

Forth Primary School Sports Guidelines

Our school offers a range of after-school and weekend sporting opportunities for our students.

The purpose of school sport is to promote enjoyment and engagement through the lens of participation. A greater focus on competition, individual development and representative sport is offered through local sporting organisations.

Teams and Coaches: Teams must have an adult appointed as coach and/or supervisor who will take responsibility for organising the team, coaching and ensuring the students abide by the Code of Conduct. This adult must be named before teams are announced and the season starts.

Where FPS cannot field a team, every effort will be made for the interested students to be included in nearby school teams.

FPS coaches will be supported by the school Sports Coordinator and in use of school facilities, sports equipment and provision of uniforms. Coaches must have a current Working with Vulnerable People Card that is copied and filed at the school office.

Fees: Fees and registration for rosters are to be paid by the players in accordance with the relevant sporting organisations requirements.

Uniforms: Uniforms are provided by FPS. These uniforms need to be returned soon after the completion of the roster. Failure to do so will result in a replacement invoice.

Social Media: Permissions MUST be obtained before uploading photos onto social media. Comments must be respectful and supportive.

Code of Conduct: Students, parents and coaches agree to abide by the FPS Code of Conduct upon registering for school sport. The FPS Code of Conduct is underpinned by the values of respect, sportsmanship, school pride, equal opportunity, positivity, encouragement, enjoyment, and friendship.

CODE OF CONDUCT: Parents/Carers/Spectators

- I will remember that school sport is for fun and opportunity
- I will remember that children learn best by example, and I will always demonstrate respectful and professional behaviour towards players, opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, parents and spectators, such as:
 - Applauding the opposition team
 - Respecting and accepting the decisions of the officials
 - Supporting the team coach and their decisions
 - Encouraging all players, not just my own
- I will encourage my child to play within the rules and respect the decisions of the coaches and officials
- I will encourage all players and never make negative comments about or toward any players
- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability, or cultural background
- I will obtain permissions before I post content on social media
- I will speak with the school Sports Coordinator if an issue arises



CODE OF CONDUCT: Players

- I will remember that school sport is for fun and opportunity
- I will always play by the rules
- I will be a good sport and act in a respectful way towards others, including:
 - Accepting the coaches/officials' decisions and not arguing
 - Always controlling my temper
 - Only making respectful comments towards others (players, officials, coaches, etc)
 - Encouraging my teammates
 - Shaking hands/thanking the opposition, officials, and coaches at the end of the game
- I will speak with the school Sports Coordinator if an issue arises

CODE OF CONDUCT: Coaches/Supervisors

- I will remember that school sport is for fun and opportunity, and as such all players are deserving of equal attention and game time
- I will remember that children learn best by example, and I will always demonstrate respectful and professional behaviour towards players, opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, parents and spectators, such as:
 - Applauding the opposition team
 - Respecting and accepting the decisions of the officials
 - Encouraging all players, not just my team
- I will operate within the rules and spirit of the game and teach my players to do the same
- I will ensure that the time players spend with me is a positive experience
- I will focus on effort and performance, providing positive comments that motivate and encourage continued effort
- I will show concern and caution for sick or injured players
- I will respect the rights, dignity and worth of all people involved in the game, regardless of their gender, ability, or cultural background
- I will speak with the school Sports Coordinator if an issue arises

Let Kids be Kids

stop poor sideline behaviour in junior sport



that's **60%**

Here's what they want from sport



1. To have fun.
2. To do something they're good at.
3. To improve their skills.
4. To stay in shape.
5. To get exercise.²

Sport is generally a positive experience for most kids, but... 75%

A UK study showed that 75% of children who participated in organised sport up to the age of 16 had been criticised for their performance, had been shouted or sworn at or had been embarrassed or humiliated by a coach, parent, peer or sports administrator.³

"Mum and Dad, I sure love sports, but it seems like my sports make you guys angry more than they make you happy."⁵



Australian research shows that aggressive behaviour on the sidelines is embarrassing junior footballers, making them lose confidence and can lead to them quitting the sport.⁴

How to recognise poor behaviour

1. Emphasis on winning/results
2. Abuse/intimidation of coaches/officials
3. Excessive instruction from the sideline
4. Putting down children in front of others
5. Criticise performances on the drive home

Positive things we can do

- Respect all athletes, coaches and officials
- Support, encourage and praise efforts
- Be enthusiastic and positive
- Emphasise fun and enjoyment
- Be quiet and listen

Free resources to help

Free toolkit:
<http://playbytherules.net.au/let-kids-be-kids>



1 4156.0 – Sports and Physical Recreation: A Statistical Overview, Australia, 2012.
2 Clark, M. A. (n.d.). Winning! How Important Is It in Youth Sports? Retrieved November 11, 2004.
3 Kate Alexander, Anne Stafford, Ruth Lewis (2011). The experiences of children participating in organised sport in the UK. The University of Edinburgh/NSPCC Child Protection Research Centre.
4 Samuel Elliott and Murray Drummond. "Parents in youth sport: what happens after the game?" Sport, Education and Society, May 6, 2015.
5 O'Sullivan, John (31 January 2017). 'An open letter from the back seat' in Sports Parenting.