Junior School Sport Philosophy

Arndell Anglican College Junior Sport operates in the framework set at the executive level by the Head of Junior School and the Headmaster and is overseen at the level of curriculum delivery and organisation by the Director of PDHPE/Sport P - 12. The Junior School Sport Program aims to encourage all students to take part in sporting activities with a focus on inclusivity, participation and learning the foundations of teamwork, with the aim of students giving their personal best.

While sport can be inherently competitive, the aim is to allow for students to improve on the skills they possess and work to achieving at a high level. The undergirding belief is that it is more important to develop aspects which make up and contribute to a student’s overall character, than success for success sake. This can be done by being humble in winning, gracious in losing and developing of life skills, such as working as a team and learning to understand and to process disappointment.

Sport is seen as one component of developing a well-rounded education. Sport aims to improve student’s physical wellbeing, but also their emotional and spiritual wellbeing. Sport plays a part in a student’s overall character and development as they grow and mature through the junior years of their schooling. By the time our students leave Year 6 we aim to have instilled in them these aforementioned qualities.

Selection of teams

While the majority of our competitions within HZSA are participation focused (Gala Days, Afternoon Sport etc), there may be opportunities to be chosen for representative teams.

The College understands and encourages students to participate in sporting competitions outside of school, this does not warrant automatic selection in representative and premier teams for HZSA afternoon sport. This may be the case for several students who are trialling for the same team, and the nature of sport dictates that not all students who trial will be selected in a representative team.

In selecting teams we aim to have at least two coaches or staff members present at all trials for representative teams. This will usually be the team manager taking the team on the day and another member of staff to allow for collaboration in the selection process. As a point of comparison at HZSA, HICES and CIS selections, one session is assigned for this selection process. Where possible, if two sessions can be used (for example including a designated sport period and then a lunch time trial) this is deemed sufficient. Unlike other representative sport trials, students are well known to staff and have been observed throughout the year, not simply in a one hour trial. The staff and coach’s professional judgement will allow for a fair and equitable selection process throughout the designated sessions.

It is reasonable to expect that a team will receive 2 – 3 training sessions prior to a representative event. It is important to note, that consideration must be given to staff having supervision duties, other commitments, meetings and responsibilities that need to be considered when deciding training
sessions. For these reasons, it is considered reasonable that training may occur outside of normal school hours.

The College endeavours to notify parents as soon as possible regarding their selection in teams at representative carnivals such as HICES and CIS. These results and/or teams are posted on the sports noticeboard as well as carnival results being posted on the College website.

**Communication, Feedback and Review**

The College is always seeking to provide our children with the best opportunities by streamlining processes so they are as efficient as possible. In this both active staff monitoring and parental feedback is encouraged as we aim to share a positive partnership in the continuing development of the Junior School Sports Program. The opportunity to hear constructive feedback regarding events, carnivals and other sport related events is therefore welcomed. Emailing the Junior School PE Teacher directly and in a timely manner, is the best way to communicate your feedback. Please be aware that due to association structures which are out of our control, some feedback or ideas may not be feasible to modify or eliminate.

The Junior School Sport Committee also aims to review events in order to evaluate and improve where necessary. Meetings are held regularly, to allow for staff discussion regarding our sporting events here at Arndell.

While the Junior School Sport Program aims to run to a high organisational standard, our philosophy of open and active monitoring means that staff are more than happy to be made aware of any concerns, should they arise. A polite email outlining the situation is the best way to communicate such a concern. Every attempt will be made to positively monitor a concern as soon as possible. Please be mindful staff always have the best interests of both parents and students at heart, and if cause for concern arises, a mutuality of considerate understanding best allows for an effective resolution.