



ST JOHN'S
GRAMMAR



Junior School Sport Policy

Contents

Expectations

- *Coach Roles & Responsibilities*

Processes & Procedures

- *Uniform*
- *Sports Nomination Process & Guidelines*
- *Team Selection Procedure*
- *Extreme Weather Policy*
- *Sport Grievance Procedure*
- *Junior School Head of Sport Contact Details*
- *Sport Expectations Agreement*

St John's Grammar School places great emphasis on student participation in sport activities. These activities play an important role in the total development of our students and, as such, are considered to be a vital part of School life. The School endorses healthy routines and sport is very much a driver of positive wellbeing. Sport is also a driver of that all-important sense of community and team. St John's Grammar students need to learn to play well together and what is required to be a good team player. A structured sporting program also provide students, staff and parents with the opportunity to build connections and relationships with obvious benefits to all concerned.

All students are encouraged to participate in the sport program that is provided by the School. There is a commitment to provide an array of sporting opportunities that are accessible, fun and attractive to all members of our community.

Reception to Year 1 students access introductory skills-based programs that focus on play activities and minor games before proceeding onto more formal competition based sports. These activities include Net-Set-Go, AUSKICK Football, FFSA soccer and Blasters Cricket.

Year 2-6 sport activities are organised competitive activities which are an excellent way to encourage an appreciation of playing games to socially agreed rules and procedures. It also provides the opportunity for students to gain an insight into the role that sport plays in Australian society and provides a forum for structured social engagement with peers outside the classroom.

The organised competitive activities include Cricket, Softball, Tennis, Basketball, Football, Soccer, Netball, Hockey, Volleyball and Mountain Biking.



Expectations

Expectations

Nominations are firm commitments to attend all aspects of the activity, especially training and matches.

- Summer nominations include both Term 1 and Term 4.
- Winter nominations include both Term 2 and Term 3.
- Students represent their School by dressing correctly for both practices and matches. The uniform requirements are outlined in the Summer Sports and Winter Sports Booklet.
- Students are expected to behave in accordance with the [Code of Behaviour in Sport](#).
- In most instances, Year 7 students will play in the Secondary School competition for Saturday sport, but be eligible for both Primary and Secondary Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics teams.

Safe Environments

Students are supported by coaches and volunteers to play sport in a safe, respectful and supportive environment. Adults understand and model ethical behaviour and exercise informed judgements in dealings with students, parents and the community.

Safety involves the provision of:

- Safe and appropriate facilities and equipment
- Suitably experienced or trained coaches/supervisors
- Suitable, competent umpires
- Well organised practices and matches
- First aid kits and guidelines for dealing with an emergency
- Inclusive and positive interactions to engage and support student in sports activities
- Clear routines, guidelines and expectations of student, coach and parent behaviours and addressing discipline issues promptly, fairly and respectfully
- A School Sport Expectations and Agreement to be read and understood by players, coaches, parents
- Parents to enact the school values of Community, Empowerment, Creativity, Innovation and Achievement.
- Volunteer parents/caregivers and adults who coach or manage teams of children and organise practice sessions and games are required to complete a Working With Children's Check and Responding to Abuse and Neglect Training.

While coaches and team managers do their best to ensure the safety and wellbeing of young children, parents/carers must accompany students when departing from sporting venues unless prior arrangements have been made and communicated to the managers and coaches. R-6 students who are not collected at the end of training will be taken to OHSC.

Training Expectations

Training is an important part of the sporting/activity experience. If the students wishes to participate in the sport they must train, and train regularly. Parents are requested to inform the Sport Coordinator, coach and or team manager if their child is unable to attend training at least a day before the scheduled training occurs.

Training times will be set by the Sport Coordinator in negotiation with coaches. The venues for training will be decided at the start of each season. Most training sessions will run for 60 minutes.

Role of Team Coaches

Where possible, coaches will be suitably qualified. Parents volunteering to coach must complete a Working With Children's Check and Responding to Abuse and Neglect Training (information provided by School administration). Our School recognises the significant leadership role of the coach, and all coaches will be offered the opportunity to attend appropriate coaching courses. Coaches are expected to support the development of skills and knowledge of the sports they are involved in. Trainings need to be well planned, organised and purposeful.

Coaches also need to ensure that all students playing sport get equity of playing time and coaching support. Coaches understand that each sport needs to represent an enjoyable, fun experience for every student.

A major focus of the sporting program is on the building of a team culture. Coaches play a pivotal role in helping young people understand how to be good team players and address issues of selfishness and egocentric behaviour.

Key Management Expectations For Coaches To Follow

Uniform

All students must adhere strictly to the sports uniform requirements or they will not be permitted to play. Coaches and Managers will be strong and consistent with this. The students and parents will be reminded of the uniform expectations at the start each season. The same high standards apply to coaches, managers and umpires. There is School-approved sports staff attire that needs to be worn at trainings and matches. If you have concerns about uniform, please contact the Head of Sport.

Attendance and Punctuality

Poor and/or late attendance to trainings and games will not be tolerated. Students will be warned initially by coaches and managers about lateness and missing trainings and games without appropriate communication. If issues of attendance and punctuality persist they will be escalated. Managers and coaches will be well organised and punctual themselves. Being first to a venue or training with kit and resources ready to go makes a statement that we are professional and dedicated to our roles. Coaches are to liaise with the Sport Coordinator, assume the role of Team Manager if there is no Team Manager and delegate jobs to parents as required.

Communication

It is an expectation that Coaches communicate regularly with students and parents and not only make available, but bring to attention, team selections, match details including venues and times and any other special requirements for training and games. The Coach must continue to provide positive and constructive feedback to players and be available to parents and students to field any questions or concerns.

Behaviour

Poor behaviour at training and matches will not be tolerated. Recognising that many of the coaches and managers are not teachers means that a strong approach of exclusion from the sport will apply to any student who makes it difficult for others around to learn, have fun and get a fair go. Conversely Coaches and Managers should consistently and actively point out and reward examples of excellent teampersonship and conduct when they are on display.

Rude or aggressive behaviour exhibited to any other player or person at a sports game will be dealt using the same procedures as defined in the School's Behaviour Support policy.

[Please click to read the Code of Behaviour in Sport.](#)



Processes & Procedures

Sports Nomination Process

All students must complete a nomination form prior to the commencement of each summer or winter season by the due date stated on the online nomination form. The nomination form will contain details concerning activities, uniform and competition times. The nomination form will request details concerning:

- Parental consent for the sport activity.
- Parental contact numbers (home, work, mobile).
- Significant medical conditions the participant may have. The parent must supply a copy of the medical plan.
- Sport Activities Expectations and Agreement to be signed by parent and student.

Sports Nomination Guidelines

Before filling out the nomination form in collaboration with your child, a number of points need to be made clear in regard to the Sport Nomination Policy of St John's Grammar School:

- Nominating for a sport requires an absolute commitment from students and parents to all practices, matches and carnivals in which the team takes part. This commitment involves two complete terms for each sport selected and takes precedence over any other out of school commitment (excluding SAPSASA District, State or National sport commitments)
- Once students have nominated, they are unable to change teams or sports unless there are special circumstances approved by the Junior School Sport Coordinator (such as a sport failing to reach adequate numbers to play)
- Should there be more than one team in a given age group for a sport, teams of equal ability will be arranged
- Students can nominate more than one sports per season as long as the games don't clash
- Softball and Netball are for boys and girls
- Volleyball, Basketball, Hockey, Cricket, Football, Softball, Netball and Soccer will be played in mixed gender competitions
- The Junior School Sport Coordinator may at any time, in consultation with the Head of the Junior School, reconfigure teams should it be deemed necessary
- The St John's PE uniform is the Sport uniform for Kanga Cricket, Tennis, Softball, Volleyball, Hockey and Netball. Students who nominate for cricket (Years 4 – 6) must purchase whites. PE uniform may be worn for Cricket training, but whites are compulsory for matches
- There is an extra fee to play Basketball, Netball, Soccer and Football to cover singlet, shirt and Guernsey hire
- Teams entered are dependent on sufficient demand and the availability of coaches. Teams that do not have the appropriate support personnel may not be entered into a competition. Please volunteer to help if you are able
- Year 2 students may only select Football, Basketball, Soccer, Netball, Hockey and Kanga Cricket

Other sporting opportunities throughout the year for students in Years 3 – 6 include Athletics, Swimming and Cross Country.

Uniform

The same standards and expectations with the wearing of the St John's Grammar sports uniform applies to that of the more formal uniform. Every requirement of the uniform must be met including socks and shorts. Students are not at liberty to decide to wear training or exercise tights as replacement garments and wearing of the school PE uniform or House tops are not substitutes at game time for the correct team outfit. Uniform requirements for each sport is listed in the [Summer Sport](#) and [Winter Sport](#) Booklet.

Team Selection Procedure

When differing divisions are offered by Sports Associations, students will be grouped to participate in a team to suit their abilities. This process involves consultation between the Sport Coordinator and coaches during trial periods and during the season.

Criteria for A & B selection includes;

- Observation and appraisal of players during trial periods
- Regular discussions between coaches and Sport Coordinator post and during season.
- Observation and appraisal of players during season to determine whether player movement in teams is warranted
- Player injury or planned absences
- Training standards

If students from nearby schools approach the School to join a sporting team, they will be allowed to do so if they are not taking the position of a St John's student.

Extreme Weather

The duty of care for our students' health and safety is of primary importance. If the predicted temperature in that day's Advertiser is 35C or above then weekday sports matches and practices will be cancelled. The exception to this is indoor volleyball, which will go ahead unless the Principal, in consultation with the Head of Sport, decides that conditions are too hot. If the forthcoming Saturday is forecast at 38C or above in Friday's Advertiser then Saturday morning sport will be cancelled. Cancellations of games due to weather will be communicated to parents via the website and social media.

Coaches will be made aware of the need to follow the following guidelines for sport which goes ahead in hot conditions Hats and sunscreen should be worn at all times (for all summer sport irrespective of temperature). Frequent hydration opportunities should be given and students are encouraged to utilise them. Events should be modified where appropriate e.g. shortened overs in cricket or sets in tennis

The decision to cancel practice or matches due to wet weather will be made by the Head of Sport. Should it be raining or the conditions dangerous, putting students at risk, sport will be cancelled. If the weather forecast is for possible thunderstorms/lightning remain vigilant for approaching storms and / or changing or rapidly deteriorating conditions. In the event of thunderstorm/lightning where player/officials/spectator welfare is deemed unsafe by either team coach (or referee) play should be suspended. [Please click to read the Extreme Weather Policy.](#)

Sport Grievance Procedures

St John's Grammar has a commitment to creating a safe and supportive environment where students, coaches and managers can participate in a range of activities and continue to develop their skills and abilities.

If students or parents have concerns about an aspect of the Sport Program, the School requests that the below process be followed. The process is structured to support parents, coaches, students to resolve concerns within the School's Grievance Procedures.

Grievance Procedure

Step 1. – Student

Talk to the person about what is upsetting you. It is very important to be mindful that there are often a range of perceptions about an issue. Therefore, listening to another person's version of the story or issue can often solve the concern.

Step 2. Student/Parent

Contact the team coach involved to discuss your concerns. If you consider the issue you have raised is not resolved, make an appointment with the Sport Coordinator.

Step 3.

Meet with the Sport Coordinator. You may wish to arrange for another person - child or parent to support you by attending the meeting with you.

Step 4.

If you are dissatisfied with the outcome of the meeting, make an appointment to see the Head of Junior School.

Step 5.

Having followed these steps, if you feel that your grievance has not been adequately dealt with you should contact the Principal.

If you believe that the issue is of a serious nature it may be advisable to take the concern straight to the Head of Junior School or Principal. Throughout this process it is important to maintain confidentiality and work positively restoring positive relationships.

Junior School Head of Sport Contact Details

Simon Laube

Primary PE Teacher / Primary Sport Coordinator

8278 2242 slaube@stjohns.sa.edu.au

Sport Expectations Agreement

Players, coaches and parents are expected to read the information and sign the agreement to enact the school values and vision to inspire learners to be compassionate, creative and engaged citizens for the future.

Student Name: Year Level: Room No:

Respect

- Players will respect all players including opposing team members, follow officials' decisions and show appreciation for coaches and spectators
- Coaches will role model appropriate team skills and codes of behaviour in sport
- Parents/Spectators will encourage students to show respect to team members, coaches and to support team decisions

Responsibility

- Players will attend practice sessions and games and play to the best of their ability
- Coaches will teach a range of skills and how to play by the rules
- Parents/spectators will promote student participation in the game and regular communication with the coach

Relationships

- Players will listen to instructions, follow game rules and cooperate with team, coach and game officials
- Coaches will liaise with players, parents and the Sport Coordinator
- Parents/Spectators will applaud good performance and efforts from all individuals and teams

Resilience

- Players will demonstrate persistent and caring behaviour during practice sessions and games
- Coaches will support all students to participate proactively and to bounce back in difficult situations
- Parent/Spectators will encourage students to be 'good sports' and to promote all students' efforts

Coaches will use their professional judgement to determine the appropriate level of response and strategy to address unacceptable behaviour. Consequences may include non-participation in training and /or game(s). Coaches will document behaviours in consultation with the Sport Coordinator and Senior Leadership and negotiate appropriate consequences and development of personal goals.

I understand and agree to these expectations and accept the consequences of not following this agreement.

Student's name and signature:

Coaches name and signature:

Parent's name and signature:
