



2017 LA84 WATER POLO RULES & PROCEDURES



The LA84 Foundation Summer Splash Water Polo Program will commence with the coaches workshop on June 24, 2017, and conclude with the Water Polo Festival on Saturday, August 19, 2017. The mission of the LA84 Foundation Water Polo Program is to introduce youngsters to the sport of water polo through skills development, coaching education and competition opportunities.

Summary:

Four different age groups will be offered which are:

- A) 7 – 8 years old = Team practices and scrimmages. *Possible scrimmage games at Festival.*
- B) 9 – 11 years old = LA84 Foundation Competitions & Water Polo Festival**
- C) 12 – 14 years old = LA84 Foundation Competitions & Water Polo Festival**
- D) 15 – 16 years old = Team Practices and scrimmages – Match officials will not be compensated by LA84 Foundation. Compensation is responsibility of host agency.

Each Municipality will be allowed to enter one team in <11 and one team in <14 age groups into the Summer Splash Water polo Festival on August 19, 2017 at Rose Bowl Aquatic Center.

Final rosters for all teams in each age group are due to the LA84 Foundation by **July 27, 2017**. No additional teams will be allowed after July 27th– All teams may add names to their roster up to 1-week prior to the Festival, but no new teams will be added after **July 27, 2017**. If any new players are added within the qualifying time period it is the responsibility of the coach to notify the LA84 Foundation of the addition for additions to be official. The coach must resubmit a revised roster anytime an adjustment is made in order for the player to be eligible to compete at the festival.

Eligibility:

- Eligibility in age groups is based on the youngster's age as of July 1, 2017. **Participant in 9-11 age groups may move up in age group to 12-14 age groups but may not be moved down. Participants may compete only in one age group. A player may only play for one team for the entire length of the season.** All rosters will be kept on file at the LA84 Foundation office and will be considered to be the official roster for the Festival.
- Only Novice athletes are eligible to compete in the program. A novice athlete is defined as one who participates in organized competitive aquatic programs during a seasonal or year round basis. The LA84 Foundation Water Polo Program is **NOT** intended for athletes who are at the Junior Olympic level.

Athletes who have competed at Junior Olympics or at the Speedo Cup are not eligible to participate.

- Lifesaving employees (lifeguards) may not participate in novice sport programs.

General Rules:

- ALL COACHES MUST COMPLETE A CURRENT "POSITIVE COACHING ALLIANCE" TRAINING WORKSHOP FROM LA84 FOUNDATION IN THIS OR THE PREVIOUS YEAR IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO COACH, NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED FOR FAILING TO MEET THIS REQUIREMENT. TEAMS WITHOUT A QUALIFIED COACH ON DECK WILL BE CHARGED WITH A FORFEIT AND WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO COMPETE.
- All coaches **must conduct a participant's nail check prior to their games.**
- Each host venue agrees to provide the game table, set-up the venue for competition, provide staff support for the table and staff to function as deck marshals.
- The water polo coordinator will schedule the game officials for scrimmages and league play through the foundation assignor Hadi Farid (hadipolo@gmail.com).
- The host venue for scrimmages and league play will be responsible for providing a water polo scorebook and forwarding the scores and rosters to LA84 Foundation. Email to Bettie Williams (bwilliams@la84.org) or Nolan Ortiz (nortiz@la84.org) or fax to (323) 730-9637.
- Players shall compete for one team only and may not change teams during the play season.
- A copy of the player's birth certificate or a valid proof of age shall be submitted to the Pool Staff prior to program participation as proof of age. In the event that any said player's age is questioned then that information shall be made available to the Water Polo Coordinator upon request.
- The penalty for violation of any Eligibility rules disqualifies said player for the current season and forfeit of all games in which said participant played.
- In the event that a facility is unable to field a complete team, they may combine with another facility in the same region to field complete teams. That team must practice and compete as a combined team for the entire summer.
- Two girls must be present and listed on the roster for all games. **Each female player must play in the match at least one full quarter.**
- **Agency matches shall be contested 5 minute running clock quarters for ≤11 and ≤14 except last minute of each quarter stop clock.**
- **It is suggested that size 3 balls be used at ≤11 matches and size 4 balls at ≤14 matches.**

Water Polo Festival Rules:

- Maximum of 16 players per team, minimum of 7 players per team
- Twenty minute games with five minute running quarters for ≤11, 5 minute running clock quarters for ≤14.
- Two girls must be present and listed on the roster for all games. With a minimum of one female in the water at all times. Each player must participate at least one quarter per game.

- Teams arriving late to a match will be allowed a ten-minute grace period to allow late team the opportunity to play. Beyond grace period, late team is charged an automatic forfeit.
- One time out is permitted per half. Time outs cannot be carried over. Requesting team must be in possession of the ball for time out to be granted.
- First team listed wears dark caps.
- Each team is responsible for two sets of caps.
- At the Festival, games that are tied at the end of regulation time will play up to two "Golden Goal" overtime periods. "Golden Goal" means that the first team to score in the overtime period wins the game. If a tie still exists after the two overtime periods, the game will be decided by a sudden death penalty shoot-out. Each team will alternate taking a penalty shot until the game is decided.
- Current USWP rules will be used during the game.
- At referee's discretion, a player may be disqualified from play for violating any grooming compliance or health code requirements.

Considerations:

It is agreed that the majority of the participants will be in the ≤ 14 age group. The 9-11 and 12-14 age group will be able to compete in the 2017 Summer Swim Water Polo Festival on August 19, 2017.

Proper Conduct:

It is imperative to the vitality and the success of this program that everyone involved address each other with the utmost respect and refrain from committing acts of brutality, misconduct or disrespect.

Team coaches are responsible for maintaining control over their team members during game play or while on the deck. Failure to maintain control over a player(s) may result in the ejection of the coach from the game or the deck and the forfeit of the game should there not be an additional staff member available to supervise the team.

Any coach who is ejected for misconduct or disrespect shall leave the premises immediately; failure to do so may result in that coach not allowed to participate in LA84 Foundation sponsored programs. Two ejections within the season will automatically remove that coach from the program. The employing agency and the coach will be sanctioned by an ad hoc committee consisting by the Program coordinator and at least one other third-party member. Sanctions against the coach will follow the coach regardless of any employing agency status changes.

Acts of brutality, misconduct and or disrespect shall not be tolerated. Players who commit an act of brutality shall be ejected for the remainder of the game without substitution and in addition to USWP rules may also lose participation privileges for the remainder of the season.

Should an act of brutality, misconduct or disrespect occur and a player be ejected from the field of play, that player must comply with the official's instructions without hesitation. If the incident incites other teammates to react with continued acts of brutality, misconduct or disrespect, a forfeit will be awarded to the offending team and the game will cease to continue. Any continued acts of the mentioned offenses

by anyone in the field or on the deck will result in the forfeiture of their team's next scheduled game.

All coaches will be expected to wear their agency issued uniform or LA84 Foundation shirt at all practice sessions and games. No altered shirts are acceptable.

Protests:

- Discretionary calls by the referee may not be protested. Protests are accepted on the grounds of violating governing rules of the league only.
- Protests shall be entered in writing by the disputing coach and accepted by the Coordinator on the day of the game only.
- A committee shall be formed within (3) working days of protestation for the purpose of review. The committee shall consist of the Coordinator, Meet Manager and at least one non-disputing Program Coordinator.
- The Coordinator, acting as the spokesperson for the committee, shall report back to the protestor by no later than the fourth day after lodging of original protest with its finding.
- Where protests involve issuance of awards, no award shall not be distributed until all protests have cleared.

For up to date program information, visit the LA84 Foundation website:

<http://www.la84.org/> → Our Work → Summer Splash

For more information about the sport of water polo: rules. National and world competition, and FAQ's visit: <http://www.usawaterpolo.com/>

NOTE: USA Water Polo instituted three rule changes which became effective September 2013. The changes and rule interpretation can be reviewed at the following links:

- New Rules (PDF) - <http://www.usawaterpolo.org/resources/rules-ethics.html>
- New Rules (Video) - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LPJ5mUe_t0