



District and Interschool Sports Policy

RATIONALE

Knox Park Primary School aims to provide all students with the opportunity to develop and enrich their lives through sport. We acknowledge the important role that sporting competition can play in a child's social emotional and physical development. Our objective is to develop sport skills, game strategies and good sportsmanship. Winning is a by-product of interschool sport not the sole focus.

Knox Park Primary School is a member of the Scoresby District School Sports Association (SDSSA) which is guided by the governing body of primary school sport in Victoria, School Sports Victoria (SSV). District, Division, Regional and State finals are played following the SSV regulations.

AIM

To provide students the opportunity to:

- Represent the school in a team
- Develop skills
- Understand game strategies
- Increase fitness
- Develop appropriate attitudes for playing team sports
- Foster team spirit
- Develop sportsmanship

IMPLEMENTATION

- Students in Year 5 and 6 will have the opportunity to participate in SDSSA Interschool summer and winter sport team.
- The selection of sports for interschool sport each season (summer and winter) will be decided upon by the SDSSA. The teams are either boys, mixed or girls.
- Students in Year 3 to 6 will have the opportunity to participate in SDSSA Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals.

Interschool Sport – Team Selection

- Prior to the summer and winter seasons, all year 5 and 6 students are able to try out for a sport team squad of their choice.
- Year 6's will be able to nominate their sport of choice and where numbers permit this will be accommodated. Where a certain sport is oversubscribed, students will be given the option of nominating an alternative sport.
- In the event numbers are still oversubscribed, those sports will be selected by trial and players will be selected according to ability. Coaches will be responsible for team selection.
- Where there are insufficient numbers to make a complete team in any particular sport, after all Year 6's have been allocated a team or team role, then the Year 6's will be supplemented by Year 5's and their selection will be determined by ability. Coaches will be responsible for selection.
- Where there are insufficient numbers in Year 5 or 6, to make a complete team in any particular sport, Year 4 students will be used to field a full team. Selection will be determined by ability. Coaches will be responsible for selection.
- Once squads have been selected for the season, children are not permitted to change to another sport
- In the event that numbers permit an A & B team being selected for summer and/or winter the following will apply;
 - Year 6 students in the first instance select their sport of choice.
 - The 'A' team will be stronger than the 'B' team.
 - Although Year 6 students receive their sport of choice, 'A' teams and 'B' teams will be determined by trial and players will be selected according to ability. Coaches will be responsible for team selection.

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- If in the event of illness or other circumstance, a particular sport is short of numbers, then a player from that same sport may be asked to fill in only if it doesn't cause a shortage in that team.

District Sports

- The current District Sports program for KPPS is Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics but any sport covered under School Sports Victoria could be added.
- District Sports are available for Years 3 to 6 and are generally completed in age groups 10 years, 11 years and combined 12/13 years. Students will compete in the correct age group and unless otherwise agreed will not compete in older age groups
- Selection will normally be via trials during school time or at whole school events, eg KPPS Athletics Carnival.
- For Swimming and Athletics there is in place a SDSSA Policy of 2 individual events and 1 relay restriction for Swimming and any student and of 3 individual events and 1 relay restriction for Athletics. This is subject to change under SDSSA Policy.
- Where a student qualifies for more events than the SDSSA policy allows, in determining the events to be entered the aim should be to balance individual student performance and choice.

Transport

- To promote good team morale, all members of Interschool Sports teams will travel by seat-belted bus during Scoresby District Interschool Sport events. The cost of the bus to be shared amongst the participating students.
- Parents are most welcome to watch matches and support the teams, but will need to make their own travel arrangements and meet the team at the match venue.
- In the event that one team/or small number of individuals (swimming, cross country, athletics) is to represent the school in District, Division, Regional or State Finals, parental assistance will be requested to provide transport by private cars. Current driver's licenses and full comprehensive car insurance is required.

Parent/Carer Assistance

- Parents with specific sport coaching qualifications or background experience may be invited to assist teachers in training and organising teams. Parents will be guided by the 'SSV and School Code of Behaviour' and must have a Working With Children Card.

General Guidelines

- Participation in interschool sport is a privilege and is subject to student's behaviour meeting school expectations both in the classroom and the playground.
- Good sportsmanship, respect for teammates, opponents and officials, and adherence to KPPS values will be the expected standard for all participating students. Students that don't adhere to these expected standards may be removed from the team and future competition.
- Participants in sporting activities are to be supervised at all times by either a teacher or appropriate adult
- With the exception of mouth guards, students will be provided with adequate protective equipment appropriate to the sport as specified by the SSV. However, students are allowed to bring their own protective equipment to use during interschool sport
- It is a requirement that students wear mouth guards for contact sports such as Australian rules football and other sports as advised. It is the responsibility of the parents to provide mouth guards
- Students need to wear the appropriate school sporting uniform including appropriate footwear such as runners. The style of uniform will depend on the sport.
- Teams may train at a specified time and it is expected that all students attend training sessions

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- All spectators (students, parents etc) must abide by the School Sport Victoria Codes of Behaviour (<http://www.ssv.vic.edu.au/>). All SSV sport are played following the School Sport Victoria, Sports Rules Primary Competition.
- Students will not participate in interschool sport unless they have returned their permission form and money by the due date.

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

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