

## 1. GENERAL EVENT INFORMATION

The 2023 South Africa National Aquatic Championships for Water Polo (hereafter “the Championship”) for the Senior Men and Women’s competition will be held at the venues as stated below in Para 1.3 from Friday, 17 March to Monday, 20 March 2023.

- 1.1. The Teams in the Senior Men’s and Women’s sections may be representative of Club teams, a combination of Club teams within a province, Provincial or District teams. Entries are limited to a maximum of 10 Women’s teams and 10 Men’s teams.
- 1.2. Tournament Venues:
  - a. Senior Men’s Section (i.e., “Long-Course” set up)  
Joan Harrison Pool Complex East London
  - b. Senior Women’s Section (i.e. Short-Course” set up)  
Joan Harrison Pool Complex East London
- 2.1. All SSA Affiliates, who have Water Polo players, Coaches, Managers and Technical Officials registered with SSA are invited to compete at the Championship.
  - 2.1.1 Unregistered Water Polo players, Coaches, Managers and Technical Officials will not be permitted to participate in the Championship.
  - 2.1.2 Interested Foreign Water Polo Clubs / Teams would be permitted to participate in the Championship, provided they have clearance from their respective Federations.
- 2.2. The Senior Open Men and Women’s section will comprise of both Senior Men and Women’s Teams.
- 2.3. All teams that wish to compete in this tournament must complete the Intention to Participate Form as attached and send details via their Affiliate to SSA (mafata.modutoane@swimsa.org) and to (jackie@reevesgroup.co.za ) on or before Monday, 30 January 2023.



- 2.4. All costs for the team's participation and accommodation will be the responsibility of the Affiliate.
- 2.5. The Entry Fee for the Championship is R11, 500.00 per team entered.

NOTE: Affiliates that require invoices for payment purposes must request from Jackie Joubert (jackie@reevesgroup.co.za) by latest Monday, 30 January 2023.

The Closing Date for payment into the following bank account is Friday, 10 February 2023.

Bank : ABSA Bank  
Account Number : 1003790807  
Branch Code : 508005  
Reference : SAWP23 (club name & affiliate)

- 2.6. Payment and proof of payment must be sent to SSA through the affiliate.
- 2.7. The relevant Team Manager must produce a copy of proof of payment to SA National Championships.
- 2.8. The deadline for the final named entries for teams, including athletes, coaches, managers, and referees, is Monday, 20 February 2023. The Provincial President must sign off these entries.

### **3. TECHNICAL OFFICIALS**

- 3.1. Only technical officials registered with SSA will be eligible to officiate.
- 3.2. Referees will be invited by the LOC to officiate at the Championships. All teams will contribute equally to the cost of these referees – travel, meals, and accommodation.
- 3.3. Referees must be correctly attired, in white trousers, white shoes and a tournament shirt.



- 3.4. Referees' Workshops will be held one day before the commencement of the tournament. Attendance at the workshop is compulsory for all participating Referees.

#### **4. TEAM OFFICIALS**

- 4.1. Only team officials registered with SSA will be eligible to coach and manage teams.
- 4.2. Team Officials must be correctly attired, with long trousers, closed shoes, and identical shirts. Failure to comply will result in the exclusion of the official for that game.
- 4.3. Team Manager meetings will be held at the venue on the 16th of March 2023 (Time to be confirmed) before the commencement of the tournament. Attendance at this meeting is compulsory for all coaches.

#### **5. COMPETITION RULES**

- 5.1. FINA rules will apply to all sections. Specific competition By-Laws are detailed below.
- 5.2. The Men's and Women's Sections will be for Club / Provincial Teams affiliated to SSA through their provincial affiliate.
  - 5.2.1. If an individual club team is not strong enough to compete at the tournament, an Affiliate franchise team (a combination of capitated club players) may be entered.
  - 5.2.2. Permission for Players registered with one affiliate to be released by their Affiliate to play for another club/franchise team in another affiliated region at the tournament must be requested from SSA.

Requests for permission from SSA must be received by Monday, 13 February 2023.
- 5.3. Players, coaches, managers, and officials must be capitated to SSA through their affiliate.
- 5.4. A maximum of thirteen (13) players per Team.
- 5.5. Only two goalkeepers and 11 field players are permitted per match.



- 5.6. Each team will have a minimum of 1 coach and 1 manager. These persons are to be allocated to that team only.
- 5.7. Teams listed first on the team fixture list will wear white caps (light) and start to the left of the official's technical table.
- 5.8. Teams must provide their own caps. Players must wear the same design and colour swimsuit. Failure to comply will be the exclusion of the player from that game.
- 5.9. The Transformation Policy for the championship is as follows:
  - 5.9.1. Senior Men and Women's Section teams – A minimum of 2 black players per team and 1 black official per team.
  - 5.9.2. Table officials must time and monitor the playing time of the black players.
  - 5.9.3. Each black player per team must Play a minimum of 10 minutes of Playing Time per match.
  - 5.9.4. The table official must inform the managers of the respective teams of the time remaining at the start of the 4th quarter. It should however be Noted that the Responsibility for "Players of Colour" playing times ultimately lies with the respective Team Management.
  - 5.9.5. Should coaches fail to play their black players for the allotted time, the game will be forfeited, and the coach will appear before the disciplinary committee.
  - 5.9.6. Teams that arrive without a black official or teams that do not have a black official on the team bench during a game will forfeit their game.
  - 5.9.7. SSA reserves the right to take additional action against the offending Affiliate.

## **6. DISCIPLINARY MATTERS**

- 6.1. The Water Polo Technical Committee members present at the Tournament and the Tournament Technical Delegate will constitute a Disciplinary committee.
- 6.2. Failure to adhere to the Transformation Policy as directed under Point 5.9 of the Rules document.
- 6.3. Misconduct – exclusion from that game and if necessary, a hearing will be held.

- a) Unacceptable language – including being directed during general play
- b) Equipment abuse - intentional damage to pool/team/club equipment
- c) Disobedience of referee instruction
- d) Disrespect to a referee – including lack of respect or courtesy to an individual/team
- e) Dissent – gesturing/splashing at an individual, including a referee or Official

6.4. Violence – exclusion from that game, and if necessary, a hearing will be held.

To do or attempt to do any act of violence to another player with malicious intent. Examples include but are not limited to elbowing, punching, kicking, biting, head butting, eye gouging, sustained sinking, or any other form of malicious physical abuse of that player.

6.5. Extreme Violence (Previously Brutality) – exclusion from that game which will also include a mandatory one (1) game suspension and if necessary, a hearing will be held. Dependent on the outcome of the disciplinary hearing a further suspension may apply.

To do or attempt to do any act of extreme violence to another player with malicious intent. Examples include but are not limited to elbowing, punching, kicking, head butting, eye gouging, or any other form of malicious physical abuse of that player.

6.6. Coaches and managers that receive a red card will serve a mandatory one (1) game suspension, and if necessary, a hearing will be held.

One or more of the following behaviors towards an official:

- a) Unacceptable language and/or abuse
- b) Equipment abuse
- c) Disobedience
- d) Disrespect
- e) Continuous disrespect
- f) Abuse and/or assault of a Referee or Official

- g) Bringing the game into disrepute.
- 6.7. Official misdemeanors are as per FINA Rules.

## **7. SELECTORS**

- 7.1. All National Selectors must be present at the tournament for the full duration of the event.
- 7.2. SSA reserves the right to co-opt additional selectors if required.
- 7.3. Final Selection Criteria, will lie within the ambit of the Technical Committee (TC).

