**NATIONAL UNDER 17 CUPS**

**INFORMATION PACK**

**14th – 16th January 2022**

**Competition Format**

The competition will be played over three days in Lisnasharragh Leisure Centre, Montgomery Rd, Castlereagh, Belfast BT6 9HS, on Friday 14th, Saturday 15th and Sunday 16th January 2022. Both competitions will be conducted in accordance with the Ireland Water Polo and FINA rules.

**Boys**

There are 8 teams entered which structures the competition into 2 Groups of 4 teams each played on a round robin basis. The top two teams in each group will progress to the semi-finals and subsequent gold and bronze medal matches.

**Girls**

There are 7 teams entered which structures the competition into 1 Group of 4 teams and 1 group of 3 teams each played on a round robin basis. The top two teams in each group will progress to the semi-finals and subsequent gold and bronze medal matches.

**Competition Draws**

The competition draws were authorised by the NWPC.

**Boys**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Group A | Group B |
| St Vincents | Corrib |
| Clonard | Cathal Brugha |
| Drogheda | Cu Chulainn |
| Half Moon | North Dublin |

**Girls**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Group A | Group B |
| North Dublin | Tribes |
| Diamonds | Bangor |
| Clonard | Cathal Brugha |
| St Vincents |  |

**Registration**

All team lists must be submitted via email by Friday 7th January 2022 to Sarah Kelly, Swim Ireland HQ to [waterpolo@swimirleand.ie](mailto:waterpolo@swimirleand.ie)

**Pool Access & Accreditation**

Accreditation passes will be issued at the Technical Meeting for officials and referees.

**Team Staff and athletes must print their own passes prior to arrival at the competition. There will not be a reprint facility on the day.**

Pool side will be restricted to accredited team players, coaches, team managers, tournament officials, facility staff and NWPC Members. Accreditation will be visibly worn by all while on poolside, except for players engaged in matches or warm up/down.

**Please note that all teams must have at least one qualified and licensed Level 2 Water Polo Coach on deck during every match.**

Entry access points will be advised during the technical meeting. Clubs must process all player/coach/manager accreditations on the Swim Ireland Membership database along with submitting their Team Sheets by Friday 7th January 2022 to Sarah Kelly, Swim Ireland.

**Any team staff attending this competition are required to meet the Swim Ireland Safeguarding Regulations. Only players and team staffs accredited may enter the pool areas and participate in competition.**

**Match/Team Sheets**

Each Team Manager must confirm their squad (numbers) of up to 15 players via email to [waterpolo@swimirleand.ie](mailto:waterpolo@swimirleand.ie) by 1200hrs, Friday 7th January 2022 and the Tournament Director before the start of each match if each team has more than 13 players listed.

All players must be born in 2005 or later.

The match sheets will be completed from the names of the players submitted to SI and repeated in each match on commencement of the tournament.

**All players must keep the same hat number for all matches as per team sheet submitted. Match sheets will not be changed from the initial team list provided due to the tight turnaround of games.**

Matches will be played as 7 a side, from a panel of 13 players. Team managers must inform the table which players are playing in each match 30 minutes before commencement of any match.

Squad players not participating in any match must remain in the spectator area during matches but may participate in team warm up/down.

**Only coaching personnel named on the team sheet submitted shall be permitted on pool side/team bench.**

**Photography**

Photography is only permitted by persons issued with a permit by the pools staff endorsed by the Tournament Director. Photographs must be in accordance with the [Swim Ireland Filming & Photography Policy.](https://www.swimireland.ie/files/documents/Filming-and-Photography-Policy.pdf)

**Presentations & Awards**

Gold and Silver medals will be awarded in both competitions to winners and runners up respectively. A Most Valuable Player award will also be made in both competitions.

**Dress**

All players and officials must be properly attired on the team bench. During presentation of teams prior to finals and prize giving all teams and officials will be dressed in team gear of t-shirts/shorts/tracksuits.

It should be particularly noted by all that swimsuits/togs are NOT permitted in the spectator area at any time.

All teams must use the designated changing village for changing and /or dressing. Teams who do not comply will be sanctioned and officials may be excluded from the poolside for their teams next or subsequent match(es).

**Pool/Facility Staff**

Team managers, officials and players are reminded to be courteous to the pool staff and to always obey instructions issued. Any dispute/altercation with staff should be reported to the Tournament Director by the Team Manager immediately.

**Alcohol**

Alcohol is not permitted in the spectator, pool or dressing room areas.

**Competition Fees**

All competition fees to be paid in advance as per SI office instructions.

Competition fees are as follows:

* Boys - €400.00
* Girls - €375.00

**Brutality**

Any player excluded for the remainder of the game, without substitute for 4 minutes, for brutality shall be suspended for at least the next game. The Tournament Director on advice may impose a greater penalty due to the nature of the brutality.

**Yellow and Red Cards**

All coaches and officials should lead by good example throughout the tournament.

Any head coach who receives a yellow card will not carry it forward to the next match. Any other (assistant) coach, official or player who comments to, at or about the referees will receive a red card. Anyone who receives a red card must immediately leave the poolside and go to the spectator area, without speaking to or communicating with his team. After receiving a red card, the coach may not attempt to coach or communicate with his team from the spectator area. If he attempts to do so, he will be removed from the precincts of the pool and further sanctioned.

A coach, player or other official who receives a red card will be suspended for at least the next game. The Tournament Director may impose a greater penalty due to the nature of the offence.

If a coach receives a red card and consequent suspension, he may not coach or participate in a game involving a team in the competition until that suspension has been served.

**Team Benches**

All players not in the water during a match must always remain seated in the designated area.

Any assistant coach or team manager who breaches this Rule shall receive a red card. A player, who is excluded from the remainder of the game by way of 3 personal fouls, must remain on the team bench, with their cap on. A player excluded from the remainder of the game by the referee (for Misconduct, Brutality etc.) shall immediately leave the team bench, and proceed to the warmup/down area or spectator area.

**Penalty Shoot Out**

* the shoot-out will begin immediately, and the same referees will be used
* coaches of the teams will be requested to nominate five players and goalkeeper who will participate in the penalty shoot-out.
* the goalkeeper may be changed at any time provided the substitute was listed amongst the team list in that game
* the five players nominated will be required to be listed in order which will determine the sequence players take their penalty; the sequence cannot be changed
* Should a goalkeeper be excluded during the penalty shoot-out, a player from the nominated five players may substitute for the goalkeeper but without the privileges of the goalkeeper; following the taking of the penalty shot, the player may be substituted by another player or alternate goalkeeper.
* If a field player is excluded during the penalty shoot-out, the player will be removed from the list of the five players participating in the penalty shoot-out, and a substituted player is placed in the last position on the list
* Penalty shots will be taken alternately into the designated end of the pool. The players taking the shots will remain in the water at halfway at the pool side.
* the team to shoot first will be determined by toss of a coin
* should teams still be tied following the completion of the initial five penalty shots, the same five players shall then take alternate shots on a sudden death basis.

**Appeals/Protests**

All protest / appeals must be submitted in writing to the Tournament Director within 30 minutes of completion of any match or decision. Any protest must be lodged in advance of the competition commencing. Appeal/Protest Fee: €100.

**Duration of Matches/Pitch/Balls/Substitutions**

All matches will be 4 x 6 minutes actual. There will be 2 minute all in breaks between quarters with 2 minutes at half time. The same pitch will be used for both competitions.

Size 5 balls will be used for the Boys cup and size 4 for the Girls cup.

Flying substitutions in the lateral substitution area may be used by teams in all matches – Pool set up equipment to be confirmed - details to be clarified at the team technical meeting.

**Timeouts**

Two time-outs per team per match are allocated throughout the tournament.

**Results**

In the group phases, should two teams finish on the same points, the result between those two teams will determine which team finishes higher in the group. If this is a draw then goal difference overall or if still level, goals scored for overall, if still level, a toss of a coin will decide the group final position.

Points shall be awarded as follows in group matches:

**Win** - 3 Points

**Draw** - 1 Point

**Loss** - 0 Points

**Match Starts**

Teams need to be ready for their allocated match time.

Match start times are provisional, and matches may start early if the competition progresses ahead of time. All teams should be available 20 minutes before their scheduled match time at the poolside.

White (home team) will start at the diving poll /scoreboard end of the pool.

**Referees**

The NWPC in conjunction with the Tournament Director has allocated a pool of referees for the tournament.

**Technical Meeting**

A Technical meeting will be held in the poolside meeting room at 1000hrs on Friday 14th January 2022. Each club must be represented. If any club decides not to attend, they must advise the Tournament Director NLT 1200hrs on Thursday 13th January 2022 of their nonattendance and nominate/name who will represent their club at the meeting. Non-attendance will not be accepted as an excuse for any sanctions that players/coaches receive as a result of breached tournament rules.

**Annex A**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Club** |  | |  |
|  |  | |  |
| **Team Name** |  | |  |
| **Number** | **Name** | **Date of Birth** | **Swim Ireland ID** |
| **1** |  |  |  |
| **2** |  |  |  |
| **3** |  |  |  |
| **4** |  |  |  |
| **5** |  |  |  |
| **6** |  |  |  |
| **7** |  |  |  |
| **8** |  |  |  |
| **9** |  |  |  |
| **10** |  |  |  |
| **11** |  |  |  |
| **12** |  |  |  |
| **13** |  |  |  |
| **14** |  |  |  |
| **15** |  |  |  |
|  | **Name** | **Coach Level** | **Swim Ireland ID** |
| **Coach** |  |  |  |
| **Ass. Coach** |  |  |  |
| **Manager** |  |  |  |
| **Contact No.** |  |  |  |
| **Contact Email** |  |  |  |

**Team Sheet – To Be Submitted via email by 1200hrs Friday 7th January 2022 to**

**Sarah Kelly, Swim Ireland HQ -** [**waterpolo@swimirleand.ie**](mailto:waterpolo@swimirleand.ie)

**Declan Mc Kerr, Tournament Director- decky\_setanta@hotmail.com**

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: This team list will be used throughout the tournament to complete match sheets – the cap numbers/names must not be changed\*\***

**Annex B**

**SCHEDULE OF MATCHES –UNDER 17 CUPS**

**LISNASHARRAGH, BELFAST, 14th – 16th January 2022**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Date/Day** | **Game** | **Comp** | **Time** | **Group** | **White** | **v** | **Blue** |
| **Friday 14th** | 1 |  | 1100 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 2 |  | 1200 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 3 |  | 1300 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 4 |  | 1400 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 5 |  | 1500 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 6 |  | 1600 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 7 |  | 1700 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 8 |  | 1800 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 9 |  | 1900 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 10 |  | 2000 |  | **TO BE FINALISED** |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Saturday 15th** | 11 |  | 0900 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 12 |  | 1000 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 13 |  | 1100 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 14 |  | 1200 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 15 |  | 1300 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 16 |  | 1400 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 17 |  | 1500 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 18 |  | 1600 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 19 |  | 1700 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 20 |  | 1800 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 21 |  | 1900 |  |  |  |  |
|  | 22 |  | 2000 |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Sunday 16th** | 23 | Girls | 0900 | **Semi 1** | Win Grp A |  | R up Grp B |
|  | 24 | Girls | 1000 | **Semi 2** | Win Grp B |  | R up Grp A |
|  | 25 | Boys | 1100 | **Semi 1** | Win Grp A |  | R up Grp B |
|  | 26 | Boys | 1200 | **Semi 2** | Win Grp B |  | R up Grp A |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 27 | Girls | 1300 | **3rd/4th** | R/up Girls S/F 1 |  | R/up Girls S/F 2 |
|  | 28 | Boys | 1400 | **3rd/4th** | R/up Boys S/F 1 |  | R/up Boys S/F 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | 29 | Girls | 1515 | **Final** | Win Girls S/F 1 |  | Win Girls S/F 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  | **Girls Presentation** | | |
|  | 30 | Boys | 1630 | **Final** | Win Boys S/F 1 |  | Win Boys S/F 2 |
|  |  |  |  |  | **Boys Presentation** | | |

**Annex C**

**COVID-19 Protocols**

The 2022 U17 Cup Tournaments will be held in Lisnasharragh, Belfast on 14th-16th January 2022. COVID-19 protocols will apply throughout the event to comply with the facility, NGB and Government guidelines. The facility will accommodate 2 x teams in match play, 2 x teams post-match play (changing village) and 2 x teams awaiting match play (changing village & waiting / seated area), plus team officials and match officials, within the pool deck and dressing room environment.

**A limited number of spectators will be accommodated also.**

Team dressing rooms will not be in use in the facility. Cubicles in the changing villages will be used but fully vacated including all gear bags.

Teams awaiting a match will be directed to the pool deck waiting / seated area with gear bags. Teams must remain in these designated areas. Teams who have completed a match will depart the pool deck area immediately.

Spectators will be permitted and may be limited depending on numbers attending and venue capacity. Clubs should advise their supporters/spectators to remain at the venue for as short a period of time as possible.

**Officials / Coaches / Team Managers**

All Officials, Coaches and Team Managers (aged 18 or over) must be fully vaccinated and/or recovering from COVID-19. Entry to Lisnasharragh will require proof of vaccination and/or recovery from COVID-19 and this will be checked individually throughout the tournament.

Coaches and Team Managers should enter through the main doors of the pools as indicated with their full team and proceed through the turnstiles. Teams must enter the facility as one group and exit as one group.

Officials, Coaches, Team Managers, and players must wear a face covering at all times indoors in any part of the pool building, except when taking food or drink or on pool side officiating/participating in their/any match.

**Players / Teams / Matches**

All teams and their manager and coaches attending must enter through the main door of the facility and pass through the turnstiles together, not more than 30 minutes before their appointed match time.

Team briefings/debriefings/meetings are not permitted within the pool facility and should be completed prior to arrival and outside after any match.

Proceed to the changing villages, change into match gear, and when instructed, with gear bags go to the pool deck match waiting / seated area. Teams will be instructed to move from the changing villages to the seated area at the end of the 3rd quarter of the preceding match.

Teams will enter at the side of the pitch from where they will start the match in the pool i.e., white starts at the window end and blue starts at the dressing room end. Seating will be opposite the spectator balcony area. Teams must remain seated in these designated areas.

On instruction, teams will enter the warm-up pool and follow-on match. Teams will be permitted 10 minutes in the warmup pool prior to their match. White team first, followed by blue team, no balls permitted.

On completion of the match all team officials and players will depart to the changing village/cubicles. Team Managers should ensure that the full team departs the changing village within 15 minutes after their match ends.

Team Managers should discourage the mixing of players between teams and maintain social distancing practices.

**All players must wear a face covering until immediately before their warmup.**

**Spectators**

Entry for all parents / spectators will be through the designated entrances only.

**All spectators must be fully vaccinated or recently recovered from COVID-19 and must provide proof of this upon entry to the facility. Digital Covid Certificates will be checked and only those with valid certificates and supporting photographic ID will be admitted.**

**Clubs are requested to limit spectators to one adult per player.**

Spectators should proceed to the viewing gallery and must wear a face covering while indoors in any part of the pool facility, except when taking food or drink.

Spectators should stay in their team / club group and find seats in the viewing gallery at suitable social distance from other individuals/groups where possible. Spectators should be cognisant of the limited spectator space and follow-on groups of spectators for subsequent matches and vacate the spectator viewing area as soon as is possible after their club match.

[A full overview of COVID-19 Guidelines can be found here.](https://www.swimireland.ie/membership/covid-19-return-to-water)

Your cooperation in advance is much appreciated and we hope you all enjoy a great weekend of water polo in Belfast.

NWPC & National Cups Organising Committee