

Titans Nationals Access Program (TNAP)

The Titans Nationals Access Program provides financial support to 16U/18U Titans teams that qualify for National Championships requiring air travel. This program helps reduce the significant travel costs associated with high-performance competition and reflects the Titans' commitment to supporting athletes who achieve success through hard work, dedication, and team performance.

Why TNAP Matters

Reducing Barriers to High-Performance Competition

We are all aware that high-performance water polo in Canada is very expensive. For many families, the cost of air travel, accommodation, and tournament logistics can be prohibitive. This program helps address financial constraints that might prevent some qualifying athletes from competing on the national stage.

Rewarding Competitive Achievement

Only teams that earn their place at National Championships by finishing in the top three in the Eastern Division of the NCL are eligible. Supporting these teams reinforces the value of competitive excellence and recognizes the collective effort required to reach this level.

Strengthening Club Identity and Pride

Just as TTIP strengthens the connection between national-team athletes and the Titans community, this program reinforces pride in our competitive teams. When Titans teams succeed nationally, they elevate the club's reputation and inspire younger athletes.

Supporting Families and Retaining Athletes

By reducing the financial burden of major travel events, the program helps families remain committed to the Titans pathway and supports long-term athlete retention.

Program Framework

Annual Investment

- \$5,000 is allocated to TNAP in the annual budget by the Titans Board of Directors.
- The Board may revisit this amount to ensure it remains relevant.
- The Board may decide not to make an additional investment in a given season if sufficient funds have accumulated from previous years.
- Unallocated funds roll over to the subsequent season, ensuring long-term sustainability.
- The grant per eligible team will not exceed the lesser of 10% of the total tournament participation cost (excluding meals) and \$2,000.

Team Eligibility

- The team must be a Titans 16U or 18U competitive team.
- Major League teams are excluded, as any qualifying team would mostly be composed of non-paying Titans athletes.

- The team must have earned its place at National Championships (top 3 in the Eastern Division of the NCL).
- The National Championships must be hosted in a location that requires air travel.
- If a team includes out-of-club athletes, only regular Titans athletes will be covered by the TNAP grant and the total grant funding will be pro-rated accordingly.

Application Requirements

- Teams must submit a formal application using the application form at the bottom of this document.
- Each application must be accompanied by a detailed tournament budget, compliant with the Titans Tournament Policy.
- Budgets must clearly outline all projected costs, including airfare, accommodation, ground transportation, team building activities, tournament fees, etc. (meals excluded).
- Applications must be submitted by either the Team Manager, Tournament Manager or Program Treasurer.

Reimbursement Clause

- Athletes and their parents agree that they will have to reimburse 100% of their share of the TNAP funding if they choose to train with another club in the season following their National Championships participation, unless due to:
 - Family relocation to another town,
 - Moving out of town for education purposes, or
 - Aging out of Titans' 18U competitive program.
- Any significant breach of the Titans Code of Conduct during the National Team program may result in partial or full reimbursement of the athlete's share of the TNAP grant as determined by the Titans disciplinary committee.

Selection and Funding Determination

- A committee appointed by the Board of Directors will review applications and confirm eligibility.
- The committee will consist of at least three volunteer Board members, with the option to include additional Titans community members.
- Committee members must have no conflict of interest.
- Funding will be determined based on the submitted budget, the number of teams applying, and the program's grant cap.

Funding Announcements

Funding decisions will be communicated to the Titans community through the club Newsletter.

Titans Nationals Access Program

Application Form

Instructions: Email the completed Application Form along with a copy of the tournament budget to info@titanswaterpolo.ca. In your email title, please specify "TNAP Application - <team name>".

Date: <application date>

Team Name: <name>

Event Name: <name>

Event Dates: <include travel dates>

Event Location: <name>

Total Estimated Tournament Cost (excluding meals): < total amount >

Team Head Coach: <name>

Team Assistant Coach: <name>

Team Manager: <name>

Tournament Manager: <name>

Team Treasurer: <name>

Chaperone(s): <name(s)>

Driver(s): <name(s)>

Participating athletes:

<name – Titans or non-Titans>

<name – Titans or non-Titans>

National Championship Qualification: I confirm that this Titans team earned qualification to the National Championships by finishing in the top three in the Eastern Division of the National Championship League (NCL):

Yes:

No (ineligible):

Travel Requirement: I confirm that participation in the National Championships requires air travel for this team.

Yes:

No (ineligible):

Tournament Budget: I confirm that a detailed tournament budget is attached and that it complies with the Titans Tournament Policy:

Detailed budget attached:

Budget complies with Titans Tournament Policy:

Reimbursement Clause Acknowledgement: I confirm that all the athletes and their parent are aware of the TNAP's Reimbursement Clause.

Yes:

No (ineligible):

Signature

< signature >

< name >

<role: **Team Manager, Tournament Manager, Program Treasurer**>

< date >