



Schools Water Polo South Africa

Announcement of the U18 Boys (Born 2008 or later) Team selected to participate at the Australia Youth Water Polo Championships, Brisbane, Australia, 8 – 13 April 2026

15th December 2025

Schools Water Polo South Africa is proud to announce the selection of the national schools' water polo team that will represent South Africa at the 2026 Australia Youth Water Polo Championships, to be held in Brisbane, Australia from the 8th – 13th April 2026. The team will be departing on the 1st of April to attend training camps with Australian based coaches prior to the start of the tournament.

The team was selected following a comprehensive and rigorous selection process based on performances throughout the 2025 schools water polo season, with particular emphasis on the SA Schools Inter Provincial Tournament in December. Selectors evaluated athletes on technical ability, tactical awareness, consistency, teamwork and their demonstration of the values that underpin Schools Water Polo South Africa.

Selection to a national schools' team is both an honour and a responsibility. The chosen athletes will represent not only their schools and provinces, but also South African schools water polo on the international stage, acting as ambassadors for the sport and the country.

Schools Water Polo South Africa congratulates all selected players and extends its appreciation to the many athletes who were considered during the selection process. The depth of talent across the country continues to reflect the strength and growth of schools' water polo in South Africa. The organisation wishes the selected teams every success as they prepare to compete against leading youth water polo nations in Brisbane, Australia.

Selection to represent Schools Water Polo South Africa is a significant achievement and reflects the dedication shown by these athletes over a sustained period. We are confident that the selected teams will compete with pride, discipline and resilience, while continuing to build the international profile of South African schools' water polo.

Final tour budgets will be confirmed by Friday, 16 January 2026, with payment schedules starting on Friday, 30 January 2026. Further details on training camps, travel, and logistics will be shared with selected players and parents in due course.

Selected players must please confirm their **intention to participate** via the online registration link – [REGISTRATION LINK](#). Final commitments to participation will be required by Friday, 23 January 2026. A parent Q&A section will be available on the SWPSA website: <https://swpsa.co.za/> from Wednesday, 17 December 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Irvine'.

RICHARD IRVINE
SWPSA CHAIRMAN

SWPSA Executive Committee:

R Irvine (Chairperson), K Adriaan (Vice-Chairperson), C MacLeod (General Secretary),
A Adam, J Appelgryn, A Botha, T Bower, R Kuipers, B Wiltshire



Schools Water Polo South Africa

U18 Boys Team

Athletes

<u>NAME AND SURNAME</u>	<u>SCHOOLS PROVINCE</u>
1. Benjamin Bigara	Western Province
2. Cooper Haworth	Central Gauteng
3. Dylan Wiggill (GK)	Central Gauteng
4. Ettiene van der Merwe	Northern Gauteng
5. Jamie Nicolau	Kwa-Zulu Natal
6. Luca Orgill	Western Province
7. Matthew Fenn	Western Province
8. Max Mills	Kwa-Zulu Natal
9. Michael Mafunda (GK)	Western Province
10. Noah Reiback	Western Province
11. Ruan Engelbrecht	Northern Gauteng
12. Thomas Aylward	Kwa-Zulu Natal
13. Thomas Francke	Kwa-Zulu Natal
14. Timothy Young	Western Province

Team Staff

<u>NAME AND SURNAME</u>	<u>SCHOOLS PROVINCE</u>
Travis Theron – Team Manager	Western Province
Jon-Marc de Carvalho – Head Coach	Central Gauteng
Juan-Claud Tribbelhorn – Asst Coach	Northern Gauteng

Non-Travelling Reserves

<u>NAME AND SURNAME</u>	<u>SCHOOLS PROVINCE</u>
1. Adam Brown	Western Province
2. Blake Morton	Central Gauteng
3. Bradley van Loggerenberg	Kwa-Zulu Natal
4. Dane Paterson	Nelson Mandela Bay
5. Daniel Northard	Kwa-Zulu Natal
6. Elliot Springate (GK)	Kwa-Zulu Natal
7. Ethan Baty	Central Gauteng
8. Fu-Nam Chen	Central Gauteng
9. James Swart	Western Province
10. Kian Sing (GK)	Central Gauteng
11. Luca Whitehead	Eden

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