



St Mary's Catholic
Primary School
Sports Guidelines

School Sports Teams

Sports and competitive activities are very important for the development of team building, confidence, accountability, respect and discipline. Sport will teach your child these valuable lessons, which they will use for the rest of their lives; both from a personal perspective and once they have moved on to secondary school, university and into the work force.

The primary aims for everyone involved in sport at St Mary's is to develop their sporting skills and to enjoy their season. We will expect your child to compete "for the fun of it" and not just to please parents and coaches. The best way for a parent to enjoy their child's sporting season is to support and encourage them during Saturday competitions, tournaments and trainings.

1.0 Rational

Teachers, support staff and parents will work together to provide opportunities for pupils to participate in sports which are organised out of school hours under the umbrella of St Mary's Primary School.

2.0 Purposes

- 2.1 To encourage and develop the partnership between school and its community.
- 2.2 To facilitate participation in sport.
- 2.3 To promote the characteristics of accountability, respect, discipline, good sportsmanship, teamwork, patience, improve health and fitness, increase self-esteem and self-confidence
- 2.4 To provide an opportunity to socialise and connect with other St Mary's students outside of the classroom and the pupils social sphere

3.0 Guidelines

- 3.1 If required, a sport will have a liaison parent who will follow the guidelines set out in the attached "Responsibilities" sheet. **(See Appendix 1)**
- 3.2 Each sport will have coaches/managers who will follow the guidelines set out in the attached "Responsibilities" sheet. **(See Appendix 1)**
- 3.3 All associated sports/ uniform fees must be paid to the school office prior to the season commencing. This fee comprises of the sport code subscription fees, equipment fee and for some codes; a refereeing fee is included. This money is pooled together and used to pay the subscriptions, replacement of uniforms and sports equipment, engraving of trophies and payment of referee fees. Registrations made after the closing date will only be accepted, at the discretion of the Sports Coordinator and depend on available space of any given team.
- 3.4 Sports teams will be selected by the Sports Coordinator. The majority of teams will be selected in a balanced manner, with the emphasis placed on fun and participation. A team will only be selected on a competitive basis, if the team will be handicapped by not doing so (i.e. being placed in a lower grade than would be in line with the skill level of the available students). The Sports Coordinator may choose to elect help from parents or specifically qualified individuals from outside the school to do this. However, the Sports Coordinator will have the overall say in the makeup of each team. Teams will be comprised of children only from St Mary's Primary but in circumstances where a team falls short of numbers then the sports association can be approached to ascertain whether accepting children from another school in the same situation, may be acceptable.
- 3.5 Each team will be allocated a kit bag for the season. Included in each kit bag is gear, gear list, code of conduct/coach responsibilities, player of the day certificates, a coach's folder with rules/skills/drills for the associated sport and in some gear bags, a medical kit.

- 3.6** Uniforms are issued in teams with the child's name and room number noted down alongside the uniform number. If the uniform is not returned at the end of the season, parents are emailed or a text is sent. If a uniform is not returned, then a \$65 fee is added to the school account for the replacement cost of the uniform. If a child moves to another school, taking the uniform with them we will attempt to inform the new school to try and recover the uniform.
- 3.7** Court and ground bookings for practices can be made prior to the season starting, through the Sports Coordinator. The school will endeavour to give the preferred times to each coach but compromise may be necessary for the more popular days and times. If coaches provide the second preferred time to the school this would be helpful.
- 4.0 Disputes**
- 4.1** A lot of thought is put into team selections and what will enable the team to work as a squad; we ask that these selections be respected. The Sports Coordinator will provide feedback to any unsuccessful pupil if they wish. They can discuss with the pupils who were close to selection the reasons they were unsuccessful and what they need to work on.
- 4.2** At times you will not agree with team selections, or game tactics, but a lot of thought goes in to this area. Please respect these decisions. Any disputes can and should be addressed to the Sports Coordinator and should not be discussed with the coaches or managers.

Sports Team Responsibilities:

Appendix 1

The Following sports are organised out of school time under the umbrella of St Mary's Primary School: Cricket, Flippaball, Gymnastics, Hockey, Netball, Miniball, Rippa Rugby, Summer Soccer, Touch Rugby, Volleyball and Water Polo

SPORTS COORDINATOR WILL:

1. Inform players about the sport (dates, registration forms costs etc.) via the St Mary's Primary School website, email and/or school newsletter.
2. Finalise the teams, source reliable coaches/managers and then notify players of team
3. Hand out all uniforms, sports gear bags and coaches folders
4. Classify and organise the players into teams. (Assistance/consultation with coaches and Parent Liaison may be required.)

PARENT LIASION WILL:

1. Consult with the Sports Coordinator in regards to whether the teams make up will be social or competitive
2. Help with team selection **if** required by the Sports Coordinator and Coaches.
3. Promote strongly the values of fair play and full participation.
4. Liaise with the association of the sport they are representing. This includes attending all meetings required by their chosen association

COACHES/MANAGERS WILL:

1. Organise practices and practice times in consultation with the Sports Coordinator; and book practice
2. Organise collection and return of gear, uniforms and equipment kit bags.
3. Supervise and attend games with their teams, and referee when required.
4. Help with team selection **if** required by the Sports Coordinator and Liaison Parent.
5. Liaise with team in regards to draws and other information.
6. Promote strongly the values of fair play and full participation.
7. Encourage the children to be supportive of each other during the game, and win or lose behave in an appropriate manner.
8. Under no circumstances will coaches include or remove any players without prior discussion with the Parent Liaison the Sports Coordinator.

9. Ensure that where possible all children in the team have an equal amount of playing time in the knowledge that if the team is in a knockout situation, e.g. a final, the strongest team will be selected. This selection of the strongest team being fielded is at the coaches discretion and will only be used in the appropriate situation.

PARENTS/CAREGIVERS WILL:

1. Pay the sports fee and send the completed registration form to the school office by the closing date stipulated.
2. Encourage fair play and good sportsmanship.
3. Be supportive on the sidelines and understand that if their behaviour is negative they may be asked to leave.
4. Support the coaches in their decisions and if possible offer assistance. Eg. Helping out at games and practices.
5. In the event of a complaint against the coach or manager, put it in written form, which will first be passed to the Sports Coordinator and principal if necessary.

INTERSCHOOL SPORT

The Sports Coordinator will take responsibility for school teams playing against other schools. These teams will not necessarily be the same as the out of school teams as our aim is to have all senior school pupils participating in a sport of their choice, at a competitive level. If team numbers require it, pupils may be invited to play sports other than their school sport. The decision on which pupils to approach will be made in consultation with the Sports Coordinator, Parent Liaison and Team Coaches.

Parents and Coaches from the school teams are welcome to attend and assist with coaching, refereeing, support and looking after the pupils.

All communications regarding the running/organisation of events by outside agencies, by the school, should be directed to the school. The school will pass on these comments, concerns and recommendations on behalf of parents.