



## SWPSA Selection Criteria – Best Goalkeeper

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For **Goalkeeper of the Tournament** in water polo, you want to evaluate both **technical ability** and **overall influence on the team**. This is exclusively for the **U19 Girls and Boys age group**.

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### 1. Shot-Stopping Ability

- Consistently makes key saves under pressure.
  - Strong reflexes and reaction time for both close-range and long-range shots.
  - Maintains correct positioning to reduce scoring angles.
  - Saves in high-stakes moments, including one-on-one situations.
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### 2. Game Intelligence & Anticipation

- Reads the opponent's attacking patterns and anticipates shots and passes.
  - Adjusts positioning effectively based on the ball and player movements.
  - Makes smart decisions when to come off the line or stay deep.
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### 3. Communication & Leadership

- Directs and organises defenders effectively.
  - Communicates constantly during man-down, counterattack, or hole set situations.
  - Acts as a vocal leader and calming influence in high-pressure moments.
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### 4. Distribution & Counterattack Initiation

- Starts fast breaks with accurate passes.
- Makes quick, intelligent decisions with the ball to maintain offensive flow.
- Supports transition play by choosing when to pass or hold the ball.



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### **5. Physical Presence & Command of the Goal**

- Controls the goal area with strength and reach.
- Minimises rebounds and second-chance opportunities.
- Demonstrates stamina and consistency throughout the tournament.

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### **6. Performance in Extra-Man / Man-Down Situations**

- Key saves during 6-on-5 situations.
- Anticipates attacking set plays and coordinates defensive coverage.

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### **7. Composure & Consistency**

- Performs reliably under pressure, maintaining focus throughout games.
- Recovers quickly after conceding goals and remains mentally strong.
- Shows consistent effort and concentration across the tournament.

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### **8. Attitude & Sportsmanship**

- Respects referees, opponents, and teammates.
  - Positive influence on team morale and overall play.
  - Demonstrates professionalism, resilience, and team-first mindset.
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