



## Auckland Water Polo Open League Rules, Terms and Conditions

**Event:** Senior Club League

**Dates:** Games will take place between 10 February and 6 April on Saturdays, from 12:00-19:00.

**Venues:** Pool time has been booked at AUT Millennium, Diocesan and Sacred Heart pools.

**Age Group:** This is a senior open grade competition, meant for players born 2006 and older. If teams have a hard time fielding a team, dispensation may be granted if applied for directly to Auckland Water Polo, on a case-by-case basis.

This is NOT a competition for National League players. Division 2 Water Polo League players are however welcome to participate in this league. If a club wishes to field a player who has played in the 2023 National League, the club must notify Auckland Water Polo directly. This player can only participate if the club/player does not intend to participate in the 2024 National League. Auckland Water Polo reserves the right to disqualify a team or remove win points if this team is deemed to have played an active National League player.

Players cannot play for multiple teams within the same competition.

**Entry Cost per Team:** \$1,750.00 GST exclusive (teams will receive a \$500 credit per team entered towards this competition if the competition technical meeting is attended by **2 team representatives per team entered**).

Please register your team entry via the following subpage on the Auckland Water Polo website:

<https://www.aucklandwaterpolo.co.nz/open-league>

### Competition Format

The format of the competition depends on the number of team entries received however the league is expected to run a round robin, followed by a semi final and a final match. AWP expects to be running games of 7 minute-quarters. There will be no time outs available until in a round robin phase- each team will have 2 time outs in cross overs/semi finals/finals matches.

### Important Dates

- Entries close on the 17<sup>th</sup> of January
- A Draw will be released on or before the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January
- Invoices will be sent out on the 30<sup>th</sup> of January
- Team Lists must be submitted on the 8<sup>th</sup> of February
- Competition Technical Meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February
- Start of AWP Open League on the 10<sup>th</sup> of February

**The Auckland Water Polo Open League** will not clash with any New Zealand Water Polo competitions (as per the NZWP calendar on 14/12/2023) however we cannot guarantee the competition dates will not clash with other water polo related events such as national team camps/training.



## Auckland Water Polo Open League Rule Summary

The Auckland Water Polo Open League will be governed and run by World Aquatics Rules in general.

- Teams are limited to 13 players per game.
- Team lists for the competition must be submitted by the 8<sup>th</sup> of February.
  - o Clubs may apply for dispensation to add players to this list after the 8<sup>th</sup> of February, however AWP reserves the right to refuse any dispensation applications, these will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- A team bench may include up to 3 team staff members but must include 1 coach.
- Games will consist of 4 quarters of 7 minutes each.
- There will be no time outs available to teams in the round robin phase.
- During cross overs/semi's and finals, teams will each be able to use 2 time outs.
- Games can end up in a draw, and do not need a final result in the round robin phase(s)
- If the game ends in a draw at full time but requires a winner (cross overs, semi's and finals), a penalty shoot-out will take place immediately after the expiring of regular time.
- 3 people are required for each game's table duty during the round robin phase (no goal judges). During cross overs/semi's and finals, 5 people are required for table duty.
- Teams are requested to sign off on the game sheet once the game has finished and the referees have had a minute to check. This is to ensure there are no incorrect scores submitted.
- Tie breakers will be decided by the former FINA rules covered under FINA BL Tie Breaking 9.8. For a further breakdown, please check AWP Tie Breaking here:  
<https://www.aucklandwaterpolo.co.nz/docs>

### Health and Safety

In case of any injuries resulting from water polo related activity at the venue of competition should be reported to the pool controller at the venue of competition. Specifically where (suspected) concussions are concerned, teams are encouraged to notify Auckland Water Polo and adhere to New Zealand Water Polo's Concussion Policy, found here: <https://nzwaterpolo.org.nz/public-documents> .

### Protests

As per World Aquatics Rules, a referee's decision is final and cannot be protested. However, if a team wishes to lodge a protest this must be done within 30 minutes at the conclusion of the game. For further specifics, please check the AWP Competition Rules, available here:

<https://www.aucklandwaterpolo.co.nz/docs>

For any further questions, please contact Fabian Wanrooij on [fabian@aucklandwaterpolo.co.nz](mailto:fabian@aucklandwaterpolo.co.nz) .

### Rule Addition 06/03/2024

As of 06/03/2024, any teams playing in the 2024 Senior Open League are unable to play any players who have participated in the 2023 National League UNLESS specifically given dispensation by a staff member of Auckland Water Polo. Teams can request dispensation by emailing Auckland Water Polo weekly before Friday 10:00am. Dispensation requests received after 10:00am on Friday cannot be processed and no dispensation will be granted.

Until AWP has granted dispensation in writing via email in a direct response to the request, any requested players are NOT eligible to participate.

Teams which play players who have not been granted dispensation to play, will automatically forfeit any games in which 2023 National League players have taken part in. This rule pertains to players who have played in the 2023 National League, only.

