SPORTS POLICY AND ORGANISATION

SPORTS POLICY

On the basis of the Christ Centred philosophy of the school, we believe:

1. The physical health and well-being of every student at Carinya is an important and legitimate concern in the School’s approach to the education of the “whole person”. Therefore:
   - The proper development of each student’s physical abilities in a safe and affirming environment is an important responsibility of the school community and curriculum.
   - All students are provided with the opportunity to be involved in extra-curricular sporting teams and activities, appropriate to their age, maturity and ability, in a way consistent with the fundamental, Christ Centred perspectives of the school.

2. All sporting activities are to be pursued with a proper sense of gratitude to God as the creator and giver of all physical abilities and talents. Therefore:
   - Participation, enjoyment and delight are priorities at all levels and in all sports.
   - Commitment and loyalty to a team, and determination to participate to the best of each person’s ability, are conditions of being a member of a team.
   - Competing with a proper regard for the integrity of others, especially coaches, referees, officials and opponents is both encouraged and expected. Poor sportsmanship, disrespectful attitudes or bad language will not be tolerated for Carinya teams of individual participants.

Winning and Losing
   - (in distinction from the classroom) the pursuit of “winning” or “coming first” is intrinsic to the nature of sport. It is therefore entirely appropriate for Carinya sporting teams, or individual competitors, to seek and value the enjoyment of winning, (without seeking self-promotion or public recognition).
   - The only winning experience which is worthwhile and which matters is that which is achieved and celebrated with integrity, thankfulness and humility.
   - LOSING: The experience of losing is also intrinsic to the nature of sport. Losing should be approached and addressed with dignity, integrity and humility.
   - On a weekly or occasional basis it is important for Carinya students to the values of faithfulness, commitment and personal growth in every sporting endeavour, irrespective of winning or losing.

3. Because each member of a team or individual participate is expected to contribute to the best of his/her ability. Therefore:
   - Sporting teams, K - 12, will be organised, on a weekly basis, to provide the maximum opportunity for each member of the team to participate as a member of a team to the best of his or her ability. It is therefore not appropriate, on a weekly basis, to restrict the opportunity for individual players to participate because of a perceived lesser skill level (after safety considerations are taken into account).
   - Notwithstanding the above it may be appropriate, during end of season games (finals) for Years 7-12 only, to field the strongest team available. This is to be done by taking into account the strength of the opposition, the balance and combination of skills available to match the opposition and the opportunity for the team as a whole to function at the highest skill level possible.
• Individual players, K-12, will not be singled out for recognition, either on a weekly or end of season basis. Therefore there should be no system of certificates or ribbons or sporting awards such as, “best and fairest”, “most valuable player” etc either after each game, or at any gatherings at the end of the season.

• It is appropriate, where the issue of safety arises, for the coach to restrict some specialist positions in a sport to more skilled team members (such as wicket keeper in cricket or some positions in rugby etc).  

• REPRESENTATIVE SPORT: teams or individuals for occasional, higher level representative sport (athletics, swimming, team sports etc) will be selected on the basis of demonstrated ability, unless other mitigating circumstances prevail.

SPORTS ORGANISATION (Extra-Curricular)

1. Establishing a Team
   A team will be entered into a competition only where there are sufficient players able to commit themselves to the team for the duration of the competition.

   It is appropriate, where necessary, to establish teams of mixed ages, notwithstanding the need to ensure that younger players are not compromised on the basis of the stage of their physical development or skill level.

2. Personal and Academic Profile
   Any student representing Carinya in sport must maintain a faithful academic profile in the classroom and an acceptable personal profile in the community of the school.

3. Coaches
   All school teams are coached by staff members or by parents. The extensive sporting program of the school would not be possible without the contribution of parent coaches who are to be accorded the same respect and cooperation by team members, as is due to members of the teaching staff. Team members who cannot comply with this requirement will be withdrawn from the team.

4. Training: Faithfulness and Commitment
   • Compulsory: in keeping with the school philosophy of faithfulness and commitment to the task, attendance at all scheduled training sessions for a sporting team is compulsory for every member of the team.
   • Attendance: a roll will be marked at each training session and team members will only be excluded from a training session if prior approval is given. Coaches must be advised in writing by parents why their child cannot attend a training session.
   • A team member who misses training, without prior approval, should not expect to have a place in the team in the game immediately following the missed training session. A team member who misses two training sessions without written approval will need to show cause why his/her place in the team should not be withdrawn.
   • After school social events, such as birthday parties etc should not be organised on training days without prior arrangements with the school. This requirement is mainly directed at caring for parent coaches, who make special work arrangements to be at training and should not have a significant proportion of the team absent without prior advice.

5. Management of Teams
   Each team is under the oversight of a manager, who must ensure that all teams in their care conduct themselves in accordance with the school’s sports policy.
Managers are appointed by the Sports Co-ordinator, and acting on his/her behalf, are to be so regarded by all members and helpers of a team. (Managers may be teachers, school parents, association members or others so appointed.)

6. **Sunday Sporting Involvement**
The school is committed to the priority of involvement in a local church on Sunday. Therefore no competition requiring regular Sunday involvement will be entered. Invitations to any occasional Sunday sporting involvement must be referred to the Principal.

7. **Parent Involvement**
Parent Involvement in sporting teams is essential to their success and well-being.

Parent help in training teams, in the conduct of the game (scoring, umpiring, providing refreshments, etc) and in supporting the team as spectators is invaluable.

Parents whose children are committed to a team, must commit their children to all team practice sessions. (Children who are absent from training cannot expect to play in the team’s matches regardless of ability level.)

Parental assistance and example in helping children play in accordance with the school's beliefs about sport and sporting competition, is actively sought from all parents involved in sport.

All parents/carers who coach a team must have a current Working With Children Check (WWCC). This information will be gathered by giving each prospective coach the document outlining Child Protection detail and the signed reply slip with all the necessary detail to do a clearance check. See also “Volunteers - Child Protection Policy & Reply”.

8. **Representing Carinya**
Carinya sporting teams are an integral and important part of school life. As such, team members, officials and supporters are always representatives of the school during sporting activities. They are therefore expected to behave in a way which reflects the principles and the guidelines applied within regular school hours.

Only students enrolled at Carinya may play as members of Carinya teams, unless prior approval is granted by the Principal.

Carinya students may not play in a non Carinya team in any competition in which Carinya has a team entered. In exceptional circumstances permission must be sought from the Principal at the start of the school year for a variation of this policy. Failure to comply could result in the termination of the child’s enrolment.

Punctuality: team members must be punctual in arriving at the sporting venue as specified by the coach (eg 20 minutes before the game). The “starting lineup” will be determined on the basis of team members in attendance at the required time.

Dress: team members or individual competitors, representing Carinya, must wear the full required uniform to play.

Registration fees: registration fees levied by organising bodies are passed onto parents through the school’s normal billing system. These fees include insurance against any medical costs incurred and administrative costs to the school.