WATER POLO AUSTRALIA NATIONAL TECHNICAL RULES 2026/2027 SEASON – EFFECTIVE FROM 1st SEPTEMBER 2026

Australian Youth Water Polo Championships						
Rule	**12&U Girls & Boys**	**14&U Girls & Boys**	**16&U Girls**	**16&U Boys**	**18&U Girls**	**18&U Boys**
Age Rule	Born 2015 & 2016	Born 2013 & 2014	Born 2011 & 2012		Born 2009 & 2010	
Team Rosters	Minimum – 14 players (12 Field & 2 GK) 14 players MUST participate in each match (minimum 12 field players + 2 GK) - unless exemption granted					
Game Duration	These specific times are outlined in section AYWPC Competition Manual.					
Timeouts	Two (2) timeouts per team during final stages only (semi-finals onwards). No time-outs in play-off games 5th & below					
Pool Dimensions	Min: L 20-25m, W 10-20m (as per World Aquatics rules)					
Pool Depth	Minimum 1.8m (preferably 2.2m)					
Goal Size	W 2.5m, H 0.75m	W 3.0m, H 0.9m (inside measurements, as per World Aquatics Rules)				
Ball Size	Size 3	Size 4		Size 5	Size 4	Size 5
Other Rules	As per Sport Rules found on the WPA Website or event specific alternations as per Event Competitions Manuals.					

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	WPA National Championships				
Rule	**13&U Girls and Boys**	**15&U Girls**	**15&U Boys**	**17&U Girls**	**17&U Boys**
Age Rule	Born 2014 & 2015	Born 2011 & 2012		Born 2009 & 2008	
Team Rosters	Teams must consist of 14 players (12 field players + 2 GK).	All teams must have 14 players (12 field players & 2 GK's). If a team does not have 14 players, then they must enter the Draft. If there are no available players in the draft, special exemptions may be provided by WPA.			
Game Duration	Four (4) periods of four (4) minutes actual time. 1-minute break between periods and 2-minute break at half-time. (World Aquatics Rules apply).	Four (4) periods of seven (7) minutes actual playing time. 1-minute break between periods and 2-minute break at half-time. (World Aquatics Rules apply).			
Timeouts	No Time Outs	Two (2) timeouts per team during final stages only (semi-finals onwards). No time-outs in play-off games 5th & below			
Pool Dimensions	Min: L 20-25m, W 10-20m (as per World Aquatics Rules)	Min: L 20-25m, W 10-20m (as per World Aquatics Rules)			
Pool Depth	Minimum 1.8m (preferably 2.2m)				
Goal Size	W 3.0m, H 0.9m (inside measurements, as per World Aquatics Rules)				
Ball Size	Size 4	Size 4	Size 5	Size 4	Size 5
Other Rules	As per Sport Rules found on the WPA Website or event specific alternations as per Event Competitions Manuals.				

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Australian Water Polo League		
Rule	**AWL Women**	**AWL Men**
Age Rule	Open to all ages	
Team Rosters	*22 Players are permitted on the Team Roster through the MemberPool, however 14 players, (12 field players and including two (2) goalkeepers) are to participate in each match.	
Game Duration	Four (4) periods of eight (8) minutes actual playing time. 2-minute break between periods and 3-minute break at half-time. (World Aquatics Rules Apply)	
Timeouts	Each team is permitted two (2) Time Outs at any time during the match. (World Aquatics Rules Apply)	
Pool Dimensions	Min: L 20-25m, W 10-20m (as per World Aquatics Rules)	Min: L 20-30m, W 10-20m (as per World Aquatics Rules)
Pool Depth	Minimum 1.8m (preferably 2.2m)	
Goal Size	W 3.0m, H 0.9m (inside measurements, as per World Aquatics Rules)	
Ball Size	Size 4	Size 5
Other Rules	As per Sport Rules found on the WPA Website or event specific alternations as per Event Competitions Manuals.	

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