



ST AUGUSTINE'S COLLEGE – SYDNEY

A Catholic school for boys in Years 5 to 12, teaching the Augustinian values of
'Truth, Love & Community'

SPORT AND CO-CURRICULAR POLICY

Context

St Augustine's College – Sydney is a Year 5 to Year 12 Catholic congregational comprehensive school for boys teaching the Augustinian values of Truth, Love and Community.

The College seeks to promote the formation of the whole person; an individual who is well rounded and lives by the Gospel mission of justice, forgiveness, compassion, and generosity.

Key to an Augustinian education is friendship, a commitment to learning and the opportunity to achieve academic and personal excellence within a faith community. Participation in the Sport and Co-curricular Program is congruent with the values that underpin the College's educational program. The College community will be strengthened through the participation of students in the Sport and Co-curricular Program, and this will further enhance the strong sense of community that exists at St Augustine's College.

St Augustine's College aims to provide a diverse and inclusive Sport and Co-curricular Program.

1 Rationale

At St Augustine's College the Sport and Co-curricular Program is designed to enable our students to extend their aspirations, skills and range of interests beyond the classroom, and to help them develop socially and emotionally so that they can grow in maturity and self-confidence.

The Sport and Co-curricular Program provides students with the opportunity to:

- a) represent the College
- b) exercise, which is vital for growing bodies
- c) experience activities which may become a life-long interest
- d) learn about commitment, team or group work and generosity as part of a team, ensemble or group
- e) develop character (e.g., in competitions, learn to win or lose graciously – humble in victory and gracious in defeat)
- f) develop new friendships outside of one's own peer group
- g) gain enjoyment from participation
- h) develop skills and fitness in a variety of pursuits
- i) develop an effective work ethic
- j) pursue opportunities as match officials in their chosen sports/activities.

2 Policy



- 2.1** It is compulsory that ALL students participate in the Sport and Co-curricular Program.
- 2.2** Once a commitment to a sport or co-curricular activity is made, it must be honoured throughout the entire season. Team nominations are made well in advance and if a student fails to fulfil his commitment all are disadvantaged. If clashes exist between sport and co-curricular activities, please see the Assistant Principal – Sport and Co-curricular to organise a solution. A student is not able to withdraw from an activity once he has committed to it. The College appreciates that many students take part-time jobs, but students must undertake their employment on days when they are not required for a College activity. Saturday work which precludes participation in a College team is not acceptable.
- 2.3** Compulsory House activities complement the inter-school competition. The College conducts a number of intra-school house competitions throughout the year such as Athletics, Swimming and Cross Country carnivals. These carnivals act as a selection pathway for students to represent the College at ISA, Broken Bay and NSW levels.
- 2.4** The College and the student's classmates form the primary community for the student and as such, College teams and activities always take precedence over participation in district and local clubs.

Students may elect to play in a club or local competition in addition to completing his sport and/or co-curricular requirements for the College. Students who play sport(s) for a club must also participate in the same sport(s) for the College, if offered by the College.

All Year 5 to 10 students are required to be involved in a minimum of 2 activities and are encouraged to attempt a range of different activities throughout the year. A culmination of 25 points for the year is the minimum requirement.

Students in Years 11 and 12 are required to participate in one or more activities throughout the year. The College prefers boys to involve themselves in a team sport. A culmination of 15 points for the year is the minimum requirement.

Students who fail to meet their requirements will meet with the Assistant Principal - Sport and Co-curricular to explain why they cannot do so.

- 2.5** If students are not able to compete in a particular season, i.e., serious injury or illness, parents must submit a written request to the Assistant Principal – Sport and Co-curricular. The College has a commitment to inter-school programs and as such, has a responsibility regarding the number of teams entered into these competitions. The Assistant Principal – Sport and Co-curricular will consider the needs of the College before granting a student exemption from a season.

2.6 Sportsman of the Year awards are presented at the relevant Celebration of Excellence. This award is presented to a student in each year group who has participated in a variety of College based sports and/or has achieved at representative level in at least one sport. Students who excel in non-College sports may be acknowledged in assemblies throughout the year. It is the parent's responsibility to inform the Sport and Co-curricular Office of such achievements as they are not always apparent. All State and/or National representatives in College Sports ONLY will be acknowledged at Celebrations of Excellence and Laureate Assemblies.

3 Sport

- 3.1** A student who is selected at State or National level within a College sport (excluding representative football, see 3.2) must negotiate with the Assistant Principal – Sport and Co-curricular if external ‘demands’ are high or conflicting with ongoing College commitment.
- 3.2** Some students may be eligible to apply for Elite Athlete status. The minimum requirements include State or National representation, as well as being in year 10, 11 or 12. If approved, the Sport and Co-curricular Office, along with the Academic Office will work with the family to support the student. Without Elite Athlete status students may request leave for registered and approved competitions only. Training camps will not be approved, and students will not be granted time off to miss assessments.
- 3.3** Representative Football Exemption: students are only granted exemption from playing for St Augustine’s College if they are selected in a team in the Football NSW NPL Competitions or representing Manly Warringah Football Association in the Football NSW Association League Competition.
- 3.4** Students must attend all training sessions and matches. College training and matches take priority over club training and matches, including those students involved in the ‘development squads’ outside of the College.
- 3.5** Students and parents must support the ‘Sport and Co-curricular – Code of Conduct’. Behaviour must always be exemplary, and the utmost respect must be demonstrated towards all opponents and officials.
- 3.6** The College sports uniform/attire must always be worn fully and correctly. This includes all safety equipment as specified by the Teacher in Charge (e.g., mouthguards for all contact sports). Students who wear non-College attire to College fixtures will be asked to remove/change the garment or risk not being allowed to represent the College that day. Under no circumstances will a student be allowed to wear non-College uniform whilst competing, i.e., incorrect socks, shorts, etc.
- 3.7** Attendance at all trainings and matches is taken seriously. Students must produce a parent/guardian written request for any absence. This must be sighted by the relevant coach or Teacher in Charge. This note must be produced 2 days in advance (where possible) and it is the responsibility of the student to inform the coach and/or Teacher in Charge. Effective communication by students to coaches is essential. Failure to do so will result in consequences being imposed.

- 3.8** It is the College policy to provide transport for students to sport and co-curricular activities for:
- fixtures played outside the Sydney metropolitan area
 - any midweek fixtures where parental transport is not feasible
 - afternoon training sessions that occur off-College campus.

4 Codes of Conduct

The College has a fine reputation, not only for its academic excellence, but also for its large and enthusiastic participation within the Sport and Co-curricular Program. It is expected that all members of the College community will represent responsibly by adhering to the relevant association's Code of Conduct and the College Code of Conduct for Parents and Guardians.

4.1 Student Expectations

- a) Students must attend all designated training sessions, games and activities.
- b) Any student unavailable for training games or activities must inform either their Coach, Teacher in Charge or Assistant Principal – Sport and Co-curricular well in advance.
- c) Students must arrive at venues at least 30 minutes prior to the specified games start time.
- d) Students must wear correct sports or school uniform as required for playing and spectating.
- e) Students are to participate to the best of their ability.
- f) Students will be humble in victory and gracious in defeat.
- g) Arguing and/or remonstrating with officials is unacceptable.
- h) Verbal and physical intimidation of the opposition team members is unacceptable.
- i) Students are to shake hands with and congratulate players at the conclusion of matches.
- j) Students will be supportive and always offer encouragement towards team players. All comments will be positive.

4.2 Parent and Spectator Expectations

- a) Remember that children participate in sport for their enjoyment not yours.
- b) Encourage children to play according to the rules.
- c) Never ridicule or yell at a child for making a mistake or not winning.
- d) Respect all officials' decisions and encourage children to do likewise.
- e) Show appreciation for coaches, officials, and administrators – remember they are usually volunteers.
- f) Applaud good performance and efforts from all individuals and teams.
- g) Congratulate all participants regardless of the game's outcome.
- h) Condemn the use of violence, verbal abuse, or vilification in any form regardless of whether it is by spectators, coaches, officials, or players.
- i) Support all policies and practices.
- j) Support involvement in modified rules games and other junior development programs.
- k) Respect the rights, dignity and worth of every young person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background, or religion.
- l) Ensure you are aware of the correct processes to follow if you have an issue or

complaint by informing the Teacher in Charge of the sport and/or the Assistant Principal – Sport and Co-curricular. Do not perpetuate issues with gossip or general criticism.

- m) The College supports social media to promote the Sport and Co-curricular Program. Inappropriate or derogatory comments are not acceptable and will be reported immediately.

Status	CURRENT
Last Review	2021
Next Review	2022