



To all Water Polo Canada Members

Ottawa, October 30, 2014

Re: Test rules voted by FINA and implications for water polo in Canada

Water Polo Canada would like to share with you the information received in a memo from the FINA Bureau, dated from October 7, 2014, which advises all member federations of having approved by mail vote, following the TWPC proposal, new test rules to be applied during specific competitions starting in 2015.

1. FINA Men's and Women's Water Polo World League 2015 and 2016

The FINA World Leagues 2015 and 2016 will be used as tests for a reduction in the Field of Play (FOP) for Men from 30 metres x 20 metres to 25 metres x 20 metres.

**2. FINA World Men's and Women's Junior Water Polo Championships 2015
FINA World Men's and Women's Youth Water Polo Championships 2016**

For these competitions in 2015 and 2016, the following new rules will be implemented:

- Length of FOP will be 25 metres
- Reduction in number of players for a team from thirteen to eleven with corresponding reduction of players in water from seven to six, one of whom shall be the goalkeeper
- Use of Women's Water Polo Ball for Men and Women

In discussion with UANA representatives, current indications are that UANA will also apply the FINA proposed rule changes, in accordance with the memo circulated on Oct. 7, and so that the teams that will be playing in the UANA Age Group Championships will be using the same rules that will be used at the FINA events. This will be formalized when the Official Summons for the next UANA event is sent out in early 2015.

In preparation for this, Water Polo Canada's new National Championship League (NCL) will also be adopting these new FINA test rules for all age categories and all games in 2014-2015. The only variation will be that teams will be permitted to dress fifteen athletes. Other competition structures, managed at the community and provincial levels, should be encouraged to use the new test rules and advise their participants, as appropriate.

The Canadian Senior Men and Women's High Performance Programs will continue to use the existing rules, with the sole exception of the 2015 and 2016 World League competitions, given that there is no change to the Olympic format at this time.

We remain at your disposal for needs of any further assistance or clarification. Kindly direct all inquiries regarding this topic to office@waterpolo.ca Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Water Polo Canada