



PROCEDURES AND OBLIGATIONS FOR THE ORGANISATION OF UNDERWATER HOCKEY COMPETITIONS

**Version 2.0
November 2022**

Procedures and Obligations

Volume 1: Playing Area Requirements

Volume 2: Rules of Play



APPLICATION

This document sets out the Procedures and Obligations that must be adhered to for the organisation of all CMAS Sanctioned Underwater Hockey Tournaments. National Federations are encouraged to use the relevant sections of this document when running their own tournaments to ensure consistency.

REVISION HISTORY

Changes from Version 1

AMENDMENT HISTORY

Section #	Change	Reason for Change
All	Implementation of new CMAS Logo	Implementation of new CMAS Logo
All	Grammar, spelling, and word corrections	Correction of grammar, spelling, & corrections
1.3	Clarification of age criteria	Document of changes to rules as approved by National Federation meeting
3.6.10	Definition of Forfeit	Provide definition of forfeit for points table
4.1	Protest during a match	Move to Rules of Play – Vol 1
4.2	Tournament Jury	Clarification of the establishment and appointment of tournament jury
5.0	Amendment of rules	Document of changes to rules as approved by National Federation meeting

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1.0 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. 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 Any inquiries concerning the rules by which international matches are played should be addressed to the Rules Director 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. CMAS adopts the continental subdivision of countries as established up today and as it may be changed in the future by the International Olympic Committee
 - 1.2.4.4 A minimum of five (5) National Federations teams entered 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 entered in each division.
- 1.2.5.1.3 For Continental Championships, CMAS adopts 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 CMAS BoD and are always associated with the competition' contract.

1.3 Age Determination, Divisions and Exceptions

- 1.3.1 The age of a Player is obtained by subtracting the year of birth from the current year. The Player 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 35. 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 35. 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.
Players age to be determined as per Rule 13.1.
- 1.3.2.9 A Player can only play for one team in a tournament

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.

2.0 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 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 organisation 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 Chairperson of the NF or organising committee in control of the overall organisation of the international competition shall be termed the Chairman of Tournament. Their role is to ensure the successful organisation 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 CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission 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 prior to submission to CMAS BOD for formal approval.

2.5.2 Category A Competitions organisation must comply with:

2.5.2.1 CMAS General Procedures and Obligations for the organisation of CMAS Competitions guideline. Refer 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 organisation of CMAS Competitions guidelines.

2.5.2.4 Championships logo may be created as defined in General Procedures and Obligations for the organisation 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 organising 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 organisation procedures & Obligations and contract of the event.
- 2.5.2.6 Advertising will be in accordance with the CMAS Championships Organisation Procedures & Obligations and contract of the event.
- 2.5.2.7 Communication of Results will be in accordance with the CMAS Championships Organisation Procedures & Obligations and contract of the event.
- 2.5.2.8 Opening Ceremony: will be in accordance with the CMAS Championships Organisation 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 CMAS Championships Organisation 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 for the following CMAS representatives:
- a) CMAS President or his/her representative
 - b) Sports Committee President
 - c) Director of the CMAS 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 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 Organisation (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:
- 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
- 2.5.3.7 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 of 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:
- 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 In category A competitions the Referees will provide their own:
- a) Plain black shorts and
 - b) 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:
- a) For World Championships - 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 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.

3.0 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 1st -8th place	Non Championship 9th -16th 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 Organiser 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

- 3.6.10 Forfeit is defined in 5.3 in the Underwater Hockey Rules of Play,

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 Organiser may include a round of 16 matches to enable teams to play up to 10-12 matches for the championship.

4.0 PROTESTS AFTER A MATCH

4.1 Protest After a Match

- 4.1.1 Only the team Captain or Coach may put forward a protest.
- 4.1.2 The protest must be announced to the Technical Delegate, Tournament Referee or Tournament Referee Assistants within 15 minutes of the end of the protested match. The written protest, in English, French, or Spanish, must be submitted to the Technical Delegate within an hour of the end of the protested match.
- 4.1.3 The written protest must be accompanied by a deposit of EUR 100 or equivalent in cash. Video of the issue is not allowed.
- 4.1.4 If the above mentioned requirements are not fulfilled, the protest will not be accepted.
- 4.1.5 The deposit will be refunded if the protest is judged valid.
- 4.1.6 A jury to hear the protest is formed and is chaired by the Technical Delegate. Other jury members include:
- 4.1.6.1 Two Referees chosen from the Jury Referees for the Tournament.
- 4.1.6.2 Two substitute Jury Referees are also nominated by the Tournament Referee to the Technical Delegate.
- 4.1.6.3 Technical Delegate for the provision of tournament options.
- 4.1.6.4 A meeting secretary will be appointed for the jury. The position is administrative/non-voting.
- 4.1.6.5 All members of the Jury, including the substitutes, must be of differing nationalities.
- 4.1.6.6 Jury members must attend the entire Tournament.
- 4.1.6.7 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).
- 4.1.6.8 The Jury Referees are nominated from those referees attending the tournament by the Tournament Referee to the Technical Delegate for approval prior to the first game of the tournament.
- 4.1.7 A jury may:
- a) The Jury may listen to all people it deems helpful to reach a decision.
 - b) The jury can utilise 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 Chair 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.

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

For any international sports event organised 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 players 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.

- 4.2.1 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 4.1.6 and 4.1.7
- 4.2.2 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.

4.3 Penalties against competitors and other individuals

- 4.3.1 The following penalties can be imposed upon competitors and individuals being CMAS members:
- a) Warning.
 - a) Reprimand.
 - b) Fine
 - c) Disqualification from a sport event and results, and return of awards and titles.
 - d) Suspension, with or without defer, from CMAS competitions and events.
 - e) Exclusion
 - f) Unless otherwise specified, the judicial bodies of CMAS may increase the sanction to be pronounced as deemed appropriate if an infringement has been repeated.

4.3.2 Guidelines (extract from CMAS Rules of Discipline)

	Offence	Tournament Jury	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

5.0 AMENDMENT OF RULES OF PLAY AND P&O

5.1 Amendments: to the rules may be:

- a) Proposed by any participating National Federation in good standing with CMAS at any time; or
- b) Proposed by the College of Referees; or;
- c) Requested by the CMAS Underwater Hockey Commission

Proposed amendment of rules must be in writing, together with reasons justifying the rule change and submitted via email to the CMAS Rules Director.

5.2.1 Proposed amendment of rules are to be considered by the College of Referees and a recommendation for each proposed rule amendment is to be provided by the CMAS Rules Director

5.2.2 The proposed amendment of rules and recommendation of the Rules Director are to be forwarded to the National Federations for consideration and subsequent voting at a meeting of the National Federations College of Referee representatives to be chaired by the Rules Director or the Referee Director.

5.2.3 The meeting of the National Federations is to be held via online platform with each proposed rule change voted on. A simple majority of 50% plus 1 is required for approval. The Rules Director will announce the results of a vote within one week after the meeting. Rules may be referred to NF's for trialing.

5.3.1 For all approved amendments of rules, 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.

5.3.1.3 Approved rule amendments will not be in force for any event less than 6 months after the approval of the rules