



## **Referee Newsletter: November 7, 2022**

*Ed Reed, Coordinator of Officials*

We are pretty much at the closing end of the men's water polo regular season. The competition has been building/improving at a rapid rate. We've had some very good performances by our referee crews but there are always opportunities for improving consistency. Everyone should look at each assignment as an opportunity to improve your craft. Erik Farrar, Bret Bernard and I have had a chance to review several games at the Bruno Classic and Harvard-Brown Invitational with the Dartfish/video and I've also reviewed games at Brown, Princeton, Bucknell, SFC, Iona and Harvard through Hudl and CWPA stream.

### **Championship Selection and Assignments**

The CWPA Technical Committee (Bret Bernard, Bob Corb, Jim Cullingham, Erik Farrar, Jack Horton, Ed Reed) met on 10/27 via Zoom to select the eight referees for the Mid Atlantic and Northeast Conference Championships. The following referees were selected and later assigned after confirmation of availability:

#### **Mid Atlantic Water Polo Conference**

Michael Goldenberg  
Amado Mejia  
Joe Peila  
Jamie Wolff

#### **Northeast Water Polo Conference**

Gabriel Maldonado  
Chad Packer  
Alex Stankevitch  
Val Vasilchikov

Congratulations to those selected and assigned. **Other referees considered** were those that have worked numerous conference games and should be congratulated for excellent dedication and work this season: Jim Lewis, Igor Mernenko, Martin Murray, Mike Naughton, Andre Nyce and Mike Schofield.

### **NCAA Coordinator's and National Evaluators Group Discussions (NEG)**

Areas that have been covered on the Coordinator's and NEG Zoom calls: ball-in-play, physicality at CF and CFD, reporting of misconducts and flagrant misconducts (making sure they are in rulebook terms). There is concern that players are not being held accountable at the appropriate level, especially

when intentional punches and or strikes are being executed on purpose and with intent (flagrant misconduct with or without fighting). Rule 7-13 “including playing in a violent manner, fighting, biting, kicking or striking or attempting to kick or strike with malicious and/or deliberate intent.”

The Mid Atlantic Conference has had an unacceptable number of misconducts and flagrant misconducts so far this season. They are easily at the top of the list of all conferences in the country. The CWPA Technical Committee had to convene and review game video on 10/27/22 to remedy a fighting situation in a DII Championship game at Hallman AC in PA. CWPA allows for video after a game to be submitted and reviewed for further punishments. The CWPA-TC reviews and makes recommendations which are then forwarded to the Governance Council for final say. In the latter case four flagrant misconducts for fighting and a red card were awarded to four student-athletes. NCAA rules for fighting are one game suspension but the CWPA rule is more stringent, five game suspension if the teams playing are league members.

## **Know The Differences Between Minor Acts of Misconduct, Misconduct, Flagrant Misconduct and Flagrant Misconduct for Fighting.**

**Minor Acts of Misconduct (MAM)**- “include minor comments or gestures directed by players toward the referee. Minor taunting, gestures, shoving, pushing or sinking a member of the opposing team or acts of simulation are also considered examples of minor acts of misconduct.” **Action**-excluded for 20 seconds, 2<sup>nd</sup> MAM is game exclusion

**Misconduct**- “use of obscene, abusive or threatening language or gestures, persistent foul play, or overaggressive fouls, or to refuse obedience to or show disrespect for a referee or official.” “Over aggressive fouls are hard fouls unacceptable within the spirit of the rules, including elbowing to the head, face or neck or head-butting an opponent.” **Action**-excluded from the game.

**Flagrant Misconduct**- “playing in a violent manner, fighting, biting Kicking or striking or attempting to kick or strike with malicious and/or deliberate intent (whether or not there is contact with the opponent).” **Action Without Fighting**-exclusion for the remainder of the game and a penalty foul awarded, ball back to opponent (6 on 5, 20 seconds). **Action With Fighting**-exclusion for the remainder of the game, penalty foul, ball back to opponent (6 on 5, 20 seconds) and NCAA one game suspension, CWPA common league opponent five game suspension.

### **Know the Proper Administrative Procedures for Rule-7-11,12,13**

## **File Accurate Reports**

When filing reports to Amber Drury, NCAA Coordinator of Officials, please make sure it is in rulebook terms and accurately fits the description of the punishment. **CHECK** the accuracy of the score sheets and make sure they reflect the player punishments properly **BEFORE** signing. Inaccurate score sheets going to the CWPA office create unnecessary follow-up problems.

### **Picture of the Month: Easy exclusion foul regardless of hand on the ball, Player Safety Issue**

