



**MERCEDES  
COLLEGE**

.....  
**Compassion**  
**Loyalty**  
**Justice**  
**Integrity**  
**Responsibility**  
**Mutual Respect**

## Sports Procedures

### Guidelines for Student Participation in the Extra Curricular Sports Programme

It is not compulsory for all students to participate in the Extra Curricular Sports Programme. However, if a student plays a particular sport, he/she is required to make it a priority to represent the school in this sport, unless they play an alternate sport in a common timeslot for Mercedes College.

This requirement can be waived in the following circumstances:

- When, in the opinion of the Sport Coordinator, the College is not able to offer the sport to the highest standard of which the student is capable, in senior years.
- Where the student, his/her parents and the Sports Coordinator are able to reach a negotiated agreement on the student's representation. If the parties are unable to reach an agreement, the involvement remains at the discretion of the Principal.

Students who nominate for a particular sport must observe the requirements of the sport for:

- Practice
- Availability for matches
- Wearing the required Sport Uniform and conduct as required by the Mercedes College Code of Ethics for participation in Extra Curricular Sport.

### Sport Selection

The Sport Programme aims to promote sportsmanship, co-operation and involvement in sport. Team selection reflects these aims where possible.

Priority is given to students who have a positive attitude towards training and matches and who are properly attired. The Coach/Coordinator has the final say on selection.

The Sports Committee has approved the following competition guidelines:

#### Primary Sport (Years 2-7)

- If numbers allow for two teams in the same age group, teams of similar ability will be chosen. When an association nominates/specifies divisions in a particular age group, teams will be chosen on ability.
- In general, efforts will be made at the younger year levels to de-emphasise the specialisation of positional play.
- All players in all teams should be assured of a game on an equitable basis.
- Where special representative teams are entered in events and competitions it is appropriate to choose on ability. When the position of the game allows it, reserves should be given an opportunity to play.

Players interested in Knockout and/or Zone representation must represent Mercedes in that sport in that year, or play an alternate Sport for Mercedes in the same timeslot with involvement at club level. Nominations for Zone and State Teams must be submitted via the Primary Sport Coordinator.

.....  
540 Fullarton Road,  
Springfield, SA 5062

.....  
T +61 8 8372 3200  
F +61 8 8379 9540

.....  
mercedes@mercedes.catholic.edu.au  
mercedes.catholic.edu.au

.....  
ABN 93 414 320 696  
Cricon Code 00365D



# MERCEDES COLLEGE

.....  
**Compassion**  
**Loyalty**  
**Justice**  
**Integrity**  
**Responsibility**  
**Mutual Respect**

## **Secondary Sport (Years 7-12)**

When a secondary team is entered in a competition at a high level division it is appropriate to choose on ability. When the position of the game allows it, reserves should be given a generous opportunity to play.

When teams are entered in lower divisions, all players in the team should be assured of a game on an equitable basis.

## **6-12 Knockout (KO) Sport Eligibility**

Nominations may be submitted to Sport Coordinators for consideration. A team's eligibility will be dependent on their home and away record and/or their progress in other events established to gauge their performances.

An individual's involvement in the Knockout Sport Programme is conditional on the basis of the following criteria:

- Involvement in all Knockout Competition is at the discretion of the Principal of the College.
- Players eligible may include those that are not catered for by the College competitions and who, in the sole opinion of the relevant Sport Coordinator demonstrate exceptional skills.
- Eligibility for involvement is conditional on staffing, student/team performances, finance, player involvement in the specific sport for the College, training attendance, attitude and the amount of academic time missed by the player(s) concerned.
- The teams/individual must demonstrate a high level of achievement in the sport e.g. above average and consistent form in the home and away competition.
- The student's College commitment to that sport as a player.
- Players who are excluded from representing the College in the regular home and away competition due to their commitments, as a player for the College in another sport played in a common timeslot, may be considered for selection.
- Students may not be granted approval to be involved should teaching staff or the student themselves express serious concerns about their capacity to catch up on missed lessons/academic workload.
- Players need to make every effort to attend the team training sessions set aside for the teams concerned. Parental notes explaining absenteeism is expected.
- Selection/involvement in the team is the ultimate responsibility of the Coach and/or the Coordinator of the sport. Selection for those eligible is on merit and reserves may be given an opportunity to play at the discretion of the Coach.

## **Interstate or Overseas Competition**

Teams interested in competing must qualify through the normal Knockout Competitions and as a minimum, finish in the top three of that competition.

Teams competing interstate may be eligible for limited funding to assist with some reduction in costs. Transport arrangements must comply with requirements contained in the most recent edition of 'Procedures for Catholic Schools and Preschools'.

## **Overseas Competition**

A proposal for overseas travel must be forwarded to Sport Coordinators for consideration. The Principal will consider any recommendation forwarded by Sport Coordinators. The final decision for overseas involvement is at the discretion of the Principal.

.....  
540 Fullarton Road,  
Springfield, SA 5062

.....  
T +61 8 8372 3200  
F +61 8 8379 9540

.....  
mercedes@mercedes.catholic.edu.au  
mercedes.catholic.edu.au

.....  
ABN 93 414 320 696  
Cricos Code 00365D



**CIS** WE ARE AN  
ACCREDITED  
SCHOOL



# MERCEDES COLLEGE

.....  
**Compassion**  
**Loyalty**  
**Justice**  
**Integrity**  
**Responsibility**  
**Mutual Respect**

## **Representative Teams**

### **Knockout, Swimming, Athletics, Cross Country**

Students selected in Mercedes representative sporting teams to compete in local competition will not incur costs associated with such competitions unless competing interstate.

## **School Association Nominations**

Nominations for events conducted by Associations with which the College is affiliated are open to students who have a commitment to the College in the specific sport or play an alternate sport in a common timeslot for Mercedes College. The students must then play that sport at club level.

In circumstances where the College does not offer the sport, the nomination is at the discretion of the Principal.

## **Personal Safety**

The school provides basic safety equipment such as helmets, pads etc (see table). Provision of items of a personal nature, such as mouth guards and shin pads, is the responsibility of individual students.

## **Inclement and Hot Weather Policy Matches**

Mercedes adheres to the specification Association guidelines for hot and inclement weather. This detail will be communicated to parents prior to the commencement of season fixtures.

## **R-12 Hot and Inclement Weather Policy for Sport**

### **(not covered by Association Hot and Inclement Weather Policy)**

If in 'The Advertiser' on the day prior to a fixture, the predication is 38 degrees or above, Saturday morning sport matches will be cancelled. Sport affected by wet weather will be cancelled at the venue by Coordinators, Coaches and/or Umpires, unless Coaches notify players prior to games. Players are expected to turn up at venues unless contacted by Coordinators/Coaches beforehand. Tennis has its own guide lines, please refer to the SDTA Handbook.

## **Knockout Sport Weather Policy**

Hot and inclement weather policy for all Knockout Competition will determine the decision made by relevant Sports Coordinators the day prior to competition and will then be communicated to players as soon as practicable.

## **Morning Practices**

Morning practices for sport during hot weather periods will proceed as scheduled. Morning training conducted outdoors that is likely to be affected by wet weather, will be cancelled by Coaches and communicated where possible prior to its commencement.

## **Afternoon Practices**

All training sessions will proceed as normal and in instances of inclement weather, Coaches will conduct alternative activities in allocated classrooms. Collection time will always be the team's normal dismissal time. In the event of hot weather, in 'The Advertiser' on the day of training, the predication is 36 degrees or above, training will be cancelled.

.....  
540 Fullarton Road,  
Springfield, SA 5062

.....  
T +61 8 8372 3200  
F +61 8 8379 9540

.....  
mercedes@mercedes.catholic.edu.au  
mercedes.catholic.edu.au

.....  
ABN 93 414 320 696  
Crivos Code 00365D



**CIS**

WE ARE AN  
**ACCREDITED**  
SCHOOL



# MERCEDES COLLEGE

.....  
**Compassion**  
**Loyalty**  
**Justice**  
**Integrity**  
**Responsibility**  
**Mutual Respect**

Teams will be allocated a classroom for Coaches to utilise at the start of the playing season which will be communicated on fixture lists. Parents are able to collect students from that location before the normal dismissal time if needed.

## Awards

### Awards for Years 2-5 (Junior School)

Coaches and parents are requested not to recognise individual teams or performances by purchasing or distributing trophies at the end of the season.

Representative teams are often recognised by the appropriate sporting organisation.

Individual and/or team performances and students who gain awards for outstanding achievement in sport outside of the school and in Inter House and Inter School Carnivals may be recognised at college assemblies and/or in college publications.

### Years 6-12 (Middle and Senior School)

The College recognises excellence in student attitude, effort, achievement and service. Students who have excelled in these areas are presented with a trophy at the end-of-year Presentation Assembly and/or at the season wind up. Students must display an appropriate attitude and demonstrate significant effort to qualify for an award.

Awards are given for individual and team achievements. Trophies are traditionally given for the Age Level Champion in areas such as Athletics, Swimming and Tennis. While the emphasis in these sports will be on natural ability, it is assumed that students have demonstrated suitable effort and attitude. Presentation of Awards is at the discretion of the Principal.

### Mercy Colours Award

This award is available to all Middle and Senior School students. The award acknowledges a student's broad contribution to the College and the Community and is presented at the Year 12 Graduation Assembly and at the final Sports Assembly (6-11).

### Years 6-12 Team Sport Awards

In team sports, two awards per team will generally be given. A service award may be allocated at the discretion of Coaches.

### Coaches Award

Criteria include:

- Improvement
- Sportsmanship
- Teamwork
- Attendance at training

### Most Valuable Player Award (MVP)

Criteria include:

- Performance at a consistently high level
- Frequent recognition in best players' list.

.....  
540 Fullarton Road,  
Springfield, SA 5062

.....  
T +61 8 8372 3200  
F +61 8 8379 9540

.....  
mercedes@mercedes.catholic.edu.au  
mercedes.catholic.edu.au

.....  
ABN 93 414 320 696  
Cricos Code 00365D



# MERCEDES COLLEGE

.....  
**Compassion**  
**Loyalty**  
**Justice**  
**Integrity**  
**Responsibility**  
**Mutual Respect**

## Service Award

A Service Award may be allocated to students who have consistently demonstrated outstanding commitment and dedication in a sporting area throughout a season(s). This award is at the discretion of the Sport Coordinators and Coaches concerned.

## Sport Leadership

Leadership is available in the areas of Sport Leader, House Leader and Sport Captaincy. Application for Sport and House Leadership is a formal process whereby candidates must fill out the necessary documentation, available from the Catherine McAuley Office and lodge the application form by the due date.

A selection panel consisting of Sport Coordinators and student leaders will interview all House and Sport Leader candidates, assess their performance at interview and recommend to the Principal those students to be considered for the roles. Primary House Leaders will be interviewed by the PE Faculty and Year Level Coordinator.

Those students selected to be considered for Secondary Sport Leaders, will present Sport Coordinators with copies of speeches for vetting prior to the respective assembly. The student body will then vote on the merits of the candidates and the results of the votes will be presented to the Principal for announcement to the wider college community.

Applications and role descriptions for Sport Captaincy can be acquired from the Catherine McAuley Office and must be lodged by the advertised due date. These positions are appointments made by the Sport Coordinators.

Criteria for selection for all positions are set and these are explained on the application forms.

## Code of Ethics

A successful sporting programme requires the support of many people – students, staff and parents. The following 'Code of Ethics' establishes a standard that creates an approach to sport appropriate for a Catholic College.

### Coaches

- Remember that children participate for fun and enjoyment and that winning is only part of their motivation. Never ridicule the children for making mistakes or losing a competition.
- Develop a sense of respect for opposing players, officials and coaches
- Be generous with praise when it is deserved, but selective with criticism
- Always set an example in the use of language, behaviour and temperament
- All decisions made by the umpire must be supported by the coach and any necessary query must be made later through the Sports Coordinators.

### Players

- If chosen for a school team, students are expected to make themselves available. Exemptions may be made if, for example, a student has to travel long distances.
- Requests for exemptions must be made in writing to the Principal via the relevant Sport Coordinator.
- The final decision is made by the Principal.
- Students are reminded that the rules and spirit of the game are to be observed at all times and that the umpire's decision is final

.....  
540 Fullarton Road,  
Springfield, SA 5062

.....  
T +61 8 8372 3200  
F +61 8 8379 9540

.....  
mercedes@mercedes.catholic.edu.au  
mercedes.catholic.edu.au

.....  
ABN 93 414 320 696  
Cricos Code 00365D





# MERCEDES COLLEGE

.....  
**Compassion**  
**Loyalty**  
**Justice**  
**Integrity**  
**Responsibility**  
**Mutual Respect**

- The opposing team is to be treated with courtesy and respect at all times
- Abusive language will not be tolerated
- A high degree of pride should be exemplified by Mercedes College students at all times
- Students are expected to be punctual and correctly attired for practices and matches. This includes wearing the correct uniform to and from fixtures
- Attendance at practice is compulsory
- Exemptions must be negotiated with the Sports Coordinators
- Students are reminded to thank opponents and umpires at the conclusion of the match.

When joining a team, students must be prepared to commit themselves for the whole season. If unable to play because of absence e.g. through sickness, students must inform the Coach or Team Manager as soon as possible.

Players found to be in breach of behavioural expectations will be required to report to the relevant Sport Coordinator. Consequences will be the responsibility of Heads of School.

## **Parents**

It is most important to children and Coaches that parents attend and assist whenever possible in their children's enjoyment of the game.

Below are some points that may be of assistance:

- Do not force an unwilling child to participate in sports
- Remember children are involved in organised sport for their enjoyment
- Encourage all children to play by the rules
- Teach all children that an honest effort is as important as victory so that they can accept defeat without undue disappointment
- Never abuse or ridicule children for making a mistake or losing – good example and help in developing skills and sportsmanship is vital in a child's development
- Applaud good play by the opposition; setting a good example will help your child
- Recognise the value and importance of all coaches. They give their time and resources to provide recreational activities
- It is not appropriate for parents to coach from the sidelines
- Never criticise the umpire or referee
- Should games progress in a manner that causes parents some concern, it is expected that the matter be raised with the relevant Sport Coordinator by ringing the Sports Office on 8372 3249.

Values in Sport and code for Mercedes College players, Coaches and Officials  
As an important partner in the mentoring of young sportsmen and women, Mercedes College invites you to engender the following values and code of conduct whilst participating.

These are fundamental to the College and we feel are significant in the development of good sportsmanship and positive behaviour from our young players.

## **Mercedes College Policy Manual**

### **Compassion**

We act with compassion when we are aware of the needs of others and when we ensure that all participants emerge with dignity in all aspects of sporting activity.

.....  
540 Fullarton Road,  
Springfield, SA 5062

.....  
T +61 8 8372 3200  
F +61 8 8379 9540

.....  
mercedes@mercedes.catholic.edu.au  
mercedes.catholic.edu.au

.....  
ABN 93 414 320 696  
Cricos Code 00365D





# MERCEDES COLLEGE

.....  
**Compassion**  
**Loyalty**  
**Justice**  
**Integrity**  
**Responsibility**  
**Mutual Respect**

We will:

- Discuss with Coaches the value of major score blow outs in games and explore the possibility of modifications
- Show tolerance towards the performance levels of players and officials at all levels of competition and training.

Loyalty

We act with loyalty when we are working within the expectations, practices and policies of Mercedes College.

We will:

- Be reliable from week to week
- Find replacement personnel in circumstances when a commitment cannot be fulfilled
- Prioritise the needs and interests of the College in all areas of involvement.

Justice

We act with justice when we aim to make fair judgments and participate in the spirit of the game.

We will:

- Offer and accept constructive criticism for the purpose of personal improvement
- Provide such feedback in a sensitive and respectful manner
- Respond impartially and honestly.

Integrity

We act with integrity when we demonstrate the courage to do the right thing, to be honest and trustworthy in all dealings with others.

We will:

- Admit to mistakes when they are made and accept responsibility for actions
- Approach tasks with enthusiasm and endeavour.

Responsibility

We act responsibly and professionally when we work conscientiously, respect school property and impress upon others this value.

We will:

- Ensure the safety of others around us at all times
- Approach tasks with trustworthiness
- Be at the venue well before the start of play to help with organisation
- Be organised, suitably attired and ready to be involved.

Mutual Respect

We act with mutual respect in all aspects of sporting activity when we value the contributions and roles of all participants

.....  
540 Fullarton Road,  
Springfield, SA 5062

.....  
T +61 8 8372 3200  
F +61 8 8379 9540

.....  
mercedes@mercedes.catholic.edu.au  
mercedes.catholic.edu.au

.....  
ABN 93 414 320 696  
Crivos Code 00365D



# MERCEDES COLLEGE

.....  
**Compassion**  
**Loyalty**  
**Justice**  
**Integrity**  
**Responsibility**  
**Mutual Respect**

We will:

- Listen and respond appropriately to others
- Role model positive relationships and behaviours
- Acknowledge players and officials at the commencement and end of matches.

## **Parental Assistance**

Rosters are frequently drawn up whereby parents are requested to assist with transport, management and/or scoring. It is ideal that the burden is shared, so that few parents are called upon to assist frequently.

## **Transport**

All persons involved in transporting students need to note the following:

- Only currently registered, roadworthy vehicles are to be used
- Only competent drivers with some years' experience should drive other students. Students may not travel in a car driven by another fully licensed student to and/or from sporting venues.
- Students are not permitted to travel with 'P' drivers
- Students may be transported by others (non-'P' plate drivers) only if a signed consent form has been organised to cover these occasion(s)
- Each student should wear a seat belt.

## **Team Nomination**

Competitive Sport is not usually offered to students from Reception to Year 1. Sports are introduced to students over the years, based on the nature of the sport and the needs of the school.

Team nomination will be the responsibility of the College Sport staff in consultation with the Sports Committee. This is completed in October/November of the previous year and this becomes a binding contract for the College for all players nominated. Decisions regarding nomination will be made on the basis of facilities, student and parent interest, and finance.

No team may be nominated or activity undertaken unless a responsible adult has been appointed to be present at all games/matches.

The Principal may refuse the nomination of a student in any event or sport if the student's behaviour or approach is unsatisfactory.

## **Sporting Association Affiliation**

### **Years 3-7**

- SAAS: Sports Association for Adelaide Schools (formerly known as ISSA)
- SACPSSA: South Australian Catholic Primary Schools Sports Association
- SAJNA: Southern Area Junior Netball Association
- SAJSA: Southern Area Junior Softball Association
- SAPSASA: South Australian Primary Schools Sports Association (South Heights District)
- SCC: Sturt Cricket Club
- SDJSA: Southern Districts Junior Soccer Association
- SDTA : Southern Districts Tennis Association

.....  
540 Fullarton Road,  
Springfield, SA 5062

.....  
T +61 8 8372 3200  
F +61 8 8379 9540

.....  
mercedes@mercedes.catholic.edu.au  
mercedes.catholic.edu.au

.....  
ABN 93 414 320 696  
Crivos Code 00365D





# MERCEDES COLLEGE

.....  
Compassion  
Loyalty  
Justice  
Integrity  
Responsibility  
Mutual Respect

## Years 7-12

- IGSSA: Independent Girls Secondary Sports Association
- SAAS: Sports Association for Adelaide Schools (formerly known as ISSA)
- SACGSSSA: South Australian Catholic Girls Secondary Schools Sports Association
- SASSSA: South Australian Secondary Schools Sports Association
- SDTA : Southern District Tennis Association

## Playing Costs

Costs exist for all sporting involvement and these vary according to the duration of coaching, costs of affiliation and other variables that impact on a finite subsidy from College Council. These costs are provided as a guide on the Sport Nomination form.

## Guidelines for the Addition or Deletion of Sports to the Extra Curricular Sports Programme

For the addition of a new sport or the extension of a sport to another competition level, the following criteria will be applied by the Sports Committee in its decision-making:

- There must be at least sufficient students both interested in, and proficient at the sport
- Consideration will need to be given to the likely impact on other sports within the programme
- The sport, when commencing, must not draw significantly on the Extra Curricular Sports budget, so as to detract from provision to existing sports
- Mercedes College must be able to readily access the facilities, venues and personnel (Coaches, Managers etc) in order to provide the sport.

For the deletion of a sport, the following criteria will be applied:

- data that may indicate a decline in student participation
- the rise in cost for students and Mercedes College in continuing to offer the sport.

## Sun Protection Policy

### Junior School

Students are required to wear college approved hats all year except June and July. Students are expected to wear a hat for all PE/outdoor activities throughout the year.

### Middle and Senior School

Students are required to wear a college approved hat when they are not under cover, regardless of weather conditions at Recess and Lunch times during Terms 1 and 4. When involved in outdoor activities during lesson time students must also wear their hat.

.....  
540 Fullarton Road,  
Springfield, SA 5062

.....  
T +61 8 8372 3200  
F +61 8 8379 9540

.....  
mercedes@mercedes.catholic.edu.au  
mercedes.catholic.edu.au

.....  
ABN 93 414 320 696  
Cricos Code 00365D