



South Central School Sport Association – Codes of Conduct

For the Coach:

- The SCSSA Interschool philosophy is about kids **participating**, **having a go** and **having fun**.
- The rules for all interschool carnivals are set by the Association. They must be abided by at all times.
- Teach the Rules – to players and parents. Ensure your players always play by the rules.
- Develop team respect for opponents, umpires and coaches. It is also a coach's responsibility to ensure this respect is shown from the parents of the players in your team.
- Create a ***Safe, Fun and Fair*** team environment for your players.
- Ensure training suits the needs of all players.
- Ensure all players are rotated throughout the day. This involves ensuring that all players are given equal opportunity to game time and playing positions.
- Encourage students who wish to try an unfamiliar sport. This should not disadvantage the child's selection.
- Foster high standards of behaviour for your students.
- Focus on the child's efforts and self esteem rather than winning or losing. Your success as a coach is not measured by winning shields.
- Compliment and encourage all participants.
- Shake hands with umpires prior to every game where practically possible.
- Speak to students / parents / spectators who are not following the Codes of Conduct stipulated by the SCSSA, reminding them of the expectations regarding behaviour.
- Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved with the sport. Remember you are representing your school and your students, setting an example to your players / parents.



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For the Player:

- Play by the rules and within the spirit of the game. Sledging other players or deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable.
- Never argue with an umpire or an official. If you disagree, move on.
- Respect for the umpire's decision. There is zero tolerance towards umpire abuse. Any abuse of umpires, officials or other players is not acceptable. Indiscretions of this kind may result in suspension of games or upcoming carnivals.
- Be a team player.
- Treat all players fairly, both teammates and opponents.
- Be a good sport at all times. Applaud all good plays whether they are made by your team or the opposition.
- No bad language of any kind will be tolerated. Again suspension may occur.
- Cooperate with your coach, teammates, umpires and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- Play for the "fun of it" and enjoy the experience. Whilst it is nice to win, participation and enjoyment are the most important aspects of the interschool program.
- Be prepared to take responsibility for your actions.
- Congratulate all participants on their performance, regardless of the game's outcome.



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For the Parent / Spectator:

The SCSSA is very mindful the role parents play in their children's sporting lives; therefore the Association has adopted similar principles to the AFL Kids First philosophy.

The basic principles are to remind adults that:

1. Sport for children is a vital part of their growing up.
2. Children like to win, but more importantly, they want to have fun.
3. Parents / coaches need to set the right example at the sports ground, not just at home.
4. Adults should be proud of a child's efforts irrespective of the result.
5. Sport is important to children's self esteem.

Parents / spectators should:

- Always encourage participation and not force it upon the child.
- Teach that effort and participation is the victory, not winning.
- Always respect the umpire's decision – **ALWAYS!!** Encourage kids to always play by the rules and accept the umpire's decision at all times. The SCSSA will take a zero tolerance approach to umpire abuse.
- Understand that often umpires are juniors themselves, learning their roles on the day.
- Never ridicule mistakes or yell at a child for making mistakes or losing.
- Remember, involvement is for their enjoyment, not yours. Interschool is about the kids.
- Remember, children learn best by example. Applaud both teams.
- Never publicly disagree with an official.
- Never engage verbally with students from other schools (if you see an incident please refer directly to the teacher in charge ... do not take matters into your own hands).
- Show appreciation and respect for volunteer coaches, officials and administrators.
- Remember that smoking and the consumption of alcohol is unacceptable at any interschool event.
- There is a process that will take place for any indiscretions:
 - Step 1 – verbal warning given by SCSSA member or event organiser.
 - Step 2 – the offender may be asked to leave the carnival arena.