



**MAVERICKS WATER POLO CLUB  
TOURNAMENT PACKAGE  
2025-2026**

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*Updated June 30, 2024*

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## The most wonderful time of the year...

Tournament season is coming, and we want all athletes and their families to be well prepared. We have created this package to answer frequently asked questions about tournaments and competitions and to give guidance on everything tournament related. Some of it will repeat what was already in the registration package.

In Canada, our competition season tends to run from November through to May, with all major tournaments complete by the end of May. We often see Provincial and National level competitions occurring throughout the summer months and sometimes there are fun tournaments for different age groups outside of these times.

Competing in tournaments is the highlight of the season for nearly every water polo player. However, competing in tournaments for all ages takes some preparation and planning and we hope to guide you through this process with ease.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to ask your Team Manager, post your question on TeamSnap or email us at [info@maverickswaterpolo.ca](mailto:info@maverickswaterpolo.ca).

# 2. COMPETITIVE LEVELS IN CANADA

In Canada, the Mavericks Water Polo Club operates under two governing bodies: our Provincial Sport Organization (PSO) called Ontario Water Polo (OWP: [ontariowaterpolo.ca](http://ontariowaterpolo.ca)) and our National Sport Organization (NSO) called Water Polo Canada (WPC: [waterpolo.ca](http://waterpolo.ca)). Some events are sanctioned by the PSO and some by the NSO, largely dependent on the level of competition being offered.

Because water polo is a growing but small sport in our province, there are currently no local recreational leagues for interested athletes to join. This means that most athletes who begin playing quickly join a competitive team.

- Swim & Play, our beginner level, is considered non-competitive. Athletes focus on learning fundamental swimming skills with a basic introduction to the sport of water polo. There are no tournaments for Swim & Play.
- 10U, 12U, 14U and 16U are considered *development levels* and fall under our development programming aimed at teaching and encouraging athletes to grow their fundamental skills and athleticism. Athletes at these levels are introduced to scrimmages and tournaments locally and sometimes inter provincially. Most programming is run by clubs and sanctioned by OWP. 16U is the exception with a National Championship League (NCL) run through WPC.
- 18U and Seniors are considered the *competitive levels* where athletes hone those fundamental skills in higher level training and competition. At this level, athletes are competing locally, inter provincially, and sometimes internationally. Some tournaments are offered through the clubs and sanctioned by the governing PSO but most of their competitions are run by WPC through the National Championship League (NCL) culminating in Provincial and National level Finals each season.
- Athletes from 14U and up may also start to be selected to join more advanced training opportunities either through the club or through OWP (the National Development Centre or NDC is one such program) and, if they are accepted into NDC programming, may also be selected to Provincial and National teams.

### 3. COMPETITION ROSTERS

While the goal of any competition is to win, it is important to understand that at the 10U, 12U, 14U and 16U *development* stages, we are expecting our athletes to first learn the fundamental skills, techniques and ultimately the game before we expect high level competition.

Depending on how many athletes are in any given age group, Mavericks will offer as many teams as will allow the maximum number of athletes in that age group to compete, based on the numbers willing to compete and the readiness of the athletes for actual competition.

Some athletes will be rostered on multiple teams. This is called “playing up” whereby your athlete may be playing in his or her current age group as well as one level up (i.e., 14U and 16U). This will be done in consultation with the athlete and their family and is done on a case-by-case basis. Sometimes this is to fill the need of a team that lacks players, and often it is done to challenge and give the athlete a glimpse of the level of play they will graduate to in the next season.

10U, 12U, 14U and 16U rosters are not created until all athletes have registered and paid for the tournament. Athletes will then be placed on the team that will best assist their individual development *for that competition*. At this level teams change for each tournament depending on the goals of the coaching staff: sometimes teams will be created evenly, meaning athletes of widely differing abilities will be placed on the same team. Sometimes teams at this level will be created with a focus on a competitive team and a development team (or teams). Again, the focus of this age group is to *develop* the athletes’ skill and game understanding and to prepare them for higher level competitive age groups later.

16U remains a development level but with a more competitive focus. Sometimes at 16U there are still multiple teams, and athletes can be switched between teams depending on the athletes’ needs. Usually at 16U there is a competitive team and a development team when there is an option for multiple teams.

18U and Senior rosters are usually set from the beginning of the season. When multiple teams can be created, athletes will be selected to their team based on their attendance and performance in practices, scrimmages or, where possible, an invitational tournament where teams are then selected. These teams do not generally change throughout the season as they are pre-registered for the National Championship League (NCL) for the entirety of the league season.

Finally, it is vitally important that families understand that, in the case of multiple teams, while your athlete may have the skill and ability to play on the team with the highest level of competition, for example, if the benefit to your athlete is minimal (i.e., they will see highly decreased play time because of the level of the team) it may be recommended to you that your athlete instead play on a development team to maximize their play time and in turn maximize their development at that level. Rostering decisions are made to give the athlete the best opportunity to play at the level that will most develop and challenge them so that they can continue to see growth and improvement in their water polo skills.

**Rostering of athletes is a complex process, and rosters are decided solely by the coaching staff. Changes in rostering should not be expected to accommodate events, activities, or other social considerations. Once a roster is announced it is set.**

## 4. PLAY TIME EXPECTATIONS

This can be a confusing and fraught topic for athletes and families depending on the athletes' stage of development, level of competition and age.

**Please note: An athlete's play time is up to the sole discretion of the coaching staff.**

There are many considerations that go into play time that families may not be aware of. One of the most important considerations will be the level of play. At 10U, 12U and 14U, athletes can expect a decent amount of play throughout each game. While it may not be exactly even, at this stage game play provides optimal development so it is win-win for the team and the coach to provide athletes with as much play time as possible for each individual athlete.

Even at 10U, 12U and 14U further considerations must be taken into account: athleticism and endurance (can this athlete swim for this many minutes?), athlete game knowledge and finally, the tournament itself and where the team is placing in a tournament. For example, most tournaments start with a round-robin schedule. During round-robin, game play may not be as important as during semi-final and final rounds. Obviously, athletes with a greater understanding of the game might see extra play time during important games throughout a tournament and athletes still learning might expect to see decreased play time during these same games.

For 16U athletes, teams tend to straddle the play time expectations of the development levels and the competitive levels. At this stage in their development, play time can be affected by: practice attendance and behaviour, skill development, game knowledge and most importantly, the tournament itself. If the tournament is a provincial level tournament, for example, it can be expected that the team will play a more competitive strategy than at an invitational tournament.

At the 18U and Senior levels, play time becomes largely based on game ability and knowledge. Highly skilled players will always see more play time, overall, than newer or less skilled players. Most of the tournaments at this level are league based, which means how the team finishes determine their seeding in the following tournaments. Because teams must qualify for the National Finals, it is important that they perform at a high level each game. At this level, the ability to operate multiple teams becomes highly beneficial for athletes because development and competitive teams allow us to allocate play time fairly while still being competitive within the league. When multiple teams are not an option, play time will be allocated based on all the above factors with a high emphasis on game importance in the tournament.

## 5. TRAVEL

Part of the excitement of competition is **travelling** with your teammates. It's like a big slumber party but with your entire team. Travel is an important aspect of team bonding and makes the season exciting and unforgettable. We believe that travelling with your team is a privilege. Athletes found to be breaking code of conduct during team travel **will be sent home immediately at the expense of their family**. The safety and security of our athletes on away tournaments is of the utmost importance to our club and we must trust all our athletes traveling with us to always follow the club rules.

Team travel is handled differently for each competitive level depending on the age of the athletes:

## 10U, 12U, 14U

At 10U, 12U, and 14U most tournaments are local. Where travel is necessary (i.e., travel to Ottawa or to Montréal), athletes at these age groups are expected to travel with their families:

- Families must arrange their own travel to and from the venue. Athletes are expected at the venue **one hour** prior to each game unless otherwise noted by the coaching staff (changes will be communicated via TeamSnap).
- Families must arrange snacks and meals for their athletes during all tournaments.
- Families must arrange their own lodging, where required. Sometimes a group rate will be available for away tournaments, and this will be communicated to the team by the Team Manager. Families must still arrange their own booking, even in the case of a group rate.
- Families who cannot attend tournaments must arrange travel for their own athletes. TeamSnap may be used to arrange carpooling or shared lodging between families. Mavericks WPC does not make any of these arrangements.
- Sometimes team events (such as a team dinner) will be arranged during a tournament. These will be communicated to the team by the Team Manager through TeamSnap.

## 16U, 18U

For 16U and 18U NCL weekends, away tournaments are completely arranged by the club and athletes will travel, stay, and eat with their teams for the entirety of the tournament weekend. **Athletes are not permitted to stay with their families.** Teams will travel to away tournaments within driving distance via bus or van. Travel and lodging will be included in tournament pricing. Lodging is pre-organized by Water Polo Canada under their “Stay and Play” NCL program. The team will book lodging and athletes are roomed together with 2-3 other teammates per double room. **Rooming lists are created at the sole discretion of the coaching staff.**

The stay and play hotels will usually offer breakfast. Families will be responsible for providing their athletes with funds for all other meals (lunch and dinner) as well as snacks. Sometimes team dinners and snacks will be provided. This will be communicated ahead of each tournament and will be allocated in the League package budget.

Families are welcome and encouraged to attend all 16U and 18U NCL weekends that they can to cheer on our teams. NCL travel information, including hotels, is located on the NCL website: <https://waterpolo.ca/content/ncl-travel-partners>. Should you not be able to attend these tournaments, WPC sometimes offers livestreaming of games. Note that Mavericks has no control over the quality or existence of the WPC livestream. Where possible we will send the livestream link out to families via TeamSnap.

Should a 18U team qualify for National Finals, this tournament will be charged in addition to the regular League fees. Should airline travel be required, families will be provided with a flight number and expected to book their athletes’ travel within the parameters provided to ensure the best possible pricing for our families.

## Senior

For Senior tournaments, athletes and/or their families generally arrange travel to and from the venue as well as lodging and food during the tournament. WPC provides a similar Stay and Play program for the Senior NCL and all information can be found on the NCL website. Further Senior travel requirements will be communicated via email and TeamSnap once all the tournament information is released.

## Travel Teams

Mavericks Travel teams will be run like the 16U and 18U program where athletes will travel, stay, and eat with their teams. Group lodging rates for travel tournaments will be communicated ahead to families and rooming lists will be created by the coaching staff. Flight information will be communicated with families and families will be required to book athlete travel

themselves to ensure the best pricing. Once at the destination, coaching staff will ensure athletes get to and from the venue throughout the competition.

Because the travel team will be attending international tournaments, it is up to each family to ensure athletes' passports and health cards are up to date. It is highly recommended that passports within 6 months of the expiry date be renewed.

Tournaments within the USA will likely require membership with USA Water Polo. The level of membership will be communicated ahead of the first tournament. Families will be responsible for signing up for their USAWP membership and communicating their athletes' membership number to the club ahead of the first tournament. Membership can be purchased at the USAWP website located here: <https://usawaterpolo.org/>

It is also recommended that athletes traveling internationally have additional international health coverage.

Travel team athletes should always travel with:

- Up to date passport
- Health Card
- Health Insurance Information
- USAWP membership
- Consent Letter with Authorization to travel with the team.

Information on writing a consent letter for customs is located here through the Government of Canada:

<https://travel.gc.ca/travelling/children/consent-letter>

## 6. COMPETITION FEES

All competitions are charged through individual tournament packages via the RAMP payment system. Tournament packages can be found at [markhamwpc.rampregistrations.com](http://markhamwpc.rampregistrations.com) and will be announced to teams ahead of each competition. Athletes selected to competitive teams must pay for their competition package ahead of the competition date (and by the deadline) to be permitted to play. *Late registrations may not be able to be accommodated.*

Fees for competitions vary widely. It should be expected that 10U, 12U, 14U and 16U tournaments tend to be significantly less expensive than 18U and Senior tournaments.

***We charge the amount necessary to cover the cost of participation (entry fees, travel costs, etc.), including the reimbursement of coaches' expenses and travel where appropriate.***

### 10U/12U/14U

10U, 12U and 14U tournaments tend to be mostly local. Families should expect 2-3 local tournaments and 1-2 away tournaments per season. Entry fees per athlete for these tournaments does not tend to exceed approximately \$150 per athlete.

### 16U

16U tournaments are both local and inter-provincial. 16U will be part of the NCL for the 2024-2025 season and will be required to pay NCL League fees to Water Polo Canada (WPC) which covers all entry fees for these WPC run tournament weekends. For 16U, league fees including travel for all weekends are divided evenly amongst the team members. Families

should also expect 2-3 local invitational tournaments per season. Entry fees per athlete for these local tournaments do not tend to exceed approximately \$150 per athlete.

### 18U/Senior

All athletes competing in the 18U/Senior NCL are required to pay NCL League fees to Water Polo Canada (WPC), which covers all entry fees for these WPC run tournament weekends. For 18U, league fees including travel for all weekends (excluding National Finals) are divided evenly amongst the team members.

The fees and budget for this season's NCL leagues will be communicated as soon as possible to families.

Please note we do our best to budget effectively but sometimes costs can rise significantly in the middle of the season. Please be aware that in the case of unexpected cost increases, families will be responsible for paying the difference between the targeted budget and the actual costs of competition.

### Travel Teams

Families planning to take part in our travel team should expect some significant variation in tournament costs depending on tournament location and the size of the competition. As many of these tournaments will be charged to the club in USD, at this time we do not have historical data to budget each weekend. A good rule of thumb for American competitions is to assume approximately \$1000 Canadian per weekend per athlete, including entry fees and travel costs. All details regarding any travel team opportunities will be released as soon as possible so families can plan accordingly.

**It is important to understand that, due to the nature of how we charge for competitions, there are no refunds on tournament fees unless in exceptional circumstances.**

## 7. COMPETITION SCHEDULES

Competition schedules can be notoriously slow to be released. This is for a variety of reasons, usually related to teams being added or removed at the last minute. Scheduling of competitions is an incredibly difficult and complex process for tournament organizers.

It is always exciting when your athlete is selected to a competitive team for the first time, but sometimes it is confusing to understand *when* your athlete needs to be available. Tournament weekends usually run from Friday through Sunday, not including travel time. We recommend families assume they are busy **the entire weekend** for the tournament.

Athletes are expected at the venue **one hour** before each game, unless otherwise noted by coaching staff. Any changes to tournament schedules will be communicated on your TeamSnap. During this hour, coaches will hold team meetings to go over goals and expectations for the upcoming game as well as begin warm-up prior to game time. It is vitally important all athletes be on time to the venue.

Coaching staff and Team Managers will input the team game schedule into the TeamSnap for your team ahead of the tournament. *Not all games can be known ahead of time.* Water polo tournaments tend to operate on a round-robin schedule, where the beginning of a tournament determines where a team plays in the semi-final and final rounds.

Here is a sample invitational tournament schedule:

| Time     | Game | White        | Black      | Score | Day    |
|----------|------|--------------|------------|-------|--------|
| 10:20 AM | 1    | Shadow       | KW         | 28-5  | Friday |
| 11:25 AM | 3    | Mavericks 1  | Shadow     | 16-13 | Friday |
| 12:30 PM | 5    | Hamilton     | Titans     | 9-14  | Friday |
| 1:35 PM  | 7    | Capital Wave | KW/CAMO    | 5-6   | Friday |
| 2:40 PM  | 10   | Titans       | Hamilton   | 13-3  | Friday |
| 3:45 PM  | 13   | Winner G3    | Loser G5   |       | Friday |
| 4:50 PM  | 15   | Loser G3     | Winner G5  |       | Friday |
| 5:55 PM  | 17   | Winner G7    | Loser G10  |       | Friday |
| 7:00 PM  | 20   | Loser G7     | Winner G10 |       | Friday |
| 8:05 PM  | 23   | Mavericks    | Titans     |       | Friday |
| 9:05 PM  | 25   | C-S-T        | CAMO       |       | Friday |
|          |      |              |            |       |        |

The different age divisions will be indicated by different colours on the schedule (for example, 12U might be purple, 14U boys might be blue, and 14U girls might be pink). The schedule will tell you: the game date and time, the game number, the pool (there might be multiple pools running at the same time) and which cap your team will be wearing (white or dark).

You can see on this sample schedule that, depending on where your team finishes during Game 3 will then dictate where your team plays later in the tournament (either Game 13 or 15). Once the next games are known for a team, the Coach or Team Manager will input the upcoming games into TeamSnap.

For NCL league play (18U/Senior), tournament schedules will be posted on the Water Polo Canada website under “National Championship League” and then the respective division. Once the schedule is known, Coaches or the Team Manager will input all games into your TeamSnap. Changes will also be communicated via TeamSnap.

## 8. TEAMSNAAP

Mavericks Water Polo Club primarily uses the TeamSnap platform to communicate directly with athletes and families throughout the season. Shortly after registration members will have their athletes automatically added to their respective training groups. You will receive an invitation email to the team. If you are new to the system, you will have to create an account. For returning athletes and families you may use the same login(s) as last season. The invitation will be sent to the primary email on file for your athlete.

TeamSnap allows multiple family members to hold accounts linked to their athletes. It is highly encouraged that athletes themselves download the application and ensure they have access to their team once the invitations are sent out.

Competitive Teams will be formed later in the season, sometimes for individual events. You will receive separate invitations to these teams on TeamSnap once the rosters are selected and you will need to add them to your TeamSnap at that time. Your athlete can be on multiple teams at the same time.

For more information on the TeamSnap application, please see their website at: [teamsnap.com](https://teamsnap.com).

## 9. COMMUNICATION

Mavericks' communications will come primarily through e-mail and TeamSnap. Families are encouraged to ensure all accounts on RAMP and on TeamSnap have the most up-to-date contact information.

All competitive teams will have a designated parent volunteer in the role of Team Manager. Basic questions and concerns should be brought to the Team Manager so they can assist you immediately. Coaches are extremely busy throughout the season so communications with the coaching staff should be kept for important items only.

To ensure coaches have the space they need to do a professional job we kindly request that if you have any concerns or questions about tournament or coaching related decisions, please try to set a time ahead of the tournament to discuss these with your coach. If you are already at the tournament, please allow 24 hours until after the end of the tournament before contacting your coach. **Please never approach the coaching staff on deck or during games.**

Families are invited to write to club administrators for any questions or concerns at [info@maverickswaterpolo.ca](mailto:info@maverickswaterpolo.ca).

## 10. COMPETITION ETIQUETTE

All competitive athletes sign an athlete code of conduct with Mavericks Water Polo Club, Ontario Water Polo and Water Polo Canada during season registration. Please ensure your athlete is familiar with the contents of the various Codes of Conduct of our club and our governing bodies.

As coaches we do our best to encourage athletes to be positive citizens in and out of the water. We reinforce values of good sportsmanship and ask athletes to be good teammates. We believe that the development of the athletes is a partnership between the athletes, coaches, parents, and our organization. We need your constant help and support.

- There are four *participant categories* at a sporting event: spectators, coaches, officials, and athletes. As parents, you are spectators—Please allow the coaches to coach, referees to officiate, and the players to play. Crossing into a role other than 'spectator/parent' is extremely confusing for the athletes.
- We encourage/welcome all parents to attend games (and even practices). When you're there, cheer-on the entire team, and encourage all positive elements of the game. We require that fans do not yell at refs or boo other teams.
- Counting goals or gauging success solely on goals scored is inconsistent with what we are telling the athletes. Prior to a game, every coach discusses 6 different phases of the game (offence, defence, offensive transition, defensive transition, power play, and penalty kill). We also discuss elements ranging from mental preparedness to team play to body language. When we hear that athletes are being encouraged by their parents to simply score more goals, it diminishes all other elements we focus on and is likely confusing for the athletes. While scoring is obviously important, not showing equal pride in excellence in all aspects of the game is not in keeping with a strong team approach to the sport.
- We hope you speak openly and often with your athlete about good sportsmanship and positive behaviour. This extends beyond the deck and should include how they conduct themselves outside of practices, in the change room, online, and in school.

As an organization we try to take action any time there is an incident of poor sportsmanship or negative behaviour. If this occurs in a game, it may be handled by an official/referee when a player is ejected from the game and (in serious cases) subject to possible suspensions. We at times may also choose to take additional action. We always try to act in a fair

and transparent way, while also taking into consideration that the athletes are young, developing, and shaping their personalities. **We're never proud of moments that reflect badly on the image or reputation of the club and we do our best to mitigate them right away.** Having said this, please refrain from 'casting stones' and passing judgement on young athletes.

### Something for Parents to consider...

Your child's performance is a touchy area to talk about. Sports parenting expert David Benzel from *Growing Champions for Life* discussed this topic in a webinar called "How to Discuss Performance Issues With Your Child and Remain Friends." He gave good advice about when and how to talk about performance and the different roles of parents and coaches. Coaches talk about technical aspects of a performance and the ways athletes can improve. He said that parents have a bigger role—and that is as a mentor. In the two jobs there will be overlap. But according to Benzel, when parents wear the coaching hat, they end up confusing their kids.

The job of the mentor is to teach the many life lessons from water polo for the big picture of their lives, not a faster shot or stronger legs—that's the coach's job. Benzel said mentors are responsible to help with life lessons, which include self-esteem, self-confidence, self-discipline, self-control, generosity, sacrifice, patience, personal responsibility, grit, optimism, handling emotions, humiliation, gratefulness, fairness and loyalty.

We are delighted to have created such a large community and look forward to enjoying games with you throughout the season. We encourage our club to bond, and support teams in all age groups and at all events.

## 12. UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT

Uniform items will be ordered both through the club and through a team online shop. An email will be sent out when the store opens.

Spirit wear for families is always available here: [maverickswaterpoloclub.entripyshops.com](http://maverickswaterpoloclub.entripyshops.com)

We want to ensure our athletes have all the necessary uniform items for practices, games and tournaments. We encourage athletes to keep items (bags, jackets) for many years. We only change the t-shirt design each season, and all other items can be used for several years before needing to be replaced. We do our best to source cost effective, high-quality merchandise.

Mavericks travel apparel and team uniforms will be further reinforced this season.

- The items below are items that all athletes are expected to have in their age category.
- Traveling uniform is necessary.
- Provincial and National organizations require teams to have specific uniforms.
- During all Mavericks practices and dryland practices, uniform requirements will be reinforced.

Below are the required items each athlete must have:

| Item                                             | 10U      | 12U | 14U | 16U | 18U      | Travel | Senior |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------|-----|-----|-----|----------|--------|--------|
| Bathing Cap (Girls)<br>(White/Black/Competition) | X        | X   | X   | X   | X        | X      | X      |
| 2024 Uniform T-Shirt                             | X        | X   | X   | X   | X        | X      | X      |
| Men’s Swim Brief                                 | X        | X   | X   | X   | X        | X      | X      |
| Women’s Water Polo Suit                          | X        | X   | X   | X   | X        | X      | X      |
| Mavericks Backpack                               |          |     | X   | X   | X        | X      | X      |
| Mavericks Deck Jacket or Zip                     |          |     |     | X   | X        | X      | X      |
| Mavericks Pants or Sweatpants                    |          |     |     | X   | X        | X      | X      |
| Mavericks Robe                                   |          |     |     |     | Optional |        |        |
| Mavericks Hoodie                                 | Optional |     |     |     |          |        |        |

\*(1) x 2025 Uniform t-shirt and (1) x swimsuit per athlete included in competitive registration (10U and up)

## 13. TOURNAMENT HOSTING AND THE VOLUNTEER DEPOSIT

The Mavericks Water Polo Club not only competes in a variety of tournaments away from home, but also runs many of the biggest and most competitive tournaments of the season right here at our home pool. Running a tournament is an extraordinary undertaking and requires many volunteers to make the tournament successful.

The Mavericks Water Polo Club is a member-run, not-for-profit organization that relies on the participation of the membership to run the Club's activities. The Mavericks' Family Participation Policy is designed to outline clear and fair participation requirements for all members.

The Mavericks encourages its members to *re-earn* their volunteer deposit by participating in activities that contribute to the vitality of the Club. These activities are assigned different point values based on several factors including time and effort required, skill level, knowledge, and club membership.

Please note that:

- Families in the Swim & Play program are not required to volunteer.
- Athletes playing in the 16U, 18U and Senior NCL will be required to volunteer at Mavericks' run NCL tournament weekends as part of their membership in the NCL and outside of the Mavericks' Family Participation Policy/Volunteer Deposit program.
- Members may collect credits during the official season from mid-September to mid-June.
- Anyone may volunteer on behalf of an athlete. This can include older siblings, grandparents, friends or another Club member. At each designated activity sign-up, the athlete name for which the credits are to be awarded must be specified. Failure to do so will result in credits not being counted.
- Athletes are not permitted to carry over credits from one season to the following season.
- Credits cannot be transferred from one athlete to another athlete after an event.
- Credits will be prorated if an athlete joins or leaves the club part way through the season based on number of membership months.
- Participation opportunities are available on a "first come, first served" basis.
- Athletes must earn back their volunteer credits before they can choose cash as an alternate form of reimbursement.

Family Participation deposit and penalties:

- A one-time Participation Deposit of \$250 (10U/12U) or \$400 (14U and older) is charged to each athlete upon registration in any of the pre-competitive and competitive programs (not including Swim & Play).
- Families who fail to re-earn their volunteer deposit will forfeit the remaining balance of their deposit. For example, a family with an athlete in U16 is required to submit a \$400 volunteer deposit and can earn this deposit back by accumulating 80 volunteer hours (400 volunteer credits). If this family finishes the season with 40 hours (200 credits), this family will only be reimbursed \$200 (or 40 x \$5).

## 14. IMPORTANT WEBSITES

**Mavericks Water Polo Club Website:** <http://www.maverickswaterpolo.ca/>

**Club Registration Site:** [maverickswpc.rampregistrations.com](http://maverickswpc.rampregistrations.com)

**Mavericks Calendar:** <http://www.maverickswaterpolo.ca/schedule/>

**Mavericks Tournament Registration Site:** [markhamwpc.rampregistrations.com](http://markhamwpc.rampregistrations.com)

**Mavericks Water Polo Club Code of Conduct:** <http://www.maverickswaterpolo.ca/club-handbook>

**Ontario Water Polo:** <http://www.ontariowaterpolo.ca/>

**Ontario Water Polo Calendar:** <http://www.ontariowaterpolo.ca/content/calendar>

**Ontario Water Polo Code of Conduct:** <https://bit.ly/458pLnh>

**Water Polo Canada:** <http://www.waterpolo.ca/>

**Water Polo Canada Code of Conduct:** <https://bit.ly/3QC2wNO>

**NCL Stay and Play Travel Information:** <https://waterpolo.ca/content/ncl-travel-partners>

**USA Water Polo:** [usawaterpolo.org](http://usawaterpolo.org)

## 15. CONTACT INFORMATION

**Club General Email Inquiries:** [info@maverickswaterpolo.ca](mailto:info@maverickswaterpolo.ca)

**Board of Directors:** [board@maverickswaterpolo.ca](mailto:board@maverickswaterpolo.ca)

**Tournament Committee:** [tournaments@maverickswaterpolo.ca](mailto:tournaments@maverickswaterpolo.ca)

**Treasurer & Financial Inquiries:** [finance@maverickswaterpolo.ca](mailto:finance@maverickswaterpolo.ca)

**Nikolina Mihajlovik, Head Coach:** [nmihajlovik@maverickswaterpolo.ca](mailto:nmihajlovik@maverickswaterpolo.ca)

**Dimitrije Veizovic, Head Development Coach:** [dveizovic@maverickswaterpolo.ca](mailto:dveizovic@maverickswaterpolo.ca)

## APPENDIX 1. SAMPLE COMPETITION CALENDAR

Below is an example competition calendar. Please note that the calendar below is not yet finalized for the 2025-2026 season and is missing many events and has many conflicts that will likely change dates. The Mavericks, Ontario Water Polo, and Water Polo Canada calendars will be updated by their respective administrators. Please always refer to them to get the most up to date information.

| Dates         | Event                           | Category           | City              | Facility                             |
|---------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Oct 24-26     | Mavericks Cup                   | 18U & Senior       | Etobicoke, ON     | Etobicoke Olympium                   |
| Dec 5-7       | Paul Taylor Memorial Tournament | 10U, 12U, 14U, 16U | Etobicoke, ON     | Etobicoke Olympium                   |
| Dec 5-7       | 16U East NCL                    | 16U                | Markham, ON       | Markham Pan Am Centre                |
| Dec 12-14     | 18U East NCL                    | 18U                | Pointe Claire, QC | Centre Aquatiques de Pointe Claire   |
| 2026          |                                 |                    |                   |                                      |
| Jan 9-11      | Senior East NCL                 | Senior             | Scarborough, ON   | Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre         |
| Jan 16-18     | 18U East NCL                    | 18U                | Montreal, QC      | Complexe sportif Claude Robilliard   |
| Jan 23-25     | Wave Cup                        | 10/u, 12U, 14U     | Ottawa, ON        | Nepean Sportsplex                    |
| Feb 27-Mar 01 | Shadow Future Hopes             | TBC                | Scarborough, ON   | Toronto Pan Am Sports Centre         |
| Mar 27-29     | March Madness                   | 10U, 12U, 14U      | Etobicoke, ON     | Etobicoke Olympium                   |
| Mar 27-29     | 16U NCL Eastern Finals          | 16U                | Scarborough, ON   | Toronto Pan Am Centre                |
| Apr 10-12     | Senior National Championships   | Senior             | Calgary, AB       | Brookfield Residential YMCA at Seton |
| Apr 24-26     | 18U NCL Eastern Finals          | 18U                | Markham, ON       | Markham Pan Am Centre                |
| May 1-3       | 16U National Championships      | 16U                | Surrey, BC        | Guildford Recreation Centre          |
| May 8-10      | 18U National Championships      | 16U                | Markham, ON       | Markham Pan Am Centre                |

## APPENDIX 2. SAMPLE AWAY TOURNAMENT PACKING LIST

This is a sample packing list for a winter tournament weekend. It is recommended to label apparel with the athlete's name. Athletes are encouraged to pack their own gear, so they know what they have brought.

### Water Polo Gear:

- |                                             |                                                   |                                             |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mavericks Backpack | <input type="checkbox"/> Mavericks Swimsuit (1-2) | <input type="checkbox"/> Mavericks Jacket   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Towels (1-2)       | <input type="checkbox"/> Mavericks T-Shirt (1-2)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mavericks Pants    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mavericks Hoodie   | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Bottle             | <input type="checkbox"/> Goggles (optional) |

### Clothing:

- |                                        |                                          |                                      |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Socks (3)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Shirts (3)      | <input type="checkbox"/> Pants (2)   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Underwear (3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Sweatshirts (1) | <input type="checkbox"/> Pajamas (1) |

### Outdoor Clothing:

- |                                        |                                        |                                     |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Jacket | <input type="checkbox"/> Running Shoes | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Hat |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gloves/Mitts  | <input type="checkbox"/> Winter Boots  |                                     |

### Toiletries:

- |                                     |                                      |                                    |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush | <input type="checkbox"/> Shampoo     | <input type="checkbox"/> Hairbrush |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toothpaste | <input type="checkbox"/> Conditioner |                                    |

### Extras:

- |                                                                                  |                                                                                         |                                                                                              |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Money for lunch and dinner, approximately \$30-\$50/day | <input type="checkbox"/> Backpack or Day Bag (in case of excursions away from the pool) | <input type="checkbox"/> Medications in the original bottle, labeled with the athlete's name |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Phone/Electronics/Laptop Chargers                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Snacks (protein bars, gummies, fruit, etc)                     |                                                                                              |

**Packing any valuables or electronics is at your own risk.**

**Mavericks Water Polo Club is not responsible for any lost or misplaced items.**