

Representative Sport Policy

Rationale

At West Pennant Hills Public School, sport is an integral part of the curriculum. Sport is provided on a class, stage and school basis. School Representative teams play in both summer and winter sporting competitions. Individuals may represent the school, zone, area and state in various sports. Students selected in West Pennant Hills Public School sporting teams are representing the school in the wider community and are expected to behave appropriately and be fine ambassadors for the school.

At West Pennant Hills Public School, we believe that students have the right to present themselves for selection in representative sporting teams. This policy aims to set guidelines to assist teachers and parent/helpers when selecting these teams. The policy aims to provide a consistent and fair approach to selection.

Aims

- To ensure the DET's policy on Student Welfare is reflected in this policy.
- To ensure the DET's Values Statement is reflected in this policy.
- To ensure teachers are supported in the selection process.
- To ensure students are aware of the selection guidelines.
- To ensure a consistent approach to selection of teams across the school.

Outcomes

- Teachers have a strong understanding of the manner in which all representative sporting teams are to be selected.
- The selection of representative sporting teams will be consistent across the whole school.
- Students will have an understanding of the selection process.

Implementation

State Primary School Sport Association (PSSA) Knockout

- State PSSA Knockout Teams are senior teams and will be selected from Years 5 and 6.
- Students from Year 4 **may be** considered for selection if there are not enough players available in Years 5 and 6.
- A student from Year 4 **may be** considered if he/she possesses a unique talent and is a representative player outside of the school in the sport being trialled. The selectors must consult with the principal if the student is to be included in the sporting team.
- These sporting teams are competitive, so the best players will be selected.
- Year 6 students will have selection priority **only** when it is considered that students are of similar ability.
- The teacher in charge of selection trial is responsible for team selection and is to adhere to this policy and DET guidelines for each individual sport.

Weekly PSSA Friday Cluster Sport

- Teams selected for Cluster Sport are senior teams and will be selected only from Years 5 and 6.

- If a student has previously been selected in a PSSA Knockout Team, in the same sport and the same calendar year, then he/she will have priority in selection into the Cluster Team.
- These teams are competitive, so the best players will be selected.
- Year 6 students will have selection priority only when it is considered that students are of similar ability.
- The teacher in charge of team selection is to adhere to this policy.

Zone Sporting Representative Teams

- Selection into Zone Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics Teams will be determined by final results at each of the school carnivals.
- Students selected will be from Years 2 to 6, in the appropriate age group.
- If a student is unable to attend a zone carnival, the reserve for that particular event will be offered the position.
- The teacher in charge of the zone representative team may apply to the zone carnival convenor for a special entry for a student, if seen to be appropriate.

Representation at National PSSA Sporting Events

- If a student has gained selection into a national team in any PSSA school sport (the highest representative level possible) the school will make a one hundred dollar (\$100) donation towards the costs associated with attending the carnival.
- If a student has gained selection into a national team in any PSSA school sport (the highest representative level possible) the school will help facilitate the student in the selling of PSSA raffle tickets to the West Pennant Hills Public School community.

Gala Day Team Selection

- In the event of Gala Days where PSSA Knockout teams have previously been selected, the players in these representative teams will have priority.
- In the event of Gala Days in non PSSA Knockout sports, entry for participation will be open to interested students in the target group. If there are more interested students than positions available, selection trials will be held.

General

- **Selection trials will be held over at least two sessions.**
- Students do not have to participate in the sport outside of school to be eligible to try out for team selection.
- Playing in a representative team on weekends, does not guarantee selection.
- Player selection will be made according to their performance at the selection sessions.
- Students who are absent during the selection trials, at the discretion of the teacher, may or may not be considered for the representative team.
- **All representative teams will be selected and verified by at least two teachers and their decision is final.**
- All students will have equal time on the field/court during selection trials.
- Selection of the team on the field during competition will be at the discretion of the coach.
- If selected in a representative team, it is the responsibility of each student to attend training and ensure that they have the correct uniform and equipment for play.
- In line with the school's Student Welfare Policy, students representing the school will be expected to maintain appropriate behaviour at all times.
- A copy of the 'Student Code of Conduct' and the 'Parent Code of Conduct' will be sent home with all students selected into a representative team, to be signed and returned to the teacher in charge.

Monitoring and Evaluation

- All teams entering sporting competitions do so at the discretion of the principal.
- Selection trials will be held outside of teaching time, unless it is during a scheduled sporting session.
- Representative team training sessions will be held outside of teaching time. Sessions may be held before school, at lunch time or after school. If a training session falls outside of school hours (8.55am – 2.55pm), parental permission to attend training sessions must be obtained.
- Representative teams may play scheduled games during teaching time, with the consent of the principal.
- Teachers must adhere to the guidelines outlined in this policy.
- Student behaviour when representing the school will be of the highest standard.
- This policy will be monitored and discussed with staff to ensure that the outcomes are being met.
- A formal evaluation of this policy will be conducted biannually.