



# SA School Sports (SAPSASA) Policy

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At Magill School, we aim to help students reach their potential in a range of ways through the provision of higher level and extra-curricular opportunities including participation in physical activity and sport. The SA School Sports (SAPSASA) program provides our students with a platform to pursue their personal best in sports.

Magill School is affiliated with the South Australian Primary School Sports Association (SAPSASA). Once schools decide to affiliate with SAPSASA they are allocated to a geographical SAPSASA district. Magill School is affiliated with the Torrens River SAPSASA District. SA School Sports (SAPSASA) sporting events are held on a district and state-wide basis.

Each year a state-wide SA School Sports (SAPSASA) timetable is published. Torrens River district then adds in their carnival dates and sends this information to each school in their district. Schools then determine which events and/or sports they will participate in. This may change year to year depending on several factors and variables, including:

- the sporting priorities of the school;
- funding available to release teachers attending each carnival and knockout game;
- the availability of a suitably skilled teacher or community member willing to coach and manage teams. All parents/community members that are appointed to official positions must have all mandatory checks and clearances which include RAN and DCSI or WWCC clearances;
- the interest of students in particular sports;
- sports that support the after school sports teams.

There is also an age policy in place giving priority to older students in the school.

These events include:

## District events

Schools in the district can decide to nominate a team to participate in half day or day long carnivals which includes swimming, athletics and cross country. At these district events, schools compete in teams against other schools. Students who finish top of their event will be selected and invited, by the district delegate, to participate in the Torrens River District team at State Day.

## Knock out competitions

Schools can nominate teams in a range of sports to be part of the Torrens River District competitions including: football, netball, soccer, cricket and tennis. After the SA School Sports (SAPSASA) office receives nominations, they develop a draw of teams for each sport which is sent to schools. Games are arranged against the allocated team. Schools decide the time and location for each game. All games must be played during school hours. The winner of the game proceeds to the next round of the draw and the losing team is knocked out of the competition. At times, there may be 3 or 4 teams within our draw and this will be held as a mini carnival. An ultimate winner in each sport is decided with a shield or trophy presented. Basketball is also a knockout sport, however, it is played in a carnival style environment. The school leadership staff ultimately decides whether or not to enter teams in the knockout competitions.

## State Carnivals

Students who excel in a particular knockout sport have the opportunity to attend trials within that sport in the hope of being selected in the Torrens River District. This Torrens River team then participates in a week long state carnival. Coaches of Magill School knockout teams, in consultation with Leadership, will invite students they believe suitable to attend these trials.

### Details and considerations for selection:

- At Magill School for swimming, athletics and cross country district events we allow participation for Year 4-6 students, however, Year 4 students must be turning 10 years of age in the current year;
- In all other sports and team events, participation is usually restricted to Year 5 and 6 students;
- Once a coach has been appointed from the staff or school community, trials are advertised within the school and will be held for interested students within the appropriate year levels;
- After the trial(s), a team is selected by the coach and where possible an assistant selector. Selection is based on students demonstrating the highest skill level at the trials, whilst factoring in the following:
  - Priority is not given to students who play a particular sport in a club or other team;
  - A Year 6 student would be given preference if there is no discernible difference when compared to the skill level of a Year 5 student. This is at the discretion of the coach;
  - Some players may be specifically selected for particular positions;
  - Team work and good sportsmanship that positively represents the school.
- Parents are responsible for monitoring the number of events their child participates in over the course of the school year and have the right to reduce or put a hold on their child's participation if they feel it is excessive and/or is impacting on their learning. It is the student's responsibility to follow up academic work that is missed.
- As we rely on coaches to volunteer their time to get SA School Sports (SAPSASA) sports up and running, they are not able to provide individual feedback as to why a student was not selected in a team due to the time constraints around this. We have a large number of children trialling for numerous events. If we asked volunteers to provide individual feedback

for each students who didn't make a team, it would make it difficult for us to find someone to coach teams.

## Expectation and Behaviours

- It is a **privilege and not a right** to represent Magill School in external school events. We want students to be the best role models and representatives of our school in all situations;
- Students selected to represent the school at a SA School Sports (SAPSASA) carnival or knockout competition need to abide by the school's values and behaviour polices which includes demonstrating:
  - Appropriate behaviour and model the school values;
  - Committing themselves to training sessions;
  - The necessary organisation and work ethic in class;
  - Respect towards all members of the school community.
- At the SA School Sports (SAPSASA) event, the teacher accompanying the team is responsible for the organisation and behaviour of the students. In some large scale events, such as Athletics and Cross Country, supervision is provided by authorised personnel from a range of schools;
- Any student not abiding to the school's behaviour policy may be sent back to school by contacting their parent or the school leadership;
- The coach is responsible for team selection, positioning and instruction in each game;
- SA School Sports (SAPSASA) policy is to provide equal playing time, however, as carnivals and knockout games are designed to determine a winner, coaches will select a team they believe has the best chance of winning. This may mean some players will receive more game time than others. These decisions will be made between the coach and supervising teacher.

## Financial costs and contributions

If selected in a Magill School team, each child will incur a SA School Sports (SAPSASA) Levy of \$30 for each event/sport.

The levy is used to subsidise and help pay for the:

- registration of teams;
- payment of umpires or referees;
- costs of replacement teachers to backfill vacancy left by the supervising teacher at school;
- cost of replacing Magill School sports uniforms and buying new ones for specific sports;

Students making a state SA School Sports (SAPSASA) team can request a subsidy from the school if costs are prohibitive. The decision to approve any subsidy is at the discretion of the Governing Council and any request must be in writing so it can be tabled at a Governing Council meeting;

Our transportation arrangements are in line with the school's volunteer policy and Department of Education safety guidelines. These arrangements include:

- Where possible to save costs to parents, the schools strives to use accredited volunteers to transport students to and from carnivals and knockout games;
- Volunteers need to complete and sign a form certifying that their vehicle is registered, insured and roadworthy with enough seatbelts to accommodate the students they are transporting;
- Any volunteer must transport at least 2 students and 1 being their own child;

## **Trials**

When trialling for District events, swimming, cross country and athletics, there is an expectation that students already know the correct techniques e.g. swimming strokes, throwing of discus and shotput. Trials are not a training session on technique.

***Cross Country*** - children should be able to run the required distance for their age group:

- Girls and Boys 10 Year - 2km
- Girls and Boys 11 & 12 Year - 3km

***Swimming*** - children should be able to perform the correct swimming techniques, including starting positions for:

- Freestyle
- Backstroke
- Breaststroke
- Butterfly

***Athletics*** - children should know the correct techniques for:

- Shot put
- Discus
- Long jump
- High jump