

IGSA Sport Water Polo 2026 - Risk Assessment Hazard Checklist

| | | | |
|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|
| Type Of Activity | Water Polo matches | Assessment Date | 20/01/2026 |
| Assessed By | Lizzie Ramsay | | |
| Locations | Various | Activities | Year 7 – 12 Water Polo Matches |

| 1 INDOOR HAZARDS | | | 5 HAZARDS ON HILLS AND MOUNTAINS | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|---|---|--|--|
| 1.1 | Inappropriate lighting | Y | 5.1 | Slips & trips on grass, mud, rock | |
| 1.2 | Temperature | Y | 5.2 | River crossings | |
| 1.3 | Insufficient or unsuitable space | | 5.3 | Remote locations | |
| 1.4 | Untidiness – causing trip / fire hazard | Y | 5.4 | Difficult communication – weather / distance | |
| 1.5 | Stairs – dark / steep / no handrail | | 5.5 | Falling debris | |
| 1.6 | Lack of fire escapes / extinguishers / procedures | | 5.6 | Extra work imposed by terrain type / angle | |
| 1.7 | Slip / trip / fall hazards | Y | 5.7 | Lack of shelter | |
| 1.8 | Inadequate ventilation | | 5.8 | Separation of group members | |
| 1.9 | Inhalation of dust | | 5.9 | Getting lost | |
| 1.10 | Poor surfaces for activities – slips / trips / impact | Y | 5.10 | Falls from height | |
| 1.11 | Electrical hazards | | 5.11 | Extremes of weather | |
| 2 SPORTING ACTIVITY HAZARDS | | | 6 PEOPLE & ORGANISATIONAL HAZARDS | | |
| 2.1 | Uneven playing surface | | 6.1 | Lack of information, training or instruction | |
| 2.2 | Playing surface too hard or soft | | 6.2 | Poor activity planning or preparation | |
| 2.3 | Hard or sharp objects on pitch | | 6.3 | Poor activity delivery or organisation | |
| 2.4 | Sliding on Astroturf or similar surface | | 6.4 | Ignorance of rules and / or procedures | |
| 2.5 | Collisions / Conflict with surrounding objects or people | Y | 6.5 | Unsafe behaviour or attitude | |
| 2.6 | Impact from sports equipment - Ball or Clubs | Y | 6.6 | Lack of appropriate first aid equipment and experience | |
| 2.7 | Contact sport injury | Y | 6.7 | Medical conditions of participants | |
| 2.8 | Personal injury – fracture / sprains / cuts | Y | 6.8 | Poor safety control from group leaders | |
| 3 HAZARDS ON COASTS & COASTAL WATERS | | | 6.9 Poor safety awareness from participants | | |
| 3.1 | Falls from cliffs, piers, sea walls | | 6.10 | Lack of cooperation within group | |
| 3.2 | Struck by falling objects from cliff | | 6.11 | Differing skill levels within group | |
| 3.3 | Slips & falls on slopes / loose surfaces | | 6.12 | Low level of physical fitness / strength | |
| 3.4 | Quick sand & mud | | 6.13 | Aggression between participants | |
| 3.5 | Access problems due to steep angle of beach slope | | 6.14 | Aggression from crowd / public | |
| 3.6 | Collisions between water users | | 6.15 | Contact between participants increasing risk | |
| 3.7 | Swept away by wave surges | | 7 EQUIPMENT AND OTHER HAZARDS | | |
| 3.8 | Being washed against rocks / piers | | 7.1 | Crash handling | |
| 3.9 | Low water temperatures | | 7.2 | Transport to and from your activity | |
| 3.10 | Communication problems from waves / swell / distance | | 7.3 | Food poisoning | |
| 3.11 | Struck by objects in water | | 7.4 | Hazardous substances | |
| 3.12 | Stranded by tides | | 7.5 | Equipment with moving / hot parts | |
| 3.13 | Swept away by currents | | 7.6 | Heavy equipment | |
| 3.14 | Rip tides | | 7.7 | Electrical hazards from equipment | |
| 3.15 | Longshore drift | | 7.8 | Noise from equipment | |
| 3.16 | Conflicts between beach users | | 7.9 | Risk of trapping body / clothing in equipment | |
| | | | 7.10 | Inadequate environment for equipment operation | |
| | | | 7.11 | Inadequate protective equipment | |

| 4 HAZARDS ON STILL / MOVING WATER | | 8 OTHER HAZARDS SPECIFIC TO YOUR ACTIVITY | |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| 4.1 | Getting swept away from equipment or people | | |
| 4.2 | Collision with rocks in and to sides of rivers | | |
| 4.3 | Striking / trapping by submerged obstacles | | |
| 4.4 | Being dragged down by undertow | | |
| 4.5 | Restricted or impossible access to / from water | | |
| 4.6 | Access problems – rescue / getting kit into water | | |
| 4.7 | Falls from drops in level at weirs / waterfalls | | |
| 4.8 | Getting out of depth | | |
| 4.9 | Low water temperature | Y | |
| 4.10 | Separation from other people | | |
| 4.11 | Slips / trips on steep banks or uneven surfaces | | |
| 4.12 | Difficult communications | | |
| 4.13 | Remote locations | | |

IGSA Sport Risk Assessment – Water Polo

| | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------|
| Organisation Name | IGSA Sport | Number of persons involved | 2,500 |
| Nature of Activity | Water Polo Matches | Frequency of Activity | Weekly |
| Assessed By | Lizzie Ramsay | Date | 20/01/2026 |

| Hazard Ref. | Potential Effect | Existing Controls in Place | HAZPAK | Further Controls Required? | Who By |
|--------------------------|--|--|--------|--|---|
| 1.1, 1.2 | Inappropriate Lighting, Temperature | If either the lighting or temperature is not appropriate, pool staff to be informed to turn on more lights and to adjust the temperature of the pool area. | 6 | | IGSA Staff, venue convener |
| 1.4 1.7 1.10 | Trip during practice or games on slippery surrounding surface. Possible problems with tiled surface on bottom of pool, slippery or uneven | No running around pool area, all spectators should be seated when possible away from pool area. Players should be encouraged to stay off the bottom of the pool and take care in the shallow end. | 5 | Report any concerns to the pool management or local council | Pool management, Council, schools, venue convener |
| 2.5, 2.6, 2.7, 2.8 | Collisions with surrounding objects or people, Impact from sports equipment – ball, goal, Contact Sports injury, Personal injury | Players are required to conduct themselves in accordance with the rules of the game and IGSA Sport Code of Conduct. If serious injury does occur then an ambulance must be called immediately by the venue convener. | 3 | Code of Conduct and Risk warning available at venue for all to read. | IGSA Sport Venue Convener Coach / manager |
| 4.9 | Low water temperature | Pool management to monitor temperatures throughout the week and on Saturday mornings. If water is too cold, matches can be cancelled if there is no chance the water will warm up in time. | 4 | | Venue managers, conveners |
| 6.1- 6.2 | Lack of info, training, planning, preparation | Schools to ensure that girls are adequately prepared to participate. | 5 | | IGSA and school staff |
| 6.3 | Poor activity delivery or organisation | The convenor will ensure that all players are briefed regarding the organisation of the venue and intervene where necessary if problems occur during matches or at the venue. The best equipment available will be used. | 5 | | IGSA staff and convener |
| 6.4 6.5 | Ignorance of rules and / or procedures, Unsafe behaviour or attitude | IGSA Sport Code of Conduct is clear as to expectations upon players. | 5 | If any behaviour does arise, it will be dealt with swiftly by the school sport staff present | IGSA staff, school sport staff |
| 6.7 | Medical conditions of participants | Individual schools and associations to ensure their players are medically fit. | 5 | | School Sport staff |

| Hazard Ref. | Potential Effect | Existing Controls in Place | HAZPAK | Further Controls Required? | Who By |
|----------------|--|--|--------|---|--|
| 6.8, 6.9, 6.10 | Poor safety control from group leaders & participants Lack of cooperation | IGSA Sport staff to control and monitor safety through enforcing code of conduct at the trials. | 4 | | IGSA Sport staff |
| 6.11 6.12 | Differing skill levels Low level of fitness / strength | Only capable players should be nominated | 4 | | School Staff |
| 6.13 | Aggression between participants | Qualified and/or competent referees to control the game. | 4 | | Referees |
| 6.14 | Aggression from crowd/public | Coaches and spectators are bound by the IGSA Sport Code of Conduct. IGSA Sport or school staff to deal with any spectator issues that may arise. | 3 | | IGSA |
| 7.2 | Transport to and from your activity | Responsibility is with the students' school and or parents. | N/A | | School staff |
| 7.11 | Inadequate protective equipment | Players are advised to wear appropriate equipment as required by the state and national sporting associations. | 5 | | School Staff Referees |
| 8.1 | Sun Sense and Dehydration | All competitors reminded to Slip, Slop, Slap before commencing (relevant to outdoor venues). All students are expected to bring their own water bottles. | 5 | | Individual school Coach / manager / students |
| 8.2 | Lightning | Players to be advised that at the first sign of local thunder or lightening they are to abandon the round and move undercover (relevant to outdoor venues). Venue conveners to indicate when or if play is to resume | 5 | Apply the 30/30 rule | IGSA Sport Venue Convener Coach / manager |
| 8.3 | Unattended children | Venue conveners and/or schools are to take responsibility for children without supervision. | 3 | Venue conveners informed of this in online seminar. | IGSA Venue Convener School Staff |

HAZPAK ratings follow the WorkCover NSW guidelines to assist businesses to manage risks to health and safety

| | Very likely Could happen any time | Likely Could happen sometime | Unlikely Could happen but very rarely | Very unlikely Could happen, but probably never will |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--|
| Kill or cause permanent disability or ill health | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Long term illness or serious injury | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Medical attention or several days off school or work | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| First aid needed | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |

IGSA Sport Water Polo Risk Assessment 2026

Date: 20/01/2026

Level of Competition: Interschool Water Polo

Year level/s: 7-12

Organisers to check the following:

| General | YES | N/A |
|---|-----|-----|
| Permission has been obtained from parents/guardians for all students participating | Y | |
| Adequate coaches and staff are attending providing appropriate levels of supervision for competitors and spectators | Y | |
| Parents have been notified of location of venue, transport arrangements and time involved | Y | |
| First Aid Kit Available | Y | |
| Water is available for students at the venue | Y | |
| Ice is available | Y | |
| Students have been advised of personal sun protection requirements | Y | |
| A Risk Assessment has been completed | Y | |

Participants & Officials

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| Risk Warning has been published where it is likely parents and players will read it | Y | |
| Students are well informed of safety & rules | Y | |
| Wet weather & extreme heat guidelines have been given to each player | Y | |
| Venue closure app and website address have been given to each player | Y | |

Equipment / Grounds

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Only appropriate grounds are used | Y | |
| Equipment has been checked | Y | |
| Venue audit has been carried out by Venue Convener | Y | |
| Coach/manager has agreed that venue is safe for play | Y | |

Environmental

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| Weather conditions appropriate for the safe conduct of the event | Y | |
| Play cancelled if needed | Y | |