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## NCS Water Polo Titles up for Grabs

Today's games to determine Finalists

**By Marissa Harnett** 

two boys' teams moved into the semi-

The boys' teams all enjoyed large

margin wins in the first rounds. First

seed Miramonte managed a decisive

16-6 second round win over Monte

Vista, while an unlucky draw landed

#5 Acalanes and #4 Campolindo to-

gether in the quarterfinals. Acalanes

defeated the Cougars in a 13-12,

weeks ago, the Dons were familiar

with their rivals and their game. Head

coach Clarke Tamariki made some

tactical changes for this match. "We

made a couple of matchup adjust-

ments on defense to help slow down

Acalanes came out aggressively

their top shooters," he said.

down-to-the-wire, match.

games.

**Boys:** 



Miramonte eased into the NCS semifinals defeating opponents by at least ten goals in the first two rounds.

he Lamorinda high school riod, Acalanes was down three goals. water polo teams stormed With the help of two more penalty through the playoffs to make it halfshots, the Dons clawed back to take way to the North Coast Section chamthe lead, bringing the score to 13-12 with just 44 seconds remaining. pionship. All three girls' teams and

Time-outs stretched the last secfinal round after the November 3 onds into nail-biting minutes. The semifinal berth hinged on the final six seconds. With all time-outs exhausted, final action resumed with Campo in possession of the ball and the ability to send the game to over-

The Acalanes defense proved to be insurmountable for the Cougars and the clock ran out before Campo could net the ball.

"The boys are definitely excited Having lost to Campo just two to win the game and move on to the next round of the playoffs." Tamariki said. Today's semifinal match against 12-time NCS winner and reigning champion, Miramonte, will be a tough one with speed and a strong goalie challenging them. "To prepare 17-3 and Northgate 11-7 in the first for the game (today) we will have to adjust our offense to slow down their team counter attack," Tamariki added.

Miramonte/Acalanes action begins at 7:15 p.m. tonight at Mira-

The Lamorinda girls have domifinal four is comprised of all three

Third seed Acalanes plays Sir Fran-

The Lady Dons sailed into the quarterfinals with a bye in the first round and a 14-point win over Ukiah in the second round. Head coach Misha Buchel admits that it will be tougher moving forward and recognizes that Campo is the team to beat. "Campo is by far and away the favorite in this tournament. They've

> tournament." Also tonight at 6 p.m., #1 Campo hosts #4 Miramonte.

only lost one game all year and just

won the Nor Cal Championships

Photos Andy Scheck

Miramonte head coach Trevor Rose echoed Buchel. "Campo is hands down the best team in NCS, if not northern California. If we can get past them it'll be one of the best wins in recent history for the MHS women's polo program. They have an excellent coach, and great players so it'll be tough."

Miramonte defeated San Rafael and second rounds, respectively. Campo had a first-round bye and beat Marin Catholic 21-2 in the second round to get to the rivalry game.

Even though Campo has the edge with a 2-0 season record against Miramonte, head coach Kim Everist admits that it will be a mental and statistical challenge to continue to win. "We are treating this game as if it is our first match-up against them. They are a good team, aggressive and athletic and they have some very key pieces."

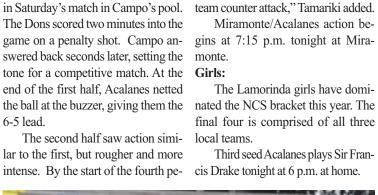
Semifinal matches: Today, Wednesday, November 7

(1) Miramonte vs. (5) Acalanes at 7:15 p.m. at Miramonte

(1) Campo vs. (4) Mirmamonte at 6 p.m. at Campo (2) Acalanes vs. (3) Sir Francis

Drake at 6 p.m. at Acalanes

Finals: Saturday, November 10 at Acalanes – time TBA.





Campo hosts a determined #4 Miramonte in the semifinals. The Cougars defeated the Mats both times they faced off this season.

### **Playoffs Schedule**

Volleyball: #1 Campolindo has a first round bye. They will play their first game on

November 10 at home at 7:00 p.m. They will play the winner of the #8 Sir Francis Drake/#9 Acalanes game.

#9 Acalanes will play on Wednesday, November 7 at 7:00 p.m. at

#8 Sir Francis Drake.

Football: #4 Campolindo will host #13 Terra Linda on Friday, November 9 at 7:00 p.m.

#7 Miramonte will travel to play #10 Tennyson on Saturday, November 10 at 1:00 p.m.

#8 Acalanes will host #9 Bishop O'Dowd on Friday, November 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Note: Girls' tennis played the first round yesterday. See cifncs.org/sports/tennis for updated schedule. Water polo playoffs are today. See above for details.

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