

# SPORTS POLICY



This document is just one of the Stradbroke School policies and should be used in relation with other current school guidelines/policies/codes.

**Stradbroke Primary School policies may be viewed on our website**  
[www.stradsch.sa.edu.au](http://www.stradsch.sa.edu.au)

## Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to enhance student participation and experience in organised afterschool sport. Our sports program is provided to encourage school spirit, enjoyment and education in sportsmanship.

## The program

Our afterschool/weekend 'Teams' program is open to all Stradbroke School students in years 2-7. Our 'Skills' program is open to students in Reception to year 2.

We will endeavour to ensure all interested students have the opportunity to participate in the programs. This will be dependent on filling the sport activity student quota and availability of coach volunteers.

## Expectation of players

- Be a good sport and play for enjoyment.
- Work hard for the team as well as yourself
- Commit to the season once registered. Losing players mid-season may result in your team mates having to forfeit.
- Play by the rules.
- Treat all team players with respect.
- Co-operate with team and game officials. This means, never argue with an official. If you disagree with a decision, advise your coach who may then approach the official if it is appropriate.
- Follow the school's behaviour code.
- Congratulate team mates (win or lose), and thank opponent team and umpires at the conclusion of every match.
- Attend and participate fully in training sessions.

## Expectation of Parents/Spectators

- Encourage participation in school sports.
- Support our school code of behaviour and player expectations.
- Be a role model and applaud all players including opposing team.
- Be respectful in your communication.
- Make any new parents feel welcome on all occasions.
- Our program relies on volunteer coaches without whom there would be no sport for your child. Please assist them by being on time for practice, arriving early for pre match warm-up.
- Advise coaches of any practice/matches your child will not be able to attend in advance whenever possible.
- As a spectator respect the coaches and umpire decisions.
- There is an expectation that parents of children participating in sport offer support/assistance to the coach as necessary such as rosters, fruit at games, packing up equipment, scoring etc.
- Parents are encouraged to attend all matches/practices. If you are not attending a match/practice, it is your responsibility to ensure that you have arranged for your child's safety at the finish of their game. It is not the responsibility of the coaches.
- Be aware if a child is not collected at the finish of a game/practice in a timely manner on more than one occasion the Coach will notify the school's Sports Coordinator who will contact the parent(s) to seek a resolution to the situation. The School Sport's Coordinator will liaise with the school leader responsible for managing school sports activities.
- Siblings or children who are not members of the team should not be left unattended at practice or matches. Our coaches are not responsible for the care of children not on the team.

## Expectation of Coaches

All coaches/managers must adhere to the minimum requirements of the **Department for Education Volunteer Policy and Procedure**. This means coaches/managers **must have a Working With Children Check (WWCC) and Responding to Abuse and Neglect – Education and Care (RAN-EC) training**. It is recommended to have your Basic First Aid training.

Coaches are required to:

- Keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of young people. Visit online portal at the Australian Sports Commission <http://www.ausport.gov.au> for free coaching modules.
- Be a good role model.
- Encourage participation and team play, whilst winning is fun, enjoyment of the game is just as important. Make a defeat a positive by looking at it as an opportunity to work toward skill development and a good sports attitude.
- Remember you are working with children and need to be mindful of your demands on their time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Teach your players to follow the rules and spirit of the game.
- Ensure rotation of extra players so that everyone has equal participation time.
- Provide suitable rotation opportunities in positions as often this will be the first time they have played the game.
- Develop team respect for everyone on the playing field/court including officials and opposing coaches.
- Show concern and caution towards sick and injured players. If necessary seek and follow the advice of a physician in determining when an injured player is okay to commence training or game play.
- Ensure a first aid kit is made accessible for use at all practice sessions and matches.
- Source assistance from fellow parents with rosters, fruit at games, equipment setup/pack up, scoring etc.
- Any assistance/guidance you need that has not already been provided should be addressed to the Sports Coordinator [dl.0923.sports@schools.sa.edu.au](mailto:dl.0923.sports@schools.sa.edu.au) /School leader responsible for line managing school sport management.
- All communication is on behalf of the school and should reflect the school values and Sports Policy.
- Adhere to the Stradbroke Sun Protection and Weather Policy to protect the health and safety of the children in all weather conditions.
- A child is **NOT** to be left unattended at the conclusion of practice or games and must be handed over to their parent/guardian. If a child is not collected at the conclusion of practice/game please call their parent/guardian to determine the appropriate course of action. If instances of late collection are repeated without prior arrangement please notify the Sports Coordinator, who will then notify the School leader responsible for line managing school sport management.
- Provide a report on sports progress for the school newsletter.

## Expectation of the School

The Sports Coordinator

- Is responsible for the coordination of the afterschool sports program.
- Is the contact person for each sporting association in which the school has registered teams and is responsible for ensuring the school complies with its obligations with the association by:
  - attending association meetings, and ensuring that information is fed back to coaches and teams;
  - promptly disseminating information, such as draws, timetables and other information from the association to coaches/managers of teams;
  - maintaining an up-to-date email list of coaches/managers to ensure effective communication between the school and coaches/managers.
- Will actively assist in recruiting interested players and coaches so that new teams can be formed in the younger grades.
- Will ensure all coaches/managers meet the minimum requirements of the **Department for Education Volunteer Policy and Procedure**
- Will provide equipment for training sessions.
- Will provide a first aid kit to all coaches/managers

## Photography

- School sport photos must be taken in accordance with school permissions upon enrolment. No child should be photographed in a group or individually without obtaining in advance the written permission of a parent/guardian.
- The school may identify a person (teacher or parent) to take photographs for school purposes where they could also be made available to parents if so desired. This person should be easily identifiable as someone who has permission to be taking photographs, usually coach/manager.
- Photographs and videos (including mobile devices) taken by parents should not include other students, especially where they can be identified.
- In order to protect the interests of students and other children, photos/videos must not be shared via social media without having been granted permission by the parents and meeting child protection obligations.
- Permission is sought at time of Sports Registration for students to be included in a team photo to be printed on the end of season certificate.

## Breach of School Policies

The following may apply to **players** deemed to have breached the schools policies:

- For minor incidents, the coach has the authority to direct players from the field/court.
- For serious incidents, the coach will direct the player from the field/court and at their earliest convenience refer the matter to the School Senior Leader, responsible for line managing Afterschool sports for final decision on action to be taken including suspending players from participation.

For all other participants in school sport (**coaches/managers/spectators/parents**) deemed to have breached the school policies, the site leaders have the right to:

- Withdraw a volunteer from coaching/manager roles at any time if concerns exist about their suitability to be working with children.
- Ban a person (parent, caregiver or otherwise) from the school grounds if their behaviour threatens the well-being of staff, parents or children.

For a full list of school policies please visit our website: [www.stradsch.sa.edu.au](http://www.stradsch.sa.edu.au)

## Grievances

The following is a set of guidelines to be used when resolving any grievance involving players/parents/coaches/managers involved in our sports program.

Issues or concerns that you may have regarding our sports program will be dealt with promptly and most effectively when raised in the following ways:

- Concerns with players/parents - please discuss the matter with the Coach. (Avoid game/practice time if possible). If unresolved please forward the matter in writing to the School Senior Leader or Sports Coordinator.
- Concerns with the Coach - please refer the matter in writing to the Senior Leader or Sports Coordinator.

**The School will only deal with issues which have been raised in the ways outlined above.**

### REFERENCES USED TO PRODUCE THIS DOCUMENT

- *Stradbroke Policies:*
  - *School Discipline Policy*
  - *Behaviour code*
  - *Anti-Bullying and Harassment Policy*
  - *Health Care Management*
  - *Grievance Procedures*
- *DETE - National Junior Sport Policy*
- [http://www.dete.sa.gov.au/policy/files/links/National\\_Junior\\_Sport\\_Policy.pdf](http://www.dete.sa.gov.au/policy/files/links/National_Junior_Sport_Policy.pdf)
- *School Sport Australia* <http://www.schoolsportaustralia.edu.au/policies>



- *Australian Sports Commission <http://www.sportaus.gov.au>*
- *DfE Department for Education Policies:*
- *Social Media Guidelines, Consent to Use Media and Creative Work Procedure, Department for Education Volunteer Policy and Procedure*

Sports Policy review date: September 2023