

**NATIONAL UNDER 12 MIXED CUP
(YOB 2012)
INFORMATION PACK**

**8th - 9th June &
15th June 2024**

NAC, DUBLIN

Competition Format

The Irish Under 12 Mixed Cup competition will be played over two weekends in the National Aquatic Centre. The group matches will take place on the 8th to 9th, with the semi-finals and medal matches to be played on the 15th of June 2024. The competition will be conducted in accordance with the Ireland Water Polo and World Aquatic rules with the addition of a number of special rules to be used for this tournament to support development at this age group – see Annex B.

There are 16 teams entered into the competition and it is structured into four groups of 4 teams, played on a round robin basis.

All matches will be played in Pool D.

Size 3 balls will be used for this competition.

Competition Draws

The competition draw was authorised by the NWPC.

| Group A | Group B | Group C | Group D |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| Cu Chulainn | Cathal Brugha | Newry | St Vincents |
| Clontarf | Clonard | Corrib | Tribes |
| Athlone | Wexford | North Dublin | Drogheda |
| Diamonds | Half Moon | Sandycove | Portadown |

Registration

Prior to submission of team sheets, all players must hold competitive water polo membership.

All team lists must be submitted via email by **1200 hrs Friday 31st May 2024** to Kirstie Stevenson, Swim Ireland HQ to waterpolo@swimireland.ie.

All teams **must** enter one referee into the tournament.

Pool Access & Accreditation

[Accreditation](#) passes will be required for all team staff.

Team Staff must print their own passes prior to arrival at the competition. Accreditations should be applied for a minimum of 48 hours prior to the start of competition.

Pool side will be restricted to team players, coaches, team managers, tournament officials, facility staff and NWPC Members. Accreditation must be visibly worn by all while on poolside.

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

Any team staff attending this competition are required to meet the Swim Ireland Safeguarding and Vetting Regulations. All coaches must hold RAP ([found here](#)) prior to team sheets being submitted. Only team staffs accredited may enter the pool areas and participate in competition.

Entry access points will be advised during the technical meeting, which will take place, online, on Thursday the 6th of June 2024. Clubs must process all coach/manager accreditations on the Swim Ireland Membership database along with submitting their Team Sheets by **1200 hrs Friday 31st May 2024** to Kirstie Stevenson, Swim Ireland at waterpolo@swimireland.ie.

Referees

The NWPC has stated that **each club must supply one referee.**

Match/Team Sheets

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.

Once team sheets are submitted, all players must keep same hat numbers throughout the tournament.

All players must be born in 2012 or later.

Match sheets will not be changed from the initial team list provided due to the tight turnaround of games.

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. Only the head coach, as named on the team sheet, may stand.

Duration of Matches/Pitch/Balls/Substitutions

All matches up to quarter final stage will 2 x 6 mins, with 1 Time-Out.

Semi-finals and finals (bronze and gold medal) will be 4 x 5 min actual, with 2 Time-Outs.

Size 3 balls will be used for this competition.

Results

In the group phases, should two or more teams finish on the same points, the result between all teams on the same points 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

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](#).

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 left side of the official table and the Blue (away team) will start at the right side of the official's table.

Presentations & Awards

Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded in both competitions to winners, runners up and third place 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.

Technical Meeting

The technical meeting will be held online, via Zoom, on Thursday the 6th of June 2024 at 7:30pm. All clubs MUST attend.

Topic: Technical Meeting U12 Mixed Cup 2024

Time: Jun 6, 2024 07:30 PM Dublin

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81295870774?pwd=KjGwzD6B9KxCncGVjiTxZnMI02yuJp.1>

Meeting ID: 812 9587 0774

Passcode: 836105

Competition Fees

All competition fees to be paid in advance in order for a team to be eligible to participate. This should be done no later than **3rd of June 2024**.

Competition fees are as €250 per team. Payment can be made [here](#).

Violent Action

Any player excluded for the remainder of the game, with substitution when four minutes of actual play have elapsed, for committing a violent action 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 violent action.

Yellow and Red Cards

- All coaches and officials should lead by good example throughout the tournament.
- A Head Coach who receives a yellow card will not carry it forward to the next match.
- Any coach, team manager, official or player who receives a red card must immediately leave the poolside, without speaking to or communicating with his/her team.
- Once red carded, any coach may not attempt to coach/communicate with their team. Any attempt to do so, will result in removal from the pool facility and a further sanction.
- A coach, or other official who receives a red card shall be suspended for the next game.
- Players who receive a red card for misconduct shall NOT be suspended for the next game.
- The Tournament Director may impose a penalty of missing an additional match(es) subject to the nature of the offence.

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

Team Benches

All assistant coaches, team managers and players not in the water during a match must always remain seated in the bench area and any breaches of 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 Violent Action) shall leave the team bench and proceed to the spectator area.

Penalty Shoot Out

- If a match ends in a draw, a penalty shoot out will take place.
- 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. Appeal/Protest Fee: €100.

Annex A

**SCHEDULE OF MATCHES – U12 MIXED CUP (YOB 2012)
NAC DUBLIN – 8/9 & 15 JUNE 2024**

| Group A | Group B | Group C | Group D |
|-------------|---------------|--------------|-------------|
| Cu Chulainn | Cathal Brugha | Newry | St Vincents |
| Clontarf | Clonard | Corrib | Tribes |
| Athlone | Wexford | North Dublin | Drogheda |
| Diamonds | Half Moon | Sandycove | Portadown |

| Date/Day | Match | Pool | Time | Group | White | v | Blue |
|-------------------|-------|------|------|--------|----------------------|---|------------------|
| Saturday | 1 | D | 1435 | D | St Vincents | | Tribes |
| 08 June 24 | 2 | D | 1500 | D | Drogheda | | Portadown |
| | 3 | D | 1525 | B | Cathal Brugha | | Clonard |
| | 4 | D | 1550 | B | Wexford | | Half Moon |
| | 5 | D | 1615 | D | St Vincents | | Portadown |
| | 6 | D | 1640 | D | Drogheda | | Tribes |
| | 7 | D | 1705 | B | Cathal Brugha | | Half Moon |
| | 8 | D | 1730 | B | Clonard | | Wexford |
| | 9 | D | 1755 | D | St Vincents | | Drogheda |
| | 10 | D | 1820 | D | Tribes | | Portadown |
| | 11 | D | 1845 | B | Cathal Brugha | | Wexford |
| | 12 | D | 1910 | B | Clonard | | Half Moon |
| | | | | | | | |
| Sunday | 13 | D | 1435 | C | Newry | | Corrib |
| 09 June 24 | 14 | D | 1500 | C | North Dublin | | Sandycove |
| | 15 | D | 1525 | A | Cu Chulainn | | Clontarf |
| | 16 | D | 1550 | A | Athlone | | Diamonds |
| | 17 | D | 1615 | C | Newry | | Sandycove |
| | 18 | D | 1640 | C | Corrib | | North Dublin |
| | 19 | D | 1705 | A | Cu Chulainn | | Diamonds |
| | 20 | D | 1730 | A | Athlone | | Clontarf |
| | 21 | D | 1755 | C | Newry | | North Dublin |
| | 22 | D | 1820 | C | Corrib | | Sandycove |
| | 23 | D | 1845 | A | Cu Chulainn | | Athlone |
| | 24 | D | 1910 | A | Diamonds | | Clontarf |
| | | | | | | | |
| Saturday | 25 | D | 1430 | Semi 1 | Winner Group A | | Winner Group C |
| 15 June 24 | 26 | D | 1515 | Semi 2 | Winner Group B | | Winner Group D |
| | | | | | | | |
| | 27 | D | 1600 | | National Squad (tbc) | | Girls 2010 (tbc) |



Water Polo

Annex A (Cont'd)

SCHEDULE OF MATCHES – U12 MIXED CUP (YOB 2012)

NAC DUBLIN – 8/9 & 15 JUNE 2024


| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|----|---|------|-------|--------------------|--|--|
| Saturday | | | | | | | |
| 15 June 24 | 28 | D | 1800 | Medal | Bronze Medal Match | | |
| | 29 | D | 1915 | Medal | Gold Medal Match | | |
| | | | | | | | |
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* Matches may start earlier than scheduled, teams must be present and ready 15 mins in advance of scheduled times.

Annex B

UNDER 12 [MIXED] 'YOUNG HOPEFULS' CUP – COMPETITION SPECIAL RULES – 2024

All water polo competitions in Ireland are conducted in accordance with Ireland Water Polo and World Aquatics rules. Ireland Water Polo Special Rules apply to this [level of] competition and are set out hereunder.

| | RULE | Statement | Explanatory Note |
|----|------------------------------|---|--|
| 1 | Age Group | The competition is open to mixed teams for players born in 2012 or later, 7 a side from 13 players. | |
| 2 | Match Duration | Match duration is dependent on pool time available and number of entries. It is expected that matches will be a minimum of 2 x 6 mins and up to 4x4 mins at semis/final stages. | |
| 3. | Ball Size | Size 3 ball | Standard size 3 ball |
| 4. | Goals | Smaller size goals - 215 x 75 cms | Floating goals (standard goals are 300x90).  WATKO INFLATABLE WATER POLO GOAL WATGOAL 2.15 M X 0.75 M 500 |
| 5. | Penalty | Four (4) metre mark/spot | Penalty throws are taken from the 4 mt mark (cone) in centre of the goal. |
| 6. | Exclusions | The 20 second exclusion rule is suspended | Players who are excluded must swim to the exclusion area and re-enter the pitch immediately after they enter the exclusion box. (This variation on the exclusion rule is to educate players to exit speedily and make attacking teams work quickly to find and score with the extra player). |
| 7. | 6 metre line | 6 mt line is not in play for direct shots | Players are not permitted to take direct shots when fouled from a free outside the 6 mt line, with or without putting the ball into play. They must pass the ball. Players are permitted to shoot outside 6 mts provided any shot is not from a free awarded. |
| 8. | Press Game (defence) | Teams must play press in their own half | A defending player in their own half may only leave an attacking player if swimming towards the ball or a player who might receive the ball. If the attacking player does not receive the ball the defender must swim back/return to their own attacking player. A referee can decide if a player is playing zone or between players and will exclude the offending player in a 6 on 6 situation. |
| 9. | Attack play breakdown | Players must not press in opponent's half after an attack breakdown but can block. | When an attack breaks down players cannot press in their opponent's half but can block as per a free throw block. Players cannot tackle opposing players in their opponent's half. Players should return to their own half immediately or after block is completed. Referees will exclude offending players. |