

# **Vortex Water Polo Financial Aid Policy January 2023**

## **Policy Statement**

Vortex Water Polo (the club/VWP) is committed to providing every athlete the opportunity to experience the great sport of water polo and believes that all athletes should have the opportunity to participate in it's programs, regardless of financial circumstances.

## **Purpose**

VWP will support it's member families by providing opportunities to ease the burden of fees required to participate in it's programming through financial aid.

## **Application**

VWP will enter into discussions with families regarding financial aid for:

- Club fees; and/or
- Out-of-province tournament fees, which includes accommodations, travel, tournament fees and food provided by chaperones.
  - The supported athlete will be responsible for the cost of any additional food not provided by chaperones.

In order to be considered for financial aid, families are required to:

- Apply for, and qualify as, Kid Sport or Jump Start supported athletes.
- Complete the Financial Aid Application Form, which includes letters written by the athlete and parent(s)/guardian(s) outlining the need.
- Be active volunteers with the club.
  - This means that the family must have satisfied their volunteer bond for the previous season.

Applications for financial aid will be entertained in September of each year, or at least 1 month prior to the first out-of-province tournament, and reviewed by the Financial Aid Committee.<sup>1</sup> The VWP Board of Directors will decide on whether to provide financial aid, based on the recommendations of the Financial Aid Committee.

All information collected to support the application for financial aid will be destroyed following the decision of the VWP Board of Directors.

## **Important notes:**

- Financial aid is supported by all members of VWP.

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<sup>1</sup> The Financial Aid Committee will include the VWP President(s), Treasurer and Technical Director, or any other combination of reviewers determined by the VWP Board of Directors.

- An athlete will only be supported with financial aid once per season, whether that is for club fees or travel to an out-of-province tournament.
- Submission of an application does not guarantee receipt of financial aid, nor full support.
- The board of directors will approve all applications for financial aid, and can include partial funding in it's decision.

### **Creation of Budget**

At the start of each season, the VWP Board of Directors will establish a budget for financial aid. The amount will be based on several factors, including, but not limited to:

- The financial status of the club;
- The number of member families that qualify for KidSport or JumpStart funding;
- The amount of funds remaining in the financial aid budget from the previous season.

Once the established budget has been exhausted, no more support will be provided for that season.

If the budget for financial aid is not exhausted in a given year, the funds will be available for the Board of Directors to reallocate to financial aid for the following season, or return to general revenue.

The board reserves the right to increase registration fees in any given year by a nominal percentage in order to ensure the availability of funds for financial aid.

### **Head Coach's Bursary**

The Head Coach's Bursary allows the Head Coaches to offer assistance to athletes **who will coach while continuing to be a member of a team**. It is intended to be given to athletes who demonstrate strong values, as well as commitment to the club and the sport of water polo.

The available bursary is equivalent to a maximum of 30% of the athlete/coach's club fees, not including fees for out-of-province tournament attendance. The bursary comes with an expectation that the recipient(s) will be active in coaching junior members in weekly practices and at tournaments.

The Head Coaches may elect to provide an individual athlete/coach with a bursary, or they may choose to split the bursary across multiple athletes/coaches. It is not necessary for the Head Coaches to use all, or any, of the available bursary in any given year.

VWP will set aside a maximum of \$1000/season for the Head Coach's Bursary.

**The Head Coaches will share the recipient(s) of the Head Coach's bursary with the Board of Directors prior to the bursary being offered.**

# Financial Aid Application Form

## Basic Information

Athlete First & Last Name	
Athlete Gender Identity	
Athlete date of birth	
Athlete's team	
Reason for application (Club fees or tournament)	

## Athlete Contact information

Athlete e-mail address	
Athlete home address (including postal code)	
Athlete phone number	

## Parent/Guardian Contact Information

Parent/Guardian #1 Name	
Parent/Guardian #1 e-mail address	
Parent/Guardian #1 relationship to athlete	
Parent/Guardian #1 phone number	
Parent/Guardian #1 Address (if different from athlete)	
Parent/Guardian #2 Name	
Parent/Guardian #2 e-mail address	
Parent/Guardian #2 relationship to athlete	
Parent/Guardian #2 phone number	
Parent/Guardian #2 Address (if different from athlete)	

**Justification for application for Financial Aid – by the athlete**

*Please write out the reasons for your application for Financial Aid*

**Justification for application for Financial Aid – by the parent(s)/guardian(s)**

*Please write out the reasons for your application for Financial Aid*