

## Athlete Expression of Interest – Open Men & Women's Team

### World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4

### Dubrovnik, Croatia 31 August – 6 September 2026

Water Polo Australia invites eligible male and female athletes to submit an Expression of Interest (EOI) for selection in an Australian team to compete at the Inaugural World Aquatics Water Polo 4x4 Open World Championships in Dubrovnik, Croatia, from 31 August to 6 September 2026.

Water Polo 4x4 is a new, fast-paced discipline featuring fewer players, a smaller field of play, faster transitions, increased scoring opportunities and simplified, spectator-friendly rules. The Championships will mark the official global launch of the format, with men's and women's competitions staged in Dubrovnik's historic Old Port.

As this is a newly launched event, Water Polo Australia has been provided with a limited preparation window. Consequently, there will be a short turnaround for athletes to submit their expressions of interest.

### Tour Eligibility:

To be eligible for selection, athletes must meet the following requirements:

- Australian Citizen
- WPA member
- Athletes who have competed in the Australian Water Polo League or equivalent national competition overseas within the past two years.
- Be currently training

### Costs:

- As this is a new competition format, athlete participation will be self-funded. Water Polo Australia will cover the costs associated with coaches and support staff; therefore, athletes will only be responsible for their individual participation costs. **The final athlete contribution will be confirmed and communicated following the completion of the EOI process.**

## EOI Application Process:

Athletes must complete the [https://qualtricsxmsj3jf3ky9.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3IPeNblvOkFySwe](https://qualtricsxmsj3jf3ky9.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3IPeNblvOkFySwe) to express their interest.

**Application Deadline:** 5.00pm Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2026

If you have any further questions, please contact Paul Heffernan National Performance Pathway Lead via email [paul.heffernan@waterpoloaustralia.com.au](mailto:paul.heffernan@waterpoloaustralia.com.au)

## Selection Process:

EOIs will be assessed by the appointed selection panel, with consideration given to playing position, recent competition experience, current training involvement and suitability for the Water Polo 4x4 format. A total of eight athletes will be selected for each team.

This inaugural World Aquatics event provides an exciting opportunity for athletes to represent Australia, experience a new and fast-paced format of water polo, and compete on the international stage. Eligible athletes are encouraged to submit an EOI for consideration.

Link to World Aquatics Bulletin: <https://www.worldaquatics.com/competitions/5584/world-aquatics-water-polo-4x4-open-championships>