



WORLD AQUATICS WATER POLO WORLD CUP

RULES & REGULATIONS 2023

(This document is an excerpt from the core document for WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup 2023- Rules and Regulations / Event Guide created by WORLD AQUATICS for the Hosts of the Event)

1. INTRODUCTION

The World Aquatics Bureau approves the organisation of the World Aquatics Water Polo World Cup. As an annually staged elite level global competition that will consist of a number of:

- WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup 2023 Men or Women Division 1
- WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup 2023 Men or Women Division 2
- WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup 2023 Men or Women Super Final

World Aquatics owns all rights in the World Cup and its competitions, except where granted to the HMF as set out in the staging agreement between World Aquatics and the HMF. The World Aquatics Water Polo World Cup will be conducted according to the World Aquatics Water Polo World Cup Rules and Regulations defined herein this document. In accordance with its statutes, the WORLD AQUATICS conducts the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup within the framework of its Worldwide National Team Events.

The following documents shall form an integral part of these regulations. By registering for the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup, a National Team confirms to accept and to follow the WORLD AQUATICS statutes as well as the respective documents:

- WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup WORLD AQUATICS Regulations
- WORLD AQUATICS Competition Regulations
- WORLD AQUATICS Constitution and By Laws
- Aquatics Integrity Code

1.1. GENERAL INFORMATION

The WORLD AQUATICS Member Federations are legally and World Aquatics financially accountable towards the WORLD AQUATICS in respect of the National Teams entering the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup.

By registering for the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup a National Team confirms to accept and to follow the respective terms and regulations regarding the release of players to the respective National Team.

WORLD AQUATICS is entitled to change and/or adapt the format of WORLD AQUATICS Events (including but not limited to the playing system, playing periods, throw-off times etc.) also during ongoing seasons. WORLD AQUATICS will especially make use of such right in case of exceptional circumstances (such as acts, events, commissions, or accidents beyond the reasonable control of a party including, without limitation, a labour dispute, pandemic, accident, fire, flood, riot or civil commotion, act of public enemy, legal enactment, government act etc).

WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup matches shall be played in accordance with the WORLD AQUATICS's current Rules of the Game. Variations on a technical level are not possible.

1.2. Fair play

The principles of fair play shall be observed by the WORLD AQUATICS Member Federations and their National Teams in all matches. This includes not only the treatment of the guest National Teams, the referees, and delegates but also the behaviour of the spectators towards all participating parties:

- Observe the Rules of the Game and the Regulations governing the Event.
- Respect all participants (players, officials, spectators, media representatives, etc.).
- Promote the spirit of sportsmanship and pursue the cultural mission.
- Participate in a correct and sportsmanlike way, not influencing any Events and/or officials in an undue way or trying to manipulate any results.

1.3. Awards

The winner of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup shall receive the trophy specifically made for this Event. All players of the teams finished at the podium in the final ranking shall receive a medal specially made for this Event.

The winner and the runner-up of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup earns the right to participate in the following WORLD AQUATICS World Championships, organized by World Aquatics

The Winner of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup Division 2 earns the right to participate in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup Division 1 in the up-coming edition.

The Player of the Game shall be chosen at each game of the entire Series.

1.4. General competition programme

- **Deadline for National Teams invited to Division 1 to confirm the invitation including all requested documents**
 - 15th November 2022
- **Draw of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup 2023 Division 1 Group Phase**
 - 25th November 2022
- **Deadline for National Teams to register to Division 2, Regional qualification phase**
 - 6th January 2023
- **Group Phase - round 1, Division 1, Men, Group A**
 - 8th – 15th March 2023
 - Zagreb, Croatia
- **Group Phase - round 1, Division 1, Men, Group B**
 - 8th – 15th March 2023
 - Podgorica, Montenegro
- **Group Phase – round 1, Division 1, Women**
 - 11th – 13th April 2023
 - Rotterdam, Netherlands
- **Group Phase - round 2, Division 1, Women**
 - 19th – 21st April 2023
 - Vouliagmani, Greece
- **Continental Tournament Europe, Division 2, Women**
 - 13th – 15th April 2023
- **Continental Tournament Europe, Division 2, Men**
 - 8th – 10th March 2023
- **Continental Tournament Asia, Division 2, Women**
- **Continental Tournament Asia, Division 2, Men**

- **Continental Tournament Americas, Division 2, Women**
 - 3rd – 8th April 2023
- **Continental Tournament Americas, Division 2, Men**
 - 3rd – 8th April 2023
- **Continental Tournament Africa, Division 2, Men**
- **Continental Tournament Africa, Division 2, Men**
- **Division 2 Qualification Tournament, Men**
 - 5-7 May 2023, Berlin (GER)
- **Division 2 Qualification Tournament, Women**
 - 2-4 May 2023, Berlin (GER)
- **Workshop for the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup WORLD AQUATICS FINAL 8 Women and Men 2023**
 - 20th May 2023
- **WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup WORLD AQUATICS SUPER FINAL Women 2023**
 - 23rd – 25th June 2023
 - Long Beach, USA
- **WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup WORLD AQUATICS SUPER FINAL Men 2023**
 - 30th June – 2nd July 2023
 - Los Angeles, US

2. THE EVENT

2.1. Entry conditions

The participation in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup is restricted to those National Teams which participate exclusively in national and international Events which are approved by the WORLD AQUATICS.

The National Federations are permitted to register those National Teams to the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup which follow the respective national legislation. The registration of teams can only be made by the National Federation. The participating teams in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup Division 1 are determined by the WORLD AQUATICS place distribution and invitation, which is drawn up prior to each season. According to this ranking list the National

Federations are entitled to participate in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup.

The National Federations have the right to register their team for the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup 2023 according to the respective WORLD AQUATICS place distribution.

Per National Federation only one team of the same gender is entitled to participate in the Event. If a National Team does not make use of its right to participate in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup 2023 Division 1, this team cannot participate in Division 2 at the same edition of the Event. The open place reverts back to the WORLD AQUATICS who will distribute it as an additional place.

2.2. Participation requirements

Eligibility to enter the Event is conditional upon the availability of the venue complying with the Rules of the Game, to the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup Regulations and the respective documents for the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup. The responsibility for correct and completed documents rests with both the registering National Team as well as with the Member Federation of the National Team.

2.3. Registration requirements

A correct registration of National Teams for the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup includes the fulfilment of the respective technical and organisational or administrative requirements.

Such a correct registration consists of:

- Correct and fully completed registration documents, which are signed by a person/representative being legally entitled to commit the National Team (declaration concerning official signing of entitlements to be attached upon request)
- Presentation of all required information, documents and declarations being due

as a part of a correct entry within the deadline stipulated. The registering National Team together with the National Federation concerned are to be held responsible for the completeness and correctness of the presented documents.

- Venue which is confirmed by the WORLD AQUATICS for the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup
- Confirmation of the availability of the venue for the required dates.

Pledge of commitment

By registering for entry, all participants in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup take note of the conditions governing the Event and expressly undertake to observe applicable Rules and Regulations. At the request of the WORLD AQUATICS an acknowledgement and pledge of commitment in this regard, signed by the responsible/authorised signatory of the National Federation (official form), shall be sent to the WORLD AQUATICS.

Non-admittance of National Teams to the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup Failures or Commissions regarding basic requirements or administrative conditions in connection with a legally correct and complete registration of a National Team to the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup led to a refusal of the registration by the WORLD AQUATICS.

The WORLD AQUATICS is entitled not to admit National Teams to the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup, which do not fulfil the respective technical and/or organisational and/or administrative requirements. The competence for decision taking relating to such matters shall be with the WORLD AQUATICS Events Commission regarding technical questions and with the WORLD AQUATICS regarding organisational, administrative and World Aquatics issues. Such decisions shall be World Aquatics.

2.4. Registration system

The registration for the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup is only valid, if all requested documents, payment (if applicable), etc. are available at the *WORLD AQUATICS GMS system* in due time within the deadline stipulated.

National Teams shall be entered by their National Federation in the WORLD AQUATICS GMS system per event, upon the qualifications. All players, staff members and any further member of the delegation must be entered with the required data without exception. Registrations shall be made by the National Federations using exclusively the official WORLD AQUATICS GMS system.

After the closing date for entries, the WORLD AQUATICS shall draw up a list of all teams entered and communicate this list to the National Teams and their National Federations as well as the media and fans.

2.5. Integrity of the Event

National Teams are obliged to guarantee the integrity of the Event in every respect – including an independent ownership, leadership/management, administration and/or sporting performance from all other water polo National Teams in the respective Event or an Event which is linked to the respective Event. No individual or legal entity of the National Team may have control or influence over any other National Team participating in the respective Event or an Event which is linked to the respective Event – this including ownership, leadership/management, administration and/or sporting performance.

Together with the registration, National Teams are obliged to provide WORLD AQUATICS with any information on individuals or legal entities within the National Team having control or influence (ownership, leadership/management, administration and/or sporting performance) over other National Teams participating in the respective Event or an Event which is linked to the respective Event.

National Teams officially confirm their fulfilment of the integrity requirements concerning ownership, leadership/management, administration and/or sporting performance regarding independence from any other National Team in the respective Event or an Event which is linked to the respective Event by signing

their registration for the respective Event without further information on the integrity question.

National Teams which do not fulfil the integrity requirements or do not have signed the respective documents shall not be admitted to the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup.

2.6. Scheduling

All playing periods for WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup matches shall be specified by the WORLD AQUATICS. The participating teams and National Federations will be notified.

The playing period of each round is fixed by the WORLD AQUATICS calendar. The exact playing day and the throw-off time of each game is subject to coordination between WORLD AQUATICS, both participating National Teams and the TV partners involved.

Playing dates as well as the exact throw-off time of any match are only valid after the official announcement by e-mail by the WORLD AQUATICS. WORLD AQUATICS has the right to switch the game order or the game days of any phase in situations of extraordinary circumstances.

2.7. Team considerations

- Draw events

National Teams taking part in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup Team. WORLD AQUATICS organizes the Draw. The National Teams will be informed due time about the seedings, the draw and the schedule.

- National Team workshop

National Teams taking part in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup must be present with at least one National Team representative at each National Team workshop of the Event phase in which the National Team is participating. The National Team representative(s) participating in National Team workshops must

either have a management function within the National Team or a function related to the core topic of the event.

Further details will be communicated by WORLD AQUATICS in good time prior to the events.

- Availability of delegation members

Upon request by the WORLD AQUATICS, delegation members (players, coaches and team officials) shall be available for activities relating to the above mentioned WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup events (draws, TV interviews, reportage, autograph sessions, internet chat, charity events, media matters, etc.).

- Dates and venues

The draw for the group phase and the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup WORLD AQUATICS shall be held at the venue named by the WORLD AQUATICS on the date scheduled in the General Timetable (see point 4). There are no draws for play-off and quarter-World Aquatics matches.

- Drawing and Seeding

Teams are seeded according to the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup seeding list after their participation is confirmed by the WORLD AQUATICS Office. The seeding is based on the previous highest ranked World Aquatics event: World Championships or Olympic Games. The seeding is confirmed and approved by the Technical Committee. The seeding for division 1 is based on previous results. This will be specified before each season.

Division 2 – Continental phase has no seeding. If any draw is required, it should be a blind-draw.

2.8. Competition system

- Group phase

The teams in both genders are divided into two divisions. The Division 1 contains the teams who reached the top on previous World Aquatics events. Upon the results the teams will be invited. Division 2 is open to all further countries to enter and compete. Division 2 may be divided into regions: Europe, Americas, Africa and West Asia, Oceania and East Asia. A World Qualifier tournament decides about the qualification to the World Cup Final. The Winner of the Division 2 is entitled to

participate in Division 1 at the next edition of the World Aquatics Water Polo World Cup.

- Division 2

The matches in Division 2 shall be played in two groups if there is more than 6 entered teams. In case of 5 or less teams the tournament shall be completed in one round robin. The first two highest ranked team shall qualify for the World Aquatics Water Polo World League World Qualifier. In case of 6 or more teams, after the group phase, (Quarter Finals, in case of 8 teams or more) Semi-finals and Finals shall follow.

- Division 1

In Division 1 Men, the matches of the group phase shall be played in two groups of six teams, with each team playing each of the other teams once, one complete round robin in Division 1.

Basically, the group of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup shall be played in accordance with the schedule set in the World Aquatics Competition Regulations (formerly FINA By Laws), which is a guideline only.

The WORLD AQUATICS has the right to adapt this schedule in each group individually based on appropriate input and reason by any of the stakeholders like the host broadcaster. All World Aquatics final decisions lie with the WORLD AQUATICS.

Round 1: 5 – 2 and 6 – 1 and 3 – 4

Round 2: 1 – 5 and 2 – 4 and 3 – 6

Round 3: 5 – 1 and 6 – 2 and 7 – 3

Round 4: 1 – 8 and 2 – 7 and 3 – 6

Round 5: 2 – 1 and 4 – 3 and 6 – 5

In Division 1 Women, where 8 teams are invited, the matches of the group phase shall be played in two groups of four teams, with each team playing each of the other teams once, one complete round robin in Division 1. Those teams ranked 1st and 2nd of Group A and B after the completion of the group phase qualify to the next Round where they decided the final classification in a round robin (3 games

per each team). The points will be carried over from the previous round. These four teams already qualified to World Aquatics World Cup Finals. The Final Classification is decided at the second tournament in both groups. The tie breaking rules applies accordingly per each tournament.

Those teams ranked 3rd and 4th of Group A and B after the completion of the group phase will play a round robin against each other (3 games per each team). The points from the previous round are carried over. The two highest ranked teams in this round qualify for the World Cup Final. The last ranked team is falling out to Division 2 at the next edition of the World Aquatics Water Polo World Cup.

A1	A4		B1	B4
A2	A3		B2	B3
A4	A2		B4	B2
A1	A3		B1	B3
A3	A4		B3	B4
A2	A1		B2	B1
1A	2B		3A	4B
1B	2A		3B	4A
1A	1B		3A	4A
2A	2B		3B	4B
1B	1A		3B	3A
2B	2A		4B	4A

- World Cup Final:

The matches of the World Cup Final shall be played as follows:

(Result from the World Aquatics Water Polo World Cup Division 1 final standing of the group phase:

Men:

Quarterfinals:

- match 1: 1st ranked team from Division 2 vs. 1st ranked team Group B
- match 2: 1st ranked team from Group A Division 1 vs. 2nd ranked team Division 2
- match 3: 3rd ranked team Group A D1 vs. 2nd ranked team Group B D 1

- match 4: 3rd ranked team Group A D1 vs. 2nd ranked team Group B D1

Semi-Finals:

- Match 5: Loser of G1 v Loser G4
- Match 6: Loser G2 v Loser G3
- Match 7: Winner G1 v Winner G4
- Match 8: Winner G2 v Winner G3

Finals:

- Match 9: Loser G5 v Loser G6
- Match 10: Winner G6 v Winner G6
- Match 11: Loser G7 v Loser G8
- Match 12: Winner G7 v Winner G8

*Women:***Quarterfinals:**

- match 1: 2nd ranked team from Division2 vs. 1st ranked team Group AB
- match 2: 5th ranked team Group AB vs. 4th ranked team Group AB
- match 3: 2nd ranked team Group AB vs. 2nd ranked team from Division 2
- match 4: 3rd ranked team Group AB vs 6th ranked team Group AB

Semi-Finals:

- Match 5: Loser of G1 v Loser G4
- Match 6: Loser G2 v Loser G3
- Match 7: Winner G1 v Winner G4
- Match 8: Winner G2 v Winner G3

Finals:

- Match 9: Loser G5 v Loser G6
- Match 10: Winner G6 v Winner G6
- Match 11: Loser G7 v Loser G8
- Match 12: Winner G7 v Winner G8

The winner of Match 12 is the Champion of the World Aquatics Water Polo World League 2023 and qualifies the next World Aquatics Championships 2024. The runner up of the World Aquatics Water Polo World League 2023 also qualifies to the next World Aquatics Championships 2024.

Scoring of the matches and ranking

All matches shall be played in accordance with the World Aquatics' current Competition Regulations. Variations on a technical level are possible.

Each game must have a winner. If a game ends with a tie in regular time, the teams must go into a penalty shoot-out according to the Rules.

The matches shall be scored as follows:

- a) win = 3 points
- b) win after penalty shootout = 2 points
- c) loss after penalty shootout = 1 point
- d) loss = 0 point

Teams' rankings are obtained by adding up the number of points won.

Tie Breaking Rules - Group phase

If two (2) teams shall have equal points, further classification shall be established as follows:

- The team winning the game between them (including penalty shoot-out if so) shall be placed higher.
- If there is more than one tie in a group, the highest placed tie shall be determined first.

If three (3) or more teams shall have equal points, further classification shall be established as follows:

- The results among the tied teams shall determine which team is placed highest.
- If, at any time during the application of the procedure 1, the number of tied teams is reduced to two (2), then the above procedure (10.2.1., tie between

two teams) shall be used to determine which of the two (2) remaining teams is placed higher.

- The comparison shall be made:
 - first, upon the points of the games among the tied teams.
 - second, the goal difference (excluding the goals from penalty shoot-out) among the tied teams,
 - third, based upon goals scored among tied teams.
 - If still tied, the games played against the highest placed team (or teams, if tied, the team or teams not involved in the tie) shall be considered.
 - The first comparison shall be based on goal difference, and if still tied, then based on goals scored.
 - If still tied, the results against the next highest placed team (or teams, if tied) shall be used in succession until all results have been considered.
 - If still tied, there is not practical manner to determine the manner, the final classification between the teams in the tie shall be decided by coin-toss.
- If there is more than one tie in a group, the highest placed tie shall be determined first.
- For the purpose of calculating either goal difference or goals scored, the goals in any penalty shoot-out will not be taken into consideration.

Play-off and quarter final matches

If a game ends with a tie, immediate penalty shootout shall follow the fourth quarter.

Both teams have three minutes to line up for the penalties.

Rules for execution of penalty throws:

- Only players (including goalkeepers) who are listed on the match report and are not suspended or disqualified at the end of the regular playing time are entitled to participate at the penalty throws.
- Prior to the penalty throws, each team shall nominate five players by sending the field players to the middle of the pool, at the side of the benches,

standing in the water along the side-line between 6m and half marks. There is a half time break time, 3 minutes for this procedure. If the teams are not prepared and ready for the PSO, the referee shall sanction the team at the following order: warn the team by whistling, 30 seconds prior the end of the three minutes, giving yellow card immediately to the coach after the end of the three minutes.

- The players shall then take one throw each until a decision (a winner) is reached, alternating with their opponents. Each team is free to determine the sequence in which players will take their throws.
- The goalkeepers may be freely selected from the match report and exchanged according to the PSO protocol (appendix).
- The goal at which the throws are taken remain the same which the team defended at the 4th quarter. The team taking the first penalty throw shall be decided by coin toss with the observation two captains at the half mark.
- If the scores are equal after the first round of penalty throws (5-5 shots), it shall be continued until a decision is reached.
- Again, the same five players shall remain to shoot who did in the first round exactly in the same sequence like during the first 5 throws.
- In the second round, the decision (a winner) is reached when one of the players misses in the pair and the other scores.

2.9. Delegation lists and player/National Team information

Transmission of the delegation list

The National Teams participating in any phase shall register the delegation members into the World Aquatics GMS. A Delegation consists of max. 18 players as well as of team officials (up to 10 persons). The number of delegation members can vary event by event depending on the conditions and the competition system. The National Federation Representatives must be also added and submitted to the World Aquatics GMS until the deadline. After this point (registration deadline) no modification is allowed, no new persons can be added. The sport entry deadline gives the final list of players and officials. All those persons who were registered by not in the delegation, must be rejected at the GMS.

The travel details of all persons must be added. The referee with the team is a member of the delegation, the administration in the GMS must be submitted by the respective Federation.

VISA requests should be marked in the GMS.

This delegation list is valid for all following games of a specific tournament in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup and only players from the WORLD AQUATICS approved delegation list are allowed to be mentioned on the match report.

2.10. Eligibility of players

Players are eligible to play in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup if they are eligible to play for the participating National Team at the time of the match.

The GMS shall be completed with all the required details and information.

A transfer between two National Teams is only permitted according to the World Aquatics Constitution.

Player, officials, team information upload

The participating teams in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup must upload at the WORLD AQUATICS GMS portal a photo of the person by the registration deadline, as well as the players information of each player must be completed within the given deadline. The file must be uploaded in the required size and format with transparent or neutral background. A team photo and a photo of each player must be uploaded at the share folder of the Event which will be shared with each National Federation.

National Team logos, player and team photography must be made available copyright free for any use by the WORLD AQUATICS, its stakeholders and for editorial purposes by the media.

- The full list of the National Team's and players' accounts for each social media platform must be submitted to World Aquatics Office. In case of any changes during the season, the National Team must inform the WORLD

AQUATICS by email attaching the new updated list at the earliest convenience.

- Any implement digital campaigns and/or activations related to the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup according shall be provided to the WORLD AQUATICS. A full report of all implemented digital campaigns and/or activations shall be sent by email to World Aquatics Office (see point 47.3).
- A detailed analysis of the digital accounts of the National Team shall be provided
- including social media platforms, website and applications. Different KPIs
- according to each platform shall be part of this analysis.
- World Aquatics Office shall be inform about any press conferences of the National Team related to the WORLD AQUATICS World Cup well in advance sharing the date, location, agenda, participants and attending media if available.

Late entries of players and officials

In cases in which a player is not recorded on the delegation list submitted within the prescribed deadline (added to the Bulletin of each tournament) in the GMS but should become eligible to play in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup at a later date, the player may be named as a late entry requested from the World Aquatics Office.

A late entry of a player is possible before each Tournament of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup, by the end of the technical meeting. The late entry has a 200 USD administration fee.

Regarding late registrations of team officials, regardless the reason (i.e. employment contract, termination, illness, etc.) should a National Team not having a team official registered (with the delegation list within the given deadline) in the GMS, a late registration shall immediately be communicated to the WORLD AQUATICS Office. The late entry of a team official is free of charge. Not providing the filled in documents on time will result in sanctions.

2.11. Players' and officials' participation in the match

Each team is allowed to use a maximum of 18 players for a WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup Tournament. These players must be entered at the World Aquatics GMS and confirmed at the Technical Meeting (see point 6.1). The exact 13 players must be given until a certain time, to be confirmed before each tournament.

A player is not allowed to be listed on the match report as a player and as an official.

The National Team confirms the correctly listed players by submitting each entry in the World Aquatics GMS.

2.12. Players' clothing

Each team shall have two sets of caps in different colours (one dark colour and one light colour, goalkeeper red. 1-13 numbering according to the rules). These shall be in line with the WORLD AQUATICS's current Advertising on Clothing Regulations.

Each player has the obligation to wear the same swimwear and suit during the entire duration of a game including sport presentation.

Advertising on players' match and training clothes is allowed in WORLD AQUATICS World Cup matches in accordance with the Advertising on Clothing Regulations. Display of a different sponsor logo on the front as well as on the back of the cap is possible, however, all those logos must be the same colour and the same size on each cap of the set. Logos that are changing the general look of the cap are not allowed.

2.13. Dress code for each match

At the beginning of each Event phase, WORLD AQUATICS sets up a plan with the colour of the caps for each match.

The National Teams shall follow the plan, exceptions are only allowed after approval of WORLD AQUATICS in due time prior to the resp. match. The colour and design of suit for the team officials sitting on the bench must be the same.

2.14. General information

Matches of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup can only be carried out in venues that have been approved by the WORLD AQUATICS.

The Host shall ensure that no signs (e.g. flags, banners) and/or verbal statements of political, ideological, religious or unsportsmanlike nature is displayed in the playing hall.

2.15. Venue availability

2.15.1. Availability for training of the guest National Teams

The host shall provide the guest National Teams the opportunity to hold a training session of at least of 2x 60 minutes (see point 5.5.1) 2 days prior day 1. These training sessions shall be scheduled at a reasonable time, in the competition pool at least once on the day prior to the tournament starts. If the competition pool is not available for training two days before the first playing day, the host shall offer an alternative pool within a distance of 25 km or less and/or 45 minutes or less from the official team hotel. The training facility shall be offered free of charge.

Training facilities for a training sessions more than two days before the first match day shall be requested by the guest National Team not later than thirty (30) days before the arrival. A copy of this request shall be sent to the WORLD AQUATICS. In case a National Team does not request this extra training session within the time period stipulated, the training can be rejected by the host. These training sessions can be charged by the host.

2.15.2. Availability for preparations

The venue shall be fully ready and available at least 48 hours prior to the first match in order to make the necessary rehearsals and final set ups for technology, including the VAR and Broadcast under the review of WORLD AQUATICS.

Any exceptions to these rules are subject for approval by the WORLD AQUATICS. Additional costs arising due to a delay in the pool availability must be covered by the host.

3. WORLD AQUATICS OFFICIALS

3.1. General information

WORLD AQUATICS Officials include referees, delegates, representatives, WORLD AQUATICS Bureau members, WORLD AQUATICS office staff and any other persons nominated by the WORLD AQUATICS in relation with a match of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup.

WORLD AQUATICS Officials are nominated by the WORLD AQUATICS act in representation of the WORLD AQUATICS. They supervise the rundown of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup events and games following the requirements of the WORLD AQUATICS.

They provide WORLD AQUATICS with event reports in order to inform about the correct implementation of technical requirements, procedures and organisation. These reports of the WORLD AQUATICS Officials are basis for possible disciplinary procedures or sanctions toward the National Teams (players or officials)

3.2. Nomination

The WORLD AQUATICS is entitled to appoint WORLD AQUATICS Officials to WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup matches.

The National Teams will be informed in good time before the match about the nomination (contact details) of the WORLD AQUATICS Officials.

In addition to the WORLD AQUATICS Referees, WORLD AQUATICS Delegate, WORLD AQUATICS has the right to appoint further officials mainly in the field of organisation/security of the event. The duties and competences of these additional officials are to be defined for the individual appointment.

3.3. Non-appearance

In case a WORLD AQUATICS Official fails to appear, the WORLD AQUATICS must be informed immediately, and any further action shall be coordinated with all parties involved.

The WORLD AQUATICS Official has the obligation to immediately contact the WORLD AQUATICS Sports Manager (email: gabor.karpati@worldaquatics.com) with a report of the situation.

3.4. WORLD AQUATICS Delegate

The WORLD AQUATICS Delegate shall verify and ensure the orderly conduct of the event before, during and after the match and prevent any occurrences that may lead to a protest or a repetition of the match. The safety and security of players, referees, delegates and spectators shall be ensured. All measures shall be taken that are necessary to maintain safety and security. The provisions of the Rules on Safety and Security Procedure shall be implemented.

Responsibility on the field of play rests solely with the referees. Nonetheless, the delegate shall interrupt the match if necessary and bring errors or attention to a VAR check that may lead to a protest to the referees' attention. Errors in this context do not mean decisions made by the referees based on their observation of facts. The delegate shall not take decisions but only make recommendations. The officially appointed delegate must always sit at the timekeeper's table to have a good view of the substitution area at any time and to be able to intervene if necessary.

4. ATTENDEES MANAGEMENT

4.1. Tickets and accreditations

4.1.1. General information

The issuance of tickets and the implementation of an accreditation system are within the competence of the Host. An accreditation system for team members, media/TV representatives, the WORLD AQUATICS sponsors, partners and suppliers, court personnel and WORLD AQUATICS Officials must be introduced.

The WORLD AQUATICS reserves the right to implement an accreditation system, based on a central database, handling the approval of accreditation requests. In case the WORLD AQUATICS makes use of this right, the Host and National Teams must be informed beforehand in good time prior and additional information is to be provided. After an initial implementation phase all National Teams are obliged to use this system.

Only people with the respective authorisation are allowed to access certain areas of the venue. Accreditation matrix must be approved by WORLD AQUATICS.

Access controls must prohibit an uncontrolled movement of unauthorised people. Special access control must be provided for the field of play. Only WORLD AQUATICS Officials, the team members, the National Team's officials, the ceremony/event staff, the official photographer, the medical and security staff as well as a specific number of camera men/technical TV support, media representatives and other personnel having the approval of the WORLD AQUATICS are allowed to be present next to the playing court during the match.

4.1.2. Guest National Team tickets

The Host shall make available 10 admission tickets to the guest National Teams against payment of the customary local price. Additionally three (3) VIP tickets must be provided per guest National Team. However, the guest National Team must name the recipients of the VIP tickets not later than at the Technical Meeting. Excellent visibility is a basic requirement for VIP tickets provided to the guest National Team. VIP tickets include hospitality access (food and beverage) as well as best category seats.

4.1.3. Accreditations for WORLD AQUATICS Officials and WORLD AQUATICS staff

The host shall grant the WORLD AQUATICS Officials (TWPC) as well as WORLD AQUATICS staff and its respective partners all access to all indoor premises and outdoor areas of the venue.

All access accreditations for WORLD AQUATICS Officials and WORLD AQUATICS staff must be prepared by the Host according to the information provided by WORLD AQUATICS. The accreditations shall be handed out to the WORLD AQUATICS upon arrival.

4.1.4. Accreditations for media representatives

Upon request, a list of all accredited media representatives shall be sent to the WORLD AQUATICS Office. The host shall be flexible regarding the number of accreditation requests. The host must provide all accepted media representatives with the necessary accreditations according to points 40.5.1 – 40.5.4, which shall provide them with access to the media room, the press conference room, the mixed zone and the media seats on the tribune. The accreditations must always be worn fully visible.

The WORLD AQUATICS Office Staff must be informed by the National Team about accredited media representatives.

Unless otherwise requested by the WORLD AQUATICS, the media representatives accompanying the guest National Team must apply for accreditation three (3) weeks prior to the match or tournament at the latest in order to be provided with the necessary accreditation(s). This must be within the WORLD AQUATICS GMS registration deadline. Moreover, they should receive the necessary assistance with visa applications.

4.1.5. Accreditations for scouts of the official WORLD AQUATICS match data partner and guest National Teams

The host shall grant accreditations exclusively for officially approved scouts of the official WORLD AQUATICS data partner. An accreditation request will be sent by WORLD AQUATICS through the WORLD AQUATICS GMS. No other scout is allowed to be accredited.

4.1.6. Accreditations for video analysers of the WORLD AQUATICS guest National Teams

The host shall grant accreditations exclusively for the WORLD AQUATICS video analyser and video analysers of the guest National Teams. They should have granted access to the tribune and the media areas. An accreditation request shall be sent to WORLD AQUATICS through the WORLD AQUATICS GMS. No other filming is allowed to be accredited or to operate.

4.2. Transport

4.2.1. Duties of the guest National Teams

The guest National Team is responsible for the organisation and the payment of its trip including all respective extra costs like visa, insurance, etc. to and from the airport that is chosen by the guest National Team.

The guest National Team is liable and must bear all costs incurred should the host have a right to compensation in reference to the compulsory guarantees stated in point 4.2.2.

The local transport starting and ending at the respective airport is covered by a bus, which is provided by the host.

A list of approved international airports shall be provided by the Host in the first draft of the Info Bulletin. If an airport is chosen by a guest National Team which does not appear on this list, the guest National Team can be held responsible for additional costs of the host resulting from the bus that needs to be made available for the guest National Team. The guest National Team is obliged to inform the host and WORLD AQUATICS upon its travel arrangement in the WORLD AQUATICS GMS before the registration deadline.

4.2.2. Duties of the host (visa, welcome and local transport)

The host is obliged, to grant all compulsory guarantees of the respective embassies, upon issuance of an invitation for a required visa for WORLD AQUATICS Officials as well as for all the guest teams. Furthermore, the host is obliged to send the respective invitation within 48 hours after the receipt of the request entered into the WORLD AQUATICS GMS.

The host must provide a bus of an international standard for a minimum of 40 people for the local transport of the guest national team. The bus shall be equipped with a heating and air-condition system and, in general, must be of an

appropriate standard. The bus or a bus shuttle service must be at the disposal of the guest teams starting with the arrival at the airport to the departure at the airport.

A representative of the host is obliged to be present at the moment of arrival at the airport. It is his/her duty to welcome the guest teams and officials and to assist the guest team and officials in any difficulties at the airport (customs, luggage, meeting the bus etc.).

In case the guest team or official travels by bus or car, the host is free from the obligation to provide a bus arrangement. No costs are to be refunded as a consequence.

In case of unusual difficulties of the guest National Team during its stay, the host is expected to provide appropriate assistance within the framework of a sportsmanlike co-operation.

4.2.3. WORLD AQUATICS Officials

Travel arrangements

The WORLD AQUATICS handles the travel arrangements of all WORLD AQUATICS Officials appointed to WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup matches.

Local transport

Appropriate transportation for the WORLD AQUATICS Officials between the airport, the hotel and the playing hall must be organised by the host during the Event's period as well as during the site inspections.

Whenever the WORLD AQUATICS President or a member of the WORLD AQUATICS Bureau attends an WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup match in his function as an WORLD AQUATICS Representative, an adequate car with an English-speaking driver must be at his disposal during the duration of the stay. The WORLD AQUATICS will inform in good time prior to the event about the attendance of an WORLD AQUATICS Representative.

The arising costs are to be covered by the host.

4.3. Board and lodging

4.3.1. Guest National Teams

The guest National Team is responsible for the organisation and the payment of its stay at the away matches. This includes all aspects of accommodation, food as well as additional activities of the guest team.

Upon a mutual consent between the two National Teams, other arrangements regarding board and lodging are possible. The WORLD AQUATICS cannot be held responsible for any dispute or discussions about World Aquatics financial issues between the National Teams resulting from individual agreements between National Teams.

4.3.2. WORLD AQUATICS Officials (except WORLD AQUATICS Representatives)

Single rooms in a hotel with a minimum of a 4-stars classification on an international rating scale must be booked for the WORLD AQUATICS Officials nominated by WORLD AQUATICS. The officials shall pay any further cost related to personal matters themselves (phone, internet, TV or mini-bar charges).

Breakfast, lunch and dinner must be provided in the hotel restaurant or a restaurant close to the hotel. The WORLD AQUATICS Officials must be accommodated in a separate hotel independent from the home team, guest National Teams and the fans of the guest National Teams.

The costs for boarding and lodging of all WORLD AQUATICS officials are to be covered by the host.

4.4. VIP facilities on-site

VIP facilities, including a dedicated VIP room and tribune, must be prepared and made available by each host. VIP facilities must be located in the playing hall of the respective WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup match or tournament, easy to access and clearly indicated by the sign posting system in English language.

Information regarding VIP and hospitality facilities must be communicated to WORLD AQUATICS at least four (4) weeks prior to the start of the group phase. This includes photos of arranged VIP facilities such as VIP room, VIP parking, VIP entrance, etc.

4.4.1. VIP tribune

The VIP tribune must have a minimum of 50 VIP seats with good visibility on the Field of play for WORLD AQUATICS sponsors, partners and suppliers and additional dedicated seats for 1-2 WORLD AQUATICS Representatives, if nominated. The VIP tribune must be clearly identifiable (sign posting in local and English language) and easy to access.

5. MEDIA MANAGEMENT

5.1. General information

Media coverage across all publication platforms before, during and after an event is essential for the promotion of Water Polo. The WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup attracts local and international media coverage and the communication must be of the highest standards in accordance with top sporting events.

Media coverage is not only essential for the promotion of the sport, but also provides publicity for the players, attracts spectators, sponsors and partners. Although different countries may have different approaches and standards in terms of communication and media management, the main goal remains the same: reach the desired target group with your message and subsequently increase the audience following water polo. Professional staff and media facilities are the basis to successfully promote the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup on a local, national and global scale.

All participating National Teams are therefore committed to play an active role in motivating the local, national and international media (newspapers, magazines, websites, TV and radio, etc.) by providing them with information and match invitations on a regular basis. This shall be done in close cooperation with the WORLD AQUATICS Media and Communications Department.

5.2. Mixed zone

The implementation of a mixed zone is mandatory. The location shall not be too far from the media seats on the tribune, the media room and the press conference room. It should be located directly at the players' exit of the playing field and/or next to the changing rooms. Premium mix zone can be considered on the pool deck,- the location should be agreed by WORLD AQUATICS.

All players and coaches are obliged to pass through the mixed zone once they have left the playing field. The area should be separated into clear zones – walkway for the players and the section for the accredited media representatives. The zone for media representatives should be divided into four specific areas:

- area for TV rights holders,
- area for TV non-rights holders,
- area for radio,
- area for written media.

All accredited media representatives should be provided with a plan of this area (including details of the routing) when they register upon arrival. The person responsible for media/TV/statistics should also inform the teams on the location of the mixed zone.

Security staff must be well briefed on the restrictions in this area.

Adequate heating/air conditioning and sufficient light conditions shall be arranged to guarantee the best possible conditions for players and media.

Access for all media representatives which have a valid media accreditation must be granted. Spectators and court staff shall not have access to this area.

After the end of the match, TV and radio right holders as well as non-right holders and written media are permitted to conduct interviews in the mixed zone. Therefore, a mixed zone backdrop must be provided by the Host. All TV/video interviews must be carried out in front of this backdrop. The distance from the camera to the player should be set up in a way that the backdrop is fully visible, but no surrounding. In case an individual format is needed by a host, the respective design is done by WORLD AQUATICS (see point 95.3).

Photography is not permitted in the mixed zone. Photographers may enter the mixed zone for editorial purposes only.

5.3. Flash zone

On request of WORLD AQUATICS, a space to set up a flash zone shall be made available. The flash zone must be located at the field of play on the pool deck. Flash interviews can only be held during the warm up (coaches) and after the match by the host broadcaster and/or right holders with permission (see point 95.4). The

Player of the Game awarding should be also in the Flash Zone or at the pool deck upon agreement with the Host Broadcaster.

Flash zone interview requests

On request of WORLD AQUATICS and/or the right holders, a minimum the head coach of each team shall be available for interviews with the right holders at the pool deck until 45 minutes prior to the match and the Player of the Game, the coach of each team and minimum two players after the final whistle of the match.

5.4. Press conference

At the WORLD AQUATICS World Cup Final, a post-match press conference must be organised by the host approx. 15 minutes after the end of each match. The exact starting time of the press conference shall be coordinated at the Technical Meeting.

Starting with the group matches and upon request, the Host must provide WORLD AQUATICS with a detailed list of all media activities, which also includes date(s) and timings of press conferences in the week preceding the match. This list must be World Aquatics finalised and confirmed with the WORLD AQUATICS in order to ensure that media requirements and interests are met. The WORLD AQUATICS has the right to stipulate that a press conference must take place prior to the match/ tournament. The post-match press conference must be attended by the head coaches as well as one key player, who played in the match, of each National Team. The head coaches and the players are to be informed of this duty before the start of the match, preferably at the Technical Meeting.

Coaches and players, who have been disqualified during the match, are not allowed to attend the press conference.

The person responsible for media/TV/statistics (who may delegate this responsibility to a secondary person from the media team) must ensure that the head coaches and key players of each National Team appear at the agreed time at the post-match press conference.

The person responsible for media/TV/statistics (or another qualified person) shall act as a moderator and a translator (if required). The translator must have a sufficient understanding of the sport of water polo and the terms being used. The

moderator must announce the start of the press conference to all media representatives in the media room.

The seating arrangement at the press conference must be as follows (from left to right, when looking at the podium from the audience's point of view): player home team, head coach home team, moderator, head coach guest team, player guest team, translator (if required). The moderator interviews the parties involved – asking them to give a statement on the match and the floor is then given to media representatives for questions.

A copy of the official match report must be available for all participants at the start of the press conference.

The post-match press conference can be carried out in the language of the host. A translation must be provided for the guest National Team. Upon WORLD AQUATICS request (at least three (3) days prior to the resp. match), the press conference must be carried out in English.

The press conference room must be equipped as follows (see point 95.5):

- Room: minimum of 30 sqm
- Lighting and sound system for TV recordings
- Minimum of 2 tables and 6 chairs at the front of the room
- Press conference backdrop
- Table banner
- Microphones (branded with microphone flags if available) on the table
- 1 portable microphone
- WORLD AQUATICS/local sponsors, partners and suppliers table tags
- Name tags
- Beverages (water only if no other sponsor requirement) on the tables
- Minimum of 20 chairs for media representatives

Upon request, all post-match press conferences must be streamed live on the WORLD AQUATICS/host's social media channel(s). The channel(s) confirmed must remain the Host's primary social media channel for streaming of the press conference. In case the Host National Team adds additional channel(s) or decides to change the channel(s) for the live streaming, it is obliged to inform WORLD AQUATICS accordingly. Please find further information in the Press Conference Live Streaming Guidelines (see point 1).

5.5. Media events

5.5.1. Team trainings

In case team training sessions are scheduled, the first 15 minutes must be open for media on DAY-1 of the Tournament.

Players and coaches shall be available for interviews in this first 15 minutes. In case of such activities WORLD AQUATICS and the respective national teams must be informed about the training times and details at latest three (3) days prior to the activity (see point 2.15.1).

6. PROCEDURES AND PROTOCOL

The purpose of procedures laid down by the WORLD AQUATICS for WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup matches, is to create consonance throughout the entire Event in terms of official ceremonies and the official protocol.

6.1. Technical Meeting

The Technical Meeting must be carried out on the day before the tournament starts or as agreed between the parties in a meeting room of the venue or official hotel.

The Technical Meeting is conducted by the WORLD AQUATICS Delegate and the WORLD AQUATICS Office Staff in cooperation with the host responsible and the representatives of all teams, all referees and all TWPC members. Technical matters as well as the security concept are to be discussed in detail. The run-down of the event (ceremonies, side events, etc.) must be handed out to all participants of the meeting by the host. The same information will be distributed to press/media representatives in the press room as well as to TV representatives during the TV meeting. An exact checklist of this meeting is detailed in the appendix section.

At this Technical Meeting, all teams shall enter all players they intend to use (no more than 13) and officials (no more than 3), in the match report. This list must be the same as formerly registered at the WORLD AQUATICS GMS.

A later entry of an additional player or a later change of a registered player is not permitted.

Additional topics for the Technical Meeting (see check list – enclosure 101)

- The playing eligibility of maximum 18 (13) players of each team is to be checked with the WORLD AQUATICS players list.
- There is no longer any check of the passports/player licences at the Technical Meeting.
- Technical matters of the game, new and special rules
- The referees are announced
- Security concept of the complete event (security inside and outside the playing hall, separation of the opposing fan sectors, medical emergency resources, etc.)
- Press conference (time, place, participants) / mixed zone / flash zone
- Pre- and post-match procedure (official entry ceremony, protocol, players' presentation etc.)
- Side events (banquet, etc.)
- Organisational matters (VIP guests of the guest national teams, etc.)
- Special marketing and promotion activities

6.2. Playing eligibility

The WORLD AQUATICS Delegate has the right to control the passports/player licences with photo of a maximum of 3 players not later than 30 minutes prior to the match. The accreditation cards must be collected and placed to the jury table. These cards can be collected after the respective game.

6.3. Match day schedule

The following match schedule and timings must be observed for every WORLD AQUATICS match, depending on the actual schedule:

- 11:00 hrs. World Aquatics final inspection of the venue
- Throw off-time minus
- 3:00 hrs: Completion and World Aquatics final inspection of playing field
- 3:00 hrs: Completion of EABS set up; EABS playlist and animations check
- 2:00 hrs: TV meeting and EABS TV check (full match lights required)
- 1:30 hrs: Mandatory rehearsal of official entry ceremony
- 1:00 hrs: Official start of warm up
- 0:15 hrs: Official end of warm up

- 0:10 Hrs: Start of official entry ceremony

6.4. Official ceremonies and activities

6.4.1. General information

The WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup Event must be able to be identified due to their official ceremonies.

Unofficial throw offs are not permitted before the game and/or before the second halftime.

Exceptions are subject to written approval by the WORLD AQUATICS.

Any additional official activities (moment of silence, best player award, etc.) are subject for approval by the WORLD AQUATICS.

6.4.2. Entry ceremony

As the entry ceremony gives the first impression of the event for TV spectators and spectators in the pool it is important that all players of both teams respect and strictly stick to the timings fixed in the Technical Meeting for the entry ceremony and swim-off.

During the entry ceremony the players must wear identical clothing: either with the player's clothes (robes, short shirts and trousers) or tracksuits.

Ball display

WORLD AQUATICS will provide a branded ball display. This ball display must be used with a completely clean/unused official match ball.

Escort kids

The players can be accompanied by children during the entry ceremony. This right is valid until recalled by WORLD AQUATICS. Escort kids may be visible on TV. The following criteria must be observed if the host chooses to involve escort kids:

- Escort kids must be used equally for both, home and away team.
- They must be equally dressed for both teams.
- Escort kids may wear neutral clothing, National Team branded t-shirts/pants or players' shirts of host (see point 93.3).

- Layout/photos of branded clothing for escort kids must be sent to WORLD AQUATICS for approval prior to use.
- The exact procedure must be approved by WORLD AQUATICS and discussed in the Technical Meeting.

Rundown

The official WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup/ National anthem(s) shall start exactly 8 minutes before the match. WORLD AQUATICS provides each National Team with detailed guidelines about the procedure (final schedule must be agreed with the Host 48 hours before the TV meeting).

Until then individual team presentations must be carried out and finished. WORLD AQUATICS recommends to start the entry ceremony 10 minutes prior the match starts.

TIME	DURATION	MINUS	SPORT PRES	FIELD OF PLAY
09:46:00	00:04:00	00:14:00		Close Warm Up
09:50:00	00:00:30	00:10:00	GO - Intro Music ANNOUNCE - Welcome & introduce the match	Send the referees on to the catwalk
09:50:30	00:00:30	00:09:30	ANNOUNCE - Introduce the referees	
09:51:00	00:00:45	00:09:00	GO - Team A Music ANNOUNCE - Introduce Team A (White)	Send Team A on to catwalk
09:51:45	00:00:30	00:08:15	GO - Team B Music ANNOUNCE - Introduce Team B (Blue) Fade music	Send Team B on to catwalk
09:52:15	00:01:30	00:07:45	ANNOUNCE - Team A anthem GO - Team A anthem	
09:53:45	00:01:30	00:06:15	ANNOUNCE - Team B anthem GO - Team B anthem	
09:55:15	00:00:45	00:04:45	- Upbeat music - Show TV feed on big screen of team talk and huddle	Teams shake hands and clear the catwalk

09:56:00	00:01:30	00:04:00		Team huddle / Team talk
09:57:30	00:02:30 *	00:02:30	ANNOUNCE - Team A players with graphics ANNOUNCE - Team B players with graphics	Players' preparation in the water
10:00:00		00:00:00	GO - Music for matchball	MATCH START

Note – This time may change depending on the length of the national anthems or other actions agreed by WORLD AQUATICS. The referee may decide to start the match late if the players are not quite ready, but Sport Presentation must ensure the match does not start early.

Organising Committees must produce a venue running order (DCAS) matching the above timings for each day of competition. This should be distributed to Sport, Sport Presentation and Broadcast for a coherent production.

6.4.3. Post-match ceremony

At the end of the match the teams shall line-up and shake hands. The referees should be directing players to make the handshakes in the appropriate way. After the players should leave the field of play. This procedure can be changed after discussion between the parties, depending on the facilities.

Player of the Game award: World Aquatics wishes to enhance the moment of the Player of the Match. To assist this moment, the following items will be combined:

- Award for Player of the Match
- Announcement and presentation of the award against a backdrop
- TV coverage of this moment, plus any relevant statistic graphics
- Photography of the Player of the Match moment.

The Delegate of the Game selects the best player of that specific game, preferably 5 minutes before the end of the game. This information needs to reach the Host Broadcaster to prepare the TV graphics and the approximately 30 seconds summary of that player. The short clip must be played in 30 seconds after the end of the game, still in the international feed. The information needs to reach the announcer, who will go to the player and give him the award and makes a short interview (30 sec, 2-3 questions) to the spectators. This action maybe filmed but

official photo must be taken. **Mutually agreed time between Sport, Sport Presentation and Broadcast can be arranged.**

6.4.4. Post-match activities

Mixed and flash zone interviews

Players and coaches are available for interviews in the mixed zone (see points 46.4 and 95.3) and flash zone (see points 46.5 and 95.4).

Post-match press conference

A post-match press conference shall be held in the press conference room. The person responsible for media/TV/statistics is in charge for the attendance of the press conference participants as well as the proper implementation of the press conference (see points 34, 46.6 and 95.5).

7. TECHNICAL SERVICES

7.1. Scouting for statistics / live match ticker

The WORLD AQUATICS implemented official match statistics for the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup matches.

The project is carried out in cooperation with the official WORLD AQUATICS data partner: Microplus.

7.2. VAR / Goal line technology

The WORLD AQUATICS has the rule to implement VAR including goal line technology at the WORLD AQUATICS events. Any decision in connection with the possible use of VAR during the matches is in the responsibility of the referees and has the same status as any other decision taken by the referees.

The current VAR protocol is available at the WORLD AQUATICS website.

7.3. Video review

The WORLD AQUATICS TWPC reserves the right to use video review after the game. Any decision in connection with the possible use of the video review after the matches is in the responsibility of the TWPC and has the same status as any other decision taken by the referees on the pooldeck.

7.4. Digital match report

The digital match report must be used by the scorekeeper at the timekeepers' table in all WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup matches. The respective software will be provided by the WORLD AQUATICS without any costs for the Host. The host resp. the national federation must secure that the nominated scorekeeper is registered for the WORLD AQUATICS digital match report and passed the respective training.

The host must provide a laptop with the respective digital match report software, with sufficient internet connection and power supply at the timekeepers' table.

7.5. Electronic Team Time-Out

The WORLD AQUATICS has the rule to install and use the electronic Team Time-Out.

7.5.1. Rules for the use of the Electronic Team Time-Out:

By using this system, each team can request the Team Time-Out directly through pushing a button on an electronic device.

The button is directly connected to the official scoreboard system and pushing the button will directly lead to a stopping of the time, additionally an audio signal will be initialized to make all parties aware of the time-out.

Please note that the general rules regarding number of Team Time-Outs apply and that a Team Time-Out can obviously only be requested as long as ball possession is not changing.

With the new system being used, the following rules will apply in case of mistake/misuse of the Team Time-Out:

If the opposing team is in ball possession and a Team Time-Out is requested by the other team, the following punishments will apply:

- Progressive punishment for the official who requested the TTO
- 5-meter throw/penalty throw for the team which was in ball possession
- Team that caused the faulty TTO will lose one (1) Team Time-Out (total number of the team time-outs will be reduced by one)

In case that the interruption occurs during a clear chance of scoring of the opposing team, the following punishment will apply:

- Red card for the official who requested the TTO by pushing the button
- 5-meter throw/penalty throw for the team which was in ball possession
- Team that caused the faulty Team Time-Out will lose one (1) team time-out (total number of the team time-outs will be reduced by one)

A special situation occurs in case the Team Time-Out was requested just in the moment when the own team is losing the ball. If it is clear, that this was a technical mistake from the coach and not on purpose, the WORLD AQUATICS Official of the match will decide on the following possible measures:

- Progressive punishment for the official who requested the TTO.
- Team that caused the faulty Team Time-Out will lose one (1) team time-out (total number of the team time-outs will be reduced by one).
- Technical decision according to the situation on the playing field (free-throw or penalty throw).

A penalty throw is obligatory in case all team time-outs have already been used and can therefore not be reduced any further. In case of technical problems with the device an official can request the team time-out through approaching the WORLD AQUATICS Delegate and requesting it orally and showing the "T" sign with the hands.

8. WORLD AQUATICS FINANCES

8.1. Entry fees

There is no entry fee for any national team to the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup.

8.2. Disbursements

The following amounts will be disbursed to participating National Teams based on the fulfilment of the regulations:

Group phase, Division 1 Qualification:

Bonus per victory \$ 1.000

Over-all Prize Money:

After the results in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup Final 2023:

1st Place: \$ 60,000

2nd Place: \$ 40,000

3rd Place: \$ 30,000

4th Place: \$ 20,000

5th – 8th Places: \$ 10,000

8.3. Dates of payment

The guaranteed disbursements shall be paid out to the participating National Teams after they are out of the Event, however by 31 July 2023 at the latest.

9. ANTI-DOPING

9.1. General information

Anti-doping controls may take place before, during and after a match of the WORLD AQUATICS World Cup in accordance with the WORLD AQUATICS Regulations for anti-doping and the regulations of the WORLD AQUATICS contracted Partner: ITA (International Testing Agency)

9.2. Protests and disciplinary procedures

9.2.1. Definition

Under the present chapter 'protest' shall mean any match-related claim which may have an impact on the result of a WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup match.

9.2.2. Exclusion of protests

In all matches of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup, there shall be no valid reasons for protests and protests shall be inadmissible if relating to:

- scheduling of and drawing for matches
- nomination of referees and delegates
- referees' decisions on facts in accordance with the Rules, including those based on WORLD AQUATICS Delegate's recommendations

9.2.3. Protests

Protests related to matches of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup shall be settled at first instance by the WORLD AQUATICS Management Committee on site or the delegate or referee of the respective game. The Management Committee decides if they consider the matter on site or forward the issue to the WORLD AQUATICS Office / WORLD AQUATICS Integrity Unit.

Protests shall be communicated in writing and in English no later than thirty (30) minutes after the end of the relevant match. If the issue is submitted to the WORLD AQUATICS Integrity Unit the document should be communicated in writing and in English no later than twenty four (24) hours after the action happened.

A protest fee of 500 USD shall be paid by the claimant to the WORLD AQUATICS on site or a written confirmation to deduct the amount from the National Federation account from the prize money.

If the protest is fully granted, the protest fee is refunded to the claimant; otherwise, it is forfeited to the credit of the WORLD AQUATICS.

9.2.4. Appeals

The decisions of the WORLD AQUATICS and of the WORLD AQUATICS Office on protests may be appealed to the WORLD AQUATICS Integrity Unit.

Unless otherwise provided in the first instance decision, any appeal shall be received by the WORLD AQUATICS Office in writing no later than three (3) days after communication of decision to the relevant parties.

9.3. Insurance

9.3.1. Accident and health insurance

WORLD AQUATICS has an overall and year long term insurance coverage for all participants of all World Aquatics Events.

This Corporate Mobility contract offers a worldwide coverage. The policy includes, for both illness and accident, medical evacuation, repatriation to home country, repatriation of mortal remains as well as medical advice, referrals and the monitoring of hospitalization.

The emergency medical expenses are guaranteed up to CHF 1'000'000.—

Trip modifications due to medically justified quarantines are guaranteed up to CHF 75'000.—

Teams entering the Event shall arrange accident, health and other insurance for their players and officials at their own expense for the entire season. Neither the WORLD AQUATICS as the administrator, nor the respective hosts can be held liable in this regard. Health and accident insurance arrangements by WORLD AQUATICS

Health and accident insurance for the appointed WORLD AQUATICS Officials for the duration of their nominations is arranged by the WORLD AQUATICS.

9.3.2. Organiser's insurance

The host is responsible for the insurance covering of the site(s) used for the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup matches including hall, facilities and official zones. If the Host is not the owner of the hall(s) used, the Host is also responsible for ensuring that the hall owner and or tenant in question provides a fully comprehensive insurance cover, including property damage.

The host must arrange an organiser's third-party liability insurance for the event for which it has responsibility including loss or damage of those WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup materials provided by the WORLD AQUATICS.

It is highly recommended to arrange an organiser's third-party liability insurance for the event to secure all WORLD AQUATICS Audio-visual Rights as well as Marketing Rights (see point 90.3). Further details are stated in the Staging Agreement.

9.4. Exclusion of liability and indemnification

The WORLD AQUATICS shall not be liable for any third-party liability claims arising from the preparation and execution of single matches or any other events in connection with the WORLD AQUATICS World Cup.

The WORLD AQUATICS shall be indemnified and hold harmless of and from any and all claims, causes of action, damages and judgments arising from any act or omission in connection with the execution of single matches or any other events in connection with the WORLD AQUATICS World Cup by the Host and its representatives concerned.

10. AUDIO-VISUAL RIGHTS

10.1. General information

The WORLD AQUATICS is the right holder of all Audio-visual Rights relating to the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup and is therefore exclusively entitled to assign such rights to third parties. Distribution and usage of rights for the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup, relating to television, radio, film, video and internet, shall be executed by the WORLD AQUATICS in accordance with the principles set out below. The WORLD AQUATICS transfers the use and exploitation of the complete Audio-visual Rights for the current season to WORLD AQUATICS and entitles it to undertake the respective organisational measures with regards to the usage of these rights. Consequently, all Audio-visual Rights of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup are centrally marketed by WORLD AQUATICSM in accordance with its respective partners.

In all matches which are played within the framework of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup, the exclusive rights relating to television recordings, internet recordings, radio recordings and film recordings (including video recordings) along with all other multimedia rights (including mobile rights and any further media and transmission rights not mentioned herein) shall be marketed by WORLD AQUATICS and its respective partners.

10.2. Media rights

10.2.1. Broadcast production

Each Host must guarantee appropriate conditions for the production of an international TV signal for each match. National Teams can find all necessary requirements of the host broadcaster in the WORLD AQUATICS Host Broadcaster Manual, which is distributed to each Host at the beginning of the season. If the TV

rights are not sold for any reason, the livestreaming is enough level of service. The livestream is an obligation to produce and send the feed of all matches to WORLD AQUATICS.

10.2.2. Usage of match footage

The WORLD AQUATICS and its respective partners have the option of using existing TV and film footage for the production and broadcasting of a news magazine/programme at a later date (exploitation of secondary and third-party rights) free of charge. The option of using additional cameras, microphones, etc. for broadcasting matters during the match (e.g. using microphones during timeouts) shall be decided by WORLD AQUATICS.

National Teams interested to use TV footage or any match action on their homepage or on any National Team related media platforms shall inform WORLD AQUATICS include time. It is not allowed to use TV footage or reproduce match actions in the pool at any time during a match without prior authorization of WORLD AQUATICS.

If the Host intends to use TV footage or reproduce match actions on the video screens/cube of its pool, a respective request shall be made in writing to WORLD AQUATICS.

Match action replays are permitted and can be shown on video cubes and screens in the pool prior to, during and after the respective match (see point 95.2.2)

10.2.3. Video recordings for teaching and coaching purposes

Upon request to the WORLD AQUATICS, any participating National Team shall be allowed to make video recordings of WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup matches for teaching and coaching purposes. People making video recordings of a match on video who are unable to present an WORLD AQUATICS permit may be asked to leave the pool. Due to space limitations in a hall, restrictions may have to be imposed. Such restrictions shall be agreed with the WORLD AQUATICS.

All National Teams participating in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup shall be permitted to make video recordings for teaching and training purposes from all official matches of other National Teams which participate in the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup. Such recordings shall be made by only one

person using one camera. Such video recordings shall be shown only privately to the teams concerned for study of tactics and shall not be exploited commercially.

10.3. Footage rights

All participating National Teams grant WORLD AQUATICS the right (royalty-free) to use photos and graphic materials of players and officials as well as National Team names, emblems and players uniforms within the framework of the Event for non-commercial purposes. All participating National Teams grant WORLD AQUATICS the right (royalty-free) to use any photo, any material (print material, ads, internet, product presentation, video etc.) produced for/at an WORLD AQUATICS Event match for water polo/WORLD AQUATICS Events promotions and sport development (training, teaching, etc.) purposes.

The WORLD AQUATICS has the right to transfer these aforementioned rights of use to a marketing partner for the same purposes. Such transfer is limited to an advantageous usage in the framework of the direct promotion of the event and/or the sport, prior, during and directly after the event and serves the increase of the event venue and the attraction of additional spectators. Exclusively film material, TV footage and group pictures may be used for such purposes by the WORLD AQUATICS and its related partners. Any individual picture use or any use which assigns an individual person to a specific product and its values shall not be comprised by the actual entitlements.

Each participating National Team must obtain the consent of the respective players and officials participating at an WORLD AQUATICS Event match to the use of their image as defined here above. Each participating National Team must hold WORLD AQUATICS and its partners harmless from any legal action from a player concerning the player's image rights.

10.4. Team Time-Out production

To deliver the best quality in TV production for the World Feed (WF), all participating National Teams shall be aware that the WF run-down also provides the recording of the Team Time-Outs. To this effect WORLD AQUATICS requires the full cooperation of the teams. The host broadcaster will enter the Teams' Time-

Out with a camera and a microphone. Each team is requested to provide access to the host broadcaster.

10.5. Non-match content production

WORLD AQUATICS in accordance with its respective partners produce additional non-match (social media) content on a regular basis. National Teams shall provide their support in the preparation of feature stories and additional content both in match days and in non-match days.

10.6. Official match ball

The official match ball for the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup will be provided by the 'Official Ball Supplier'. Only the official match ball shall be used during training, warm-up and WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup matches. In addition to that each Host receives match balls per tournaments, which must be made available without prior use/marketing for each match. The training and match balls will be shipped to each Host in good time prior the beginning of the Event.

No signs or other marks shall be written or affixed on the provided training and match balls.

The National Teams are not permitted to modify the corporate identity of the official match ball.

Any use of balls other than the official match balls within the frame of the WORLD AQUATICS Water Polo World Cup, including but not limited to the half time break as well as pre- and post-match activities in the pool, infringes the exclusivity rights granted to the 'Official Ball Supplier' and is therefore not permitted, unless expressly agreed otherwise by WORLD AQUATICS.