



ST ALOYSIUS CATHOLIC COLLEGE SPORTS POLICY

Rationale

The St Aloysius Catholic College Sports Policy focuses on the needs of the students. Equal opportunity for participation in school sponsored and managed sporting activities and events will be made available to students at the College. While participation in sporting activities is not compulsory, participation by students is encouraged.

Purpose

Sport at St Aloysius Catholic College aims to allow students to develop and share their talents with other students. Therefore, they should have the option of the widest range of sporting activities possible.

Sporting activities at St Aloysius Catholic College aim to encourage:

- Active participation and enjoyment without an emphasis on winning or losing.
- Skills development and an increase in fitness levels.
- Self-confidence and self-esteem.
- Positive sporting attitudes and the ability to co-operate with others.
- School spirit.
- Equal opportunity for all students.
- Pride in their school.
- Above all, enjoying participation in sport.

Procedures

St Aloysius Catholic College participates in inter-school carnivals for athletics, swimming and cross-country at both primary and secondary level. If students are selected and agree to represent the College, full commitment to training and competition is required.

The College enters teams in many different sporting rosters. Whilst participation in these rosters is not compulsory, all students are encouraged to participate in sport. If the College offers a team in a particular sport during the school week, wherever possible the students must give preference to playing for the College team rather than a club team. In unusual circumstances, the Principal may provide an exemption for a student. A letter, seeking an exemption, must be forwarded to the Principal prior to the commencement of the particular season for which the exemption is being sought.

Most sports are school-based rosters and are organised in out-of-school hours. Some sports teams participate in rosters incorporating non-school based clubs. This policy and its expectations are relevant to all of these teams.

All students of the College are eligible to represent the College in their chosen sport/s, as long as the regulations of the relevant association permit them playing. Whilst priority will always be given to students of St Aloysius Catholic College, students who do not attend this College may be permitted to play some sports, as long as they meet the normal requirements that would be placed on a St Aloysius student. In addition, they must also abide by all regulations and policies of the College. A letter of application must be made to the Principal, who will make a decision after consultation with the Leadership Team and HPE staff.

Parental involvement as coaches, managers, umpires or assistants is welcomed and they must adhere to this policy and expectations. Their presence can be of great value to the students, the team, the officials and the College. They provide positive role models for the students. Parents and supporters are expected at all times to show respect and encouragement for College teams and officials, opposition teams and officials and match officials.

In accepting positions of responsibility with College teams, coaches/managers will assume certain obligations and responsibilities, as they will be actively involved in specific areas of human relationships and communication. It is essential that these personnel be aware of these demands and conduct themselves so as to maintain the respect and dignity of their positions. Their actions and behavior must at all times bring credit to the game and the College.

Coaches/managers should always instill the highest desirable ideals and character traits in their players. All players in a squad must be given the opportunity to participate to the fullest extent possible.

The ultimate responsibility for all sporting groups/teams rests with the Principal.

It is a privilege to represent St Aloysius Catholic College in sporting activities and positive representation is strongly encouraged. Inappropriate behavior or language involving players, coaches, managers or supporters will not be tolerated, either from team members or adults involved in the game, as this will reflect negatively upon the College. The teacher-in-charge or the coach or manager will take necessary and appropriate action. A written report of any breach of the policy will be made to the Principal, who may take further action.

Students and officials will be expected to sign a **St Aloysius Catholic College Sport Agreement** form, which outlines the conditions, expectations and responsibilities upon which students and officials agree to represent the College.

Expectations of Students

Students must realise the importance of being good team members by being actively involved in the development of team spirit, at training and during games, through positive encouragement and support of other team members.

Training is an integral part of all sport and students must be prepared to attend and take part in all scheduled training sessions. If for some reason a student is unable to attend, the coach/manager must be informed well in advance by parents/guardians.

Appropriate support and respect for coaches, managers, umpires and referees is expected. Decisions made by umpires/referees are to be accepted without question.

If students fail to uphold the good name of the College whilst involved in sporting activities, the teacher/coach/manager must report the matter to the Principal. If necessary, disciplinary action will be implemented by the Principal.

All students will wear the correct College sports uniform to and from the sports activities and during the sporting activities.

Sporting Activities

Sporting activities available to students at St Aloysius include activities during the school day and activities outside school hours.

Activities during the School Day

St Aloysius Catholic College participates in athletics, cross-country and swimming carnivals. Students selected in these representative teams must make themselves available to represent the College.

Grades 5 and 6 students participate in the Southern Catholic Primary Schools Football and Netball rosters, which are held on Friday afternoons during second term.

For all sporting activities during the school day, the students are under the direct supervision of the teacher in charge of the particular team. The responsibility for teams, parent assistants and spectators rests with the teacher in charge. First Aid is the responsibility of the teacher in charge. Students travel by bus to these sporting activities.

Outside School Hours Activities

St Aloysius Catholic College enters teams in rosters for various sporting activities, which are scheduled outside school hours.

For all outside school hours sporting activities, the students are under the direct supervision of the adult coach/manager for each particular team. First Aid is the responsibility of the adult coach/manager for each term.

College Responsibilities

The College will be responsible for providing and maintaining adequate facilities for the smooth running of relevant sporting activities.

The College will provide all the necessary equipment for each team, including a standard first aid kit. In some instances, students may be asked to provide their own individual equipment e.g. hockey stick, tennis racquet.

Coaches, managers and other necessary personnel will be provided from staff members, parents, old scholars, parishioners and other interested persons. If a team is unable to be provided with adequate adult supervision and support, the team will not be entered into the relevant competition.

Student Recognition

All students who represent the College in sporting activities will receive a CERTIFICATE OF PARTICIPATION in recognition of their efforts and as acknowledgement of their involvement.

Representatives of College sporting teams will be acknowledged in both the College newsletter and the Yearbook.

The names of House Captains and Vice-Captains of winning teams will be engraved on shields designate for athletics, swimming and cross-country events.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the College's policy review cycle.

Implemented: April 2007

Amended: March 2008, March 2009, February 2010, February 2012