

**FINA Water Polo Rules**  
**Interpretations updated after recent FINA World Championships**  
**August 6, 2019, 10.30am**

**1. 5m Penalty when a shot is fouled from behind with only the goalie to beat**

- The emphasis now is on calling a penalty when the player is actually attempting the shot
- If this occurs and there is only the goalie to beat, a penalty is called
- If the attacker is fouled from behind when moving towards goal (with the ball in the hand), but not actually shooting, it is play on
- If the attacker is not trying to score a goal when fouled from behind, advantage (or “play on”) should be played
- If no call is made and the shot is taken, the resultant goal or no-goal stands

**2. Defender pushing on a driver**

- Any time a defender pushes against a driver, it is an exclusion

**3. Goalie ball under**

- If an attacker pushes on the goalie’s hands that control the ball and it goes under, it is a turn-over
- If the goalie takes the ball under with the aim of removing it from the attacker’s reach, it is a penalty

**4. Playing the ball**

- On receiving a free throw, unless the player does an immediate pass or shot, they must play the ball (as in the rule book). If this is not done, a turn-over is called
- This applies to any free throw, including when retrieving the ball from an opposition “dump” as the shot clock runs out.