

Associated Public Schools of Victoria

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Position Statement on Standard of Behaviour for APS Competition

The Heads of the Associated Public Schools of Victoria Inc. (APS Sport) welcome the many opportunities available to their students to take part in inter-school competitive sport. It is their aim to make the games enjoyable in terms of athletic achievement and friendly rivalry.

APS Sport employees, coaches, parents, officials, players and umpires should aim at maintaining a high standard of sportsmanship and ethics in all competitive games sponsored by APS Sport. A good spirit is to be actively fostered between teams and between schools before, during, and after a game.

The Heads offer this Standard for the acceptance of everyone associated with the Schools in the belief that the game and the good fellowship that can flow from inter-school fixtures are more important than the result.

They are convinced that observance of this Standard by players and spectators is desirable and essential to the better interests of both the players and the schools.

All APS Sport competitions are to be considerate of the Victorian Code of Conduct for Community Sport guidelines. All APS schools are committed to keeping children safe from harm and fully support Child Safe standards and a zero tolerance of child abuse. APS Sport therefore requires teachers, coaches and umpires to take all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of students, both on and off the field. The Heads also refer to the APS Sport Code of Conduct and remind staff, coaches, players, parents, officials and umpires that they are required to comply with the Code of Conduct, Child Safety Policy and Procedure.

Specifically, coaches, players, officials, umpires and spectators are to ensure:

- all decisions and actions contribute to a safe environment for all
- inclusion of every person regardless of their age, gender or sexual orientation, race, culture, religion, ethnicity or disability
- harmful or abusive behaviour by staff, coaches, players, parents, officials, umpires and supporters is not tolerated
- protection from sexual harassment, vilification or intimidation, and mandatory reporting of any suspected child abuse
- opportunities for people of all abilities to participate in sport and develop to their potential
- respect and support is shown towards umpires and officials by staff, coaches, players, parents and others watching the game
- that staff, coaches, players, parents and others watching the game do not impede or compromise the proper standard or process of play
- the spirit and practice of 'good sportsmanship' is upheld at all times
- personal conduct is maintained to the highest standard
- players and coaches abide by health, welfare and safety standards as recognised by national sporting bodies
- the Rules and Regulations of APS Sport competition are understood and upheld at all times.