



POLICY & PROCEDURES RELATING TO:

LOCAL COMPETITION SPORT

FIRST IMPLEMENTED 2011

LAST REVIEWED JULY 2015

Context Statement

St. Mark's College has a long and proud history of involvement in competitive sport. This sporting activity has been both within and outside of the general curriculum. The following policy guides the participation of students in all sporting activities that carry the name of St. Mark's.

"Every Human being has the fundamental right to access physical education and sport, which are essential for the full development of the personality." (*UNESCO International Charter of Physical Education and Sport*).

Rationale

We at St. Mark's acknowledge that:

- Sport is largely concerned with the development and application of skills in both recreational and competitive contexts. Participation in sporting teams is of intrinsic value to students. It provides opportunities for character formation, physical development, self-discipline, self-esteem/confidence, development of responsibility and leadership qualities and promotes awareness of justice and fair play, duty and loyalty.
- Sport provides an avenue for the promotion of human and Christian values.
- Promotes a healthy lifestyle.

Purpose

Through the application of this policy, St. Mark's College aims to:

- complement the school Physical Education Program with curriculum links.
- encourage participation for all children.
- provide equal opportunity for the involvement of both girls and boys.
- give students a foundation to make a choice in their future sporting and leisure activities.
- encourage students to continue their sporting development through SAPSASA and Knockout sports.
- encourage diversification of sporting interests for students so that team and individual activities are offered.
- provide codes of conduct for coaches, players and parents.
- provide diverse opportunities to meet student interests and needs.

Guidelines

Guidelines for coaches, players, parents are provided by the Catholic Education Office

The school will have a Sports Council, comprising of:

A Chairperson

The Principal or Principal's delegate

One member of the College Board

Representatives of each sport, one a teacher coordinator for that sport and the other, a person interested in promoting that sport at St. Mark's

The Council will meet once at term, or more frequently if required.

Tasks of the Sport Council will include:

- nomination of delegates to local associations or sporting bodies
- organising and administering St. Mark's teams participating in local sporting associations.
- Sanctioning and involvement of teams under St. Mark's name in any local competitions
- controlling entries
- keep a register of officials and coaches

All officials of sporting teams sanctioned by the Sport Council will be officially registered in the School Administration Office. Such people will be considered as voluntary workers of the College and covered to the extent of the College's Insurance Policies as determined by the C.C.I.

- managing individual sport budgets
- providing financial assistance to eligible students (only those who represent St. Marks) selected in state teams
- overseeing the selection of College teams to ensure that:
 - (1) where multiple teams exist in the same age group an attempt will be made to select teams of equal ability.
 - (2) ensure that students will compete in their appropriate age groups unless special circumstances exist where the Sports Council will give approval in consultation with the Principal and/or Deputy.

Staff will:

- be encouraged to assist with voluntary coaching of teams offered as extra-curricular sport.
- be encouraged to support College teams.

Principal will:

- nominate the chairperson to head the Sports Council.
- consider exemptions/disciplinary action.

St Mark's College will:

- provide an induction regarding 'mandatory reporting', basic first aid, and guidelines for St Mark's College coaches.
- Require coaches to undergo a police clearance to work with young people. This is funded by the College.

Students will:

- abide by the Sports Policy and Guidelines, meet the required commitments of practice and matches and meet expectations of fair play and ethics/codes of conduct.
- It is strongly encouraged that, for the overall spirit and life of the College, all eligible students are encouraged to compete for the College while at school.

Parents/Caregivers will:

- support and accept the College Sports Policy, Codes of Conduct and Guidelines document upon enrolment of their children.

Participation guidelines

1 Younger students:

- Can participate in modified local competition provided it is skills/clinic based which emphasises skills building.
- The emphasis is on participation and encouraging a healthy and active pathway for their future development.
- Players in these competitions will be rotated through positions.
- Umpires/referees/coaches/supervisors will normally assume teaching roles during matches.

2 Middle Primary students:

- Can participate in local competition provided it is usually skills/clinic based which emphasises skills building.
- Players in these competitions are rotated through positions.
- Umpires/referees/coaches/supervisors may assume teaching roles during matches

3 Upper Primary/Secondary students:

- Students learn appropriate skills in training situations and coaching clinics.
- Umpires/referees/coaches/supervisors assume mentoring roles during matches.

Awards

It is appropriate, in line with the philosophy and policy of Catholic schools that:

- If awards are to be given they should be spread evenly through the team for such categories as participation, commitment, encouragement, improvement and achievement.
- End of season trophies are at the discretion of each individual sport.

Bases of Discretion:

- Principal reserves the right to dismiss a Coach.
- The Principal has the final decision on any interpretation of this policy.

Supporting Documents (with website reference)

- National Junior Sports Policy - www.dete.sa.gov.au/policy/files/links/National_Junior_Sport_Policy.pdf
 - SAPSASA Guidelines - www.decd.sa.gov.au/sport/a8_publish/modules/.../content.asp?...sapsasa
 - Various Sporting Association Constitutions
 - CEO Sports Guidelines
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APPROVAL OF SPORT POLICY

PRINCIPAL



COLLEGE BOARD CHAIR



Date: 28 July 2015

Review Date: September 2017