

WATER POLO AUSTRALIA LIMITED

Referees Commission - By-Laws

1. There shall be a committee titled the Referees Commission consisting of the following persons:
 - 1.1 Four (4) Commissioners elected by WPAL senior referees;
 - 1.2 Two (2) Commissioners appointed by Water Polo Australia Board of Directors;
 - 1.3 The Commissioners referred to in 1.1 shall hold office for four (4) years - one Olympic cycle - but are eligible for re-election and re-appointment. Elections will be held two months after an Olympic Games, where two commissioners will be elected, and then two years after the Olympic Games at the end of the international season, when an election will be held for the other 2 commissioner/s. In the inaugural term of office, to start in 2013, an election will be held for all four Commissioners with the lowest ranked 2 Commissioners to serve one year and the highest two ranked Commissioners to serve three (3) years.
 - 1.4 The Commissioners referred to in 1.2 shall hold office for a period of twelve months as determined by the Board from time to time. Commissioners appointed under 1.2 are eligible for reappointment.
 - 1.5 To be eligible for nomination to the Referees Commission a person must be:
 - 1.5.1 a former or current FINA referee; or
 - 1.5.2 a former or current senior NWPL referee with at least ten years-experience officiating in the NWPL; or
 - 1.5.3 a person with senior national team experience as a player or coach; or
 - 1.5.4 a person who has officiated as a delegate in at least two of the previous three NWPL seasons.
 - 1.5.5 At least eighteen (18) years of age.
 - 1.5.6 A registered member of WPA.
 - 1.5.7 At least one member of the commission shall be a female who meets the above criteria.

1.6 Senior referees invited to vote for Commissioners under clause 1.3 shall be those referees detailed as follows:

1.6.1 Current and former Australian FINA referees.

1.6.2 Former NWPL referee's with a minimum of 5 years-experience officiating in the NWPL

1.6.3 Referees who officiated in either of the previous two (2) National Water Polo League competitions.

1.6.4 Referees who officiated in either of the previous two (2) National Championships for Junior Men and Junior Women 20 Years and Under.

1.6.5 Delegates who officiated in at least two of the three previous National Water Polo League competitions.

1.7 In the event of any vacancy occurring on the Referees Commission to the commissioners elected in clause 1.3 through death, removal or resignation, the Referees Commission will appoint a member who meets the selection criteria in 1.5 until the next scheduled election.

1.8 The Referees Commission shall at its first meeting each year elect a Chair from those Commissioners elected according to 1.3. The commissioner will hold the position of chair for twelve months and is eligible to be re-elected to the position.

1.9 A Commission nominee shall act as Secretary for meetings.

1.10 The functions of the Referees Commission shall be to:

1.10.1 develop and maintain a work/action plan that fits within the WPAL current Strategic and Operational Plan and within current budget;

1.10.2 provide advice to the Board and receive advice from the Board of WPAL on matters which impact directly on referees;

1.10.3 nominate representatives from among their members to represent Referees Commission on WPAL committees as requested from time to time;

1.10.4 provide leadership and direction on matters that directly relate to refereeing, namely, but not limited to;

1.10.4.1 education of referees including conducting an annual referees conference;

1.10.4.2 retain and recruit referees;

1.10.4.3 maintain in co-operation with WPAL a national assessment and grading database of all WPA badged referees;

1.10.4.4 recommend referees to WPAL for the FINA Water Polo Referees list

1.10.4.5 appointment of referees to international events both in Australia and overseas;

1.10.4.6 appointment of referees to the National Water Polo League;

1.10.4.7 appointment of referees to National Championships;

1.10.4.8 appointment of a delegates committee to officiate at matches within Australia;

1.11 The Referees Commission must convene at least six times per year and for such meetings a quorum must consist of a majority of its members. These meetings shall be either by phone or in person.

1.12 The Referees Commission must provide every three months, or for Board meetings as required, a written report to WPAL updating its work/action plan.

1.13 Members of the Referees Commission must have equal voting rights provided the Chairperson of the Referees Commission may have a casting vote in addition to his or her deliberative vote.

1.14 Within its financial means, WPAL shall assist the organisation of the meetings of the Referees Commission and communications between the members of the Referees Commission.