

# PLAYER TRANSFER POLICY

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<b>Version</b>	<b>Date Reviewed</b>	<b>Date Endorsed (meeting type)</b>	<b>Content reviewed/purpose</b>	<b>Author/Proponent</b>
1.0	22.03.2021		Introduction of policy	Sue Gliddon (GM)
2.0	20.09.2022		Review of Policy	Risk Management and Governance Committee
3.0	30.09.2025	30.09.2025	Review of Policy	WPWA Board

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

WPWAI recognises the importance of ensuring that Clubs are sustainable and that competitions are fair and equitable. However, at all times, player welfare and encouraging participation in water polo in Western Australia are of equal importance. WPWAI considers that this Policy strikes an appropriate balance between club sustainability, participation and player welfare.

## **2. PURPOSE**

Players, during their sporting careers, join and move clubs for many reasons. The intention of WPWAI in adopting this policy is to establish a process for players to transfer between Clubs without inadvertently impacting on water polo in Western Australia, Clubs or Players.

## **3. RELATED DOCUMENTS**

Constitution (under review)

Competition Policy

## **4. SCOPE**

This policy applies to all members of WPWAI and Players.

## **5. PLAYER TRANSFER POLICY**

### **5.1 Transfers during the Out of Season**

A Player may Transfer at any time during the Out of Season, without approval other than if a Player owes money to the Existing Club.

### **5.2 Transfers In Season**

- (a) A Player may transfer In Season with the approval of the Player's Existing Club, the New Club and WPWAI.
- (b) Transfer Permission may be refused by an Existing Club on the following grounds:
  - (i) if a Player owes money to the Existing Club relating to the Player's Registration at that Club; or
  - (ii) if it is the reasonable opinion of the Existing Club that the Transfer of the Player at that time would cause unreasonable disruption to the Team during the then current Season.

## **6. TRANSFER PROCESS**

### **6.1 Out of Season Transfers**

A Player changing clubs during the Out of Season may do so by registering at a New Club at the start of a Season and completing the Out of Season Online Clearance process.

### **6.2 In Season Transfers**

- (a) A Player wishing to change clubs In Season must:
  - (i) obtain Registration Permission and request the New Club to lodge a transfer request online;
  - (ii) obtain Transfer Permission; and
  - (iii) obtain Transfer Approval from WPWAI.
- (b) The Player, the Designated Official of each of the Existing Club and the New Club, and WPWAI must complete the In Season Online Transfer process in line with Clause 5.2.

## **7. INTERSTATE TRANSFERS**

- 7.1 This policy does not apply to Players who Transfer from interstate or overseas to play for a Club in Western Australia. Such Players are free to register with a Club of their choosing at any time subject to:
- (a) the relevant interstate water polo association confirming to WAWPI that the Player is not under a current suspension or banned for a term; and
  - (b) the Existing Club confirming that all amounts owing to the Existing Club by the Player have been paid

## **8. LOAN PLAYERS**

- 8.1 Nothing in this Policy prevents a Player, by agreement between the Player's Primary Club and a Secondary Club, from being a Loan Player.
- 8.2 Loan Player arrangements must be renewed each season or for such period as the Player's Primary Club does not intend to field a team in a competition at a level commensurate with that Player's ability.
- 8.3 At all times during any Loan Player arrangement, the Player shall remain a Registered Player of their Primary Club.

## **9. DEFINITIONS**

**Club** means an incorporated water polo organisation which comprises of individual members who participate in water polo activities and whose objectives include fielding teams in competitive water polo tournaments, competitions, matches sanctioned from time to time by WPWAI or WPAL or any member of WPAL and aligns with and is consistent with the objects of WPWAI.

**Competition Rules** means the Competition Rules of WPWAI which provide the framework within which competitions are regulated and conducted.

**Constitution** means the Constitution of WPWAI.

**Designated Official** means the person nominated by a Club to authorise the Transfer of a Player from or to their Club.

**Existing Club** means the most recent Club that the Player was, within the last 12 months, Registered to play the Sport for.

**Form** means the form contained in Schedule 1.

**CEO** means the Chief Executive Officer of WPWAI and includes any person acting in that position.

**In Season** means during the season and would apply after a member has registered for a club in the initial season, E.g. registering for Club A for the new season, moving from Club A to Club B during the season

**In Season Online Transfer** means the online process in Revolutionise in which the New Club grants Registration Permission and initiates a transfer request to the Player's Existing Club to seek Transfer Permission and Transfer Approval from WPWAI.

**Loan Player** means the process as defined in the *WPWAI Competition Rules* by which a Player from a Club is permitted by WPWAI to play for a team of another Club and Loan Player Arrangement has a corresponding meaning.

**New Club** means a Club for which a Player wishes to Register to play water polo.

**Out of Season (Off Season)** means between seasons and would apply when a member is attempting to register for a different club in the new season, e.g. in previous season member registered for Club A, WPAL registration rollover is performed, member registers for Club B for the new season.

**Out of Season Online Clearance** means the online process in Revolutionise in which the Player registers with a New Club and initiates a clearance request with New Club, Existing Club and WPWAI.

**Player** means a person Registered to play in WPWAI competitions.

**Primary Club** has the same meaning as Existing Club and is used in the context of the implementation and interpretation of Loan Player Arrangements.

**Registered** means the process of a person registering to play the game pursuant to the National Registration Policy and is financial at the time of Season commencement and **Register** and **Registration** have corresponding meanings.

**Registration Permission** means permission granted by a Player's New Club approving the Transfer of a Player.

**Season** means the water polo season commencing in or about September/October each year or as determined by WPWAI.

**Secondary Club** means the Club for which a player has received a dispensation to play for a specific reason. Examples include but are not limited to; the Primary Club not offering the appropriate level of competition e.g A Grade; or for regional players to play in metropolitan competitions; or for a junior player to play with a different club in open age competitions.

**Team** means the Team within the Existing Club for which a Player plays with reference to that Player's ability.

**Transfer** means the transfer of a Player from a Club to another Club.

**Transfer Approval** means approval granted by WPWAI allowing the Transfer of a Player.

**Transfer Permission** means approval granted by the Existing Club at which a Player is Registered.

**WPAL** means the incorporated body, Water Polo Australia Limited.

**WPWAI** means the incorporated body, Water Polo Western Australia Inc.

