



## SWPSA Selection Criteria – MVP

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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.**

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### 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.