

NWWPL CONSTITUTION

1 NAME

The association shall be called the "National Women's Water Polo League" (NWWPL) hereafter referred to as the league). This does not preclude the use of another name for trading purposes.

2 OBJECTIVES

The objective of league is to promote the interests of the sport of water polo and everything conducive or incidental to the attainment of this objective.

3. asa LAWS

The league shall not discriminate unfairly or unlawfully and all members shall comply with the asa Equal Opportunities Policy and code of Ethics.

4 MEMBERSHIP

- 4.1 Ordinary membership shall be by invitation and open to clubs affiliated to the asa, the Scottish asa, the Welsh asa, Eire, as well as representative Great Britain Junior Teams.
- 4.2 All members will abide by the constitution of the NWWPL and all FINA and LEN rules and Conditions.
- 4.3 All members shall comply with the Child Protection Legislation that is applicable and in force from time to time.
- 4.4 A club wishing to become an ordinary member or to enter an additional team shall apply in writing to the Secretary by 30 September of the year prior to the competition. The club shall also attend the committee meeting which considers the application, at its own expense, to present its application and answer questions of the committee. In either case, the application must be accompanied by the first year's membership subscription which will be refunded only if the application is not accepted.
- 4.5 A club withdrawing a team from membership shall notify the Secretary in writing by 30 September of the year prior to the competition. A club which withdraws one or more of its entered teams after this date shall be liable for the annual subscription(s) for the year for that team or teams and any consequential losses which may result from the withdrawal, up to a maximum of £500 for that team or teams.

5 SUBSCRIPTIONS

- 5.1 Each member club shall pay an annual subscription for each of its entered teams to the league before 30 April of the year of competition.
- 5.2 The subscription shall be £300 for each entered team.

6 RULES

No addition or alteration to the foregoing or following rules shall be made except at the Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose. An amendment to a proposal for a change of rule shall require a simple majority of those present and voting. To be adopted, any proposal for a change of rules, whether amended or not, shall require a two thirds majority of those present and voting.

7 GENERAL MEETINGS

7.1 The Annual General Meeting shall *inter alia*:

7.1.1 Be held each year on or before 31 May

7.1.2 Elect the following officers:

Secretary, Treasurer, Officials Co-ordinator, Results Secretary, Publicity Officer and one Event Manager from each Division who shall take office from the time of their appointment and shall remain in office until their successors are appointed and take office.

7.1.3 Delegates to the AGM shall appoint a Chair from amongst those present to preside over the meeting.

- 7.2 The date of the Annual General Meeting shall be published at least 28 days in advance and notice of any proposed addition or alteration to the rules to be considered by it must reach the Secretary in writing 14 days before the published date of the meeting.
- 7.3 Nominations for Officers must reach the Secretary in writing 14 days before the date of the Annual General Meeting.
- 7.4 A Special General Meeting shall be called by the Secretary within six weeks of a written request by a minimum of ten competing clubs or following a committee resolution. The request or resolution shall specify the item(s) for consideration and no other business shall be transacted at such a meeting.
- 7.5 Three delegates for every member club shall be entitled to attend and vote at any General Meeting. Additional entered teams shall not entitle members to additional delegates. All playing member clubs shall be required to attend all General Meetings.
- 7.6 Secretary shall advise all individuals and clubs eligible to attend of the date and venue of any General Meeting at least 14 days in advance.
- 7.7 A quorum at any General Meeting shall be representation from half the number of competing clubs entitled to attend.
- 7.8 Any member club not represented by a member of that club at any General Meeting shall be fined £100 unless there are extenuating circumstances acceptable to the committee.

8 MANAGEMENT

- 8.1 The committee shall consist of the officers and divisional event managers, the committee shall appoint a chair from amongst those present to preside over the meeting.

The committee shall *inter alia*:

- 8.2.1 Be the managing body of the league, carry out the standing orders and generally transact all business when not otherwise provided for;
- 8.2.2 Exercise its discretion in respect of any matter not specifically provided for in the rules of the league;
- 8.2.3 Exercise financial control over the affairs of the league;
- 8.2.4 Meet, providing there is sufficient business, at least four times in each year;

8.3 The committee may *inter alia*:

- 8.3.1 Co-opt one additional member with specialist knowledge;
- 8.3.2 Appoint a sub-committee to consider and report on any question.
- 8.3.3 Amend any league rule which is affected by changes in FINA, LEN or asa rules or conditions. Any such amendment shall be subject to the approval of the next meeting following the Annual General Meeting;
- 8.3.4 Arrange for a representative team of the league to be selected and play against teams which it has approved;
- 8.3.5 Promote games it deems to be in the interest of the league, whether for a representative team or otherwise;
- 8.3.6 Finance a representative team in whole or in part from the league's funds;
- 8.3.7 Allow entry of the Great Britain Junior Team to compete in the league at a level appropriate for its development and without having to qualify or retain that position via promotion through the divisions.
- 8.3.9 Promote in association with the asa Water Polo Officials Committee, clinic(s) to encourage mutual understanding of rules and applications by coaches and officials.

9 FINANCE

- 9.1 The income and property of the league shall be applied solely to the objects stated in Rule 2 and no person shall receive payment for his or her services as an officer or member of the league.
- 9.2 In the event of dissolution, any income or property remaining shall be devoted to a society or club with similar aims or to a philanthropic or charitable purpose.

- 9.3 The financial year of the league shall terminate 05 April. An independent audited statement of the accounts of the NWWPL up to and including this date shall be presented at the AGM.
- 9.4 All fines and/or expenses ordered by the committee shall be paid to the league's treasurer who shall then reimburse the benefiting club(s).
- 9.5 Any club not having paid fines and/or expenses incurred under rule 9.4 within 30 days of being notified of such fines/expenses shall be deemed to be in default and fined a further ten pounds. Further non-payment of the fines/expenses by a club may incur suspension under Rule 10.2
- 9.6 Members of the committee shall be entitled to reimbursement of reasonable travelling expenses arising directly from their activities with the league.
- 9.7 Each club shall be responsible for its own expenses of travel, accommodation etc. except where the relevant competition rules provide and/or delegate, under the Judicial Laws and Rules of the asa.

10 DISCIPLINARY

- 10.1 Misbehaviour by a player during a match shall be dealt with by the referee and/or delegate under the Judicial Laws and Rules of the asa.
- 10.2 The committee may suspend from the activities of the league any club or team which fails to pay within 28 days of notification any fines and/or expenses awarded or any club, team or individual whose conduct is contrary to the interests of the league by repeated infringement of its rules or any action, or lack of action which makes their membership no longer desirable. Notice of the possible suspension of a club team or individual shall be placed on the notice convening the committee meeting and a copy sent to the club, team or individual concerned who shall be given the opportunity to state a case to the committee either in writing or in person by their choice. No resolution to suspend a club, team or individual shall be adopted unless carried by a majority of two thirds of the committee members present and voting.

11 TROPHIES

- 11.1 All trophies are the property of the league.
- 11.2 Trophies shall be returned to the Secretary or his/her nominee in good condition at such place and at such time as he/she may request after the conclusion of the league competition. A club failing to comply shall be fined £50.

Last updated May 2009