



Internal regulations

Hopla Cup 2024

(U9-U11-U13)



The purpose of this regulation is to identify a number of fundamental values and principles that regulate the atmosphere in which the organizers wish the "Hopla Cup" tournament to take place.

This regulation is largely based on the "ETHICS AND DEONTOLOGY CHARTER OF SWIMMING" adopted by the Extraordinary General Assembly of the FFN on December 9, 2017.

It applies to all actors of the tournament, players, coaches, leaders, referees, companions, spectators/supporters, etc.

It is structured around two main themes:

1. The sporting spirit and the values of water polo.
2. The ethical rules applicable more specifically to the actors.

It is important to keep in mind that the Hopla Cup is a competition for children and young adolescents, who are less "armed" (or more sensitive) to certain issues or reflections due to their age.

Each coach, referee, and supporter must use appropriate language to encourage an audience under the age of 13.

The goal is for everyone to enjoy this weekend of gathering, which is intended to be warm, fraternal, and festive. We first and foremost want each actor to enjoy playing, watching, or cheering on, with the ideal of a certain communion of all.

Remember, they are just children, it's a sport, it's just a game, it's their game. The coaching staff is often voluntary, the referee is a human being, and it's not the World Cup.

1. Principe I - To have a sporting spirit in sport and in life means to:

To have a sporting spirit in sport and in life means to:

- Be respectful of the game, the rules, oneself, others, and the organization,
- Be honest, fair, and loyal,
- Be supportive, altruistic, and fraternal,
- Be tolerant.

2. Principe II - The fundamental values of sport

- The fundamental values of sport
- Be open and accessible to all, regardless of skill level,
- Promote equality of opportunity,
- Promote cohesion and connection between all actors in sport,
- Reject all forms of discrimination.

3. Principe III

The sporting spirit and the values of sport must be taught, promoted, and defended.

4. Principe IV - Respect

- Respect all actors in the competition: partners, opponents, referees and officials, coaches and trainers, leaders, organizers.
- Competition is synonymous with opposition and competitiveness. However, such a confrontation is a source of pleasure, exchange, and fulfillment only when it takes place in courtesy and mutual respect, without aggression.
- Opponents and partners, coaches or leaders, referees and officials, organizers, facility managers all play an essential role in the smooth running of the competition. Their actions must be respected equally. It should never be devalued but rather be enhanced through appropriate actions.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- All participants in the game should always behave in a courteous and respectful manner. They should refrain from making critical, insulting, or mocking remarks about other participants in the competition. They should be aware of the negative consequences that disrespectful behavior, on or off the field, can have on themselves, other participants, the competition, and the sport.
- Educators, coaches, and leaders play an essential role in ensuring the smooth running of sporting events. They should set an example by behaving in a dignified and respectful manner, and they should send positive messages that encourage other participants, especially athletes, to behave in a similar way.
- It is important to adopt attitudes before, during, and after matches that promote courtesy and highlight the role of each participant.

5. Principe V – Self-Respect

Before you can respect others, you must first respect yourself.

This concept could be defined as the pursuit of self-confidence, the fidelity to one's convictions, the preservation of one's freedom of choice and thought without harming that of others, and finally, the protection of one's body and mind.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

In order to achieve self-respect, each actor in the tournament must, in particular, pay attention to:

- Taking care of their appearance, dress, and language;

- Not adopting an attitude or uttering words that could lead to a loss of self-esteem;

Pour parvenir à se respecter, chaque acteur du tournoi doit notamment veiller à :

- Soigner son apparence, sa tenue, son langage ;
- Ne pas adopter une attitude ou proférer des paroles qui pourraient conduire à une perte d'estime de soi ;

6. Principe VI – Respect the Decisions of Referees and Officials

- Referees and officials are the guarantors of the application of the rules and, as such, they perform an essential function without which there would be no tournament.
- They can make mistakes of judgment (just like the athlete) which must be absolutely accepted as the hazards of competition. These should not be discussed and should obviously never give rise to excessive, offensive or violent reactions.
- Respecting the decisions of referees and officials is an essential condition for the smooth running of the tournament and, more broadly, for the good image that we want to give it.
- In addition, referees and officials are full-fledged sports actors and they should be perceived that way. They are members of sports institutions of which they are an integral part, including the club to which they belong. There is no need to categorize referees and officials or to consider that, because of their function, their status is different from that of other actors in swimming. Such a perception can harm the proper assimilation of the role of referees and officials.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- All participants, whether amateur or high-level athletes, all leaders and sports officials, must observe a duty of restraint towards referees and officials, which means never challenging their decisions by gesture or word, nor denigrating their performance in public.
- Organizers must protect the functions of referees and officials. They must permanently promote, through any appropriate action (pre-match or post-match protocols in water polo, playful activities during training, etc.), the understanding by participants of the role of the referee and that of all officials.
- The Hopla Cup is also a tournament that allows the youngest to be initiated into the functions of referee or official, functions that are certainly complementary to that of player. This awareness/training aims to better integrate and understand the role of referees and officials in the life of clubs and the FFN.
- The presence of experienced referee mentors will allow the youngest to progress in the technical and behavioral fields, particularly in terms of stress management, communication, and conflict resolution. Communication is a major element that can really help to better understand the functions of referee and official. Novice referees will participate in training sessions prior to the tournament, in order to improve and meet the requirements of their level of practice.

7. Principe VII – The prohibition of all forms of violence and cheating

- Physical violence (hitting, injury) or psychological violence (threats, intimidation, gossip, discrimination) endangers the health, safety, or well-being of individuals and goes against the fulfillment of each person.
- Cheating or manipulating results introduces a break in equality of opportunity, undermines

fairness and the element of chance in sport.

- At all levels of practice, such deviations lead to making sport unfit to fulfill its social and educational virtues and harm its image and development, especially among the young.
- Doping is both the ultimate form of cheating and violence against oneself, one's health, and one's dignity.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- All actors in sport must accept physical or intellectual differences. They are a source of personal enrichment.
- All actors in sport must consider the refusal of all forms of violence and cheating as a moral duty. This includes, but is not limited to:
 - Verbal or physical attacks, provocations, and incitements to violence
 - Discrimination based on sex, appearance or physical abilities, social status, sexual orientation, religious or political beliefs
 - Racist, homophobic, or xenophobic attitudes
 - Maneuvers, fraud, or manipulations intended to falsify a result, the course of a game, or to gain an advantage by circumventing or bending the rules: simulation, false declaration, use of false documents, rigging, corruption, etc.
 - Damage to the property of others or the community: theft, breaking and entering, vandalism, sabotage, embezzlement, fraud, etc.
 - Overtraining and overly demanding competition systems imposed on young athletes, which are a form of violence and constitute an educational mistake.
- Disciplinary sanctions are clearly necessary to repress violence and cheating on and around playing fields, but they are not an end in themselves.
- The disciplinary approach must be complemented by a permanent educational and/or curative approach to all actors in the game, which is the responsibility of the FFN and its decentralized bodies as well as clubs and competent public authorities.

8. Principe VIII – Self-control in all circumstances

- Sport requires self-improvement but should not lead to excessive behavior.
- It is a pursuit of excellence; if at times the desire for victory and the desire for self-improvement can lead to risk-taking, neither the physical integrity of the opponent nor the respect for one's own body should suffer.
- While it is legitimate to support one's colors, it is important to remember that those of others are just as worthy and that the sporting game is part of an environment that must be respected.
- Athletes, coaches and educators, referees and administrators must remain measured in their attitude, control their words, reactions and emotions in all circumstances, regardless of the media, economic, territorial or family stakes.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Educators have a significant role to play, especially with young people, to spread, in support of an exemplary attitude, a message for psychological control of individual aggression and for a very scrupulous respect for the social and material environment.
- Referees, officials and administrators also have a primary role to play in preventing any excesses. This requires them to adopt exemplary and appropriate behavior in all circumstances, in order not to generate aggressive or violent reactions from those who are not invested with the same responsibilities, due to misunderstanding or a sense of

injustice.

9. Ethics Committe

- An ethics committee may be convened at the request of the President of Mulhouse Water-polo in the event of a breach of any of the eight principles set out above.
- The composition of the said committee will be determined by the President of Mulhouse Water-polo in accordance with the facts that have occurred.
- Sanctions may range from a simple reminder of the regulations, to suspension for one or more matches, or even to the definitive exclusion from the tournament for the person(s) or team(s) in question.

10. Fair Play Trophy

The Hopla Cup is an event based on ethics and strong values of mutual respect and fair play. Everyone involved in this competition (children, coaches, team leaders, parents, supporters, etc.) is required to respect these values.

In order to highlight these principles, the Hopla Cup Organizing Committee awards a prize called the "Fair Play Trophy". The purpose of this prize is to combat reprehensible behavior and to praise and encourage good behavior.

The evaluation of each team will be recorded on the match sheet written by the secretary of each match.

The evaluation applies to all teams for all matches of the tournament.

At the end, the teams will be ranked according to an average score awarded during all the matches of the tournament. In the event of a tie regarding the ranking of the said trophy, there will be a draw between the teams with equal points.

All teams will attend the entire Prize Giving Ceremony and will wear the t-shirt provided to each participant and handed out upon arrival.