



# Our Policy on Sport

# ***SYLVANIA HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL***

## ***Sport Policy***

### ***Related D.E.T. Policies and Guidelines***

The following D.E.T. policies and guidelines outline expectations, behaviour and documentation that is required:

- *“Care and Supervision of Students – Terms of Settlement Between the NSW Department of Education and Training and the NSW Teachers Federation (98/139)*
- *1999 Document “Guidelines for the Safe Conduct of Sport and Physical Activity in Schools”*
- *“Excursions and Other Visits” (97/137)*
- *“Welfare of Students While Engaged in Activities Conducted Under the Auspices of the School” (97/137)*
- *Professional Responsibilities of Teachers (97/227)*

### ***Related Sylvania Heights P.S. Policies***

- *Student Welfare Policy*
- *Care and Supervision Plan*
- *Medication Policy*
- *Anti Bullying policy*
- *Sun safe Policy*

### ***1. Rationale***

Sport is a compulsory component of the PD/H/PE syllabus. Students need to be provided with opportunities to participate in a range of sporting activities/programs commensurate with their ability and/or interest. Sport assists in the development of a healthy lifestyle by promoting physical activity. It is important that student’s school experiences in physical activity be conducted in a safe and supportive environment. Schools that create safe and supportive environments will not only protect students from injury but will encourage their lifelong participation in regular physical activity.

### ***2. Outcomes***

- Clear guidelines for implementation of sporting programs at Sylvania Heights Public School
- Clear and consistent guidelines for selection of team/group members
- Students, parents/carers and staff have a clear understanding of the acceptable code of conduct that is expected during sporting activities

### **3. General Guidelines**

The following guidelines are adapted from “*Guidelines for the Safe Conduct of Sport and Physical Activity in Schools*” (1999).

#### **3.1 Supervision of Students**

- At all times the supervision of students is the direct responsibility of the teacher/s coordinating the sport/activity.
- Teachers take overall responsibility for the supervision of students during sporting activities where an adult, other than a teacher, accompanies the group to provide instruction or to assist with supervision, eg. gymnastics through the YMCA
- The supervision ratio of students to teaching staff, for any sporting activity, will be determined through reference to the “*Guidelines for the Safe Conduct of Sport and Physical Activity in Schools*” (1999).

#### **3.2 Safety and Child Protection**

- Students requiring medication during sporting activities will do so following the School’s *Medication Policy*.
- The safety guidelines for each sporting activity undertaken by the School will be made with reference to “*Guidelines for the Safe Conduct of Sport and Physical Activity in Schools*” (1999).
- Any activity involving swimming or water activities will be accompanied by a member of staff who possesses current training in cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and emergency care
- A member of staff who has undertaken emergency care training will accompany all other activities.
- Staff must follow departmental requirements in relation to child protection, including mandatory reporting, which apply while supporting sporting activities.
- Where adults, other than teaching staff, are to be involved in sporting activities, the coordinating teacher is to ensure that each accompanying adult has signed a *Prohibited Employment Declaration* prior to the activity.
- Where appropriate the Sunsafe policy of the school will be followed.

#### **3.3 Permission to undertake Sporting Activities and Travel Arrangements**

- For sport activities, specific focus programs (eg. aquatic activities) and physical activities conducted outside the school grounds, the school will inform parents or caregivers about the location, costs, mode of travel and supervision arrangements, activities to be undertaken and dismissal times, where it is appropriate, before permission is obtained. This would include regular weekly sport, zone and higher representative sport competitions, fixtures and carnivals.
- Consent may be obtained for a block of a particular sport or activity, provided details of the duration of the block are provided and any variations are notified to parents/caregivers. The block sport note should indicate permission for the duration of the designated competition.
- Where small groups of students have to travel away from school (eg. 3 or 4 competitors to a carnival), parents or caregivers must be notified and give approval for such arrangements. This particularly applies to sporting activities where parent volunteers have to be organised to transport students to and from venues in private vehicles.

#### **4. School Based Sport Programs**

All students are required to participate in sporting activities as part of the PD/H/PE syllabus. At Sylvania Heights Public School students participate in a weekly, stage based sports skills program.

#### **5. Representative Sport -**

##### **5.1 Belief Statement**

Representing the school provides an opportunity for talented athletes to extend their skills and compete against similarly skilled students from other schools. Representing the school is an honour and students who represent the school have the responsibility to compete at all times in a manner that demonstrates good sportsmanship and exemplary behaviour.

##### **5.2 Selection Criteria of Teams**

###### **5.2.1 Weekly PSSA Competition**

Selection of teams will be based on merit, ie those students demonstrating the highest skill proficiency will be selected. Teachers may also take into account information relating to the child's experience and skills. Team selection is to be based on criteria set by the team coach. Any concerns relating to selection must be expressed in writing to the school principal.

In the case of open age teams, eg. cricket, softball, older students will generally demonstrate more highly developed skills than younger students and thus will be strongly represented in teams. Younger students will have opportunities in their later schooling and will only be selected if inadequate numbers of proficient senior players are available. In all teams, one or two players above the team requirements will be selected to form a squad of players to allow for substitution, in case of injury, illness, other school related commitments.

#### **6. Coaching and Management of Teams**

- Team coaches will possess appropriate qualifications and or the necessary experience in the designated sport as outlined in the “*Guidelines for the Safe Conduct of Sport and Physical Activity in Schools*” (1999).
- There is an expectation that all players in a team or squad will attend regular training sessions as designated by the Coach of the team.
- Failure to attend training sessions without a reasonable excuse, as accepted by the Coach of the team, will result in the player missing the next game in the competition.

#### **7. Participation of Individual Team Members**

##### **7.1 Weekly PSSA Competition**

All students in the squad will be given equal game time. Over the course of the season all students will:

- Take their turn as reserve
- Have the opportunity to play a ‘whole game’

There is an expectation that all players in a team or squad will attend regular training sessions as designated by the Coach of the team. Failure to attend training sessions without a reasonable excuse, as accepted by the Coach of the team, will result in the player missing the next game in the competition.

## 7.2 *Semi Final and Final Matches*

### 7.3

In games when win means progression in the competition, and a loss means elimination, the team that participates will be selected based on the coach's knowledge of a squad's ability. In these situations, ideally all students should have some game time, but the choice of which team members play the game and for what length of time, will depend upon how the team is performing and what contribution each individual is making to the team's progress.

While it should never become a '*win at all costs*' situation, it is in the best interests of the entire squad that the team progress in the competition. Selection decisions may lead to reserves taking a lesser role in terms of game time, but each player will take part in each game at whatever level the coach deems appropriate.

### 7.4 *Code of Behaviour*

*At the beginning of each season selected players will be issued with both of the attached codes. Students and parents are asked to sign the appropriate code and return them to the team's coach.*

- before being accepted into a sporting competition, students and parents/carers will be required to sign and abide by the School's "*Code of Behaviour*" (Appendix 1)
- the "*Code of Behaviour*" is a binding agreement between the School and the parties signing the agreement
- a player who fails to abide by the "*Code of Behaviour*" will result in the player being withdrawn from the particular sporting activity for a period determined by the teacher coordinating the sport/activity
- a spectator who fails to abide by the "*Code of Behaviour*" will result in the spectator being banned from watching future games in the competition.

## 8.1

### **Sport Subsidy**

Students selected to represent at Area level to participate in a State Competition that is part of the PSSA and will be held outside the Sydney Metropolitan Area, qualify for a small subsidy from the school to assist with the cost of participation. The amount will be up to 50% of compulsory fees with a maximum subsidy to be set at \$50.

This amount may be varied in exceptional circumstances. This decision is at the discretion of the Principal.

## 8.2

### **Breach of Code of Behaviour**

Students who breach the code of behaviour will receive a written warning that will also be recorded on school records. A second breach will lead to a period of suspension from the team and activity. A third breach will lead to exclusion from school representation. Parents will be informed in writing. The Principal may exercise discretion in guiding the school's response

**SYLVANIA HEIGHTS PUBLIC SCHOOL  
SPORT CODE OF BEHAVIOUR**

You have been selected to represent the school in a sporting competition. This is an honour and as such, exemplary behaviour is expected at all times. Please read the **PLAYERS' CODE OF BEHAVIOUR** and discuss the code with your parents. After your discussion please sign the agreement below and return it to the teacher who is coordinating the competition.

Your parents also need to read and agree to the **PARENTS' and SPECTATORS CODE OF BEHAVIOUR**.

**It is a privilege to represent your school, not a right**

**PLAYERS' CODE OF BEHAVIOUR**

- Play for the “Fun of it”.
- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with the umpire’s decisions. Let your captain ask any necessary questions.
- Dress in sports uniform and bring necessary equipment e.g. hat, drink, sunscreen etc.
- Control your temper – no ‘mouthing off’ or inappropriate gestures.
- Be willing to train and prepare for the game.
- Be modest in success and generous in defeat.
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team.
- Be a good sport. Cheer all good plays.
- Treat all players, as you yourself would like to be treated. Don’t interfere with, bully or take advantage of any player.,
- Remember that the aims of the game are to have fun, improve your skills and learn teamwork. Don’t be a show off.
- Co-operate with your coach, team mates and opponents. Without them you don’t have a game.
- Respect and obey all umpires and teachers from other schools.
- Care for all equipment; be willing to assist in the packing and carrying of kits.
- Always try to do your best.

I.....agree to abide by the following “Players’ Code of Behaviour” when competing in .....

I understand that if I break the Code I may not be able to continue to play in this competition as a consequence of my actions.

Signed ..... Date .....

Please read the following and sign the agreement. The agreement must be returned to school to the coordinating teacher of the competition.

## PARENTS' and SPECTATORS

### CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

- Remember that children play sport for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Encourage children to participate, do not force them.
- Focus on the child's efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
- Encourage children to always participate according to the rules and the officials' decisions.
- Respect officials' decisions and teach children to do likewise.
- Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or losing a game. Positive comments are motivational.
- Applaud good performance and efforts from each team. Congratulate all participants upon their performance regardless of the game's outcome.
- Remember that children learn best by example. Applaud good plays by all teams.
- Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from sporting activities.
- Condemn the use of violence in any form, be it by spectators, coaches, officials or players. Do not use foul language or harass players, coaches or officials.
- Show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
- Show appreciation of volunteer coaches, officials and administrators. Without them, your child could not participate.

I.....have read and agree to abide by the following  
Parent's/caregiver's name

Parents' Code of Behaviour" when competing in

.....  
Name of competition

I understand that if I break the Code I may not be able to be a spectator of this competition as a consequence of my actions. My child may also be disadvantaged by such actions.

Signed..... Date .....

Parent's/caregiver's signature

## RISK MANAGEMENT PROFORMA-- SPORT

Activity: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Hazard/Risk Area	<i>Hazard/Risk Identification</i>	<i>Elimination or Control Measures</i>
<b>PEOPLE</b> – skills, attitudes, fears, physical fitness, age, health, number of participants etc.		
<b>EQUIPMENT</b> – clothing, protective and sporting equipment		
<b>ENVIRONMENT-</b> Weather, terrain, snow/ice, flood, fire etc.		

Consulted with: _____ Coordinator : _____ Date: _____	Plan Communicated to: _____ Via: _____
--	---

### MONITOR AND REVIEW

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Are the controls still effective?</li> <li>• Have there been any changes?</li> <li>• Have new hazards been identified?</li> </ul>	What further actions are required?  Signature: _____ Review Date: _____	<b>WHO</b>	<b>WHEN</b>
--	---	------------	-------------



