



Team & Player Eligibility National Age Group Club Championships Effective 18 July 2015

1. DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of the National Age Group Club Championships the following definitions apply:

- 1.1. Club - a club is an affiliated body that competes in the local age group competitions run within the state/approved region.
- 1.2. Team – a team is a group of players (Min 6, Max 13 – note minimum no for 14U is 11) that is nominated under the following categories:
 - 1.2.1. Club Team – a team of players all from the one club;
 - 1.2.2. Composite Team – two clubs, that have a written agreement, apply and receive approval from WPA to enter a composite team;
 - 1.2.3. Region Composite Team – the clubs based in an approved region have applied and received approval from WPA to enter a composite team; and
 - 1.2.4. State Composite Team - the SSO applies and receives permission from WPA to enter a composite team with players drawn from clubs in the state.
- 1.3. Primary Club - is determined by the players' domiciled location. A player in the first instance must register with the Member Association in the state or territory within which they reside or in their approved region if in a border town where there is a border agreement. Casual relocation is not considered as permanent

2. TEAM ELIGIBILITY

- 2.1. All categories of composite teams can only be approved by WPAL for each separate competition. Composite teams can only be formed by two clubs. Both clubs must be able to prove by way of a signed declaration that they do not have sufficient number of players from within their own clubs to participate in the Championships. If one or both of the clubs have other teams entered into the Championships then the composite arrangement must only be with the bottom ranked teams in the club in those championships i.e. a club with a team in their own right plus a composite team must select their best players in their top team not in the composite team. Teams that breach this rule are subject to disqualification from the Championships.
- 2.2. All team nominations must be endorsed by the appropriate SSOs as an affiliated club in that SSO, however only WPA has the authority to approve teams.

- 2.3. Clubs with nine or more players competing at a NC must compete in their own right.
- 2.4. Clubs may only enter into one composite team agreement – multiple agreements are not allowed.
- 2.5. A composite team agreement can only include two clubs not multiple clubs.
- 2.6. Clubs may not distribute their players over several composite teams.
- 2.7. Composite team status must be clearly indicated on the nomination form (team names reflect both clubs of origin).
- 2.8. Composite team nominations must indicate the club each player plays for in the local/regional/state competition.
- 2.9. Composite teams are eligible to play in finals.
- 2.10. Teams from clubs that compete in the NWPL are NOT exempt from these rules.
- 2.11. Composite teams will not be allowed to draft players.

3. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1. Players must be financial members of clubs.
- 3.2. A player must play for their primary club if that club enters a championship. If a player chooses not to do so then they cannot play for another team. – note: If a player makes themselves unavailable to play for their primary club and then changes their mind they may still only play with their primary club and may not play for anyone else. If their primary club cannot accommodate them then they will not play at those championships. Further should a player not make themselves available or not participate in the spirit of the selection process for their primary club with the intention of not being selected and then the team withdraws from the competition the player is excluded from the tournament and may not play for another club.
- 3.3. Where a player is not selected by their primary club then that player is free to join the WPA draft for that tournament.
- 3.4. Where a player's primary club does not enter the championships either as a stand-alone club or in the category of a composite team then that player is free to join the WPA draft for that tournament.
- 3.5. Player Transfers
 - 3.5.1. Once entries have opened for a national tournament there can be no transfers – players must play for the primary club regardless of any transfers that may occur. Only in exceptional circumstances will WPA agree to such a transfer.
 - 3.5.2. WPA has the ability to approve a composite team of players from multiple clubs where those players all come from primary clubs that have not entered the relevant championships.
 - 3.5.3. Approved Regional/State based teams such as ACT, Hunter, Ovens and Murray/Wagga, Geraldton, Bunbury, Sunshine Coast, South Australia and Tasmania are to be treated in the same manner as clubs for the purpose of eligibility.
- 3.6. Player Draft
 - 3.6.1. The player draft will be managed by WPA.
 - 3.6.2. Where a player applies to be in the draft because of the eligibility rules above then the player must apply to the Manager, Events and Competitions to be

- included in the draft. The player must supply a short resume and contact details on the appropriate form by the publicised closing date.
- 3.6.3. Teams who do not have 11 players will be permitted to select a maximum of three players from the draft. Clubs with multiple team entries in any championship will only be allowed to draft players to the bottom ranked team. Composite teams will not be allowed to draft players. Teams must apply to the Manager, Events and Competitions to select players in the draft prior to the tournament on the appropriate form by the publicised closing date. The Manager Events and Competitions will decide the order of draft selection if necessary. Teams in the same state as the player wishing to be drafted will have first choice at all times.
- 3.6.4. The draft for all national aged club championships will be conducted over two rounds. The first round will be restricted to teams and players within the same state/territory. Any players who are not selected in the first round may, if they and their parent/guardian agree and subject to clause 3.6.5, progress to the second round. The second round will be a national draft.
- 3.6.5. Any player/s who is/are under the age of 18 as at the start of any tournament may only be drafted by an interstate club if both the guardian and club representative sign the WPA consent document and lodge it with Water Polo Australia at least one week prior to the commencement of the tournament. The document will include acknowledgement by the parent/guardian that they have contacted the relevant club and are in agreement with the terms and conditions of the participation in the team of their child/dependant. The document must also include a statement by the club representative that they have contacted the parent/guardian, explained the conditions of participation in the team and that the club guarantees that the coach, assistant coach, team manager and any other team staff have a current working with children clearance and have sighted such clearance/s.