

Key Underwater Hockey Rules

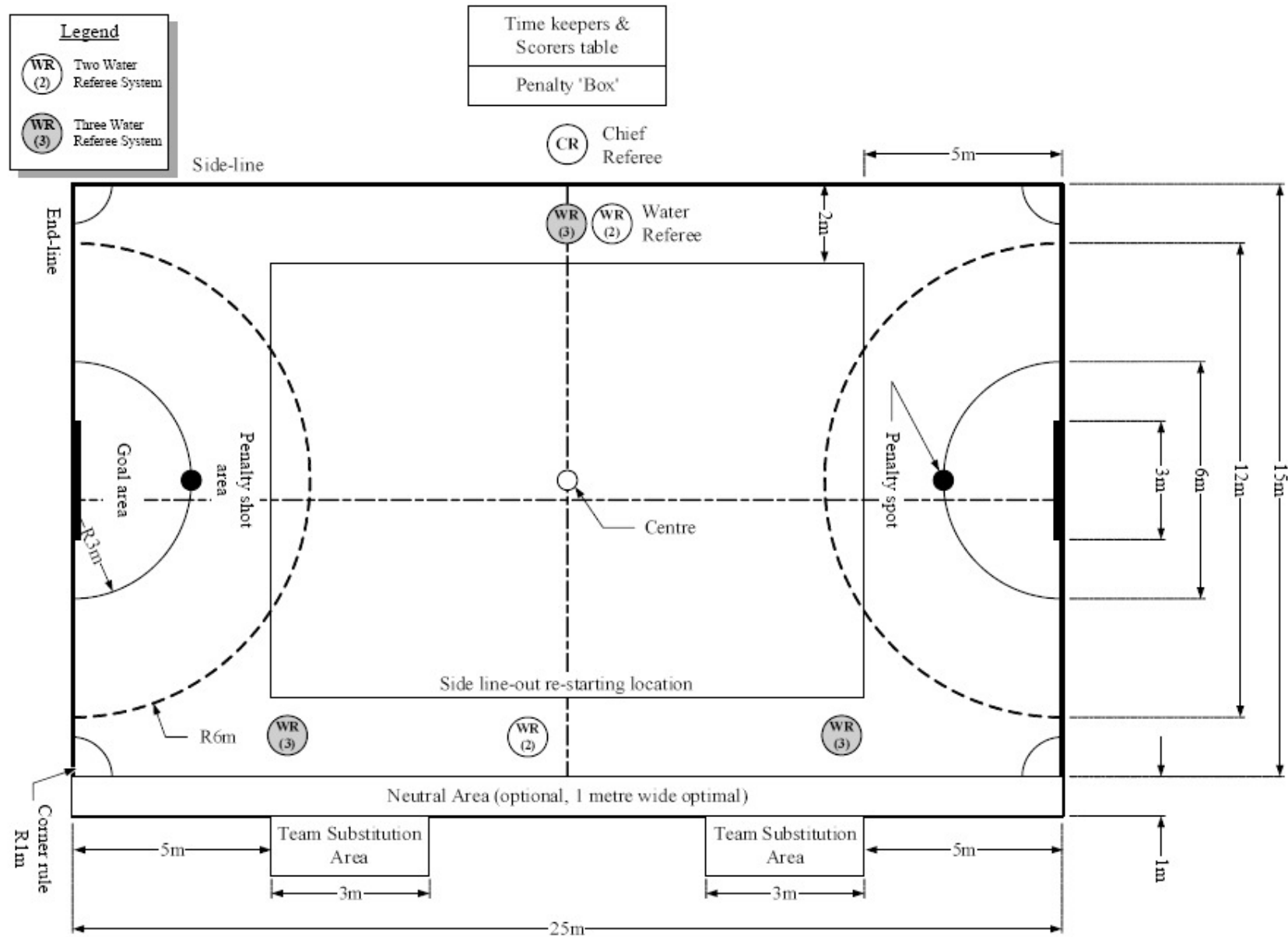
Equipment

- Each player is to be equipped with :
 - a mask, which must have safety glass fitted
 - a non-metal, pliable snorkel
 - a pair of conventional underwater hockey fins (pliable)
 - a head cap with ear protectors
 - an underwater hockey stick
 - A mouthguard (internal or external)
 - a protective glove which must not contain any rigid or sharp reinforcing material.
- The stick is to be made of wood, plywood or any other homogeneous material that floats horizontally in the water.
- It must fit within a box 350mm x 100mm x 50mm dimensions and have no sharp edges (i.e. radius >10mm)
- The playing area of the stick must be uniformly black or white. (Your name can be written discretely on the handle).
- The handle of the stick must not protrude from the heel of the hand by more than 25mm.
- A wrist lanyard can be used to secure the stick (or the stick may be taped to the hand).

Playing the Puck

- A player is said to be 'in possession' whilst the player's stick is in contact with the puck.
- Any part of the stick's playing area may be used to play the puck. However, the puck must not be lifted up or carried on the stick; if it is lifted accidentally onto a stick, it must be dropped off immediately.
- The puck may be pushed or passed in any direction along the pool bottom anywhere within the playing area by the player in possession.
- Players must not handle the puck with either hand. Should the puck *accidentally* touch the back of the playing hand, this will not be considered handling the puck unless used deliberately to advance the puck (Gloving).
- A player may use either hand to hold the stick, and can change hands
- While in possession, only one hand may be on the stick, the other hand must not be used to support the wrist or arm.

Pool layout



FOULS



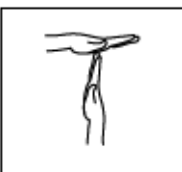
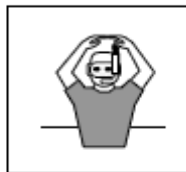
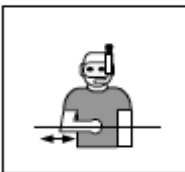
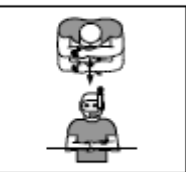


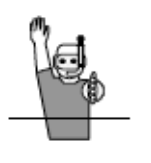
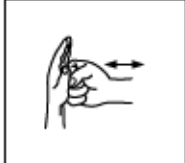





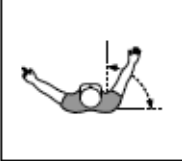
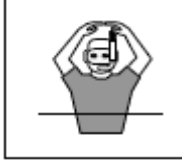
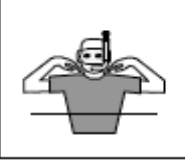






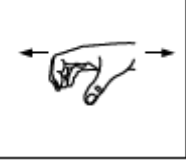


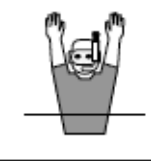
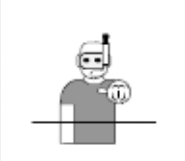
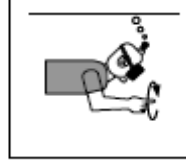


Players may be penalised for the following rule infringements:

1. Breaking at the start of play or the restart of play after an infringement
2. Standing on the pool bottom in a way that interferes with play
3. Holding the puck in the corner as the third consecutive player from one team.
4. Having more than 6 players in the water or allowing a substitute to enter the water to replace a player who has been given a time penalty.
5. Advancing, or attempting to play the puck with anything other than the playing area of the stick.
6. Handling the puck with the free or playing hand; this includes guiding the puck with an outstretched finger.
7. Lifting or carrying the puck balanced on a stick.
8. Obstructing an opponent in any way whilst not in possession of the puck.
9. Behaving in any way or using conduct which in the opinion of the Officials can be considered contrary to the sportsmanlike conduct of the game.
10. Stopping or attempting to stop a goal being scored with anything other than the playing area of the stick.
11. Covering or obstructing the puck with any part of the body or equipment, whilst not in possession, to prevent access to the puck by other players.
12. Attempting to gain possession of the puck by obstruction. (or actively obstructing, e.g. pushing a player away or using body to push opponents out of the way) (curling up or pushing puck under body when stationary is allowed)
13. Using hands, arms or body in any way to grasp, pull or push an opponent or their stick.
14. Removing or attempting to remove an opponent's equipment.
15. Insulting, by word or gesture, other players or the Officials.
16. Refusing to accept any decisions made by the Officials.
17. Physically attacking or deliberately hurting an opponent or striking or attempting to strike an opponent with any part of the body or equipment. This includes any action taken in retaliation
18. Deliberately flicking the puck out of bounds
19. Grabbing or holding the barriers
20. Free arm violation (elbowing)
21. Removing the puck from the gulley
22. Dangerous play (e.g. headshot, over-arm swimming)
23. Leaving the Penalty box incorrectly (must slide in)

Note -This is based on V1.01 of the World Aquachallenge Association rules. A full copy of the WAA rules of Underwater Hockey can be obtained from www.therefereesguild.org.

Kevin Hyman © 2007
Comments to fgoc @ bigfoot.com

REFEREE SIGNALS

						
Ready to start play	Stop Play	Time	Time-out	Illegal use of free arm	Obstruction, Barging, Blocking, Shepherding	
						
Advantage puck			Advancing puck /	Stick infringement	Illegally stopping the puck	Call by referee
						
Equal puck	Time penalty	Total Dismissal	Time suspension		Illegal substitution	
						
Goal	No Goal (Penalty)	Penalty shot	Un-Sportsmanlike conduct	Breaking, False Start or Encroachment	Grabbing and / or pulling on wall barriers	
						
Penalty goal			Caution	Infringement seen but Advantage rule in effect	Side-Line-Out or Puck Out-of-Bounds	Corner Rule