

THE HERTFORDSHIRE AND DISTRICT WATER POLO LEAGUE

401 CONSTITUTION

- 401.1** The League shall be called the Hertfordshire and District Water Polo League and its objects shall be to promote the game of Water Polo in accordance with the ASA Laws and Technical Rules and the Rules of Water Polo.
- 401.2** The management of the League shall be vested in the Water Polo Committee, subject only to the confirmation of the Management Board.
- 401.3** All funds, and other property of the League shall be part of the general assets of the Hertfordshire ASA but shall be under the immediate control of the Water Polo Committee.

402 ELIGIBLE CLUBS

- 402.1** The Competition shall be open to all clubs affiliated to the Hertfordshire ASA. Such other clubs as are within a reasonable travelling distance and which are currently affiliated to their appropriate ASA Region may be admitted at the discretion of the Water Polo Committee.

(As a guideline to the committee, consider 45 minutes drive from the county border as reasonable distance when admitting new clubs.)

403 ENTRIES

- 403.1** The Competition shall be conducted annually and clubs wishing to participate shall notify the Water Polo Manager or his representative in writing before 1st February in each year
- 403.2** The entry fee shall be fixed annually by the Management Board and the appropriate entry fee for each team shall accompany the entry.
- 403.3** The entry fee for the League may, at the discretion of the Management Board, automatically include the entry fee for the Knockout.

404 LEAGUE CO-ORDINATOR

- 404.1** The Water Polo Committee may appoint a League Co-ordinator each year. He shall have the powers and duties of the Water Polo Manager that are specified in these Conditions and such other functions as may be delegated to him by the Water Polo Committee.

405 DIVISIONS

- 405.1** When entries are closed the Competition may be formed into divisions at the discretion of the Water Polo Committee who shall decide whether there shall be any re-allocation of teams between divisions.

406 FIXTURES MEETING

- 406.1** A meeting of representatives of all clubs entered shall be convened as early as possible during the month of March each year to arrange fixtures. A club entered in the Competition

and not represented at this Fixtures Meeting may have its entry cancelled or be liable to a fine not exceeding £10.00.

407 REGISTRATION OF PLAYERS

- 407.1** Before its first league match, each club shall submit to the Water Polo Manager or his representative on a form provided for the purpose a list of players that it wishes to register for its team(s). As a minimum, such information shall be each player's name, address and ASA Registration Details. All players must be CAT2 Registered for their club with the ASA by 1st March. Only such registered players shall compete in the League, subject to the provisions of 407.7.
- 407.2** In the event of a club entering two or more teams in the league the teams shall be allocated to divisions at the discretion of the committee.
- 407.3** Each club shall nominate at least seven active players as a first team. In the event of any of these players not taking part in either of the first two games played by the club's first team an additional player **MUST** be nominated before the third game is played.
- 407.4** No player nominated for his club's first team shall be eligible to play in any other team throughout the current season except by the express permission of the Water Polo Committee or its appointed officer(s).
- 407.5** Any other registered player shall be eligible to play in any league game played by his club's first team except that when a club has entered two teams then any player having taken part in two games for the first team is immediately and automatically registered as a first team player. After such registration he shall not be allowed to play in any further second team.
- 407.6** The provisions of 407.5 regarding automatic registration as a first team player shall **NOT** apply to any registered player under the age of 16 years on 31st December in the year of the Competition.
- 407.7** The Water Polo Manager or his representative shall have the power to accept the registration of additional CAT2 registered players on receipt of a written application, that shall include all the information required by 407.1, at least three days prior to the first match in which they play.

408 THE COMPETITION

- 408.1** The League will be split into two divisions, called Division 1 and Division 2.
- 408.2** New teams will be placed into Division 2 by default (or, at the discretion of the Water Polo Committee, if deemed appropriate Division 1). New teams will be admitted at the beginning of the season only. No new teams can enter mid-season.
- 408.3** The numbers in each division may vary; in the event of an odd number of teams wishing to play in the League, then Division 2 will have the extra team.
- 408.4** Each team shall play each other team in its division, once at home and once away (or at another venue agreed by both parties in advance).
- 408.5** The League shall start in March, or immediately after the fees have been collected by all entrant teams.
- 408.6** All matches shall be completed by 30th November. Any matches not played by that date will be declared void and zero points awarded to either team.

- 408.7** The team finishing in bottom place in Division 1 will move to Division 2, the team finishing in 1st place in Division 2 will move to Division 1 for the following seasons. (Promotion/relegation will however be subject to rule 405.1 and 408.14).
- 408.8** The away team should confirm the fixture at least 3 days in advance. Any club unable to fulfil a fixture shall give at least three clear days' notice to their opponents, the Referee(s) and the Water Polo Manager or his representative. (This will be interpreted as 'more than 72 hours prior to the due start of the game'.) If a club fails to give the required notice, their opposition may require them to default the match. In other cases, the match will be postponed.
- Within seven days of a postponement, the home team shall ensure the game is re-arranged for a mutually convenient date. This re-arranged date shall be notified to the Water Polo Manager or his representative within seven days of the date of the re-arrangement.
- In defaulting, the match shall be considered a "conceded" match, the defaulting team shall be responsible for any expenses incurred and the points for the match shall be awarded to the opponents. The match will be declared a default 10-0 against the defaulting team, with the defaulting team given 0 points, the "winning" team given three points.
- 408.9** Three points shall be awarded for a win, two for a draw and one point for a team that fulfils a fixture but loses the game; no points shall be awarded to a team that concedes a match or which attends a match with insufficient players. If two or more teams are equal in points at the top or bottom of a division, goal difference shall decide. If there is still a tie the teams involved shall play off that must be arranged before the end of January.
- 408.10** Any team found to be playing a non ASA Cat2 registered player or a player not registered to their club, whether identified at a game or thereafter shall be subject to the following forfeit: for the first offence, they shall forfeit that game, and the result treated as a conceded match (408.9). A team found playing such a player (whether the same player or a different one) for the second time, will additionally face suspension from the League.
- 408.11** Any other irregularities or breaches of these conditions (including with respect to players' registration, recording on the team sheet or other) shall be sanctioned by the Water Polo Manager and / or the Management Board. Such sanctions may include forfeiture of matches and suspension from Herts ASA competitions and events.
- 408.12** All teams, and their clubs, shall comply with Wavepower guidance at all times. This includes 'Good Practice Guidelines for young people and adults training and competing together in Water Polo' (pages 79 & 80 of Wavepower 2016 – 2019). The Water Polo Manager may request that teams, and their clubs, provide evidence of compliance.
- 408.13** All players under age of 18 years on 31st December in the year of the Competition shall have their date of birth included on the registration document and their junior status shall be marked on the team sheet.
- 408.14** The split of teams into divisions may need to change due to circumstances, for instance the addition or withdrawal of new teams. The makeup of the divisions is then down to the decision of the water polo committee.
- 408.15** Match duration is either 7 minutes actual play with stop clocks etc, or 9 minutes "all-in" play, to be agreed by both teams at the start of a match
- 408.16** Matches that are not started within 15 minutes of published start time will either be conceded by the visiting team, or rearranged; the decision being with the home team.
- 408.17** The home team will confirm that referees have been arranged to the visiting team no less than 5 days in advance.

409 REFEREES

- 409.1** It shall be the duty of the home club to arrange at least one Referee for each fixture and to provide all the equipment as required by ASA Rules for Water Polo. The home club shall confirm the fixture with the Referee(s) and the visiting club at least seven days prior to the day of the match.
- 409.2** It shall be the responsibility of the home club to reimburse the Referee(s) for his expenses in accordance with ASA Laws and Technical Rules.
- 409.3** Expenses for referees up to £20 per match can be claimed by the home team from Herts ASA. The split of expenses when two referees are involved does not necessarily need to be equal.
- 409.4** Any Referee(s) being unable to keep an appointment must notify the home club as soon as possible and also inform the Water Polo Manager or his representative.
- 409.5** Where only one Referee is arranged for a match, then that referee will not be a member of either club playing.
- 409.6** Where two Referee's are arranged for a match, at least one referee will not be a member of either club playing.
- 409.7** All Referee's in attendance will have qualified at Grade D or above for more than 12 months or have qualified within the last 5 years or qualified more than five years and have attended a rules up date in the last 3 years or have qualified more than 5 years and agree to attend rules update this calendar year as soon as possible.

410 MATCH FORMS

- 410.1** Before the commencement of each match, the captains or team managers shall hand to the Referee(s), on an official match result form, a list of the names and initials of the members of their respective teams.
- 410.2** Following the game the Referee(s) shall check and complete the form.
- 410.3** Home and Away clubs shall forward an electronic copy of the completed match form to the Water Polo Manager or his representative within five days of the date on which the game was played.
- 410.4** If the match is not played then the match form, the home club shall forward showing details of those actually present, to the Water Polo Manager or his representative within five days.

411 AWARDS

- 411.1** The winning team of the highest division shall be awarded:-
 - The Reynolds Trophy, which they may hold for one year, provided a guarantee of its safe keeping is given by the club concerned to the satisfaction of the Management Board.
 - Not more than thirteen medals, to be awarded to players who have played in the team.
 - Further awards shall be at the discretion of the Management Board.

412 OTHER MATTERS

- 412.1** The Water Polo Committee shall determine any dispute, question, or other matter for which these Conditions do not provide and, if confirmed by the Management Board, this decision shall be final.
- 412.2** *The results of each year's competition will be published on Hertfordshire ASA's website. (www.hertsasa.org.uk)*
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**HERTFORDSHIRE & DISTRICT HANDICAP KNOCKOUT
WATER POLO COMPETITION**

413 Details to be updated to the new one day tournament format.