



St. Francis College Brooklyn (8-14, 7-3 NWPC) comes into the Northeast Water Polo Conference (NWPC) Championship aiming to claim the program's fourth league championship since 2010...The 2005 (vs. the United States Naval Academy), 2010 (vs. Navy), 2012 (vs. Bucknell University) and 2013 (vs. Princeton University) Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA) Champion, the Terriers also posted runner-up finishes in 1999 (vs. the University of Massachusetts), 2000 (vs. the United States Naval Academy), 2004 (vs. Princeton University) and 2007 (vs. Navy)...If the Terriers make it to the championship title game, hold on tight as close games are the squad's modus operandi with previous nail-biting title berths in 1999 (11-10 L vs. Massachusetts), 2000 (13-12 L OT SD vs. Navy at Brown University), 2004 (3-2 OT SD L vs. Princeton at Bucknell University), 2005 (10-9 W vs. Navy at Harvard University), 2007 (11-7 L vs. Navy at Harvard), 2010 (8-4 W vs. Navy at Bucknell) and 2013 (11-9 W vs. Princeton at Bucknell)...In the inaugural NWPC Championship at Princeton's DeNunzio Pool in 2016, St. Francis Brooklyn downed Iona College (13-2 W) prior to falling against both Brown (9-4 L) and Princeton (18-13 L) to finish in Fourth Place...Last year, the Terriers fell to eventual champion Harvard (9-7 L) before dropping a game to Brown (11-9 L) to again place Fourth... St. Francis has a chance to achieve a feat never accomplished on the East Coast—have five head coaches win championships in the span of 14 years if Bora Dimistrov can lead the team to this year's title...The 2005 title belongs to legendary coach/current assistant coach Carl Quigley, while the 2010 and 2012 crowns were claimed by Igor Samardzija...In 2013, Srdjan Mihaljevic took over for Samardzija and posted the Terriers' most recent title and National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Championship tournament berth...The squad could have had six coaches win crowns over the span as Igor Zagoruiko led the 2016 edition of the Terriers prior to stepping down due to work commitments to permit Dimitrov to take over the program in 2017...New York City teams have combined to win six league championships in men's water polo since records were first kept in 1972...Queens College took home the 1997 and 2002 championships under Shelly Rothman (1997) and current Princeton assistant coach Derek Ellingson (2002) to accompany St. Francis Brooklyn's four championship crowns...In NWPC play this year, St. Francis went 7-3 with previous clashes against Iona (17-7 W, 18-11 W), Brown (12-10 W, 13-12 OT W), Harvard (15-4 L, 14-12 L), the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (12-9 W, 10-7 W) and Princeton (12-10 W, 10-8 L).

St. Francis College Brooklyn

NWPC Regular Season: Second Place

Head Coach: Bora Dimitrov

Assistant Coach: Carl Quigley

1	Viktor Klauzer	Jr.	Szekesfehervar, Hungary
1A	Benedek Molnar	Jr.	Budapest, Hungary
2	Bogdan Kostic	Sr.	Nis, Serbia
3	William Lapkin	Jr.	Newport Beach, CA
4	Ricardo Berenguer	So.	Madrid, Spain
5	Boris Posavec	Jr.	Zagreb, Croatia
6	Djorde Stanic	Fr.	Belgrade, Serbia
7	Tadeu Rodrigues	Jr.	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
8	Botand Kadar	Sr.	Budapest, Hungary
9	Jonas Veazey	Sr.	Dallas, TX
10	Matheus Santos	Jr.	Sao Paulo, Brazil
11	Cody Alexander Jones	Fr.	Kingston, Jamaica
12	Nikita Prokhin	Sr.	Toronto, Ontario
13	Ognjen Antanaskovic	Sr.	Belgrade, Serbia
14	Luka Budak	Jr.	Osijek, Croatia
15	Zachary Hahn	So.	Lake Forest, CA
16	Alexander Iplitsky	Jr.	Brooklyn, NY
17	Zane Drobenko	Fr.	Newport Beach, CA
18	Valentin Horvath	Fr.	Budapest, Hungary

Understanding the Game of Water Polo

Water Polo can be a confusing game for spectators. The whistle is constantly blowing and the play never stops, even when someone is ejected for a penalty. In addition, there are many misconceptions about the game, including how the players keep their horses swimming. Well hang in there, because the following information should help to make the picture much clearer.

General Information

1. Each team has six field players and a goalie.
2. Field players can only use one hand to touch the ball, goalies two.
3. The game consists of four quarters and the clock stops on the whistle. If the game is tied at the end of regulation, the teams play two three-minute overtime periods. If it is still tied, the game goes into sudden victory. A typical game lasts about an hour and ten minutes.
4. The object of the game is to score by placing the ball completely in the goal. Players may move the ball by swimming or passing.
5. Teams may substitute after a goal is scored, during a time-out, or during the play from the ejection area.
6. Each team receives three time-outs and one 30-second time-out per game.
7. Shots blocked out of bounds by defensive players result in the defensive team receiving possession. If a defender uses two hands to block a shot, the offensive team receives a penalty shot.

Types of Fouls

When an infraction of the rules occurs, the referee will point in the direction of the team taking possession, while blowing his whistle. The ball is put back into play with an action called a free throw. This means the player gets three seconds of free time to throw the ball to another teammate or swim it up the pool. A player cannot shoot his free throw unless outside the five-meter line. If the ball is not put into play within three seconds, the other team takes possession.

Fouls can be ordinary or major. Ordinary fouls are best understood as minor fouls. For example, a defender may reach over an opponent's back to get at the ball while facing away from the goal. The penalty for an ordinary foul is a free throw for the opposing team.

Major fouls are more severe and are penalized accordingly. For example, when a defender fouls an opponent too aggressively, or from behind when the opponent is facing the goal, the defender is ejected for 20 seconds (players may reenter if their team recovers the ball before the ejection time is up, or if the opposing team scores). When the foul occurs within five meters of the goal and the referee believes the player had a high chance of scoring, the opposition shoots a penalty shot. Major fouls can also occur through disrespect to the referee or when a player interferes with an opponent's free throw. Players may only receive three major fouls before elimination.

If all of this has you totally confused, just sit back and enjoy the game. The easiest way to follow the play is by watching the scoreboard. If your team is ahead at the end, great! If not, well consider that you have expanded your horizons. When the game is over, you can at least explain to your friends that the horses never get wet.



*Official Ball of the
Collegiate Water Polo Association*

2018 NORTHEAST WATER POLO CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIP

Friday, November 16, 2018				Game #	Score
2:00	3rd Seed - Princeton University	vs.	6th Seed - Iona College	1	
4:00	4th Seed - Brown University	vs.	5th Seed - MIT	2	
Saturday, November 17, 2018				Game #	Score
1:00	Loser Game 2	vs.	Loser Game 1	5th Place	
3:00	2nd Seed - St. Francis College Brooklyn	vs.	Winner Game 1	4	
5:00	1st Seed - Harvard University	vs.	Winner Game 2	5	
Sunday, November 18, 2018				Game #	Score
10:30	Loser Game 4	vs.	Loser Game 5	3rd Place	
12:30	Winner Game 5	vs.	Winner Game 4	1st Place	

Teams listed first wear dark caps and are home on the scoreboard. If final division standing is identical, the higher seed wears dark caps. Host team always wears dark caps and is home on the scoreboard regardless of bracket position.

2018 NWPC Championship Officials

Michael Goldenberg, JR Perez, Mike Schofield, Scott Voltz

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Princeton University (16-10, 6-4 NWPC) comes into the Northeast Water Polo Conference (NWPC) Championship aiming to dislodge two-time champion Harvard University from the top spot and earn a return to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Championship...The last Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA) Champion prior to the split of the league into the Northeast Water Polo Conference and Mid-Atlantic Water Polo Conference, the Tigers saw a three-year string of league title game appearances come to an end at home in DeNunzio

Pool in 2016 as Princeton dropped a 14-13 semifinal game to the Crimson...Prior to the loss, Princeton fell to St. Francis Brooklyn in 2013 at Brown University (11-9 L), dropped a meeting with Brown at the United States Naval Academy (7-6 L) in 2014 and knocked off Johns Hopkins University by a 7-6 count at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology MIT in 2015...Overall, Princeton has five previous league championships (1992 vs. Slippery Rock University; 2004 vs. St. Francis Brooklyn; 2009 vs. Navy; 2011 vs. Navy; 2015 vs. Johns Hopkins) with five runner-up marks by placing second in 2003 (vs. Navy), 2006 (vs. Navy), 2008 (vs. Navy), 2013 (vs. St. Francis Brooklyn) and 2014 (vs. Brown)...Last year at Harvard, Princeton downed Brown (11-9 OT W), but fell to the host Crimson (12-11 OT L) to start a new string of title game berths...With a championship this weekend and a victory in an NCAA Championship play-in game, Princeton could post the 12th 20-win season in program history as the Tigers previously racked up 20 or more wins in 1999 (22-3), 2000 (24-10), 2002 (20-9), 2003 (23-4), 2004 (25-6), 2005 (21-10), 2011 (23-10), 2013 (22-6), 2014 (23-4), 2015 (22-5) and 2017 (22-6) since becoming a varsity sport in 1996...Among the Tigers' bevy of 20-victory seasons, only three have concluded with championship plaques (2004, 2011, 2015)...The team only faced the rest of the NWPC in league play during the 2018 regular season as the Tigers battled MIT (14-7 W, 8-7 W), Brown (16-11 W, 11-10 L), Harvard (13-12 OTSD L, 9-8 L), St. Francis Brooklyn (12-10 L, 10-8 W) and Iona (11-8 W, 14-10 W)...First-year head coach Dusty Litvak will aim to claim a men's league title in his inaugural year at the helm of the Tigers and become the first Northeast Water Polo Conference head coach to achieve the feat.

Princeton University

NWPC Regular Season: Third Place

Head Coach: Dusty Litvak

Assistant Coaches: Derek Ellingson, Cara Borkovec

1	Ryan Melosini	Sr.	Trabuco Canyon, Calif.
1	Billy Motherway	Fr.	Santa Ana, Calif.
1	Miles Wilson	Fr.	Irvine, Calif.
2	Sean Duncan	Jr.	Seal Beach, Calif.
3	Christopher Xi	Jr.	Atherton, Calif.
4	Davis Wachtell	Jr.	Los Angeles, Calif.
5	Casey Conrad	So.	Lafayette, Calif.
6	Alec Mendelsohn	So.	Studio City, Calif.
7	Ryan Wilson	Sr.	Pacific Palisades, Calif.
8	Kyle MacMillan	Jr.	Washington, D.C.
9	Logan MacDonell	Jr.	San Jose, Calif.
10	Michael Swart	Sr.	Atherton, Calif.
11	Miles Cole	So.	Santa Barbara, Calif.
12	Matt Payne	Sr.	Laguna Beach, Calif.
13	PJ Greenbaum	Sr.	Carlisle, Pa.
14	Wyatt Benson	Fr.	Huntington Beach, Calif.
15	Andrew Lin	So.	Richardson, Texas
16	Keller Maloney	Fr.	Los Angeles, Calif.
17	Will Ueberroth	So.	Corona del Mar, Calif.
18	Mitchell Cooper	Fr.	Newport Coast, Calif.
19	Andy Paul	Fr.	Kingston, Jamaica
20	Oliver Schmickel	Sr.	Easton, Md.



The Massachusetts Institute of Technology (9-12, 2-8 NWPC) is unique among the Northeast Water Polo Conference teams—the Engineers already hold a title by way of capturing the 2018 Division III Eastern Championship at Johns Hopkins University with an 11-10 victory over the host Blue Jays on October 15...MIT picked up a pair of wins and eight losses during NWPC regular season action by facing Princeton University (14-7 L, 8-7 L), Iona College (8-7 W, 11-7 W), St. Francis College Brooklyn (12-9 L, 10-7 L), Brown University (11-10 OT L, 9-7 OT L) and crosstown rival Harvard University (19-15 L, 13-9 L)...At the NWPC Championship, MIT has never finished higher than Sixth Place in part due to Iona...In 2016 at Princeton's DeNunzio Pool, the Engineers fell to Harvard (14-8 L) prior to taking a 9-8 sudden death overtime loss to Iona in the Fifth Place game...Last year minutes away from their own campus in Cambridge, MIT dropped a 9-4 game to Brown prior to again falling against Iona in the Fifth Place game with a 10-9 overtime setback...An 11-time CWPA/Eastern Championship qualifier, MIT placed 10th (2014), Eighth (2004, 2012), Seventh (2006, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2013, 2015) and Sixth (2003, 2010) and holds an 8-28 all-time mark in championship play with wins over Iona (14-12 W, 2014; 9-8 W, 2009; 10-9 W, 2008), Fordham University (7-6 W, 2010; 11-8 W, 2015), Mercyhurst University (10-9 W, 2013), Bucknell University (9-6 W, 2003) and the United States Naval Academy (12-8 W, 2015) in CWPA/Eastern Championship play prior to the creation of the NWPC and Mid-Atlantic Water Polo Conference (MAWPC)...First year head coach Bret Lathrope was recognized by his peers this week by earning recognition as the 2018 NWPC Coach of the Year. A former member of the Junior National Team, Lathrope was a four-year member of the University of California-Los Angeles (UCLA) men's water polo team which made three National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Championship title game appearances during his tenure. A former assistant coach at the University of California-Davis and Bucknell University, this marks his first collegiate head coaching job as he assumed control of the MIT program earlier this year in March.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

NWPC Regular Season: Fifth Place

Head Coach: Bret Lathrope

Assistant Coaches: Craig Cheney, Jack Clark, Kale Rogers, Chris Morgan, Scott Stephens

1	Hayden Niederreiter	Jr.	Visalia, Calif.
1A	Miguel Lamar	So.	Miami, Fla.
2	Ward Weldon	Jr.	Honolulu, Hawaii
4	Evan Kim	So.	Irvine, Calif.
5	Clyde Huibregtse	Jr.	New York, N.Y.
6	Lucas Novak	Sr.	Palo Alto, Calif.
7	Luka Knezevic	Sr.	Zagreb, Croatia
8	Kyle Sandell	Fr.	Mountain View, Calif.
9	Kevin Downey	So.	Greenwich, Conn.
10	Christian Schillinger	So.	Orinda, Calif.
11	Christian Hwa	So.	Hong Kong
12	Pat Stefanou	Jr.	Old Greenwich, Conn.
13	Conrad Oakes	Fr.	Pasadena, Calif.
14	Griffin Leonard	Fr.	Hermosa Beach, Calif.
15	Miller Geschke	Fr.	Los Altos, Calif.
16	John Steele	Fr.	Old Greenwich, Conn.
17	Kaden DiMarco	Fr.	Eugene, Oregon
18	Justin Xiang	So.	Hong Kong
21	Peter Calvaresi	Sr.	Malvern, Pa.
24	Kevin Shen	Sr.	Newbury Park, Calif.



Brown University

NWPC Regular Season: Fourth Place

Head Coach: Felix Mercado

Assistant Coaches: JJ Addison, Allison Kosich

1	Riad Hallal	So.	Coronado, Calif.
1A	Charlie Pang	So.	Greenwich, Conn.
1B	Ugo Piovan	Fr.	Vouliagmeni, Greece
2	Spencer Carroll	Sr.	Newport Beach, Calif.
3	Travis Bouscaren	Sr.	Cambridge, Mass.
4	Santiago Nunez	Sr.	Miami, Fla.
5	James Thygesen	Jr.	Menlo Park, Calif.
6	Will Collier	Jr.	Darien, Conn.
7	Gabe Kaplan	Fr.	Santa Monica, Calif.
8	Aidan Reilly	So.	Los Angeles, Calif.
10	Hudson Rawlings	Jr.	Murrieta, Calif.
11	Adam Fuller	So.	Santa Barbara, Calif.
12	Matt Simko	Fr.	Coral Gables, Fla.
13	Galen Hu	Jr.	Colleyville, Texa
14	Daniel Hu	So.	Colleyville, Texas
15	Stephen Salle	Fr.	Chadds Ford, Pa.
18	Niko Bhatia	Fr.	Los Altos, Calif.
21	Andrew Penner	Fr.	Atherton, Calif.
24	Armen Deirmenjian Jr.		Beverly Hills, Calif.

Brown University (17-12, 6-4 NWPC) starts the Northeast Water Polo Conference Championship following a Fourth Place finish during the regular season...The 2016 NWPC Championship runner-up as Brown fell by an 11-7 score to Harvard University at Princeton University, the team placed Third in 2017 at Harvard following an 11-9 overtime loss to Princeton in the semifinals and an 11-9 defeat of St. Francis College Brooklyn in the Third Place tilt...This year, the Bears held their own against St.

Francis Brooklyn (12-10 L, 13-12 L OT), Princeton (16-11 L, 11-10 W), Iona College (15-9 W, 9-5 W), Harvard (11-9 W, 12-1 L) and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (11-10 OT W, 9-7 W OT W) splitting with Princeton and Harvard, sweeping MIT and Iona and being swept by St. Francis Brooklyn...Fans coming in for Brown's first round game against MIT should bring a comfortable cushion for the stands as the Bears and Engineers have gone to overtime both times they played this year...Overtime has been a staple for Brown water polo in 2018 as the team went the distance and more against Pepperdine University (12-11 OT W), MIT (11-10 OT W, 9-7 OT W) and St. Francis Brooklyn (13-12 OT L). Further, the Bears have been involved in a slew of one-goal games against Pepperdine, Princeton (11-10 W), Wagner College (10-9 L), California Baptist University (11-10 L), Loyola Marymount University (13-12 W), St. Francis Brooklyn and Harvard (12-11 L)...A five-time Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA)/Eastern Champion (1981, 1983-85, 2014) and six-time runner-up (1978, 1982, 1986, 1987, 1989, 1990) prior to the formation of the NWPC, Brown will aim to bring home its first Northeast crown in Providence...This marks the second time in six years that the Bears are hosting a men's varsity league championship as the squad also hosted the 2013 CWPA Championship. Prior to 2013, Brown last hosted in 2002...Bucknell University, which hosted and won the 2016 Mid-Atlantic Water Polo Conference (MAWPC) Championship, snapped a streak of futility by host institutions as the last East Coast men's team to win a league title at home before the Bison was the United States Naval Academy in 2008...Harvard snapped the string for NWPC schools last year by taking the big plaque and a berth to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Championship field—a pattern Brown will hope to repeat in 2018...This weekend former Bears' standout Steve Ennis '86 will be inducted into the CWPA Hall of Fame. He becomes the third Brown men's water polo selection honored by the league following his coach, Ed Reed, and Lars Enstrom...Historically, Brown is the only NWPC institution with a men's water polo representative in the Hall of Fame.

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Harvard University (21-7, 9-1 NWPC) enters the Northeast Water Polo Conference (NWPC) Championship tournament after finishing in First Place during the regular season. The two-time defending (2016, 2017) NWPC Champions are in an odd position as the team finished the regular season in both its championship seasons in Third Place..In 2016, the Crimson downed the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) (14-8 W), upended host Princeton University (14-13 W) and bested Brown University (11-7 W) at DeNunzio Pool in Princeton, N.J. to claim the inaugural NWPC Championship on the way to a Fourth Place finish at the 2016 National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Championship...Harvard had never won a league championship and previously advanced to a league title tilt just once since records were first kept in 1972...In 1972, the Crimson reached the Eastern Championship (which later became the Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA) Championship), but fell to longtime Ivy League arch-rival Yale University...It marked the first of two consecutive league crowns for Yale...Last year at home in Blodgett Pool, Harvard downed Iona College (16-7 W), St. Francis College Brooklyn (9-7 W) and Princeton (12-11 SD OT W) to claim the program's second consecutive league title and NCAA berth...Another title will likely bring another NCAA play-in game for Harvard as the team has battled the Mid-Atlantic Water Polo Conference (MAWPC) Champion after both NWPC Championships the past two years to punch the program's ticket to the final NCAA Championship site. In 2016, the Crimson took down Bucknell University by a 13-12 final in overtime on November 26 at Blodgett Pool...The win advanced the Crimson onto the NCAA Championship in California where the squad stopped the University of California-Davis (16-15 W OT) prior to suffering a 19-4 setback against then No. 1-ranked the University of Southern California in the tournament semifinals...Last year, Harvard stopped George Washington University by a 15-13 count in overtime before falling by a 16-4 count against the University of Southern California...This year, Harvard has been the dominant force in the NWPC with previous clashes against Iona (16-8 W, 16-4 W), St. Francis Brooklyn (15-14, 14-12 W), Princeton (13-12 OT W, 9-8 W), Brown (11-9 L, 12-11 W) and MIT (19-15 W, 13-9 W)...An Ivy League institution has not won three consecutive league titles in men's water polo since Brown achieved the feat from 1983-to-1985.

Harvard University

NWPC Regular Season: Champion

Head Coach: Ted Minnis

Assistant Coaches: Cassie Churnside, Jackie Puccino, Cory Olcott

1	Anthony Ridgley	Sr.	Los Angeles, Calif.
1A	Nikhil Suri	Jr.	Moraga, Calif.
1B	Noah Hodge	Fr.	San Juan Capistrano, Calif.
1C	Oliver Oz	So.	Cliffsdale, N.J.
2	Ben Wagner	So.	Atherton, Calif.
3	Charlie Owens	Jr.	Wilton, Conn.
4	Bennie Seybold	Jr.	Corona del Mar, Calif.
5	Austin Sechrest	Jr.	Mission Viejo, Calif.
6	Michael Del Mundo	Fr.	Bakersfield, Calif.
7	Nathan Ondracek	Sr.	Plano, Texas
8	Michael Sonsini	Fr.	Menlo Park, Calif.
9	Bruno Snow	So.	Covina, Calif.
10	Nick Bunn	Sr.	Princeton, N.J.
11	Jackson Enright	So.	San Mateo, Calif.
12	Alex Tsotadze	Fr.	Menlo Park, Calif.
13	Dennis Blyashov	So.	Carlsbad, Calif.
17	Grant Harvey	Sr.	Woodside, Calif.



Iona College

NWPC Regular Season: Sixth Place

Head Coach: Brian Kelly

Assistant Coaches: Joe Przekota, Greg Judge

1	Michael Banks	Jr.	Orlando, Fla.
1	Jorge Andres Torres	Jr.	Trujillo Also, P.R.
3	Patrick Hudak	So.	Cincinnati, Ohio
4	Quinn Lloyd	Jr.	Sinking Springs, Pa.
5	Justin Ginsberg	Fr.	Buffalo Grove, Ill.
6	Andrew Brozovic	So.	Frankfort, Ill.
7	Michael Feeley	Fr.	Oak Forest, Ill.
8	Jason Hill	Sr.	Shillington, Pa.
11	German Rodriguez	Fr.	Lima, Peru
12	Cullen Seipp	Jr.	Baltimore, Md.
17	Brett Hofer	So.	Tinley Park, Ill.
19	Philip Wachowski	R-Jr.	Park Ridge, Ill.
23	Dalton Hansten	So.	Sonora, Calif.

The Gaels of Iona College (6-25, 0-10 NWPC) will seek to do something the program has never previously accomplished—reach the title game of a league championship tournament...The Gaels are the only program at the Northeast Water Polo Conference (NWPC) Championship to never play in a championship (Division II, Division III, Eastern Championship, Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC), Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA), etc.) title game...Iona finished 0-10 in regular season league play as the Gaels fell to St. Francis College Brooklyn (17-7 L, 18-11 L), Harvard University (16-8 L, 17-4 L), the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (8-7 L, 11-7 L), Brown University (15-9 L, 9-5 L) and Princeton University (11-8 L, 14-10 L) for the second consecutive year as the team now stands at 1-29 all-time in NWPC regular season action....In 2016 at the inaugural NWPC Championship hosted by Princeton, the Gaels fell to St. Francis Brooklyn (13-2 L) and topped MIT in sudden death overtime (9-8 W) in the Fifth Place game...Last year at Harvard, Iona fell to the host Crimson (16-7 L) and again felled MIT (10-9 OT W) in overtime for Fifth Place...The New York metro area has a history of league championship titles as St. Francis College Brooklyn (2005, 2010, 2012, 2013) and former varsity program Queens College (1997, 2002) previously captured CWPA/Eastern Championships...No New York area varsity men's team other than the Terriers and Knights had appeared in a league title game until last year when Wagner College made the 2017 Mid-Atlantic Water Polo Conference title tilt. Now, Iona and Fordham University are the only schools not to appear in a title game—a fact both programs will look to erase from the record books this weekend at Brown and in the Bronx, respectively...If Iona wins the NWPC Championship and earns a play-in game date with the MAWPC Champion, the Gaels will have some past experience versus most of their prospective opponents with prior clashes against the United States Naval Academy (9-7 L), La Salle University (14-4 W), Fordham (10-6 L, 11-8 L), George Washington University (18-7 L, 17-5 L), Johns Hopkins University (20-12 L) and Wagner (19-9 L, 19-5 L)...The Gaels enter the championship on the heels of an 11-8 loss to Fordham in the Bronx on November 10 for the Judge Cup—a trophy named for the late Dr. Francis X. Judge—a water polo pioneer at Fordham and the founder of the Hudson Valley Water Polo Club...So what is a Gael? It is a member of an ethnic group in Ireland, Scotland and the Isle of Man, whose language is one that is Gaelic Further, the word is a derivative of the Old Welsh word Guidel meaning “wild man or warrior”.

The Collegiate Water Polo Association (CWPA) staff and officials would like to thank the Brown University staff for their hospitality, guidance and cooperation in hosting the 2018 Northeast Water Polo Conference (NWPC) Championship this weekend. It is a primary goal of the CWPA to enhance and enrich the experience for the student-athletes, and Brown's assistance in conducting the tournament is vital to the success of water polo on the East Coast and beyond.

