APPENDIX 8 - AGE GROUP TOURNAMENTS

- 1. All age group competitors remain qualified from 1 January to the following 31 December at their age at the close of day (12 midnight) on 31 December of the year of competition.
- 2. Age grouping for Water Polo for boys and girls are as follows:
 - 15 and 16 years of age and under (16U)
 - 17 and 18 years of age and under (18U)
 - 19 and 20 years of age and under (20U)

APPENDIX 9 - TOURNAMENT STRUCTURE

1. Water Polo Tournaments at Olympic Games and World Aquatics Championships

1.1. Olympic Games - Tournament Men

1.1.1 Draw

The draw for the Olympic Games Tournament will be either on the last day of the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament - Men or as otherwise determined and the following principle shall apply: if a team is already qualified by its ranking from a preceding qualification competition, the team will be placed on the highest line of the draw according to that ranking and the team taking its place will be placed on the lower line.

For the Preliminary Round, all qualifying teams will be drawn by pairs into two groups, either A or B.

<u>First Line</u>, the first and second placed teams from the previous World Championship will be drawn, one into A, and one into B.

<u>Second Line</u>, the team qualified from the preceding year's World League and the team representing the Continent of Europe will be drawn, one into A, and one into B.

<u>Third Line</u>, the teams representing the Continents of America and Oceania will be drawn, one into A, and one into B.

<u>Fourth Line</u>, the teams representing the Continents of Africa and Asia will be drawn, one into A, and one into B.

<u>Fifth Line</u>, the first and second placed teams from the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament - Men will be drawn, one into A, and one into B.

<u>Sixth Line</u>, the third placed team in the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament

1 Men and the team representing the Host Country will be drawn, one into A, and one into B.

Should there be no teams from the previous Championships to seed onto a Line then the highest ranked teams for Europe, Americas, Asia, Africa or Oceania if any, shall be drawn alternating between Group A and Group B.

After being divided into group A and group B, the teams will then be drawn with each team in each group receiving a separate number from one (1) to six (6).

1.1.2 Schedule of Games

Preliminary Round:

There will be two (2) groups of six (6) teams, which form groups A and B.

Each group will play a round robin. The four (4) highest ranked teams in each group will qualify for the Quarter Final Round. The fifth and sixth ranked teams in each group will be eliminated and will not play anymore.

| Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | Day 5 |
|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. A1-A6 | 7. B6 - B4 | 13. A4 - A5 | 19. B6 - B5 | 25. A5 - A1 |
| 2. A3-A4 | 8. B5 - B3 | 14. A2 - A6 | 20. B1 - B4 | 26. A3 - A6 |
| 3. A2-A5 | 9. B1 - B2 | 15. A3 - A1 | 21. B2 - B3 | 27. A4 - A2 |
| 4. B1-B6 | 10. A6 - A4 | 16. B4 - B5 | 22. A6 - A5 | 28. B3 - B6 |
| 5. B3-B4 | 11. A5 - A3 | 17. B2 - B6 | 23. A1 - A4 | 29. B4 - B2 |
| 6. B2-B5 | 12. A1 - A2 | 18. B3 - B1 | 24. A2 - A3 | 30. B1 - B5 |
| | | | | |

Quarter Final Round:

The first, second, third and fourth placed teams in Group A and Group B form a Group D of eight (8) teams. Group D plays a modified single elimination format.

Games played in the Preliminary Round may be repeated in the Quarter Final, Semi Final or Final Round. All games played in Group D must be played so that a definite winner is declared. Accordingly, it may be necessary to apply the Water Polo Rules relating to penalty shoot-out.

<u> Places 11 - 12</u>

The teams ranked sixth in each group of the Preliminary Round shall be classified for places 11 - 12 according to the following criteria:

1. Win-loss record in their Preliminary Round group.

2. If both teams have the same win-loss record, the classification will be determined by goal average (goals scored divided by games played) taking into account the results of all games played in the respective group.

<u> Places 9 - 10</u>

The teams ranked fifth in each group shall be classified for places 9 - 10 according to the same principles as for places 11 - 12.

Day 6

31. 1A - 4B 32. 2A - 3B 33. 3A - 2B 34. 4A - 1B

Semi Final Round:

| Day 7 | |
|---------------|--|
| 35. L31 - L33 | |
| 36. L32 - L34 | |
| 37. W31 - W33 | |
| 38. W32 - W34 | |
| | |

Final Round:

| Day 8 |
|---------------------------------------|
| 39. L35 - L36 (Winner 7th, Loser 8th) |
| 40. W35 - W36 (Winner 5th, Loser 6th) |
| 41. L37 - L38 (Winner 3rd, Loser 4th) |

42. W37 - W 38 (Winner 1st, Loser 2nd)

Games 31 through 42 must be played to a conclusion, accordingly it may be necessary to apply Water Polo Rules relating to penalty shoot-out.

The Management Committee of World Aquatics Competitions may change the order and schedule of games to meet with the requirements of the Host Federation and/or television provided that at least twenty four (24) hours' notice is given.

1.2 Olympic Games - Tournament -- Women

1.2.1 Draw

The Draw for the Olympic Games Tournament will be either on the last day of the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament – Women or as otherwise determined and the following principle shall apply: if a team is already qualified by its ranking from a preceding qualification competition, the team will be placed on the highest line of the Draw according to that ranking and the team taking its place will be placed on the lower line.

a) Group Draw

For the Preliminary Round, all qualifying teams will be drawn by pairs into two groups, either A or B.

<u>First Line</u>, the first placed team from the previous World Championship and the first team from the preceding year's World League will be drawn, one into A, and one into B.

<u>Second line</u>, the teams representing the Continents of Europe and Oceania will be drawn, one into A, and one into B.

<u>Third line</u>, the first and second placed teams from the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament - Women will be drawn, one into A, and one into B.

<u>Fourth line</u>, the team representing the Continent of America and the team representing the Continent of Asia will be drawn, one into A, and one into B.

<u>Fifth line</u>, the team representing the Continent of Africa and the team representing the Host Country will be drawn, one into A, and one into B.

b) Team Draw

After being divided into Group A and Group B, the teams will then be drawn with each team in each group receiving a separate number from one (1) to five (5).

1.2.2 Schedule of Games

Preliminary Round

Two (2) groups of five (5) teams form Group A and Group B and play a single round robin in each group.

| Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 | Day 4 | Day 5 |
|----------|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. A5-A1 | 5. B1-B3 | 9. A5-A2 | 13. A2-A3 | 17. B3-B5 |
| 2. A2-A4 | 6. B4-B5 | 10. A3-A4 | 14. A4-A1 | 18. B1-B2 |
| 3. B5-B1 | 7. A4-A5 | 11. B3-B4 | 15. B2-B3 | 19. A3-A5 |
| 4. B2-B4 | 8. A1-A3 | 12. B5-B2 | 16. B4-B1 | 20. A1-A2 |
| | | | | |

Quarter Final Round

The first, second, third and fourth placed teams in Group A and Group B form a Group D of eight (8) teams. Group D plays a modified single elimination format.

Games played in the Preliminary Round may be repeated in the Quarter Final, Semi Final or Final Round. All games played in Group D must be played so that a definite winner is declared. Accordingly, it may be necessary to apply the Water Polo Rules relating to penalty shoot-out.

<u>Places 9 - 10</u>

The teams ranked fifth in each group of the Preliminary Round shall be classified for places 9 - 10 according to the following criteria:

1. Win-loss record in their Preliminary Round group.

2. If both teams have the same win-loss record, the classification will be determined by goal average (goals scored divided by games played) taking into account the results of all games played in the respective group.

| Daye | 5 |
|------|---|
|------|---|

| 21. 1A - 4B | | |
|-------------|--|--|
| 22. 2A - 3B | | |
| 23. 3A - 2B | | |
| 24. 4A - 1B | | |
| | | |

Semi Final Round

Day 7

25. L21 - L23

26. L22 - L24

27. W21 - W23

28. W22 - W24

Final Round

Day 8

30. W25 - W26 (Winner 5th, Loser 6th)

31. L27 - L28 (Winner 3rd, Loser 4th)

32. W27 - W28 (Winner 1st, Loser 2nd)

Games 21 through 32 must be played to a conclusion, accordingly it may be necessary to apply Water Polo Rules relating to penalty shootout.

The Management Committee of World Aquatics Competitions may

change the order and schedule of games to meet with the requirements of the Host Federation and/or television provided that at least twenty four (24) hours' notice is given.

1.3 World Aquatics Championship – Men

1.3.1 Draw

The draw for the World Aquatics Championships Tournament will be made two (2) months prior to the commencement of the World Aquatics Championships Tournament and the following principle shall apply: if a team is already qualified by its ranking from a preceding qualification competition, the team will be placed on the highest line of the draw according to that ranking and the team taking its place will be placed on the lower line.

For the Preliminary Round, all qualifying teams will be drawn into four (4) groups: A, B, C or D.

<u>First Line</u>, the first, second, third and fourth qualified teams from the preceding World Cup or Olympic Games will be drawn one into A, one into B, one into C, and one into D.

<u>Second Line</u>, the qualified teams from the World League (or from the World Cup or Olympic Games if applicable), the first qualified team from the Americas and the first qualified team from Europe will be drawn one into A, one into B, one into C, and one into D.

<u>Third</u>, the second qualified team from the Americas, the second and third qualified teams from Europe and the qualified team from Oceania will be drawn one into A, one into B, one into C, and one into D.

<u>Fourth</u>, the qualified team from Africa, the first and second teams from Asia and the Host Country (if the Host Country has already been drawn, then the next ranked team from the World Cup or Olympic Games) will be drawn one into A, one into B, one into C, and one into D.

After being divided into Groups A, B, C, or D, the teams will then be drawn with each team in each group receiving a separate number from one (1) to four (4).

1.3.2 Schedule of Games

Preliminary Round (First):

Four (4) groups of four (4) teams each from Group A, Group B, Group C and Group D play a single robin round in each group.

| Day 1 | Day 2 | Day 3 |
|------------|-------------|-------------|
| 1. A3 – A1 | 9. B4 - B3 | 17. C1 - C4 |
| 2. A2 - A4 | 10. B1 - B2 | 18. C2 - C3 |
| 3. B3 – B1 | 11. C4 - C3 | 19. D1 - D4 |
| 4. B2 - B4 | 12. C1 - C2 | 20. D2 - D3 |
| 5. C3 – C1 | 13. D4 - D3 | 21. A1 - A4 |
| 6. C2 - C4 | 14. D1 - D2 | 22. A2 - A3 |
| 7. D3 – D1 | 15. A4 - A3 | 23. B1 - B4 |
| 8. D2 - D4 | 16. A1 - A2 | 24. B2 - B3 |

Preliminary Round (Second):

The first placed teams in Group A, Group B, Group C and Group D have a bye.

The second and third placed teams in Group A, Group B, Group C and Group D play against each other in a cross group format. The fourth placed teams in each of Group A, Group B, Group C and Group D form a new Group which consists of four (4) teams. They play for places 13 – 16 in a cross group format.

Day 4

| 25. 4A - 4B | |
|-------------|--|
| 26. 4C - 4D | |
| 27. 2A – 3B | |
| 28. 3A – 2B | |
| 29. 2C – 3D | |
| 30. 3C – 2D | |

Quarter Final Round:

| Day | 5 |
|-----|--|
| 31. | Loser Game 25 - Loser Game 26 (Winner 15th, Loser 16th) |
| 32. | Winner Game 25 - Winner Game 26 (Winner 13th, Loser 14th) |
| 33. | Loser Game 27 - Loser Game 29 |
| 34. | Loser Game 28 - Loser Game 30 |
| 35. | 1A - Winner Game 29 |
| 36. | 1B - Winner Game 30 |
| 37. | 1C - Winner Game 27 |
| 38. | 1D - Winner Game 28 |

Semi-Final Round:

| Day | 6 |
|-------|---|
| 39. | Loser Game 33 - Loser Game (Winner 11th, Loser 12th) |
| 40. | Winner Game 33 - Winner Game 34 (Winner 9th, Loser 10th) |
| 41. | Loser Game 35 - Loser Game 36 |
| 42. | Loser Game 37 - Loser Game 38 |
| 43. | Winner Game 35 - Winner Game 36 |
| 44. | Winner Game 37 - Winner Game 38 |
| Final | Round: |
| - | |

Day 7

| 45. | Loser Game 41 - Loser Game |
|-----|---------------------------------|
| | (Winner 7th, Loser 8th) |
| 46. | Winner Game 41 - Winner Game 42 |
| | (Winner 5th, Loser 6th) |
| 47. | Loser Game 43 - Loser Game 44 |
| | (Winner 3rd, Loser 4th) |

Games 25 through 48 must be played to a conclusion, accordingly it may be necessary to apply the Water Polo Rules relating to penalty shoot-out.

The Management Committee of World Aquatics Competitions may change the order and schedule of games to meet with the requirements of the Host Federation and/or television provided that at least twenty four (24) hours' notice is given.

1.4 World Aquatics Championships - Women

1.4.1 Draw

The draw for the World Aquatics Championships Tournament will be made two (2) months prior to the commencement of the World Championships Tournament and the following principle shall apply: if a team is already qualified by its ranking from a preceding qualification competition, the team will be placed on the highest line of the draw according to its ranking and the team taking its place will be place on the lower line.

For the Preliminary Round, all qualifying teams will be drawn into four (4) groups: A, B, C or D.

<u>First Line</u>, the first, second, third and fourth qualified teams from the preceding World Cup or Olympic Games will be drawn one into A, one into B, one into C, and one into D.

<u>Second Line</u>, the qualified teams from the World League (or from the World Cup or Olympic Games if applicable), the first qualified team from the Americas and the first qualified team from Europe will be drawn one into A, one into B, one into C, and one into D.

<u>Third Line</u>, the second qualified team from the Americas, the second and third qualified teams from Europe and the qualified team from Oceania will be drawn one into A, one into B, one into C and one into D.

<u>Fourth Line</u>, the qualified team from Africa, the first and second teams from Asia and the Host Country (if the Host Country has already been

drawn, then the next ranked team from the World Cup or Olympic Games) will be drawn one into A, one into B, one into C, and one into D.

After being divided into Groups A, B, C, or D, the teams will then be drawn with each team in each group receiving a separate number from one (1) to four (4).

1.4.2 Schedule of Games

Schedule of Games as in Appendix 9 1.1.2

The Management Committee of World Aquatics Competitions may change the order and schedule of games to meet with the

requirements of the Host Federation and/or television provided that at least twenty four (24) hours' notice is given.

1.5 Olympic Games Qualification Tournament - Men

1.5.1 Draw

The draw for the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament will be made two (2) months or as otherwise determined prior to the commencement of the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament.

For the Preliminary Round, all qualifying teams will be drawn by pairs into two groups, either A or B.

<u>First Line</u>, the two highest placed teams from the previous World Championships.

<u>Second Line</u>, the next two highest placed teams from the previous World Championships.

<u>Third Line</u>, the next two highest placed teams from the previous World Championships.

<u>Fourth Line</u>, the next two highest placed teams from the previous World Championships.

<u>Fifth Line</u>, the remaining teams, if any, from the World Championships or the highest ranked teams from Europe and the next highest ranked teams from the Americas.

<u>Sixth Line</u>, the remaining teams, if any, being the next highest ranked team from the Americas, Asia or Europe and the next highest ranked team from the Americas, Asia or Europe.

Should there be no teams from the previous Championships to seed onto a Line then the highest ranked teams for Europe, Americas, Asia, Africa or Oceania if any, shall be drawn alternating between Group A and Group B.

After being divided into Group A and B, the teams will then be drawn with each team in each group receiving of separate number of 1 to 6.

1.5.2 Schedule of Games

Schedule of Games as in Appendix 9 1.1.2

The Management Committee of World Aquatics Competitions may change the order and schedule of games to meet with the requirements of the Host Federation and/or television provided that at least twenty four (24) hours' notice is given.

1.6 Olympic Games Qualification Tournament - Women

1.6.1 Draw

The draw for the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament will be made two (2) months or as otherwise determined prior to the commencement of the Olympic Games Qualification Tournament.

For the Preliminary Round, all qualifying teams will be drawn by pairs into two groups, either A or B.

<u>First Line</u>, the two highest placed teams from the previous World Championships.

<u>Second Line</u>, the next two highest placed teams from the previous World Championships.

<u>Third Line</u>, the next two highest placed teams from the previous World Championships.

<u>Fourth Line</u>, the next two highest placed teams from the previous World Championships.

<u>Fifth Line</u>, the remaining teams, if any, from the World Championships and the highest ranked teams from Europe, Americas, Asia, Africa or Oceania.

<u>Sixth Line</u>, the remaining teams, if any, shall be drawn alternating between Groups A and B.

Should there be no teams from the previous Championships to seed onto a Line then the highest ranked teams for Europe, Americas, Asia, Africa or Oceania if any, shall be drawn alternating between Group A and Group B.

After being divided into Group A and Group B, the teams will then be drawn with each team in each group receiving of separate number of 1 to 6.

1.6.2 Schedule of Games

Schedule of Games as in Appendix 9 1.1.2

The Management Committee of World Aquatics Competitions may change the order and schedule of games to meet with the requirements of the Host Federation and/or television provided that at least twenty four (24) hours' notice is given.

1.7 World U2O and U18 Championships – Men and women

1.7.1 Draw

The draw for the World U2O and U18 Championships will be made two (2) months prior to the commencement of the World Championships Tournament and the following principle shall apply: if a team is already qualified by its ranking from a preceding qualification competition, the team will be placed on the highest line of the draw according to its ranking and the team taking its place will be placed on the lower line.

Draw for twenty (20) Teams

The best 8 teams in the ranking from the previous World Championships (seeding) go in group A and B, and lower 12 teams in 4 groups C,D,E,and F.

1.7.2 Schedule of Games

Schedule for twenty (20) Teams

The best 8 teams in the ranking from the previous World Championships (seeding) go in group A and B, and lower 12 teams in 4 groups C,D,E,and F.

The numbers in the first 3 days are the position in the group after the draw. A and B groups have 4 teams and C,D,E,F groups have 3 teams.

First 3 days A and B group teams they play 3 games (round robin), while C,D,E,F they play 2 games (round robin).

The numbers from the day 4 are the ranking in the groups.

From the ranking of the groups C,D,E,F .the 2nd teams and the 3d teams of the groups C,D,E,F they play in 2 groups (G,H) a mixed round robin the days 4 to 6, and then 7and 8 days for places13-20. 1G-1H (13-14 place) 2G-2H (15-16), 3G-3H (17-18), 4G-4H (19-20)

Day 4, the first teams in the groups C,D,E,F they play against (1D-1C, 1E-1F) and the losers cross with 3d teams in Group A and B, while the winners cross with 4th teams in Group A and B.

The day 6 the winners of the 4 games they cross with first and seconds of Groups A and B (quarter finals) while the 4 losers they play for 9-12 places the days 7 and 8.

The days 7 and 8 we have semifinals and finals (1- 4 places) and also ranking from 5 to 8 places

The teams will play at least 6 games in the 8 days schedule and for the teams from 13-20 places to be able to play also the 2 last days.

Preliminary Round

Four (4) groups of three (3) teams each from Group C, Group D, Group E and Group F play a single robin round in each group. Upon the the result of the previous World Aquatics World Championships the top eight (8) teams will be drawn into two (2) group of fours (4), Group A and Group B.

| DAY 1 | DAY 2 | SAY 3 |
|----------|-----------|-----------|
| 1. C1-C3 | 9. D2-D3 | 17. E1-E2 |
| 2. D1-D3 | 10. E2-E3 | 18. F1-F2 |
| 3. E1-E3 | 11. F2-F3 | 19. C1-C2 |
| 4. F1-F3 | 12. C2-C3 | 20. D1-D2 |
| 5. A1-A3 | 13. B1-B2 | 21. A2-A3 |
| 6. B1-B3 | 14. A1-A2 | 22. B2-B3 |
| 7. A2-A4 | 15. B3-B4 | 23. A1-A4 |
| 8. B2-B4 | 16. A3-A4 | 24. B1-B4 |

Bye Day 1: C2 D2 E2 F2

Bye Day2 : C1 D1 E1 F1

Bye Day 3: C3 D3 E3 F3

Cross Overs:

The first placed teams in Group A, Group B have a bye.

| DAY 4 | DAY 5 |
|-----------|------------|
| 25.2C-3D | 31. 2E-2C |
| 26.2E-3F | 32. 3F-3D |
| 27. 3C-2D | 33. 3E-3C |
| 28. 3E-2F | 34. 2F-2D |
| 29. 1D-1C | 35. L29-3A |
| 30. 1E-1F | 36. L30-3B |
| | 37. W29-4A |
| | 38. W30-4B |

Bye Day 4: A+B

Bye Day 5: 1A 2A 1B 2B

Quarter Final Round, Semi-Final Round and Final Round

| DAY 6 | DAY 7 | DAY 8 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 39. 2C-3F | 47. 4G-4H (19-20) | 55. 2G-2H (15-16) |
| 40. 2E-3D 48. 3G-3H (17-18) | | 56. 1G-1H (13-14) |

| 41.3C-2F | 49. L35-L38 | 57.L49-L50 (11-12) |
|------------|-------------|--------------------|
| 42. 3E-2D | 50.L36-L37 | 58. W49-W50 (9-10) |
| 43. 1A-W38 | 51. L43-L46 | 59. L51-L52 (7-8) |
| 44. 1B-W37 | 52. L44-L45 | 60. W51-W52 (5-6) |
| 45. 2A-W36 | 53. W43-W46 | 61. L53-L54 (3-4) |
| 46. 2B-W35 | 54. W44-W45 | 62. W53-W54 (1-2) |

The Management Committee of World Aquatics Competitions may change the order and schedule of games to meet with the requirements of the Host Federation and/or television provided that at least twenty four (24) hours' notice is given.

| GROUP A | GROUP B | | | | |
|---------|----------------|----|----|----|----|
| A1 | B1 | C1 | D1 | E1 | F1 |
| A2 | B2 | C2 | D2 | E2 | F2 |
| A3 | В3 | С3 | D3 | E3 | F3 |
| A4 | B4 | | | | _ |
| ¥ | ¥ | ¥ | ¥ | ÷ | |
| 1A | 1B | 1C | 2C | 3C | |
| 2A | 2B | 1D | 2D | 3D | |
| 3A | 3B | 1E | 2E | 3E | |
| 4A | 4B | 1F | 2F | 3F | |

| DAY 4,5,6 | | |
|-------------|-------------|-----------------|
| ROUND ROBIN | ROUND ROBIN | |
| GROUP G | GROUP H | > >>> |
| 2C | 3C | |
| 3D | 2D | |
| 2E | 3E | |
| 3F | 2F | |

DAY 7,8 FOR PLACES 13-20

| 1G | 1H |
|----|----|
| 2G | 2Н |
| 3G | 3Н |
| 4G | 4H |

2. Draw for Competitions

The Management Committee for World Aquatics Competitions has the authority if there are only thirteen (13) or fourteen (14) participating teams to draw teams into two (2) groups rather than being required to draw teams in the prescribed manner for a competition based upon sixteen (16) teams, namely for (4) groups of four (4) teams each.

3. Order of Games

The Management Committee of World Aquatics Competitions may change the order and schedule of games to meet with requirements of the Host Federation and/or television provided that at least twenty four (24) hours' notice is given.

4. Officials

The Management Committee of World Aquatics Competitions may in addition to other officials appoint the following to assist in the conduct of any competition, namely: a World Aquatics TWPC Delegate, a World Aquatics TWPC Evaluator(s) and Timeout Officials.

5. Tie Breaking rules

General

All matches shall be played in accordance with the World Aquatics' current Competition Rules. Variations on a technical level are possible.

Each game must have a winner. If a game ends with a tie in regular time, the teams must go into a penalty shoot-out according to the Rules.

The matches shall be scored as follows:

- a) win in regular time = 3 points
- b) win after penalty shootout = 2 points
- c) loss after penalty shootout = 1 point
- d) loss in regular = 0 point

Teams' rankings are obtained by adding up the number of points won.

5.1 Tie Breaking Rules, Group phase or Round Robin Tournaments

5.1.1 If two (2) teams shall have equal points, further classification shall be established as follows:

The team winning the game between them (including penalty

shoot-out if any) shall be placed higher.

If there is more than one tie in a group, the highest placed tie shall be determined first.

5.1.2 If three (3) or more teams shall have equal points, further classification shall be established as follows:

The results among the tied teams shall determine which team is placed highest.

If, at any time during the application of the procedure, the number of tied teams is reduced to two (2), then the above procedure (1.2.1., tie between two teams) shall be used to determine which of the two (2) remaining teams is placed higher.

The comparison shall be made:

first, upon the points of the games among the tied teams.

second, the goal difference (excluding the goals from penalty shootout) among the tied teams,

third, based upon goals scored among tied teams.

If still tied, the games played against the highest placed team (or teams, if tied, the team or teams not involved in the tie) shall be considered.

The first comparison shall be based on goal difference, and if still tied, then based on goals scored.

If still tied, the results against the next highest placed team (or teams, if tied) shall be used in succession until all results have been considered.

If still tied, and there is no practical manner to determine the ranking, the final classification between the teams in the tie shall be decided by coin-toss.

If there is more than one tie in a group, the highest placed tie shall be determined first.

For the purpose of calculating either goal difference or goals scored, the goals in any penalty shoot-out will not be taken into consideration.