

Thunderbirds Water Polo Club

Club Fee Policy - Prorated and additional

Effective: January 1, 2026 - 2025–2026 Season

1. Purpose of the Policy

Thunderbirds Water Polo aims to make our programs accessible to new families while maintaining financial stability and fairness for all members. This policy outlines how club fees are prorated for families joining part-way through the season.

Eligibility

1. Prorated fees apply to *new families only*.

- A *new family* is defined as a household with no athletes registered in the current and any prior season.
- Returning members or families adding an additional sibling mid-season are **not eligible** for prorated fees.

2. Prorated fees apply only to club program fees.

- Alberta Water Polo Association (AWPA) and Water Polo Canada (WPC) fees are **mandatory and always charged in full**, regardless of start date.

Registration Windows & Fee Structure

Below is the standardized prorating structure for all age-group programs (Swim Like a Dolphin, U10, U12, U14, U18):

A. Full-Season Start (September) – 100% Fees

Families registering anytime from the opening of registration up to **October 31** pay **full published program fees**.

Two-Week Trial Policy

The two-week trial is available to **new families only** and to **siblings of currently registered families who have never previously been registered with the club**.

B. Late Fall Start (November 1–December 31) – 75% of Full Fees

New families registering between **November 1 and December 31** will receive a **25% discount** off the full published program fees.

C. Mid-Season Start (January 1 and later) – 50% of Full Fees

New families registering on or after **January 1** will be charged **50% of the full published program fees**.

Please note: Registration closes on December 20th and no new registrations will be accepted beyond this date. Families wishing to join the team after the registration deadline will need to wait until the following season to register.

Prorated Fee Table (2025–2026)

Program	Full Season Fee	Nov Start (75%)	Jan Start (50%)
U10	\$450	\$337.50	\$225
U12	\$660	\$495	\$330
U14	\$900	\$675	\$450
U18	\$900	\$675	\$450

Additional Fees & Requirements

A. Governing Body Fees (AWPA/WPC)

These fees are **not prorated** and are required in full at registration. They are paid directly through the RAMP registration system.

B. Volunteer Commitment Cheques

For 10U and older programs, volunteer deposits (e.g., \$150 × 2 per family) are required at registration. These are club commitments and **not subject to prorating**.

C. Training With an Older Age Group

Athletes may only practice with an older age group **by invitation of the Head Coach**. Any request or recommendation for an athlete to train up an age group must be **communicated to the Board** for review.

The Board reserves the right to:

- Assess **player safety and risk of injury** considerations
- Determine whether **additional fees** apply due to increased training, competition level, or roster placement

No athlete may permanently train or compete in an older age group without **Head Coach approval and Board acknowledgment**.

Refunds & Transfers

1. **Prorated fees cannot be applied retroactively.**
Families must request and confirm their eligibility *before* completing registration.
2. **No refunds** will be issued for athletes who withdraw after registering under a prorated structure, unless due to medical circumstances reviewed by the Board.
3. Transfers from another water polo club are considered **new families** for the purposes of this policy.

Administrative Procedures

- Families requesting a November or January start must notify the Registrar prior to registration.
- The Registrar will confirm eligibility and apply prorated fees within the registration platform.
- Coaches and team managers will be notified of new athletes joining mid-season to ensure smooth transition and onboarding.
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Annual Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Board of Directors to ensure fairness, financial sustainability, and alignment with program costs and growth objectives.