

## WATER POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS ASA EAST REGION CONDITIONS

1. The ASA East Region Water Polo Championship shall be conducted annually. Four (4) Championships will be held.
  1. The Senior Mens Water Polo Championships.
  2. The Senior Mens Inter-County Water Polo Championships.
  3. The Junior Mens Water Polo Championships
  4. The Junior Mens Inter-County Water Polo Championships

The age criteria for the Junior Mens Championships and inter county championships is – all players must be under 19 years of age at midnight on 31<sup>st</sup> December in the year of competition.

2. The Championships shall be open to all affiliated clubs or County Associations, as appropriate, in the ASA East Region. The affiliation of a school to the English Schools Swimming Association, to its local Schools Swimming Association or to the Schools Water Polo League, does not affiliate that school to the ASA East Region and, therefore, does not entitle that school, or its members, to take part in the Championships. For this purpose the school must affiliate directly to the region and pay the appropriate fee.

### **ENTRIES**

3. An affiliated club desiring to compete in any club championship shall forward to the Water Polo Events Manager, the following:
  1. the official entry form; and
  2. entry fees as decided by the Management Committee.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

4. For club championships each member of a team must be registered with the ASA as a member of the club **and** either have
  1. been born within the ASA East Region; or
  2. resided within the ASA East Region continuously from the 1<sup>st</sup> January in the year of competition.
5. Clubs and their members situated geographically outside the ASA East Region, but allocated by the ASA. Committee to the region for administrative purposes, shall be eligible to compete in the Championships but the birth and residential provision shall be extended to include the geographical area in which the club headquarters are situated.
6.
  - a) For inter County championships each member of a team must be registered with the ASA as a member of a club affiliated to the ASA East region.
  - b) A player registered as a member of a club or clubs within one county shall be eligible only to represent that County.
  - c) A player registered as a member of a club or clubs within more than one county shall be entitled to represent any one of those counties: it is the player that decides which one.

7. Anyone who has competed in any water polo championships of another ASA region shall not be eligible to compete in any of the Championships in the same year.
8. In the case of a player moving from the ASA East Region he shall be eligible to compete in that year while waiting to qualify, by residence, to compete in the championships of another ASA region but in no instance can a player represent more than one Club or County in any one year in the Championships.
9. Any question of first claim shall be settled by the application of the relevant ASA law.
10. Any club or County playing an ineligible player shall be deemed to have lost the game in which the ineligible player takes part.

## **GENERAL CONDITIONS**

### **MANAGEMENT**

11. All Championships shall be conducted under the following General Conditions except where varied by Special Conditions. Their management shall be vested in the Water Polo Committee of the ASA East Region who shall also decide any points that may arise which are not provided for in these Conditions.

### **RULES OF THE GAME**

12. All games shall be conducted in accordance within the FINA Rules of Water Polo except where varied by these conditions.

### **ENTRIES**

13.
  - a) A club is permitted to enter one team in each club championship
  - b) Not less than 28 days before each Club Championship, each club must deliver to the Water Polo Events Manager the names, addresses and ASA registration number of those players from whom the team will be selected to represent the club in the Championship. In the absence of complete information for any particular player that player will not be eligible to play for the club. The Water Polo Events Manager shall have authority to accept a player, on receipt of an application in writing with full details, not later than the day before the relevant match. No further late acceptances will be made.
14. The Water Polo committee may allow any deviation from the Rules with respect to duration of matches in order that economical use is made of pool time available.

### **SPECIAL CONDITIONS**

15. If less than six teams enter any Championship it may, if the water Polo Committee deems appropriate, be played on the league principle: each team playing the other entered.

### **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS**

16. From the entries received the Water Polo Committee shall exempt from the first round such number of clubs as it deems appropriate; taking into account the known performance of the clubs and the number of entries.

17. For the first round, the teams in each division shall play each other once. Alternatively, on a decision of the Water Polo Committee, the teams in each division shall be drawn in pairs by ballot, the first drawn to have choice of venue. For the second and subsequent rounds the winners of the first pair shall play the winners of the second pair and so on until one club is left in each division. All byes to be in the first round. The first named club shall be the home team and have choice of venue.
18. The winners of divisions shall be drawn in pairs by ballot, and play off until two are left for the final. ALL byes to be in the first round.
19. Where a Championship is played on a league basis, points shall be awarded as follows:

WIN 3 Pts

DRAW 2 Pts

LOSE 0 Pts

Where it is necessary to distinguish between league positions then this shall be determined by most points scored: if this is indecisive the following procedure shall apply where 2, or more, teams have equal points:-

- (i) the result of the match between two equally placed teams shall be used to determine position
- (ii) if this is insufficient to separate teams then better goal difference shall be used.
- (iii) if this is insufficient to separate teams then better goal average shall be used.
- (iv) if this is insufficient to separate teams the positions shall be determined by lot.

#### **TOURNAMENT PLAY**

20. In the event that any of the Championships are played on a tournament basis the Water Polo Committee will arrange dates and venues and determine which teams will play at which venue. The costs and expenses of any such tournament shall, initially, be borne by the ASA East Region. Participating teams in any such tournament will be required to share the costs and expenses equally in such amounts as the Committee shall determine at the end of the Championships. The Committee shall be entitled to make a levy on participating teams from time to time on account of the ultimate liability of such teams in such sums as it thinks fit and reasonable.

#### **COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS**

21. a) Not later than 14 days fixed for the preliminary rounds of a County Championship, each county in the preliminary round must notify the Water Polo Events Manager whether or not the County intends to compete in the Championship.

#### **SENIOR AND JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS**

22. The Championship shall be arranged in one division
23. a) The division will be played on a tournament basis on a date, or dates, as determined by the Water Polo Committee;
- b) Every reasonable effort to be made for games to be played in deep water pools
- c) The costs and expenses of these Championships to be borne equally by the teams taking part.

## **MATCH OFFICIALS**

### **CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS**

24.
  - a) The Water Polo Committee shall be responsible for the appointment of referees
  - b) One referee shall be appointed as the senior referee for the purpose of carrying out the duties of the referee required by the relevant ASA laws.
  - c) Unless the Championship is played on a tournament basis the home club shall give the appointed referees not less than seven clear days notice of the date, time and venue of the match. Failure to give such notice in writing will mean that the home club shall be liable to forfeit the match and a minimum fine of £20.00 as the Water Polo Committee shall decide.
  - d) Any appointed referees unable to officiate shall forthwith notify the Water Polo Events Manager who shall appoint a substitute.
  - e) Should one referee fail to appear for a match the remaining referee shall conduct the match alone. If for any reason a game is started with one referee and a second referee becomes available to officiate in time for the normal commencement of the second period of the game then the last three periods shall be conducted with two referees.

### **COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS**

- f) The Water Polo Committee shall be responsible for the appointment of referees.
  - g) One referee shall be appointed as the senior referee for the purposes of carrying out the duties, the referee as required by the relevant ASA laws.

### **MATCH RECORDS SHEETS**

25.
  - a) Each team captain at least 15 minutes before the game is due to start shall give to the match Secretary a list in writing of his players with cap numbers. When a match programme has been published with cap numbers these numbers must be used for all purposes, subject only to revision by the referees whose decision shall be final. The match sheet must be signed by each captain being correct before the toss is made for ends.
  - b) The match Secretary shall, during the match, keep the match record sheet updated. At the end of the match he shall complete the sheet by completing the score and hand the sheet to the referees who shall check it, sign it and advise the teams of the result.
  - c) Should a game not be played or not be brought to a proper conclusion, the details of the circumstances must be recorded by the referees on the match record sheet.
  - d) The completed match record sheet shall be posted by the home club to the Water Polo Event Manager within three days (date as postmarked) of the match, failing which the club shall incur a fine of £20.00

### **CAPS**

26. The home team or, or in a tournament, the first named team shall wear white caps and the other team shall wear caps of a contrasting colour, other than red, as approved by the referees, but also to contrast with the colour of the ball.

### **MEDALS AND TROPHIES**

27. The first, second and third placed teams in each Championship shall be awarded medals.
28.
  - a) Perpetual trophies where appropriate for each of the Championships and these trophies remain the property of the ASA East Region.

- b) Winners shall be entitled to hold, subject to (c) below, the relative trophies upon which their name shall be engraved at the expense of the ASA East Region.
- c) A trophy may be held from the time of giving to the Trophies Officer a formal acknowledgement of receipt and an undertaking to return it, in a good and clean condition, together with any plinth and/or case, in accordance with directions to be given by the Trophies Officer. (Normally to be returned at least twenty-eight days prior to date of re-presentation.)
- d) Trophies must remain in the bona fida possession of their holders and may not be taken out of the United Kingdom.
- e) Trophy receipt forms shall be printed and a copy given to the holder.
- f) The Trophies Officer must be notified immediately of:
  - (i) any loss of, or damage to, a trophy
  - (ii) any change of address of a holder of a trophy
- g) Penalties – Holders will render themselves liable to fines as follows:
  - (i) for failure to return a trophy by the date directed - £50.00
  - (ii) for the return of a trophy in a condition unsuitable for immediate representation - £50.00
  - (iii) for damage to a trophy whilst in his possession the holder shall be required to reimburse the ASA East Region for the cost of the repair.

#### **DATES AND VENUES OF FINALS**

- 29. The Water Polo Committee shall promote all finals at such venues and on such dates as it deems suitable.
- 30. A team that withdraws after the dates on which the names, addresses and registration numbers of players are required to be submitted for any particular championship shall pay a fine of £25.00 and pay expenses, as the Water Polo Committee shall decide. In the case of a team withdrawing from a tournament prior to a final tournament, the tournament shall be played between the remaining teams.

#### **DELAYED START**

- 31. a) If the start of a match is delayed beyond 15 minutes of the published starting time the Club/County responsible for the delay shall be liable to a maximum fine of £25.00 as the Water Polo Committee shall decide.
- b) The match may be cancelled by the Senior Referee if:
  - (i) In the event of a Club/County failing to have seven players available to start the match within 30 minutes of the published starting time, or
  - (ii) there is insufficient time to play a full match if that should be earlier. In the event of such a cancellation the Senior Referee and the Water Polo Secretary of each Club/County shall within three days submit a written report to the Water Polo Events Manager and to the Water Polo Committee which shall have power to make all or any other the following orders:
    - i. the award of the match to the non-offending team;
    - ii. the match to be re-arranged
    - iii. the payment of a fine up to the maximum of £100.00 by the offending Club/County; and
    - iv. the payment of expenses by the offending Club/County

## **TEAM WITHDRAWING FROM A CHAMPIONSHIP FINAL OR FINAL TOURNAMENT**

32. A team having qualified to compete in a championship final tie or final tournament failing to compete therein shall pay a fine of £100.00, and such expenses, as the Water Polo Committee shall decide. The team last defeated by the withdrawing team shall qualify to and play in the final tie and final tournament provided arrangements can be made. If arrangements cannot be made a new date for a final tie shall be arranged by the Water Polo Committee. In the case of a final tournament, the final tournament shall be played between the remaining teams.

## **FINES AND EXPENSES**

33. All fines and expenses ordered to be paid in accordance with these conditions shall be paid, and forwarded, to the Financial Manager of the ASA East Region within 21 days after notification of the decision which shall be deemed to have taken place on the second working day after posting. Failure to comply with this condition shall result in suspension of the Club/County from all championships of the ASA East Region until payment of all fines and expenses, plus an additional £30.00 fee, has been made.

## **INELIGIBLE PLAYER**

34. A Club/County playing an ineligible player shall be deemed to have lost the match, forfeit any points gained in the match to their opponents and pay a fine up to a maximum of £50.00 plus expenses, as the Water Polo Committee shall decide. In a tournament the offending team shall be disqualified.

## **UNREGISTERED PLAYER**

35. A team playing one or more players not registered with the Water Polo Events Manager shall be deemed to have lost the match, forfeit any points gained to their opponents, and pay a fine of £10.00 plus expenses, as the Water Polo Committee shall decide. In a tournament the offending team shall be disqualified.
36. Where a championship is played on a tournament basis (and for the finals of other Championships) the Water Polo Committee
- a) shall appoint a person to act on behalf of the ASA East Region as the promoter who shall, amongst other things, be responsible for complying with the promoters obligations under the safety laws.
  - b) shall appoint a senior referee for the purposes of satisfying the safety laws, to receive protests and to appoint referees for the various games; and
  - c) may appoint a jury of appeal.

## **PROTESTS, COMPLAINTS AND APPEALS**

37. All protests, complaints and appeals shall be dealt with according to ASA judicial laws.