



INTRAMURAL SPORTS INNERTUBE WATER POLO RULES

ELIGIBILITY: All players must be current students, current UCSC faculty/staff or wellness card holders. Teams must sign the signup sheet/waiver prior to their first game. Players can not play on more than one team once playoffs begin and must sign the roster/waiver of the team being played on. Participants may not have names on multiple roster/waivers once playoffs begin. Those rosters become locked at the end of the regular season. Teams can petition to add players after that based on need. To be eligible for the playoffs, a player must attend a minimum of two regular season games, even if they cannot play due to injury or illness.

FORFEITS: The IM Program has the authority to remove a team after they record two forfeits during any given season. Teams that are removed from the league due amassing two or more forfeits are not eligible for a refund of their Team Fee in whole or part.

TEAM SIZE: Teams will consist of 6 players in the pool during play. There is no maximum number of players to a team. There must be at least 2 of either gender on each team in the pool at all times. Teams that can not field that complement must be a player down. Teams must have a minimum of four members to start play.

GAME TIME: Game time is 10 minutes after the top of the hour.

EQUIPMENT: Innertubes, game caps, and a game ball will be provided. **EVERY PLAYER MUST SIT ON TOP OF THE TUBE AND WEAR PROVIDED HEAD-GEAR.**

THE GAME: The game begins when the ref drops the ball at mid-pool. All players must be at their end of the pool. The game will consist of four seven-minute periods with a running clock. There will be 2 minutes between halves. Teams change ends only at the half. The following are the players' positions: Right and Left Forwards; Right, Center, and Left Backs; Goalie. Players are to pass, catch, and throw the ball to team members or toward the goal in an attempt to score upon the opposing team. Players may use one or both hands at all times. The forward line players should remain on offense and not attempt to drop back more than half the distance to the goal. No part of the offensive players' body may penetrate the two-yard line. The defensive line should keep in mind that they are the main line of defense for the goalie and should not venture more than half way up the goal (this is optional). The Goalie's Area will extend five feet from the end of the pool, or extend two yards and span the entire width of the playing area. No offensive player is permitted in this area. The goalie may not throw the ball more than half the length of the pool at any time. The goalie may not leave his/her inner tube while effectively guarding the goal.

SUBSTITUTIONS: Substitutions may only be made during timeouts, after a goal is scored, or between halves.

TIME OUTS: There are two one-minute timeouts allowed per team. The player in control of the ball is required to call the timeout.

GENERAL RULES:

- The Penalty Area will extend twelve feet from the end of the pool or fifteen feet from the Goalie's Area line.
- Points will be awarded by the following scale: one point for each goal scored by a male; one point for each successful penalty shot by a male; two points for each successful goal or penalty shot by a female.
- A free throw is awarded after a minor infraction. The non-violating team member nearest the spot of the infraction puts the ball into play by passing or advancing the ball. Opponents may not touch, impede, or interfere with his/her attempt to pass the ball. One pass must be made before any attempted goal.
- A penalty shot is awarded to the offensive team if a player is fouled inside the four-yard line. All players except the goalie must leave the penalty area until the shot is taken. No player may be within one yard of the thrower. Should the shot be missed, the ball is free and continues in play.
- A free throw is awarded to the opposing team from the same point where the ball went out of bounds. The player nearest this exit point takes the throw.
- After each score, the ball is put into play from the supervisor by returning it to the goalie just scored upon.
- No player may leave his/her inner tube to touch or maneuver the ball; otherwise, they will be assessed a personal foul and a free throw or penalty throw is awarded to the nearest opponent.
- Also, if tipped out of the tube, a player may not touch or control the ball until back in the tube and sitting.
- A participant must remain in his/her tube at all times. If he/she falls or gets dumped out, he/she must attempt to get into the tube immediately.
- No movement in the pool or touching the ball is allowed if a player is not sitting in his/her tube.
- Anyone inside the goalie's area is considered a goalie, and that player may not throw the ball more than half the distance of the pool. The goalie may not leave his/her inner tube to perform his/her task (i.e. he must stay in the tube to block a shot). Penalty will be loss of ball.
- Players may not splash other players. Penalty will be loss of ball.
- Offensive players are not allowed in opponent's goalie area. If a free ball lands in the goalie's area, the goalie has five seconds to gain control of the ball and have it touch another player's hand out of the area.
- A player may defend him/herself while controlling the ball, but an offensive or defensive player may not use excessive force while doing his/her duties. A player may not pass the ball to him/herself.

PENALTIES:

- Losing the possession of the ball to the other team by a free throw.
- Holding the ball under water.
- Goalie throwing the ball more than half the distance of the pool.
- Offensive player entering the goalie's area without the ball.
- Holding, pushing, dunking, or dumping an opponent not possessing the ball.
- Goalie holding on to the side of the pool while catching or passing the ball.
- Persistently repeating an infraction, even after the referee has given warnings.
- Tipping an opponent out of his/her tube immediately after a score, in an attempt to discount score.
- Grabbing or touching another player around the head or neck.

A free throw is awarded to the nearest opponent on all personal fouls.

A penalty shot is awarded to the nearest player if the foul occurs within the penalty area.

Flagrant penalties will result in the offending player immediately leaving the game, and not playing the rest of the game. The offending team will play one player short for the duration of the half.

- Attacking, striking, or kicking an opponent in such a manner, as in the opinion of the referee, to endanger another person.
- Flagrantly refusing obedience to a referee's request.
- Exhibiting unsportsmanlike conduct.