



Before we start.....

We will be recording the meeting and will forward it to everyone afterwards

If you have any questions, please put them in the chat!

Please put yourself on mute!



School Sport Victoria

DISTRICT COORDINATOR MEETING

February, 2026



Department
of Education



Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country

School Sport Victoria wishes to acknowledge the lands on which we all meet today.

We acknowledge the elders of these lands, past, present and emerging.

We also welcome any indigenous people at this meeting today.

Introductions

- SSV CEO Rayoni Nelson
- Region School Sport Officers
 - Phoenix Lawton (EMR, LMR and NMR)
 - Rick Thompson (Gippsland, Hume and SMR)
 - Melanie Camilleri (GWR, WMR)
- Region Coordinators

Sharing our objectives

- Provide an opportunity for SSV to **connect** with district coordinators
- Provide coordinators with **important SSV updates** and dedicated time that is based on their work
- Provide an opportunity for coordinators to **ask questions and provide feedback** to SSV regarding interschool sport
- Ensure coordinators feel **more confident** in their roles in school sport

The School Sport Program



[2026 School Sport Program](#)



District Arrangements

- Acknowledgement of local arrangements in place that suit your District
 - They must be agreed to by the schools in the District each year
 - They must meet the SSV age groups, but Districts have the option to run whole school events eg XC
 - Once schools in your District move through to a Division competition, the SSV rules must be adhered to
 - Maximise participation
 - Involve students with a disability (multi class)
 - Weekly sport, Gala days or a combination of both?
 - How can SSV support you?
- Participation Data
- Coordinator Update
- SSV Uniform (new Coordinators)
- District Coordinator Appointments: : [SSVPrimaryDistrictorSecondaryDivisionAppointmentNotification](#)

Swimming Classification

Jeremy O'Sullivan (Swimming Australia)



SWIMMAUS™

SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA

Provisional Classification

05-02-2026



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission



PROVISIONAL CLASSIFICATION

- Provides indication of class
 - Remote assessment (paper based)
 - Valid for all levels of school sport
- Multi-Class swimming competition**
- Valid for entry level Swimming Australia events (Club, Inter Club, Local)

The Process

Submitted through Swimming Australia & Partner Orgs

Athlete Evaluation Sheet

Completed by a Physiotherapist, Medical Doctor (**Physical Impairment**) Optometrist (**Visual Impairment**)

Supporting Medical Documentation

confirming eligible impairment (from specialist)

Athlete videos of swimming (Physical Impairment Only)

Provides visibility of athlete through remote assessment process

Intellectual Impairment

II Classification is managed by Sport Inclusion Australia and eligible athletes are confirmed for National Classification.

paper based application with supporting documentation by psychological assessment for Intellectual disability diagnosis

Multi-Class Swimming Engagement Portal



SWIMMAUS™

FOR INFORMATION ON PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES CONTACT

SWIMMING AUSTRALIA
classification@swimming.org.au



Australian Government
Australian Sports Commission



General Conditions of Competition

- This is a key policy: [General Conditions of Competition](#)
- Things to note:
 - Determine age groups and date
 - How many sports can a primary student participate in during the year
 - Clauses that relate to Primary Interschool Sport only
 - Clauses that relate to both Primary and Secondary Interschool Sport

Primary Resource Manual

- [Primary Schools Resource Manual](#)
- Things to note:
 - Convener App
 - District Competition Level
 - District Management including fees
 - Roles and Responsibilities
 - Planning and formats of competition
 - Rules
 - Team Vic



Primary Schools Resource Manual

A resource manual for Primary School Sport Teachers
and School Sport Victoria (SSV) Primary District Coordinators

Information and links are current as of **February 2026**.
This manual may be updated from time to time by School Sport Victoria.

Your feedback is valuable to us!
If you have any suggested changes or additions required, please email ssv.interschoolsport@education.vic.gov.



SSV Website



- The SSV website is your critical link to all information!
- [School Sport Victoria – Home](#)
- [School Sport Victoria – Sport](#)
- [Inclusion](#)
- [School Sport Victoria – Downloads](#)
 - This is where you will find the very useful SSV Policies, forms and other resources
- Important policies and guidance:
 - [SSV Child Safe Policy](#)
 - [Codes of Conduct Full Policy](#)
 - [Competition Pathways and Progressions](#)
 - [Extreme Weather and Catastrophic Events](#)
 - [SSVPolicyProtestandAppealsPolicy.pdf](#)
 - [Invitation Policy Interschool Sport](#)
 - [Participant Behaviour Policy and Guidance](#)
 - [Small Schools Policy](#)

Key Initiatives – Positive Behaviour Rule

Positive Behaviour Rule



School Sport Victoria Introduces Positive Behaviour Rules and "Spirit of Sport" Award

School Sport Victoria (SSV) today announced the implementation of a new "Positive Behaviour Rule" at all SSV football (soccer) and basketball competitions. SSV also introduces the SSV "Spirit of Sport" Award at all SSV State Championship events.

These initiatives aim to strengthen and foster a positive and inclusive sporting environment for all participants. It also aims to ensure positive behaviour of all participants including players, team officials and importantly parents and spectators.

Positive Behaviour Rule: The positive behaviour rule requires that all spectators, parents, team officials and players must comply with the SSV Codes of conduct.

On-field offences against offending teams, such as corners in **football (soccer)** and technical fouls in **basketball** are to be introduced at district, division region and state level for 2025 to encourage positive behaviour by players, officials, and importantly spectators.

Trials are to occur of the Positive Behaviour Rule for **Australian Football** and **Netball** in 2025 in preparation for full implementation in 2026. Behaviour rules for other sports are to apply from 2026

"Spirit of Sport" Award: A "Spirit of Sport" bannerette is to be awarded to the school that best exemplifies positive values at each SSV State Final in 2025. These awards are to be determined by the event convenor on the day. Captains of teams competing are encouraged to suggest schools who are to be considered for the award. The award is to carry the same prestige as the winner and runner up awards at the State Championship competitions. Criteria to be used for determining award winners can include any of the following:

- o **Spirit of Sport:** Positive attitude, love of the sport, celebrating others, inclusive environment.
- o **Respect:** Respect for opponents, teammates, officials, coaches, and spectators.
- o **Integrity:** Fair play, honesty, accepting mistakes.
- o **Leadership:** Motivating others, setting a good example, supporting teammates.

CEO of School Sport Victoria Jamie Parsons said *"These initiatives underscore SSV's commitment to creating a positive and inclusive sporting environment for all participants. By promoting positive behaviour and recognising schools that exemplify the spirit of sport, we aim to enhance the overall experience for all involved in interschool school sport."*

You can also download the [Participant Behaviour Policy](#) here that contains the Positive Behaviour Rule and Spirit of Sport Award information.

Key Initiatives – Child Safe Officer



Child Safe Officer



SSV release best practice guidelines for Child Safe Officers at SSV Interscholastic Sporting Activities

Following a successful trial in 2024, School Sport Victoria (SSV) is releasing best practice guidelines for the appointment of Child Safe Officers at SSV events and activities. This crucial guidance aims to further enhance the safety and well-being of children participating in SSV activities. From 2025 the best practice guidance provides for Child Safe Officers to be appointed at state and regional level events and then expanded across division and district level events from 2026.

Supervising teachers are to continue to maintain a duty of care for their school's students where Child Safe Officers are appointed.

These best practice guidelines reflect SSV's ongoing commitment to providing a safe and positive experience for all children involved in its activities. SSV has zero tolerance of child abuse and all allegations and safety concerns are treated seriously and consistently in line with SSV and Department of Education child safe policies and procedures.

Appointment Guidelines at State and Region level events from 2025:

- **Events with 500+ Students:** A designated and visible Child Safe Officer is to be appointed (e.g. an adult wearing a Child Safe Officer vest). This guidance applies to all athletics, swimming, and cross-country events at district, division, regional, and state levels and team events with more than 500 students competing.
- **Events with 500 or Fewer Students:** A Child Safe Officer is required to be appointed and can be combined with another event role, such as the event convenor / organiser.

Key Responsibility guidelines of Child Safe Officers:

- **VIT and Working With Children Cards:** Ensure processes are being followed for all adults involved in the delivery of SSV activities and support the processes where required. This includes that adults involved in the delivery of SSV events possess valid Victorian Institute of Teacher or Working With Children Check cards.
- **Event Checklists:** Confirm that event organisers have completed the required SSV pre- and post-event checklists.
- **Address Child Safety Concerns:** Be readily available to students, parents, and officials to address any child safety concerns that may arise during the event.
- **Communicate Concerns:** Promptly inform the event convenor/organiser of any matters pertaining to child safety.
- **Concussion Protocols:** Ensure event organisers are aware of the Department of Education concussion protocols (Note: The Child Safe Officer is not responsible for medical evaluations)
- **Report Concerns:** Report any child safety concerns to event convenors, SSV staff, coordinators or teachers at the event.

CEO of School Sport Victoria Jamie Parsons said "The introduction of these best practice guidelines, along with the introduction of SSV's Positive Behaviour Rule, will continue to strengthen the environments we create to enhance the health and well being of children in interschool school sport"

SSV is dedicated to providing a safe and supportive environment for all student athletes. For more information see the updated 2025 SSV General Conditions of Competition that will be placed in the SSV downloads section of the SSV website in February 2025.



Questions?

You can email these directly to ssv.interschoolsport@education.vic.gov.au

Your Very Important SSV Key Contacts



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