

2021 + 2022
UILTEXAS.ORG



WATER POLO

MANUAL



~UIL PERSONNEL~

Dr. Susan Elza



UIL Director of Athletics
athletics@uiltexas.org
512-471-5883

AJ Martinez



UIL Assistant AD (Water Polo Director)
ajmartinez@uiltexas.org
512-471-5883

Joseph Garmon



UIL Assistant AD
jgarmon@uiltexas.org
512-471-5883

Brandy Belk



UIL Assistant AD
bbelk@uiltexas.org
512-471-5883

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The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Dr. Mark Cousins
University Interscholastic League,
Director of Compliance and Education,
1701 Manor Road
Austin, TX 78722
(512) 471-5883
policy@uiltexas.org

For further information on notice of non-discrimination, visit <http://wdcrobc0lp01.ed.gov/CFAPPS/OCR/contactus.cfm>
or call 1-800-421-3481
or contact OCR in Dallas, Texas -
Office for Civil Rights
U.S. Department of Education
1999 Bryan Street, Texas 75201-6810
Telephone: 214-661-9600
Fax: 214-661-9587
TDD: 800-877-8339
Email: OCR.Dallas@ed.gov

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PURPOSE | To acquaint Water Polo coaches and administrators with the policies, rules, procedures, and forms necessary for proper enforcement of regulations Water Polo, and to insure a better opportunity for coaches to have first-hand information.

LIMITATIONS | This manual does not cover all rules. The Constitution and Contest Rules is the official UIL rulebook and covers information more detailed than does this manual. Coaches should confer with their principals and superintendents if there are questions concerning the rules.

WARNING ABOUT THE INHERENT DANGERS OF ATHLETIC

PARTICIPATION | Student athletes and parents should be aware that any athletic participation will always have inherent dangers. Although rare, death or catastrophic injury can result from participation in sports, and care should be taken by all concerned to minimize such dangers through the use of appropriate equipment, proper training methods and common sense.

The UIL encourages student athletes in all sports, and their parents, to discuss risks minimization with coaches and school administrators.

~WATER POLO CALENDAR & UIL RULE CHANGES~

2022 Water Polo Calendar

August 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

September 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

October 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Regular Season 9 - weeks	August 1 – First Day of Practice
	August 5 – First Day of Interschool Scrimmages
	August 8 – First Day of Interschool Games
	October 8 – District Certification
Post Season	October 11 - Bi-District
	October 15 – Area Deadline
	October 18 – Regional Quarterfinals Deadline
	October 22 - Regional Tournament
	October 29 – State Championship

UIL Changes and Amendments

GENERAL

- TBD

SPORT SPECIFIC

- Water Polo

UIL STAFF STUDIES/MONITOR

- TBD

~WATER POLO PLAN~

Excerpt from the UIL Constitution & Contest Rules

Section 1340: WATER POLO PLAN

(a) ATHLETIC PURPOSES, CODES, PLAN APPLICABLE. Rules in Sections 1200-1209 also apply to the Water Polo Plan.

(b) DATES FOR PRACTICES, GAMES AND CERTIFICATIONS.

(1) Practice Dates.

(A) There shall be no high school water polo practice for a contestant or a team until the first week in August as determined by the UIL calendar. See Section 1478 for seventh and eighth grade restrictions.

(2) School Practice Regulations Outside the School Year. Any water polo practice conducted by a school outside the school year shall be in accordance with the following regulations:

(A) Student-athletes shall not engage in more than three hours of practice activities on those days during which one practice is conducted.

(B) Student-athletes shall not engage in more than five hours of practice activities on those days during which more than one practice is conducted.

(C) The maximum length of any single practice session shall be three hours.

(D) On days when more than one practice is conducted, there shall be, at a minimum, two hours of rest/recovery time between the end of one practice and the beginning of the next practice.

(3) Scrimmage Dates. Schools shall not scrimmage until the first date allowed on the UIL calendar. Teams and schools may participate in an unlimited number of scrimmages prior to the first day of school. After the first game, scrimmages are no longer permitted.

(4) Games. Schools shall not participate in a game until the first date allowed on the UIL calendar or after the last date for certifying district representatives, except for teams who have not been eliminated in playoffs.

(c) NUMBER OF SCRIMMAGES, GAMES, TOURNAMENTS.

(1) Violations/ Penalties. The District Executive Committee shall determine the penalty for violations of the following regulations.

(2) Total Number of Games and Tournaments. No team or student shall compete in more than three invitational tournaments plus 17 games in a season, including all games prior to the first playoff game. This shall include non-district and district games. If the district champions have a bye for the first round of the play-offs, those schools may schedule a warm-up game in addition to the game limits. This additional game shall be played on a non-school night with no loss of school time. Three games may be substituted in place of a tournament.

(3) Exception to Resolve District Ties.

(A) Two Schools Tied. To resolve a two-way tie, the District Executive Committee may authorize a single elimination game, provided only one other game is played that calendar week. The tie-breaking game may be in addition to the 17 allowed games. It may not be played as an exception to the school week limitation.

(B) Three or More Schools Tied. If three or more schools are tied, the District Executive Committee may authorize a tournament provided only two games have been played that week, using the procedure in Section 1203. These tournament games may be played in addition to the total number of games and tournaments allowed for the season.

(4) Exception for Rescheduled Games. District varsity water polo games postponed by weather or public disaster (not including illness) shall be rescheduled on the next date, other than Sunday, on which another district game is not scheduled. In the event weather or public disaster forces the makeup games to be rescheduled, it shall be rescheduled on the next date as described earlier. These makeup games may be played as exceptions to the school week and calendar week limitations. District varsity games that are postponed by weather or public disaster, and not played on the next available date, shall be rescheduled and played on a date determined by the District Executive Committee.

(5) Invitational Tournament Restriction. No team shall participate in an invitational water polo tournament held on a Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday, except on school holidays. However, games in tournaments may be played after school on the last day of the school week prior to holidays.

(6) Invitational Tournament Exception. Water polo tournaments may be scheduled on non-consecutive days. A two-day tournament shall not be scheduled on Thursday and Friday. A one-day tournament shall be scheduled on Saturday.

(7) Number of Games Per Day in Tournaments. No team or student shall compete in more than three matches per day in tournament play. Exception: Contestants or teams may play in four matches per calendar day in a one-day tournament scheduled on a Saturday, and contestants or teams may play in four matches per day during a two-day tournament.

(g) CHAMPIONSHIP STRUCTURE.

(1) District Tournaments.

(A) Format. The District Executive Committee will make arrangements and set format to determine the district representatives.

(B) Entries. Each school shall enter the district meet by certifying entries to the district director by the entry deadline set by the District Executive Committee. If a round-robin format is utilized in lieu of a district tournament, the District Executive Committee shall specify entry and team roster regulations prior to the entry deadline.

(2) Regional Tournaments.

(A) Regional qualifiers. Regional quarterfinal winners will advance to a regional tournament. Regional tournament entries shall be certified by regional quarterfinal winners to the regional director.

(B) State tournament entries shall be certified by the regional meet director.

(3) State Tournament.

(A) The first-place team from each region will advance to the state tournament.

(B) Pairings will be made based on season records.

(d) SITE OF GAME. The District Executive Committee in arranging a schedule within the district shall determine the site of games in case of disagreement between two teams.

(f) OFF SEASON PARTICIPATION. See Section 1209.

(g) Gate Receipts from State Tournament. The UIL office retains an annually determined percentage of gate receipts from the state water polo tournament

~PRE-SEASON REGULATIONS~

UIL Coach Education and Training Requirements

All high school coaches must be full-time employees of the school district EXCEPTION: A retired teacher/administrator who has 20 or more years of experience may serve as an assistant coach in all athletics and as a head coach for golf, tennis, team tennis, cross country, track and field, and swimming. (This rule shall not affect the status of a coach on a leave of absence attending college.) Also, student teachers, while they are assigned to a participant school to fulfill their student teaching requirements, may volunteer to serve as an assistant coach in all athletics. Schools shall not pay student teachers for assisting athletic coaches.

Texas Education Code Requirements (State law)

- TEC Chapter 33.086 - Certification - CPR and First Aid Training
 - Athletic coaches, athletic trainers, cheerleading sponsors and other head directors of UIL extra-curricular activities must have a current certification filed with the district.
- TEC Chapter 22.902 - Certification - AED Training
 - Athletic coaches and sponsors, school nurses, PE teachers, marching band directors, and students that serve as an athletic trainer must have a current certification filed with the district.
- TEC Chapter 33.202 - Annual Requirement – Safety Training
 - Training provided by UIL within the Rules Compliance Program (RCP).
 - Athletic coaches must complete prior to contact with students.
- TEC Chapter 38.158 - Annual Requirement - Concussion Training (2 hours every other year/1 hour annually)
 - Athletic coaches, athletic trainers and potential members of the Concussion Oversight Team must complete the training annually.

Coaches Certification Program (CCP)

The CCP consists of both UIL and state law requirements and requires a coach to complete the prescribed components on a yearly basis, prior to their sport season. Completion of the CCP will recognize coaches as UIL certified coaches. All coaches shall annually complete the UIL Coaches Certification Program prescribed by the UIL prior to their sport season or prior to the first day of school if their sport is not in season. A coach who is hired less than one week prior to the start of the sport season or after the first day of school (whichever is earlier) must complete the CCP within thirty (30) days of being hired.

Required CCP Modules:

- 1) Constitution & Contest Rules
- 2) Ethics
- 3) UIL Steroid Education
- 4) Safety Training (state law)
- 5) Concussion Training (state law)
- 6) Sport Specific Training – each sport has a sport specific CCP module
- 7) **Football coaches only – Best Practices in Tackling** certification that will be required for all first-year football coaches and for all football coaches once every two years.
- 8) **First Year Coaches Only - Fundamentals of Coaching in Texas** – required for first year coaches (or JH volunteers) or coaches in their first year to coach in the state of Texas.
- 9) **Cheerleading Coach/Sponsor only - Safety/Risk Minimization for Cheerleading Course**
 - Must have a current certification or annual training completed prior to contact with participants.
 - Districts shall determine the organization that will provide the certification or training.

Eligibility for Athletic Contests

Eligibility rules are found in Section 400 and 440 of the Constitution and Contest Rules. Any question regarding a student's eligibility, should be addressed to the school principal and/or superintendent. Residence requirements according to Sections 400 (d) 440, and 442 should be thoroughly investigated for any student new to school.

Students are eligible to represent their school in varsity interscholastic activities if they:

- are not 19 years of age or older on or before September 1 of the current scholastic year. (See 504 handicapped exception.)
- have not graduated from high school.
- are enrolled by the sixth class day of the current school year or have been in attendance for fifteen calendar days immediately preceding a varsity contest.
- are full-time day students in a participant high school.
- initially enrolled in the ninth grade not more than four calendar years ago.
- are meeting academic standards required by state law.
- live with their parents inside the school district attendance zone their first year of attendance. (Parent residence applies to varsity athletic eligibility only.) When the parents do not reside inside the district attendance zone the student could be eligible if: the student has been in continuous attendance for at least one calendar year and has not enrolled at another school; no inducement is given to the student to attend the school (for example: students or their parents must pay their room and board when they do not live with a relative; students driving back into the district should pay their own transportation costs); and it is not a violation of local school or TEA policies for the student to continue attending the school. Students placed by the Texas Youth Commission are covered under Custodial Residence (see Section 442 of the Constitution and Contest Rules).
- have observed all provisions of the Awards Rule.
- have not been recruited. (Does not apply to college recruiting as permitted by rule.)
- have not violated any provision of the summer camp rule, Section 1209.
- have observed all provisions of the Athletic Amateur Rule, Section 441.

Limitation on Awards. Schools may give one major award, not to exceed \$70.00 in value, to a student during high school enrollment at the same school for participation in one of the UIL interschool competitions listed in Section 380. One additional symbolic award, not to exceed \$20.00 in value, may be presented for participation in each additional UIL activity listed in Section 380. The \$20.00 award may be given to a student for an activity during the same year that the major award is given for that activity. *A school may contribute to major awards in honor of winning a UIL State Championship.*

Student-athletes shall be in compliance with the Athletic Amateur Rule from the first day of attendance in the ninth grade through their last day of UIL athletic competition in grade twelve. This includes during school and during non-school time and applies to all UIL competition and to non-school participation in the same sports sponsored by the UIL. (For instance, a race of six miles or longer is not considered to be a cross-country meet, so the Amateur Rule is not applicable to students participating in this type of race.)

Student-athletes in grades 9-12 shall not:

- Accept any valuable consideration as an award for winning or placing in an athletic contest. Valuable consideration is defined as anything wearable, usable or sellable, and includes such items as t-shirts, hamburger coupons, free or reduced rate tennis racquets, etc.
- Accept valuable consideration for teaching or coaching any UIL sport, except beginning swimming or lifesaving lessons.
- Accept valuable consideration for allowing their name to be used for advertisement of a product, plan or service.
- Accept any special service or benefit offered only to athletes or members of an athletic team.

Exception:

- Students may accept reasonable fees that do not exceed prevailing rates for teaching or coaching activities provided they confine the work to teaching or coaching skills.
- Students may accept reasonable fees that do not exceed prevailing rates for officiating athletic contests.

The penalty for violation of the Amateur Rule is forfeiture of varsity eligibility in the involved sport for at least one year from the date of the violation. *The Athletic Amateur Rule is sport specific, so a violation in one sport would make the student ineligible only in that sport, not in all UIL athletic activities.*

Student Participation Required Forms

It shall be the responsibility of each school to keep on file the following required annual forms for each student who participates in any practice, scrimmage, or game. Forms to be filed can be downloaded from the UIL website (www.uil texas.org/athletics/forms/).

- **Pre-Participation Physical Examination Form.** Upon entering the first and third years of high school, a physical examination signed by a physician, a physician assistant licensed by a State Board of Physician Assistant Examiners, a registered nurse recognized as an advanced practice nurse by the Board of Nurse Examiners or a doctor of chiropractic is required. Standardized Pre-Participation Physical Examination Forms, available from the UIL office and authorized by the UIL Medical Advisory Committee, are required. For the 2020-21 school year only, any participant in athletics or marching band, in any grade level, who has not previously completed a preparticipation physical examination (PPE), and been cleared for participation, will be required to complete the medical history form as noted below, as well as a PPE prior to participation in any UIL practices, games, performances, or matches.
- **Medical History Form.** Each year prior to any practice or participation a UIL Medical History Form signed by both a student and a parent or guardian is required. A Medical History Form shall accompany each physical examination and shall be signed by both a student and a parent or guardian.
- **Parent or Guardian Permit.** Annual participation permit signed by the student's parent or guardian.
- **Rules Acknowledgment Form.** Annual UIL Rules Acknowledgment Form signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian.
- **Parent/Student Anabolic Steroid Use and Random Steroid Testing Form.** The parent/guardian of each high school athlete, along with each high school athlete, must annually sign the UIL Illegal Steroid Use and Random Steroid Testing Parent and Student Notification/Agreement Form.
- **Concussion Acknowledgement Form.** Annual UIL Concussion Acknowledgment Form signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian.
- **Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Form.** Annual UIL Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Form signed by the student and the student's parent or guardian.

Varsity Participation Required Forms

It shall be the responsibility of each school to keep on file the following required forms. Forms to be filed can be downloaded from the UIL website (www.uiltexas.org/athletics/forms).

- **Eligibility Form.** Schools must submit comprehensive eligibility forms for football, basketball, volleyball, softball, baseball, and soccer. For all other athletic activities, a general alphabetical listing of eligible athletes is required. One copy shall be sent to the district executive committee chair and one copy shall be filed in the school's office. Completed eligibility forms are to be signed by the superintendent or a designated administrator and the coach. These forms are to be postmarked before a contestant is allowed to participate in a varsity contest. Failure to furnish correct and complete information may, upon request by the proper committee, constitute grounds for suspension.
- **Previous Athletic Participation Form.** New students in grades 9-12 who represented their former school in a varsity or sub-varsity athletic contest or practice in grades 8-12 in any previous school year must have a Previous Athletic Participation Form completed prior to participation in a varsity contest at the new school.
- **Late Forms.** If an eligibility form or a Previous Athletic Participation Form was not filed prior to competition, and it was an inadvertent error and the student is actually eligible under Subchapter M of the Constitution, the district executive committee is not required to demand forfeiture or to rule the student ineligible. They may assess the minimum penalty of private reprimand to the school.
- **Foreign Exchange Students.** Subject to the other eligibility rules of the Constitution, foreign exchange students in approved CSJET foreign exchange programs are allowed to apply for exceptions to the residence rule through the UIL waiver process. A waiver could be granted in certain activities if they have not received advanced training or have not had extensive experience in the activity of their choice. Foreign exchange students are not eligible for varsity athletic participation unless they are granted a Foreign Exchange Student Waiver.
- **Varsity Athletic Eligibility for Over-Age Student.** Subject to the other eligibility rules of the UIL Constitution, an individual is eligible to participate in a League varsity athletic contest as a representative of a participant school if that individual is less than 19 years old on September 1 preceding the contest; or has been granted eligibility based on a handicapping condition which delayed his or her education by at least one year and the student is currently in special education and under the auspices of an ARD Committee or has been identified as a 504 student prior to the end of their second year in high school (effective for entering ninth graders in the current school year).

Practice Regulations - Outside Of The School Year

Practice regulations for sports that practice outside of the school year are as follows-

- Students-athletes shall not engage in more than three hours of practice activities on those days during which one practice is conducted.
- Student-athletes shall not engage in more than five hours of practice activities on those days during which more than one practice is conducted.
- The maximum length of any single practice session is three hours.
- On days when more than one practice is conducted, there shall be, at a minimum, TWO hours of rest/recovery time between the end of one practice and the beginning of the next practice.
- **Schools shall not schedule more than one practice on consecutive days, and student-athletes shall not participate in multiple practices on consecutive days. (Exception – Volleyball, Water Polo)**

When determining how to count times spent as "practice activities" please consult the following pre-season chart:

<u>What Counts</u>	<u>What Doesn't Count</u>
Actual on field/court practice	Meetings
Sport specific skill instruction	Weight training*
Mandatory conditioning	Film study
Water breaks	Injury treatment
Rest breaks	Voluntary conditioning*

*Does not count towards practice time but cannot be done during the two hour rest/recovery time.

In reference to the minimum Two-hour rest/recovery time between the end of one practice and the beginning of the next practice (on days when more than one practice is scheduled), there can be no practice activities at all during this time. This time is exclusively for students to rest/recover for the following practice session, whether that session is an actual on field/court practice or a mandatory conditioning period.

Practice Regulations – When School Is In Session

- Eight Hour Rule – Practice outside the school day, from the beginning of the school week through the end of the school week (excluding holidays), is limited to a maximum of eight hours per school week, per activity.
- **Sessions for strength & conditioning instruction** may be conducted for teams during their off-season by school coaches for students in grades 7-12 from that coach's attendance zone starting the first day of school. A strength and conditioning session shall be no more than one hour per day outside the school day, Monday through Friday, and a student shall attend no more than one session of supervised instruction per day.
- The in-school athletic period and the one-hour strength & conditioning does not count towards the allotted 8 hours.
- Any time used in connection with a practice that is not part of the athletic period or the one-hour strength & conditioning counts as part of the 8 hours. (dress, video/meetings, etc).

Contest Schedule Rules

The following section combines State Law, State Board of Education regulations, and UIL rules. The Texas Education Agency defines participation as being involved with the activity, traveling with the team, or sitting on the bench. UIL defines participation of a student athlete as actually entering the contest as a player. Example: On a Tuesday night, the student's name is on the scorebook but she remains on the bench and does not actually enter the game. This counts as

participation for TEA but not UIL. In other words, that student cannot participate again until Friday after school because of TEA regulations, however that game does not count as one of the allowable games as determined by UIL policy.

Constitution and Contest Rules: Section 5: Definitions

- **Calendar week** means 12:01 a.m. on Sunday through midnight on Saturday.
- **School week** means the week beginning at 12:01 a.m. on the first instructional day of a calendar week and ends at the close of instruction on the last instructional day of the calendar week, excluding holidays.
19 TAC 97.113 (K)(1)-
- **One contest per school week:** School districts shall adopt policies limiting extracurricular activities from the beginning of the school week through the end of the school week (excluding holidays) by scheduling no more than one contest or performance per activity per student. *Exception: Tournaments and post-season competition, as well as district varsity contests postponed by weather or public disaster, may also be scheduled during the school week.
- **Eight-hour practice rule:** School districts shall adopt policies limiting extracurricular activities from the beginning of the school week through the end of the school week (excluding holidays) by limiting practice outside the school day to a maximum of eight hours per school week per activity.

Participation.

- (b) (b) SUNDAY PROHIBITION. A UIL member school shall not participate in any athletic contest or conduct any practice or teach any plays, formations or skills on Sunday.
- (1) Violation. Any showing of films to or meetings of athletes for the purpose of instruction or reviewing of plays, formations or skills in any sport will be construed as a violation.
 - (2) Coaches Sunday Meetings. This does not prevent coaches from meeting on Sunday or from seeing films or planning an instructional program, provided no athletes are involved in this meeting.
 - (3) Exceptions.
 - (A) Golf. If the regional and/or state golf tournaments are scheduled on a Monday, the one 18-hole practice round allowed at the regional and/or state tournament site may be played on the Sunday afternoon preceding the meet (no earlier than 12:00 noon) if permitted by the regional or state meet director.
 - (B) Tennis. If the regional and/or state tennis tournaments are scheduled on a Monday, and if participants arrive at the site on the preceding Sunday because of travel distance, it will not be a violation of this rule if school district personnel accompany or transport participants to a tennis court for the purpose of practicing on their own, if permitted by the regional or state meet director.
 - (C) Cross Country. If the regional and/or state cross country meets are scheduled on a Monday, and if participants arrive at the site on the preceding Sunday because of travel distance, it will not be a violation of this rule if school district personnel accompany or transport participants to the course site for the purpose of practicing on their own, if permitted by the regional or state director.
- (c) REGIONAL AND STATE TOURNAMENT COMPETITION ON SUNDAY. Regional or state tournament directors may reschedule postponed or weather delayed tournaments on Sunday afternoon or evening with prior approval of the tournament director and the participating schools and with prior permission from the UIL Athletic Director.

~REGULAR SEASON~

Water Polo Game Regulations

Number of Contests Allowed (2022-23)

- 0 Tournaments and 26 Games or
- 1 Tournament and 23 Games or
- 2 Tournaments and 20 Games or
- 3 Tournaments and 17 Games

Playing Rules. The National Federation Water Polo Rules, published by the National Federation of State High School Associations shall govern all games. See UIL calendar for playoff dates. To order a rule book contact NFHS Customer Service, PO Box 361246, Indianapolis, IN 46236-5324; Phone 800-776-3462 or Fax 317-899-7496.

Scrimmage. A scrimmage is a meeting of not more than four teams for practice purposes, which does not count as a game for any of the teams. Admission may be charged. Officials may be paid in accordance with the schedule in Section 1204 (m) and may, by prior agreement with the school, be reimbursed for mileage and meals. A school shall not play in a scrimmage after it first interschool game or match in that sport.

- If more than four teams are invited to a scrimmage, each team may only scrimmage three different teams.

Games per Week. Schools are limited to one contest (game or doubleheader) per school week. From Friday after school until Saturday midnight, schools are not limited in the number of games in which they participate.

Tournaments. Tournaments may be held on Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Two-day tournaments can be held on Thursday/Saturday or Friday/Saturday; one-day tournaments can **only** be held on Saturday.

Uniforms/Caps. Uniforms must adhere to NFHS rules.

Postponement. District varsity water polo games postponed by weather or public disaster (not including illness) shall be rescheduled on the next date, other than Sunday, on which another district game is not scheduled. In the event weather or public disaster forces the makeup game to be rescheduled it shall be rescheduled on the next date as described earlier. These makeup games may be played as an exception to the school week limitation. District varsity games that are postponed by weather or public disaster, and not played on the next available date, shall be rescheduled and played on a date determined by the district executive committee, but may not be made up as an exception to the school week limitation.

Scheduling on Sunday. Schools shall not play or practice on Sunday. Do not begin a game that cannot be completed before midnight Saturday. Do not start a game that cannot be finished before midnight Saturday.

Coach Ejection – In addition to the penalty imposed by the local school district on a coach who is ejected from a game, the Automatic Minimum Penalty is discussed in [Section 1208: Athletic Regulations](#) of the Constitution & Contest Rules

- The automatic penalty for a coach who is ejected from a contest *who is not current* on their UIL Coaches Certification Program is suspension in the next contest.

Player Ejection. Any player ejected from a contest is subject to an automatic penalty. The automatic penalty for such an ejection is as follows:

- (A) Water Polo: Ejected player misses the rest of the game in which they were ejected plus all of the following game.
 - Any player ejected from a contest is subject to an automatic penalty as described above. Player ejections cannot be overturned by a game official. If a coach has a question following a contest where a player was ejected, please contact the UIL.

Officials

Please refer to the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules, Section 1204 on the UIL website (<https://www.uilTEXAS.org/policy/constitution/athletics/officials>), for the latest information regarding officials (fee schedule, tournament fees, travel reimbursement, mileage calculator, scrimmage fees, other allowable expenses, scratch form, evaluation form, FAQs, etc.).

Assignment of Officials Out of the UIL Office

- Member schools shall use registered officials in all varsity contests.
- Neutral Officials: In all contests, schools should always attempt to secure neutral officials who have no affiliation with either school.
- The two schools have the right to “scratch” any chapters or officials they wish. However, the UIL office urges the use of discretion in scratching entire chapters or areas.
 - Notification: When names of officials are received by the visiting school, the visiting school shall immediately notify the host school if officials are not satisfactory. Failure of the visiting school to solicit names of officials from the home school within four days of the contest constitutes agreement.
- To request officials from the UIL office, go to **LINK TBD** and complete the Water Polo Officials Assignment Request Form. This form will go directly to the UIL office, and all correspondence will be via email.
- After the schools have indicated officials and/or chapters they do not want, the UIL office then contacts a chapter not scratched and requests officials. **Schools are not permitted to talk with representatives of the chapter once they have agreed for the League to assign officials.**
- Once the officials have been assigned out of the UIL office, the schools may not request a change in the assignment and must pay the assigned officials if they are not used, unless:
 - a. The UIL office makes a mistake by contacting a chapter which the schools have indicated they do not want.
 - b. Communication problems between the school which contacted the UIL and the opponent results in officials being assigned from a chapter which one school had scratched.
- The UIL recommends that officials or chapters not acceptable be written down at the meeting, reviewed by each school to see if the list is complete and accurate, and signed by school authorities from both schools. This should be a part of the contract procedure and a copy retained by each school.
- Once a game has begun there shall be no protest based on the selection of game officials. Beginning a contest constitutes agreement.
- Payment of officials (for all games other than tournament games) shall be according to Section 1204 in the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules. <https://www.uilTEXAS.org/athletics/officials-fee-schedule>

Allowable Contests

According to State Board of Education mandates, students may only participate on one day per activity during the school week. * Exception: District varsity contests postponed due to weather or public disaster may also be scheduled during the school week, but must be rescheduled and played on the next available date following the postponement in order to be played as an exception.

Post-season competition may also be scheduled as an exception to the one contest during the school week. **School week means the week beginning at 12:01 am on the first instructional day of a calendar week (defined as 12:01 am on Sunday through midnight on Saturday) and ends at the close of instruction on the last instructional day of the calendar week, excluding holidays.** Post-district play means competition in UIL playoff series or contests such as bi-district, area, regional, etc.

Scrimmages and Games. The school is limited to one scrimmage (with up to four participating schools) during the school week. Schools may also participate in an additional scrimmage with up to four participating schools at the end of the school week (Friday after school or Saturday).

Schools are limited to one contest (game or doubleheader) per school week. From Friday after school until Saturday midnight, schools are not limited in the number of games in which they participate. A school could play on Tuesday and after school on Friday, in addition to a Thursday/Friday/Saturday tournament during the same calendar week.

UIL/TEA Side-by-Side. UIL limits participation in contests per calendar week in some sports. For UIL, participation is defined as a student actually entering a contest. Example: On Tuesday night, the student's name is on the scorebook, but the student remains on the bench and does not actually enter the game. This does not count as participation in a UIL contest according to UIL (but does count according to state law. The student cannot participate again until Friday after school). The Tuesday game does not count as one of the games UIL permits the student to participate in for that calendar week or for the season because the student did not enter the game.

Water Polo:

- a single game: or

- a double header (a student could play two back-to-back varsity games or in a varsity and junior varsity game, at the same site same night).

Each game counts as one of the student's total games for the season. Students may play additional games at the conclusion of that school week because UIL does not limit the number of games per calendar week in these two team sports.

District Certification

- The DEC shall determine the place and/or time of games in case of disagreement between two schools.
- If not previously scheduled, a district executive committee may authorize a single elimination game or tournament to resolve district ties. A one-game play-off could break a two-way tie. A single elimination tournament could resolve a tie between three or more schools.

NOTE: These games must be completed by the district certification deadline and will not count against the allowable games if not previously scheduled. Tie-breakers must be held in compliance with calendar week and school week restrictions. If the district executive committee schedules any other games or tournaments as part of their method for determining play-off representatives, the games played must count in the game or tournament limitation.

- The district executive committee may permit district varsity water polo games postponed by weather or public disaster (not including illness), to be played as an exception to the one -contests per-week rule, provided that they are rescheduled and played on the next available date, other than Sunday, on which another district game is not scheduled. Junior varsity, freshman and junior high teams may not play postponed games as an exception.
- The State Executive Committee shall have jurisdiction in all disputes arising between districts.

Guarantees for Contests

- In district and non-district games/matches, unless there is mutual agreement or a district executive committee ruling, the home team is entitled to 100% of the gate receipts.
- In play-off games, the visiting team shall have a sufficient guarantee to cover expenses and also 50% of the net gate receipts unless mutually agreed upon by both schools.
- A demand of a flat guarantee, which is clearly in excess of expenses, shall upon action of the district or State Executive Committee, disqualify the offending team from further participation. A flat guarantee for a visiting team's expenses shall be in lieu of expenses and shall be calculated as expenses of the game, prior to division of the net gate receipts.
- Expenses of visiting team, officials, advertising, labor, services, and printing incidental to the contest, shall be considered as expenses of the game. The number of persons allowed upon expense accounts shall be agreed upon by school administrators of teams involved. Unless mutually agreeable otherwise, the home team shall furnish a playing field or court without cost to the visiting school.

Videotaping/Filming

Non-Conference and District Contests

- Videotaping/Filming by Schools.
 - It is a violation to film or videotape a non-conference or district athletic contest in which your school or team is not competing unless prior consent of the two schools involved has been obtained.
 - A school does not have to obtain permission to film or tape a NON-CONFERENCE OR DISTRICT contest in which it is competing. However, the film or videotape shall not be utilized until after the contest has been completed.
- Films and videotapes become the property of the school doing the filming unless by district rule or by consent of the schools involved in the contest.
- Videotaping/Filming by Individuals. Any individual (other than the officially designated school camera) taping or filming must have prior permission from the schools involved in the contest and may not obstruct the view of other spectators of the contest.
- Commercial Uses. The use of the films or tapes for commercial purposes must be approved by all schools involved in the contest.

~POST SEASON~

Playoff Information

Certification of District Representatives. The last dates for certifying the district champions to the League office is **October 8, 2022**. It is mandatory that the District Chair certifies the district representatives on the UIL website at **LINK TBD** as soon as they are determined.

Playoff information will be available to district representatives on the UIL website at <https://www.uiltexas.org/water-polo/post-season-packet>

Post-season Warm-Up Games – Teams that have advanced to the playoffs may schedule a warm-up game after the District Certification Date that is set by the UIL calendar and before their first playoff game if a team has not reached their allowable season limit. School week limitations still apply. **Note: Scheduling games prior to district certification, games left in a team's allowable season limit may be scheduled like any other regular season game.**

- Exception – Warm-up games for teams who have exhausted their season limit are given a UIL exception under the following conditions:
 - Teams that are district champions **and** have a first-round bye.
 - The one game exception can be played only at the end of your school day on Friday, last day of instruction (with no loss of school time) or anytime on Saturday.

Pre-Planning.

- Details of all playoff games from bi-district to state shall be arranged by the two teams involved. This includes site selection. In case there is a dispute regarding a neutral or home site or time of a game, it shall be settled by the flip of a coin (Note: Unless mutually agreed, all games shall be played at a midpoint site for schools located more than 100 miles apart and neutral sites cannot be more than two-thirds the total distance between the two schools.)
- Bi-district games may not be played until after the final date for district certification in that respective conference, unless **permission is granted by all possible Area round opponents**. All other playoff games may not be played until after the final date for completion of the prior round championships.
- After the bi-district round, playoff games shall not be played before Wednesday of that week unless by mutual consent of both schools (ie. to play Monday or Tuesday both coaches would both have to agree, all other days can be determined by a coin flip).
- National Federation Rules will be followed for all play-off games.
- In all play-off games, suspended games shall be continued at the point of suspension.

UIL Playoff Reporting – Teams Advancing.

- Coaches are required to submit playoff results immediately following their contest. The winning school should submit playoff game results and next round information via MaxPreps through the assigned coach/admin account. The score reported by a coach on a team's page will automatically fill in the bracket.
- The completeness of the data presented on the UIL Texas Scoreboard will be dependent upon the participation of schools and coaches. For more information, please see www.uiltexas.org/athletics/uil-maxpreps.

Team Information & Pictures. Teams winning the regional quarterfinal game must submit the following materials to the UIL no later than **Wednesday, October 19, 2022**:

- Team Information Form (list of players, coaches, etc.; and list of all games played) – fill out online on the UIL website at **LINK TBD**
- Team Picture – 1MB, color, email to pictures@uiltexas.org
- Picture of Head Coach (head and shoulder shot) – 1 MB, email to pictures@uiltexas.org
- School's Mascot (camera ready art work if possible, if not a copy of the mascot from your letterhead, etc.) – 1MB email to pictures@uiltexas.org

Failure to submit this information could result in a range of penalties as described in Section 27 (b) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules or your team not appearing in the State Tournament program.

Contracts. All playoff arrangements between two schools should be made in writing and signed to protect both parties.

Sites. The teams involved should select sites for all rounds of playoffs except the regional and state site. See Section 1208 (o)(p) of the *UIL Constitution and Contest Rules*. If schools cannot agree, they must flip a coin.

(o) Sites Defined for All Team Sports.

(1) *Home Sites.* When two schools flip for two separate sites other than their home field or court, the sites are considered home sites unless both sites are near mid-point.

(2) *Neutral Sites.* A site mid-point or near mid-point, or a site agreed on by both schools as neutral, is a neutral site. Unless mutually agreeable, a site cannot be neutral if its distance from either school is more than two-thirds the total distance between the two schools.

(p) Mid-point Sites. Unless mutually agreed otherwise, post district contests in the team sports of baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, team tennis, and volleyball shall be at a mid-point site for schools located more than 100 miles apart.

RAIN (BAD WEATHER POLICY).

- Every effort must be made by both teams to determine the winner before the certification deadline. This includes obtaining neutral sites and securing any available field. This could mean giving up a home field advantage if another field is playable.
- If weather conditions make it impossible to determine a winner before certification, UIL must be contacted for an extension. The next round opponent(s) must also be contacted to inform them that the deadline will be extended.

Police protection. Adequate police protection should be provided for all playoff games, whether the game is played at a neutral site or on the home court of one of the teams.

Officials. In all conferences at all playoff levels, except the final state championship game, officials are to be obtained by the two schools involved. If neutral officials are requested through UIL, the **home team** must make the request. Schools must go to the UIL website to request officials online at **LINK TBD**

Certification of Regional Champion. The last dates for certifying the regional champions to the UIL office is **June 5, 2021**. A representative from each winning team should text the scores of their games to AJ Martinez at **(361-816-1281)** immediately after their regional final.

Regional Tournament

Qualifiers. Regional quarterfinal winners will advance to a regional tournament on October 22, 2022.

Entries. Regional quarterfinal winners shall contact the regional tournament director after qualifying for the regional tournament.

Entry Fees. Fees are determined by each regional tournament director.

Regional Sites and Directors. Regional sites and directors can be found on the UIL website under Water Polo. (Add Link)

- The draw will follow the brackets for the tournament pairings. The semifinal and championship matches will be held on Saturday, October 22, 2022. The regional director will determine the time schedule for the regional tournament.

State Tournament

Sites. **IBD**

Schools Eligible to Compete. Only the teams qualifying through the regional tournament are eligible to compete in the state tournament.

Packets. Team packets will be given to the coaches at packet pick-up. Medal order forms must be turned in at packet pick-up.

Pairings for the Tournament. The UIL staff will be calling or emailing coaches on Sunday morning with pairings and tournament information. Be sure and fill out the team information form on the UIL website. The coach's home and/or cell number from the team information form will be used to contact the coach. Pairings will not be released until 9:00 a.m. on Sunday. This information will be posted on the UIL website via a press release as well. Teams will be placed in the bracket according to their win/loss record. The two best records will be placed in opposite halves of the bracket and the third best record will be placed up or down as determined by a coin flip.

No Workouts. After qualifying for the state tournament, no workouts are permitted at the state tournament sites prior to the tournament.

Tickets and Programs. Teams will be provided passes for each person included on the team information form. These passes are to be used by team members, coaches and managers only. Please remind all your supporters everyone must pay to enter.

Lodging Instructions. Each school must take care of their own lodging. Coaches are responsible for the proper conduct of their players while staying at the hotels. Please bring a tax-exempt number to avoid playing tax.

Team Pictures. Team pictures will be taken prior to the semifinal games. Players' numbers should correspond with the program roster. If there are errors, please contact the tournament director before the pictures are taken. Order forms will be given to coaches for ordering team pictures.

Awards. Teams in the tournament will be asked to participate in the presentation of trophies and medals. Medals are given to each team. Extra medals may be ordered at the tournament by filling out the form in the coaches' packet.

Officials. In all conferences, officials are to be obtained by the two schools involved for the semifinal game at the state tournament. The UIL will select officials for the final games of the state tournament. If neutral officials are requested through UIL, the **home team** must make the request. Schools must go to the UIL website to request officials online at **LINK TBD**

State Equipment. The official game ball for the State Water Polo Tournament will be Baden.

~QUICK LINKS~

Below are links to help you find information pertaining to UIL Rules and Regulations.

Constitution and Contest Rules (C&CR). The UIL Constitution and Contest Rules are the official rules that govern all UIL-sponsored activities and also define the direction, function and purpose of the League.

<https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/constitution>

TEA-UIL Side-by-Side. The UIL publishes this document to provide member schools notice of the Texas Education Agency, which relate to UIL and all other extracurricular activities sponsored or sanctioned by the school district.

<https://www.uiltexas.org/files/policy/TEA UIL Side by Side 21-22.pdf>

Booster Club Guidelines. This document provides guidelines, which govern all booster club activities related to UIL-sponsored competition. Since the UIL regulates and governs what participants, sponsors, and coaches may and may not accept, it is very important booster club members and parents are aware of these guidelines.

<https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/guidelines-for-booster-clubs>

Water Polo Plan – Section 1340 of the C&CR

LINK TBD

Employment of Coaches – Section 1202 of the C&CR

<https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/constitution/athletics/overview>

https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/tea-uil-side-by-side/required_training

Athletic Eligibility – Section 1205 the C&CR

<https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/constitution/athletics/eligibility>

<https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/eligibility>

School Practice and Game Restrictions – Section 1206 of the C&CR

<https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/constitution/athletics/eligibility>

<https://www.uiltexas.org/athletics/summer-strength-conditioning>

<https://www.uiltexas.org/files/athletics/Non-School.pdf>

Rules Violations and Penalties – Section 1207 of the C&CR

<https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/constitution/athletics/eligibility>

Athletic Regulations – Section 1208 of the C&CR

<https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/constitution/athletics/eligibility>



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