



# BOYS & GIRLS WATER POLO BY-LAWS

## ARTICLE I

### Governing Rules

**Section 1** The scholastic section of the National Federation Water Polo Rules shall be the official rules of the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League (SCVAL).

## ARTICLE II

### Classifications

**Section 1** The official team designations in BOYS water polo are Varsity and Junior Varsity. The official team designations in GIRLS water polo are Varsity and Junior Varsity. A senior girl or boy may not play on Junior Varsity team. Divisions will be divided to 7-8 DeAnza and 7-9 El Camino.

## ARTICLE III

### Games and Practice Limitations

**Section 1** All CIF, CCS and SCVAL practice limitations will be enforced. There may be 54 hours of practice prior to first contest as outlined in Article VIII of the General By-Laws.

**Section 2** The teams and any individual athletes shall have a minimum of nine (9) days practice before the first game.

**Section 3** JV and Varsity teams may play only the maximum number of games allowed by the CCS Article V. This rule applies to individual players who may not exceed the maximum number of team games allowed. Tournament games will count towards maximum games played according to CCS By-Laws. Each tournament must guarantee a total number of games played.

3.1 The SCVAL league tournament does not count towards CCS points or against game limitations. The division tournament is entry to CCS

playoffs. Any outright forfeit in the league tournament will result in exemption from CCS tournament participation.

3.2 Teams may not play more than two (2) league contests in any school week.

3.3 In a case where a league game needs to be rescheduled, three (3) games may be played in a week with the approval of both schools and the league Commissioner.

## **ARTICLE IV**

### **Game Management- Player Eligibility**

**Section 1** An athlete has unlimited movement throughout the season from one level to another. **An individual athlete may not exceed the CCS article V max contests. Further, coaches should not have a athlete participate on two levels on the same day. Athlete safety should be a focus. Seniors CAN NOT play JV at any time. Attempting to manipulate championships on the JV level could nullify record.**

1.1 The Brutality rule applies; any player excluded from a League game for brutality shall be suspended from participation in the next League contest in addition to the CCS/ National Federation rules.

1.2 If a coach receives a red card and has visual or electronic contact with his team, the game shall be declared a forfeit (5-0), and the coach will sit out one (1) additional game.

1.3 All teams shall present a copy of their full season schedule to each league member school and league AD Chairperson at the pre-season meeting.

1.4 Teams will abide by all additional CCS penalties.

**Section 2** Game Times (Please check SCVAL Constitution Bylaws)

2.1 Single dual Day Games: Varsity team will play at 4:00 PM. JV games will start 15 minutes after the conclusion of the Varsity game.

2.2 Night Games: JV teams will play at 5:45 PM and Varsity games will start at 6:45 PM.

2.3 Quad Games:

2.3.1 Facilities with lights will follow the following times: JV 4:00, Varsity 5:00, Varsity 6:00, JV 7:00

2.3.2 Facilities without lights will follow the following times: JV 3:00, Varsity 4:00, Varsity 5:00, JV 6:00. If no lower level games begin at 4:00.

2.3.3 If a JV team game is to not be played, the order remains the same and JV game is voided out for that given day.

2.3.4 Unless 3 schools are involved, in which case alternating gender would apply (girls first- boys second, boys first- girls second)

**Section 3** Varsity will play four seven (7) minute quarters. JV will play four six (6) minute quarters. If JV games are tied at the end of regulation, the results remain a tie.

**Section 4** The De Anza & El Camino Divisions (JV, and Varsity) will play a double round robin league schedule.

**Section 5** Removal, or partial removal, of what a reasonable person would consider to be normal clothing or changing that exposes undergarments or bare skin in the view of spectators and the general public is not appropriate to the sport before, during, or after the contest. It is not acceptable. Changing in the locker room is required, no exceptions. In additions to any penalties that may be imposed by the Commissioner or Board of Managers (sanctions to program or school, lose to league record, or lose of games next year might be imposed). The violating school will write a letter of apology to the other school and league.

## ARTICLE V

### **League Championship-Division Tournament**

**Section 1** The finish in League play will determine seeding for the League Tournament.

1.1 The following rules apply if two (2) or more teams have the same league record

1.1.1 Head to Head league games will be first tie-breaker

1.1.2 Head to Head league games where the team with the lowest goal differential will take the higher number seed.

1.1.3 If teams still remain tied, a coin flip will determine the higher seed. The league commissioner or designee will flip the coin.

**Section 2**

The league tournament host for both genders and divisions will be determined by a rotating schedule. The host schools will be notified at pre-season meeting to their responsibility. Hosts schools will be responsible for setting up the weeks schedule/distribution to all and Commissioner, making sure a gate is taken at all round of play, scheduling officials-invoice to be paid by SCVAL Commissioner. (see Article V section 3)

2.1 The division with seven teams will play a 7-team tournament with the following structure:

2.1.1 The first seed will receive a bye for the first round of the tournament.

2.1.2 The winners of the first round of tournament play will enter the championship bracket, while the losing teams will enter pool play for consolations.

2.1.3 The consolation pool will be determined first by head-to-head results in the league tournament. If the pool play results end in a tie, head-to-head goal differential in the tournament will be the first tie breaker, and Round Robin Play standings as second tie breaker.

2.1.4 Games will be played to determine final placing (1-7).

2.2 In the case that two teams meet in the consolation rounds who have already played each other, the game will not be played.

2.3 The division with eight teams will play an 8-team tournament with standard seeding structure. Games will be played to determine final placing (1-8).

**Section 3**

The following schedule will be used to determine host sites each year.

	<u>DA Girls</u>	<u>DA Boys</u>	<u>EC Girls</u>	<u>EC Boys</u>
<u>2025</u>	Castilleja	Los Altos	Milpitas	Santa Clara (M)
<u>2026</u>	Los Altos	Harker	Monta Vista	Cupertino
<u>2027</u>	Harker	Mountain View	Saratoga	Lynbrook
<u>2028</u>	Los Gatos	Palo Alto	Fremont	Monta Vista
<u>2029</u>	Wilcox	Los Gatos	MacDonald	Saratoga
<u>2030</u>	Mountain View	Gunn	Cupertino	MacDonald
<u>2031</u>	Palo Alto	Homestead	Santa Clara	Milpitas
<u>2032</u>	Gunn		Lynbrook	Fremont
<u>2033</u>			Homestead	Wilcox

3.1 When teams realign, the realigning teams will switch spots in the schedule.

**Section 4** Overall League Champion and standing is determined by the results of league game schedule and the league tournament. The winner of league play and the winner of the tournament, if they are different, will be declared co-champions.

**Section 5** CCS Qualifying, Automatic berths

**De Anza Division-** Will utilize the following combination point system to first determine 1 to 4(5 Girls') finishers

Finish in Round Robin Play	Plus	Finish in League Tournament
1 <sup>st</sup> = 7/8 points	+	1 <sup>st</sup> = 7/8 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> = 6/7 points	+	2 <sup>nd</sup> = 6/7 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> = 5/6 points	+	3 <sup>rd</sup> = 5/6 points
4 <sup>th</sup> = 4/5 points	+	4 <sup>th</sup> = 4/5 points
5 <sup>th</sup> = 3/4 points	+	5 <sup>th</sup> = 3/4 points
6 <sup>th</sup> = 2/3 points	+	6 <sup>th</sup> = 2/3 points
7 <sup>th</sup> = 1/2 points	+	7 <sup>th</sup> = 1/2 points
8 <sup>th</sup> = 0/1 points	+	8 <sup>th</sup> = 0/1 points

To break a tie in round robin standings for full points and seeding in tournament, head to head in league, if still tied, head to head in league play goal differential, if still tied coin flip

To break ties in De Anza CCS AQ use the following progression-

Head to head in league play and the league tournament; if tied, head to head goal differential in league play; if tied coin flip.

**El Camino Division-** Will utilize the following combination point system to determine their (1) automatic qualifier

To break a tie in round robin standings for full points and seeding in tournament, head to head in league, if still tied, head to head in league play goal differential, if still tied coin flip

Finish in Round Robin Play	Plus	Finish in League Tournament
1 <sup>st</sup> = 7/8 points	+	1 <sup>st</sup> = 7/8 points
2 <sup>nd</sup> = 6/7 points	+	2 <sup>nd</sup> = 6/7 points
3 <sup>rd</sup> = 5/6 points	+	3 <sup>rd</sup> = 5/6 points
4 <sup>th</sup> = 4/5 points	+	4 <sup>th</sup> = 4/5 points
5 <sup>th</sup> = 3/4 points	+	5 <sup>th</sup> = 3/4 points
6 <sup>th</sup> = 2/3 points	+	6 <sup>th</sup> = 2/3 points
7 <sup>th</sup> = 1/2 points	+	7 <sup>th</sup> = 1/2 points
8 <sup>th</sup> = 0/1 points	+	8 <sup>th</sup> = 0/1 points

To break a tie the most points in the SCVAL El Camino Tournament will get the automatic bid.

## **ARTICLE VI**

### **All League Selections**

**Section 1** Number of players per team is based on the Final round robin League Standings for JV and Varsity.

**Section 2** Varsity Coaches, by a majority vote (one delegate per school), shall determine:

2.1 Most Valuable Player of the League

2.2 Most Valuable Field Player of the League\*

2.3 Most Valuable Goalie of the League\*

2.4.1 However, no athlete may win more than one special award (these come from all League numbers\*)

**Section 3** By final league standings, each team shall be allowed to select first team players, no seconds, by the following categories:

First Place team (3) members, Second Place team (3) members, Third Place team (2) members, Fourth Place team (2) members, Fifth Place team (2) members, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Place team (1) member

3.1 Each team will receive (1) Honorable mention player.

## **ARTICLE VII**

### **Re-Alignment of the De Anza Division and El Camino Division**

**Section 1** The De Anza Division will be made up of the leagues strongest seven to eight (7-8) teams, based on the varsity team, and will have twelve to fourteen (12-14) league matches.

**Section 2** The El Camino Division will be made up of the leagues remaining seven to nine (7-9) teams, based on the varsity team, and will have twelve to sixteen (12-16) league matches.

**Section 3** At the post-season meeting all teams in the De Anza Division and the El Camino Division will be considered and discuss movement for the following year's water polo season for both genders separately. A two-thirds majority vote based on a motion will be needed to determine division placement by the coaches. If two-thirds cannot be achieved, last down from DeAnza and first up from El Camino will be implemented. Winner of a division has a SCVAL Constitutional right to move up.

**Section 4** Schedule will be rotated up unless quads are affected

**ARTICLE VIII**  
**Representatives**

**Section 1** The Water Polo League/division representatives for the El Camino and De Anza divisions, boys and girls, a total of four, will be nominated at the end of each sport season, and will serve a two (2) year term. Reps will need to attend all CCS selection, seeding, pre and post evaluation meetings of CCS. See 2.2

**Section 2** The duties of the Water Polo Division Rep along with Athletic Directors Council's Chairperson are:

2.1 Compile the division season results and the All-League Teams.

2.2 The League Reps shall represent the league on the CCS water polo committee and support any CCS matters where they are needed.