

Splash Ball

Young and Beginning Water Polo

By Southern Pacific Zone – USA Water Polo

Revision/Updated: May 6, 2009

Mission

To encourage young athletes from the age of 5-9 years of age to register and play water polo in a fun relaxing environment. Furthermore, the water polo rules have been modified to allow the young athlete to develop the water polo skills, games concepts, and teamwork.

To retain a high percentage of new water polo athletes and encourage them to continue play within the local water polo clubs that are participating or other club that better suits their requirements.

To increase the awareness of water polo as a sport and create an alternative choice to the main stream sports of basketball, soccer, and baseball.

Clubs and Splash Ball

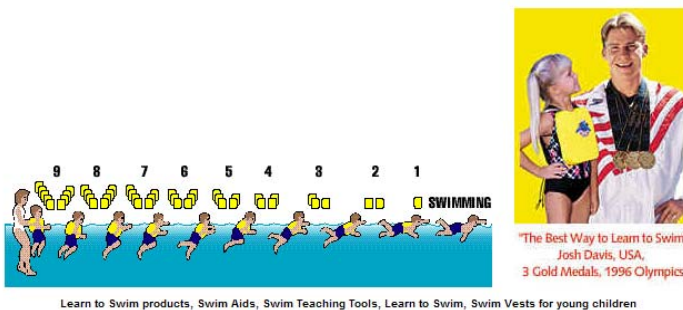
“Splash Ball” is being created to assist in the growth of water polo for the SOPAC zone and each club that participates is encouraged to retain the assigned athletes for their own club.

Clubs may or may not choose to have their 9 & under players participate with the Splash Ball program; however, SOPAC encourages the teams to allow some of the better players to intermittently workout with the Splash Ball program to create a more organized playing environment using an experienced player with the beginners.

Age Group

We are structuring the program for 5 to 9 years of age. However, we must remember that safety is the most important aspect. Swimmers and the swimming environment must be conducive to a water safe situation. And since we are focusing on 5 to 9, the play must be FUN.

There are discussions of using a swim wear device that allows the new swimmer assistance with swimming (www.poolcenter.com/pooltoys_superswimr_poolstor.htm).



Marketing

We are currently working on a 1-1/2 minute video presentation marketing the FUN of playing Splash Ball. The video and interactive media will be 10U water polo players having fun in a game and a few players being interviewed. This video presentation will be posted on the SOPAC website and be offered as a download to the participating clubs to add to their own website.

SOPAC has a limited budget to market through paid advertising. These are the avenues that we are targeting:

- Orange County Register
 - Aliso Viejo News/Laguna Niguel News
 - Fountain Valley View
 - Huntington Beach Wave
 - Irvine World News
 - Laguna Woods Globe
 - Orange City News
 - Saddleback Valley News-Lake Forest/Laguna Hills
 - The Current
 - Tustin News 24
- Sun Newspapers (Los Alamitos & Seal Beach)
- 5,000 post cards sent directly to homes
 - Household criteria (1) must have child age 5~9 (2) \$90k income or above
- Identifying local events; requires assistance from the local club team

Other ideas will be explored, identified, organized, and implemented.

Functionality

We are sure that each club will have their own ideas on how to train and have fun with the 5 to 9 players. We will attempt to put together a program that will “MOSTLY” work for all clubs so that we have some consistency for all and therefore allow us to modify the program for best accomplish our overall mission.

One practice per week and one game per week. The participating clubs may choose to have in-formal scrimmages during the week.

Clubs will need to think outside of their normal drills and think of “FUN” drills (for example, Inner tube water polo with the player and parents).

Referee to be done by one of the senior coaches.

Retention

We believe that this is the most important task. It's easy to get them in and now we need to make sure they stay. We believe that there needs to be an ambassador for the parents to meet at each of the first few days; making the parent feel comfortable allows a connection to the team

Coaches need to understand and work well with young athletes.

All of our current club programs for 10U have the athletes learn, play, and then “bang” they are in TOURNAMENT games. We are still attempting to put together the final structure of no-contact games and possible clubs interacting with scrimmages.

Cost and Membership

Currently, we believe the cost should be around \$100 per athlete and this includes the \$20 US League membership. Therefore each participating club should try to budget \$80 per athlete and approximately 10 to 12 per team. Note: Newport Facility will have an additional \$50 fee advertised as a “facility fee”.

Schedule

May 25th to July 19th. Games on Sunday afternoon 1pm ~ 4pm.

Facilities Participating

Currently, these are the facilities that are interested and their contacts

- Corona Del Mar - Newport Beach Area
 - CDM Water Polo Club
 - Corona Del Mar High School 2101 Eastbluff Dr Newport Beach, CA 92660
 - Thursday / 5~6.00pm

- Irvine Area
 - Kahuna Water Polo
 - Woollett Aquatics Center, 4601 Walnut Ave., Irvine, CA 92604
 - Tue or Thu / 5pm~6pm

- Lake Forest Area
 - SET Water Polo Club
 - El Toro High School, 25255 Toledo Way, Lake Forest, CA 92630
 - Wed / 5.30~6.30pm

- Los Alamitos Area
 - Los Al Water Polo
 - Joint Forces Training Base Pool, 11200 Lexington Drive, Los Alamitos, CA 90720
 - Tue or Wed / 6.30~7.30pm

- Tustin – Irvine Area
 - SOCAL,
 - Beckman High School, 3588 Bryan Avenue / Irvine, CA 92602
 - Mon and/or Wed / 6~7.00pm

Implementation Tasks

Newspaper advertising

- Develop newspaper marketing material
- Advertising in Orange County Register and affiliates
- Sun Newspapers (Los Alamitos & Seal Beach)

Newspaper Ad

Description			Cost
Ads			\$1,215
* OC Register + 9 affiliates			
* Sun Newspapers			TBD
Total			\$1,215

Registration

- Develop Online registration at www.sopacwp.com
- Setup Credit card processing with USA Water Polo & US Leagues
- Setup email at splashball@sopacwp.com

Post card

- Develop post card
- Mailing List – plan to send 5,000
 - 5 to 9 year old in the home; greater than \$75K household income

Cypress = 856	Lake Forest = 1039	Tustin = 1000
Foothill = 491	Lakewood = 1207	Westminister = 654
Garden Grove = 842	Los Alamitos = 650	
Irvine = 3630	Newport Beach = 1504	

- We are buying all 12,000 but we will only send to 5,000

Description			Cost
Post Cards			\$370
Mail List Cost			\$408
Print Postage on Postcard			\$275
Postage			\$1,000
Total			\$2,053

Floatation Devices

- Order 30 devices = 20 for 35~55lbs; 10 for 55~80lbs
- Each site will be assigned 6 devices

Flotation Devices

Description	Qty	Unit	Cost
35~55LBS	20	\$17	\$340
55~80LBS	10	\$20	\$200
Shipping			\$50
Total			\$590

T-Shirts

- Budget needs to allow for \$9 per athlete for t-shirts
- Different color and name for each team
- Facility may have more than one team

Tee Shirts

Description	Qty	Unit	Cost
Tee Shirts	72		\$674
QTY 12 on 6 different colors			\$0
Shipping			\$50
Total			\$724

Assistance

- . **Done.** Someone to develop the draft registration form (Marold Kamai)
- . **Done.** Someone to develop the postcard (Marold Kamai)
- . **Done.** Someone to develop/manage the t-shirt process (Janet Zwimmer)
- . **Done.** Someone to get the newspaper ad information (Cindy R)

- . **Done,** Someone to coordinate the postcard process (Marold Kamai)
- . Someone to develop the ad for the newspapers
- . **Done,** Someone to setup the SOPAC email address (Nick Baba)
- . **Done,** Someone to setup the SOPAC online registration site (Nick Baba)
- . **Done,** Someone to setup the SOPAC & credit card process (Nick Baba)

Schedule

April 13

- . **Done,** Develop Registration Form (this will make sure that we have all the necessary information for marketing)

April 27th

- . **Done,** Develop and approve post card

April 27th~May 1st

- . Develop Newspaper Ad

- . **Done,** Develop Online Registration Form and credit card process

May 10th

- . Mail post cards

- . Advertise in newspapers for the week of May 17th thru May 23rd

May 26th ~ July 19th Season

- . May 26th week at local facility – one day of practice

- . June 1st week at local facility – one day of practice

- . June 8th week at local facility – one day of practice

- . **June 14th Game 1 – CDM / Newport 1pm & 2pm**

- . June 15th week at local facility – one day of practice

- . **June 21st Game 2 – TBD Facility**

- . June 22nd week at local facility – one day of practice

- . **June 28th Game 3 – Lake Forest?**

- . June 29th week at local facility – one day of practice

- . **July 5th No Game – Independence Day Weekend**

- . June 6th week at local facility – one day of practice

- . **July 12th Game 4 – Los Alamitos**

- . June 13th week at local facility – one day of practice

- . **July 19th Game 5 – Tustin?**

Draft Registration Form – This will be online at www.sopacwp.org



USA Water Polo
Southern Pacific Zone
Water Polo - Registration Form
Splash Ball Program



usawaterpolo.org

sopacwp.org/splash

2009 Spring Season: May 26th thru July 19th

Practices: One Day per Week

Games: Sunday afternoon; 6/14, 6/21, 6/28, 7/12; 7/19

Ages: 5 to 9 years of age; both boys and girls

Facilities: CDM/Newport, Irvine, Lake Forest, Los Alamitos, Tustin

Email: splashball@sopacwp.org

To encourage young athletes from the age of 5-9 years of age to register and play water polo in a fun relaxing environment. Furthermore, the water polo rules have been modified to allow the young athlete to develop the water polo skills, games concepts, and teamwork.

Children need to be water safe.



If necessary, Swim Floats will be available.

Register Online at www.sopacwp.org

Strategic combination of basketball and soccer in the water

Introductory Program into Water Polo

Intermediate and Advanced Water Polo Available; email splashball@sopacwp.org

Athletes First Name: _____	Last Name: _____
Birth Year: _____	Current Age: _____ Gender (M of F): _____
Current Grade: _____	Current School: _____

Parents Name: _____	Cell Phone: _____	Email: _____
Address: _____	City: _____	State: _____
Alternate Contact: _____	Cell Phone: _____	Email: _____

Medical/Allergies, or Concerns:	<input style="width: 500px; height: 30px;" type="text"/>
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Select Facility	
CDM / Newport - CDM High School: <input type="checkbox"/>	Mon or Wed 5.00-6.00pm
Irvine - Woollett Aquatics Center: <input type="checkbox"/>	Tue or Thu 4.30-5.30pm
Lake Forest - El Toro High School: <input type="checkbox"/>	Wed 5.30-6.30pm
Los Alamitos - Joint Forces Training Base Pool: <input type="checkbox"/>	Mon or Wed 6.30-7.30pm
Tustin - Beckman High School: <input type="checkbox"/>	Tue or Thu 5.00-6.00pm
<i>Note: day of the week practices will be scheduled based on total registration.</i>	

Payment Info
Name: _____
CC#: _____
Expiration Date: _____

No experience necessary
Bring a suit and towel
Lots of fun and excitement



Swim Better
Play a Fun Sport
Gain Confidence
Make Friends

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Easy to Learn!



Back



USA Water Polo, Inc.
Southern Pacific Zone

For more detailed information; go to www.sopacwp.org or email splashball@sopacwp.org

Register Online at www.sopacwp.org

- * \$100 Registration fee includes a team t-shirt
- * 8 weeks of fun practices
- * 5 games on Sunday afternoons
- * Season: May 18th to July 12th
- * Note: Corona Del Mar has additional \$50 city pool use fee

Facility Practice Centers

- * Corona Del Mar (Mon or Wed : 5-6pm)
- * Irvine (Tue or Thu 4.30-5.30pm)
- * Lake Forest (Wed 5.30-6.30pm)
- * Los Alamitos (Mon or Wed : 6.30-7.30pm)
- * Tustin (Tue or Thu 5-6.00pm)

Children need to be water safe.



If necessary, Swim Floats will be available.

Zero Experience Necessary
You Bring the Suit and Towel
We bring the fun & excitement



usawaterpolo.org

USA Water Polo
Southern Pacific Zone
Water Polo - Registration Form
Splash Ball Program



sopacwp.org/splash

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Frequently Asked Questions

Does my child need to know how to play water polo? Splash Ball has been setup specifically for those children that are beginner to water polo and the want to learn. We will have water polo trained coaches that will do the teaching and explain all aspects of water polo and some swim stroke techniques.

What gender is available to play? Any boy or girl are welcome to register with Splash Ball. The required age is 5 to 9 years of age.

Is Water Polo a rough sport to play; especially for young children? The Splash Ball program has been designed and structured as a NO CONTACT program. This will allow new athletes to experience a new sport and learn to have fun playing water polo.

What facility do I sign up for? I'm not sure how I pick a facility? There are 5 facilities that you may select to register and play water polo. Please pick the facility and times that fit your schedule. The Tustin and Irvine facilities are very close and the athletes may not get their primary choice based on balancing the teams. First come basis and residence location will also determine the facility you chose and are assigned.

What is the cost and what do we get? The cost is \$100 per athlete which includes 8 weeks of water polo. There is one practice per week and 5 games on Sunday. You will get great coaches, fun players to play with, a t-shirt, and hopefully a team that brings snacks. Because we all know at ages 5 to 9 – sports is really about the after game snacks.

Why is there a pool use fee for CDM/Newport facility? This is a city facility that requires an additional fee for the use of the pool facilities. The additional fee for CDM/Newport facility is \$50 per athlete.

How do I pay to signup? You will be signing up online at www.sopacwp.com which is the zone for USA Water Polo for these facilities. Our credit card processing will be done by Irvine Water Polo Club.

Can I pay by check? If necessary, we can make arrangements to take checks. Please send email request to splashball@sopacwp.com.

What if I have an older child that would like to try and play water polo? Please send an email to splashball@sopacwp.com and we will send you the information to the closest facility and organization. There are many teams in the area that can teach your older child to play and have fun with water polo.

What should I bring to practice / games? Please bring a great enthusiasm and excitement along with a swim suit and towel. A speedo type swim suit or jam swim suit would be best for boys; and a full piece swim suit for girls.

How do I get more information on Splash Ball or Water Polo? Please send email to splashball@sopacwp.com.

Startup Process

- You will receive a list with all your players information
- An email will go to all the facility players with the coaches contact information
- The first day of practice; Facility should be ready to welcome the players
- T-shirts will be delivered by the previous practice before the 1st game
- A parent should be identified as a Team “MOM” or “DAD” to organize snacks after each game. TRUST ME on this one – kids this age only remember the snacks.

Practices

Each practice needs to be filled with “**Fun**”, “**Positive Encouragement**”, “**Easy to Understand Instructions**”, and “**Smiling Coaches**”

Skills, Training, and Strategy

- Each facility has capable and experienced coaches and therefore we are not planning to provide a structured practice format.
- USA Water Polo has documents on H2O Ball that we encourage coaches to review and use as a guideline

Game Play

- We are planning and will enforce the no contact rule
- Small and light bumping will occur based on the ability of the players; and therefore these episodes may not be considered contact
- All games will officiated by the coaches from the facilities
- Score will be kept for each period; and the score board will be reset to 0 – 0 at the start of each period.
- If one team is much stronger, a non-Splash Ball player age 10U may be allowed to play.
- **MUST PLAY RULE!** All players must get playing time! Splash Ball’s first priority is to create a fun magnetic environment to encourage the players to continue playing water polo.

Game Playing

- 8 players per team (if there are 10 then make the adjustment for each game)
- 35 minutes of games (10 minutes in between)
- 0:00 to 0:05 minutes
 - Superman ball in front swim relay
- 0:07 to 0:12 minutes
 - Dribble ball in swim relay
- 0:14 to 0:19 minutes
 - Throw/Swim/Throw/Swim relay
 - Ball hits wall or past wall or player – the next swimmer can go
- 0:21 to 0:26 minutes
 - Swim and Shoot in Goal; Relay (eight players)
 - 8 players from both teams
- 0:28 to 0:33 minutes
 - Water Polo Game – 6 players; may use 10U players (no more than 3)