



Sport & Co-Curriculum Policy

CONTEXT:

Saint Ignatius' College aims to develop the whole person through the delivery of a broad education. From curriculum to religious Education and Co-curriculum (art and sport) each student is challenged to 'find God in all things'. In addition to developing innate skills and talents, the Co-curriculum Program helps young men to accept success and failure with grace and dignity, to work co-operatively with others, to use the qualities of each to contribute to the greater advantage of the community. Sport and co-curricular activities are seen as key agents in the development of the whole person.

DEFINITION:

A Co-curricular activity is defined as:

An educationally enriching activity sponsored by the school that requires the student to spend time outside of normal school hours, representing the school and/or contributing to the school community.

Examples of such activities may be:

- School sport (Compulsory summer and winter 7-11, one season year 12)
- Activity membership of media, photography and chess clubs
- Drama production, bands, ensembles/choir, debating/public speaking
- Head of the River, athletics and swimming carnivals and other designated activities as determined by the Principal

PRINCIPLES:

The active promotion and development of the co-curricular program at St Ignatius' College is based upon certain principles. These include:

- The opportunity to participate in a range of programs will be consistent with students' interests and abilities;
- Opportunities for students' development will be presented to the best of the school's capacity;
- The school community will be strengthened through the contribution of students to the wider educational program;
- Meaningful student/teacher relationships will be established and developed through programs that occur outside of the classroom;
- Codes of good conduct, sportsmanship and high achievement are consistent with each activity delivered through the Co-curricular program;
- Quality facilities will enable students to participate meaningfully in their chosen pursuits;
- All students will participate to the best of their ability in the Co-curricular life of the school;
- Saint Ignatius' College, through the terms of enrolment, will be given priority when a student is selected to be involved in particular cultural and sporting pursuits, over and above those selected to external sporting and cultural affiliations;

- At all times, participation in the Co-curricular program is congruent with the values that underpin the school's educational programme;
- Parents and staff will contribute in a positive way to assist the students in their wider development and growth.

GUIDELINES AND PROCEDURE:

- The school encourages students to participate in activities for which they show an interest and proficiency;
- Students are expected to participate in those activities for which they nominate and are required to attend the necessary training/practice sessions;
- Appropriate uniforms and/or presentation is required at all times;
- Students are expected to represent St Ignatius' College in sports and activities for which they show proficiency and particularly in instances where they are involved in sporting/cultural pursuits in bodies external to the school;
- Students who nominate to participate in a particular activity are required to undertake complete involvement throughout the program. In cases of sport, students who nominate to play in a summer season activity are expected to participate in Terms 1 and 4, while those who nominate for winter sport are expected to fulfil obligations throughout Terms 2 and 3;
- Students are not able to change from one activity to another without the permission of the coaches, the Head of Co-Curriculum, the Sports Master or the staff member co-ordinating that activity;
- If a student is chosen to represent the school and cannot attend the event due to a legitimate reason, advance notice is required from the parent so that a replacement can be arranged in advance;
- Breaches of this policy will involve disciplinary sanctions, as determined by the Head of Co-Curriculum and / or the Principal.

A CODE OF BEHAVIOUR IN SPORT

The GPS Headmasters/Principals have produced the following guidelines to assist teachers, coaches, boys and parents. Games at all levels and codes are an important part of a fully balanced education for the students. The Heads/Principals are concerned to preserve sound educational and social practices in the many inter-school games that are played and ask for the co-operation of school communities to ensure that these aims are realised. The trend towards professionalism in school sport is to be viewed with caution. Where such an approach involves sound coaching techniques and is aimed at producing a satisfying and improved level of performance, this approach can be beneficial. However, care should be taken to exclude practices which place the pursuit of victory above those aspects of sport concerned with enjoyment, balanced development and good sportsmanship. In other words, the spirit of the amateur in its best sense should remain the ideal which guides these aspects of school sports.

More specifically, the following points are made:

Players

1. Play may be hard and vigorous, but deliberate violence should never be used towards opponents
2. Verbal provocation of any sort is unacceptable.
3. Players should not react with violence to any physical or verbal provocation.
4. Use of bad language, whether directed at an umpire/referee, another player or oneself, is unacceptable.

5. Players should never argue with an umpire/referee (whether student or adult) or contest a decision. Any negative response towards an umpire's ruling is unacceptable. (A Captain – only – may ask a referee to clarify a ruling in the event of uncertainty)
6. Immodest behaviour in victory or success, and manifestation of self disgust at an error or failure contribute to poor sportsmanship. Gracious conduct, whatever the result of a game, is important.
7. Unfair or illegal tactics to gain an advantage should never be used.
8. Excessive or inappropriate talk should not be used on the field of play. Players are encouraged to play in a positive and sportsman-like manner and to extend every courtesy to the opposing team. This should include pre-match courtesies, recognition of good play on the part of the opposition and extending thanks to the umpire/referee and to the opposition after the match.

NOTE

Membership of and participation in school sporting teams and activities takes priority over other sporting interests or competitions.

Students are required to represent the College when selected.

This policy will be reviewed triennially by the College unless otherwise required.