



**ALGESTER STATE SCHOOL**  
**SPORTS POLICY,**  
**ORGANISATION AND PROCEDURES**



## **Values and Philosophy in Sport at Algester State School**

The core value of sport at Algester State School is to support and coach every student to achieve their very best. Our aim is to create better people first and foremost. Through mentoring relationships, coaches nurture and develop athletes' physical, social, emotional, and cognitive capabilities. Better people create better athletes.

At Algester State School we believe that sport should be safe and enjoyable, maximising individual participation and be as inclusive as possible. We believe that a positive experience in sport will contribute to students developing a lifelong love of sport and our program is provided to encourage school spirit, enjoyment and education in sportsmanship.



## **Philosophy of Sport**

Sport is an integral part of school life at Algester State School. We have a 'sport for all' philosophy and we encourage participation to give students the opportunity to receive appropriate experiences in various forms of sporting endeavour.

## **Sport Vision**

Our Vision is for Algester State School to:

- Influence and inspire athletes to set high expectations for themselves and the school
- Constantly better the reputation of the jersey
- Give athletes a sense of belonging and purpose bigger than themselves
- Develop athletes who become ambassadors of the school
- Create resilient individuals who benefit their community and enhance the reputation of the school.

## **Sport Aims**

We will provide students with a broad range of experiences and will endeavour to ensure all interested students are given the best opportunity to participate within the confines of practical organisation and operation.

- To promote the opportunity for all students to actively participate in a wide, centralised, range of individual and team sports
- To develop student qualities of: self-esteem, personal fitness, team commitment, sense of fair play and school spirit
- To provide pathways and support for students to achieve sporting success at the highest levels
- To develop physical skills to ensure competitive school sporting teams
- To enhance each student's capacity to make informed lifestyle decisions
- To pursue excellence at all levels, for individuals and for teams.



## **Alger State School Expectations:**

### **Players**

- To commit to the season once registered (losing players mid-season may result in your team mates having to forfeit).
- To attend and participate fully in training sessions.
- Always play by the rules
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree with a decision, advise your coach who may then approach the official if it is appropriate.
- Any breach of our school's Student Code of Conduct or Alger State School's Sporting Codes of Conduct may result in non-representation of the student/school in sporting activities.
- Congratulate team mates (win or lose), and thank opponent team and umpires at the conclusion of every match.

## **Parents/Spectators**

- Encourage participation in school sports but do not force them.
- Support our Code of Conduct and player expectations.
- Be a role model and applaud all players, including opposing team.
- Be on time for practice, arriving early for pre match warm-up. Advise coaches of any practice/matches your child will not be able to attend in advance whenever possible.
- Make every effort to attend games and support your child and the team; however remember you are there as a spectator and should respect the coaches and official's decisions.
- Photographs and videos (including mobile devices) taken by parents should not include other students, especially where they can be identified.
- Photographs of other students should never be uploaded to social media sites.
- If you are not attending matches/practice please ensure that you have arranged for your child's safety at their conclusion, as this responsibility should not fall to the coaches who may have other commitments following training or matches.
- No child who is NOT a member of the team should be left unattended at practice or matches. Our coaches are NOT responsible for the care of children not on the team.

## **Coaches**

- Keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and the principles of growth and development of young people.
- Be a good role model.
- Encourage participation and team play, whilst winning is fun, enjoyment of the game is just as important. Make a defeat a positive by looking at it as an opportunity to work toward skill development and a good sports attitude.
- Remember you are working with children and need to be mindful of your demands on their time, energy and enthusiasm.
- Teach your players to follow the rules and spirit of the game.
- Make every effort to conduct a rotation of extra players so that everyone has equal participation time.
- Develop team respect for everyone on the playing field/court including officials and opposing coaches.
- Ensure a first aid kit is made available for use at all practice sessions and matches.
- Adhere to the schools weather policy and protect the health and safety of the children at all times.
- Provide a report on sports progress for the school communication platforms.

## School

- The school will coordinate the overall sports program and nominate a staff member to be the contact person for each sport in which the school has registered teams. That staff member will be responsible for ensuring the school complies with its obligations with the association by:
  - ensuring that information is fed back to coaches and teams and all necessary compliance documentation is completed e.g. Costings, permission notes, excursion plans etc.;
  - promptly disseminating information, such as draws, timetables and other information from the association to coaches/managers of teams;
  - ensure effective communication between the school and parents.
- Provide equipment for training sessions.
- Provide a first aid kit to all coaches/managers
- Permission to be photographed is in accordance with school permissions upon enrolment. No child should be photographed in a group or individually without obtaining in advance the written permission of a parent/guardian.
- In regards to swimming events, it is appropriate to discourage photography by parents given the difficulty in ensuring other children are not identifiable in their photos and who has a legitimate reason for taking photographs, especially where the pool is open to the general public at the same time.
- In order to protect the interests of students and other children, photos/videos and news must not be shared via social media without having been granted permission and meeting child protection obligations.



## Alger State School Sport Policy:



### Provision of Sporting Opportunity

Our program strives to deliver quality sporting opportunity to individuals and teams to compete in a range of sporting disciplines. These opportunities are outlined in the School Structure of Sport Section below, however there may be occasions where sport participation may not be possible i.e. not enough interest to register a team, insufficient coaches etc. In the event of such a development the school will determine the extent of substitute or alternative offerings.

### Coaches

Our coaches are volunteers who have elected to give their time and knowledge to teach the children not only the rules and skills of the game but team play and good sportsmanship.

### Training

If a player will be absent from a game or training a parent/guardian (not the player) must notify the appropriate Sport Coordinator at the earliest possible time, preferably at least one day prior to the game or training session.

Parents/Guardians must collect their child/children from sport at completion times or notify the sports coach prior to said time if alternative arrangements have been made.

Students are required to wear the full correct uniform to, from and during sport

Pre-season training will not interfere with current season preparations.

Players must adhere to the rules and regulations of the respective codes.

Any student sent from the field of play, for disciplinary reasons, is required to report to School Administration on the first school day following the incident.

All sporting teams must adhere to safety requirements of the sporting competition entered. This refers, in particular, to: Sun Safety requirements; the wearing of mouth guards, shin guards, helmets and other protective equipment in some sports.

A medical certificate stating the time that a student can commence participating in sport is required following any injury that requires treatment from a medical practitioner.

### Team Selection:

Students who nominate to participate in sport are expected to be committed to their chosen sport for the season and to adhere to training sessions to the best of their ability. Training sessions of reasonable frequency, length and intensity may be organised at before and/or after school for students to improve their skills and fitness and contact with the designated coach is required if participation is not possible. Lack of training attendance could also influence team selection and participation.

### Independent Representation in District Team Sports:

Algester State School encourages students to participate in selection trials for a wide variety of sports where students can nominate themselves to be involved in higher levels of competition and progress through the Representative Selection Pathway. Information related to these trials announced through School communication channels.

Students participating in sport are required to wear approved sports uniform, or the playing shirt issued for the season. Certain sports may require the purchase of specific clothing. This will be outlined in the sports information and permission letters sent out prior to the commencement of each sports season. Non-uniform items of clothing are not permitted at training, competition or during school.

### Inclement Weather Policy:

Safety and Wellbeing of all involved in sport is paramount. Should deemed officials declare that weather conditions (including field condition) are not suitable for a sport to be undertaken, then all corresponding competitive sports will not compete at the time.



## Alger State School Sport - Code of Conduct



All players, coaches, parents and spectators are required to follow our school recognised code of behaviour outlined below. Each individual involved in a sporting endeavour is required to agree to and sign a Code of Conduct document before representing Alger State School.

### Student Code of Conduct

- Take responsibility for your own behaviour and performance
- Compete by the competition conditions and rules
- Never argue with the Judge's, Referee's or Umpire's decision
- Control your temper – no criticism by word or gesture
- Work equally hard for yourself and your team
- Be a good sport. Encourage and support your own team members
- Show respect for yourself, your team mates, officials, your opponents and their skills
- Behave in a manner that respects the rights of others
- Stay in the designated team area and support other team members during times when you are not competing



### Parents and Spectators Code of Conduct

- Cooperate with the school to achieve the best outcomes for your child
- Support team and event officials in maintaining a safe and respectful learning environment
- Maintain positive relationships with team officials
- Encourage participation by your children
- Provide a model of good sportsmanship for your child to copy
- Be courteous and constructive in your communication with players, team officials, game officials and sport administrators
- Encourage honest effort, skilled performance and team loyalty
- Do not interfere with the conduct of any events
- Demonstrate appropriate social behaviour at sport events
- Remember children play for enjoyment
- Let game officials conduct events without interference.
- Support skilled performances and team play with generous applause
- Demonstrate respect for opposing players and their supporters
- Support School Sport Australia's policy of a smoke and alcohol free environment





### **Coaches Code of Conduct:**

- Set a good example for your players
- Encourage and create opportunities
- Teach a wide range of team skills
- Ensure that the sport is appropriate for the age group and the skill development level of the players involved
- Teach your players to be friendly towards officials and opponents
- Give all selected students a chance to participate in training and in games
- Remove from the field of play any players whose behaviour is not acceptable
- Keep your own knowledge of coaching and the developments of the game up to date.



### **Breach of School Policies:**

The following may apply to players deemed to have breached the schools policies:

- For minor incidents, the coach has the authority to remove players from the field/court.
- For major incidents, the coach will remove the player from the field/court and at their earliest convenience refer the matter to the principal/deputy for final decision on action to be taken; including suspending players from participation. Should players representing two or more schools be involved in the incident the school administration of each school should collaboratively determine the response to the incident and a report to the relevant organisation responsible for the coordination of the sport may be deemed necessary.

For all other participants in school sport (coaches/managers/spectators/parents) deemed to have breached the school policies, the principal has the right to:

1. Require a volunteer to withdraw from coaching/manager roles at any time if concerns exist about their suitability for the role.
2. Remove a person (parent, caregiver or otherwise) from the school grounds if their behaviour threatens the well-being of staff, parents or children.



## Alger State School's Structure of Sport

Alger State School offers a range of sporting activities; Athletics, Cross Country, Swimming and "Gala Day" Sports.



### Athletics:

Students are encouraged to participate in the Inter-house Carnival and represent their House to the best of their ability.

It is from here that the Interschool team is selected to attend the Eastern Taipans District competition, and the opportunity of higher representation at Metropolitan West Regional, State and National Levels is available.



### Cross Country:

Students are encouraged to participate in the Inter-house Carnival and represent their House to the best of their ability.

It is from here that the Interschool team is selected to attend the Eastern Taipans District competition, and the opportunity of higher representation at the Metropolitan West Regional, State and National Levels is available.



### Swimming:

Students are encouraged to nominate within set time/ability parameters and participate in School based swimming trials.

It is from here that an Interschool team is selected to attend the Eastern Taipans District competition, and allow opportunity for higher representation at the Metropolitan West Regional, State and National Levels.





### **Gala Days:**

Algester State School competes in the Sunnybank Sport Cluster for “Gala Day” sports. Set numbers of Gala Days are determined throughout the year in coordination with other schools in the cluster in both a Summer and Winter Sports context. Algester State School is responsible for team and training organisation around each sport and competitions are held on set Fridays, usually on a round robin basis with other cluster schools.

Within the category of “Gala Day” sports, four Major Sports are offered at Algester State School. These sports are considered the premier sports provided, will be promoted, developed and selected with priority and are specifically designated to give students who show high skill and attitudinal levels pathways into future avenues of success. These Major Sports; Netball, AFL, Touch and Rugby League are not gender specific and have been selected due to the further pathways of success offered through Algester State School links in addition to representation opportunities that include District and Regional competitions, as well as Federation organised sporting competitions:

Netball – Q Cup.

AFL (Australian Rules) Football – Q Cup.

Rugby League- Metropolitan Cup and Developmental Cup

Touch Football – Primary All Schools Competition - Runcorn State High School – UQ Rebels

The running of other Gala Day Sports, including; Basketball, T-Ball / Softball, Soccer and Cricket is subject to sufficient student interest and adequate staff/coach availability and participation numbers. All participants are given the opportunity to represent at District and Regional levels while further representation is encourage through private club participation and development.

Students not participating in Gala Day Sport will be given the opportunity to represent the school in designated “experiential” activities. Children can nominate for a variety of both sporting and cultural activities to increase their worldly experience and allow for personal development in these areas. These activities can include: Performing Arts, Visual Arts, Stem, Lawn Bowls, Squash or other activities dictated by student interest, adequate staff/coach availability and participation numbers.

Training for Gala Day sports takes place on school site and is scheduled for Friday afternoons in school time as a lead up to the competition days – all forms of sporting activity for that season, including experiential sports, conduct training or participation at this time. Additionally, specific training for some sports can take place outside of school hours within the discretion of school sports coaches.



A Sporting and Training Calendar is developed annually to give a full indication of all sporting activities and necessary training specifics available to all students at Algester State School. This document ensures the equitable resourcing of sports throughout the year, negates a clash of sporting training or fixture organisation while allowing maximum participation opportunity for all students. In addition a Gala Day procedural time line is also published in order to give all coaches and officials an accurate timeframe of all Gala Day procedural requirements to ensure compliance of School and District requirements.

