



New Zealand Water Polo Code of Conduct

Membership in New Zealand Water Polo (NZWP) and participation in any NZWP sanctioned events are privileges, not rights. These privileges may be withdrawn, either for a period of time or permanently, in the event a member or participant violates NZWP Rules and Regulations or the NZWP Code of Conduct.

New Zealand Water Polo is committed to provide a sport and work environment in which all individuals are treated with respect. Further, NZWP supports equal opportunity and prohibits discriminatory practices.

Members of NZWP and participants in NZWP programs, activities, competitions and events are expected to conduct themselves at all times in a manner consistent with the values of NZWP: sport and athlete centred, athlete well being, fairness, team work, responsibility and respect.

All members and participants have the responsibility to:

1. Maintain and enhance the dignity, self-esteem and well being of members and participants of NZWP by;

- Demonstrating respect to individuals regardless of gender, ethnic or racial origin, sexual orientation, age, marital status, religion, political belief, disability or economic status.
- Focusing comments or criticism appropriately and avoiding public criticism of other participants.
- Consistently demonstrating the spirit of sportsmanship, sports leadership and ethical conduct and practices.
- Ensuring that all programs provide for the safety and the physical, psychological and emotional wellbeing of participants.
- Ensuring that the rules of the sport, and the spirit of these rules, are adhered to.

2. Take reasonable steps to manage the responsible consumption of alcoholic beverages in social situations associated with NZWP events.

3. Abstain from the non-medical use of drugs or the use of performance-enhancing drugs or methods.

4. Respect the confidentiality of personal and privileged information.

5. Refrain from any behaviour that constitutes harassment, where harassment is defined as comment or conduct that is cruel, intimidating, offensive or physically harmful.

6. Refrain from any behaviour that constitutes sexual harassment, where sexual harassment is defined as unwelcome sexual advances or conduct of a sexual nature when submitting to or rejecting this conduct influences decisions which affect the individual, such conduct has the purpose or effect of diminishing performance or such conduct creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment.

7. Comply at all times with the Constitution, by-laws, policies, Rules and Regulations of NZWP, as amended from time to time, including complying with any contracts or agreements executed with NZWP.
8. Where an athlete is a member of a representative National Team of NZWP, comply at all times with the provisions of the NZWP High Performance Policies.
9. All NZWP coaches have the responsibility to also adhere to the NZWP Coaching Code of Ethics.
10. All NZWP officials and referees have the responsibility to also adhere to the FINA Officials Code of Ethics.

Sportsmanship

Athlete members of NZWP are expected to demonstrate good sportsmanship. This includes, but is not limited to, avoiding the following conduct:

1. Hazing or taunting an athlete, coach, referee or any other person participating in, or conducting, NZWP sanctioned events.
2. Physically or verbally abusing an athlete, coach, referee or any other person participating in, or conducting, NZWP sanctioned events, including, but limited to, making derogatory comments about such person's race, sex, religion, age, disability, national origin or sexual orientation.
3. Using obscene gestures, or profane or unduly provocative language toward an athlete, coach, referee or any other person participating in, or conducting, NZWP sanctioned events.
4. Publicly and unduly criticizing an athlete, coach, referee or any other person participating in, or conducting, NZWP sanctioned events including, but not limited to, inciting others to engage in conduct in violation of these rules.
5. Negative recruiting by making inappropriate statements about the members of another team.

In addition to not engaging in the foregoing types of conduct themselves, NZWP athlete members are expected to disassociate themselves from others who may be engaged in such conduct.

Violent Behaviour

Although water polo is a physical sport, athlete members of NZWP are expected to refrain from engaging in any act with the intent of causing injury to another athlete.

Drugs and Alcohol

Athlete members of NZWP shall not: (a) commit a doping violation as defined by the International Olympic Committee, the World Anti-Doping Agency, the New Zealand Olympic Committee or the Federation International de Natation (FINA) or (b) use or provide alcohol or drugs in violation of local or national laws.