

# **Forsyth Water Polo Team Handbook**

Forsyth Water Polo, Inc.

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Thank you for your interest in the Forsyth Water Polo Club. Our club is a member of the Georgia High School Water Polo Association (GHSWPA). The GHSWPA consists of 35 teams from the Greater Atlanta area. The league is split into 3 coed divisions and a single Women’s division.

The purpose of this handbook is to provide you with the information necessary to understand the procedures and policy of our team. Please look through the entire handbook, as all areas are important! Information also is posted online at <http://forsythpolo.com/>

In this handbook, you will find information about the topics outlined below.

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## About Forsyth Water Polo

### History of Our Team

Forsyth Water Polo Club was founded in the summer of 2016 by coaches Whitney Foster and Scott Frederick as a way to bring the sport they loved to a new community. Our club is for all Forsyth County high school and middle school students. The 2016 Fall team consisted of 16 players with only two players having any prior polo experience. The team finished the season with an 11-4-1 record and a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in Division 3 of the Georgia High School Water Polo Association (GHSWPA). By the spring season, our team had grown to 40 players. In the 2017 Fall season with 45 players, we fielded 4 teams (A, B, C, and Girls). The A team competed in Division 2 and finished in-season play in 1<sup>st</sup> place with a record of 14-0. Our B and C team competed in Division 3 with records of 10-5 and 3-10, respectively. Our Girls team competed in the Girl's Division with an overall record of 3-11.

### Team Philosophy

Our team's focus is to develop new players and teach the principles of the game. As a new club, we will focus on becoming better throughout the year and our team will learn many lessons as the season progresses. Our goal is to develop our athletes into intelligent players who understand the game and can contribute and bring out the best in their teammates. All athletes will have opportunities to compete in game situations. Our win-loss record will not be a gauge of our success as a team, but rather how we compete and play the game will be our measure of success. We will field our most competitive team for the State Tournament in October. The state teams will be comprised of the athletes we feel give us the best chance to win.

### Player Expectations

- Come to practice on time and ready to work
- Communicate with your coaches, let us know of any absences in advance
- Recognize the water polo is a team sport and the team result is what matters
- Get to know every member of your team
- Celebrate your teammates' achievements and support them during adversity
- Learn about your sport, be an intelligent player
- Control your emotions and make smart decisions
- Have fun and enjoy your time in the water
- Treat your coaches, teammates, officials, competitors, and volunteers with respect
- Take pride in your team and help build a strong program for future players

### Parent and Spectator Expectations

- Parents shall exhibit good sportsmanship by conducting themselves in a manner that earns the respect of all players, parents, officials, and coaches
- Open and respectful communication between parents, water polo players and coaches that emphasizes goal-setting to meet the performance expectations of both the athlete and the parents
- Involvement and commitment in supporting all team activities
- Positive reinforcement of all water polo players
- The following behaviors will not be tolerated:

- Abusive and/or disrespectful language and actions towards coaches, players, other parents, or officials
- Interference with or disruption of coaches on the deck
- Interference with the coach's coaching of players
- Inappropriate use of social media

## Media

Players and parents need to be aware that Forsyth Water Polo members and parents may take team and individual photos or video clips of players during games which are at times posted and open to the public on their respective or team websites or Facebook pages. Everyone is asked to ensure that any posted photos highlight the accomplishment of our teams and/or athletes. Forsyth water polo may post some of the photographs or video clips taking during a practice or games on its Website for promotional and learning purposes.

## Sponsorship

If you know or have a business that is interested in sponsoring the Forsyth Water Polo Club, please contact your any board member.

## Non-profit Status

Forsyth Water Polo, Inc. Is a registered Georgia non-profit corporation and recognized by the federal government as a 501(c)(3) corporation (EIN: EIN 82-2928958). The Club is directed by a Parent Board comprised of 5 elected officers; the Parent Board will ensure the club operates in compliance with all federal and state tax regulations in order to protect the team's 501 (c)(3) status.

## Forsyth Water Polo Parent Board

The Parent Board is comprised of affiliated volunteers and advisors to govern and administer the operations of the Team using the Forsyth Water Polo Policies and Procedures and Bylaws. It oversees the club administration, fundraising, parent volunteers, merchandising, and marketing.

## Parent Board Position Descriptions

- A. President:** The President acts as the supervisor of the Club and is in charge of meetings and communication within the Parent Board and with the Club. The President has overall responsibility for defining strategic direction of the team and season goals based on coach, parent, and player input. The President assists the other Parent Board members, as needed.
- B. Vice President:** The Vice President serves as Liaison to Georgia High School Water Polo Association (GHSWPA), attending league meetings as the Forsyth County Water Polo representative. Supports GHSWPA by serving as a member of one GHSWPA committee. Serves as liaison to Cumming Aquatic Center Liaison (e.g., secures pool time for practices, etc). Assists the President and other Board members, as needed. Serves as President when President is not available.
- C. Club Administrator:** The Club Administrator will supervise all home events; receive and communicate parent and player feedback to coaches; and communicate with players, parents, and coaches via emails and the Team website.
- D. Treasurer:** The Treasurer will supervise and administer the Team bank account, including collecting and depositing all checks, handling all reimbursements, and ensuring payment of all bills. Additionally, the Treasurer will work with the Parent Board in creating budgets,

performing audits, developing budget-related policies and procedures for Board approval (e.g., criteria for player scholarships; plan for recruiting/hiring replacement coaches when needed). The Treasurer also is responsible for handling and processing all tax forms and paperwork associated with 501(c)(3) and incorporation status.

- E. **Secretary:** The Secretary will take and distribute minutes for the Parent Board and General Membership meetings and develop and keep up-to-date Club written documentation of policies and procedures. The Secretary will also serve as player registration coordinator, collect and maintain player emergency contact information, and track and collect required forms (e.g., medical release, physical, and concussion forms).
- F. **Coach (appointed):** The head coach (or assistant coach designee) will serve as an At-Large-Member to the Parent Board if not already elected/appointed to the Board.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Throughout the year, the Team has many opportunities for parents to get involved. Our team could not be a success without our parent volunteers! Below are the major committees that exist. If you are interested in Chairing or serving on a committee, please contact us at [ForsythWP@gmail.com](mailto:ForsythWP@gmail.com) or speak to one of the Parent Board members.

- A. **Volunteer Committee:** The Volunteer Committee is responsible for hospitality, table workers, travel arrangements, player stats, coaches' schedules, and set-up/clean-up following matches and events. The Volunteer Committee is coordinated by the Volunteer Chair.
- B. **Events Committee:** The Events Committee will plan and implement club social functions and community service volunteer opportunities. The Events Committee is coordinated by the Events Chair.
- C. **Marketing Committee:** The Marketing Committee will oversee the community distribution of club information to recruit future athletes and announce ongoing events, plan and implement recruitment clinics, and promote the team by sending results to local newspapers and websites. The Marketing Committee is coordinated by the Marketing Chair.
- D. **Fundraising Committee:** The Fundraising Committee is responsible for the fundraising aspect of the club. This will include the development and implementation of a Sponsorship Program and fundraising events. The Fundraising Committee is coordinated by the Fundraising Chair.
- E. **Merchandise Committee:** The Merchandise Committee will coordinate and implement merchandise efforts, including ordering and purchasing suits, team shirts, spirit items, and water polo equipment. The Merchandise Committee is coordinated by the Merchandise Chair.
- F. **Media Committee:** The Media Committee will coordinate volunteers to videotape matches, edit videos and make footage accessible to players and coaches, take photos during the season, make photos available for use by the Marketing Committee, and create season slide shows for the end-of-season meeting. The Media Committee is coordinated by the Media Chair.
- G. **Special Committees:** Special Committees are committees established from time to time by the President or by the Parent Board with duties and powers subject to the authority of the Parent Board.

## Location and Schedules

### Location

All practices are held at the Cumming Aquatic Center, 201 Aquatic Circle, Cumming, GA 30040.

## Fall 2018 Practice Times

June 25 through July 22:

Mondays & Wednesdays: 7:30pm to 9:00pm

Saturdays: 11:30am-1:30pm

July 23 through July 29:

Mondays & Wednesdays: 7:00pm to 8:30pm

Saturdays: 11:30am-1:30pm

July 30 through August 19:

Mondays & Wednesdays: 6:30pm to 8:00pm

Saturdays: 11:30am-1:30pm (no Saturday practice when we have matches scheduled; check the calendar on our website)

Practice times from August 19 to October 3 will be announced soon.

## Games

Games are scheduled by the GHSWPA in the fall season and by the coaches in the spring season. Our Team might compete in games at the following locations:

- Collins Hill Aquatic Center: 2200 Collins Hill Road, Lawrenceville, GA 30043
- Cumming Aquatic Center: 201 Aquatic Circle, Cumming, GA 30040
- Dynamo: 3119 Shallowford Rd NE, Chamblee, GA 30341
- Mountain View Aquatic Center: 2650 Gordy Parkway, Marietta, GA 30066
- Pace Academy: 966 W Paces Ferry Rd NW, Atlanta, GA 30327
- Wesleyan School: 5405 Spalding Drive, Norcross, GA 30092
- West Gwinnett Aquatic Center: 4488 Peachtree Industrial Blvd, Norcross, GA 30071

For fall season, the game schedule and current team standings is available on the GHSWPA website:

<http://www.gapolo.com> under "Schedule and Results." The spring season is informal and matches are arranged by coaches.

For the spring season, matches are placed on our team calendar on the Forsyth Water Polo website ([forythpolo.com](http://forythpolo.com)) under "FWP Calendar."

When games take place in the Greater Metro Atlanta area, each athlete arranges their own transportation and must arrive at the required time. Car-pooling can be arranged by the parents.

## Team Uniform

Swim Suits: Parents will be responsible for ensuring their player has an appropriate suit to wear for games and practices. Water polo suits are specially-designed with a stronger material that allows less tug and fits close to the body to minimize opponents' ability to grab or tear the suit. For girls, a water polo suit is required for games and while we will select a recommended water polo for players on our team to purchase, any solid black water polo suit is acceptable. For boys, we will select a recommended water polo suit for purchase, but any solid black suit is acceptable. Boys have the option of wearing a

jammer style suit. Forsyth Water Polo players will abide by water polo swimming suit fit and wear requirements as outlined by GHSWPA ([http://www.gapolo.com/pdf/bylaws/ghspwa\\_policies.pdf](http://www.gapolo.com/pdf/bylaws/ghspwa_policies.pdf)).

Caps: Players with long hair should wear a swim cap under their water polo cap. Swim caps should be either white or blue depending on which color water polo cap is worn during a game. Players should have one of each available.

T-shirts: A team t-shirt is included with each player's registration. Additional merchandise will be available for purchase.

## **Registration, Membership, and Payments**

### **American Water Polo Memberships**

#### *About American Water Polo*

American water polo is a non-profit 501(c)(3) membership based organization whose purpose is to provide opportunities for athletes of all ages to enjoy the sport of water polo.

Its primary focus is the provision of insurance coverage and competitive opportunities for teams at an affordable rate. To this end the organization runs leagues and competitions, as well as providing assistance for individual teams to do so independent of the national office. The GHSWPA is a registered league with American Water Polo.

Scholastic player memberships are \$50 annually.

#### *When do I need to sign up for American Water Polo?*

Participants must be registered with American Water Polo before they can participate in practice or games.

#### *Why do I have to join American Water Polo as well as pay the Team registration fees?*

To participate in GHSWPA activities, all GHSWPA players must be current members of the American Water Polo Association or of such association as the GHSWPA designates in the future. Sports team insurance coverage is provided through Players registered with American Water Polo. Therefore, GHSWPA and the Team require membership in American Water Polo for insurance purposes. Players cannot participate in practices or games until they have a valid American Water Polo association membership.

### **Registration Forms and Fees**

The following forms are required and MUST be submitted before the player can attend practice:

- Concussion Awareness Form
- Medical Release Form
- Liability Waiver
- Registration Form
- Documentation of American Water Polo membership

A Georgia High School Sports Association (GHSA) Sports Physical Form must be submitted at the beginning of the season. The form will include the results of a physical examination conducted by a

practicing physician, physician's assistant or nurse practitioner. One examination per year is required and must remain valid for the entire season. We will accept a copy of any valid Forsyth County School's sports physical form.

Seasonal dues: For the 2018 Fall Season, registration fee payment is due by the first practice on June 25. Your child's participation in Team events will be jeopardized if fees remain unpaid after the deadline. For the 2018 Fall Season, the dues are \$320 for the first player and \$295 for each additional sibling. Girls who are selected to play on the Girl's A Team may also play on a Co-ed team for an additional \$100. Checks are made out to Forsyth Water Polo, Inc.

Refunds: Refunds of team fees will not be available except in extreme cases at the discretion of the Parent Board.

Forsyth Water Polo is a non-profit corporation with the goal of making the game of water polo available and affordable to as many players as possible. We do our best to keep dues and fees as low as possible. The annual operating budget will be presented at the spring General Membership meeting and is available upon request to the Treasurer.

### Payment Plan and Scholarship Information

Forsyth Water Polo is committed to providing every child the opportunity to experience the great sport of water polo. We are a non-profit corporation whose sole purpose is to teach and share the love of the game. The Team is dedicated in keeping the cost of participation as low as possible. However, we realize fees could be out of reach for some families. We do not want financial concerns to be the reason your child misses out on such a positive experience!

In the event that a single payment made for seasonal dues is not feasible for your family by the payment deadline, we provide a payment plan option. Arrangements can be made on a case-by-case basis for a membership fee payment plan. It is a family's responsibility to contact the Treasurer to discuss and make arrangements for a payment plan.

Need-based scholarships also are available for players who qualify. If you would like to apply for a scholarship, contact the Forsyth Water Polo treasurer, Randy Kiser at [RKiser@yahoo.com](mailto:RKiser@yahoo.com).

### Frequently Asked Questions

#### **When does the season start?**

The official GHSWPA season is June through October. Spring season is unofficial (matches are organized by coaches and there is not end-of-season tournament) and is February through April.

#### **Can a player join in at any time?**

A player can join at any time.

#### **What if a player has never played water polo before and knows nothing about the game?**

That's why we're here! Part of the Club's mission is to promote the sport of water polo. For the newer player with basic swimming skills, the best way to learn the game is to just "jump in!" We have players of all levels. Coaches will help to get new players started, but water polo is one of those games that is best learned by playing! You just need a few basic skills which can be learned quickly. No experience is necessary to play.

**How are players selected for the A, B, and C teams?**

For Fall water polo, each team must submit their rosters to GHSWPA by the deadline, which is before the first match. Subsequent roster changes are limited and will comply with GHSWPA league rules. Coaches will assess players' practice attendance, experience, skills, and attitude early in the season to determine roster placement. Roster placement decisions are made by the coaches.

**What kind of equipment do I need to start out?**

Boys just need a speedo style suit or jammers while girls just need to bring a regular swim suit (swim caps are optional). Goggles are optional for the athletes (we are not a swim team). We will do short warm-ups at the beginning where goggles could be used. Goggles do need to come off once the balls are in the water. There will be seasonal opportunities to purchase team suits, t-shirts, and other merchandise. More information is forthcoming. Don't forget to bring a towel!

**What if my son isn't comfortable wearing a Speedo (brief)?**

That's OK, he can start out wearing a jammer, but we strongly encourage him to eventually make the transition to a regular water polo suit.

**What if I have to miss a practice or game?**

You will get as much out of the sport as you put in. The more an athlete plays, the better the athlete will become. If you will be missing a practice, let the coach know before or after. There is no need to contact a coach immediately with regard to missing a practice. We all understand that life intrudes on water polo sometimes and that homework and family occasionally prevent attendance at practice and competitions. Attendance can affect team placement and game play time, at the coaches' discretion. If you cannot attend a game, let your coach know right away. Failure to show up for a game without contacting the coach in advance compromises the team's performance and shows a lack of respect for the coach and your team mates. Disciplinary action can be taken at the coach's discretion.

**How much training is there?**

We will have 3 team practices per week. The practice schedule is contingent on pool availability and will be announced prior to the start of the season.

**Does the Team provide transportation to water polo games?**

Athletes are responsible for their own transportation to water polo games. The address of each game location is available in this handbook and on the GHSWPA website.

**How can I learn more about the rules of the game?**

For those new to water polo, a brief spectator's guide to water polo will be helpful (Appendix 1). USA Water Polo has additional resources on their website at <http://www.usawaterpolo.org/resources/understanding-the-game.html>. Another great way to learn the game is to become a Table Worker volunteer! Table workers are responsible for working the clock and taking stats during the matches. Trainings are offered at the beginning of each season and both new and experienced parents are encouraged to volunteer! If you are interested, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator.

## 2018 – 2019 Forsyth Water Polo Parent Board, Coaches, and Committee Chairs

### Parent Board and Coaches

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>
President	Danice Eaton
Vice President	Amy Saindon
Club Administrator	Michele Murdock
Treasurer	Randy Kiser
Secretary	Lori Thomas
Coach	Scott Frederick
Coach	Whitney Foster

To contact the Parent Board or coaches, send an e-mail to [ForsythWP@gmail.com](mailto:ForsythWP@gmail.com)

### Committee Chairs

Volunteer Committee: Randy Kiser

Events Committee: Anita Paul and Holli Collinson (Co-chairs)

Marketing Committee: Michele Murdock (Chair)

Fundraising Committee: Vacant (Chair)

Merchandise Committee: Traci Skidmore (Co-chair); Becky Mullis (Co-chair)

Media Committee: Vacant (Chair)

## Appendix 1: A Spectator's Guide to Water Polo "Quick Start"<sup>1</sup>

Original author: Peter W. Pappas; Revised for GHSWPA by Kenneth A. Cunefare

### Field of Play

- In a 25 yard (meter), six (or eight) lane pool, the entire pool constitutes the field of play. In larger pools, the perimeter of the field of play may be indicated by lane lines. The maximum size of the field of play is 82 feet (25 meters) long by 66 feet (20 meters) wide.
- The pool (field of play) is divided into areas by colored cones (or markers) along the side of the pool. The colored cones are placed as follows (many GHSWPA venues only have orange cones):
  - For each of the above lines (or areas of the pool), watch for the following:
  - Goal line – white cone: A goal counts only when the ball goes completely across the goal line and into the goal (close does not count); the ball is out of bounds if it goes completely across the goal line and not into the goal.
  - 2 meter line – red cone: No offensive player is allowed to swim inside of the 2 meter line unless they have possession of the ball, is going after the ball inside the two, or another offensive player with the ball is already inside the 2.
  - 5 meter line – yellow cone: If a defensive player commits a foul inside of the 5 meter line which prevents a "probable goal," the defensive player is charged with a penalty (personal) foul and the opposing team is awarded a penalty throw (a "5 meter"). If an offensive player is fouled outside of the 5 meter line, the offensive player may pick up the ball and take an immediate shot at the opponent's goal (i.e., two players do not have to touch the ball before a goal can be scored).
  - Midpool – white cone: After each goal is scored, play is restarted at midpool; the goalkeepers are not permitted to go across the midpool line.

### Players

- Each team must have seven players (six field players and one goalkeeper) in the water when the game starts.
- The team listed first on the GHSWPA schedule wear white (or light colored) caps, the team listed second wears blue (or dark colored) caps. The goalkeepers wear red or "quartered" (red plus another color) caps.
- Either team may substitute players freely after a goal is scored, during a timeout, or between periods.

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<sup>1</sup> Disclaimer: The information in this Quick Start is based on information published by the National Federation of State High School Associations Swimming and Diving Water Polo Rules Book (Pappas), and the 2016-2018 NCAA rulebook as adapted by GHSWPA (Cunefare). This Quick Start does not cover all of the rules of or circumstances that might arise in a water polo game. Readers interested in a more thorough discussion of the rules of water polo should consult the appropriate rule book (NCAA rules available here <https://www.ncaapublications.com/p-44042016-17-and-2017-18-water-polo-rules-interpretations.aspx>, or "A Spectator's Guide to Water Polo" version 5. <http://www.tiburonic.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Guide-to-Water-Polo-5-0.pdf>. Note that the full "Spectator's Guide...." has not been updated since 2005, and there have been a number of rules changes since its last release.

- During actual play, substitutions must occur through the team's reentry area (the corner of the pool in front of the team's bench).
- If an illegal player (i.e., an 8th player or a player who has fouled out of the game) enters the field of play, that player is excluded from the remainder of the game and the opposing team is awarded a penalty throw.

## Fouls

- Ordinary foul: The most common type of foul is called the "ordinary foul."
  - For an ordinary foul, the referee blows the whistle once and points in the direction of the attack (i.e., the direction that the offensive team is moving).
  - The player who was fouled (or a teammate) puts the ball into play by taking a free throw.
  - If the ordinary foul is against a defensive player, the offensive team retains possession of the ball and takes a free throw. If the ordinary foul is against an offensive player (an "offensive foul" or "contra foul"), the defensive team takes possession of the ball and takes a free throw.
  - If a defender interferes with the taking of the free throw, the defender is excluded (ejected or "kicked out," see below)
  - In most cases, a player taking a free throw cannot take a shot at the opponent's goal.
  - During the period of time between the referee's whistle and the taking of the free throw ("dead time"), players may continue to swim and strive for position (i.e., play does not stop).
  - Examples of some common ordinary fouls include (but are not limited to):
    - Touching the ball with two hands (does not apply to goalkeeper inside of the 5meter line).
    - Walking on or pushing off the bottom of the pool (does not apply to the goalkeeper inside of the 5 meter line).
    - Impeding a player who is not holding the ball.
    - Throwing the ball out of the field of play.
    - Failing to take a shot within 35 seconds (letting the shot clock expire).
    - There is no limit to the number of ordinary fouls that a player can commit during a game.
- Exclusion foul (also known as ejection or kickout fouls)
  - For an exclusion foul, the referee blows the whistle several times, points in the direction of the attack with one arm, and with a sweeping motion of the other arm signals the player to the team's reentry area (the corner of the field of play immediately in front of the team's bench).
  - The player who was fouled (or a teammate) puts the ball into play with a free throw. As above ("ordinary foul"), play does not stop during "dead time."
  - The excluded player must swim to the team's reentry area without interfering with play.
  - If an excluded player interferes with play, that player is charged with a penalty foul and the offended team is awarded a penalty throw.
  - An excluded player may reenter the game when:

- There is a change in possession.
    - A goal is scored.
    - 20 seconds of playing time elapses
    - The referee signals a change in possession.
    - When reentering the game from the reentry area, a player may not push off the side or bottom of the pool. If they do push off, it's an exclusion foul.
  - An exclusion foul is a "personal foul."
    - If a player receives three personal fouls (exclusion + penalty fouls), he/she is excluded from the remainder of the game with substitution.
  - Examples of exclusion fouls include (but are not limited to):
    - Holding, sinking, or pulling back a player who is not holding the ball.
    - Interfering with the taking of a free throw.
    - Splashing water in an opponent player's face.
    - To commit an act of misconduct (e.g., obscene or abusive language) or disrespect.
      - Misconduct fouls may be "Minor" (20-second exclusion), "Major" (removed for remainder of game), or "Flagrant" (removed for game, penalty throw awarded to other team, and, other team retains possession of ball after penalty throw).
    - If a player exits the pool from anywhere other than the reentry area during actual play (i.e., climbs out of the water along the edge of the pool), it is considered disrespect. The player would be excluded from the remainder of the game with substitution.
- Penalty Foul
  - For a penalty foul, the referee blows a long blast on the whistle and then raises his/her hand above the head with five fingers extended.
  - It is a penalty foul to commit any offense within the 5 meter line that prevents a team from scoring a "probable goal."
  - When a penalty foul is called, the offending player is charged with a penalty foul (a "personal foul") and the opposing team is awarded a penalty throw (a "5 meter").
  - If a team is awarded a penalty throw, any player on that team, except the goalkeeper, may take the penalty throw.
  - The player taking the penalty throw must take the throw from the offensive 5 meter line.
  - With floating goals, the defending goalkeeper must be entirely inside of goal (i.e., inside of the goal and behind the goal line). With wall-mounted goals, the goalkeeper's hips must be on the goal line.
  - The player taking the penalty throw must shoot immediately, with no hesitation, faking or swimming, after being given the signal by the referee.

## Timeouts

- Each team may call three timeouts during the four quarters of regular play.
  - A team may call only one timeout during any overtime periods.

- All timeouts are 1 minute long.
- When the ball is in play, only the team in possession of the ball may call a timeout.
- If the offensive team calls a timeout, the defensive team may call a timeout before the ball is put into play. Either team may call a timeout after a goal is scored or before the taking of a penalty shot.

### **The “Advantage Rule”**

“The referees shall have discretion to award (or not award) any ordinary, exclusion or penalty foul, depending on whether the decision would advantage the attacking team. They shall officiate in favor of the attacking team by awarding a foul or refraining from awarding a foul if, in their opinion, awarding the foul would be an advantage to the offending player’s team. The referees shall apply this principle to the fullest extent.”

What does the advantage rule mean in action? Most simply, it means that referees will *not* call a foul if that foul takes away the advantage from the offense. Another way to express this is that if the offense still has the opportunity to advance the ball and score, then the referees may not call a foul. Fouls may be called if they *restore* advantage to the offense.