



**ST JOHN'S**  
**GRAMMAR**



# Secondary School Sport Policy

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St John's Grammar School places great emphasis on student participation in various 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 provides 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.

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 at St John's Grammar include Cricket, Badminton, Softball, Tennis, Basketball, Football, Soccer, Netball, Touch Football, Table Tennis, Squash, Hockey, Volleyball, Mountain Biking, Triathlon, Running and Swimming.

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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 on the Sport Canvas pages and are to be followed.
- Students are expected to behave in accordance with the [Code of Behaviour in Sport](#), also published on Canvas.
- In most instances, Year 7 students will play in the Secondary School competition for Saturday sport, but are 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.

## Training Expectations

Training is an important part of the sporting/activity experience. If the student wishes to participate in a sport they must train, and train regularly. Students 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.

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## Student Leadership

The involvement of students in the organisation of their own sport and in the decision making processes in games are important aspects of their learning.

### Sport Ambassador

The Sport Ambassador will be the face of sport at St John's Grammar School, working closely alongside the Heads of Sport. The tenure for this role is one year.

They will:

- Demonstrate leadership skills
- Demonstrate commitment to the sport program
- Participate in extracurricular programs at St John's Grammar School
- High effort ratings in academic pursuits

### Sport Captain

The Sport Captain for each sport will play a leading role in the organisation of their given sport, help promote student involvement and connectedness, and promote the sport in the School community. The Sport Captain works to represent students' interests, needs and concerns and plays an active role at key sporting events. The Sport Captain acts as a key mentor to younger students involved in the given sport.

Inductions of Captains and the Sports Ambassador will occur at the start of the year at a Secondary Assembly where outgoing sports leaders will also be acknowledged for their service and leadership.

### Colours

Sporting Colours will be awarded to students based on the number of years competing for the School, level of performance and representation, active leadership, attendance to games and the degree and consistency of sportspersonship shown. The colours criteria are published on all sport Canvas pages.

There are two levels of Colours; Gold Colours presented to long-serving leaders and outstanding contributors to a sport and Blue Colours to those students who have made a valuable and leading contribution over the first two or three years at the School.

The nomination process will be online and there is now an option where students can self-nominate.

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## 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 share them with the St John's Grammar Heads 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. The 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](#).

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# Processes & Procedures

## Uniform

The same standards and expectations apply for wearing of the St John's Grammar formal uniform as they do for the sports 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 can be found on Canvas.

## 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. If a student nominates after the deadline, it will be very unlikely that they will be able to participate in that sport. The School needs to forward team nominations to the Independent Schools Sports Association well in advance of the commencement of any season, therefore acquiring accurate numbers of participants is essential.

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.

## Sport Grievance Procedures

St John's Grammar has a commitment to creating a safe and supportive environment where students and coaches/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 communication occurs firstly with the team coach, then Heads of Sport if necessary.

## Heads of Sport Contact Details

### Paul Travis

Head of Sports and Outdoor Education Coordinator  
8278 0257 or 0425 622 843  
ptravis@stjohns.sa.edu.au

### Brooke Watson

Head of Sport  
Teacher of PE and Health and Personal Development  
8278 0257 or 0419 713 378  
bwatson@stjohns.sa.edu.au

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## Extreme Weather

The duty of care for our students' health and safety is of primary importance. If the predicted temperature on the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) at 9.00am is 38C or above then all outdoor weekday sports practices will be cancelled. The exception to this is indoor sports, which will go ahead unless the Principal, in consultation with the Head of Sport, decides that conditions are too hot. Teams may still meet and where possible, trainings modified to ensure all details for up and coming games are communicated.

[Click to read the St John's Grammar Extreme Weather Policy.](#)

Cancellation of games is at the discretion of the gives sporting association. Below is a link to the SAAS, ZONE and IGSSA Extreme weather policies.

### SAAS – Sports Association for Adelaide Schools

Summer Sports: Badminton, Tennis (Drive), Touch Football, Volleyball and Cricket.

Winter Sports: Soccer, Hockey, Table Tennis and Boys Basketball.

[Click to read the SAAS Weather Policy.](#)

### ZONE – School Sport SA

Summer Sports: Middle School Girls and Boys Tennis, Middle School Girls Basketball.

Winter Sports: Netball, Boys Football, Girls Soccer.

Zone Weather Policy still TBA.

### IGSSA – Independent Girls Schools Sports Association

Summer Sports: Open Girls Basketball, Open Girls Softball.

[Click to read the IGSSA Weather Policy.](#)

Cancellations of games due to weather will be communicated to parents via the website and social media and Canvas.

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.

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