

2026 – National State Championships Information Brief

Dates:

- 29 September 2026 to 3rd October 2026

Location: TBC (some venues are not available the whole time and we are waiting on other venues to confirm)

- Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre (MSAC)
- Caulfield Grammar School Co-ed
- Mentone Girls Grammar
- Camberwell Grammar Co-ed

Divisions:

- 15&U Boys & Girls – Born 2011 & 2012
- 17&U Boys & Girls – Born 2009 & 2010

Teams:

- Maximum of 8 teams in each age group and gender
- State Teams
- International Teams by invitation – NZ
- Barbarian Teams – subject to the number of team entries. Noting the Barbarian team entry would be managed by WPA Pathways.
- Teams are to consist of 14 players - 12 field players and 2 Goal Keepers –
- Please confirm your team entries by 9am Monday 15th June 2026 by registering your teams using the link: [2026 National State Champs - Team Entries - Water Polo Australia](#)

Draw: FYI

- Please note - For the 2026 NSC Finals Day, venue availability means the 17 Boys and 17 Girls medal games are currently scheduled for 1:00pm, 2:15pm, 3:30pm and 4:45pm on 3 October 2026. Please allow flight departure after this time.
- **We are conscious of departing flights and are trying to bring these games to finish earlier by sourcing an additional venue, so we could potentially finish around 4pm**
- We are hopeful the 15 Boys and 15 Girls medal games will be completed by 1pm
- We are hopeful all play-off games 5th to 8th position should also be completed by 1pm

Referees & Delegates

- Referee & Delegate appointments will be managed by WPA
- Michael Hart & David Nissen will reach out to States confirming the preferred candidates for selection to attend this event.
- Referee & Delegate travel will be managed by WPA, and the costs will be passed onto the States via the Team Entry fee.

Team Entry Fee

- \$5,864.84 ex GST – subject to WPA Board Approval and includes covering Referee costs.

Table Officials

As in previous years, States are required to provide Table Officials (x2) for each game.

If your State is unable to provide Table Officials, please advise WPA at the time of completing your Team Entry Registration (a question has been included in additional fields in the registration link). States requiring assistance will be invoiced separately at a rate of \$30 per game per person.

WPA has set up an EOI registration link for Table Officials to register their availability during the tournament. - [2026 NSC - Table Official - Water Polo Australia - revolutioniseSPORT](#)

Whilst we do try for the Referees to cover Table Duty for the Final's Series (1-4), this is not always possible, due to games being played at other venues where Referees are required.

If we are unable to provide Referees for the Final Series games, we will look to appoint competent independent Table Officials, however, the cost will be passed onto the States.

Pool Controller

On review of the WPA Staffing that will be in attendance and after discussions with Water Polo Victoria, States will not be required to provide a Pool Controller for the 2026 NSC.

Draft Process

As discussed at the Meeting on Wednesday 27 May 2026, WPA are reviewing the process of the draft for the 2026 NSC. Please refer to the document previously emailed... "2026 NSC – Draft Proposal".

In addition, please note there was no intention to exclude any States from nominating players. NSW and QLD were referenced only because they have historically had the highest number of draft registrations across the NSC's I've been involved with.

We absolutely welcome any athletes of the required standard who are part of their State's pathways program and endorsed by their State but are not selected in their State Team.

Disciplinary Matters

- As per the National Sanctioning Policy

Key Timelines

States/International to confirm Team Entries	Monday 15th June 2026
States Invoiced	Monday 22nd June 2026
Team Lists including Coaches	Friday 31st July 2026
States to provide list of Players not selected in their team to WPA/Pathways (Ranked by Player Position)	Friday 31st July 2026
Invoices Due	Monday 20th July 2026
Player Info provided to States who require players	Managed by Pathways Lead
Player allocation to Teams who require players	by Friday 7th August 2026
Draw Released	Monday 10th August 2026
Team Names added to RevSport	Tuesday 1st September 2026
Players, Cap Numbers & Team Staff loaded in MemberPool	by Monday 14th September 2026
State Executive Meeting	Wednesday 16th September 2026
Athlete, Coach & Manager Meeting	TBD
Coaches & Referee Meeting - Online	Monday 21st September 2026

