ASSOCIATED PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF VICTORIA

REGULATIONS GOVERNING SPORTING COMPETITIONS

2027

Regulatory Procedures

1. The APS Regulations shall be absolutely binding on the following schools:

   Brighton Grammar School, Carey Baptist Grammar School, Caulfield Grammar School, The Geelong College, Geelong Grammar School, Haileybury, Melbourne Grammar School, St Kevin's College, Scotch College, Wesley College and Xavier College.

2. Competitions will be conducted in the following sports and played under the rules of the governing body in Victoria except where varied by these regulations:

ATHLETICS	Athletics Victoria
BADMINTON	Badminton Victoria
BASKETBALL	Basketball Victoria
CRICKET	Cricket Victoria
CROSS COUNTRY	Athletics Victoria
DIVING	Diving Victoria
FOOTBALL	Victorian Amateur Football Association
FUTSAL	Football Victoria
GYMNASTICS	Gymnastics Victoria
HOCKEY	Hockey Victoria Inc.
ROWING	Rowing Victoria
SOCCER	Football Victoria
SWIMMING	Swimming Victoria
TABLE TENNIS	Table Tennis Victoria
TENNIS	Tennis Victoria
TOUCH FOOTBALL	Touch Football Victoria
VOLLEYBALL	Volleyball Victoria
WATER POLO	Water Polo Victoria Inc.

3. Notice must be given at a Delegates Meeting of any proposal to alter these regulations, and no alteration shall be valid until endorsed at a meeting of APS Heads.

4. Any amendment to a rule/regulation implemented by the governing body of a sport will only apply to APS Regulations after it is ratified according to APS procedures.

5. a. The Boys' Delegates Committee shall control all inter-school contests. The Delegates of this Committee, from each School, shall be appointed by the Head of that school.
   b. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the APS shall be appointed by the Heads and shall not be a Delegate from one of the schools. The CEO shall chair the Delegates Committee which shall meet at least once during each school term.
   c. The Chief Executive Officer shall report to the APS Heads Meeting.

6. The Chief Executive Officer shall ensure that copies of the Regulations are issued annually to all schools. These Regulations shall be checked and, if necessary, amended annually by a sub-committee appointed for this purpose by the Delegates, and when approved, issued to schools prior to the start of each season.

Eligibility

7. Any student participating in any APS Sport competition must be enrolled with an APS school and under 19 years of age on the first day of January in the year of competition.

8. For Boys, team sport will be organised at Year levels; 11 and 12 (Open) unless otherwise stated in the sport specific regulations.

9. Selection of Open teams: First teams may be selected from any enrolled student.

10. No Year 12 student is eligible to compete in Term 4 APS Summer Sport. Special cases should be referred to the Chair of Heads.

11. For all sports where **age groups** are used, a competitor will be under that age if his date of birth in the year of competition is on or after the date mentioned as follows:

Diving	1 April
Swimming	1 April
Cross Country	1 June
Athletics	1 November

12. Any request for a Primary Student to compete in a Secondary event should be raised formally through the APS Office and the Chair.

13. No student who plays in a First level game may play in another match in the same sport during that weekend/round unless permission is sought from the opposing school.

14. Students may participate in a higher age group than their current age classification in any sport; however participation in a lower age group is not permitted.

15. If any student takes part in any APS Sport in contravention of Eligibility Regulations or regulations specific to that sport, the school which the student represents shall forfeit all matches, or in the case of the Swimming/Diving/Cross Country/Athletics Combined Sports, all places in all events, in which the student took part.

Note: Special cases shall be referred to the APS Heads.

Team Entry

16. Schools should enter all teams and crews at a level commensurate with their ability, especially where a School does not enter all divisions.

17. All Intermediate/Year 9 and older 'A' teams in principle are to play at 'A' level unless a special documented request, based on past performance, is granted through the executive of that sport and the Delegates Committee.

18. For Junior Secondary Sport, if a School (campus) has two teams entering into the competition; one team must be entered into at least the A2 division.

Premierships

19. a. All APS Firsts ladder positions will be decided on points. Refer to sport specific regulations.
    b. Ladders are published for First team competitions.
    c. To qualify as a Premiership sport eight or more schools need to participate.
    d. In the event of a total round cancellation by the APS Heads, all matches scheduled for that round, irrespective of whether they were played prior to or post that weekend, will be considered abandoned. Points for those matches will be shared.
    e. A minimum of 50% of rounds must be completed for a premiership to be awarded following approval from the APS Heads.
    f. Ladder: For all competitions ladder positions will be determined by:
        i. Wins, and if equal
        ii. The Head to Head result and if equal
        iii. By percentage between the games played between those teams (set/run/try/goal differential)
        iv. Results of matches played against the team who is immediately above on the ladder. If that fails to separate then the next team above and so on. If this fails to separate then revert to teams below. This calculation will determine the final ladder position(s) for redraws, Grand Finals and subsequent hosting.
        iv. Matches will be played at the opposite venue played in the home and away season.
    g. Semi Final / Grand Final / Play-off Round:
        i. Please refer to 19f for determination of ladder position
        ii. The higher placed team to host the match if they choose
        iii. Line drawn under each pairing and teams cannot drop below this position
        iv. In the event of a draw or tie in a Semi Final, extra time will be played according to that sports guidelines. Should the final result after extra time still be drawn – the team that finished higher on the ladder at the end of the regular season will progress to the Grand Final.
        v. In the event of a draw or tie in a Grand Final, extra time will be played according to that sports guidelines. Should the final result after extra time still be drawn – the Premiership/position on the ladder will be shared.
        vi. Should the Grand Final not proceed due to Adverse Weather the team that finished higher on the ladder will be awarded the Premiership.

Fixtures

20. Each year the draw will be determined by the Chief Executive Officer of APS Sport.
    a. It is accepted that all APS Sport will be played on Saturday.
    b. Matches are to be confirmed prior to the match.
    c. The official fixtures as distributed will take precedence.
    d. If a school wishes to fixture a game on an alternate date to the original fixture:
        i. the Heads of all the schools concerned must agree to the change.
        ii. if the opposing schools do not agree the fixture will remain as per the original fixture.
    e. Where schools calendars relating to holidays do not align and affect First Fixtures then both schools Heads should find an alternative time that is mutually agreeable to both schools.
    f. **Fixtures with Geelong Schools:** Schools are to arrange matches so that the Geelong grounds are fully utilised. The Geelong schools are to arrange with the opposing school which teams travel to Melbourne so that the number of trips to Melbourne can be minimised for a team or individual. Those who make the fixtures are to keep this in mind. If a Melbourne school team plays against the same Geelong school twice in a season, one game should be played at each school.
    g. **All fixtured games must be completed prior to the end of the official season.**
    h. **A season can be extended, and all possible formats/fixture alterations be explored to make up for rounds that have been lost/cancelled.**

Match procedures

21. If a team is short of players prior to the day of the match, communication should be made with the opposition school before 10:30am Friday to make appropriate arrangements. A match should not be cancelled if a team is short of players on the day. There are two options recommended:
    i. The team short of players be given some players by the other team to make up equal numbers, or
    ii. Both teams field the same number of players as the team that is short.

22. **First Team Forfeits:** In the event of unforeseen circumstances - transport breakdowns or for reasons other than the usual course of a 'no-game' situation, i.e. weather - any First game (any sport) that is not commenced should be re-scheduled with the authority of the Chief Executive Officer and the Chair of Heads as soon as possible. **Should such games be unable to be rescheduled, the teams shall share the points.**

23. **Umpires/Referees:** If either or both umpires do not arrive within 30 minutes of the starting time for a Boys' Firsts game, then there will be consultation between the Coaches about the matter. If suitable umpire(s)/referee(s) cannot be found the game shall be postponed. The Umpires decision is final and will be the sole person(s) in charge of the game.

24. **After match Protocol:** Any post match presentations are to proceed on ground/on court. There is no expectation for post-match functions to be scheduled or conducted following Firsts fixtures.

Uniform

25. The correct sport uniform must be worn for all matches regardless of grade. Only the School logo and School name and playing numbers appear on competition uniforms. Any change to a Schools sports uniform should be presented to APS Sport to prevent any unforeseen clashes in either colours or design.

26 **APS Merit / Representative Teams**
For the selection of all APS Merit Teams, nominations are called for from all Schools, then a selection procedure (to suit each sport) to select a team on merit. Refer APS Merit / Representative Teams Selection Criteria policy. All team members shall receive the APS Merit badge, certificate or equivalent.

Adverse Weather Policy

27. The APS Adverse Weather Policy shall be invoked when the ambient temperature reaches 31° and play suspended or cancelled once the ambient temperature reaches 36°. For detailed information please refer to the APS Adverse Weather Policy on the APS Sport Website (www.apssport.org.au).

Medical

28. If a Firsts match has commenced and due to any unforeseen circumstances (i.e. severe medical injury) the match cannot be completed and 50% of the allocated playing time has been played, the result will stand. If less than 50% has been played, points will be shared.

29. First Aid: The minimum requirement for off campus venues is:
    - First Aid kit
    - Mobile phone (or telephone access)
    - Name, address and telephone number of nearest emergency hospital and
    - Ambulance telephone number

Conduct

30. The APS Code of Conduct shall be adhered to in all circumstances. For detailed information please refer to the APS Code of Conduct on the APS Sport Website (www.apssport.org.au).

Disputes

31. All disputes or claims arising out of any contravention of any Regulations governing sporting contests between Public Schools, or charges against individual players, shall in the first instance be referred to the APS Chief Executive Officer of the Delegates Committee for consideration by the Committee. Any recommendations arrived at by this Committee shall be transmitted to the Heads for their consideration through the Chief Executive Officer. Any public notification of the result of any such dispute shall be left to the discretion of the Heads.
    For APS Sport Major Events, a Jury will be established to preside over protests against any decision/s made by the presiding Chief Event Official on the day, in which the Chief Event Official on the day overruled the decision of another Official. The Jury will consist of the Chair of APS Heads, the APS Chief Executive Officer and the two Chairs (Delegates) of the respective Sport (i.e., Athletics, Diving, Rowing and Swimming), excluding the Chair and/or Delegate/s of the Schools involved in the protest.
    Procedure:
    In the event of a protest concerning any decision made by the presiding Chief Event Official during the event in which the Chief Event Official overruled the decision of another Official, such protest must be lodged in writing with the APS Chief Executive Officer, within thirty minutes of that decision being made during the event and within 10 minutes of the conclusion of the final event of the day.
    The APS Chair of Heads (or their Nominee) shall be chairperson, and shall have a casting vote only. The Chief Executive Officer shall summon a meeting of the 'Sport' Jury as soon as possible after the receipt of the protest.
    No further appeal shall be made, and the decision of the Jury shall be final.
    Note: On the occasion that the Chair of Heads needs to be replaced, then the order shall be as follows: by the current Secretary, followed by the former Chair of Heads, followed by the next longest serving Head on the Committee. The order for replacing a Delegate will be determined by their seniority on the respective Delegates Committee. Such appointment/s will be determined and advised by the Chief Executive Officer.

Committee Responsibilities

32. The Chairs of APS Sport Sub-Committees are the representatives of the APS Heads and Delegates Committees rather than the representatives of their own school. As such, they are expected to advocate and vote for the policy laid down by APS Heads and Delegates. Where a representative is a non-delegate, it is the responsibility of both the Chief Executive Officer and the Delegate of the school to thoroughly acquaint themselves with APS Sport policies.

The Chief Executive Officer (or appointee) will act as the Chair and appoint a Minute Secretary to all Delegates Meetings, Review Meetings of all Sports and Sub-Committee Meetings.