



SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA

GENERAL CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION POLICY

POLICY

The purpose of this policy is to outline the School Sport Victoria (SSV) General Conditions of Competition that provides rules regarding Primary and Secondary competitions.

DETAILS

This Policy provides for the smooth running of events and competition delivered by the SSV Office and SSV coordinator network. See the School Sport Victoria School Sport Program and Activities_document for a full list of sports delivered through the SSV office and SSV coordinator network.

For sports endorsed by SSV and delivered by State Sporting Organisations (or other endorsed organisations), as listed in the School Sport Victoria School Sport Program and Activities, please contact the relevant State Sporting Organisations directly responsible for these sports rules and regulations.

GUIDANCE

1. SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES

Full Membership	Any Government School
Associate Membership	Any Non-Government Primary School <u>or</u> Any Non-Government Secondary School that does not participate in a regular school sport competition for students in years 7 to 12 conducted by another secondary school sports organisation.
Affiliate Membership	Any Non-Government Secondary School that does participate in a regular school sport competition for students in years 7 to 12 conducted by another secondary school sports organisation. Affiliate membership allows students to trial and be selected in State Representative Teams (Team Vic) to compete in School Sport Australia Championships. Affiliate Member schools are <u>not</u> eligible to compete in SSV District, Division, Region or State Competitions.

2. SCHOOL MEMBERSHIP AND AFFILIATION

School Sport Victoria (SSV) statewide interschool sport competitions (District, Division, Region and State) are only open to schools that are Full or Associate members with SSV.

All member schools are to be allocated to a District/Division/Region (Primary) and Division/Region (Secondary) giving consideration on their geographical location, school size and/or method of interschool sport delivery

Schools and individuals may only compete in their allocated District/Division/Region (Primary) and Division/Region (Secondary) and cannot seek to compete elsewhere due to clashes.

New schools or schools wanting to change their participation arrangements must complete the membership change request form [click here](#)

3. DESCRIPTION OF TERMS

Competition Levels – means the qualifying or championship competitions that happen at a District, Division, Region or State event.

Competition Pathway and Progression– means the process of qualifying through to State Championships through the Competition Levels.

Competition Sports – means the sports that are recognised by School Sport Victoria that are part of the competition pathway.

Competition Category – means Girls or Boys or Boys/Mixed or Mixed categories that schools can enter teams.

Competition Section – means the year level section that Secondary schools can enter teams. These are Year 7, Year 8, Junior (some sports), Intermediate or Senior

Competition Age Groups – means the age groups used for Boys and Girls in individual sports. These are 9/10 years, 11 years, 12/13 years (primary school students including multi class students) and 12/13 years, 14 years, 15 years, 16 years, 17 years and 18-20 years (for Secondary school students), 12-14 years, 15-16 years, 17-20 years (for multi class students in Secondary schools)

General Conditions of Competition – means the conditions under which all SSV sports are conducted at Competition Levels.

District – means one of the 232 school sport competition groups around Victoria that compete to qualify to a Primary Division Competition Level. A District is normally made up of between 4 and 15 schools.

Division – means one of the 54 Primary and 54 Secondary school competition groups that compete to qualify a team to a Region Competition Level. Primary Divisions are normally made of between 4 to 12 Districts.

Region – means one of 8 Primary and 8 Secondary school competition groups that compete to qualify a team through to a State Championships. Primary and Secondary Regions are normally made up of 8 Divisions.

State Championships – the highest level of the School Sport Victoria competition pathway. Numbers qualifying for individual State Championships varies depending on the sport

RELATED POLICIES AND GUIDELINES

The following Policies and Guidelines form part of the SSV General Condition of Competition and can be found in the Policies section of the SSV website:

Accident/Incident Report Procedure	Injury Prevention
Child Safe	Invitation Policy – Inter School Sport
Codes of Conduct	Membership Policy
Competition Pathways and Progressions	Participant Behaviour Policy and Guidance
Drugs in Sport	Privacy Policy
Extreme Weather and Catastrophic Events	Protest and Appeals
Fines Policy	Safe Participation in Sport
Hydration Policy	Small Schools
Inclusion Policy	Travel Subsidy
Infectious Diseases Policy	Trans and Gender Diverse Guidance

A: FOR PRIMARY SCHOOLS

1. AGE DETERMINATION

Ages are calculated as of December 31st in the year of competition. All students must be enrolled at a School Sport Victoria Full or Associate member school.

A child who is aged 8 years or below as of December 31st in the year of competition cannot progress through SSV's levels of competition. SSV abides by the Department of Education's Physical and Sport Education Delivery Requirements policy that states Prep to Year 3 (typically ages 5-8) focus on physical education and skill development.

AGE GROUPS – INDIVIDUAL SPORTS

- If a child turns 9 or 10 during the year they will be in the **9-10 Years** age group.
- If a child turns 11 during the year they will be in the **11 Years** age group.
- If a child turns 12 or 13 during the year they will be in the **12-13 Years** age group.

AGE GROUPS – TEAM SPORTS

- A child must be between the ages of 9 and 13 years of age, inclusively.

2. LEVELS OF COMPETITION

Teams (and athletes in individual sports) qualify through events at each of the following levels of competition to progress to the State Finals:

• District	• A group of 4-15 schools from a local area.
• Division	• A group of 4-14 Districts.
• Region	• A group of 3-8 Divisions. • Aligns with the 8 SSV Sports Regions.
• State	• Winners from 8 Regions.

The competition category chosen by a student at District Level (Primary) remains binding through to Division, Region and State Levels.

3. TEAM SPORTS COMPETITION CATEGORIES – PRIMARY

GIRLS

- A Girls team must consist of only girls
- An all-Girls team participating in a Boys/Mixed section **cannot** proceed beyond District level.

BOYS/MIXED

- An all Boys team OR a Boys/Mixed team may play in this Competition Category
- A Boys team must consist of only boys
- A Boys/Mixed team must be made up of a minimum of one Boy and one Girl. One boy and one girl must be on the field of play for the entire game.
- A team that cannot field a minimum of one Boy and one Girl in every game does not meet the Conditions of Competition and will be ineligible to receive points or awards and will not progress to the next level of competition.

NOTE

- These Team competition categories also apply to relay teams for Swimming and Track and Field as well as the team sports listed below

4. TEAM SPORTS OFFERED DELIVERED THROUGH SSV OFFICE and SSV COORDINATOR NETWORK

Primary - Summer		Primary - Winter	
Basketball	- Boys/Mixed & Girls	Australian Football	- Boys/Mixed & Girls
Cricket	- Boys/Mixed & Girls	Hockey 7s	- Boys/Mixed & Girls
Softball	- Boys/Mixed & Girls	Netball	- Boys/Mixed & Girls
Teams Tennis	Boys/Mixed & Girls	Football (Soccer)	- Boys/Mixed & Girls
Volleyball	- Boys/Mixed & Girls	Tee-ball	- Boys/Mixed & Girls

SSV is in partnership with various State Sporting Organisations to provide opportunities for schools to compete in other sports that are not delivered by the SSV office and SSV coordinator network. Please go to the SSV website for information: School Sport Victoria - Sports

5. ELIGIBILITY AND RESTRICTIONS – PRIMARY

Eligibility - Students are eligible to represent a school team where:

- They are an enrolled registered student at that school and the school is eligible to play in that level of competition.
- They have been selected by their school to compete in that level of competition.
- They meet the age eligibility mentioned at A.1.
- For each calendar year from Division level students are eligible to compete in:
 - One team per sport; with
 - a maximum of 2 teams for Summer Sports; plus
 - a maximum of 2 teams for Winter Sports; plus
 - All individual sports – Swimming, Diving, Cross Country and Track and Field

For example, a student at Division, Region or State Level can compete in one team per sport in a maximum of 2 Summer Sports (eg Softball and Tennis), 2 Winter Sports (eg Australian Football and Netball) plus all individual sports.

- A girl cannot play in a girls team and a boys/mixed team in the same sport
- A student competing in more than one sport in a term may encounter clashes at District, Division, Region or State Finals.
- A school team can only be made up of students enrolled at that school, should a team field students from another school for the purposes of participation, the team cannot progress through SSV's competition pathway unless they meet the Small Schools Policy and are approved in writing by the SSV Office.

Individual event restrictions:

- Swimming: a maximum two individual events and a maximum of two relays (one 4x50 and one medley)
- Track and Field: a maximum of two individual events and one relay. This can be 2 track events and 1 relay or 2 field events and 1 relay or 1 track event, 1 field event and 1 relay
- Swimming and Track and Field: a student may compete in an older age group provided they only compete in one age group for all their individual events
- Swimming and Track and Field: a student can only compete in one age group, which can be different to their individual events, for each relay type.
- Diving: only one age group
- Cross Country: only one age group
- The age group a student competes in at District remains binding for higher levels of competition and cannot be changed.

These restrictions have been put in place to maximise participation, especially at the first level of competition to ensure as many children as possible in primary schools have an opportunity to participate

Each school is responsible for complying with this eligibility and restrictions requirements.

B: FOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS

1. AGE DETERMINATION

Ages are calculated as of December 31st in the year of competition. All students must be enrolled at a School Sport Victoria Full or Associate member school.

AGE GROUPS – INDIVIDUAL SPORTS

- If a child turns 12 or 13 during the year they will be in the **12-13 Years** age group.
- If a child turns 14 during the year they will be in the **14 Years** age group.
- If a child turns 15 during the year they will be in the **15 Years** age group.
- If a child turns 16 during the year they will be in the **16 Years** age group.
- If a child turns 17 during the year they will be in the **17 Years** age group.
- If a child turns 18, 19 or 20 during the year they will be in the **18-20 Years** age group.

AGE GROUPS AND COMPETITION SECTIONS – TEAM SPORTS

The following competing sections apply to all levels of SSV competition ie Division, Region and State

Ages eligibility is based on the students age as at December 31st in the year of competition

Year 7:	In year 7 (or the equivalent of the first year of secondary school or repeating year 7) AND be 14 years of age or younger.
Year 8:	In year 8 (or the equivalent of the second year of secondary school or repeating year 8) AND be 15 years of age or younger.
Intermediate:	In years 9 or 10 (or the equivalent of the third or fourth year of secondary school or repeating year 9 or year 10) AND be 17 years of age or younger.
Senior:	In years 11 or 12 (or the equivalent of the fifth or sixth year of secondary school or repeating year 11 or year 12) AND be 20 years of age or younger.
NOTE: THIS IS A DOUBLE QUALIFICATION CRITERIA IE YEAR LEVEL AND AGE GROUP	

2. LEVELS OF COMPETITION

Teams (and athletes in individual sports) qualify through events at each of the following levels of competition to progress to the State Finals:

• Division	A group of 3-14 schools from a local area.
• Region	A group of 3-8 Divisions Aligns with the 8 SSV Sports Regions
• State	Winners from 8 Regions.

PREMIER LEAGUE

In selected sports a 'Premier League' competition is offered. Refer to the Premier League Criteria which is part of these conditions of competition.

The competition level chosen by a student at Division Level (Secondary) remains binding through to Region and State Levels.

Secondary students otherwise excluded (eg. By age) under the above criteria may compete at the appropriate higher level.

3. TEAM SPORTS COMPETITION CATEGORIES – SECONDARY

GIRLS

- A Girls team must consist of only girls
- An all-Girls team participating in a Boys/Mixed section **cannot** proceed beyond Division level.

BOYS/MIXED

- An all Boys team OR a Boys/Mixed team may play in this Competition Category
- A Boys team must consist of only boys.
- A Boys/Mixed team must be made up of a minimum of one Boy and one Girl. One boy and one girl must be on the field of play for the entire game.
- A team that cannot field a minimum of one Boy and one Girl in every game does not meet the Conditions of Competition and will be ineligible to receive points or awards and will not progress to the next level of competition.

Exceptions:

- Bowls – this is an Open team and may be all girls, all boys or mixed. There is no restriction on the number of boys or girls who make up an open team within the number designated by the SSV Rules for that sport.

NOTE

- These Team competition categories also apply to relay teams for Swimming and Track and Field as well as the team sports listed below

TEAM SPORTS OFFERED

Secondary - Term 1 (Summer)	Secondary - Term 2 (Winter)	Secondary - Term 3 (Winter)
Baseball - Boys/Mixed	** Australian Football - Boys/Mixed & Girls (Year 7 and Year 8)	Basketball - Boys/Mixed & Girls
Cricket - Boys/Mixed & Girls	** Australian Football Boys & Girls (Intermediate and Senior)	Hockey - Boys/Mixed & Girls
Bowls - Junior (Year 7-9) & Senior (Year 10-12)	Badminton - Boys/Mixed & Girls	Table Tennis - Boys/Mixed & Girls
Softball - Girls Only	Football (Soccer) - Boys/Mixed & Girls	
Tennis - Boys/Mixed & Girls	** Netball - Boys/Mixed & Girls (Year 7 and Year 8)	
Volleyball - Boys/Mixed & Girls	** Netball - Boys and Girls (Intermediate and Senior)	

** In the following sports the Boys/Mixed competition category applies to:

- Australian Football: Year 7 and Year 8.
- Netball: Year 7 and Year 8

Australian Football and Netball, for Senior and Intermediate, these sports are only offered in the Boys Only and Girls Only competition categories.

4. ELIGIBILITY AND RESTRICTIONS - SECONDARY

YEAR 7, YEAR 8 AND INTERMEDIATE – TEAM SPORTS

Each eligible student is permitted to compete in:

- One team per sport; with
- A maximum of two Term 1 Team Sports and
- A maximum of two Term 2 Team Sports and
- A maximum of two Term 3 Team Sports. And
- All individual sports (Diving, Swimming Cross Country and Track and Field)

A student competing in more than one sport in a particular term may encounter clashes at Division, Region or State Finals.

Level and Type of Competition

The level of competition chosen by a student at Division Level (Secondary) remains binding through to Region and State Levels.

A student is eligible to compete in a higher competition category for any sport, but this must commence at the Division Level (Secondary) and remains binding through to Region and State Levels.

A student is **NOT** eligible to compete in more than one section for the same sport at any level of competition (Division, Region or State) eg a student may not compete in the Intermediate and Senior Netball at any level.

Students can only compete in one Team per sport. A school team can only be made up of students enrolled at that school. Should a team field students from another school for the purposes of participation, the team cannot progress through SSV's competition pathway unless they meet the Small Schools Policy.

Each school is responsible for complying with eligibility and restriction requirements.

After the commencement of competition (Division for Secondary), the section/sport in which a student competes cannot be changed.

Provided students meet the requirements they are permitted to play at different levels in different sports.

Schools should note the scheduling of Region and State Finals, as no Final will be rescheduled to resolve clashes.

SENIOR – TEAM SPORTS

An eligible student is permitted to compete in:

- One team per sport with
- A maximum of two in Summer Team Sports and
- A maximum of two in Winter Team Sports and
- All individual sports (diving, cross country, swimming and track and field)

After the commencement of competition (Division for Secondary), the section/sport in which a student competes cannot be change

Provided they meet the requirements of students are permitted to play at different levels in different sports.

Schools should note the scheduling of Region and State Finals, as no Final will be rescheduled to resolve clashes.

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS – ALL AGE GROUPS

- Swimming: a maximum five individual events and a maximum of two relays (one 4x50 and one medley)
- Track and Field: a maximum of five individual events and one relay.
- Swimming and Track and Field: a student may compete in an older age group provided they only compete in one age group for all their individual events
- Swimming and Track and Field: a student can only compete in one age group, which can be different to their individual events, for each relay type.
- Diving: only one age group
- Cross Country: only one age group
- The age group a student competes in at Division remains binding for higher levels of competition and cannot be changed.

C: GENERAL GUIDANCE

1. SPORTS - CONDITIONS OF COMPETITION

The rules for each sport can be found on that sport's page on the SSV website.

2. DISQUALIFICATION

Teams not adhering to the conditions of competition may be disqualified

3. ELIGIBILITY DISPUTES FOR PRIMARY AND SECONDARY

Where there is a dispute as to a student's eligibility to compete on the day of competition, at any Level in any SSV sport, the student must be permitted to compete where it is considered safe to do so.

A school, with the endorsement of the school principal, can lodge a protest relating to a student's eligibility after the event is held. The protest must be received by the SSV office in the time frame as specified and with the information required as provided for in the Appeals and Protest Policy.

SSV shall follow the information in the Protest and Appeals Policy to resolve any matters regarding eligibility.

Where required, SSV may use the "balance of probabilities" standard when coming to a decision. Where SSV determines that a student competed and is not eligible to compete, SSV may determine that a forfeit of all fixtures where the student competed or for individual events disqualified; and that student or student's team will not be permitted to move to the next level of competition. The next placed team or student shall then proceed to the next competition level.

At District Competition Level only - If District rules allow and provided in writing to the participating schools, students can compete in more than one team per sport and more than two sports per Winter and Summer competitions but **must** choose one team per sport and no more than two Winter plus two Summer sports after district level. If a student has already participated in a sport at Division level they are not permitted to participate in another team in the sport at Division level.

The dates of District competition events will be set by Districts. When setting dates, there should be time for a postponed event to be held before the closing dates of entries for Division events and for schools to satisfy all the Department of Education (DE) requirements e.g. Risk Assessment and permission notes.

4. TRANS AND GENDER DIVERSE STUDENTS

- Trans and gender diverse students can enter a Competition Category in which they feel most safe and comfortable participating in. In line with SSV's General Conditions of Competition, a trans and gender diverse student may enter a Competition Category at the base level of competition (i.e. District) but must remain in that Competition Category in the chosen sport throughout the progression pathway.
- Please see the information in the SSV Trans and Gender Diverse Policy and Guidance documents that can be found on the SSV website: [Inclusion \(ssv.vic.edu.au\)](https://ssv.vic.edu.au)

5. REPLACING TEAM MEMBERS

- If a qualified school team has to replace a team member through injury, illness, absence etc, they may do so as long as the replacement comes from the same or lower age group and satisfies the General Conditions of Competition and the relevant SSV sport rules. The replacement's name must appear on the team sheet, signed by the Principal, and handed to the convener on the day of competition.
- For Cross Country, as a privilege for winning the previous level's Team event, the winning team may replace a team member (due to injury/illness etc) for the next level of competition only (ie Region or State) as long as the replacement comes from the same or lower age group and satisfies the General Conditions of Competition Clauses 2,4,8,9,10 and the SSV Cross Country Rules. Changes must be notified to the relevant Region School Sport Officer or State Programs Officer no later than 48 hours prior to the relevant Region or State competition respectively.
- All other withdrawals in Cross Country will be replaced by the next best placed individual runner from that Region.

6. MULTI-CAMPUS SCHOOLS

Dual Campus Schools are considered as one "school" for the purposes of team sports.

Multi-Campus Schools that have students from the one year level on more than one campus in a Primary District or a Secondary Division may nominate to compete as "one school" or as separate campuses for the purpose of team sport.

Multi Campus Schools that have students from one year level on more than one campus and have campuses in more than one Primary District or Secondary Division will, for the purposes of this clause, be considered as separate entities in those respective Primary Districts or Secondary Divisions. Example: If a school has 1 or more campuses in Primary District A and 1 or more campuses in Primary District B, they are considered as separate 'schools' by those Districts. Two or more campuses may still combine within a District, but cannot combine across Districts for higher levels of competition.

This nomination must be made at the first meeting of the relevant District/Division and remains binding for the remainder of the year and for all levels of School Sport Victoria competition.

7. COMBINED REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

Schools from within the same Primary District or same Secondary Division, with a combined enrolment of no more than 300 students, may enter District (Primary only), Division, Region and State competitions as a combined representative team.

This applies to:

- All team sports
- Secondary Cross Country teams events
- Swimming Relay Teams
- Track and Field Relay Teams

To qualify as a combined representative team:

- The schools are all to affiliate, as Full or Associate members, with School Sport Victoria as separate schools
- The schools must come from the same Primary District or Secondary Division
- The schools must have a combined enrolment of no more than 300 students

Under this policy, schools may enter competitions as either individual school teams or as a combined representative team.

8. ORDER OFF RULE and POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR RULE

All teams and officials should be aware of the SSV 'Order Off Rule' and "Positive Behaviour Rule" which is a part of these General Conditions of Competition.

The full policy can be found here

In Premier League competitions, if a player is suspended in club/community matches their suspension will be recognised by SSV and the player will not be eligible to compete in SSV Premier League competition in that sport during their suspension period

9. CODES OF CONDUCT AND ACCEPTABLE BEHAVIOURS

Competing teams, including staff members, coaches, spectators, etc. infringing the "SSV Codes of Conduct Child Safety and SSV Codes of Conduct – SSV Events" are subject to disqualification.

10. TEAM SUPERVISION

All teams MUST be accompanied by their school staff members as per the requirements for staff-student ratio for excursions as set by the Department of Education & Training, who are responsible for supervising that team. Details are contained in the DE Policy and Advice Library (PAL).

School Sport Victoria (SSV) has two types of sports listed on its website:

- Firstly, those sport events organised through the School Sport Victoria office with Departmental authorised personnel organising, attending and delivering the event.
- Secondly, sports activities organised and delivered by State Sporting Organisations that SSV partner and/or endorse and may have no departmental staff in attendance.

Sport events organised and delivered by State Sport Organisation staff are considered external organisations and are subject to the Departmental Excursions Policy and in particular the [External Providers](#) chapter.

11. SUPERVISION OF SPECTATORS

If student spectators are in attendance at any SSV fixture, they must be adequately supervised by staff from the school that they attend. All spectators (students, parents etc) must abide by the School Sport Victoria Codes of Conduct.

12. SAFETY

Safety requirements are detailed on the information page for each sport. Students will not be allowed to compete if they are not wearing compulsory items of protective clothing for respective sports.

Care of all students competing in SSV competitions is essential. SSV highly recommends the following:

- Mouthguards for Australian Football, Basketball, Football (Soccer), Hockey and Rugby League
- Sunscreen, Water and shade for all teams competing in Term 1 and Term 4.

Also see: [Physical and Sport Education – Safety: Resources | education.vic.gov.au](https://www.education.vic.gov.au/physical-and-sport-education/safety-resources)

13. CHILD SAFETY

Everyone attending SSV events must comply with the SSV Child Safety Policy and the acceptable behaviours as listed in the Codes of Conduct.

14. CHILD SAFE OFFICER GUIDELINES

It is best practice for designated Child Safe Officers are to be in place for all SSV sporting activities. Child Safe Officers have a number of responsibilities including:

- ensure procedures are followed related presentation of VIT/Working with Children Cards by adults involved in the delivery of SSV activities;
- ensure that the event organiser has completed the SSV pre and post event checklists;
- be available to students, parents, and officials on the day that would like to report any child safety concerns;
- inform the event convenor of any matters of concern relating to child safety;
- ensure that concussion protocols are followed in line with Department of Education policy (note - the Child Safe Officer is not responsible for evaluating a students medical condition); and
- report any concerns to the event convenors, SSV staff, SSV coordinators or teachers at the event relating to child safety.

SSV events, with 500 or more students, it is best practice to appoint a suitable adult as a designated and visible Child Safe Officer (ie a suitable adult wearing a child safe officer vest). This includes at all athletics, swimming and cross country events and team events at district, division, region and state levels.

All events with less than 500 students must appoint a child safe officer that can integrate with another event role (ie the event convenor role and the child safe officer role can be combined).

15. FIRST AID

Competing schools are responsible for ensuring that reasonable provision is made for the treatment of injuries for students from their school. All schools participating in SSV Team Sports final are required to bring their own suitable first aid kit (appropriate to the location as there is potential for sporting activities to be some distance away from emergency services) – For more detailed information: [First Aid for Students & Staff](#) & [First Aid Kit Contents Checklist](#)

16. INJURY INSURANCE

Students participate in all SSV programs at their own risk. They are responsible for their own personal injury/accident insurance.

17. AMBULANCE

In instances where an SSV appointed sports trainer is present and is of the opinion that an ambulance is required to transport an ill or injured student, an ambulance will be called. Such transport will be at the student's or other attendees' expense.

It is recommended that all students have ambulance cover.

18. SMOKING AND ALCOHOL

Smoking and the consumption of alcohol is not permitted by competitors, team officials or spectators at SSV events.

19. PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILMING

SSV may take photographs and video (film) images of competitors at SSV Region and State Finals and published on the SSV website and social media to celebrate their achievements.

SSV will publish the names of qualifiers to individual events (Cross Country, Golf, Track and Field, Swimming & Diving) with their school names on the SSV web site for the official conduct and administration of the events.

In order to celebrate the achievements of students in school sport events, SSV will publish full results from Individual Championships, including competitors' names and schools on the SSV website and may make full results available to other government recognised sporting associations (Athletics Victoria, VGA, Swimming Victoria) for the purposes of official verification of times.

If you wish to have your (or your child's) name and/or images withheld please contact the State Programs Officer at ssv.interschoolsport@education.vic.gov.au

Also see: [SSV Photography Filming Social Media Policy](#)

20. WITHDRAWALS FROM STATE FINALS

Should a team be unable to fulfill their obligation to participate in a State Championship, SSV reserves the right to fill the vacancy:

1. Region Runner-up from that Region.
2. Region Runner-up from the other side of the State Final draw.
3. Region Runner-up from the same side of the State Final draw.

21. LATE WITHDRAWALS

A school will face a fine of \$100 if a team withdraws from a Region, Conference or State Final **less than two (2) school days** prior to the finals and a replacement team cannot be found.

Notes:

1. The school must **directly notify the person responsible** for the relevant competition (Region Coordinator, Region School Sports Officer or State Championships Officer respectively)
2. Exceptional circumstances will be taken into consideration
3. Schools may be liable for transport costs and CRT replacement costs incurred by the other teams for your non attendance
4. The offending school will be invoiced by School Sport Victoria
5. Non-payment of the fine may result in the temporary suspension of the school's membership of SSV until such time as the fine is paid or the fine will be added to the following year's affiliation fees

22. DISTRICT, DIVISION, AND REGION CONDITIONS

Different rules may apply at District, Division and Region Levels and should be clarified by each level of competition prior to each season in writing and distributed to each school.

Progressions are determined by School Sport Victoria and can be found in the Competition Pathways and Progressions Policy.

23. INDIVIDUAL SPORTS OFFERED

Individual Sports include: Cross Country, Track & Field, Swimming, Diving

Individual Sports for Multi Class students include: Cross Country, Swimming and Track and Field

A student may compete in any number of Individual Sports.

After the commencement of competition (District for Primary, Division for Secondary), the section/sport in which a student competes cannot be changed.

24. CONVENERS

Conveners are appointed for each sport with the power to amend the conditions of competition for State Championships should exceptional circumstances arise. Conveners shall also resolve any disputes on the day of competition, wherever possible. Conveners have the authority to penalise or disqualify individuals or teams if they do not adhere to the rules and conditions of competition.

25. TEAM SHEETS

In team sports and relays each participating school at Division/Region and State levels must provide the convener, before each day's play, with an official SSV team/relay sheet listing all players (including substitutes), showing their year level, date of birth and playing number (if applicable), endorsed by the principal or the principal's representative. A pro forma team/relay sheet can be found on the SSV website.

26. SEEDING OF PLAYERS

In all sports where players are required to be seeded, then players must be ranked in order of ability.

In Secondary Tennis, players must be ranked according to current Australian rankings.

Before play commences, each team must hand to the Convener a list of ALL players seeding them according to their ability. Best player to be seeded #1, etc. Relative seeded order of players is to be adhered to for each day of competition. Where there is play on more than one day, a new list is to be submitted each day.

27. SCHOOL SPORT VICTORIA MEDALLIONS AND PENNANTS

At SSV State Teams Finals Championships, SSV pennants and medallions will be awarded to the teams placed first and second in the Championships.

The number of medallions awarded will be one per player on the day of the State Final plus one for the coach up to the maximum team size allowed as stated in the rules for that sport.

One Champions pennant will be awarded to the team placed first and one Runners Up pennant will be awarded to the team placed second. A "Spirit of Sport" school award may also be awarded as per the SSV Participant Behaviour Policy.

28. COACHING

The SSV Codes of Conduct apply, at all times, to players, teachers, coaches and spectators.

Spectators must confine their comments to positive encouragement. Coaching and unsportsmanlike comments from spectators is not permitted.

29. MATCH SCHEDULES

Each fixture must be played on or before the designated date set in the draw. A school which is unable to play by the designated date will be required to forfeit the match.

30. SWIMMING AND ATHLETICS LANES AND ATHLETICS FIELD EVENT ORDER

Swimming events at the State Finals will be seeded according to the FINA Rules using times achieved in Region Championships.

Athletics events at State Finals will be seeded according to the World Athletics Rulers using the performances achieved in Region Championships

31. UNIFORM

Uniform requirements are set out in the conditions of competition for each sport. Any player not appropriately attired for the relevant sport will incur a penalty (as detailed in the rules set out in the sport's rules) or if no penalty is outlined, will not be permitted to participate in the Championship.

32. PUNCTUALITY

Teams must realise the importance of punctuality. Teams may face a penalty or disqualification if not in attendance at the appropriate venue at the stated commencement time.

If a team is running late for a final they are required to contact the convener and advise of their lateness. If the reason for lateness is beyond the team's control, the convener will try and accommodate them into the draw.

33. PANDEMICS eg COVID 19

SSV will follow the advice of the Department of Health and the Victorian Chief Health Officer. The SSV COVID-19 Safe Plan, available on the SSV website outlines advice on the requirements for the safe delivery of school sport, and will be reviewed from time to time when advice changes.

If an SSV event is postponed, a suitable next date will be found and calendars adjusted as required. If an SSV event is cancelled, it may not be possible to re-scheduled at a later date.