

POST'S  
GUIDE  
*to the*  
PAN AM  
GAMES



WATER POLO

# GUIDE TO THE GAMES

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**BY ERIC KOREEN, NATIONAL POST**

## **Venue**

Atos Markham Pan Am/  
Parapan Am Centre

## **Venue acronym**

MAR

## **Other events at venue**

Badminton, table tennis



**Canada's Monika Eggens, front, at the 2013 world championships in Barcelona.**

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## **Landmark status**

### *Medium*

This building was constructed in Markham specifically for the Pan Am Games, and cost about \$78-million. After the Games, it will become a multi-use community centre. As well, it is right next to downtown Unionville. Main Street, besides being very pretty, stood in for Stars Hollow in the pilot episode of *Gilmore Girls*. The more you know.

## **Transit options**

By public transit, there is a Go bus from Downsview Station (71F Stouffville toward Centennial). A half-hour bus ride will take you to YMCA Boulevard and Kennedy Road, less than a minute's walk from the venue.

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For exact directions, try:

[Triplinx.ca](http://Triplinx.ca)

[TTC trip planner](#)

## **Schedule**

*July 7-9, 11* Men's and women's round-robin matches

*July 12* Women's semifinals and classification matches

*July 13* Men's semifinals and classification matches

*July 14* Women's medal matches

*July 15* Men's medal matches

[See the full competition schedule at the Pan Am website](#)

## **How it works**

A mix of basketball, soccer, field hockey and swimming, water polo has two teams of seven play-

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ers — six field players and a goal-keeper — in a swimming pool. Players cannot touch the wall or floor of the pool at any point. There are four eight-minute quarters. Teams have 30 seconds to put a shot on goal, unless a foul is committed.

## **Teams competing**

### *Women*

#### **Group A**

Argentina, Cuba, Mexico, U.S.

#### **Group B**

Brazil, Canada, Puerto Rico,  
Venezuela

### *Men*

#### **Group A**

Argentina, Cuba, Ecuador, U.S.

#### **Group B**

Brazil, Canada, Mexico, Venezuela

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## **Canada's rosters**

### *Women*

Krystina Alogbo, Riviere-des-Prairies, Que.; Joelle Bekhazi, Pointe-Claire, Que.; Carmen Eggens, Pitt Meadows, B.C.; Monika Eggens, Pitt Meadows, B.C.; Shae Fournier, Winnipeg; Jessica Gaudreault, Ottawa; Jakie Kohli, Burnaby, B.C.; Katrina Monton, Dorval, Que.; Dominique Perreault, Montreal; Christine Robinson, Lachine, Que.; Stephanie Valin, Pointe-Claire, Que.; Claire Wright, Lindsay, Ont.; Emma Wright, Lindsay, Ont.

### *Men*

Dusan Aleksic, Gatineau, Que.; Justin Boyd, Beaconsfield, Que.; Nicolas Constantin-Bicari, Repentigny, Que.; John Conway,

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Ottawa; Kevin Graham, Regina; Constantine Kudaba, Port Coquitlam, B.C.; Jared McElroy, Calgary; Dusan Radojcic, Toronto; Robin Randall, Drinkwater, Sask.; Scott Robinson, Calgary; Alec Tasche-reau, Ottawa; George Torakis, Montreal; Oliver Vikalo, Calgary

## **Tournament format**

The top two finishers in each group advances to the semifinals. The winners meet for the gold medal, the losers for the bronze.

## **Results from 2011**

### *Women*

1. United States; 2. Canada;
3. Brazil

### *Men*

1. United States; 2. Canada;
3. Brazil

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## **Why it's worth watching**

Players are downright cruel to each other, committing fouls above and under water, hoping to not get caught. Also, the winner of the men's tournament qualifies for the 2016 Olympics.

## **Competition outlook**

The United States and Canada are the top two ranked teams, in both men's and women's play, in that order. The Americans should be the heavy favourites. The American women are the top-ranked team in the world.

**Photograph:**

Alexander Hassenstein / Getty Images

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