



SCHOOLS WATER POLO 2016

To: All school water polo co-ordinators:

Water Polo Tasmania (WPTAS) will again conduct a water polo competition for primary schools, high schools and colleges in 2016.

Competition Details / important dates

Venue: The Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre
 Roster Starts: Friday, 29 April 2016
 Game Time: 2 x 12 Minute Halves (Approx 30 minutes)
 Game Times: 6.00pm - 9.00pm at 30 minute intervals
 Season Length: 10 Weeks + 2 weeks of finals, including the Grand Final
 Grand Finals: 5 August 2016
 Rounds: As below:

R1	R2	R3	R4	R5	R6	No game	R7	R8	R9	No game	No game	R10	SF	GF
29/4	6/5	13/5	20/5	27/5	3/6	10/6	17/6	24/6	1/7	8/7	15/7	22/7	29/7	5/8
Term 2										Holidays		Term 3		

Divisions: Under 12 Mixed
 Grade 7/8 boys and girls
 Grade 9/10 boys and girls
 College boys and girls

Pre-season - Come and Try

A "come and try water polo" night will be held at The Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre in the week 4-8 April 2016. The confirmed date and session time will be posted on the WPTAS website as soon as the session is secured.

Pre-Season - Coaching information

Each team's coach **is required** to attend an information session on 26 April 2016. The session is designed to assist schools and WPTAS run a smooth completion that maximises the fun for all athletes. This is also a good opportunity to ask questions and exchange ideas. This is a mandatory session to ensure that all coaches understand their individual responsibilities and will include a briefing on Water Polo Australia and WPTAS requirements in respect of THINK ACT PLAY. School co-ordinators are also encouraged to attend this session. Exact times will be communicated once times and venues are secured.



Training sessions during the season

Commencing in the week prior to round 1 and continuing during the season on every week that games are conducted, training sessions will be held at The Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre and Clarence Aquatic Centre on Tuesday nights. Generally this will be:

The Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre:	7:30pm-8:30pm for Primary and 7/8 Teams
The Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre:	8:30pm-9:30pm for 9/10 and College Teams
Clarence Aquatic Centre:	7:30pm-8:30pm for any age group

WPTAS will allocate training times and venues depending upon specific requirements.

Please note WPTAS will monitor the use of the 8:30pm – 9:30pm timeslot at The Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre and if this becomes unviable due to lack of teams training it may be ceased.

Player Eligibility

Athletes must:

- be a registered student at a Primary School, High School or College in Tasmania; and
- Be undertaking at least 450 hours of study in 2016.

Eligibility lapses if a player ceases to be a student or withdraws from schooling.

Viability of teams

All games will be played on Friday nights at The Doone Kennedy Hobart Aquatic Centre which allows us to configure only 4 fields of play i.e. two large and two small. Space will be limited, so please be careful with the nomination of your teams.

Teams will consist of 6 field players and one goalkeeper at any one time. Experience suggests you will need at least 9 – 10 players available to field a viable team for the season. You may have up to 6 reserve players for any one team.

Should your school have insufficient numbers to enter a team, WPTAS will happily assist schools to combine. Any combined teams must first have the approval of the WPTAS Director of Operations. Simply contact me by email to discuss.

Nomination of Teams

- Colleges may nominate more than one team in each competition.
- Schools may nominate one team in the competition for Primary School, Grade 7/8 and Grade 9/10. Additional teams may be nominated however acceptance will be subject to availability and rostering constraints.

WPTAS reserves the right to add composite or representative teams to any competition.

Equipment

Should your school require any specialist polo equipment (water polo caps, balls etc.) please contact our official equipment supplier, Aquatic Equipment Australia on 0428 877 503, alex@aquaticequipment.com.au or www.aquaticequipment.com.au

Competition Handbook

More complete details for the Schools Competition is detailed in the Competition Handbook 2016 available on the WPTAS website.

Team Responsibilities

- Because WPTAS keeps a record of matches played, goals and votes awarded to players based upon cap numbers it is strongly recommended that players are allocated a cap number for round 1 and retain that number for the entire season. Cap number changes after round 1 are the schools responsibility. Coaches may be required to update Fox Sports Pulse prior to each round with team information including allocated cap numbers for that week's match. Instructions will be provided.
- All teams must provide a representative to assist at the scoring desk during each game the team is involved in. This is not a difficult task, but critical for the operation of the competition. Although the clock will commence for the start of play automatically, referees are instructed not to commence actual play until the score desk is attended by representatives of both schools. It is recommended that each school team have a roster of volunteers for the score table.
- Teams must be ready to start play at the scheduled start time. Again, if a team/s is not ready referees will start games at the designated start times and teams will miss out on playing time.
- It is a requirement, and greatly appreciated, that the teams scheduled for the last game of the night in any pool must assist with the putting away of equipment. WPTAS reserve the right to deduct championship points from teams for failure to assist.

Standards

WPTAS has adopted Water Polo Australia's THINK, ACT, PLAY policy which promotes and encourages good sportsmanship and behaviour in our sport. Its pillars are:



THINK, ACT, PLAY applies to athletes, coaches, parents and spectators and compliance with it is a condition of entry to any facility WPTAS event. There are codes of conduct for each of the groups involved.

Each school is responsible for the conduct of their players, coaches, parents and supporters but importantly we see coaches as integral to promoting the message of THINK, ACT, PLAY and so we will be requiring coaches to sign an acknowledgement of and commitment to its principles as a prerequisite to coaching in 2016. This will occur during the mandatory pre-season coaching information session.

The THINK, ACT, PLAY policy can be accessed by clicking any of the THINK, ACT, PLAY images above.

Team Fees

Team subscriptions will be by a one off fee. Individual athletes will not be required to pay a registration fee. The team registration fees are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| ✓ for teams <u>who elect</u> to use WPTAS training sessions | \$1,200.00 |
| ✓ for teams <u>who do not elect</u> to use WPTAS training sessions | \$900.00 |

This fee is inclusive of the team registration fee and pool admission on game nights and training nights (where applicable).

Schools will be invoiced for the annual fee by WPTAS early in the season. Full payment is not be required in advance of the season.

Initial Entries

All entries must be submitted electronically by close of business **Friday, 8 April 2016**.

This will enable sufficient time for the roster to be developed and posted to the WPTAS website prior to the commencement of round 1. **We are relying on all schools co-operation with this timeline. No stragglers please.**

Subsequently we will require each coach to enter their team on Fox Sports Pulse and keep their team updated from time to time. Instructions will be provided.

Register by clicking the button.





Communications

WPTAS will again utilise our website (www.waterpolotasmalia.com.au) as the principal medium for distribution of information. Please check the website regularly for updated information. We also have a Facebook page which will be a useful for receiving some updated material.

When rosters are settled **Fox Sports Pulse** app is a useful tool for keeping rosters handy.

A mailing list of the school contacts and coaches will be compiled and important information relayed by email direct to coaches from time to time.

Closing Comments

Thank you in advance for your assistance. I look forward to receiving advice in regard to your schools contact details etc. Should you have any queries at all please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please remember to check the WPTAS website for further information in respect to the competition regularly.

Important Dates Summary

Team Registrations Due	Rosters Published on WPTAS Website	Coach Information & Accreditation 1	Coach Information & Accreditation 2
Friday 8 April	Monday 25 April	Tuesday 26/4	TBC Wednesday 27/4

All the best for season 2016.

Kind Regards,

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