

# CMAAS

CONFÉDÉRATION MONDIALE  
DES ACTIVITÉS SUBAQUATIQUES

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WORLD UNDERWATER FEDERATION

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## PROCEDURES AND OBLIGATIONS FOR THE ORGANISATION OF UNDERWATER HOCKEY COMPETITIONS & CHAMPIONSHIPS

Version 2018/01

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**REVISION HISTORY**

V1

**AMENDMENT HISTORY**

**Reallocation of Sections within the Three Volumes**

Section #	Name	New Section	Section #
4.0	Tournament Play Schedule and Ranking	Procedures and Obligations	4.0
5.2.6 to 5.3.2	Tournament Jury	Procedures and Obligations	4.0
6.0	Ruling Body	Procedures and Obligations	1.0
7.0	Amendment of Rules	Procedures and Obligations	5.0





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**1. Description, Definitions, Age, And Eligibility**

**1.1 Description**

- 1.1.1 Underwater Hockey is a sport played on the bottom of a swimming pool by two teams of six players, each wearing basic snorkeling equipment, i.e. fins, mask, and snorkel. The object of the match is to use an approved stick to push or pass an approved puck along the bottom of the pool, into the opposing team’s goal.
- 1.1.2 A Tournament is a series of competitive matches between two (2) or more teams at any one given time.
- 1.1.3 The Ruling Body for all International Underwater Hockey games and events shall be CMAS via the CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission.
- 1.1.4 CMAS is a member of the Association of IOC Recognized International Sports Federations. [www.arisf.org](http://www.arisf.org)
- 1.1.5 Any inquiries concerning the rules by which international matches are played should be addressed to the Rules Chair of the CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission.

**1.2 Tournament Definition**

1.2.1 Tournament are classified into three (3) tiers;

Tier	Championships	Event
International	1.1. World Championship;	World Championship, World Junior Championship
	1.2. Continental Championship;	European Championship
	1.3. Zone Championship;	Proposed Zone Qualifier for World Championship
Club	1.4. Club Competitions;	Euroclubs
Open	1.5. Open Continental Championship;	Southern Hemisphere, Americas Cup
	1.6. Bi Continental Championship;	Trans-Tasman
	1.7. Promo and exhibition events;	4 a-side, 3x3, Mixed Team, Other events

- 1.2.2 An International competition may be registered as a “World Championship” or “Continental Championship” with CMAS if the following requirements are met:
  - 1.2.2.1 Teams are representative of their Country/ Federation
  - 1.2.2.2 A minimum of five (5) Federation teams enter in each division
  - 1.2.2.3 A minimum of Men’s and Women’s division
- 1.2.3 A Continental Competition is a tournament between nations of the same Continent.
- 1.2.4 A Zone (Bi continental) Competition is a tournament between nations of 2 or more Continents that make up a Zone.
- 1.2.5 A Club competition is a tournament between clubs of players who consistently play together. Clubs must be directly affiliated to a CMAS member Federation.
- 1.2.6 Open Competitions are unrestricted and players should be affiliated to their federation and CMAS.



**1.3 Age Determination, Divisions and Exceptions**

1.3.1 The athletic age of a competitor is obtained by subtracting the year of birth from the current year. The competitor will compete from January 1 to December 31 of the year in this category.

**1.3.2 Divisions**

- 1.3.2.1 **Elite Men’s Division** with no age limit. and/or
- 1.3.2.2 **Elite Women’s Division** with no age limit. and/or
- 1.3.2.3 **Men’s Master’s Division.** Minimum age is 35. There is no upper age limit.  
Players age to be determined as per Rule 1.3.1. and/or
- 1.3.2.4 **Women’s Master’s Division.** Minimum age is 32. There is no upper age limit.  
Players age to be determined as per Rule 1.3.1. and/or
- 1.3.2.5 **U24 Men’s Division.** The age category is 20-23 inclusive.  
Players age to be determined as per Rule 1.3.1. and/or
- 1.3.2.6 **U24 Women’s Division.** The age category is 20-23 inclusive.  
Players age to be determined as per Rule 1.3.1. and/or
- 1.3.2.7 **U20 Men’s Division.** The age category is 14-19 inclusive.  
Players age to be determined as per Rule 1.3.1. See section 1.3.1. for exceptions for players of younger than 14 years old. and/or
- 1.3.2.8 **U20 Women’s Division.** The age limits are 14-19 inclusive.  
Players age to be determined as per Rule 13.1. See section 1.3.1. for exceptions for players of younger than 14 years old.

**1.4 Age Exceptions**

- 1.4.1. A player whose age would place them in U20 or U24 divisions may compete in the immediately higher appropriate division only if both of the following requirements are met:
- 1.4.2 Before the start of any match of the Tournament, a signed written agreement by the player is given to the World Tournament Director. If the competitor is a minor, the agreement is additionally signed by a parent or a legal guardian; and
- 1.4.3 Before the start of the Tournament, a medical certificate signed by a licensed medical official stating that the player may compete in the immediately higher appropriate division is given to the Tournament Director.

## 2. Hosting Requirements

### 2.1 **Tournament Timing**

- 2.1.1 Preferred dates for World Championship events will be during the month of July, starting and concluding within the two week period either side of 15 July. Inclusive of scheduled training days the tournament shall be no longer than 11 calendar days in duration.
- 2.1.2 Preferred dates for Continental or Zone Championships should be set to avoid clashes with World or World Age Group Championships. Generally this is late August/ September period. Inclusive of scheduled training days the tournament shall be no longer than 7 calendar days in duration.
- 2.1.3 Preferred dates for Club or Other events should be set to avoid clashes with World, Continental or Zone Championships.

### 2.2 **Venue/Pool Facilities Rules for International Competitions**

- 2.2.1 The regulations limit and stipulate the world, continental or zone championships meet the FINA standard FR3 Swimming Pools for Olympic Games and World Championships.
  - 2.2.1.1 Include an enclosed facility;
  - 2.2.1.2 The facility must allow two regulations underwater hockey playing courts (25x15 m);
  - 2.2.1.3 The facility pool floor penetrations must be outside playing area(s);
  - 2.2.1.4 The facility preferred pool depth is 2.4 - 3.0 m;
  - 2.2.1.5 The facility lighting intensity not less than 1500 lumens;
  - 2.2.1.6 The facility water temperature not less than 26°C (+/- 1°C)
  - 2.2.1.7 The facility fresh water
  - 2.2.1.8 The facility must have separate fiber connection allowing online broadcasting with preferred upload speeds greater than 20 mbps and allowing two courts to be broadcast simultaneously and separated from the facility wifi network.
  - 2.2.1.9 The facility has area for drug testing of athletes.
- 2.2.2 Bids for hosting an international competition, not meeting the FINA FR3 Standards (as defined in section 2.2.1), may be presented and accepted at the discretion of the World Tournament Director.

### 2.3 **Federation and Player Eligibility International Competitions**

- 2.3.1 An International competition may be registered as a “World Championship” or “Continental Championship” with CMAS if the following requirements are met:
  - 2.3.1.1 Teams are representative of their Country/ Federation
  - 2.3.1.2 A minimum of five (5) Federations team enter in each division
  - 2.3.1.3 A minimum of Men’s and Women’s division
- 2.3.2 Federation Eligibility for Tournaments
  - 2.3.2.1 Only Nations that have their Federations properly registered with CMAS may compete in a CMAS tournament.
- 2.3.3 Athletes must either:
  - 2.3.3.1 Hold citizenship of the country for which they are intending to play; OR
  - 2.3.3.2 Submit proof that they have been resident in that country for a minimum of 12 months in the previous 18 months (prior to the competition); AND
  - 2.3.3.3 Has purchased a CMAS Athlete’s license.

2.3.4 Athletes holding dual citizenship must choose to compete for only one Federation. This choice obliges the athlete to remain with that Federation until the requirements of either of 2.3.3.1 or 2.3.3.2 and 2.3.3.3 above are met.

## 2.4 Tournament Officials

2.4.1 The International Official in control of a World, Continental or Zone Championship shall be termed the **Tournament Director**. They will be appointed from within the continent hosting the event by the CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission. Their role is to observe the compliance of the organization to meet these requirements. They will liaise with the CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission World Tournament Director and the host federation Tournament Controller. The Tournament Director will fulfill the CMAS Technical Delegate role.

2.4.2 The federations organizing committee chairperson in control of the overall organization of the World, Continental or Zone Championship shall be termed the **Tournament Controller**. Their role is to ensure the successful organization of the tournament.

2.4.3 The International Referee in control of the overall refereeing at a World, Continental or Zone Championship shall be termed the **Tournament Referee**. The Tournament Referee will be appointed by the Tournament Director. This referee may or may not be from the host federation.

## 2.5 International Tournaments

2.5.1 The host federation will work with the World Tournament Director to submit a Bid to host an International Event. This bid will be reviewed and Endorsed by the CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission

2.5.2 International Tournaments organization must comply with

2.5.2.1 CMAS Competitions Procedures and Obligations for Underwater Hockey (these procedures)

2.5.2.2 CMAS General Procedures and Obligations for the organization of CMAS Competitions and Championships guideline. Referee to particular clauses are referred below.

2.5.2.3 CMAS logo may be used without changing them Clause 1.7 CMAS General Procedures and Obligations for the organization of CMAS Competitions and Championships guidelines

2.5.2.4 Championships logo may be created Clause 1.8 CMAS General Procedures and Obligations for the organization of CMAS Competitions and Championships guidelines

CMAS logo and name must figure on the title of the championship

CMAS Logo must figure on the Participant badges supplied by the organizing federation, back colors set as follows

- VIP Red
- Organisation Yellow
- Referees Green
- Athletes Blue
- Coaches Blue
- Press Black
- The federation is free to choose other colors for any other category that it considers necessary.

2.5.2.5 Media: CMAS Competitions are and will be CMAS property. TV and Online Broadcasting rights will be property of CMAS only. Clause 1.9 CMAS General Procedures and Obligations for the organization of CMAS Competitions and Championships guidelines

2.5.2.6 Advertising: Clause 1.10 CMAS General Procedures and Obligations for the organization of CMAS Competitions and Championships guidelines

- 2.5.2.7 Communication of Results: Clause 1.17.6 CMAS General Procedures and Obligations for the organization of CMAS Competitions and Championships guidelines
- 2.5.2.8 Opening Ceremony: Clause 3.3 CMAS General Procedures and Obligations for the organization of CMAS Competitions and Championships guidelines. All ceremonies are to be practiced by key volunteers and officials.
- 2.5.2.9 Closing and Medal Ceremony: These two events will be merged together. Clause 3.4 and 3.5 CMAS General Procedures and Obligations for the organization of CMAS Competitions and Championships guidelines. All ceremonies are to be practiced by key volunteers and officials.

### 2.5.3 Finance

The Financial risk of hosting the tournament rests with the Host Federation. The Tournament Budget must contain all expenses for the hosting of a tournament including:

- 2.5.3.1 The Host Federation will be responsible for the lodging expenses, full board, in single room of the CMAS VIP's.
  - a) CMAS VIP (President, Sport President or their Representative) (one person) to attend for 3 days (2 Nights) to officially open the event. Additional accommodation is the at the VIP's cost.
  - b) CMAS VIP (President, Sport President or their Representative) (one person) to attend for 3 days (2 Nights) to officially present medals and close the event. Additional accommodation is the at the VIP's cost.
- 2.5.3.2 The Host Federation will be responsible for the lodging expenses, full board, in single room of the CMAS Underwater Hockey (UWH) Director (x1) and CMAS UWH Tournament Director (x1) for the duration of the tournament. (For World Championships this is approximately 12 nights and Continental 7 nights)
- 2.5.3.3 The tournament referee costs reference in clause 2.5.4
- 2.5.3.4 Anti-doping Control must be undertaken during all World, Continental and Zone Championships. Host Federations are to contract there National Anti-doping Organization (NADO) to undertake the prescribed testing. CMAS anti-doping will advise the testing requirements to the NADO. The cost is borne by the host federation.
- 2.5.3.5 All Venue hire and equipment hire costs to deliver a successful championship including but not limited to
  - a) Aquatic Centre- Pool, Meeting rooms, Registration area
  - b) Meeting rooms (Tournament Control, Referee, Delegates meeting, CMAS UWH Commission meeting)
  - c) Opening Ceremony
  - d) Medal and Closing Ceremony
  - e) Post Tournament Party
  - f) Timing Equipment
  - g) Court Barriers, Lane ropes and substitute standing platforms
  - h) Underwater Filming and Streaming
- 2.5.3.6 All other expenses deemed necessary for the successful host of a championship.

### 2.5.4 Tournament Referees

- 2.5.4.1 The Hosting Federation will provision in World Championship budgets for the following expenses for up to 43 referees.





- 2.5.4.2 Championship Budgets will fund the referees uniform of
  - a) 1x red protective cap,
  - b) 1x yellow in-water vest,
  - c) 1x yellow or orange referee gloves
  - d) 2x Out of water polo shirts
- 2.5.4.3 Referees will provide their own:
  - a) Plain black shorts and
  - b) Plain black swimsuit
- 2.5.4.3 Championship budgets will cover Accommodation, Board and transfers for the referees during the Championships.
  - a) For World Championships is amounts to 12 nights for 11 Tournament Referees and Referee Coaches and;
  - b) 11 Nights for the remaining referees.
- 2.5.4.4 All Federations will need to fund the travel and provide up to 3 competent level 3 referees (as defined by the CMAS UWH referee framework). Referees to be selected on merit by their home federation and must be approved by the Tournament Director.
- 2.5.4.5 Based on the number of Championship Team entries the target number of referees required are

Number of teams	Number of Referees
32-38	35
38-44	39
45-49	43
50+	43+

**2.5 Club or Open Tournaments**

- 2.5.1 Club and Open based competitions can obtain CMAS support status by paying the set fee.
- 2.5.2 The host federation or club shall be entitled to support by promotion of the tournament on CMAS media channels.
- 2.5.3 All participating athletes in CMAS supported event must purchase a CMAS Athlete’s license.
- 2.5.4 All other requirements for club or open championships are relaxed and it is assumed the event requirements are covered by other obligation agreements.



**3. Tournament Play Schedule and Ranking**

**3.1 Championship Event Duration**

- 3.1.1 A World Championship event is limited to a maximum of eleven days. This allows a minimum of 2 days of orientation and maximum of 9 tournament days. Tournament draws are to be constructed to meet these requirements.
- 3.1.2 A Continental or Zone Championship is limited to a maximum of 7 days. This allows a minimum of 1 days of orientation and maximum of 6 tournament days. Tournament draws are to be constructed to meet these requirements.
- 3.1.3 Club or Open Championships have no restrictions in format or time however, generally these will be 3 days in duration covering a weekend.

**3.2 Nine Day or Fewer Tournament Schedule**

- 3.2.1 General.
  - 3.2.1.1 Each team will play no more than three (3) matches per day
  - 3.2.1.2 Nine (9) playing days are allowed
    - 3.2.1.2.1 Up to six days (6) for qualifiers and round robin play
    - 3.2.1.2.1 Up to 3 days (3) for play-offs

**3.3. Number of teams in tournament.**

- 3.3.1 If twelve (12) or fewer teams participate in a division, a full round robin will be scheduled.
- 3.3.2 If thirteen (13) to twenty four (24) teams participate in a division, a qualification round will be held prior to the round robin section play. Seeding of teams will be necessary.
- 3.3.3 The maximum number of teams in each division shall be capped at 24 teams

**3.4. Seeding**

- 3.4.1 Teams will be seeded into 4 groups based on the previous world championship ranking.
- 3.4.2 Unranked teams will be allocated in alphabetical order based on IOC Code.

**3.5 Qualification Play**

The qualification round robin will be held in the first 2 days of the championships and teams will then seeded for intra-section round robin play in either; the Championship, Bowl and or perhaps Trophy sections based on their seeding. The groups will be made up as follows:

Qualification Group 1	Qualification Group2	Qualification Group3	Qualification Group4
World Rank #1	World Rank #2	World Rank #3	World Rank #4
World Rank #8	World Rank #7	World Rank #6	World Rank #5
World Rank #9	World Rank #10	World Rank #11	World Rank #12
World Rank #16	World Rank #15	World Rank #14	World Rank #13
New Team #1	New Team #2	New Team #3	New Team #4
New Team #5	New Team #6	New Team #7	New Team #8

### 3.6 Section Play (Post Qualification Play)

Points from the qualification match between the two qualifiers in each section will be carried through to the section round robin.

- 3.6.1 Qualification and Inter-Section play will be scheduled with a maximum of twelve (12) total matches/team.
- 3.6.2 Matches will be scheduled to spread play as evenly as possible, but some teams may play one or two matches less depending on the number of entries.
- 3.6.3 Section matches will be assigned by seeding from the section round robin stage.
- 3.6.4 Should less than 16 teams and more than 8 teams enter the Championships then:

Championship 1 <sup>st</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> place	Non Championship 9 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> Place
Gp 1 Seed 1 +Pts	Gp 1 Seed 3 +Pts
Gp 1 Seed 2	Gp 1 Seed 4
Gp 2 Seed 1 +Pts	Gp 2 Seed 3 +Pts
Gp 2 Seed 2	Gp 2 Seed 4
Gp 3 Seed 1 +Pts	Gp 3 Seed 3 +Pts
Gp 3 Seed 2	Gp 3 Seed 4
Gp 4 Seed 1 +Pts	Gp 4 Seed 3 +Pts
Gp 4 Seed 2	Gp 4 Seed 4

- 3.6.5 Should less than 24 teams and more than 16 teams enter the Championship, then Tournament Organizer may split the Non-Championship teams into Group A and B to develop seedings for Playoffs.

Championship 1 <sup>st</sup> - 8 <sup>th</sup> place	Non Championship Gp A	Non Championship Gp B
Gp 1 Seed 1 +Pts	Gp 1 Seed 3	Loss Gp 1 Seed 4 v Gp2 Seed 4
Gp 1 Seed 2	Gp 2 Seed 3	Loss Gp 3 Seed 4 v Gp4 Seed 4
Gp 2 Seed 1 +Pts	Gp 3 Seed 3	Gp 1 Seed 5
Gp 2 Seed 2	Gp 4 Seed 3	Gp 2 Seed 5
Gp 3 Seed 1 +Pts	Win Gp 1 Seed 4 v Gp2 Seed 4	Gp 3 Seed 5
Gp 3 Seed 2	Win Gp 3 Seed 4 v Gp4 Seed 4	Gp 4 Seed 5
Gp 4 Seed 1 +Pts		
Gp 4 Seed 2		

- 3.6.6 Should 24 teams enter the Championship, then teams will be split into 3 sections.

Championship 1 <sup>st</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> place	Bowl 9 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> Place	Trophy 17 <sup>th</sup> -24 <sup>th</sup> Place
Gp 1 Seed 1 +Pts	Gp 1 Seed 3 +Pts	Gp 1 Seed 5 +Pts
Gp 1 Seed 2	Gp 1 Seed 4	Gp 1 Seed 6
Gp 2 Seed 1 +Pts	Gp 2 Seed 3 +Pts	Gp 2 Seed 5 +Pts
Gp 2 Seed 2	Gp 2 Seed 4	Gp 2 Seed 6
Gp 3 Seed 1 +Pts	Gp 3 Seed 3 +Pts	Gp 3 Seed 5 +Pts
Gp 3 Seed 2	Gp 3 Seed 4	Gp 3 Seed 6
Gp 4 Seed 1 +Pts	Gp 4 Seed 3 +Pts	Gp 4 Seed 5 +Pts
Gp 4 Seed 2	Gp 4 Seed 4	Gp 4 Seed 6



- 3.6.7 Irrespective of the numbers of teams in each group the bottom two teams of the Upper group (Championship / Bowl) will play the top two teams from the Lower group (Bowl / Trophy).
- 3.6.8 The 7th seed from the upper group plays the 2nd seed from the lower group; the winning team becomes the 7th seed in the upper group and the losing team becomes the 2nd seed in the lower group. The 8th seed from the upper group plays the 1st seed from the lower group; the winning team becomes the 8th seed in the upper group and the losing team becomes the 1st seed in the lower group.
- 3.6.9 Points awarded as follows:

**Intra-Section Match Points**

Win	+3 points
Tie	+1 point
Loss	0 points
Forfeit	-3 points

**3.7 Breaking a tie in ranking**

- 3.7.1 If two teams are tied in ranking, the tie breaking procedure is as follows:
  - 3.7.1.1 Head to head competition
  - 3.7.1.2 Most number of wins in the intra-section matches. Team with the most wins is ranked higher.
  - 3.7.1.3 Least number of losses. Team with the least losses is ranked higher.
  - 3.7.1.4 Least sum of points allowed in all matches in the intra-section matches. Team allowing the least number of goals is ranked higher.
  - 3.7.1.5 Coin toss
- 3.7.2 In the event of three or more equally ranked teams without a clear ranking by head to head competition, use procedures 3.7.1.2 through 3.7.1.4 inclusively to eliminate teams three through the last tied team. When two teams remain, go through steps 1 through 5 again to rank the remaining 2 teams.

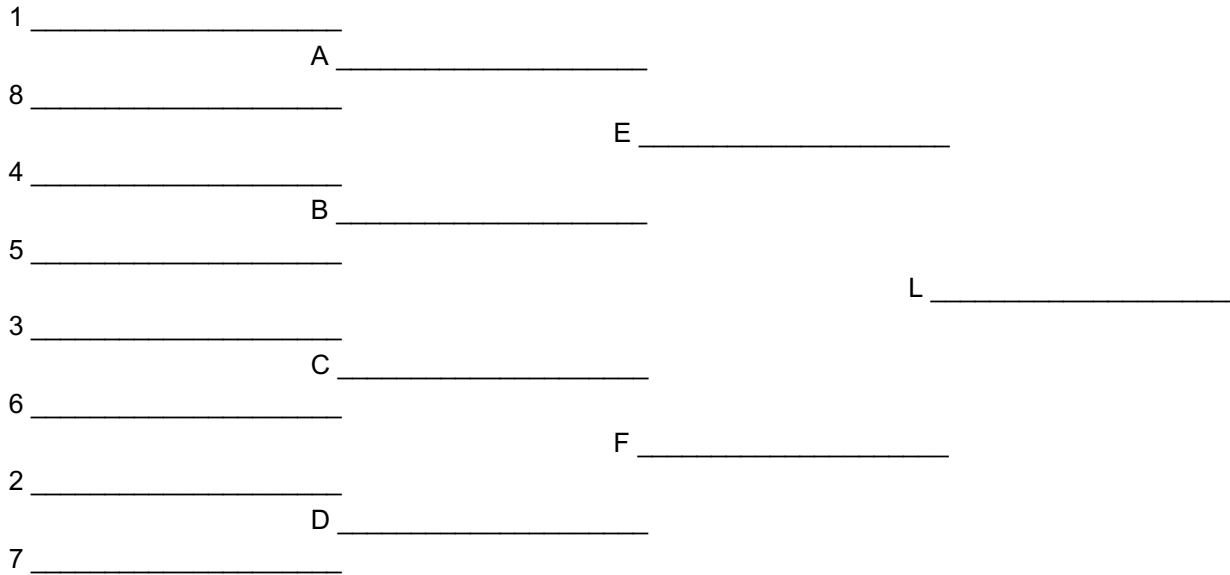
**3.8 Championship Play.**

- 3.8.1 The Championship bracket will play a “Multilevel Tournament with Eight Entries” play-off with complete losers bracket determining all places (see Figure 4A).
- 3.8.2 There will be a consolation bracket for all remaining teams, so all participating teams are seeded for the following World Championships. The Tournament Organizer may include a round of 16 matches to enable teams to play up to 10-12 matches for the championship.

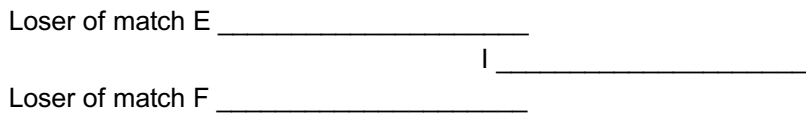
**8 MULTILEVEL TOURNAMENT WITH EIGHT ENTRIES**

Seeding of Championship Bracket

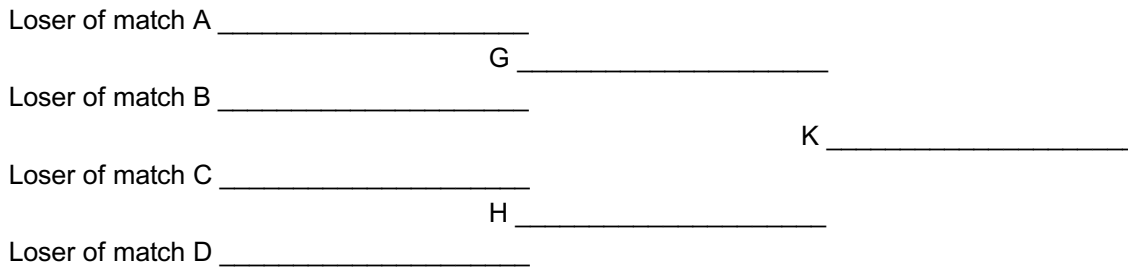
**Match L determines the World Champion and second place.**



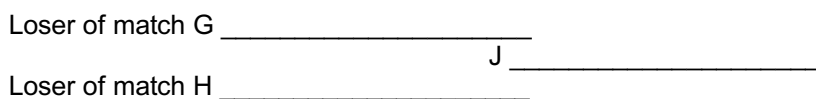
**Match I determines third and fourth place.**



**Match K determines fifth and sixth place.**



**Match J determines seventh and eighth place.**



#### 4. **Protests, Appeals, and Game Abandonment**

##### 4.1 **Protest During a Match**

- 4.1.1 Should a protest be made by a Team Captain or a Team Manager about the conduct of a match whilst it is in play, the Game Referee may stop play, consult the Water Referees and others as may be necessary, consider the factual evidence presented, announce a decision to all parties and resume play. (2018)
- 4.1.2 If a player receives a penalty, only the Team Captain can protest to the Water Referee. This will not constitute “refusing to accept any decisions made by the Officials”; thus, it does not merit the award another penalty.
- 4.1.2.1 If, after receiving an explanation, the player refuses to go to the penalty box, such action may constitute “refusing to accept decisions made by Officials”. The player will go immediately to the penalty area, and let the Team Captain protest the matter to the Chief Referee.
- 4.1.2.2 After consultation and the Chief Referee’s announcement of a decision, the team captain will no longer protest the issue, so that the match can be resumed. An appeal can be made following the match if necessary.

##### 4.2 **Protest After a Match**

- 4.2.1 Only the team Captain or Coach may put forward a protest.
- 4.2.2 The protest must be announced to the Tournament Director (or Tournament Referee) within 15 minutes of the end of the match. The written protest, in English, French, or Spanish, must be submitted to the Tournament Director within an hour of the end of the protest match.
- 4.2.3 The written protest must be accompanied by a deposit of EUR 100 or equivalent in cash. Video of the issue is not allowed.
- 4.2.4 If the above mentioned requirements are not fulfilled, the protest will not be accepted.
- 4.2.5 The sum of EUR 100 will be refunded if the protest is judged valid.
- 4.2.6 A jury to hear the protest is formed and is chaired by the Tournament Referee. Other jury members include:
- 4.2.6.1 Two International Referees chosen among the Referees from the Tournament. The Commission chooses these jurists prior to the first game of the tournament.
- 4.2.6.2 Two substitute International Referees, also chosen by the Commission.
- 4.2.6.3 Tournament Director for the provision of tournament options.
- 4.2.6.4 A meeting secretary will be appointed for the jury. The position is administrative/non-voting.
- 4.2.6.5. All members of the Jury, including the substitutes, must be of differing nationalities.
- 4.2.6.6 Jury members must attend the entire Tournament.
- 4.2.6.7 If any member of the Jury is of the same nationality as the teams involved in the claim, one of the substitutes is chosen (except in the case of the Tournament Director who must be on the Jury).



4.2.7 A jury may:

- a) The Jury may listen to all people it deems helpful to reach a decision.
- b) The jury can utilize any resource it deems helpful to reach a decision.
- c) The decision shall be made by a majority using a hand vote. In the event of a tie, the vote of the President will be final.
- d) The decision of the Jury is final.
- e) The Jury’s decision is provided immediately in writing to the Tournament Director who will advise the complainant and others involved.
- f) The members of the Jury and Tournament Director must comply with the secrecy of the deliberations.
- g) The Tournament Director’s(jury) decision is final.

**4.3 Game Abandonment**

4.3.1 In the event of a game being abandoned, the Tournament Director shall decide what subsequent action shall be taken.

4.3.2 The Tournament Director’s decision is final.

**4.3 Game Dismissals, Discipline and Referee Reports** (Extract from CMAS Rules of Discipline)

*For any international sports event organized by CMAS, where an international jury is not expected, any referee or judge- as well as the highest CMAS official in ranking for the discipline involved attending the event in his/her quality of non-competitor are entitled to immediately and finally exclude from the competition any athlete whose attitude, actions or behaviour are prejudicial to the public order, the fair development of the competition and/or its results.*

*The athletes can be punished on violent or injurious attitude, violating competition rules, doping condition or implementing fraudulent schemes. Decisions taken by judges, referees and technicians are supposed to be justified, unless evidence of the contrary. They shall notify their decision to the Steering Board of the Board of Directors within three days.*

*The same immediate suspension can be imposed on any individual, even if CMAS officer, who would adopt the same attitude or play an accessory role in any fraud or doping fact.*

4.3.1 In the event of a Discipline or Referee Report being received by the Tournament Director the Tournament Jury will be convened to review the report and follow clauses 4.2.6 and 4.2.7

4.3.2 After review of the complaint a Tournament Director (Jury) decision will be issued. Should an immediate suspension be imposed on any individual, the CMAS President as well as the CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission Director will be immediately informed.

**4.4 Penalties against competitors and other individuals**

4.4.1 The following penalties can be imposed upon competitors and individuals being CMAS members:

- a. Warning.
- b. Reprimand.
- c. Fine
- d. Disqualification from a sport event and results, and return of awards and titles.
- e. Suspension, with or without defer, from CMAS competitions and events.
- f. Exclusion
- g. Unless otherwise specified, the judicial bodies of CMAS may increase the sanction to be pronounced as deemed appropriate if an infringement has been repeated.



4.4.2 Guidelines (extract from CMAS Rules of Discipline)

	<b>Offence</b>	<b>Tournament Jury/ Director Decision</b>	<b>Discipline Commission</b>
Game Dismissal	Game Dismissal	Stand down one match	Reported to the commission
	Game Dismissal Attacking or Fighting	Stand Down one day through to exclusion from the event	Reported to the commission
Minor Infringements	Unsporting behaviour of a minor importance	Warning	Reported to the commission
	Dissent by word or action in an unfair way	Reprimand Repeated- Suspension from Facility	Reported to the commission
	Persistent infringement of the laws of the game	Warning or Reprimand	Reported to the commission
Serious Infringements	Repeated minor infringements	Suspension during or Exclusion from the event.	Referred to the commission for further action
	Serious unsporting behaviour	Suspension during or Exclusion from the event.	Referred to the commission for further action
	Using offensive, insulting or abusive language and/or gestures	Suspension during or Exclusion from the event.	Referred to the commission for further action
	Disorderliness at competitions and during assemblies or other CMAS official events	Suspension during or Exclusion from the event.	Referred to the commission for further action
	Violent or offensive conduct	Exclusion from the event.	Referred to the commission for further action
	Misconduct against sport events officials	Exclusion from the event.	Referred to the commission for further action
	In the case of violence, it is not possible to identify the perpetrator(s) Disciplinary measures may be imposed on national teams where its athletes fail to conduct themselves properly	Exclusion from the event.	Referred to the commission for further action
	Anyone who intimidates a sport event official with serious threats will be sanctioned	Exclusion from the event.	Referred to the commission for further action
The visiting team is liable for improper conduct among its own group of spectators, regardless.	Suspension during or Exclusion from the event.	Referred to the commission for further action	





**5. Amendment of Rules**

**5.1 Opportunity** – the opportunity to propose, discuss and approve rule amendments is provided whenever several Federations participate in CMAS World Underwater Hockey Championships during which meetings of the CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission are convened.

**5.2 Amendments** to the rules may be proposed by any participating Federation at any time between World Championships. The Federation forwards the proposed amendment(s), in writing, together with reasons justifying the rule change, to the Rules for distribution via email to all participating Federations in good standing with CMAS. An email ballot will be sent on which Federations will record their vote, their reasons for accepting/rejecting the proposed rule change and the signature of the person authorized to cast the vote.

5.2.1 Votes must be returned, by the designated deadline to the Rules Chair. A simple majority of 50% plus 1 is required for approval. The Rules Chair will announce the results of a vote within two weeks after the balloting deadline.

5.2.2 In order to be in force for any official event, approved rule amendments must be distributed to all Federations at least six (6) months in advance the event.

5.2.3 Rule change(s), approved unanimously by the Rules Committee, meeting prior to a World Championship, which are approved by the Tournament Director, will be immediately implemented; the Tournament Director will consult and inform participating team captains two days prior to the commencing of the tournament.

**5.3 Rule Change Time Frame:**

	6 Months	12 Months prior	6 Months prior	
Elite World	Write-up new rules and send out New Rule Book	Request New Rule Proposals	New proposals sent out to all countries for trialing	Elite World

5.3.1 After a World Championship, the Rules Chair:

5.3.1.1 must send the updated Underwater Hockey Rules to the CMAS Commission Director who will endorse and provide to the CMAS BoD for approval.

5.3.1.2 Once CMAS approved, the Rules Chair has 6 months to integrate them into the Rules of Underwater Hockey. Then the rules will be posted on the CMAS website and announced to all participating countries. E-mail may also be used to distribute the rulebook.

5.3.2 The Rules Chair must distribute all the proposals 6 months prior to the World Championships.

5.3.3 Countries then will discuss and/or trial all the proposals and then vote on them at the next World Championship.

