



ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA WATERPOLO CHAMPIONSHIPS

School Sport Australia will not be conducting the annual SSA Waterpolo Championships in 2019.

This decision by the School Sport Australia (SSA) Board has not been made lightly. After lengthy consultation with SSA member bodies and Waterpolo Australia (WPA) over three years, the Board has concluded that in the best interests of the Sport, participants and families, these Championships not be held.

SSA has seen a gradual decline in state representation at these Championships and with the knowledge that the interest in these Championships will further decline, the Sport of Waterpolo, will no longer satisfy the minimum requirement of 'Championship' status under the School Sport Australia banner. This being

*'A minimum of four teams representing member bodies participate in any Championship to be granted approval as a "School Sport Australia Championship".
General Policies – National Programs*

School Sport Australia and Waterpolo Australia jointly believe that with the new WPA competitions for multiple age groups being launched in 2019, many more waterpolo student athletes will be able to have ample opportunity to participate in interstate competition to showcase their abilities without the duplication of events and increased financial pressure.

The SSA Board considered the implications of making this decision and understands that students will not be disadvantaged. Waterpolo Australia now provides the pathway for athletes.

SSA works collaboratively with all National Sporting Organisations and will continue to engage with WPA in supporting the development of the game of Waterpolo.

On behalf of the SSA Board,
President
Graeme Jennings

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graeme Jennings', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

12 September 2018