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WATER POLO PLAYERS' ORGANIZATION (WPO) SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED

The WPO officially takes off via live-streamed press conference

Barcelona, July 20th 2013- The Water Polo Players' Organization (WPO) was officially launched today during a live web-streamed press conference at the CN Barceloneta Club. Top representatives from almost all of the competing water polo countries were in attendance.

The conference began with water polo legend and Olympic champion, Jordi Sans, introducing WPO President Tony Azevedo, Vice President Felipe Perrone, and WPO attorney Alessandro Oliverio. "For the very first time, water polo players from all over the world have decided to unite, making the WPO their collective voice," said Azevedo during his speech.

Perrone spoke next, pointing out that the number of disputes between clubs and players is rapidly increasing due to contract breaches. He added that one of the WPO's goals is to help players defend their rights in these types of situations.

Oliverio closed out the talks by outlining the next major steps of the WPO: the set up of country delegations and of a lawyers' network. The WPO, via this network, will be able to provide country-specific draft player-club contracts to its members.

Video and images from the press conference are available to view on www.waterpoloplayers.org/events/launch.

The WPO also wishes good luck to all players preparing to compete in World Championships.

The WPO is a non-profit, independent international association conceived by a key group of water polo athletes. The organization aims to become the collective international voice of the world's water polo athletes by increasing solidarity between these athletes, developing relations with governing water polo bodies and providing member support for water polo players internationally.

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For more information on this topic, or to schedule an interview with Tony Azevedo, please send an email request to info@waterpoloplayers.org



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