



**2025-26**

**PERTH WATER POLO LEAGUE**  
**and**  
**PERTH WATER POLO RESERVES**  
**Competition Manual**

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## Review History

Version	Date Reviewed	Date Implemented	Content reviewed /Purpose
1.	October 2024	October 2024	
2.	October 2025	November 2025	Team lists, Finals, Fines

# 1. Competition Overview

This manual specifically details the rules upon which the 2025 Premier League and Reserves Competition will be conducted and supports the behavioral standards set out in the Water Polo Australia Think Act Play.

This competition is a Senior Opens Program and not an Age Group program and is conducted under the World Aquatics Water Polo Rules unless otherwise specified in this Competition Manual or the WPWAI General Management Competition Rules. This may be subject to change.

## 2. Competition Information

- 2.1.1** Clubs / Associations are permitted to nominate two teams per gender per club into the Premier League and three teams in the Premier League Reserve. Any variances require approval by WPWAI.
- 2.1.2** PWL and PWLR games will be hosted at venues approved by WPWAI.
- 2.1.3** Competition Scheduling
- 2.1.4** Games can only be scheduled for Saturday afternoons or when allocated by WPWAI, for example make-up rounds and Semi-Finals.

## 3. Team Entry Fees

- 3.1.1** All team fees will be due and payable within the trading terms outlined on each invoice, for teams to be listed in the draw.

## 4. Team Eligibility Requirements

### 4.1. Team Eligibility

- 4.1.1** All teams participating in the PWL and PWLR Competition will be required to follow the eligibility rules within this competition manual and the WPWAI General Management Competition Rules.
- 4.1.2** Athletes cannot be registered on the squad list of two different Clubs PWL or PWLR teams, without dispensation approval by WPWAI.

### 4.2. Team Officials

- 4.2.1** Team Officials (Coaches, Managers) must be listed on CMS in line with the scheduled date in the Competition Timeline on the WPWAI website.

- 4.2.2** Up to three (3) officials, being Head Coach, Assistant Coach and Manager are only permitted to sit on the bench along with the substitutes.
- 4.2.3** For the purposes of the Rules, any Head Coach, Assistant Coach or Manager entered on the Team list will be considered a “Team Official”.
- 4.2.4** All team officials seated on the team bench during any given fixture must wear the official team uniform and closed-toe footwear. The wearing of thongs, slides, sandals, or open-toes shoes are strictly prohibited.
- 4.2.5** Team officials are strongly encouraged to utilize the WPWAI Approved Statistics Sheet during each fixture to accurately record goals and major fouls. This document is designed to align with the official scorecard, making it easy to verify key statistics such as goals scored and exclusions. Team officials must follow Section 6.5 of this Competition Manual when wishing to approach the scoring table.
- 4.2.6** Teams must list a Captain on the team list. Vice-Captain is optional.

### 4.3. Squad Lists

- 4.3.1** Clubs must submit initial squad lists, minimum 13 and maximum 22 athletes in line with the schedule of date in the Competition Timeline on the WPWAI website.
- 4.3.2** Each Club Squad list must follow the rules outlined in Section 5 of this Competition Manual.

### 4.4. Game Team Lists

- 4.4.1** All teams participating in the PWL and PWLR can list up to a minimum of ten (10) athletes and a maximum of fourteen (14) athletes from their approved squad list for any given fixture.
- 4.4.2** If a team names fourteen (14) athletes for any given fixture, then the team must have twelve (12) field players and two (2) goalkeepers.
- 4.4.3** A team with one (1) goalkeeper is only permitted to have a maximum of 13 athletes’ total.
- 4.4.4** Goalkeepers must wear red caps 1 and/or 13,16,18.
- 4.4.5** Goalkeepers are not eligible to play as both a goalkeeper and a field player in each fixture.
- 4.4.6** Teams who submit their team lists for any given fixture with less than ten (10) athletes, will be required to request a dispensation from WPWA to participate in the fixture.

- 4.4.7** All Teams must submit their Game Team List by **9am every Thursday** via email to the Competitions Coordinator.
- 4.4.8** Athletes may not participate in both Premier League and Premier League Reserve games in the same weekend.

## 4.5. Uniform and Equipment (Team Caps)

- 4.5.1** Refer to the WPWAI General Management Competition Rules.

# 5 Athlete Eligibility Requirements

## 5.1 General

- 5.1.** Refer to the WPWAI General Management Competition Rules.
- 5.1.2.** This includes fixtured rounds and final series.

## 5.2. Exemption Requests

- 5.2.1.1** Exemption requests outside the scope of this Competition Manual and the General Management Competition Rules will be submitted to the Competition Coordinator for assessment.
- 5.2.1.2** Decisions are final and are not subject to an appeal.

# 6. Conduct of Games

## 6.1. Premier League and Premier League Reserve Game Duration

- 6.1.2** Four (4) periods of eight (8) minutes actual time.
- 6.1.3** The quarter and third-quarter interval break will be two (2) minutes. The half time interval break will be three (3) minutes.

## 6.2. Time Outs

- 6.2.1** All teams will be permitted two (2) time outs per game.

## 6.3. Shot Clock Timing

- 6.3.1** To align with the current World Aquatic rules, the shot clock timing will be a 28 - second possession and an 18-second exclusion or reset.

## 6.4 Penalty Shoot Outs

- 6.4.1.** PSO applies in the final series only and the games must be completed to a result, either to the end of regular time or to a Penalty Shoot Out (PSO).

- 6.4.2.** WPWA Competitions will follow the PSO World Aquatic Rules.

## 6.5 Errors and Conduct of Game Officials

- 6.5.1.** For the purpose of these Rules, any Referee, Officials Delegate, or Table Official will be considered a “Game Official”.

**6.5.2.** Decisions of Game Officials are final and cannot be appealed or protested at any stage. Reasons are not required to be given for such decisions and any form of harassment of Game Officials during or after the game may result in disciplinary action.

**6.5.3.** Technical Errors may be raised with the Officials Delegate by the Nominated Listed Team Official only during one of the scheduled breaks in play (quarter-time, half-time, and three-quarter time).

**6.5.3.** The Official will consider and rule on any Technical Errors as exclusively defined in Section 6.5.7 at the time they are raised and will immediately rectify any error they deem can be appropriately rectified without requiring a replay of any kind. Such decisions are made in their sole and absolute discretion. The Official is not required to give reasons for their decision, and their decision is binding on all parties and non-appealable.

**6.5.5.** No team coaches, athletes or personnel are permitted to engage with the Referees, Delegate or Game Officials on any matters for a period of up to 15 minutes following the conclusion of the game. This includes the conclusion of any PSO will be deemed the conclusion of the game.

**6.5.6.** Only one Nominated Team Official from each team may approach the Delegate. A breach of this provision may result in a red card issued to any additional Team Officials that approach the bench.

**6.5.7.** The Technical Errors which may be raised with the Officials are limited exclusively to the following: Number of Exclusions per athlete and Scoring Errors.

## 6.6. Competition Points and Ladder

**6.6.1** Refer to the WPWAI General Management Competition Rules.

## 6.7. Forfeits and Fines

**6.7.1.** Refer to the WPWAI General Management Competition Rules.

## 6.8. Venue Requirements

**6.8.1.** Equipment and Field of Play: Refer to the WPWAI General Management Competition Rules.

## 7. Host Club Responsibilities

**7.1** The Host Club is responsible for the venue in hosting the games.

**7.2** Provide suitable equipment for the timing requirements of the games, refer to the WPWAI General Management Competition Rules.

**7.3** The Host Club must ensure that games start on time.

## 8. Table Duty, Game Sheets and Results

### 8.1 Table Duty

**8.1.1** For PWL, WPWAI will provide at least two (2) accredited Table Officials to perform the duties of the timekeeper, the secretary, the caller/flags person.

**8.1.2** If WPWAI cannot provide for PWL, then the fixtured teams will be called upon to nominate a person from each club. PWLR, clubs are to supply Table Officials.

**8.1.3** Each teams nominated Table Officials must be accredited and must be able to complete the duties without supervision or assistance.

**8.1.4** If the appointed Table Officials are inexperienced and/or has not completed the WPA Table Officials modules, the team must supply an accredited and capable person to support/assist the appointed Table Official.

### 8.2. Game Sheets & Notifications of Results

**8.2.1** The Game Sheet must be completed 30 minutes prior to the start of the game by both the Home and Away Club. This includes Team Officials and Captains.

**8.2.2.** All other requirements, refer to the WPWAI General Management Competition Rules.

## 9. Finals: Eligibility, Officials, Game Sheets and Spectators

**9.1.1** Refer to the WPWAI General Management Competition Rules 18, 20 & 21.

## 10. Breaches and Disciplinary Procedures

**10.1.** Refer to the WPWAI General Management Competition Rules.