



JUNIOR NATIONALS 2021: U19 & U15

TOURNAMENT RULES

Section A: Participating Teams and Players

Section B: Referee & Scoring System (includes how the players will be scored / rated in order to receive the trophies against the criteria in Section A)

SECTION A

PARTICIPATING TEAMS AND PLAYERS

A1 PREAMBLE

Section A of this document has been put together to assist competing teams and players in understanding their responsibilities when competing in the any SAUWHF sanctioned Underwater Hockey Competition.

Although there is a certain amount of flexibility allowed, participating players and teams need to meet the time frames and minimum standards identified in this document.

Any variation to these standards needs to be ratified by SAUWHF through the Tournament Manager.

A2 COMPETITION FORMAT

A2.1 TEAMS AND TEAM CATEGORIES

A2.1.1 Junior National Championships

The national tournaments are provincial based competitions. For Junior Nationals, there is no limit to the number of teams that can be entered into the following categories:

- U19 Men
- U19 Ladies
- U15 Boys
- U15 Girls

For classification of age, refer to Policy No. POLJN-01, Classification of Provincial Teams at Junior Nationals.

The competition is based on a single round robin to rank teams from which the top four teams play off for the trophy. The remainder of the teams play off to receive final rankings.



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If there are only three or four teams in the category there will be a double round robin plus finals games.

Due to the complexity and the number of teams in this division, a strong possibility exists that the U10 Mixed might play in the same league as the U13 Girls; similarly due to traditionally low numbers in the girls' teams, the U15 Girls might play in either the U13 Boys league or the U19 Ladies League. The above scenarios are to be agreed upon by ALL provinces prior to the game schedule being distributed.

A2.2 COMPETITION AND GAME FORMAT

A2.2.1 Junior National Championships

A2.2.1.1 Competition Format

Due to Covid-19 Pandemic the competition will have minor changes to accommodate the Government Rules, Regulations and Policies governing the pandemic.

- Opening Ceremony as follows:
 - Provincial march-pass / parade to be held outside the pool enclosure
 - Opening Address by the Junior President of SAUWHF
- Lunch and dinner breaks – no playing to take place during these breaks
- No final function will be held; medal and trophy presentation to take place outside of the pool area after the final games

A2.2.1.2. Game Format

Round Robin / Group Games:

1. **U15's & U19's:**
Each round-robin match will have two halves of 10 minutes each, with a 2 minute break in between halves, and a 5 minute break in between games, to allow teams to exit the pool area and the next set of teams to enter.
2. **No** time-outs during games.
3. **No** stoppages of the clock in the last 2 minutes of game play in each game.
4. Penalty shots will be awarded as penalty goals in the last 30 seconds of each half of pool games.
5. Games will be run on independent timing systems.



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Play-off Games - U15's & U19's:

1. Each game will start according to the game schedule and will run on independent timing system.
2. Each match will have two halves of 10 minutes each, with a 2 minute break in between halves, and a 5 minute break in between games, to allow teams to exit the pool area and the next set of teams to enter.
3. **No** time-outs during games.
4. **No** stoppages of the clock in the last 2 minutes of game play in each game.
5. Penalty shots will be awarded as penalty goals in the last 30 seconds of each half of pool games.
6. If the game ends in a draw the team ranked highest in the Round-Robin stage will win the match.

Semi-final and Final Games U15's:

1. Each game will start according to the game schedule and will run on independent timing system.
2. Each match will have two halves of 10 minutes each, with a 2 minute break in between halves, and a 5 minute break in between games, to allow teams to exit the pool area and the next set of teams to enter.
3. **No** time-outs during games.
4. **No** stoppages of the clock in the last 2 minutes of game play in each game.
5. Penalty shots will be awarded as penalty goals in the last 30 seconds of each half of pool games.
6. If the normal time ends in a draw the following will occur:
 - 6.1 The teams will **not** swop sides
 - 6.2 One-minute break before start of golden goal play
 - 6.3 The game will end after the first goal has been scored.
 - 6.4 **No** stoppage of time if penalty has been awarded, penalty shot will be taken

Semi-finals U19's:

1. Each game will start according to the game schedule and will run on independent timing system.
2. Each round-robin match will have two halves of 10 minutes each, with a 2 minute break in between halves, and a 5 minute break in between games, to allow teams to exit the pool area and the next set of teams to enter.
3. **No** time-outs during games.
4. **No** stoppages of the clock in the last 2 minutes of game play in each game.
5. Penalty shots will be awarded as penalty goals in the last 30 seconds of each half of pool games.



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6. If the normal time ends in a draw the following will occur:
 - 6.1 The teams will **not** swap sides
 - 6.2 One-minute break before start of golden goal play
 - 6.3 The game will end after the first goal has been scored.
 - 6.4 **No** stoppage of time if penalty has been awarded, penalty shot will be taken

Final Games U19:

1. Two halves of 15 minutes each with a 3 minute break in between halves.
2. Time will **not** stop in the last 2 minutes for any stoppages or infringements of normal or over-time play.
3. Each penalty will be played, and the clock will **not** be stopped during play.
4. One time out per team per half during the final games.
5. Time out for team will be 1 minute.
6. If the normal time ends in a draw the following will occur:
 - 6.1 The sides will **not** swap ends
 - 6.2 One-minute break before start of extra time
 - 6.3 Play two 5-minute halves with 1 minute break between halves
7. If there is still a draw after extra time, there will be a 1-minute break, no changing of ends and golden goal will be played.
8. Game will only end after goal has been scored
9. **No** stoppage of play unless penalty has been awarded
10. **No** time-outs in golden goal period

A2.3 COMPETITION RANKING AND FINALS FORMAT

- A2.3.1 Once the round robin games have been completed, teams are ranked by the following formula (as per CMAS rules):
1. Points (2 for a win, 1 for a draw, 0 for a loss, -2 for a forfeit)
 2. RR matchup (if two teams have equal points, then the team that won during the RR is placed higher)
 3. Most wins in RR
 4. Least number of losses RR
 5. Least goals scored against in RR
 6. Toss a coin
- A2.3.2 If a team forfeits a game:
- A2.3.2.1 Team which forfeits will be subtracted with 2 points.
- A2.3.2.2 A score of 6 goals against forfeiting team will be recorded
- A2.3.2.3 It is required that the team that is forfeiting the specific game, fill in the required document – Team Forfeit Document Number OFM TOU 01.
- A2.3.3 The numbers in the Play Off games refer to ranking's obtained from the round robin games.



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A2.4 APPEAL PROCESS

- A2.4.1 Only the team Captain or Team Representative may put forward a claim.
- A2.4.2 The claim must be announced to the Tournament Referee and Tournament Officer within 15 minutes of the end of the match.
- A2.4.3 Written appeal must be in English and must be submitted within an hour of the end of contested match.
- A2.4.4 Written claim must be accompanied by a deposit of R 1 000 (thousand Rand) in cash
- A2.4.5 If the above-mentioned requirements are not fulfilled, the claim will not be accepted.
- A2.4.6 The sum of R 1 000 (thousand Rand) will be refunded if the claim is considered valid.
- A2.4.7 A jury is chaired by Tournament Referee. Other members include:
 - A2.4.7.1 Tournament Manager and in the event that TM not available then the Tournament Officer for the provision of tournament options
 - A2.4.7.2 President of SAUWHF, or SAUWHF Men's / Ladies representative
 - A2.4.7.3 Two level two referees chosen among the referees of the tournament. Referees to be nominated prior to start of tournament.
- A2.4.7 A meeting secretary will be appointed for the session. The position is administrative and non-voting.
- A2.4.8 In the event of an incident becomes physical (person or object) the Tournament Referee together with the Tournament Officer and either the Junior President or Senior President of SAUWHF can impose an immediate ban on the player / players until such time as a hearing can be conducted.

A3 PRESENCE OF A COACH / ASSISTANT COACH IN THE WATER

- A3.1 The coach is allowed in the water during games.
- A3.2 Coach/ assistant coach must wear a clearly identifiable coloured cap not to be confused with players or referees (i.e. Green).
- A3.2 The presence of the coach should not touch, move, or block the view of the referee or camera.
- A3.4 If coach is guilty, team will be liable for fine or risk losing team deposit.
- A3.5 A coach may be in the water during other games; but must abide to above mentioned rules.



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A4 PLAYER AND TEAM ELIGIBILITY

A4.1 All players to be paid up members and registered on the SAUWHF website and in so doing have acknowledged the T&C's and the Players Participation Agreement and will be held accountable if not upheld.

A4.2 All players must conform to the age categories as per Policy No.: POLJN-01.

A4.3 For Provincial Tournaments a player is required to be a paid and registered member of a Club within that Province and a paid member of the Province

A4.3.1 If a player wishes to play for another Province a letter of release, with valid reasons, is required from the players Province to be send to the SAUWHF Exco for permission / authorisation.

A4.4 Gender:

A4.4.1 No male player may play in the Ladies league.

A4.4.2 No mixed gender permitted in the U19 League at Junior Nationals.

A4.4.3 In the event of this occurring, both teams may be disqualified. Tournament fees and expenses will not be refunded to team and/or team members.

A4.5 Movement of players between leagues:

A4.5.1 A player in a lower league can be promoted to the higher league.

A4.5.2. This player will not be able to move back to the initial team after being promoted.

A4.5.3 Players may not be moved from one team to another in the same league.

A4.5.4 Player can only be promoted within the same Club or Province.

A4.5.5 Any player moving to a higher league must do so before Semi-Finals of the lower league being played.

A4.5.6 In the event of this occurring in any situation both teams may be disqualified. Tournament fees and expenses will not be refunded to team and/or team members.

A4.5.7 This does not apply where players are playing for the "SA Elite, Junior or Masters" sides or internationals for the purpose of trials.

A4.6 Player selection specific to Junior Nationals

A4.6.1 Team Make-Up:

A4.6.1.1 The overriding priority is for all players registered in a province to play for that province as this is a National (inter provincial) event.

A4.6.1.2 The second priority is for teams to fall into the gender specific age groups as above. However if insufficient players per gender group, the province can then decide to either:

- Enter a mixed team (not permitted for U19 league see point A4.2.2) or
- Find players from another province; or



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- Allow their players to play for another province
Note: All mixed teams play in the Men's league specific to their age category.

A4.6.2 The Rules:

If insufficient players in a province, the following will apply:

- The province needs to advise the organising tournament province
- The organising tournament province to seek players and teams accordingly
- Once potential teams established the following protocol needs to be actioned by the province(s):
 - Release form the registered province for that player to move for the duration of the tournament
 - Tournament Manager to sanction this agreement

A4.6.3 Considerations:

In the event a player falls outside the parameters of this policy (i.e. older than 15 years) and has not been playing underwater hockey for 3 months, the player may play in the that League with the following conditions:

- only two development player who meets the above criteria will be considered per team
- the SAUWHF Junior Executive Committee will be the ruling body on the above issue and will evaluate the merits of each case and advice accordingly.

A4.6.4 If a team is entered for the purpose of trials:

A4.6.4.1 The team will not be allowed to be placed in the medals and will automatically be ranked last after the round robin stage(s).

A4.6.4.2 The result(s) of the games played during the group/round-robin games will be used to determine the ranking in the league.

A4.6.4.3 Teams competing in the same league may not appeal result(s) played against them. Teams entered for the purpose of trials.

A4.6.4.4 The team is responsible for all the referee duties and will be liable for any infringement(s).

A5 DRESS CODE

A5.1 Junior Nationals

A5.1.1 Tournament

- Approved provincial cap
- Cap numbering system to be adhered to in the U19 league



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- Provincial bathing costume
 - design to be in keeping with the colours of the Province

A5.1.2 Medal Presentation at the Pool

- Provincial clothing preferred, if not then
 - teams to be neat, presentable and cohesive

A6 AWARDS / TROPHIES

The Tournament Manager is responsible for all the trophies.

Various trophies are awarded at each competition. Listed below are the trophies together with the criteria for which trophy will be awarded.

Nominations for Player of the Tournament will be on the Score Sheets. The Sin-Bin Sheet also needs to be used as a means to determine the winner of this trophy. The overall decision committee on trophies awarded is:

- Nomination Information
- Manager RSA Age Group Worlds
- President SAUWHF (or other nominated Executive Member)
- 1 x RSA Coach
- Tournament Referee

A6.1 Junior Nationals

A6.1.1 Player of the Tournament (x 4 awards) - U19 Men and Ladies; U15 Boys and Girls

- Any player from any team can win this award, player or team doesn't necessarily have to have played in the final to be chosen
- Most goals scored is not to be considered as a criteria, instead teamwork and who set up the goals should be looked at
- Pure skill, although important, will not be the only factor that is considered as a player can have amazing skills but it's not to the benefit of the team and can lead to selfish play. We want to promote team play more than individual skill.
- General attitude towards fellow players and the referees will be a factor. Once again we cannot award a player if he is disrespectful to other players and refs.



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A6.1.2 Coach of the Year

This trophy is for the Coach of the Year and not specific to the tournament. The age of Coach should not influence the decision. Factors to be considered are therefore as follows:

- Actively involved in coaching at Club level
 - How often does he / she coach
 - How many players are being Coached
 - Coaching structure at Club level
- Involvement at Provincial level
 - Preparation of teams to compete
 - Involved in provincial team selection
 - Coaching teams at Nationals
- Flexibility of Coach
 - Prepared to accept players from other Provinces to ensure that they can participate in tournaments
- National Coach
 - Level of Coach
 - Involvement of Coach within the SAUWHF structure
 - Quality and Level of input and output
 - Fitness programs
 - Camp planning
 - Feedback reports – general and individual
- Results / Successes
 - National / International
 - Achievement vs Goals
 - Provincial
 - Easy to win the RSA players in side
 - Coaching a “made-up” team addresses coaching ability
 - Need to look at Coaches history at Nationals

NOTE: There will be NO Gees Trophy this year



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SECTION B

REFEREE AND SCORING SYSTEM

B1 PREAMBLE

Section B of this document has been put together to assist competing teams and players in understanding their responsibilities with regards to the referee and scoring system when competing in the any SAUWHF sanctioned Underwater Hockey Competition.

It should be noted that SAUWHF will endeavour to provide as many non-playing referees at a tournament; however if this is not possible the system described below will be enforced.

Any variation to these standards needs to be ratified by SAUWHF through the Tournament Manager.

B2 WATER REFEREE SYSTEM

Each team is required to fulfil their respective referee duties. If a team cannot fulfil duties they are liable to bring a qualified non-playing referee.

B2.1 Junior Nationals

The objective is to have 3 water referees at all times. However in the U15 leagues, two water referees are seen as suffice.

B2.1.1 It is compulsory for each team to have a referee; this person is usually the Coach of the team.

B2.1.2 The name of the referee to be registered on the website team entry sheet – even if the Referee and the Coach is the same person

B2.1.3 The referee / coach will remain in the water following their teams' game

B2.1.4 In the U19 League for the game following their own:

- Black Team will deliver two water referees
 - Coach (or designated referee as in point B2.1.2) and one player trialing for RSA Squad who had completed the Level 1 Referee Theory Course
- White Team will deliver one water referee
 - Coach (or designated referee as in point B2.1.2)

B2.1.5 Water referees must sign score sheet after game



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B2.1.6 Player of the Tournament (Each League - see point A6.1):

After each game, the referees need to confer and NOMINATE one player who met the criteria below. The player's number and which team (black or white) must be entered into on the score sheet after the game.

- Not necessary for the most goals scored but teamwork and who set up the goals should be looked at.
- Pure skill, although important, will not be the only factor that is considered as a player can have amazing skills but it's not to the benefit of the team and can lead to selfish play. We want to promote team play more than individual skill.
- General attitude towards fellow players and the referees must be a factor.

B2.1.7 In the event of a team not having a suitably qualified referee, the team representative must make arrangements with the SAUWHF Tournament Referee at least 3 weeks prior to the tournament.

B2.1.8 Failure to fulfil duties will result in a portion or the whole of the refundable deposit being retained, and/or a deduction in tournament points. Penalties regarding referee infringements will be implemented as stated below.

B3 CHIEF REFEREE, TIMEKEEPING AND SCORING SYSTEM

Each team is required to fulfil their respective referee duties. If a team cannot fulfil duties they are liable to bring a qualified non-playing referee.

B3.1 Junior Nationals

As many parents participate and are involved in Junior Nationals every team entered will be required to nominate a Scorer / Time-keeper **and** a qualified Chief Referee per team.

B3.1.1 The name of the Chief Referee to be entered on the Website team entry sheet under the designated Team

B3.1.2 The Chief Referee will referee the game **after** which their team has played

NOTE: The reason for this is that it allows the parent to watch their child play in the game and directly afterwards is available to Chief Ref.

B3.1.3 Chief Referee must have a Level 1 referee qualification, confirmed by SAUWHF

B3.1.4 Chief Referees **MUST** sign the score sheets after each game.



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- B3.1.5 The Scorer / Time-keeper registered with their team must score the game which their team is playing in. This is done to ensure that the parents who volunteered will be able to watch their child play.
- B3.1.6 In the event of a team not having a suitably qualified referee, team representative must make arrangements with the SAUWHF Tournament Referee at least 3 weeks before the tournament.
- B3.1.7 The Tournament Referee will allocate referees for the semi-final and final games.
- B3.1.8 Failure to fulfil duties will result in a portion or the whole of the refundable deposit being retained, and/or a deduction in tournament points. Penalties regarding referee infringements will be implemented as stated below.

B4 PENALTIES IMPOSED FOR INFRINGEMENTS:

- B4.1 If team does not bring or fulfil their referee duties during tournament:
- B4.1.1 1st Offence: Written warning of 1st Offence to team captain/ representative. (Tournament Officer and Tournament Referee to sign warning)
- B4.1.2 2nd Offence: Written warning of 2nd Offence to team captain/ representative, and a partial deduction of R500
- B4.1.3 3rd Offence: Written warning of 3rd Offence to team captain/ representative, full deduction of team deposit, and team captain being liable for disciplinary hearing whereby decision will be made in regards to team disqualification or deduction of tournament points. Disciplinary procedure to be followed by SAUWHF officials.
- B4.2 An appeal may be handed in (in writing), before the end of day whereby penalty was given to team.
- B4.2.1 Tournament Officer, Tournament Referee, and President of SAUWHF will decide if penalty imposed will be withdrawn or not.
- B4.3 If a team does not fulfil their referee duties, a team may complete the Team Complaint document informing Tournament Officials of infringement – Document Number OFM TOU -02.