

CODES OF CONDUCT AND PENALTIES FOR BREACH

Reviewed by the Board: 19 May 2025

Scheduled review date: May 2027

School Sport Australia offers the sporting ideals of fairness, honesty and integrity which are central to the code of practice for students, officials, parents and spectators.

PLAYERS' CODE OF CONDUCT

- Play by the rules with respect, integrity, fairness and be a good sport.
- Be modest in victory and gracious in defeat.
- Control your conduct and behavior on and off the field.
- Play for enjoyment and learn to value honest effort, skilled performance, and improvement.
- Strive for personal excellence and work hard for your team as well as yourself.
- Do not use bad language or make derogatory remarks.
- Treat your opponent with respect, this being the way you would like to be treated.
- Accept and respect all officials' decisions and always communicate in a positive manner.
- Show respect and acknowledge your opposition and the event officials at the conclusion of each game.
- Adhere to all School Education Policies regarding appropriate conduct and behaviour.

OFFICIALS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Ensure that all students within your responsibility have fair and equitable opportunities for participation and development of their individual and team skills.
- Adopt a student-centered focus on all planning, decision making and evaluation.
- Ensure everyone involved, including parents and spectators, understand their responsibilities regarding fair play and appropriate conduct.
- Encourage a positive attitude towards school sport.
 - emphasise fun and enjoyment.
 - encourage both teams.
 - set a good example.
 - encourage the pursuit of personal excellence.
 - teach students to be respectful towards officials and opponents.
 - addressing and encouraging positive conduct of students
- Be consistent, respectful, and helpful toward all participants.
- Ensure that the appropriate Risk Management Plans and Procedures are adhered to.
- Adhere to their respective Education Department Policies regarding appropriate conduct.

PARENTS & SPECTATORS CODE OF CONDUCT

- Demonstrate appropriate conduct throughout the event including displaying good sportsmanship.
- Be respectful in communication remembering students play for enjoyment.
- Encourage honest effort, skilled performance and team loyalty.
- Support skilled performances and team play.
- Do not interfere with the conduct of any championships.
- Adhere to the respective Education Department Policies regarding appropriate conduct.
- Event officials are not to be approached – Team Officials should be the first point of contact.

Inappropriate Conduct whilst on the SSA event site. Includes but is not confined to

- Having or consuming alcohol
- Having or using non-prescribed illegal drugs or illicit substances
- Smoking
- Vaping
- Sexual activities and harassment
- Criminal offences including vandalism
- Use of abusive language including swearing or abusing others
- Physical violence to others
- Harassment, bullying or vilification toward others including the use of social media.
- Unethical behaviour
- Disregarding State / Territory team guidelines
- Refusing to comply with instructions.
- Poor sportsmanship or cheating

Other Relevant Supporting Documents

- State and Territory member body student participation agreements
- School Sport Australia Policies and Procedures
- School Sport Australia Drugs in Sport Position Statement
- www.playbytherules.net.au (Approved by all State & Territory Government)

Codes of Conduct Breach Consequences

Establishing penalties and breach consequences for the School Sport Australia Code of Conduct is essential to maintain the integrity of the sports programs and ensure a safe and enjoyable environment for all students, officials, volunteers, and spectators.

Below are the recommended penalties and consequences for breaches of the Codes of Conduct for players, officials, parents, and spectators. These codes of conduct are to be used in conjunction with each sport's specific rules and regulations, and sport specific penalties will apply. Consequences for continued breaches of the codes of conduct will be determined by the judiciary committee of each Championship.

SSA may implement initiatives with specific Championships which create consequences, including on-field penalties or advantages to the non-offending teams. These consequences are resultant, from students, team officials and/or parents or spectators who are not following the respective code of conduct.

1. Players' Code of Conduct Violations Procedures:

All player violations need to be reported to the respective team management in the first instance.

First breach: -

Warning and counselling by the coach or team manager and or specific on-field consequences.

For continued or more severe breaches the following consequences should be considered:

- Suspension from participation in the next game or games or events.
- Exclusion from the School Sport Australia Championship.
- Recommended exclusion from the Member Body's representative program.

All breaches of Player's Code of Conduct Violations to be sent in a written report to the SSA Office as well as the relevant School Sport Office.

2. Officials Code of Conduct Violations Procedures:

All Officials violations need to be reported to the respective School Sport office in the first instance.

First breach: -

Warning and counselling by the National Sports Advisor and/or Championship Co-ordinator and or specific on-field consequences.

For continued or more severe breaches the following should be considered:

- Recommendation to the Member Body for suspension from championship games or events for a specific period.
- Exclusion from the School Sport Australia Championship.
- Recommended exclusion from the Member Body's representative program.

All breaches of Officials Code of Conduct Violations to be sent in a written report to the SSA Office as well as the relevant School Sport Office.

3. Parents & Spectators Code of Conduct Violations Procedures:

All parent/ spectator violations need to be reported to the respective team management in the first instance.

First breach: -

Warning and counselling by the National Sports Advisor, Championship Co-ordinator, Host event School Sport officer and/or coach or team manager and or specific on-field consequences.

For continued or more severe breaches the following should be considered:

- Host event School Sport officer may contact local law enforcement agencies for support
- Not permitted to attend the next game or games or events.
- Exclusion from the School Sport Australia Championship.
- Legal actions, including restraining orders if necessary.

All breaches of Parents and Spectators Code of Conduct Violations to be sent in a written report to the SSA Office as well as the relevant School Sport Office.

4. Inappropriate Conduct Violations Procedures (Applies to all):

Immediate Removal:

For violations related to inappropriate conduct may result in immediate removal from all School Sport Australia Championships.

Additional Considerations:

School Sport Australia will provide a process to appeal if required.

Contact SSA EO who will outline the process.

Cooperation with law enforcement should be a requirement for handling criminal offenses.