

Welcome to the 3rd Annual Orange County Cup



Here are the 2026 Captain's Notes!

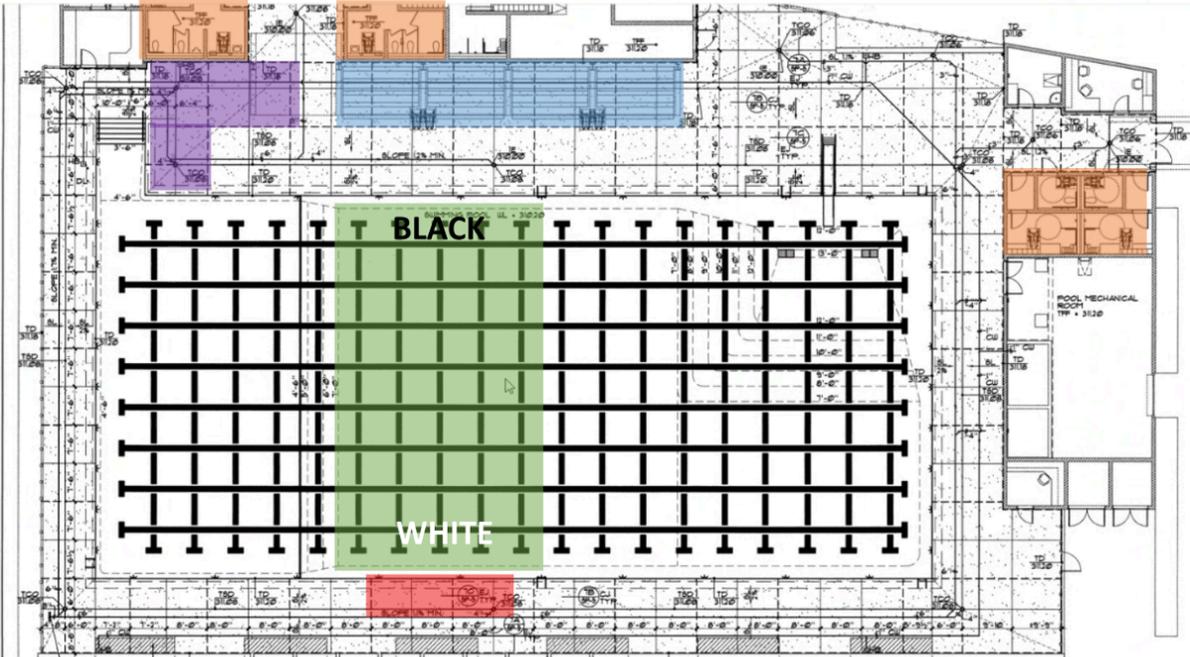
Pool Address:

**Northwood High School Swimming Pool
4515 Portola Parkway, Irvine, CA 92620**

AREA MAP



EVENT LAYOUT



UWH Court

Bathroom/Locker room

Bleachers

Ref Table

Snacks/Raffle/Gear Store

INTRODUCTION

Hello Team Captains,

This document serves as the official Captains' Notes for the 3rd Annual OC CUP. These notes will be attached to the OC Cup Event page on UWH Portal. There will NOT be a captains meeting at the pool, so any questions you have need to be addressed via phone, email, or personal chat with a tournament organizer.

The schedule, and subsequent results/rankings, will be available at the UWH Portal event page. Thanks to Atlantis Sports for making this possible!

Please read through completely and carefully and distribute these notes to your teams. You are responsible for making sure your team knows the rules. Captains must acknowledge receipt and agreement to abide by these Captains notes/tournament rules. Ignorance will not be a valid excuse. Failure to follow these rules will impact your team, players and games to be played. Rules are subject to the discretion of the Tournament Organizers.

We are looking forward to a fun weekend of Underwater Hockey!

EVENT CONTACTS

Andrew Myers, Tournament Director

Casey Nakamura, Assistant Tournament Director

Pedro Fernández, Tournament Ref

Alex Webster, OC Octopush President (and Money Man)

John Wagner, OC Octopush Executive Board Member

Marc Parenteau, OC Octopush Executive Board Member

Jake Pinkham, IT/Refbox support

Weston Monroe, Equipment Manager

Eric Straily, Virtual Atlantis Sports/UWH Portal Admin

FACILITY RULES

- SUNSCREEN - USE ONLY CLEAR SPRAY FORMULAS (For water CLARITY)
- No alcohol allowed (*Immediate ejection from Tournament*)
- No illegal drugs allowed (*Immediate ejection from Tournament*)
- No profanity or fighting allowed (*Immediate ejection from Tournament*)
- No smoking or vaping in the Aquatics Facility
- No running on the deck
- Food - please keep open areas clean and clean up any messes
- Be courteous and professional to all pool staff
- Pick up trash and maintain a safe and clean facility
- Additional rules not listed here may apply, contact tournament organizers with questions

Note: Failure to respect the facility or to follow these rules can and will lead to suspensions in games.

Note: Team Captains MUST read and distribute notes to their teams and acknowledge receipt and agreement to abide by tournament rules

TOURNAMENT START/END

- Entry to facility starts at 6:00AM on both days
- Warm up/pool time starts at 7:30AM on both days
- 1st game starts at 7:45AM on both days
- Tournament organizers aim to finish playing by 5PM both days

Note: Another swim activity will be using facility before 730AM, please be courteous and give them space to packup and leave so we may quickly begin our usage of the pool.

POOL/COURT SETUP

We have only 1 court as indicated per layout.

- **BLACK Team** is the Near side (Black Bleachers)
- **WHITE TEAM** is the Far side (White Walks)

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

- Full schedule will be available on UWH Portal and limited paper copies at facility.
- We will be using the Atlantis Sports Tournament management system, an automated timing system for all courts. Change-over time between games is maintained by the computer, and games WILL start on schedule. Teams and refs are responsible for being ready when games start – PENALTIES will be issued!
- Awards will be presented on Deck or outside the Pool after Pool clean up.
- All scores and standings can be found on UWH PORTAL

<https://uwportal.com/events/us-2026-oc-cup>

TOURNAMENT FORMAT

The 2026 OC CUP will have 1 Division with all 7 teams competing in a single Round Robin*, followed by full Playoffs:

Round Robin			Additional Notes
Half	1 3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No ref timeouts ● Penalties will be assessed if refs are not ready (see rules)
Half time	2		
Between Games	7		
Timeouts	0	none	
Game Block	3		
	5		

Playoffs/Medals*			*Sudden Death Procedures
Half	1 3		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1min break - teams do not switch ends ● 5 min sudden death game period ● If still tied after 5 minutes, coin toss ● Following a sudden death game, schedule may change, 5 minute changeover break will be observed
Half time	2		
Between Games	5		
Timeouts	2	1/team/game	
Game Block	3		
	5		

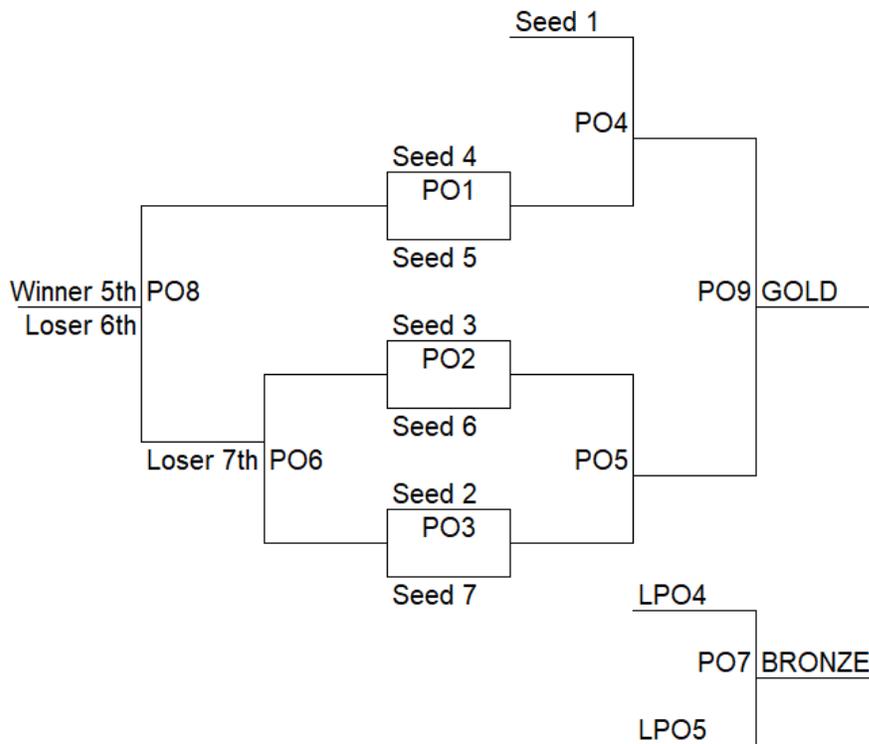
NOTE: Only Club or Regionally based teams are eligible to receive medals, they may still compete in medal games.

Round Robin Game Scoring:

- Win: +3, Tie: +1, Loss: 0, No Show/Forfeit: -3
- Seeding ties broken by (in order): Head-to-Head record, Most RR wins, Fewest RR losses, Fewest RR goals allowed, Coin toss

- We have about 32 games throughout the weekend, please do your best to be ready on time for your game and ref assignments.

Playoff Structure (7 team playoff):



REFEREES AND RULES

- We are using the **Team Referee Approach**, each team is pre-scheduled to ref 3 RR games and must provide a minimum of 5 players (3 water refs, 1 chief ref, and 1 score/timekeeper)

Note: This year we have flown out a dedicated tournament referee to help ensure fair play and improve reffing ability of all attendees. Per the schedule, if your game has the tournament referee assigned, your team will still need to provide 5 players (3 water refs, 1 Chief Ref, and 1 score/timekeeper)

-The Playoff games have designated referees depending on game finish.

- All referees are to be respected at all times, before, during and after games.
- The Dilly-Dally Rule will apply: If your team's Player Refs are not ready to start (geared up, in position, hand up) at the published start time of the game they're signed up to ref, your team captain will serve the 1-minute penalty at the start of your next game.
- In the event that your captain is to serve the 1-minute Dilly-Dally penalty and no captain (C or VC) immediately presents themselves, your opponent will be allowed to choose which of your players serves the penalty
- All referees are to wear appropriate vest, cap, and gloves
- Ref gear will be available at officials table with gloves, vest/top, red swim caps and red polo caps
- Basic first aid supplies will be made available at each official table.

USOA Player Requirements

- All players must sign USOA waiver and pay USOA registration before playing in the tournament (other country registration is exempt, ex CUGA)
- Translations of the waiver are available upon request.

Rules & Protests

- We will be using CMAS rules version 12.0 (Volume 1 v12.0, Volume 2 v12.0), all players are strongly encouraged to at least read volume 2 of these rules.
<https://www.underwater-society.org/uwhreferees>
- Upon request, there has been a form created for official protests. USOA rules require a \$50 protest fee to accompany it, and the form must be filled out within 1 hour after the match. See USOA representative (Beven McWilliams) for more info.

Communicating with Referees:

- Players arriving late to a game must notify officials at the officials table before entering the game.
- Only active team captains (vice-captain in captain's absence) may speak to officials during a match.
- 'Colorful metaphors' and other inappropriate language/gestures toward players or referees will be considered un-sportsman like behavior and will not be tolerated. 2 minute penalty for first offense, followed by 5 minutes, ejection from the game, and ejection from the tournament.

Rules Modifications, Special Notices:

- Penalty times may be reduced from those specified in the CMAS rules due to

shorter game length (1, 2, 5 minute penalties will be used, but 2 may become 1 and 5 may become 2 at the discretion of the officials).

- Players to enter the pool from the penalty box by being seated on deck and sliding into the water
- Teams have already submitted rosters through the UWH Portal, however if any updates have been initiated, teams must update their portal roster prior to the first game
- **No roster changes will be allowed after the first game**

PLAYER GEAR AND MARKINGS

- "C" and "VC" should be clearly marked on both shoulders of captain and vice-captain, respectively. There will be black permanent marking pens at the official's table.
- All players should have unique numbers on their respective teams. Player numbers will be used to keep track of warnings, penalties and goals. If numbers are not unique, incorrect players may get penalized or credited goals. Please make every attempt to have a unique number.
- Appropriate color hat/swim cap must be worn during play to match stick color. Ear-guards and straps are excluded from color requirements provided they do not create confusion about what color.
- Wrestling headgear does not count as a hat. An appropriate color hat must be worn together with a wrestling headgear.
- BLUE and BLACK are acceptable hat colors when playing black/dark.
- WHITE is the acceptable hat color when playing white.
- Ear and mouth guards must be worn. Players will not be allowed to play without them.
- In-water coaches must wear shirts during games. Preferred: Green cap or no polo cap/headgear
- Gloves must contrast the playing stick. Gloves may not be red, yellow, orange, or pink in color. Unsportsmanlike conduct infringements may be called if glove color is being used to intentionally mislead or confuse other players or officials.

SATURDAY PIZZA PARTY

Pizza will be provided for all players at Lampost Pizza (14450 Culver Dr Suite #E, Irvine, CA 92604) on SATURDAY FEBRUARY 28th, after conclusion of play.

Please send acknowledgement of this information to orangeuwh@gmail.com (screenshot/photo will suffice)

Captain's Notes -Sign-off

Team Name: _____

Captain's Name and Phone #: _____

Vice-Captain Name and Phone #: (in case, Captain can't be reached):
