



SWPSA Selection Criteria – MVP

The **Most Valuable Player (MVP) of the Tournament** should represent the complete package: skill, leadership, impact, consistency, and influence on the outcome of games. It's not just the top scorer or flashiest player — it's the one who *changes matches*, lifts their team, and performs when it matters most. **This is exclusively for the U19 Girls and Boys age group.**

1. Overall Impact on Games

- Consistently influences the outcome of matches — attacking, defensively, or both.
 - Drives momentum and inspires the team's performance.
 - Performs at a high level across multiple games, not just one or two standout matches.
 - Involved in key moments — game-winning plays, defensive saves, or leadership during pressure.
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2. Technical Excellence

- Demonstrates exceptional water polo skills: ball control, shooting, passing, and positioning.
 - Executes fundamentals cleanly and efficiently under pressure.
 - Performs at a level clearly above peers in their role (e.g. attacker, defender, goalkeeper).
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3. Game Intelligence (Water Polo IQ)

- Reads the game exceptionally well; anticipates plays before they unfold.
 - Makes consistently smart decisions — when to shoot, pass, drop, or drive.
 - Adjusts tactics mid-game and contributes strategically to team success.
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4. Versatility and Two-Way Contribution

- Effective in both offensive and defensive roles.
 - Adapts to different match situations — man-up, man-down, counter, and set play.
 - Capable of influencing the game from multiple positions.
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5. Leadership and Team Influence

- Leads by example through effort, attitude, and composure.
 - Uplifts teammates with communication and energy.
 - Provides calmness and confidence in tight situations.
 - Sets the tone for professionalism and sportsmanship.
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6. Composure Under Pressure

- Performs exceptionally in high-stakes moments (finals, close matches).
 - Remains mentally strong and focused after setbacks.
 - Makes decisive plays when the game is on the line.
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7. Consistency

- Maintains a high level of performance throughout the entire tournament.
 - Demonstrates endurance, focus, and reliability.
 - Avoids major lapses in discipline or concentration.
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8. Attitude and Sportsmanship

- Displays respect toward officials, opponents, and teammates.
- Represents the spirit of the tournament — humility, competitiveness, and integrity.
- Acts as a role model both in and out of the water.