

2019

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2019 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP LEAGUE

The following document is the official bid manual for the 2019 Water Polo Canada (WPC) National Championship League. Herein is a description of the specific events and guidelines for potential host cities and tourism departments. The National Championship League will begin its fourth year of operations in the fall of 2017.

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Introduction – National Championships League

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

The NCL consists of four age classes (14 and under, 16 and under, 19 and under, and Senior) with each age group featuring both female and male divisions for a total of eight (8) categories. Teams from participating clubs compete over a period of seven (7) months rather than at a stand-alone National Championship 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, a series of playoff events determine the champions for each category. The 16 and under and 19 and under teams first compete in their respective conference championship in order to qualify for the National Finals, which only comprises the top four (4) teams in the category. The 14 and under teams compete in separate Eastern and Western National Championships 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 2019 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/ncloverview.aspx>.

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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.

In addition to the above economic impact, the NCL championship events now also feature a 19U Eastern and Western Championship that did not exist at the time of the economic impact study.

The NCL has continued to grow in years two and three as the number of teams participating grew from 79 to 93. Registration for year four of the NCL is already underway, and the 16U and 19U categories have seen the largest increases in the history of the NCL, with an increase of eleven new teams bringing the totalling number of competing 16U and 19U teams up from 49 to 60. The continue increase in the number of teams participating in the NCL is driving the hotel needs and economic impact of the NCL higher and higher.

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2019 National Championship Events

Cities can bid for any combination of events in their respective zone; however, cities that bid for all five events are likely to receive priority over cities that choose to bid for only a smaller subset of events. Each bid organizing committee is asked to submit a combined proposal for their chosen events. The National Finals will be awarded to the Eastern or Western bid organizing committee with the best overall proposal so interested cities should include a bid for the National Finals in their proposals in addition to their zonal events. 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	Jan. 31-Feb. 3, 2019	20	200
19U Western Nationals	April 26-28, 2019	12	110
16U Western Nationals	May 3-5, 2019	14	120
14U Western Nationals	May 10-12, 2019	16	175
EASTERN ZONE			
Senior Nationals	March 29-31, 2019	12	60
19U Eastern Nationals	April 26-28, 2019	16	130
16U Eastern Nationals	May 2-5, 2019	24	200
14U Eastern Nationals	May 10-12, 2019	16	150
EASTERN AND WESTERN ZONE			
National Finals	May 23-26, 2019	18	200
An Awards Gala with a live DJ, emcee and 3-course meal for 350-450 people will be hosted Saturday May 25th.			

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 additional 2-3 competitions.

The total projected room nights for the four (4) **Western** events excluding the National Finals is **605**. The total projected room nights for the four (4) **Eastern** events excluding the National Finals is **540**.

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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 2019 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 **Thursday, October 5th, 2017**. A letter of intent should be sent no later than **Thursday, September 21st, 2017**. Discussions with the short-listed candidates will follow the bid submission deadline with the winning bid(s) being 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	August 25, 2017
2. Letter of intent due date	September 21, 2017
3. Proposal due date	October 5, 2017
4. Winning bid announced	November 2, 2017

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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 **\$10,000** and the Eastern bid will be asked for a rights fee in the amount of **\$7,500**. 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	Jan 31-Feb 3, 2019	2 pools for competition	25m x 20m x 2m Thursday 11am-10pm Friday & Saturday 8am-10pm Sunday 8am-5pm
19U Western Nationals	April 26-28, 2019	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	May 3-5, 2019	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 10-12, 2019	2 pools for competition	25m x 20m x 2m Friday & Saturday 8am-10pm Sunday 8am-4pm

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EASTERN ZONE			
Championship Event	Date	# of Pools Required	Pool Dimensions and Hours
Senior Nationals	March 29-31, 2019	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 26-28, 2019	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	May 2-5, 2019	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 10-12, 2019	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 23-26, 2019	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. Wi-Fi access throughout the building should be made available to the organizing committee and technical delegates, and if possible, the general public.

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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.

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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

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Appendix A: Provincial Water Polo Association Contact Information

BC Water Polo Association

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