

2023-2024 USFHK Men's Water Polo Competition

1. Format of Competition

If the number of participating teams remains at six or less, a single round-robin system will be adopted in the preliminary round. If the number of participating teams is more than six, the teams will be drawn into two groups. The top two teams in each group will qualify for the semi-finals, adopting the cross-elimination system. In the semi-final matches, the winning teams will advance to the gold medal match, and the losing teams will advance to the bronze medal match. Teams finishing in 3rd and 4th places in the groups will play for the consolation round, adopting the cross-elimination system. However, If the number of teams is less than 4, a single round-robin system will be used.

Groupings: (Based on the results of 2022/2023 USFHK Men's Water Polo Competition)

Group A : PolyU 、 HKBU 、 HKUST 、 EdUHK

Group B : CUHK 、 CityU 、 HKU 、 HKMU

All participating players must personally bring their identification documents to the registration desk for verification and collect the Athlete Card before their first match. Before each subsequent match, the team captain may represent the players in submitting the Athlete Card to the referee for verification.

2. Regulations

Unless otherwise stated, rules will be set by the latest edition of the World Aquatics.

3. Scoring

a. Single round robin matches in preliminary round :

Win : 3 points

Draw : 1 point

Lost or Abandoned : 0 point

- b. If two or more teams tie on points, Goal differences in the matches among the teams concerned
- c. In the Gold/Bronze Medal/ ranking matches, a penalty shoot-out will be conducted in case of a draw match.

4. Entries

- a. Each institution is entitled to enter one team, each team may consist a maximum of thirteen or a minimum of seven male water polo players.
- b. The personal information with recent photos of the players should be put down clearly on the enrollment form, duly signed by the Council Member of the respective institution with school chop.
- c. Eligibility: Players from the teams must be full-time students who are currently registered in the recognised institution of USFHK (including undergraduate or postgraduate students).
- d. Date of birth : 01/01/1995 to 31/12/2006.

5. Postponement

After the competition fixture has been confirmed by the Convener, requests for rescheduling will not be entertained. Under special circumstances, Convener has the right to change the fixture.

6. Referees

Convener will employ qualified referees from HKGSA.

7. Withdrawal

- a. Any team not presenting minimum 7 players for each match 10 minutes before the scheduled time (according to the official clock) shall be disqualified for the match. The match result will be 0:5 to the abstain team as final result.
- b. During a match, the decision of the referee made according to the relevant rules of Water Polo shall be final. Should a team oppose to the decision and refuse to play, the team shall be taken as withdrawing from the match.
- c. If any team is regarded as having withdrawn from the match, the team should submit an official explanation signed by the Council Member of the institution concerned to the Chairman of the Executive Committee of USFHK within 72 hours (irrespective of holidays) of the event.

8. Protest & Appeals

Each and every appeal must be made in writing and signed by the Council Member of the institution concerned. The appeal, accompanied with an appeal fee of **Hong Kong dollars one thousand**, shall be made within 30 minutes (irrespective of holidays) after the game concerned, to the convenor and copied to the Chairman of Executive Committee. The decision of the Appeal Board shall be final.

9. Weather

In case of adverse weather on the competition day, the Convener has the right to decide whether the event should be held on time.

10. Rules

- a. Game ball : MIKASA W6000W size 5
- b. Only three coaches or team personnel and thirteen registered players are allowed to sit in the team bench area during the matches. Others must remain in the spectator area and are not permitted to stay by the poolside.
- c. Preliminary round, semi-finals, and consolation round consist of two periods, each lasting ten minutes (non-stop clock), with a three-minutes halftime break.
- d. Finals and ranking matches consist of four periods, each lasting eight minutes (stop clock), with a two-minute break between periods and a three-minute halftime break.
- e. A smaller count will be applied in Preliminary round. Full count will be applied in the matches of final, semi-finals, consolation round and ranking matches.
- f. Time-out arrangement will only apply in the final and ranking matches, each team could request two time-outs in the match.
- g. Fouls : Please refer to the latest updates (Sep of the current year) modified from the official rules and regulations from World Aquatics.
- h. The Organizing Committee reserves the right to modify the rules and regulations of this competition at any time for improvement. All modifications will be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval before execution.
- i. In case of controversy over the rules/regulations between the Chinese and the English versions, the interpretation of the Chinese version shall be followed.