

WATER POLO IN AUSTRALIA COMPETITIONS ADVISORY PANEL TERMS OF REFERENCE

PREAMBLE

Water Polo Australia (WPA) as the National Sporting Organisation for water polo in Australia coordinates and delivers competition(s) (as listed in Appendix 1, which may be amended from time to time by WPA), to provide an opportunity for players, coaches and officials to compete, coach and adjudicate at a level of competition, different to what they have access to in their local environment. It is important that these competitions have a clear purpose and are fit for purpose, with alignment in operating principles and competition rules and regulations.

PURPOSE

The Competitions Advisory Panel (CAP) will initially lead a review of the competitions (Appendix 1). The committee will:

- Review and recommend the purpose of each competition
- Review and recommend the operating principles of each competition
- Review and recommend the rules and regulation of each competition.

Through the review process the CAP will retain as a focus, the sport's core functions of growing participation and delivery of high performance outcomes.

Additionally, the CAP will remain in existence and conduct an annual audit of the competitions listed in Appendix 1.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the CAP are as follows:

- Define the purpose of each of the competitions listed in Appendix 1
- Define the operating principles which will include but not be limited to:
 - Competition Status: open or closed
 - Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) of the competition
 - Define the competition rules to support the operating principles.
- Collaborate with the WPA communications staff to formulate the communication strategy for the above information.

ROLE AND FUNCTION

The CAP is a non-statutory body. The role and functions of the committee are purely advisory in nature and will initially be focused on delivery of the objectives outlined in this document. The CAP recommendations will require approval from the WPA Board.

COMMITTEE MEMBER APPOINTMENTS

The CAP will be formed via an Expression of Interest (EOI) process, open to all members of the Australian water polo community. The EOI process will describe the skills and experience required from members of

the CAP and appointments will be made in order to ensure the CAP is appropriately balanced and skilled to fulfil the purpose and objectives of the CAP. Select WPA staff will also be members of the CAP.

The CAP is not restricted in number and will comprise appropriate qualified personnel who represent stakeholders in water polo in Australia:

- AWL Club representatives
- Club representatives
- State Sporting Organisations (SSO) representatives
- National Sporting Organisations (NSO) representatives
- Referees representatives

WPA will provide secretariat support and the WPA CEO will convene the process and chair meetings.

Appointment to the CAP will require one or more of the following skills or experience:

- Significant experience as a coach in water polo competitions at State or National level (Senior or Junior, including Australian Youth Water Polo Championships, or National Championships)
- Expertise or experience in developing and implementing player identification, development and retention strategies
- Significant experience as referee at State or National level (Senior or Junior, including Australian Youth Water Polo Championships, or National Championships)
- Significant experience in competition management, event delivery
- Significant experience in governance, sports law and/or policy development
- Significant experience in either the management and/or coaching of team sports other than water polo
- Significant experience in coach and referee development in any team sport.

FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

The initial review of competitions will involve:

- Monthly teleconference or similar unless otherwise agreed
- Circular discussion and input via email in the development of documentation.

Within two months of each Competition being conducted, the CAP will review the feedback provided through participant surveys and anecdotal feedback and make recommendations to WPA Board for amendments to the purpose, operating principles and or rules and regulations.

QUORUM REQUIREMENTS/MINUTES

A quorum will be half the regular membership plus one. Minutes will be kept of committee meetings and WPA will provide a minute secretary.

REPORTING AND COMMUNICATION

Recommendations from the CAP will be documented and provided to the WPA Board for approval.

Final approved recommendations will be published on the WPA website as an update and circulated to all State Associations, AWL Clubs and Clubs in Australian Water Polo.

CONFIDENTIALTY

Committee members are expected to maintain confidentiality of the specifics of the discussions and deliberations of the committee so as to promote frank and fearless interactions within the

committee, including by avoiding attribution of specific commentary, positions or argument to individual members.

This does not prevent members providing information outside the committee:

- in furtherance or delivery of the communications plan as approved and authorised by the committee; and
- members representing bodies or groups may (and are expected to) report the substance of discussions that have occurred or are occurring and committee decisions made to update the bodies or groups which they represent and to obtain feedback to better inform the committee's deliberations while avoiding attribution to individuals.

TIMELINES

The draft timelines, to be further refined by the CAP is outlined below.:

- By Mid-February 2020 – Confirm a Competitions Advisory Panel with an associated term of reference. Expressions of interest will be sort from the water polo community to be part of this panel at the end of the AYWPC.
- By March 31, 2020 - Define the purpose and key operating principles of WPA competitions (as a minimum this will included the AYWPC and the National Championships).
- By June 30, 2020 - Complete a revision of the purpose and key operating principles of the AYWPC, National Championships, WPA competitions and their associated operating manuals as well as rules and regulations, to ensure all are aligned and fit for purpose, and
- Establish an annual review process whereby the Competition Advisory Panel undertakes a review of the competition documents annually as a matter of routine.

APPENDIX 1

Competitions that fall within the scope of the Competitions Advisory Panel as at January 17, 2020

1. Australian Youth Water Polo Championships
2. WPA National Championships

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