not yet completed this accreditation, please advise the MWPA office as it is possible that we run a course concurrently with the start of the season in order have more individuals able to fulfil this requirement.

Schedule

Practices will start the week of September 23.

High School League games start September 29 from 9:00am to 12:30pm. Schedule to be determined after all schools have registered. We will endeavor to have the schedules out as soon as possible, and at least one week before the games are to be played.

Middle School League players are invited to participate in two weeks of extra education about the sport in a fun festival environment on September 29 and October 5. Their games will officially start October 20 from 12:30 – 3:00pm.

Be prepared to play 2 to 3 games per Sunday.

Imports

Individuals whose school cannot field a team may apply as an “import”. Application forms are due September 15.

Teams with fewer than 7 athletes may apply for up to two imports. The school roster must be submitted at the time of the request for imports.

Minor Officials

Each school must provide one minor official per game to help keep score. This does not need to be the same individual every Sunday. Minor officials are required to sign up via RAMP as volunteers.

Chris Armstrong will be on the pool deck most weeks and can help with official’s table. In his absence, the MWPA will have another person designated to assist.

MWPA AGM

The AGM is scheduled for October 6, 2024. More details will be circulated in the coming days. School Divisions are able to delegate an individual to vote on their behalf.

Nicolle Moskven
Executive Director
Manitoba Water Polo