

# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

## AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saturday 12 April, to  
Monday 14 April



## OCEANIA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Thursday 17 April to  
Sunday 20 April



BOTH OF THESE EVENTS TO BE HELD AT  
SOUTHPORT YACHT CLUB WATERSPORTS CENTRE  
MICHAEL SHELLEY WAY (FORMERLY WATERSPORTS LANE)  
OXENFORD, QUEENSLAND, 4210

### HOSTED BY



### SPONSORED BY

	SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE	SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE	SPONSORSHIP AVAILABLE
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Document Version	Brief description of update	Date
Draft	Many sections unfinished – issued for venue, dates and general information	06/12/2024
09/12/2024	Dates amended in “competition Schedule” (Oceania competition) Working with Children clause amended	09/12/2024
05/02/2025	Registration process added, Teams practice times added, Refereeing notes	07/02/2025

# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

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# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

## WELCOME TO QUEENSLAND

On behalf of the Organising Committee and the Paddle Australia Canoe Polo Technical Committee (PACPTC), we welcome you to the 2025 Paddle Australia Canoe Polo National Championships to be held on the 19th-21st of March, and the 2025 Oceania Championships to be held at Oxenford on the Gold Coast, Queensland.

We recognise the *Yugambah people (to be confirmed)*, traditional owners, of the lands we are using for the competition.

### *Brief Comment on teams and players*

Paddle Australia and Paddle NSW wish to extend a special thank you to the organisers and volunteers for their hard work and commitment. It is appreciated and continues to grow Canoe Polo throughout Australia.

Every effort has been made to answer all your questions in this handbook. Please do not hesitate to get in touch should you have any questions.

**John More**

Chair, Paddle Australia Canoe Polo Technical Committee

M: 0419 874 789

E: Austeams2018@gmail.com

**Don Steel**

Event Director

M

E

## SPONSORS

Paddle Australia, Paddle Queensland and the host clubs wish to thank the following sponsors, whose generosity has been a major enabler to the organisers in delivery of these events

### Major sponsors

### Other sponsors

# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

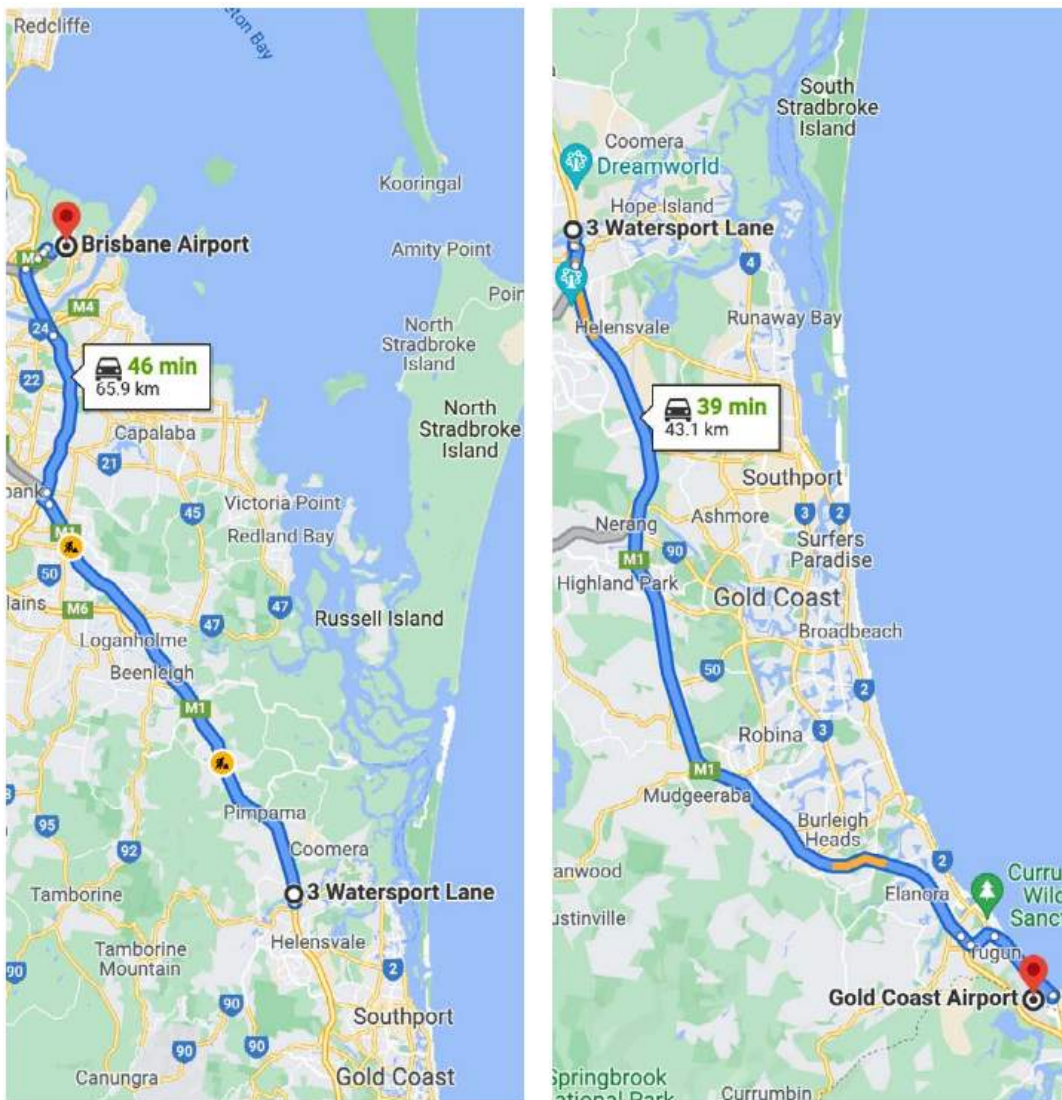
## LOCATION OF VENUE

The event will be held at  
SYC Watersports Centre,  
Michael Shelley Way (formerly Watersports Lane),  
Oxenford, QLD 4210

### Location diagrams

The park is located virtually halfway between the Brisbane airport and the Gold Coast airport. Approx drive times from both airports are shown below. The Brisbane to Oxenford route is shown using Tollways.

These can be avoided with only a small increase in the time to drive



# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

## Cafes/shopping

There is a café in the SYC Clubhouse, which will serve, snacks drinks and some basic meals. There is a shopping precinct with a number of food outlets on the Exit 57 intersection, on Heathwood Drive. This is a 3 minute drive or a 12 minute walk.

## Accommodation

There are two main Caravan Parks in the area. These are

- Big 4 Caravan Park, 66-68 Siganto Dr, Helensvale
- Coomera Village caravan Park, 2 Reserve Rd, Upper Coomera

There are any number of hotels, resorts and the like at the Gold Coast. If you need a better budget outcome, you can also consider the southern suburbs of Brisbane. You can reach the venue within 40 minutes from many southern, western and some eastern suburbs.

## Medical Facilities

There is a Medical Urgent Care Clinic. Located at 2 Leo Graham Way, Oxenford. This is 4 minutes by car and can be used for general sports injuries or general medical matters.

For more serious matters the nearest Hospital is the Gold Coast University Hospital – 21m by car.

## Parking

There is a public car park on the way into the park. It is unlikely that this will provide sufficient car parking.

**IMPORTANT NOTE IF YOU USE THE OVERFLOW PARKING**

**Please refer to the Competition Set Up under “Venue Set Up and Rules” in the sections below.**

There are rules applied to entering any area beyond public car park. You should familiarise yourself with these before leaving the public car park.



For those who like 3 words navigation, “The venue” tag is approx. – Limit. Gulls. Undertone

# **2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND**

## **VISITING THE GOLD COAST**

Xxxxxx

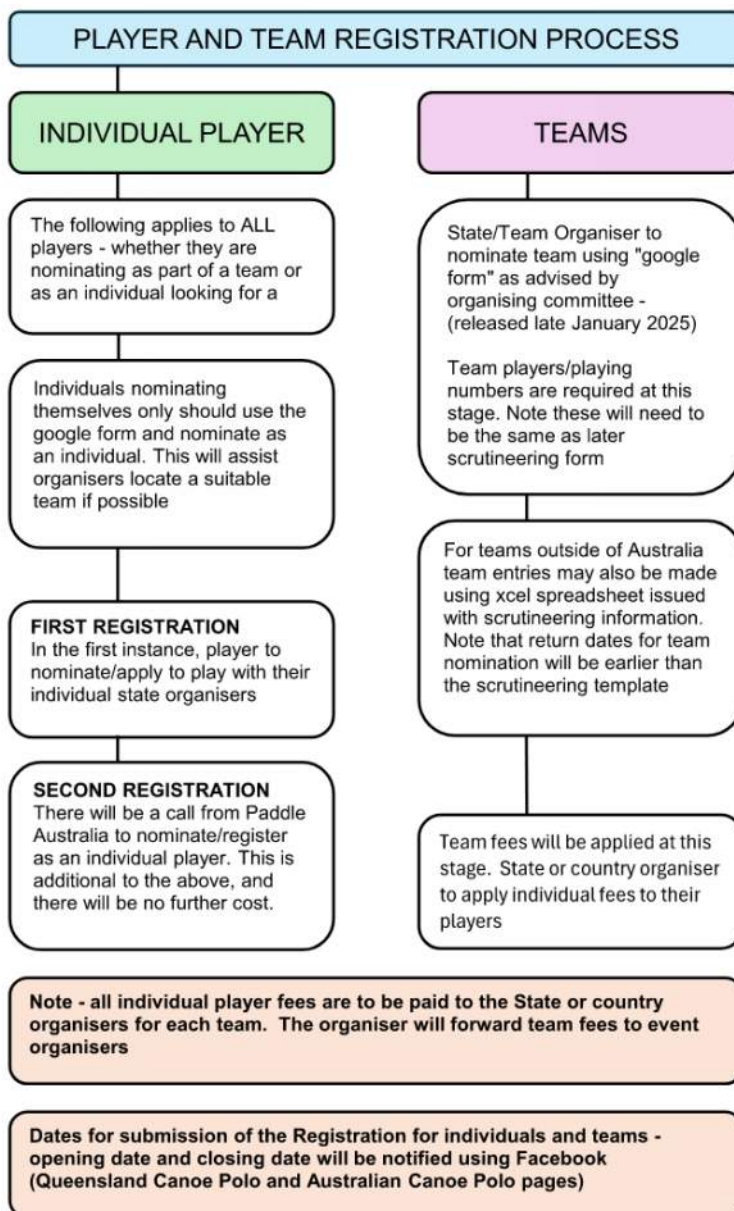
# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

## TEAM AND INDIVIDUAL NOMINATIONS

### Australian Nationals and Oceania

Both events are a teams-based events. The nomination form will be primarily set up for teams, with individual players listed as part of a team. For individual looking for a team, please refer to your state technical committee who will assist with seeking with teams looking for additional players.

### Overview of Registration process



## BRIEFINGS

### Competition Briefing

# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

A competition briefing will be held near Field 1 immediately after the Opening Ceremony on Saturday 19 April. It is recommended a representative from each team and those who will be refereeing attend. The briefing will include any rule clarifications to be applied during the weekend. Further information of refereeing can be found under the 'Refereeing' section.

## First Aider Briefing

For those who have been contacted as a rostered First Aider, there will be a short briefing outside the First Aid Marquee at (TIME TBA).

## COMPETITION COMMITTEE

Competition Director	Don Steel	
Safety Officer	Damien Reid	
Volunteer / Site Coordinator	Shaun Barclay	
Chief Referee	Siobhan Goble	
Chief Official	David Peters	
Jury Chairman		
Chief Medical Officer	Leanne Reid	

## COMPETITION JURY

The Jury for the event will be

- *Don Steel (chair) – to be confirmed*
- *Xxxxx*
- *Xxxxxx*
- *Xxxxxx*

The Competition Jury will evaluate any escalated concerns, as well as any issues/incidents referred under PA's [Canoe Polo Competition Discipline Procedure](#).

## COMPETITION SCHEDULE

*NOTE: the following is included as a place holder for now. Will need updating as more info becomes available.*

### Australian National Championship

#### Saturday 12 April

- *0730 Scrutineering where required*
- *0900 Opening Ceremony*
- *0920 Competition Briefing*
- *0945 First Aid Briefing*
- *1000 Games Commence*

#### Sunday 13 April

- *0800 Games Commence*



# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

## Monday 14 April

- *0800 Games Commence*
- *1600 Medal Ceremony*

## Team Practice times

The general part of the lake is off limits at any time there are sail boats, dragon boats and the like on the water. Take care to stay within the limits of the game area. If there are no organised practices for other disciplines or users, then the whole lake is available. If you are unsure just check with any of the event officials.

## Friday 11 April.

This is the main set-up day for the fields and environs. Although paddling space should be available on the lake during that time (assuming there are no other non-recreational users), all players will be asked to keep clear of set up areas. Officials may allow some usage if it does not interfere with any set up operations.

## Tuesday 15 April – Wednesday 16 April.

In principle, the 3 playing fields and warm up goals will be available for use by all teams. Although a “final” schedule will not be available until all team nominations have been received, the guiding principle will be as follows.

Tuesday – Aus teams on fields 3 and 4. NZ teams on field 1 and 2

Wednesday – Aus teams on fields 1 and 2. NZ teams on fields 3 and 4

NOTE: There will be some reconfiguring of the pontoons during this time. It is likely that some minor disruption will occur, but this should be only a brief time.

## Oceania Championship

### Thursday 17 April

- *0730 Scrutineering where required*
- *0900 Opening Ceremony*
- *0920 Competition Briefing*
- *0945 First Aid Briefing*
- *1000 Games Commence*
- *1800 Event get together – TBA*

### Friday 18 April

- *0800 Games Commence*

### Saturday 19 April

- *0800 Games Commence*

### Sunday 20 April

- *0800 Games Commence*
- *1600 Medal Ceremony*

# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

## Competition Draw

### Australian National Championships

*This section to be completed when entries have been finalised.*

### Oceania Championships

*This section to be completed when entries have been finalised.*

XXXXX

## Medal Ceremony

### Australian National Championships

Championship Medals will be awarded in accordance according to the following criteria.

For a division to be awarded a medal the following numbers must be nominated and start the event.

For a Gold Medal, at least two competing teams.

For a Silver Medal, at least three competing teams .

For a Bronze Medal, at least four competing teams.

All players presented with a Medal are able to return it to the Competition Committee if the player does not want to keep them. This avoids the event being unnecessarily charged for the medal by PA.

Teams from other countries are eligible to field teams in all categories. However, they will not be eligible to play in the Semi Finals or Grand Final. A separate Semi and Grand Final process will apply to international teams. Draft Teams form

Medal presentations will be held 30 minutes after the last Grand Final concludes on Monday, April 14.

The Paddle Australia trophy for the most successful state will be awarded on the basis of the success of teams in the tournament. Points will be awarded as follows:

- 20 points for gold medal (1st)
- 16 points for Silver medal (2nd)
- 14 points for Bronze medal (3rd)
- 4th, 10points; 5th, 8 points; 6th, 6 points.

In the event of a tie, the result will be decided by goal difference. Then total goals. In the case that this is still tied, then a playoff of the two Open men's team will take place.

### Oceania Championships

Similar to above, except that all teams entered to a division are eligible to play in finals and win awards.

## Event Dinner / Get Together

### Australian National Championships and Oceania Championships

# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

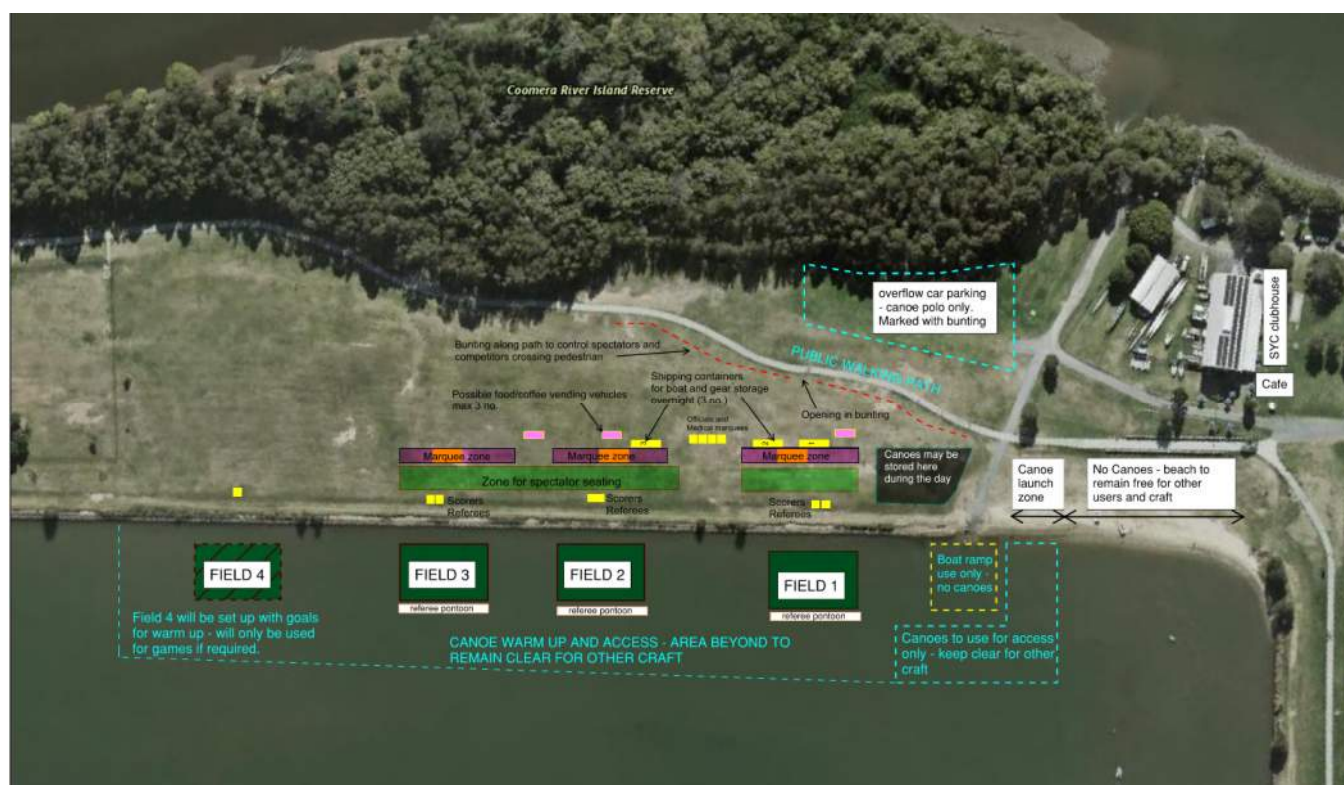
The get together dinner for both events will be a combined event. The date set aside for this is Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> March.

The venue is *still to be advised*

## VENUE SET UP AND RULES

### Competition Set Up

The following map shows the general layout of the venue. The notes that follow are an important part of the rules and locations. The issues around parking are particularly important.



The main facility is the SYC Clubhouse (at top right of layout). This building has toilet and shower facilities. Two public toilets are located on the ground level exterior of the building. There are additional toilets and showers inside the ground floor for players/officials and supporters. There is a small café on the building ground floor for snacks, coffee and basic meals.

There is a decent public car park, but access to the overflow can be gained by going to the rear of the building and accessing through the gate. The gate opens around 6.30am and closes around 6.00pm at night.

It is important to note that there will be other patrons using the lake as well as us. These include, sails boats, rowing craft and pleasure users. It is important to recognise and respect all other users of the lake and stay as close to our allotted area as possible. Always give way to other craft outside of our area.

### Car Parking and Vehicle Access to Competition area - important

The following is vital information.

# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

There are strict rules (enforceable by GCCC) around cars and the set-up area. It is recognised that the public car park will be insufficient for our needs in addition to the general public.

The rules under which we are allowed to park in the “overflow” area are.

- The speed limit must be absolutely adhered to – this is often monitored by inspectors. This is 5km/hr once you have entered from the car park.
- Only authorised set up vehicles will be allowed to cross the pedestrian pathway. This will be strictly controlled and subject to the following restrictions.
- Only authorised set up vehicles will be allowed to drive beyond the line of the overflow car park. Any such vehicle will need to be proceed with hazard lights operating. A designated guide will walk in front of the vehicle from the car park to the set-up area, and back again after unloading. The event committee will only grant access upon prior application.
- Failure to comply with the above will incur team sanctions (deduction of competition points), as non-compliance allows the GCCC to withdraw our right to be at the park.

## COMPETITION CATEGORIES

### Australian National Championships

U18	U21	Open Men	Open Women	O35	O45	O55
Mixed teams or single sex May be nominated. Possible break into gendered divisions will depend on nominations	Mixed teams or single sex May be nominated. Possible break into gendered divisions will depend on nominations			This division is not gender specific at Australian Nationals	This division is not gender specific at Australian Nationals	This division is not gender specific at Australian Nationals

### Oceania Championships

U18	U21	Open Men	Open Women	O35	O45	O55
At this level all categories are gender specific. All of these categories are open for nomination, with “A” and “B” teams encouraged.						

# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

## FIRST AID

XXXXXXXXXX

## HAZARDS AND SAFETY

### Security

XXXXX

### On water Hazards

XXXXX

### Off Water Hazards

XXXXXX

## SUNSCREEN POLICY

XXXXXXXXXX

## COMPETITION PLAYER REQUIREMENTS

PLAYER ELIGIBILITY

ANTI DOPING POLICY

## WORKING WITH CHILDREN CHECK

As part of Paddle Australia's (PA) ongoing commitment to safeguarding our sport, the event organisers, PA request that all adult officials, volunteers, coaches, or referees obtain a Working with Children Check (or equivalent) in accordance with the requirements of their State/Territory or country.

This is being requested to strengthen and safeguard our sport at all events and competitions and to mitigate risk to participants. Athletes will be asked their WWCC status when registering via JustGo and are encouraged to upload their WWCC to their JustGo profile. Note: volunteers attending these events as an athlete, spectator or volunteer are not required to hold a Working with Children Check (or equivalent) under QLD legislation, which also does not recognise a WWCC conducted outside of Queensland.

Working With Children Checks (or equivalent) for volunteers are free in all States and Territories except Tasmania and Western Australia. Where necessary PA will offset the cost for those individuals. You will need to provide PA with an invoice and banking details for reimbursement.

# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

## SCRUTINEERING

Scrutineering will be available (*time tba*) before the start of the first game on any day. All athletes are expected to undergo scrutineering in their own state or country prior to the start of the event. Contact the team manager or technical committee member in your country or state for more information.

Scrutineering at the event will be to check doubtful equipment, equipment damaged in transit or practice and consistency of team uniform and boat decoration.

There is a scrutineering form which will be made available to each state and nominating country. An image of this is below. Digital copies of the form are available from the Event Director

**Canoe Polo Scrutineering 2025**

Australian National Championships  Oceania Championships

State/Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Team: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Category: \_\_\_\_\_ Team contact & phone no: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Time slot (ie: 2:30pm): \_\_\_\_\_

Player No	Player Name	Step 1 Cosmetic			Step 2 Safety				Step 3 Technical		Comments
		Helmet	Kayak	PFD/Top	Kayak	Bumpers	Paddles	Helmet	PFD	Kayak	
1		Pass									
		Fail									
2		Pass									
		Fail									
3		Pass									
		Fail									
4		Pass									
		Fail									
5		Pass									
		Fail									
6		Pass									
		Fail									
7		Pass									
		Fail									
8		Pass									
		Fail									
9		Pass									
		Fail									
10		Pass									
		Fail									

Scrutineers name: \_\_\_\_\_

Navigation: Open Women | Open Men | U21 Women | U21 Men | Masters | U18 | +

## RULES OF PLAY

### ICF Rules – Canoe Polo

The rules of play for the Australian Championships and Oceania Championships are the ICF Canoe Polo rules dated 1 January 2023. Any exceptions will need to be negotiated prior to the event.

- 2023 Canoe Polo Rules
- 2023 Rules Appendices

These documents can be found in the ICF Website (<https://www.canoeicf.com/rules>)

### Clock Stoppages

Due to constraints of scheduling, the game clock will not be stopped after a goal is scored, except in the grand final, and last minute of games.

### Shot Clock

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The shot clock will be used in all categories other than U/18.

## REFEREEING

### Referee Quota

A referee quota is being introduced for the 2025 Canoe Polo National Championships. Each team is required to supply the specified number of qualified referees depending on the category. Ideally the qualified referees should be players within the team however we understand not all teams will be able to meet this requirement. If this is the case teams can nominate a qualified referee who must be available to referee on behalf of the team during that team's duty times (a non-player or a player in a different category). If a team cannot find suitably qualified referees available to referee on their behalf please contact the Chief Referee, Siobhan Goble, as soon as possible and we will help source suitably qualified referees on your behalf. The quota system will ensure that every game has at least 1 referee (the lead referee) qualified to referee that category. The quota system is being trialled at the 2025 Championships with the aim to introduce a stepwise system increasing the number and level of referees required each year to ensure the level of refereeing continues to improve.

#### 2025 Referee Quota

Senior Men/Senior Women: 2 x B level or above

Youth Men/Youth Women/Vets: 1 x B level or above

Masters/Juniors: 1 x C level or above

A list of currently qualified referees can be seen on the Paddle Australia [website](#).

Accredited referees are to wear their referee's shirt while officiating. Non-accredited referees are to not wear playing equipment while refereeing.

Refereeing questions may be directed to the Chief Referee, Siobhan Goble

Teams will be assigned duty and refereeing for a maximum of two games at a time. The expectation is that each team will provide two accredited referees (or referees working towards accreditation) for each game, along with a minimum of two team members to operate the duty table. Event volunteers will be on hand to assist in demonstrating the use of the scoreboards and shot clocks and utilising CompCreator to record scores.

It is the lead referee's duty to ensure games commence on time. Games are to commence on time. Any game that is delayed due to playing teams will be addressed in accordance with ICF rules. Any game that is delayed due to the assigned duty and referee team not being ready on time will receive a warning. Three warnings over the duration of the tournament, or a single instance where a game is delayed more than 5 mins past its scheduled time, will result in a 3-point penalty to the offending team.

If a team is unable to provide two referees for their scheduled games, either in a single instance or across the whole tournament, they are to raise this concern first with their State Chair to find a solution within their state. If no solution can be found, then the issues should be raised as soon as possible with the Chief Referee.

Where alternative referees are provided, the alternative referee cannot be called from a state represented by either of the playing teams. Sanctions will apply for breaches of this rule.

# 2025 PADDLE AUSTRALIA CANOE POLO CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE GOLD COAST, QUEENSLAND

## Referee Briefing

A referee briefing for all nominated referees and state managers will be held on Saturday 12th April before the commencement of games. The time will be announced with the schedule

## Referee Assessment

We encourage all players to read and familiarise yourself with the rules. Note that refereeing accreditation is available to aspiring referees at the Australian Nationals, in accordance with the PA Referee Accreditation Scheme. If you wish to sit the theory exam at the National Championships please contact Siobhan Goble.

The scheme policy is available via the following link

<https://paddle.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Referee-accreditation-scheme.pdf>

Please note that for any documents referenced as above we will provide hard copies at the event for reference.

## TEAM FEES

### Australian National Championships

Open Teams, and other seniors	\$400
U/21 Teams	\$350
U/18 teams	\$300

### Oceania Championships

Open Teams and other seniors	\$400
U/21 Teams	\$350
U/18 teams	\$300

Team Fees are payable to,

Account Name: Brothers Canoe Club

BSB: 034063

Acct: 338434