

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) in respect of the Australia Youth Water Polo Championships, Brisbane, Australia, 8 – 18 April 2026

What is the Australian Youth Water Polo Championships?

The Australian Youth Water Polo Championships (AYWPC) is Australia's premier youth water polo tournament, which is hosted annually with this year's edition being held in Brisbane. SWPSA will field U16 and U18 Boys and Girls teams to compete against leading international opposition.

Which teams are touring and when?

- **U16 Boys & Girls:** 8 to 18 April 2026
The U16 teams are planned to depart on 4 April 2026
- **U18 Boys & Girls:** 8 to 13 April 2026
The U18 teams are planned to depart on 1 April 2026 to participate in **pre-tournament training camps with Australian-based coaches**.
- All teams, managers, and coaches were announced at 1:00 PM on 15 December 2025 by email and social media.

How were players selected?

Players were selected following a **rigorous national process**, with particular emphasis on the **SA Schools IPT**. The selection process was managed by a 3rd party (Elevate Water Polo) to ensure a professional and unbiased outcome. Selections considered technical ability, tactical understanding, consistency, teamwork, statistics, and adherence to SWPSA values.

What does selection mean?

Selection is both an **honour and a responsibility**. Athletes represent their schools, provinces, and **South African Schools Water Polo** internationally and are expected to act as ambassadors for the sport and the country.

Are reserve players identified?

Yes. **Non-travelling reserves** have been named for each team and may be called up if a selected player withdraws prior to departure.

Who is responsible for players on tour?

Each team travels with a **dedicated Team Manager and Coaching Staff**, appointed by SWPSA. They are responsible for player welfare, discipline, logistics, communication, and performance throughout the tour.

What are the key financial timelines?

- **Final tour budgets:** Confirmed by **Friday, 16 January 2026** – SWPSA has engaged professional sports tour operators to assist with travel arrangements and tour budgeting. Careful consideration is being given to all costs, and every effort will be made to minimise expenses where possible, including the pursuit of sponsorship opportunities.

Any sponsorship contacts, ideas, or networks that may assist in reducing tour costs are welcomed. Please contact info@swpsa.co.za

- **Payment schedules begin:** **Friday, 30 January 2026**
- **Final commitment deadline:** **Friday, 23 January 2026**

How do players confirm participation?

Selected players must confirm their intention to participate by completing the **online confirmation form by Tuesday, 23 December 2025**:

👉 <https://teamz.co.za/swpsa/sport-02>

What does the tour cost include?

Tour fees will cover flights, accommodation, meals or stipends, local transport, tournament fees, team kit, insurance, medical support, and training camps.

What documents are required?

- Valid passport (passport must be valid for 6 months or more)
- Australian visa

Is training attendance compulsory?

Yes. Where appropriate and reasonable, all selected players are expected to attend preparation sessions, training camps, team administrative meetings, and fitness requirements. This may include individual fitness or conditioning sessions, which will be communicated and monitored via the official team WhatsApp groups.

These preparation requirements form an essential part of selection and readiness to tour. Failure to meet reasonable preparation, fitness, or administrative requirements may affect a player's eligibility to travel on tour.

Due consideration will be given to the full school water polo calendar in Term 1, and training expectations will be managed accordingly. Coaches will communicate detailed training programmes in January 2026.

What behaviour standards apply?

Players must demonstrate respect, discipline, sportsmanship, and professionalism always. Breaches of the Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action.

Can parents travel to Australia?

Yes, parents may travel independently; however, players must remain with the team for the full duration of the tour and may not alter the official programme.

How will parents receive updates?

SWPSA will provide structured communication via official channels, including a parent WhatsApp broadcast group and website updates.

Where will ongoing information be published?

A dedicated **Australia Tour Parent FAQ** tab will be maintained on the SWPSA website:

👉 <https://swpsa.co.za/>