

CMAS

CONFÉDÉRATION MONDIALE
DES ACTIVITÉS SUBAQUATIQUES

WORLD UNDERWATER FEDERATION

PROCEDURES AND OBLIGATIONS FOR THE ORGANISATION OF UNDERWATER HOCKEY COMPETITIONS

Version 2019/02

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 The term competition can be used as a general term which in the case of underwater hockey is equivalent to the use of the term tournament. 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 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 Competition Definition

1.2.1 Competitions are classified into three (3) categories;

Categories	Competitions	UWH Events
Category A	World Championship	Elite World Championship, Master World Championship, Junior World Championship
	Continental Championship	European Championship
	Bi-Continental Championships	Proposed Continental Qualifier for World Championship.
Category B	World, Zone and Continental Cups (national teams)	SEA Games, Asian Games, Commonwealth, Southern Hemisphere, Americas Cup, Trans-Tasman, FISU, 3x3 or 4x4 world tournaments.
Category C	Other International Events (clubs)	Club tournaments and other events.

- 1.2.2 An international competition may be registered as Category A, B or C.
- 1.2.3 The Category A competitions are the World Championships, Continental or Bi-Continental Championships of National Teams.
- 1.2.4 The minimum criteria for considering an eligible world championship are:
 - 1.2.4.1 Teams are representative of their Country/Federation.
 - 1.2.4.2 A minimum of ten (10) countries participating.
 - 1.2.4.3 A minimum of 3 continents represented.
 - 1.2.4.4 A minimum of five (5) National Federations teams enter in each division.



- 1.2.5 A Continental Competition is a tournament between nations of the same Continent and a Bi-Continental Competition is a tournament between nations of 2 or more Continents.
- 1.2.5.1 The minimum criteria for considering an eligible Continental or Bi-Championships are:
 - 1.2.5.1.1 Teams are representative of their Country/Federation.
 - 1.2.5.1.2 A minimum of five (5) National Federations teams enter in each division.
 - 1.2.5.1.3 For Continental Championships, CMAS adopts sine varietur the continental subdivision of countries as established up today and as it may be changed in the future by the International Olympic Committee.
 - 1.2.5.1.4 Bi-Continental Championship is open to two continents following the continents defined in 1.2.5.1.3.
- 1.2.6 The category B and C competitions have particular regulations that must be approved by the BoD and are always associated with the competition' contract.

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.** Minimum age is 18. There is no upper age limit. and/or
- 1.3.2.2 **Elite Women's Division.** Minimum age is 18. There is no upper age limit. and/or
- 1.3.2.3 **Men's Master's Division.** Minimum age is 34. There is no upper age limit. and/or
Players age to be determined as per Rule 1.3.1.
- 1.3.2.4 **Women's Master's Division.** Minimum age is 32. There is no upper age limit. and/or
Players age to be determined as per Rule 1.3.1.
- 1.3.2.5 **U24 Men's Division.** The age category is 19-23 inclusive. and/or
Players age to be determined as per Rule 1.3.1.
- 1.3.2.6 **U24 Women's Division.** The age category is 19-23 inclusive. and/or
Players age to be determined as per Rule 1.3.1.
- 1.3.2.7 **U19 Men's Division.** The age category is 15-18 inclusive. and/or
Players age to be determined as per Rule 1.3.1.
- 1.3.2.8 **U19 Women's Division.** The age limits are 15-18 inclusive. and/or
Players age to be determined as per Rule 13.1.

1.4 Age Exceptions

- 1.4.1 A player whose age place him/her in the Under-19 division may compete in Under-24 or Elite division only if he or she is 18 years of age or older (adult) before the date of the first day of the competition.
- 1.4.2 The Women's Master's Division for World Championship of 2020 will have the minimum age of 32, just in the world championships after the minimum age will be 34.

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 Bi-Continental Championships should be set to avoid clashes with World or World Junior 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 category B and C events should be set to avoid clashes with World, Continental or Bi-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 preferred pool depth is 2.4 - 3.0 m.
 - 2.2.1.4 The facility pool floor should be ceramic tile or similar that allows a plastic covered puck to slide easily over the surface. PVC liner pools are to be avoided.
 - 2.2.1.5 The facility pool floor penetrations must be flush with the pool bottom or outside playing area(s).
 - 2.2.1.6 The facility lighting intensity not less than 1500 lumens.
 - 2.2.1.7 The facility water temperature not less than 26°C (+/- 1°C).
 - 2.2.1.8 The facility fresh water.
 - 2.2.1.9 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.
 - 2.2.1.10 The facility has area for drug testing of athletes.
- 2.2.2 Bids for hosting an international competition, not meeting the Standards as defined in section 2.2.1, may be presented and accepted at the discretion of the World Tournament Director.

2.3 **National Federation and Player Eligibility for International Competitions**

- 2.3.1 National Federation (NF) Eligibility for category A competitions:
 - 2.3.1.1 Only Nations that have their NF properly registered with CMAS may compete in a CMAS tournament.
 - 2.3.1.1 The percentage of the foreign athletes in a national team cannot be above 30.
- 2.3.2 Athletes must either:
 - 2.3.2.1 Hold citizenship of the country for which they are intending to play; OR
 - 2.3.2.2 Submit proof that they have been resident in that country for a minimum of 12 months (prior to the competition);
AND
 - 2.3.2.3 Has purchased a CMAS Athlete's license.

- 2.3.3 Athletes holding dual citizenship must choose to compete for only one Federation. This choice obliges the athlete to remain with that NF until the requirements of either of 2.3.2.1 or 2.3.2.2 and 2.3.2.3 above are met.
- 2.3.4 CMAS Competitions in Category B or C:
- 2.3.4.1 Athlete participating in Category B or C Competitions under the registration of the club may have different nationality provided that:
- Must have national license of that club (delivered by NF of the club).
 - To be affiliated to a foreign club, the athlete must have the agreement of the two NF (his NF and NF of the club).
- 2.3.4.2 The athletes decide the registration of their clubs in the beginning of each season and they cannot change it during the same season.

2.4 Tournament Officials

- 2.4.1 The International Official in control of underwater hockey international competitions shall be termed the CMAS Technical Delegate. 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 NF or organising body.
- 2.4.2 The NF organizing committee chairperson in control of the overall organization of the international competition shall be termed the Chairman of Tournament. Their role is to ensure the successful organization of the tournament.
- 2.4.3 The International Referee in control of the overall refereeing at an international competition shall be termed the Tournament Referee. The Tournament Referee will be appointed by CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission in agreement with the host NF. This referee may or may not be from the host federation.

2.5 Category A Competitions

- 2.5.1 The host NF or organising body 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 Category A Competitions organization must comply with:
- 2.5.2.1 CMAS General Procedures and Obligations for the organization of CMAS Competitions guideline. Referee to particular clauses are referred below.
- 2.5.2.2 CMAS Competitions Procedures and Obligations for Underwater Hockey.
- 2.5.2.3 CMAS logo may be used without changing them as defined in CMAS General Procedures and Obligations for the organization of CMAS Competitions guidelines.
- 2.5.2.4 Championships logo may be created as defined in General Procedures and Obligations for the organization of CMAS Competitions guidelines.
- 2.5.2.4.1 CMAS logo and name must figure on the title of the championship
- 2.5.2.4.2 CMAS Logo must figure on the Participant badges supplied by the organizing federation, back colors set as follows:

- VIP Red
- Organisation Yellow
- Referee and Safety Green
- Teams Officials Grey
- Athletes Blue
- Press White
- Television and Streaming Purple
- 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 in accordance with Championships organization procedures & Obligations and contract of the event.

2.5.2.6 Advertising will be in accordance with Championships organization procedures & Obligations and contract of the event.

2.5.2.7 Communication of Results will be in accordance with Championships organization procedures & Obligations and contract of the event.

2.5.2.8 Opening Ceremony: will be in accordance with Championships organization procedures & Obligations and contract of the event. 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 in accordance with Championships organization procedures & Obligations and contract of the event. 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 National Federation or organising body. The Tournament Budget must contain all expenses for the hosting of a tournament including:

2.5.3.1 For Category A events the Host National Federation will be responsible for the lodging expenses, full board, in single room of the CMAS representatives:

- a) CMAS President or his/her representative
- b) Sports Committee President
- c) Director of the Underwater Hockey Commission or his/her representative
- d) CMAS Technical Delegate

2.5.3.2 The travelling expenses of CMAS Technical Delegate.

2.5.3.3 The Host Federation or organising body will be responsible for the lodging expenses, full board, in single room of the CMAS Underwater Hockey (UWH) Director (x1) and CMAS Technical Delegate (x1) for the duration of the tournament.

2.5.3.4 The tournament referee costs reference in clause 2.5.4

- 2.5.3.5 Anti-doping Control must be undertaken during all World, Continental and Bi-Continental Championships. Host NF or organising body are to contract their 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 NF or organising body.
- 2.5.3.6 All Venue hire and equipment hire costs to deliver a successful competition including but not limited to:
- Aquatic Centre- Pool, Meeting rooms, Registration area
 - Meeting rooms (Tournament Control, Referee, Delegates meeting, CMAS UWH Commission meeting)
 - Opening Ceremony
 - Medal and Closing Ceremony
 - Post Tournament Party
 - Timing Equipment
 - Court Barriers, Lane ropes and substitute standing platforms
 - Underwater Filming and Streaming
- 2.5.3.7 Competition Inspection - All the expenses of the CMAS representative have to be supported by LOC (Travel, local transportation and full board accommodation) for the competition inspection.
- 2.5.3.8 Insurance - The Host Federation must subscribe and provide the insurance of civil responsibility to cover all the aspects of the competition.
- 2.5.3.9 Safety - The Host Federation has to take care of the right and necessary means according to safety procedures of each discipline and the rules of the organising country.
- 2.5.3.10 Security and Medical services - The Host Federation has to take care of the right and necessary means according to security and medical services according to the law of the country where is held the competition.
- 2.5.3.11 All other expenses deemed necessary for the successful host of a championship.
- 2.5.4 Tournament Referees
- 2.5.4.1 The Hosting NF or organising body will provision in category A competitions' budgets for the following expenses for up to 43 referees.
- 2.5.4.2 Category A competition Budgets will fund the referees uniform of
- 1x red protective cap,
 - 1x yellow in-water vest,
 - 1x yellow or orange referee gloves
 - 2x Out of water polo shirts
- 2.5.4.3 In category A competitions the Referees will provide their own:
- Plain black shorts and
 - Plain black swimsuit
- 2.5.4.3 In the category A competitions the budgets will cover Accommodation, Board and transfers for the referees during the competitions:
- For World Championships is amounts to 12 nights for 11 Tournament Referees and Referee Coaches and;
 - 11 Nights for the remaining referees.

- 2.5.4.4 All Federations will need to fund the travel and provide up to 3 competent CMAS level 3 referees (as defined by the CMAS UWH referee framework). Referees to be selected on merit by their NFs and must be approved by the Tournament Referee.
- 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+

2.6 Category B and C Competitions

- 2.6.1 All competitions which do not meet the category A criteria are classified as category B and C.
- 2.6.2 Southern Hemisphere, Americas Cup, Trans-Tasman, 3x3 and 4x4 World tournaments or other can obtain CMAS category B competition’ official status.
- 2.6.3 Club competitions can obtain CMAS category C competition’ official status.
- 2.6.2 The host federation or organising body shall be entitled to support by promotion of the tournament on CMAS media channels.
- 2.6.3 All participating athletes in CMAS supported event must purchase a CMAS Athlete’s license.
- 2.6.4 All other requirements for category B and C competitions 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 Bi-Continental 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 Category B and C competitions 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 st -8 th place	Non Championship 9 th -16 th 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 1st -8th 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 1st -8th place	Bowl 9th -16th Place	Trophy 17th -24th 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.

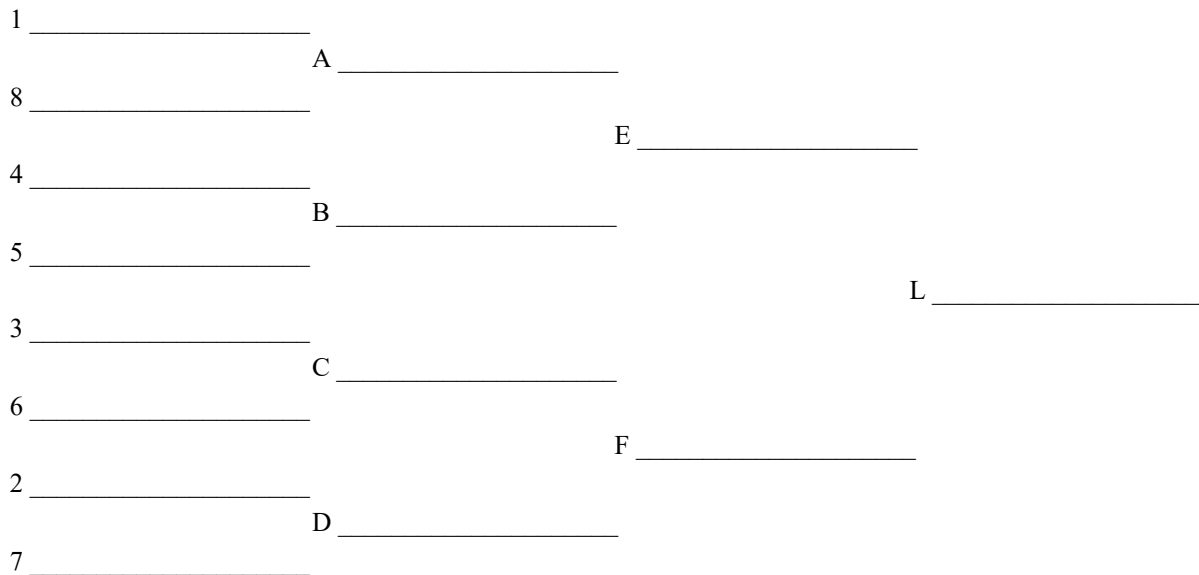
3.8.1 The Championship bracket will play a “Multilevel Tournament with Eight Entries” play-off with complete losers bracket determining all places (see Figure 4A).

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 TOURNAMENTS WITH EIGHT ENTRIES

Seeding of Championship Bracket

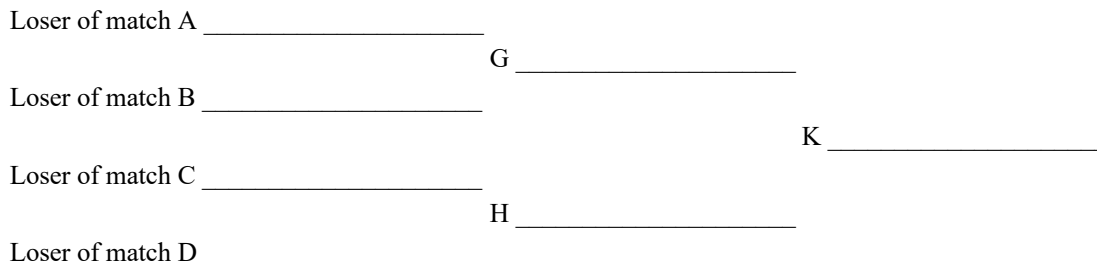
Match L determines the World Champion and second place.



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.

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 Technical Delegate, Tournament Referee or Tournament Referee Assistants within 15 minutes of the end of the match. The written protest, in English, French, or Spanish, must be submitted to the Technical Delegate 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 Technical Delegate. Other jury members include:

4.2.6.1 Two International Referees chosen among the Referees from the Tournament. The Tournament Referee nominate to the Technical Delegate these jurists prior to the first game of the tournament.

4.2.6.2 Two substitute International Referees are also nominated by the Tournament Referee to the Technical Delegate.

4.2.6.3 Technical Delegate 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 Technical Delegate 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 Technical Delegate who will advise the complainant and others involved.
- f) The members of the Jury and Technical Delegate must comply with the secrecy of the deliberations.
- g) The Technical Delegate (jury) decision is final.

4.3 Game Abandonment

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

4.3.2 The Technical Delegate decision is final.

4.4 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 behavior 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.

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

4.4.2 After review of the complaint a Technical Delegate (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.

4.5 Penalties against competitors and other individuals

4.5.1 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.

4.5.2 Guidelines (extract from CMAS Rules of Discipline)

	Offence	Tournament Jury/ Director Decision	Discipline Commission
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 National 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 National 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 Director 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 as member of the college of referees.
 - 5.2.1 Votes must be returned, by the designated deadline to the Rules Director. A simple majority of 50% plus 1 is required for approval. The Rules Director 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 Referee Committee, meeting prior to a World Championship, which are approved by the Technical Delegate will be immediately implemented; The Technical Delegate 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	
World Championship	Write-up new rules and send out New Rule Book	Request New Rule Proposals	New proposals sent out to all countries for trialing	World Championship

- 5.3.1 After a World Championship, the Rules Director:
 - 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 BoD approved, the Rules Director 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 Director 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.