

2024



**Water Polo
Postseason Handbook**

UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE

WATER POLO POSTSEASON HANDBOOK

Congratulations to schools who will represent their district in post-season play! Please read the following information carefully regarding the UIL Water Polo postseason information.

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IMPORTANT DEADLINES

Certification Deadlines for Water Polo Playoffs.

October 5	District Certification Deadline
October 8	Bi-District Certification Deadline
October 12	Area Certification Deadline
October 15	Regional Quarterfinal Certification Deadline
October 18-19	Regional Tournaments
October 25-26	STATE TOURNAMENT

Brackets. (*required for each round of playoffs)

- Updating playoff information in the brackets is **REQUIRED** starting with Bi-District results.
- Winning teams must submit playoff game results (scores) and next-round details (location, date, and time) immediately after each game via MaxPreps. (If the location is unknown immediately following the game, it should be updated as soon as possible)
- The accuracy of UIL brackets depends on timely updates from coaches.
- UIL syncs schedules, scores, and rosters from MaxPreps to uiltexas.org for postseason publications. Keep this information current throughout the season.

Learn more about MaxPreps Sign in or register for a MaxPreps.com account:

<https://www.uiltexas.org/athletics/uil-maxpreps>

Post-Season Warmup Games.

Teams can schedule a warm-up game after district certification if they have a first-round bye and have not reached their allowable season match limit. This game can be scheduled like any other regular season match. Teams that have exhausted their allowable season match limit are given a UIL one game exception under the following conditions:

- Teams that are District Champions and have a first-round bye
- The one-game exception can be played only at the end of your school day on Friday or the last day of instruction (**with no loss of school time**) or anytime on Saturday.

POSTSEASON GAME INFORMATION

Site Selection. Sites for all rounds of playoffs prior to the regional tournament are to be selected by the teams involved. See Section 1208 (o)(p) of the UIL Constitution and Contest Rules. If schools cannot agree, they must flip a coin.

- **Neutral Sites:** A site mid-point or near mid-point, or a site agreed on by both schools as neutral, is a neutral site. Unless mutually agreeable, a site cannot be neutral if its distance from either school is more than two-thirds the total distance between the schools.
- **Home Sites:** When two schools flip for two separate sites other than their home field or court, the sites are considered home sites unless both sites are near mid-point.
- **Mid-Point Sites:** Unless mutually agreed otherwise, post-district contests in the team sports of baseball, basketball, soccer, softball, team tennis, volleyball, and water polo shall be a mid-point site for schools located more than 100 miles apart.

Officials. Officials for bi-district, area, regional quarterfinal, regional semifinal games, and state semifinal games will be determined by the two competing schools. If officials cannot be agreed upon by both teams,

the team on the top of the bracket will need to include a list of chapters that they prefer to not call the game (scratch list) that is representative of both teams and the UIL will make the assignment. Officials for the regional final games and state final games will be selected by the UIL.

- Official's Assignment Request Form: <https://www.uil texas.org/form/officials-request/water-polo.php>

Program Information for State Championships.

Teams advancing to the Regional Tournament must submit the following materials to the UIL office by the *end of the day, Wednesday – October 16th*. This is an important step in providing you with the best possible program at the State Championships.

- Team Information Form
 - List of players, coaches, etc., and **all** matches played) –
 - To be completed online at:
 - Boys - <https://www.uil texas.org/forms/team-info-water-polo-boys>
 - Girls - <https://www.uil texas.org/forms/team-info-water-polo-girls>
- Pictures Submission Form
 - We will be collecting your school photo submission through an online form
 - To be completed online at <https://www.uil texas.org/machform/view.php?id=949239>
 - Team Picture
 - Head Coach Picture
 - Logo

REGIONAL TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Date. Saturday, October 18-19, 2024. Regional sites for all conferences can be found on the UIL website at <http://www.uil texas.org/water-polo/regional-sites>.

Entry Fees. Fees are determined by each regional director.

Officials. The two competing teams will select officials for the semifinal games. If officials cannot be agreed upon by both teams, the team on the top of the bracket will need to include a list of chapters that they prefer to not call the game (scratch list) that is representative of both teams and the UIL will make the assignment. Regional Final games will be selected by the UIL.

Game Time. The regional director will determine the schedule for the regional tournament.

Draw. The brackets online indicate the regional qualifiers and illustrate exact pairings for the regional tournaments.

Hotels. Each school is responsible for its own hotel arrangements.

Entry Forms. Each district representative is responsible for sending team information to the regional director immediately after the district representatives are certified. UIL does not send team information to regional sites.

Security. Adequate security should be provided for all playoff games, whether the game is played at a neutral site or on the home court of one of the teams.

Spirit Buses. Please contact your regional site if you plan on bringing spirit buses.

Pep Bands. No Pep bands will be allowed at the regional and state tournaments.

Certification of Regional Champions.

Regional directors are responsible for certifying state qualifiers upon the conclusion of the Regional Tournaments. AJ Martinez will be in touch with qualifying coaches prior to the State Tournament.

Congratulations on a great season!! If we can be of any assistance, please let us know.

2024-2025 Post Season Video Broadcast Information

Live or tape-delayed video broadcasts of a postseason contest require approval from the UIL. The UIL retains all broadcast rights to postseason contests and has granted rights to its broadcast partners (NFHS Network and Bally Sports Southwest), who have first rights to all postseason activities. Please see below for more information. Any questions should be directed to the UIL Media Department: pr@uiltexas.org

Broadcast Opportunities for UIL Member Schools:

1. Non-Commercial Academic Video Broadcasts

Schools interested in doing a non-commercial Academic Video Broadcast must submit this form by noon the business day prior to the event: [UIL Member School Playoff Video Broadcast Request](#). There are no fees to do an academic broadcast.

The UIL defines an Academic Broadcast as a broadcast with an educational purpose that is produced solely by a UIL-member school and/or school district primarily using school facilities, equipment, staff, and students without any commercial relationship for the financial benefit of another party.

To be approved, the broadcast must feature at least one high-definition camera and an on-air broadcaster. Any use of professional broadcasters should be as an exception on a limited basis and on a non-paid, volunteer basis. Regular season commercial obligations cannot be applied to postseason academic broadcasts.

Schools may air postseason broadcasts LIVE if approved by UIL. Additionally, schools may distribute the broadcast via their school or district website or via their official school-affiliated social media or YouTube channels. Other commercial .com websites are prohibited. The web page where the broadcast is to appear should be free of sponsor logos.

Failure to comply with the above may result in future prohibition of academic broadcasts.

2. NFHS School Broadcast Program Webcast

Schools who are members of the NFHS Network School Broadcast Program (SBP) and wish to broadcast an event on the network must submit this form by noon the business day prior to the event: [UIL Member School Video Playoff Broadcast Request](#). There are no fees to do an NFHS School Broadcast Program webcast.

WHAT IS THE NFHS SCHOOL BROADCAST PROGRAM?

The School Broadcast Program (or SBP) lets high schools produce and broadcast their own games, pep rallies, news shows, and any other event live on the NFHS Network. The NFHS Network has a dedicated support team and account managers to assist these schools with using the platform to stream their events. Most of these events are done by the actual students, and it is a great way for them to get real world experience and exposure to an always evolving technology platform. To learn more about SBP, please visit: <https://www.nfhsnetwork.com/sbp>

Media Outlets

Media outlets and third party, non-school affiliated broadcast entities interested in video broadcasting a postseason contest have two options, abbreviated below. Full information can be found online, [linked here](#).

1. NFHS Production Partner

Media outlets may enter into an agreement with Sports in Action on behalf of the NFHS Network to produce and distribute one or more postseason contests exclusively on the NFHS Network. Outlets interested in participating should contact Sports in Action at sublicense@sportsinaction.com to be set up as an NFHS Production Partner.

2. Sublicense Video Rights

In the occurrence the contest is not being produced by UIL broadcast partners, the contest may be sublicensed to interested media outlets. Media outlets must complete this form by noon the business day prior to the event: [Playoff Video Broadcast Request form](#) and receive an approval email from Sports In Action.

The approved broadcaster is responsible for communication with the schools for selected broadcasts. The approved broadcaster will schedule the set-up and tear-down times for equipment with the schools and the venues. The approved broadcaster is responsible for any expenses associated with the broadcast. UIL approval does not guarantee preferred placement, accommodations are at the discretion of the host venue.