



**Referee Newsletter: February 26, 2018**

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## **2018 CWPA Women's Season Assignments**

Varsity assignments are posted on the CWPA website.

<https://collegiatewaterpolo.org/officiating/assignments/spring-2018-officiating-assignments/>

There are quite a few dates of Non-Conference games this season. If you are assigned to one of these dates please remember referee expenses are the responsibility of the Host Institution according to CWPA compensation policy. <https://collegiatewaterpolo.org/officiating/about-officiating/compensation/>

Each Head Referee is responsible for coordinating with the Host Administrator for reimbursement and/or payment of expenses. These contests do not go through the CWPA office other than the Head Referee report which is still required. <https://collegiatewaterpolo.org/officiating/about-officiating/forms/>

Those assigned to **MAAC tournament dates** please remember the expense payment policy is different but expenses are paid through the CWPA office. **MAAC policy does not** include compensation for travel expenses. **MAAC does cover** hotel, per diem \$30/day and game fees of \$50/game. There are two exceptions to MAAC travel reimbursement, travel for one referee to the MAAC Championship is covered, as well as, travel for officials to VMI (Lexington, VA) whenever they host a MAAC tournament. All Head Referees remember to file a Head Referee Report and have your crew file reimbursement forms (uploading receipts) within 48 hours after the game(s) date. <https://collegiatewaterpolo.org/officiating/about-officiating/forms/>

For all CWPA Conference games, referee expenses are paid through the CWPA office. The Head Referee works with Mike Shannon, Membership Services, in the CWPA office to coordinate travel and hotel arrangements. All Head Referees, remember to file a Head Referee Report and have your crew file reimbursement forms (uploading receipts) **within 48 hours** after the game(s) date.

<https://collegiatewaterpolo.org/officiating/about-officiating/forms/>

## **Changes: Assignors for the CWPA Women's Season**

There has been a change in the CWPA assigning process. Ed Reed, CWPA Coordinator of Officials, will still be doing the varsity assigning and work with the CWPA-TC for mid-year evaluations, team feedback and postseason selections. Tom Tracey, CWPA Assistant Commissioner, will be handling the CWPA club assignments.

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION from the National Evaluators Group-Bob Corb**

Below is a list of “areas of interest” generated by the National Evaluator Group one month into the 2018 Women’s season. Released 2/6/18

- A. **Center Forward position:** Evaluators noted that very few, if any, live time exclusions are being called at the CF position. This tends to lead to an increase in physicality, and often times an offensive foul when the CF gets frustrated by the lack of a call. Rule 7-9 states that it is an important exclusion foul “To hold, sink or pull back an opponent who is not holding the ball.” Nowhere does it say the CF must possess the ball in order to call this foul.
- B. **The Perimeter:** By far the area of greatest interest for the Evaluators and (judging from the feedback received by the NCO) the coaches, is on the perimeter. In particular, the Evaluators noted an inconsistency between officials on what constitutes an ordinary foul, versus an offensive foul, versus a no-call situation. This is an area that requires increased collaboration before and during the game. Some referees tend to call the ordinary foul too quickly; almost like an “automatic” foul. Others are slow to whistle which leads to increased physicality and more simulation. Finding the right balance requires that the referee understands what the offense is trying to do to generate an advantage situation, and what the defense is doing to counter that tactic. In the women’s game in particular it is critical that the referee be in position to see all of the points of contact for both players. The referee needs to see who initiates the action and catch the first foul. Suit grabbing, by either the offensive or defensive player, must be called consistently throughout the game. Finally, it is critical that the perimeter referee not get tunneled in on the ball; he or she must be looking one away, and two away from the ball as well because that is where much of the offensive movement will be initiated. Coverage on the 4/5 flat remains an area of concern.
- C. **Miscellaneous:** It was noted that a number of teams appear to be intentionally splashing their opponents towards the end of a 6-5 situation when the offensive player may be looking to take a shot. If this occurs within the 5m area with the intent of preventing a probable goal, a 5m should be awarded. Outside 5m an exclusion is the appropriate call. The other area of interest was the issue of caps coming off and being replaced in a timely manner. Unlike the suit replacement rule, a player who loses his or her cap cannot be required to sub out until a replacement cap is located. Instead, the guidelines written in February of 2016, and reprinted below, are still the most current instructions to referees on cap replacement. This is a safety issue so when a referee puts safety first he or she will almost always be given the benefit of the doubt.

### **Rule 4-1 Caps (Now Rule 1-21-d)**

Caps shall be worn throughout the entire game by all players on the bench and in the water, including any player on the bench who is no longer entitled to play. Caps shall be fastened under the chin. If a player loses the cap during play, the player shall replace it at the next appropriate stoppage of the game when the player’s team is in possession of the ball. At all times the referee should apply the advantage rule (Rule 7-3; now Rule 3-5) in determining when to stop play.

**Instructions to referees:** It is expected that the process of replacing the cap will be handled quickly by the team affected. If the cap is broken or cannot be located immediately the referee may suggest that the coach use a replacement cap (if available) or use a cap with a different number in order to continue the game in a timely manner. If the player in the water will be wearing a different number the referee must notify the score table and the coach of the opposing team of the change in cap number. If the team is in possession of the ball, the coach may also call time-out and substitute the player. If in the referee's judgment either the player in the water and/or the coach are intentionally delaying the game, the referee has several options: (1) a verbal warning may be given to the coach; (2) a yellow card may be given to the player in the water or to the head coach; (3) if the problem persists a MAM may be issued to the offending player in the water.