

# Mater Dei Catholic College

Live God's Message

**Name:** REPRESENTATIVE SPORT POLICY

**Purpose:** To provide clarity around student participation in Representative Sports

**Relevant to:** Teachers, parents and students

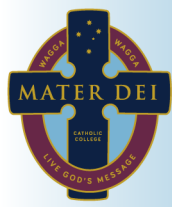
**Responsible Officer(s):** College Leadership Team and Sports Co-ordinator

**Date of Introduction:** February 2017

**Date of Review:** February 2022

**Modification History:** October 2019

**Related Documents:**



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## Vision

In keeping with the vision statement of the Diocese of Wagga Wagga, Mater Dei Catholic College strives to be a nurturing community which;

- Is founded in Catholic faith, justice and love
- Is inclusive
- Is learner centred
- Seeks excellence and wisdom

## Mission

*"The person of each individual human being, in her or his material and spiritual needs, is at the heart of Christ's teaching; this is why the promotion of the human person is the goal of the Catholic School."*  
JP11 (#9)

### As nurturers we are called to;

- Care for each individual, affirming their dignity and uniqueness
- Foster the right relationships with God, creation, self and others
- Provide particular attention to those most in need
- Build a welcoming, safe and supportive school environment

*"The Catholic School fosters a particular climate where students, teachers, parents, clergy, non-teaching staff and the wider community feel welcomed and valued."* (Barry Dwyer)

### We are entrusted to;

- Nourish our spiritual life and ministry
- Connect with the Parish, Diocesan and wider community
- Strengthen relationships and communicate between members of the education community
- Make present the spirit of Nano Nagle, Edmund Rice and Mary, Mother of God

*"...knowledge set in the context of faith becomes wisdom and life vision."* JP11 (#14)

### As faithful we are called to;

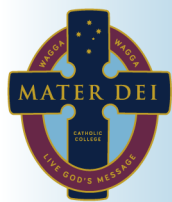
- Strive for an understanding of ourselves and others as dignified and loved by God
- Value the unique contributions made by each person
- Practice justice through tolerance, empathy and service
- Pray, celebrate and evangelise with a Catholic perspective
- Build hope in a faith filled future

*"...all human values find their fulfillment and unity in Christ."* JP11 (#3)

*"...there is no separation between time for learning and time for formation, between acquiring notions and growing in wisdom."* JP11 (#14)

### As learners we are encouraged to;

- Develop the values, knowledge and skills necessary to undertake lifelong personal, spiritual and intellectual growth
- Strive for excellence through programs which cater to the needs, interests and abilities of the individual



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The benefits of student involvement in organised sport activity are highly valued at Mater Dei Catholic College. Organised and representative sports allow development of skills and teamwork, promotion of positive values and a visible commitment to the promotion of an active, healthy lifestyle. This recognition of the benefits of sport is reflected in the provision of an extensive Internal Sport Program and support of representative competitions and pathways.

Learning time missed because of sports commitments must be considered in a learner-centred setting. Three ways of ensuring that learning is not compromised are to:

1. Define and limit the competitions and pathways that are supported;
2. Define and limit the commitments of individual students; and,
3. Define and limit the commitments of individual staff members.

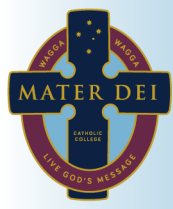
The following competitions and pathways are supported:

- Diocesan Sport competitions and selection trials.
- CCC sanctioned/affiliated competitions: Cricket (Berg and Downie Shields)  
Rugby League (Cochrane Cup)  
Teams Tennis
- Statewide Competitions: Rugby League (Country and Riverina Cups)  
Rugby Union (Fester and Wyburd Shields)  
Football (Bill Turner Cup)
- CWWHSSA competitions that are conducted out of school hours.
- CWWHSSA Swimming, Cross-Country and Athletics carnivals.
- Local competitions: U16 Boys AFL (Br Felix O'Connor Shield)  
Girls 7/8 and 9/11 AFL  
Girls 7/8 and 9/10 Oztag  
St Francis College Netball Challenge.

More significant than the breadth of sport offered is the total time out of school experienced by specific students. It is intended that this policy will require the more active student to carefully prioritise their chosen sporting commitments.

Except with permission from the Sport Co-ordinator (who consults with the Principal), students are not to miss more than 4 days per term (averaged over a school year) or represent in more than 6 teams. House Co-ordinators, Sports Co-ordinator and Principal also liaise to ensure that students who have already missed a significant number of days to illness or other reasons are counselled against adding to those days the maximum allowable number of sport days.

Data on team membership and days absent is collected and maintained by the Sport Co-ordinator. This requires accurate lists to be delivered to the Sport Co-ordinator two school days prior to the commitment.



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Teachers and support staff must not allow coaching and managing duties to impinge on their primary task of supporting student learning. Staff members are limited to the coaching or managing of three teams, excluding out-of-school competitions. The Sport Co-ordinator and Principal formalise coaching positions following nominations early in the school year.