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Governance and Administration:

Provincials will be governed and administered by Ontario Water Polo. The Technical Coordinator will lead the organizational and strategic direction and will be supported by the Ontario Water Polo Board of Directors.

Ontario Water Polo will be supported by a Referee In Chief:

- Doriel Terpenka, World Aquatic referee

A Resolution Committee has also been established who will aid in any disputes, appeals, or protests that may arise during competition. Please use the OWP dispute resolution policies.

1.1 OWP responsibilities:

The OWP Referee In Chiefs (RIC) will aid in staffing all referees for Provincial Championship tournaments.

1.2 Athlete Eligibility:

All 13U athletes must be born between 2011-2014.

- The 2023-24 season will have a COED division and a Girls only division (athletes will be permitted to play in both divisions)
- The 2024-25 season will have a Girls division and a Boys division (no COED division)

All 11U athletes must be born between 2013-2016.

- 11U will only have a COED division.

### 1.3 Event Registration

Clubs will register and pay for events using the online registration platform.

### 2.1 Host Responsibilities:

The host clubs are responsible for the following:

- Set up/take down of the pool space and score tables
- Staffing the score table
- Record results and submit results to OWP

### 2.2 Referee Compensation:

Referees will be compensated based on their qualification level. OWP will compensate referees.

### 2.3 Seeding for Provincials

All teams are eligible to attend Provincial Championships. There are no seeding tournaments. Ontario Water Polo will create a schedule using results from the season and club coach rankings of teams.

### 2.4 Rules/ Field of Play

- World Aquatic rules apply
- There will be no shot clock
- 11U will play with a 1-metre line instead of a 2-metre line
- 11U will play with a size 3 ball

- 11U field of play will be played in a modified field of play. OWP will aid the tournament host to find the correct configuration depending on the venue
- 11U will play in a 5 field player plus 1 goalie format
- 13U field of play will be played lengthwise (25 metre pool) whenever possible
- 13U will play with a size 4 ball
- Games will be running time if there is a 10 goal spread (excluding after a goal)

## 2.5 Team Composition for Provincial Championships **(NEW)**

Teams must be composed of athletes who are primary members of an Ontario club.

3.1.1. This section applies to clubs, teams, athletes, coaches, officials, chaperones, and other team personnel and herein will be referred to as a “participant”.

3.1.2. An incident is referred to as an event in which a participant is ejected from the game or competition venue due to any behavior deemed to be detrimental to the image of the league, OWP, and the sport of water polo (brutality, red card, and misconduct). All participants are expected to act in a manner in which reflects a positive image.

Incidents may occur before, during, or after a League match as well as any adverse comments made publicly about the league or any of its members. An incident also refers to withdrawals, forfeits, or code of conduct violations.

## 3.2 Incidents

Please use the Ontario Water Polo [‘Disciplines and Complaints Policy’](#) for reporting minor and major incidents.

3.2.5. A brutality will carry an automatic one (1) game suspension. A second brutality within the same season will carry an automatic three (3) game suspension. A third (or more) brutality within the same season, regardless of the category, will be deemed to be a major incident.

3.2.6. A red card for misconduct will carry an automatic one (1) game suspension. Red cards apply towards the category the red card was received in. A second red card for misconduct within the same event, will carry an automatic two (2) game suspension. A third red card for misconduct within the same event, received in the same category, will carry an automatic three (3) game suspension. Game suspensions will carry into following OPL events.

### 3.3 Protests

The Resolution Committee shall be responsible for the handling of all protests. While reviewing a protest, any member who is perceived to have a conflict of interest with the matter at hand must be removed from the review. All decisions rendered by the Resolution Committee are final and cannot be appealed.

3.3.2. Teams may only protest a technical error. A technical error does not include a judgment call made by a referee regarding the interpretation of a rule.

3.3.3. All protests must be submitted to the Resolution Committee and the Referee In Chief (or acting RIC), up to (30) minutes following the final game time indicated on the electronic scoresheet. A fee of \$CAD100, must accompany the protest (the fee shall be refunded if the protest is successful). Protests must be in writing using Appendix F: Protest Form.

### 3.4 Appeals

Please use the Ontario Water Polo [Appeal Policy](#) for reporting an appeal.