



April 13, 2017

RE: 12U Boys Provincials 4th/5th game

Calgary Wild Club,

Saturday April 8th at the Edmonton Kinsman Centre, Alberta Water Polo held the 12U boys provincials tournament where the 4th/5th game was played with Calgary Wild vs. Calgary Destroyers.

There was a series of events that took place after the game that lead to the last 7 seconds being replayed which changed the outcome of this game.

At the time of the incident, the referee and chief and the commissioner of the league allowed a protest that should not have been, because:

- 1) The protest was based on a referee call, which is not protestable.
- 2) The protest was made by someone other than the coach, which is not appropriate.
- 3) Video cannot be utilized for game review unless it clearly states otherwise in the league handbook. For example, if a league has official streaming and there is a red card or brutality the league committee can review it to determine the length of the suspension.

With the knowledge they had at the time, they allowed the protest and viewed the video showing that the wild did not have possession of the ball when calling the time out which they then awarded the destroyers with a 5 metre that the wild goalie saved.

There were many time restraints with the schedule when all of this was taking place. Afterwards the commissioner was able to determine that they had made an error by allowing the protest and consulted with the head coaches of the male teams. There was no way to replay or have Wild play the Seawolves team. Seawolves had already played the Destroyers and left the building for lunch. There was a suggestion that the 12U Calgary teams play in Calgary on an open Sunday night in the near future to end on a positive note.

Many things have been learnt from this situation as our sport grows in this province. We have already started to modify our league handbook which was only created 4 years ago, to include the protest procedures, that no video will be allowed, training requirements of minor officials and club minimum requirements to minor officiate. We will be sending the draft out for review to the clubs in the late spring.

Alberta Water Polo apologies to the Calgary Wild boys and their families for the confusion from that game. We hope that your club and this team see that through our past actions and the changes that we are making, that we have the best intentions for all participants.

We will be sending a letter to the Calgary Torpedoes explaining the error that was made, their contribution to the stress that was created and the modifications we are making.

We will contact you shortly with details of the 12U male Calgary based games.

Dayna Christmas – Executive Director
Alberta Water Polo Association

Brooke Zimmerman-League Commissioner
Alberta Water Polo Association