



Elmhurst Aquatics Water Polo Playing Time Policy

In an effort to attain a high level of transparency between coaches and families with regard to playing time expectations, we've created the following Elmhurst Aquatics Playing Time Policy. This policy will be fluid as our club evolves, so families will be made aware when/if we do make policy adjustments.

**Please note: if an athlete at any age level is not at practices during a given week, it is too difficult for coaches to abide by this policy at tournaments, as the athlete may not know the strategic or team oriented goals going into their game(s), making execution difficult for that player and that player's teammates. Therefore, if a player misses practices in a given week, coaches are not required to follow this policy at the following weekend's games.*

I. REGULAR SEASON GAMES AND NON-QUALIFYING TOURNAMENTS

High School (Premier, Futures, 18U, 16U): Playing time will not be even, but each player will play at least one quarter on average per game over the course of the tournament or season. For example, if it's a tight game, a given player might not get in. Coaches will make that time up in either previous or subsequent games so the minimum average of one quarter per game is met over the course of the season or tournament. **Double rostered players** may not reach that one quarter minimum with premier, as that time will easily be made up at futures games.

14U: Playing time will be evenly distributed among most players. Some more experienced players will likely play more just to keep our systems organized as newer players learn the game. Each player can expect to play at least one quarter in every game. If this does not happen because of the nature of the game, those minutes will be made up in other games. **Double rostered** players playing "up" an age group may not reach the one quarter minimum, as that time will easily be made up in their 12U games.

12U: Playing time will be evenly distributed among most players. Some more experienced players will likely play more just to keep our systems organized as newer players learn the game. Each player can expect to play at least one quarter in every game. If this does not happen because of the nature of the game, those minutes will be made up in other games. **Double rostered** players playing "up" an age group may not reach the one quarter minimum, as that time will easily be made up in their 10U games.

10U: Playing time will be evenly distributed among all players regardless of skill or experience levels.

II. END-OF-SEASON CHAMPIONSHIP TOURNAMENTS, MEDAL GAMES WITHIN TOURNAMENTS, GAMES NEEDED TO QUALIFY FOR FUTURE EVENTS/TOURNAMENTS

High School, 14U, 12U: Playing time will not be evenly distributed, and some players may not get in games. Coaches will determine playing time distribution.

10U: Playing time will be evenly distributed among all players regardless of skill or experience.

III. SCRIMMAGES

All Levels: Playing time will be evenly distributed among all players regardless of skill or experience.