

WATER POLO AUSTRALIA HALL OF FAME NOMINATION PROCESS AND NOMINATION CRITERIA ASSESSMENT AND INDUCTION (Implemented 2026)

NOMINATION PROCESS

1. The opening date for nomination process will usually be 1 February 2026 closing 31 March.
 - a. In 2026, being the first year of this process, nominations will open Monday 27 April and close Monday 25 May 2026.
 - b. In subsequent years the nomination process will open 1 February and close 31 March.
2. Nominations may be made by Water Polo Australia, state bodies, clubs, individuals and WPAHOF members.
3. Calling for nominations will be promoted through the website and newsletters to members and nomination criteria and nomination form will be available on the website.
4. Following the closing date nominations will be collated and distributed to Committee members allowing time for review at least seven days prior to the Selection meeting.

SELECTION PROCESS

1. Nominations will be considered annually and inductions to the Hall of Fame will be made annually. If no suitable nominees are put forward, then there would be no announcement in that year.
2. There are two categories of membership – player and general.
3. There is no restriction on the numbers of inductees considered however the number will be as low as possible.
4. Candidates must:
 - a. for induction in the player category be Australian citizens
 - b. be superior achievers at the highest level of water polo competition as, players over a period exceeding 6 years or persons who have made an exceptional contribution over an extended period to water polo as administrators, coaches, referees or in another capacity, and
 - c. have the support of their peers.

- d. In the event the candidate is a Gold Medallist at a World Championships or Olympic Games the minimum period of contribution (6 years) need not apply.
5. Over the period of 2026 the WPAHOF and the WPA History and Traditions Committee with the assistance of the Sport Australia Hall of Fame will be considering the introduction of categories covering pioneers and legends for consideration of the Board. At this time there remains only one category as Member.
6. Player candidates will not be considered for induction until at least 2 years after their retirement from the highest level of competition except in the case of achievement of an Olympic Games or World Championships Gold Medal where all members of these teams will be automatically recommended to the Board for induction.
7. In addition to their competitive achievements a candidate's integrity, sportsmanship and character shall be considered in the selection process. And further, once a candidate is inducted into the Hall of Fame the committee could and should continue to assess Hall of Fame members with the same ongoing level of integrity, sportsmanship and character. For clarity, if an inductee's integrity, sportsmanship or character is brought into disrepute after induction, the member can be removed from the Hall of Fame.
8. The process for the induction of candidates to the Hall of Fame shall be as follows:
 - a. the WPAHOF Committee shall be appointed (refer to WPAHOF Terms of Reference) to select successful candidates for induction into the Hall of Fame in accordance with the selection criteria.
 - b. the WPAHOF Committee shall comprise up to 5 members who have been nominated by the Board and who are Hall of Fame Members and the President of WPA (or his/her nominee). WPA shall consider gender and geographical diversity in nominating the WPAHOF (refer to the Charter for the WPAHOF)
 - c. candidates for consideration by the WPAHOF Committee may be nominated by financial State Members of WPA
 - d. the decision of the WPAHOF Committee regarding successful candidates for recommendation to the Board shall be final provided the selection criteria have been followed.
 - e. WPA shall act as secretariat for the WPAHOF Committee annual process.

NOMINATING GUIDELINES

1. Prior to completing a nomination form the nominator should read and fully understand the criteria, which is also available on the WPA website. It is critical that the nominator is aware that an inductee to the WPAHOF is the highest award

afforded to any water polo person in Australia, for achievement at the highest level of water polo while representing Australian water polo, and is recognised as an elite, the top echelon in Australian water polo.

2. It is a strict condition of nomination that the nominee is not aware of the nomination, nor does the nominee become aware of the nomination, and the nomination remains confidential to relevant persons pertinent to the nomination. This is essential to avoid any embarrassment or disappointment should a nomination not be successful.
3. It is important that each nomination is thoroughly researched and factually accurate and presented to provide the nominee with the best possible opportunity to be inducted. Should a nomination not be successful the nominator will be advised in confidence, without any reason provided, and no further nominations for that person will be considered unless new and significant information is provided.
4. The WPAHOF Committee will be the sole arbiter with respect to nomination of candidates for recommendation for approval of the WPA Board. Members selected and approved ultimately by WPA will be notified directly by the President of WPA and invited to accept membership. Nominators of successful nominees will also be notified.
5. All nominations received by the Secretary to the WPAHOF prior to 31 March of the year will be considered for induction in that year.
6. An inductee may be inducted posthumously.

NOMINATION FORM INSTRUCTIONS

Nominee Details

Purpose

We use the details you provide about your nominee so that we can accurately identify them. This is important for the research process. Every nominee is independently researched.

If your nominee is recommended for the WPAHOF, we use the details you provide to contact them. We do this to ask if they are willing to accept the award if successful.

Information Required

Mandatory questions are marked with an '*'. You must answer these questions to complete the form. For some mandatory question you can select 'I do not know'.

You are asked to provide:

- Name*
- Gender*
- Date of birth (or an age range)*
- Any contact details you know (including address, phone number and email)*
- Any awards, achievements & recognition your nominee has received:
 - types of awards, achievements & recognition could include sporting achievements and awards eg. All World Team, award/s from an organisation, Council or another body eg. Victorian Coach of the Year, or recognition through other honours systems eg. OAM
 - your nominee does not need to have a qualification or another honour or award to be recognised in the WPAHOF. Providing this information helps with the research process.

Nomination Details

Purpose

This is where you tell us about what your nominee has done that is outstanding. You do not need to know every detail about them. Provide as much information as you can.

We use the information you provide as a starting point for research.

Every nominee is independently researched to produce a complete picture of their service and the difference they have made. This full package of information is used by the WPAHOF Committee for the Board of Water Polo Australia to recommend the outcome of the nomination.

Information required

Mandatory questions are marked with an '*'. You must answer these questions to complete the form.

You are asked to provide:

- How you know the person you are nominating*
 - if you know them personally, describe your relationship to them.
 - if you do not know them personally, briefly tell us how you know of them. For example, you might have seen what they have done across many years in water polo at different levels.

- A statement about why you think your nominee should be recognised (see below)*
- You can include attachments to support your nomination.
 - for example, you may attach copies of your nominee’s resume, media stories about their contribution, evidence of other types of recognition or achievements.

Answering the question ‘why you think your nominee should be recognised’.

Every nomination is different. There is no right or wrong way to tell us why you think your nominee should be recognised. If you do not know all the details, that is ok.

- Provide as much information as you can.
- You can use dot points or any other format that suits you.

If you are able, tell us how your nominee has gone above and beyond in the water polo community nationally and internationally.

- Give examples of the good work they have done.
- Describe how they have made a difference. Rather than just saying ‘they served in this position for x years’ tell us what they did that was above and beyond ‘as <position> they achieved ...’
- Note that the Water Polo Australia Hall of Fame recognises those that have contributed nationally and internationally. There are State awards that recognise State and local contributions.

The below questions are only prompts to help you consider how to respond (you do not have to answer any or all of them):

- How does/did your nominee’s role and contribution stand out from others?
- What difference did they make to the water polo community? Was their impact at a local, national and/or international level?
- What obstacles or challenges did they overcome? How did they go above and beyond?
- How have they earned the respect of others and become a role model in their field?
- What do/did they do that puts them in the top level of achievement in their field?

Your Details

Purpose

We use the contact information you provide to:

- send an acknowledgement of receipt.
- contact you if we need more information or clarification.
- let you know when your nomination is complete (once the selection process is complete).

Information required

Mandatory questions are marked with an ‘*’. You must answer these questions to complete the form.

You are asked to provide:

- Name*
- Gender*
- Date of birth*
- Your contact details*

Application Declaration

Purpose

We use this information to:

- confirm the information you have provided is true and correct to the best of your knowledge.
- improve the nomination process into the future.

Information required

Mandatory questions are marked with ‘*’.

You are asked to provide:

- confirmation the information you have provided is true and correct to the best of your knowledge.
- feedback on the form.

Water Polo Australia Board Approval

Once the WPA Board has considered and approved those recommended for induction to the WPAHOF, congratulatory letters are sent to successful recipients. Appointments should remain in strict confidence until public announcement.

Announcements

WPAHOF inductions are publicly announced on the Water Polo Australia website and through social media.

Inductions

In 2026 recipients are invited to an induction ceremony planned to coincide with the Water Polo World Cup Finals to be hosted in Sydney 21-26 July 2026. Inductees will be presented with their WPAHOF award by the WPA Board President.

Inductions take place once per year, usually in November.

NOMINATION FORM

Available from Water Polo Australia.