

District and Interschool Sport Team Selection Policy



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Rosanna Golf Links 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.

Purpose

This policy is to ensure that the school provides an interschool and district sport program to aid in the following;

- Development of skills
- Understanding of game strategies
- Increase fitness
- Develop appropriate attitudes for playing team sport
- Fostering team spirit
- Sportsmanship
- Honesty
- Fairness to opponents
- Support of own team members

Implementation

RGLPS is a member of the Heidelberg District School Sports Association (HDSSA) that controls interschool and district sport in our area. The HDSSA is a member of School Sports Victoria. This is the governing body of Primary School sport in Victoria.

The selection of sports for Inter School Sport (ISS) each of the seasons (summer and winter) will be decided upon by the HDSSA. Currently, the sports that the HDSSA participate in are AFL, Netball and Tee ball in Term 2 and Softball, Soccer and Bat Tennis in Term 3. The teams are either boys/mixed or girls for AFL, Tee ball, Bat Tennis, Softball and Soccer. As per School Sport Victoria (SSV) rules, only girls may participate in Netball A whereas Netball B is girls/mixed.

Interschool Sport – Single Team Scenario

- Where RGLPS enters one team, all Grade 6s will be allocated into a team or team role as part of the curriculum (ie. ISS is not optional for Grade 6). The number of participating students each week is determined by the rules provided by SSV.
- Grade 6s will be able to nominate their first and second preference of sport each season. Where numbers permit, this will be accommodated.
- In the event numbers are oversubscribed, those sports will be selected by trial and players will be selected according to ability. Coaches will be responsible for team selection.
- Students who were not selected after the trial will then be allocated to their second preference sport, should this choice accommodate additional numbers.
- If there are too many Grade 6 students for the ISS positions available, the extra students will be divided between the sports. Larger teams will have more additional positions than smaller teams to aid in participation.

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- Each week, the coach must field a team of their sport which equals the number of students set out by SSV (for example, 12 in Teeball and Softball). If there are more players in the squad than are required (for example, there may be 15 Grade 6s in the Teeball squad, but only 12 positions each week in the playing team), the amount in excess will join the Grade 5s for that week to participate in the 'good health' program.
- The coach must ensure a rotation of students throughout the home and away season so that each child will have participated in an equal amount of games by the final round (though it is noted that due to family holidays, extended illness or absence from school etc, this may not always be possible). Teams will be announced on Thursday so that staff supervising the Grade 5 'good health' program will know which Grade 6s will be attending with them the following day.
- If the team participates in finals, the coach will select the team from the squad that has the best chance of being successful based upon their observations during the home and away season. This process remains in place for Division, Region and State Finals.
- Where there are insufficient numbers to make a complete team in any particular sport, after all Grade 6s have been allocated a team. Grade 5s will supplement the team, their participation will be determined by trial and merit.
- Grade 5 students not involved in the ISS program will participate in an alternative 'good health' program.

Interschool Sport – A & B Team Scenario

In the event that numbers permit an A & B team being selected for summer and/or winter the following will apply;

- Grade 6 students in the first instance select their sport of choice.
- The 'A' team will be stronger than the 'B' team.
- Although Grade 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. Year Level is not a determining factor of being in the 'A' or 'B' team. Coaches will be responsible for team selection.
- If in the event of illness or other circumstance, an 'A' team in a particular sport is short of numbers, then a 'B' team player from that same sport may be called up to fill in, but not vice versa.
- If this causes a shortage of numbers in a 'B' team then the Grade 6s in excess for that week may fill in. If this is not possible, then Grade 5 students not already assigned to a team can fill in for the 'B' team, or if need be, a Grade 4 student may be required.

District Sports

- The current District Sports program for RGLPS is Swimming, Basketball, Volleyball, Cross Country, Cricket and Athletics but any sport covered under School Sports Victoria could be added.

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- District Sports are available for Grades 3 – 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 be forced into older age groups.
- Selection will normally be via trials during school time and where possible trials will be held for swimming to ensure 50m competency and merit.
- For Swimming and Athletics there is in place a HDSSA Policy of 2 individual events and 1 relay restriction for any student.
- Where a student qualifies for more events than policy, in determining the events to be entered the aim should be to balance individual student performance and choice.

General Guidelines

- Our objective is to develop sport skills, game strategies and good sportsmanship.
- Good sportsmanship, respect for teammates, opponents and officials, and adherence to RGLPS values will be the expected standard for all participating students.
- 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 mouthguards for contact sports such as Aussie Rules football and other sports as advised. It is the responsibility of the parents to provide mouthguards.
- Students need to wear the appropriate school sporting uniform including appropriate footwear such as runners. The style of uniform will depend on the sport.
- The school's SunSmart policy is to apply for all interschool sporting activities. A school-approved hat must be worn when UV levels are **3 or above** (generally from mid-August to the end of April in Victoria).
- Students will have the opportunity to take on different roles within the team.
- Captaincy will be rotated around the teams to give as many students as possible the opportunity. The designated captain is to provide a verbal report at Monday's assembly and on occasion a written report for the school's newsletter.
- Students may be asked to play on an opposition team to balance numbers.
- Teams may train at a specified time and it is expected that all students attend training sessions.
- The staff member in charge of each sport is to take a mobile phone (leave the number at the office) and first aid kit to non-school based locations.
- Students will be expected to learn the rules for their sport so that they are able to play safely.
- Students, Parents and Coaches must adhere to the appropriate codes of conduct. These are in line with the SSV policies.
- Parents will be encouraged to support the Sports program through active coaching of teams during lunch and after school as agreed with the organising teacher. At the

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commencement of each season, parents will be provided with the names of coaches, training times and fixture details. Parents are required to abide by the HDSSA code of conduct. No sideline coaching by parents is allowed.

- Students will not participate in interschool sport until they have returned their permission form and money.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the policy and program audit process and is scheduled for review in March 2024.