EUROPEAN AQUATICS® WATER POLO DEVELOPMENT CAMP KRANEVO~2026

24 - 30 JUNE 2026
KRANEVO, VARNA (BUL)

JOIN THE EUROPEAN AQUATICS U12 & U14 WATER POLO DEVELOPMENT CAMP

After the tremendous success of the 2025 European Aquatics U12 & U14 Water Polo Development Camp, which was enjoyed by around 100 young athletes, coaches, and referees from across several European nations, European Aquatics is delighted to announce the 2026 edition of this landmark event.

The 2025 camp was a huge hit with every participant and widely praised for its expert coaching and innovative learning sessions in and out of the pool. Building on that excellent momentum, the 2026 European Aquatics Development Camp is set to be even bigger, better, and more impactful – offering a truly memorable experience for the next generation of European water polo players, coaches and referees.

In alignment with the European Aquatics Development Strategy and in co-operation with the EA Academy, the 2026 camp will once again take place at the magnificent Aqualife Sport and Hotel Complex in Kranevo, Varna, Bulgaria, which is a venue renowned for its world-class water polo facilities.

WHY PARTICIPATE?

- **Proven Success**
  The 2025 camp delivered outstanding results – players improved their technical and tactical water polo skills, coaches adopted new methods, and referees advanced their officiating expertise. The 2026 camp is set to raise the bar even higher.





- **Expert Training**
  A fantastic opportunity to train under Europe's top water polo coaches and specialists, with every participant receiving elite-level guidance designed to accelerate player and coach development.

- **Referee Development**
  Young referees will gain valuable, hands-on experience from world-class officials through practical sessions and live match situations.

- **Coaching Growth**
  Coaches will access modern training tools, educational seminars, and workshops that will empower them to bring new expertise back to their home clubs and national water polo programs.

- **Continental Collaboration**
  The camp offers a unique environment of combined learning, where players and coaches from across Europe share their knowledge.

- **Tournament Experience**
  A final two-day tournament allows all the players, coaches and referees to apply their new skills in a fun, competitive, and supportive setting.

- **Safe & Supportive Environment**
  The camp is hosted at a fully equipped, state-of-the-art sporting complex to ensure the highest standards of safety, medical care, and wellbeing for every participant.

WHAT THE EXPERTS SAY



The 2025 European Aquatics Water Polo Development Camp was a milestone moment for youth water polo in Europe. The camp brought together young athletes, coaches, and referees from across the continent for an inspiring week of learning, teamwork, and competition. Led by an exceptional team of experts – including Neven Kovačević, Petar Radanović, Victor Gonzalez, and Raffaele Colombo – participants received top-tier training both in and out of the pool. Daily sessions combined elite coaching, tactical education, and interactive workshops, all within a safe, supportive, and fun environment. The event ran seamlessly from start to finish, thanks to the outstanding organisation of the European Aquatics Water Polo Department and the invaluable support of the Bulgarian Water Polo Federation. The 2025 camp set a new standard for excellence – and with double the participants expected in 2026, this next edition promises to be even bigger, brighter and more inspiring.

Renato Zivkovic, European Aquatics Water Polo Director



The 2025 European Aquatics Water Polo Development Camp successfully united young athletes, coaches, and referees from several European nations during a week of elite training and learning. Under expert guidance, and in a world-class environment, every participant developed their technical, tactical, and teamwork skills through structured daily sessions and workshops. With excellent organisation and a positive, supportive atmosphere, the camp inspired a new generation to embrace water polo with passion and confidence. There were plenty of smiles, progress, and lasting friendships formed, and I am really looking forward to an even greater experience in 2026.

Neven Kovačević,
Olympic Coach and European Championships silver medallist

CAMP DETAILS:

- **Location:** Aqualife Sport and Hotel Complex, Varna, Bulgaria
- **Airports:** Varna, Burgas, or Bucharest (with EA-arranged transportation).
- **Parental & Companion Support:** Accommodations available nearby for parents or guardians

PARTICIPATION & COSTS:

- **Recommended delegation size:** 10-15 players, 4-8 coaches, 2-4 referees. Clubs are welcome to adapt their delegation size based on their requirements.
- **Total cost per participant: €900** (includes accommodation, airport transfer, medical care, training with top educators, and a special gift package). Team managers and parents/guardians cost is €600 per person.
- **Final registration deadline**: Saturday, 14 February 2026 (entry form submission required). Initial interest deadline is Monday, 15 December 2025.
- **Contact:** Petra Lazić, European Aquatics Water Polo Assistant at waterpolo@europeanaquatics.org



BE PART OF THE 2026 EXPERIENCE

The European Aquatics U12 & U14 Water Polo Development Camp is setting the standard for water polo growth across the continent and all federations are invited to send their teams and players. By joining the 2026 edition, players and coaches will gain invaluable experience, build international connections, and take part in an engaging camp that has already proven to elevate skills, confidence, and performance.

SECURE YOUR SPOTS NOW – SPACES ARE LIMITED!

BE PART OF EUROPE'S PREMIER WATER POLO DEVELOPMENT EVENT AND SHAPE THE FUTURE OF THE SPORT IN 2026!

WORLD-CLASS VENUES & FACILITIES

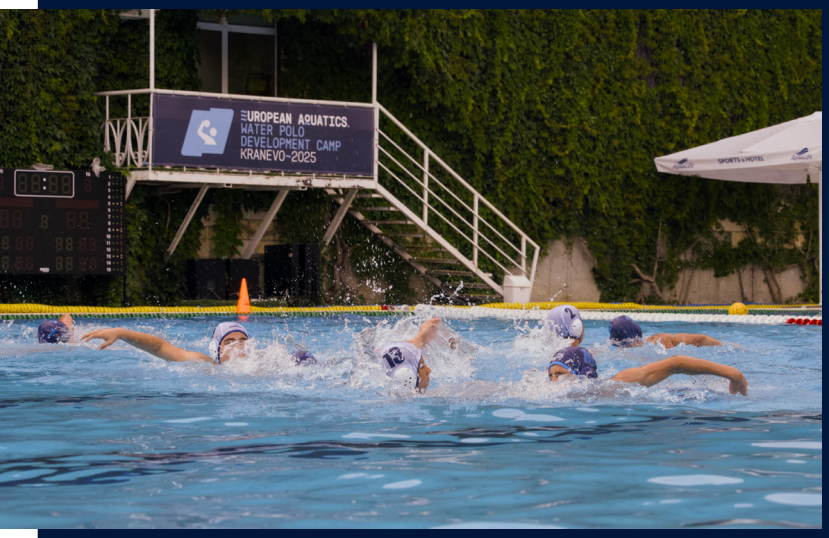
WHERE EXCELLENCE MEETS EXPERIENCE

The spectacular Aqualife Sport & Hotel Complex in Kranevo is at the heart of the European Aquatics U12 & U14 Water Polo Development Camp and is a world-class venue that's been designed for sporting excellence.

Set around a state-of-the-art water polo facility, the secure and safe complex offers everything needed to deliver exciting, high-energy training.

Every detail of the venue has been tailored to meet the needs of elite athletes. The dedicated professional staff bring years of experience hosting international training camps, tournaments, and competitions – ensuring every participant feels supported, inspired, and ready to perform at their best.







TRAIN, LEARN AND COMPETE LIKE A PRO

The venue's Olympic-size pool features eight goals, allowing multiple games and training sessions to run simultaneously. With modern scoreboards and jury tables, participants will experience an authentic match atmosphere throughout the camp.

OFFICIAL TOURNAMENT POOL

The main tournament pool is located just steps away from the hotel, providing maximum convenience. Each day, teams will enjoy an incredible four or more hours of pool time, offering the perfect balance of learning, competition, and fun under the summer sun.

EA EQUIPMENT & AWARDS

AAll participants will get to train with the latest professional match balls and equipment, and also receive special gifts and personalised diplomas to celebrate their participation and achievements.

LOGISTICS MADE EASY

From airport transfers to on-site support, the Local Organizing Committee (LOC) will ensure every logistical detail is handled with precision and care – so participants can focus fully on their learning, teamwork, and performance.

AQUALIFE SPORT & HOTEL COMPLEX

THE HOME FOR WORLD-CLASS WATER POLO







AQUALIFE SPORT AND HOTEL COMPLEX ★ ★ ★ ★

Visit: en.aqualife-sport.com for more information about the hotel and its facilities

The fabulous Aqualife Sport & Hotel Complex is the home of the European Aquatics U12 & U14 Water Polo Development Camp, and is the ultimate destination for athletes, coaches and officials.
Perfectly designed for sporting excellence, the complex offers the ideal combination of comfort, performance and atmosphere, making it one of the continent's premier venues for water polo training and competitions.







THE HOTEL: WHERE COMFORT MEETS PERFORMANCE

All participants – players, coaches, referees, jury table officers, and delegates – will enjoy high-quality accommodation that meets the highest European Aquatics standards. Every room is modern, air-conditioned, and fully equipped, providing the perfect environment to rest, recover, and recharge after daily intense training sessions. The hotel fully understands what athletes need – balanced schedules, top-quality facilities, and great food tailored to training demands.

ATHLETE-FOCUSED DINING

Nutrition is key to performance, so all participants will enjoy healthy, sport-focused meals prepared by expert chefs who understand the needs of developing athletes. Meal times (breakfast, lunch and dinner) are co-ordinated closely with the training schedule, ensuring everyone stays fully energised.

BEACHSIDE ADVANTAGE

Just 100 meters from a beautiful sandy beach, the Aqualife Complex offers more than training - it offers a complete experience. The stunning beach provides the perfect setting for team-building activities, recovery sessions, and fun recreational events, creating unforgettable memories for all.

SPORTS & RECREATION FACILITIES

Beyond the pool, the Aqualife Complex boasts a wide range of amenities – including gyms, fitness centres, playgrounds and entertainment areas. Whether it's a morning warm-up, a strategy session, or a place to relax, every athlete and coach will find the space they need to perform at their best.

PERFECT SETTING FOR CHAMPIONS

The Aqualife Complex isn't just a place to stay – it's a hub of energy, teamwork and excellence. With its top-tier facilities, athlete-focused services, and unbeatable location by the Black Sea, it's no wonder Aqualife has become one of the go-to venues for premier water polo events.

24/7 MEDICAL CARE

Health and safety is the number one priority at the European Aquatics Water Polo Development Camp. A qualified on-site doctor and a fully equipped medical room are available 24-hours a day, ready to assist with any needs, from minor injuries to medical consultations. Ambulances are also stationed within the camp area, ensuring immediate response and care whenever required. Parents can rest assured knowing that every participant is in expert hands, with medical and support staff experienced in working with young athletes.

A SAFE, INSPIRING ENVIRONMENT FOR GROWTH

From the moment participants arrive until the final whistle, every aspect of the camp is built with security, care, and development in mind. The European Aquatics Water Polo Development Camp isn't just a place to train – it's an amazing place to learn new skills in a fun environment and belong to something truly special.

CONNECTIVITY & COMMUNICATION

Staying connected is effortless with high-speed Wi-Fi throughout the complex. Parents can rest easy knowing participants can easily keep in touch with home, share updates, and stay connected during the camp.

SECURE & SUPERVISED ENVIRONMENT

The European Aquatics Water Polo Development Camp takes place within a fully secure sports complex, providing a safe and controlled environment for all participants. Athletes under 18 receive personalised security bracelets, making supervision simple, efficient, and reassuring. These bracelets help staff know when a child is accompanied or has permission to leave specific areas. To guarantee personal attention, our team of around 40 experienced coaches also take on the role of dedicated group leaders, ensuring that every young athlete feels supported, guided and safe throughout their stay.

LEARNING & COLLABORATION SPACES

Development goes way beyond the pool at the European Aquatics Water Polo Development Camp. The Aqualife Complex's modern meeting rooms provide the perfect setting for lectures, workshops, and clinics designed for coaches, referees, and players. Several sessions throughout the week will bring together top educators and professionals to share insights, techniques, and strategies that will elevate every participant's game. With reliable high-speed internet and full streaming capabilities, all the clinics and seminars can also be broadcast live – connecting participants and experts from across Europe for a truly collaborative learning experience.

HOPE TO MEET YOU SOON!

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CONTACT:

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