



Sport Newsletter

Dear Parents,

I have compiled this newsletter setting out some important information about the arrangements for sport at the School in the hope it might be useful for you. This document is available on the School website at www.sydgram.nsw.edu.au/CollegeSt/sports, where you can also find:

- the sports calendar
- training arrangements, coaches and uniform requirements
- weekly fixtures
- training cancellations or changes, Saturday cancellations and wet weather announcements
- holiday training and camps
- maps showing the location of playing fields
- criteria for sports awards
- a link to the AAGPS website

SCHOOL POLICY ON PLAYING SPORT

One of the most important aspects of sport at Grammar is that it offers all boys an opportunity to get to know each other - not to mention boys from other schools - in a social context beyond the classroom. Some of our sportsmen are outstandingly talented, while others gain a great deal of simple pleasure from being able to get some exercise.

When it comes to considering involvement with sport outside school, in clubs for example, we expect all boys, whatever their talents, to treat their School team obligations as the priority. If there is a clash between School and club commitments, the School must come first. Where a boy has shown talent in a particular sport, we will not permit him to drop it and take a less demanding option simply to facilitate playing for an outside club. We expect our top sportsmen to play in our top teams.

TEAM SELECTION

Before the start of each season, trials are held to determine the allocation of boys to teams. There may be subsequent movement of boys in an effort to grade correctly. Boys must check the sports noticeboard each week for lists which are posted by Friday recess, to see which teams they are in for Saturday games.

COMMITMENT TO SPORT FOR THE WHOLE SEASON

Once selected in a team, a boy is committed for the whole season. For summer, this means Term IV and Term I and for winter, Terms

II and III. This policy ensures player numbers in particular sports are maintained and that the School can meet its commitments to other schools. The number of teams Grammar fields in each sport is determined at the start of each season based on the number of boys who register an intention to play. Boys who perform well at the School Athletics and Swimming Carnivals are expected to represent the School.

BREAKFAST VOUCHERS

To assist boys who attend early morning training at College Street, The Sandhill Warrior sessions on Monday morning or Swimming training at Cook & Phillip Park, boys can now obtain a booklet of 10 vouchers from the sports office by producing their library ID card. These vouchers (value \$6.00 each) can then be used at the Tuckshop to obtain a breakfast. This is then charged to your son's account at the end of the term.

TERM I 2014 TRAINING

Forms I, II and III train on Monday and Wednesday afternoons beginning Wednesday 29 January 2014.

Forms IV, V and VI train on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons beginning Thursday 30 January 2014.

There are Holiday Camps for Form I boys for Cricket, Basketball and Tennis. Further information concerning these camps will be sent to 2014 Form I parents and will also appear on the College Street website.

FORM I TRIALS SATURDAY 1 FEBRUARY 2014

Form I boys must attend trials on the first Saturday of Term I 2014 in their selected sport as follows:

Sport	Venue	Time
Cricket	SCG Nets	8.00am-10.00am
Basketball	College Street	9.00am-11.00am
Tennis	Weigall	8.30am-12noon

EXEMPTION FROM TRAINING/SATURDAY SPORT

A general exemption from sports training or games may be granted in certain cases for the following reasons:

Medical: A doctor's certificate is required stating the reason and the length of time for which exemption is sought. Medical appointments should be scheduled on non-training days.

Religious: A letter from the parent or guardian is required stating the reason and the approximate duration of the exemption sought. Exemption from sport to attend a friend's Bar Mitzvah or other such religious ceremonies will not be granted.

Travel: Consideration will be given if excessive travelling is required.

Requests for leave from sport should be made in writing to the Sportsmaster (please include your son's full name, tutorial, sport and team details). Except in unusual circumstances, no request concerning Saturday sport will be considered after lunchtime on the Wednesday prior to the game. It should not be assumed that permission will be granted.

WHO TO CONTACT IF YOU CANNOT MAKE A GAME

If on a Saturday, there is an emergency or illness and a boy is unable to play

- Please call the coach (number is distributed by the coach to the boys)
- Or if the coach is not contactable then call the appropriate mobile number below:

Basketball	0408 637 137	Rugby	0407 282 328
Cricket	0408 348 344	Football	0402 407 638
Tennis	0438 635 667	Swimming	02 9332 5984
Rowing	0408 270 896	Athletics	0404 876 557
Basketball Referees	0419 494 030	Cross Country	0432 916 932

SPECTATORS

Boys are encouraged to stay and watch our First and Second teams play in the GPS competition. In winter, attendance at one game is compulsory. Details will be published in the Diary and on the sports calendar as they become available.

TRAINING DURING EXAMINATIONS

Training during the examinations is restricted. Extra days off must not be taken without permission.

MASTERS-IN-CHARGE

Summer Sport	Directors et al	Phone	Email
Basketball	Mr. AG Lambos	0408 637 137	agl@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
	Mr. WJ Adams	9332 5862	wja@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
Cricket	Mr. AJ Campbell	9332 5750	ajcc@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
	Mr. LV Colbron	9332 5825	lvc@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
Tennis	Mr. F Ibarrola	0438 635 667	rmk@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
	Ms. R Kandalafi	9332 5989	
Swimming	Ms. GC Gonzalez	9332 5984	gcg@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
Rowing	Mr. MJA Smith	0408 270 896	mja.smith@bigpond.com

Winter Sport	Director /MIC	Phone	Email
Rugby	Mr. L Fear	9332 5894	lmf@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
Football	Mr. CC Davidson	9332 5814	ccd@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
	Mr. L Wilson	9332 5702	lcjw@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
Cross Country	Mr. R Bartels	9332 5946	rb@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
Fencing	Ms. L Liu	9332 5959	lyl@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
Volleyball	Ms. T Loi	9332 5838	ttl@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
Rifles	Dr R Loeffel	9332 5933	rdwl@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
Winter Tennis	Mr. AK Bowes	9332 5985	akbb@sydgram.nsw.edu.au
Athletics	Mr. B Rocks	9332 5958	br@sydgram.nsw.edu.au

WET WEATHER ARRANGEMENTS

The School website is updated regularly with changes to after-school training and weekend fixtures. A message will be posted on the website by 7.15am on Saturdays (remember to refresh your browser). You may also check the wet weather number (9990 8129). No recorded message (or an old message) means that sport will go ahead as scheduled. Under no circumstances should the Groundsman be contacted about cancellations.

SAFETY GLASSES

Boys who regularly wear glasses should have sport-safe glasses when playing contact sport.

MOUTH GUARDS

Mouth guards must be worn when playing Rugby and are recommended for all contact sports especially if a boy wears braces.

CRICKET HELMET POLICY

It is important that all boys obtain and bring to all games and practices their own properly fitted helmet with face guard and that it is worn when keeping wicket, fielding within 10m of the bat or batting. Close fielders will not be excused from wearing their helmet. Batsmen must wear the helmet unless explicitly excused for good reason by the coach or master-in-charge in circumstances where there is a low risk of injury. A boy's helmet must be marked clearly with his name and boys must not wear someone else's helmet. Failure to bring a helmet may lead to exclusion from activities.

SPORTSMASTER'S DETENTIONS

Boys who miss sport or training without prior exemption, or boys involved in minor misdemeanors at sport or training will be placed on report to the Sportsmaster. Serious or repeated offences will be referred to the Senior Housemaster.

VALUABLES

Boys are constantly reminded to hand valuable items to their coach or the security officer who works at Weigall on Monday to Thursday afternoons. Bags containing valuables should not be left unattended in change rooms.



SPORTS UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

The SGS Dress Code (at point 10) in the School Diary states: 'At sports practices and Saturday games only official games kit may be worn. If boys travel by car to the game and leave immediately after it by car, boys need not wear School uniform but may arrive and depart in their sports kit. During Terms II and III if they remain to watch other games, or if they are travelling by public transport, boys must wear School uniform or the School tracksuit. During Terms I and IV only, boys may arrive, depart and watch games wearing cricket shirt and black SGS cricket shorts, or SGS basketball warm-up top and SGS basketball shorts, or SGS tennis shirt and white shorts, or the School tracksuit. At regattas, rowers may remain dressed in the School's racing uniform or other approved School rowing kit.'

No sports uniform specific to a particular sport should be purchased until a boy's position in a team is confirmed. If you need a list of uniform requirements for specific sports, please call the Sportsmaster's office ph. 9332 5832. The Grammar Shop and website also provide this information.

FIRST AID

There are first aid facilities at Weigall and in the College Street gym. If the first aid room at Weigall is locked, masters have an access key. All coaches have a first aid kit for minor injuries. If first aid is required, see the team's coach in the first instance.

PHYSIOTHERAPY

In summer physiotherapy care is provided in the School gym from Monday to Thursday afternoons and a physiotherapist travels with the First and Second Basketball Teams on Saturdays. Physiotherapy or equivalent care is provided by the School at Weigall for home fixtures during winter sport. A physiotherapist travels with the principal Open winter teams and the Sportsmaster coordinates the placement of other qualified physiotherapists or equivalent at all home venues for Rugby and Football. Parents may, by private arrangement, make an appointment at any other time. Sports Focus Physiotherapists can be contacted on 9262 4147 (Wynyard, Tim Devlin/Emma Maxwell) or 9958 8986 (Northbridge/Willoughby, Ben Siu/Emma Maxwell) for further details

HOT WEATHER

The following information outlines the School's policy.

Training: The Sportsmaster will cancel outdoor training if the ambient temperature at 2.00pm (as measured at College Street and/or Weigall) is at 35 degrees Celsius or above and is not expected to decrease soon. If the ambient temperature reaches 35 degrees Celsius during training, it must be suspended or cancelled. If boys cannot be released they must rest (in shade wherever possible), take fluids and receive any necessary attention.

Games: Boys in the School's teams will not be permitted to play in games when the ambient temperature is at or above 35 degrees Celsius unless the coach or master-in-charge is satisfied that there is no risk of heat-related illness (such as dehydration, heat stress or heat-stroke). If the coach is not qualified to make such a judgment, play must not proceed until a qualified person has given advice that it is safe. A game may be suspended, cancelled or postponed. Coaches have been advised on how to deal with heat related illness.

SMOKE

Sporting activities will be limited or cancelled if bushfire smoke makes this necessary. NSW Health Alerts will be consulted.

GPS CODE OF BEHAVIOUR

The GPS Headmasters have produced the following guidelines to assist teachers, coaches, boys and parents. Games in our schools are an important part of a fully balanced education for our students. The Heads are concerned to preserve sound educational and social practices in the many inter-school games that are played and ask for the co-operation of school communities to ensure that these aims are realised.

The trend towards professionalism in school sport is to be viewed with caution. Where such an approach involves sound coaching techniques and is aimed at producing a satisfying and improved level of performance, this approach can be beneficial. However, care should be taken to exclude from our schools practices which place the pursuit of victory above those aspects of sport concerned with enjoyment, balanced development & good sportsmanship. In other words, the spirit of the amateur - in its best sense - should remain the ideal which guides these aspects of school sports.

More specifically, the following points are made: -

PLAYERS

1. Play may be hard and vigorous, but deliberate violence should never be used towards opponents.
2. Verbal provocation of any sort is unacceptable.
3. Players should not react with violence to any physical or verbal provocation.
4. Use of bad language, where directed at an umpire/referee, another player or oneself, is unacceptable.
5. Players should never argue with an umpire/referee (whether boy or adult) or contest a decision. Any negative response towards an umpire's ruling is unacceptable. (A Captain – only – may ask a referee to clarify a ruling in the event of uncertainty.)
6. Immodest behaviour in victory or success and manifestation of self-disgust at an error or failure are poor sportsmanship. Gracious conduct, whatever the result of a game, is important.
7. Unfair or illegal tactics to gain an advantage should never be used.

- Excessive or inappropriate talk should not be used on the field of play.

Players are encouraged to play in a positive and sportsmanlike manner and extend every courtesy to the opposing team. This should include pre-match courtesies, recognition of good play on the part of the opposition and extending thanks to the umpire/referee and to the opposition after the match.

SPECTATORS

- Parents are asked to make their presence and support as positive as possible.
- If your school is host, parents are asked to assume some responsibility for making visiting parents feel at home.
- When visiting another school, the host school's premises and rules – in matters of parking, tidiness, etc – should be respected. Adults are asked to note that, with the exception of family picnics in some circumstances, alcohol should not be consumed at GPS matches. If in doubt about such matters, visiting parents should check with an official of the host school.
- Parents should never seek, during or immediately after a match, to give advice to coaches, umpires/referees or to players.
- Barracking may be enthusiastic, should be positive rather than negative, avoiding excessive attention to the individual – even to praise him. A good example should be set by applauding skilful performance and play regardless of school.
- Parents can assist their son's fuller education by being sensible about the number and length of his sporting commitments. While these are regulated within the school context, parents should see that other, outside sporting involvement does not interfere unduly with academic study, religious activities, cultural and social life, as well as time spent with the family. Play may be hard and vigorous, but deliberate violence should never be used towards opponents.

HOLIDAY TRIALS

Occasionally trials are held in the holidays for the First and Second Teams. These dates are published in the Sports Calendar on the website.

PUPIL ACCIDENT INSURANCE

The School has a Pupil Accident Insurance plan which provides compensation for various accidental injuries. The policy covers all boys enrolled at the School whilst they are engaged in School Activities and Organised Sporting Activities. School Activities include sport, camps, excursions and the like. Organised Sporting Activities means the time (on a 24 hours per day, 7 days per week basis) a pupil is engaged in activities organised by or under the control of an organisation that is a member of an established sporting association of which the pupil is registered and/or a paid-up participant including all associated travel to and from such activities.

The cover under the policy is designed to assist parents in the event of an accident but not to replace cover that parents would carry in the normal course of events. For example, minor amounts of \$150 to \$500 are payable for broken or fractured bones, and up to \$5,000 can be paid for non-Medicare medical expenses.

The insurance plan however does not include any expense for which a Medicare benefit is payable, including the balance payable by the insured person after deduction of any Medicare benefit or rebate (commonly known as the 'Medicare Gap'). For further information and claim forms, please contact the Bursar.

SWIMMING

The School Swimming Carnival will be held on Friday 31 January from 4.30pm to 8.30pm at Boy Charlton Pool. Only boys who wish to try out for the School Swimming Team need attend but all are welcome.

THANK YOU

The School is grateful for the valuable contributions made by various parents' associations. Funding from these associations has helped with purchase of equipment and uniforms and to subsidise tours.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR 2014

Please note these important dates. Houses and Form I Tutorials will be rostered to attend some of these fixtures. Details will be published in the School Diary and the Newsletters.

Date	Event	Time	Venue
Sat March 15	Rowing: Head of the River	8.00am-2.00pm	SIRC, Penrith
Tue March 18	141st SGS Athletics Championships	8.30am-3.00pm	Weigall
Fri 21 March	Swimming	6.30-9.30pm	Sydney Olympic Park, Aquatic Centre
Sat May 10	119th AAGPS Athletics Championships	10.00am-4.00pm	Athletics Centre, Homebush.
June 7-9	Long weekend- No sport		
Sat July 26	Winter Sport v Newington	8.00am-3.00pm	Weigall - some Form I & some Houses to attend
Sat Aug 2	Rugby v Scots College Football v The King's School	8.00am-3.00pm	Weigall-some Form I & some Houses to attend
Sat August 16	Winter Sport v St Joseph's College	8.00am-3.00pm	Weigall - some Form I & some Houses to attend

Mr M.A. Curran