

2018

Water Polo Canada
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2018 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP LEAGUE

The following document is the official bid manual for the 2018 Water Polo Canada National Championship League for various age groups. Herein is a description of the specific events and guidelines for potential host cities and tourism departments. The National Championship League will begin its third year of operations in the fall of 2016.

2018 National Championship League

Table of Contents

Introduction	2
2015 National Championships Participation and Economic Impact	3
2018 National Championship Events	4
Bid Eligibility and Submission.....	5
Timelines	5
Host City Minimum Requirements	6
Rights Fees and Financial Requirements	6
Venue Requirements.....	6
Sport Equipment Requirements	8
Accommodations Requirements.....	9
Marketing and Communication Requirements	9
Other Value-Added Bid Enhancements	9
Appendix A: Provincial Water Polo Association Contact Information.....	10

2018 National Championship League

Introduction

Water Polo Canada (“WPC”), since 1907, has been responsible for organizing and governing the annual National Championships. September of 2014, WPC implemented a new and innovative competition structure: the National Championship League (“NCL”).

Female and male water polo athletes from 14 and under through to the senior age category from across the country compete in the NCL for a total of eight (8) divisions. Teams from various clubs compete over a period of seven (7) months rather than the traditional tournament-style one (1) weekend event. Each team will play between sixteen (16) and twenty (20) regular season games within their geographically-based conference: the Western Conference (BC, AB, SK & MB) and the Eastern Conference (ON, QC & Atlantic Canada). At the conclusion of the regular season, the 16 and under and 19 and under teams will then compete in their respective conference championship as they attempt to qualify for the National Finals, which only comprises the top four (4) teams in each age category. The 14 and under teams will compete in an Eastern and Western Nationals while the Senior circuit is determined by the Senior National Championships.

WPC is seeking a host city in the western zone and a host city in the eastern zone for its 2018 NCL “Championship” events, which will take place in the months of April and May. The following events are outlined in detail throughout the document.

Western Zone	Eastern Zone
14 and under Western Nationals	14 and under Eastern Nationals
16 and under Conference Championship	16 and under Conference Championship
19 and under Conference Championship	19 and under Conference Championship
19 and under inter-conference Championship	Senior National Championships
National Finals (16 and under & 19 and under)	

For more information about the NCL please visit the web site:

<http://www.waterpolo.ca/ncoverview.aspx>.

2018 National Championship League

National Championships Participation and Economic Impact

The 2015 Western Zone Championships, along with the 2015 National Finals, were hosted by the City of Calgary. During these events, a STEAM economic impact report was conducted to determine the total economic impact of the championship events.

The STEAM report was conducted for the following events:

- 19 and under Inter-Conference Championship, April 23-26, 2015
- 14 and under Western Nationals, May 1-3, 2015
- 16 and under Western Conference Championship, May 8-10, 2015
- National Finals, May 29-30, 2015

A total of 57 teams (15 from Calgary) and over 500 unique participants attended the four (4) competitions. According to the STEAM PRO survey results the ratio of spectators per participant was **2.84**. Overall, there were an estimated **1,613 spectators** in attendance over the four (4) weekends of the NCL in Calgary, with nearly 1,200 of these spectators coming from outside of Calgary. The typical Alberta visitor spent 2.1 nights in Calgary and spent \$283, rising to 3.0 nights and \$439 for visitors from outside of the province.

The spending of spectators, participants and the event organizers in hosting four (4) competitions in Calgary totalled **\$731,000**, generating an estimated net economic activity (GDP) of **\$874,000** in the Province of Alberta, of which **\$561,000** occurred in Calgary. The total economic activity (industry output) generated by the event was **\$1.7 million** in the Province, with **\$1.2 million** occurring in Calgary.

WPC implemented a stay-and-play policy in which participating teams were required to reserve rooms at the selected host hotel in order to participate in the competitions. The total room nights for spectators, teams and event officials was **656** and does not include the additional spectators of which **83%** of overnight visitors stayed in hotels or other commercial accommodation.

At the conclusion of the National Finals competition, WPC hosted an Awards Gala at the Calgary Westin in which 350 people attended. The Gala included a 3-course meal, live DJ, emcee and production and was hosted at the Calgary Westin.

The NCL continued to grow in year two as the number of teams participating grew from 79 to 89. The NCL also saw the introduction of two new events, the 19U and under Eastern and Western Conference Championships. Registration for year 3 of the NCL is already well underway, and the 16U and 19U categories have already seen a registration jump of over 15% (45 teams in 2015-2016 to 52 teams in 2016-2017). With more teams participating, and additional playoff events being held, the economic impact and overall value of hosting NCL championship events has continued to grow.

2018 National Championship League

2018 National Championship Events

WPC will be selecting one (1) city in the West and one (1) city in the East to host all “Championship” events in the bid organizing committee’s respective zone. Each bid organizing committee is asked to submit a proposal for the five (5) eligible events, which includes the National Finals. The National Finals will be awarded to the Eastern or Western bid organizing committee with the best overall proposal. Each of the events below will have both male and female teams present and combined total projections are presented below.

WESTERN ZONE			
Championship Event	Date	Projected # of Teams	Projected # of Room Nights
19U Inter-Conference	February 1-4, 2018	24	250
19U Western Nationals	April 20-22, 2018	12	90
16U Western Nationals	April 27-29, 2018	13	100
14U Western Nationals	May 4-6, 2018	16	140
EASTERN ZONE			
Senior Nationals	March 23-25, 2018	12	60
19U Eastern Nationals	April 20-22, 2018	13	100
16U Eastern Nationals	April 27-29, 2018	16	120
14U Eastern Nationals	May 4-6, 2018	14	120
EASTERN AND WESTERN ZONE			
National Finals	May 24-26, 2018	16	175
An Awards Gala with a live DJ, emcee and 3-course meal for 350-450 people will be hosted Saturday May 26th.			

The numbers above only include competition participants: athletes, coaches, managers and WPC officials. The projected room nights do not include travelling spectators in addition to other NCL regular season events, which will yield the host city an addition 2-3 competitions.

The total projected room nights for the four (4) **Western** events excluding the National Finals is **580**. The total projected room nights for the four (4) **Eastern** events excluding the National Finals is **400**. The bid organizing committee who presents the best bid will be awarded the National Finals as their 5th event.

2018 National Championship League

Bid Eligibility and Submission

Tourism authorities, city sport departments or a consortium of organizations who have access to venues, financing and hospitality services are eligible to submit a bid proposal to host the 2018 NCL “Championships” within their respective zone and the National Finals for a total of five (5) competitions. The bid submission must include the following:

- Refundable rights fee deposit of \$1,000 made payable to Water Polo Canada through PayPal at paypal@waterpolo.ca
- Event venue contract based on the standards and needs outlined herein
- Confirmation of appropriate sport equipment based on the standards and needs outlined herein
- Provincial and municipal grant opportunities
- Tourism funding commitments (cash and VIK)
- List of hotels based on the standards and needs outlined herein
- Description of marketing and communication support based on the standards and needs outlined herein
- Any value added initiatives that would support the growth and development of water polo within the host city
- Letter of support from the Provincial Water Polo Association endorsing the bid submission and ready to provide resources for the recruitment and training of volunteers

Timelines

All bid applications shall be sent to office@waterpolo.ca to the attention of Neil Trousdale, League and Events Manager no later than **Monday October 31st, 2016**. The bid review committee will contact the short listed candidates within 5-7 business days after the bid submission deadline closes for further discussions. The winning bid will be announced within one month of the bid submission deadline. Winning bid submissions will be contacted prior to the official announcement.

Event	Date
1. RFP distribution	September 21, 2016
2. Proposal due date	October 31, 2016
3. Target date for review of proposals	November 1-4, 2016
4. Short listed candidates will be contacted for further discussions	November 7-11, 2016
5. Host city recommendation to the Executive Director of Water Polo Canada for approval	November 16, 2016
6. Winning bid announced	November 23, 2016

2018 National Championship League

Host City Minimum Requirements

Rights Fees and Financial Requirements

Each bid submission must be accompanied by a refundable \$1,000 deposit made payable online through PayPal to paypal@waterpolo.ca. Unsuccessful bids will have their deposit refunded. The successful Western bid will be asked for a rights fee in the amount of **\$7,500** and the Eastern bid will be asked for a rights fee in the amount of **\$5,000**. The balance of rights fee – less the deposit – will be required once the Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is signed by both WPC and the organization of the winning bid.

The winning bid organizations will each be responsible for conducting a STEAM PRO economic impact report. WPC will supply the volunteers while the winning bid organizations will bear the costs of the economic impact report.

A list of all of the funding opportunities available through provincial and municipal grants should be included in the bid submission. Further financial commitment by the organization submitting the bid, either in cash or VIK, should be included in the bid submission. The bid committee is in search of financial assistance in the form of discounted rates or cash towards venue rental.

Venue Requirements

The event requires the following pool specifications throughout:

WESTERN ZONE			
Championship Event	Date	# of Pools Required	Pool Dimensions and Hours
19U Inter-Conference	February 1-4, 2018	2 pools for competition	25m x 20m x 2m Thursday 11am-10pm Friday & Saturday 8am-10pm Sunday 8am-5pm
19U Western Nationals	April 20-22, 2018	1 pool for competition 1 pool for warm-up: pool dimensions are flexible	25m x 20m x 2m Friday & Saturday 8am-10pm Sunday 8am-4pm
16U Western Nationals	April 27-29, 2018	1 pool for competition 1 pool for warm-up: pool dimensions are flexible	25m x 20m x 2m Friday & Saturday 8am-10pm Sunday 8am-4pm
14U Western Nationals	May 4-6, 2018	2 pools for competition	25m x 20m x 2m Friday & Saturday 8am-10pm Sunday 8am-4pm

2018 National Championship League

EASTERN ZONE			
Championship Event	Date	# of Pools Required	Pool Dimensions and Hours
Senior Nationals	March 23-25, 2018	1 pool for competition 1 pool for warm-up: pool dimensions are flexible	25m x 20m x 2m Friday 1-10pm Saturday 8am-10pm Sunday 8am-4pm
19U Eastern Nationals	April 20-22, 2018	1 pool for competition 1 pool for warm-up: pool dimensions are flexible	25m x 20m x 2m Friday & Saturday 8am-10pm Sunday 8am-4pm
16U Eastern Nationals	April 27-29, 2018	1 pool for competition 1 pool for warm-up: pool dimensions are flexible	25m x 20m x 2m Friday & Saturday 8am-10pm Sunday 8am-4pm
14U Eastern Nationals	May 4-6, 2018	2 pools for competition	25m x 20m x 2m Friday & Saturday 8am-10pm Sunday 8am-4pm

EASTERN AND WESTERN ZONE			
Championship Event	Date	# of Pools Required	Pool Dimensions and Hours
National Finals	May 24-26, 2018	2 pools for competition 1 pool for warm-up: pool dimensions are flexible	25m x 20m x 2m Thursday 5-10pm Friday 8am-10pm Saturday 8am-5pm

The event venue also requires the following meeting space:

- Competition office with tables, chairs, electrical outlets and internet access
- Hospitality room with tables, chairs, fridge and electrical outlets
- Doping control center
 - Secured washroom with space for a table and chairs
- Preference for four (4) locker rooms
 - Minimally a male and female change room
- Change room for technical officials

The organizing committee will be web casting the competitions and will require a hard line independent IP internet connection with up to 5mb/s upstream capacity. WiFi access throughout the building should be made available to the organizing committee and technical delegates, and if possible, the general public.

2018 National Championship League

Sport Equipment Requirements

The following sport equipment is required to be provided by the host city and venue, and are based on the National and international standards:

- Water polo rink with the appropriate colored lane ropes as outlined in FINA WP 1
- Six (6) water polo goals that meet the standards outlined in FINA WP 2
- Water polo side markers
 - Six (6) white
 - Four (4) red
 - Four (4) yellow
- Penalty flags
 - White
 - Blue
 - Yellow
 - Red
- Referee platforms (***recommended but not mandatory***)
 - 30m x 1m x 0.8m
- Elevated platform for the technical officials (***recommended but not mandatory***)
 - 15m x 1m x 0.8m
- Synchronized timing and scoring system
 - Visible game clock
 - Visible shot clock
 - Visible penalty board
- Four (4) rolling storage bins for athlete bags and clothing (***recommended but not mandatory***)
- Two (2) rolling storage bins for water polo balls
- Team benches (2)
- 6' tables for officials (10)
- Chairs (25-35)

The FINA WP rule book is available online at

http://www.fina.org/H2O/docs/rules/2015/disciplines/FINAwprules_20152017.pdf.

2018 National Championship League

Accommodations Requirements

WPC will be in search of a hospitality partner in each of the host cities within the respective zone. A stay-and-play policy has been implemented whereby each participating team is required to stay at the host hotel.

- 3-star or 4-star property
- Quoted rate should be for single to quad occupancy and include a hot breakfast
- A \$10 / room night sponsorship rebate to WPC to be included
- A meeting room for up to 50 people for the pre-competition technical meeting the eve of the competition should be included at no additional charge
 - Coffee, tea, water and cookies should be included
- Storage room available for the organizing committee at no additional charge
- Complimentary parking and WiFi
- 3 complimentary rooms / night for WPC staff and delegates
- Signing bonus for WPC with hospitality points program

Marketing and Communication Requirements

WPC will be in search for partnerships with local media outlets to promote the event. The bid committee will take into consideration the network available to the organization submitting the bid.

The cost of developing and producing welcome signs at the airport, hotels and venue (a total of 7) will be the responsibility of the winning bid organization. The final artwork and dimensions of the welcome signs will be determined by the organizing committee.

Other Value-Added Bid Enhancements

Organizations submitting a bid can enhance their offerings through donations, sponsorship, VIK or discounted prices on products, equipment and/or services that will be needed throughout the event. They may include, but are not limited to:

- ✓ Experience and number of personnel who will be part of the organizing committee
- ✓ Assistance in requesting participation from city and provincial officials in the opening ceremonies and awards presentation
- ✓ Support in securing sponsors for the various assets available:
 - Title sponsor
 - Hospitality room (volunteers, coaches, officials and delegates)
 - Volunteer appreciation program
 - Event program and micro-site

2018 National Championship League

Appendix A: Provincial Water Polo Association Contact Information

BC Water Polo Association

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