



2011 LA84 WATER POLO RULES & PROCEDURES

PROGRAM COORDINATOR
CITYWIDE AQUATIC DIVISION
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The LA84 Foundation Summer Swim Water Polo Program will commence with the coaches workshop on Friday, June 24, 2011, and conclude with the Water Polo Festival on Sunday, August 28, 2011. The mission of the LA84 Foundation Water Polo Program is to introduce youngsters to the sport of water polo through skills development, coaching education and competition opportunities.

Summary:

Each Municipality will be allowed to enter one team in each age group into the Summer Swim Water polo Festival on August 28, 2011 at the John C. Argue Swim Stadium.

Four different age groups will be offered which are:

- A) 7 – 8 years old = Team practices and scrimmages. *Possible scrimmage games at Festival.*
- B) 9 – 11 years old = LA84 Foundation Competitions & Water Polo Festival**
- C) 12 – 14 years old = LA84 Foundation Competitions & Water Polo Festival**
- D) 15 – 16 years old = Team Practices and scrimmages

Final rosters for all teams in each age group are due to the LA84 Foundation by July 29, 2011. No additional teams will be allowed after July 29th. All teams may add names to their roster up to 2-weeks prior to the Festival , but no new teams can/will be added after July 29, 2011. If any new players are added within the qualifying time period it is the responsibility of the coach to notify the LA84 Foundation of the addition for additions to be official. The coach must resubmit a revised roster anytime an adjustment is made in order for the player to be eligible to compete at the festival.

Eligibility:

- Eligibility in age groups is based on the youngster's age as of July 1, 2011. **Participant in 9-11 age group may move up in age group to 12-14 age group but may not be moved down. Participants may only compete in one age group. A player may only play for one team for the entire length of the season.** Final date to submit team roster to LA84 Foundation is July 29, 2011. All rosters will be kept on file at the LA84 Foundation office and will be considered to be the official roster for the Festival.
- Only Novice athletes are eligible to compete in the program. A novice athlete is defined as one who participates in organized competitive aquatic programs during a seasonal or year round basis. The LA84 Foundation Water Polo Program is **NOT** intended for youngsters who are at the Junior Olympic level. Youngsters who have competed at Junior Olympics or at the Speedo Cup are not eligible to participate.
- Lifesaving employees (lifeguards) may not participate in novice sport programs.

General Rules:

- ALL COACHES MUST POSSESS A CURRENT “ART OF COACHING” TRAINING CERTIFICATE FROM LA84 FOUNDATION SANCTIONED CLINIC IN ORDER TO BE ELIGIBLE TO COACH, NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE ALLOWED FOR FAILING TO MEET THIS REQUIREMENT. TEAMS WITHOUT A QUALIFIED COACH ON DECK WILL BE CHARGED WITH A FORFIET AND WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO COMPETE.
- All coaches **must conduct a participant’s nail check prior to their games.**
- Each host venue agrees to provide the game table, set-up the venue for competition, provide staff support for the table and staff to function as deck marshals.
- The water polo coordinator will schedule and provide the game officials for scrimmages and league play upon request.
- The host venue for scrimmages and league play will be responsible for providing a water polo scorebook and forwarding the scores to the Water Polo Coordinator and the LA84 Foundation.
- The host venue agrees to forward all game results to the Water Polo Coordinator, Walter Tobar at the Citywide Aquatics Office. Walter’s phone number is (323) 906-7953 and Fax number is (323) 906-7963.
- Players shall compete for one team only and may not change teams during the play season.
- A copy of the player’s birth certificate or a valid proof of age shall be submitted to the Pool Staff prior to participation as proof of age. In the event that any said player’s age is questioned then that information shall be made available to the Water Polo Coordinator upon request.
- The penalty for violation of any Eligibility rules disqualifies said player for the current season and forfeit of all games in which said participant played.
- In the event that a facility is unable to field a complete team, they may combine with another facility in the same region to field complete teams. That team will practice and compete as a combined team for the entire summer.

Water Polo Festival Rules:

- Maximum of 16 players per team, minimum of 7 players per team
- Five minute running quarters for ≤ 11 , 5 minute running quarters for ≤ 14 and five minute running quarters for ≤ 16
- Two girls must be present and listed on the roster for all games. With a minimum of one female in the water at all times.
- Each player must participate at least one quarter per game
- There is a ten-minute grace period to allow late team the opportunity to play. Beyond grace period, late team is charged an automatic forfeit.
- One time out is permitted per half. Time outs cannot be carried over. Requesting team must be in possession of the ball for time out to be granted.
- First team listed wears dark caps.
- Each team is responsible for two sets of caps.
- At the Festival, games ending in a tie, two three minute quarters will immediately be conducted to break the tie. Should the scores remain tied at the end of these two quarters; a golden goal overtime will be conducted.
- Current USWP rules will be used during the game.

- At referee's discretion, a player may be disqualified from play for violating any grooming compliance or health code requirements.

Considerations:

It is agreed that the majority of the participants will be in the ≤ 14 age group. The 9-11 and 12-14 age group will be able to compete in the 2011 Summer Swim Water Polo Festival on August 28, 2011.

Proper Conduct:

It is imperative to the vitality and the success of this program that everyone involved address each other with the utmost respect and refrain from committing acts of brutality, misconduct or disrespect.

Team coaches are responsible for maintaining control over their team members during game play or while on the deck. Failure to maintain control over a player(s) may result in the ejection of the coach from the game or the deck and the forfeit of the game should there not be an additional staff member available to supervise the team.

Any coach who is ejected for misconduct or disrespect shall leave the premises immediately; failure to do so may result in that coach not allowed to participate in LA84 Foundation sponsored programs. Two ejections within the season will automatically remove that coach from the program. The employing agency and the coach will be sanctioned by an ad hoc committee consisting by the Program coordinator and at least one other third-party member. Sanctions against the coach will follow the coach regardless of any employing agency status changes.

Acts of brutality, misconduct and or disrespect shall not be tolerated. Players who commit an act of brutality shall be ejected for the remainder of the game without substitution and in addition to USWP rules may also loose participation privileges for the remainder of the season.

Should an act of brutality, misconduct or disrespect occur and a player be ejected from the field of play, that player must comply with the official's instructions without hesitation. If the incident incites other teammates to react with continued acts of brutality, misconduct or disrespect, a forfeit will be awarded to the offending team and the game will cease to continue. Any continued acts of the mentioned offenses by anyone in the field or on the deck will result in the forfeiture of their team's next scheduled game.

Protests:

- Discretionary calls by the referee may not be protested. Protests are accepted on the grounds of violating governing rules of the league only.
- Protests shall be entered in writing by the disputing coach and accepted by the Coordinator on the day of the game only.
- A committee shall be formed within (3) working days of protestation for the purpose of review. The committee shall consist of the Coordinator, Meet Manager and at least one non-disputing Program Coordinator.

- The Coordinator, acting as the spokesperson for the committee, shall report back to the protestor by no later than the fourth day after lodging of original protest with its finding.
- Where protests involve issuance of awards, no award shall not be distributed until all protests have cleared.

For up to date league results, visit the LA84 Foundation website:

<http://www.la84foundation.org/> "Summer Aquatics"

For more information about the sport of water polo: rules. National and world competition, and FAQ's visit: <http://www.usawaterpolo.com/>