SPORTS POLICY

This document is just one of Stradbroke Primary School policies and as such should be used with and not instead of any other current guidelines/policies/codes.

Stradbroke Primary School policies may be viewed on our website
www.stradsch.sa.edu.au

Our sports program is provided to encourage school spirit, enjoyment and education in sportsmanship. Our afterschool/weekend program is open to all Stradbroke students who are 8 years and over. We will endeavour to ensure all interested students have the opportunity to play however there will be occasions where this may not be possible i.e. not enough interest to register a team, insufficient coaches. Our coaches are volunteer parents who have elected to give their time and knowledge to teach the children not only the rules of the game but team play and good sportsmanship.

NOTE: no child shall be permitted to participate in a sports program until their completed registration form and fee have been lodged with the school.

Expectation of players

• To commit to the season once registered (losing players mid-season may result in your team mates having to forfeit).
• Always play by the rules
• Never argue with an official. If you disagree with a decision, advise your coach who may then approach the official if it is appropriate.
• Any breach of our school’s Behaviour Code will not be tolerated.
• Congratulate team mates (win or lose), and thank opponent team and umpires at the conclusion of every match.
• To attend and participate fully in training sessions.

Expectation of Parents/Spectators

• Encourage participation in school sports but do not force them.
• Support our Code of Behaviour and player expectations.
• Be a role model and applaud all players including opposing team.
• 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.
• Make every effort to attend games and support your child and the team however remember you are there as a spectator and should 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 etc.
• If you are not attending matches/practice please ensure that you have arranged for your child’s safety at their conclusion as this responsibility should not fall to the coaches who may have other commitments following training or matches.
• If a child is NOT collected at the conclusion of a game/practice in a timely manner on more than one occasion the Coach may bring the matter before the Principal for review.
• No child who is NOT a member of the team should 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 DECD Volunteers Working in Educational Sites and Settings policy.
• 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.
• Children learn by example; so 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 player 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 available for use at all practice sessions and matches.
• Source assistance from fellow parents with rosters, fruit at games, equipment setup/pack up etc.
• Any assistance/guidance you need or wish that has not already been provided should be addressed to the Principal/Deputy.
• Adhere to the schools weather policy and protect the health and safety of the children at all times.
• A child is NOT to be left unattended at the conclusion of practice or game and must be handed over to their guardian. If a child is not collected at the conclusion of practice/game please call their parent to determine the appropriate course of action. If instances of late collection are repeated without prior arrangement please notify the Principal.
• Provide a report on sports progress for the school newsletter.

**Expectation of the School**

• The school will coordinate the overall sports program.
• Nominate a staff member to be the contact person for each sporting association in which the school has registered teams. That staff member will be responsible for ensuring the school complies with its obligations with the association by:
  o coordinating a roster of coaches/managers to attend association meetings, and ensuring that information is fed back to other coaches and teams;
  o promptly disseminating information, such as draws, timetables and other information from the association to coaches/managers of teams;
  o maintaining an up-to-date email list of coaches/managers to ensure effective communication between the school and coaches/managers.
• The school will actively assist in recruiting interested players and coaches so that new teams can be formed in the younger grades.
• Ensure all coaches/managers meet the minimum requirements of the **DECD Volunteers Working in Educational Sites and Settings**
• Provide equipment for training sessions.
• Provide a first aid kit to all coaches/managers

**Photography**

• Permission to be photographed is 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 should consider identifying 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.
• Photographs and videos (including mobile devices) taken by parents should not include other students, especially where they can be identified.
• In regards to swimming events, it is appropriate to discourage photography by parents given the difficulty in ensuring other children are not identifiable in their photos and who has a legitimate reason for taking photographs, especially where the pool is open to the general public at the same time.
• In order to protect the interests of students and other children, photos/videos and news must not be shared via social media without having been granted permission and meeting child protection obligations.

*Updated July 2015*
Breach of School Policies

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

1. For minor incidents, the coach has the authority to remove players from the field/court.
2. For serious incidents, the coach will remove the player from the field/court and at their earliest convenience refer the matter to the principal/deputy 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:

1. require a volunteer to withdraw from coaching/manager roles at any time if concerns exist about their suitability to be working with children
2. bar 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

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:

(1) 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 Principal/Deputy.
(2) Concerns with the Coach - please refer the matter in writing to the Principal/Deputy.

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

REFERENCES USED TO PRODUCE THIS DOCUMENT

(1) Stradbroke Policies:
   a. School Discipline Policy
   b. Behaviour code
   c. Anti-Bullying and Harassment Policy
   d. Health Care Management
   e. Grievance Procedures

(2) DETE - National Junior Sport Policy


(5) DECD Policies:
   a. Photography and Swimming & Aquatics Programs
   b. Social Media Guidelines
   c. Consent to Use Media and Creative Work Procedure
   d. Volunteers Working in Educational Sites and Settings Policy
   e. Volunteering in Schools and Preschools: Volunteer Information Handbook