



**SAINT GEORGE
SCHOOL**
FOUNDED 1965



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SAINT GEORGE SCHOOL SPORTS POLICY

Saint George School is an institution which offers a comprehensive, innovative and challenging education to students at the Preschool, Elementary, Middle and High school levels. Through our commitment to values and ethics, based on community service and international understanding, we promote student solidarity, open mindedness and critical thinking, global diversity, an environmental conscience, and pride of their identity. In addition, our sports program and student physical activities, also help develop leadership skills such as integrity, equality, responsibility and self-discipline.

At Saint George School athletics is an integral part of the emotional and physical formation of our students, and therefore the school promotes their participation in our sports activities. For this reason, SGS offers a wide variety of sports according to the general interest of our student body. Furthermore, when possible, we are willing to include other sports which may be of interest to our international community. Currently, our athletic programs include Soccer, Basketball, and Volleyball, sports for which we have the adequate infrastructure.

In addition to promoting sports activities as a means of developing the students emotional and physical well-being, the school also actively encourages competitiveness through its involvement in different activities throughout the school year. However, the main objective of the school's athletic program is to instill in our students the importance of discipline, positive attitude, team work and self-esteem.

Saint George School has been recognized in the local community for its outstanding participation and achievement in athletic programs. We have a high percentage of students who are part of our selected teams and many more awaiting to be integrated into these. Therefore, the school found it necessary to develop this Sports Manual to clearly state its athletic policies and practices regarding the after school sports programs, and to guide the selection of students for our competitive teams.

I. Characteristics of Sports Practice

Recreational Sports Activities

The above mentioned sports activities begin as of Pre-Prep (only Soccer offered at this level) and take place Monday – Thursday from 2:15 – 4:30 pm. Each group practices twice a week for *one hour*. These programs are for recreational purposes only with the objective of including a great number of students in sports activities. However, please be aware that there is a limited number of students who can participate in these activities due to time and space limitations.

The activities in grades Pre0 Prep – 2nd grade are for recreational purposes only.

Team Sports/ Competitions

Team sports begin as of 3rd grade and will be chosen from students actively participating in the afternoon sports activities. These teams will have additional practice hours, especially before a competition.

II. Coaches

In order to provide the best athletic supervision and instruction and in line with the schools Guiding Principles, qualified coaches are assigned to each sport. Depending on the number of participants in each group activity, there will also be assigned an Assistant Coach.

Responsibilities of Coaches and Assistant Coaches:

Motivate students to have a positive attitude towards training and having them understand the benefits of a healthy life style while reaching their athletic goals

Assure that the students understand the rules of conduct and discipline established by the school during practices and competitions.

Evaluate the students' performance and apply strategies to improve their abilities.

Take into account the parents suggestions/comments and follow through on these.

IV Types of Activities

Recreational Sports - Participate in internal school competitions, friendly sports exchanges with other schools, intercollegiate tournaments selected for different levels of participation.

Competitive Sports – Participate in internal school competitions, friendly sports exchanges with other schools, intercollegiate tournaments, amongst others.

Students belonging to both recreational and competitive sports programs are eligible to participate in international sporting events. The schools participation in sporting events will be chosen by the Physical Education & Sports Department and the Community Relations Department, and approved by the Head of School, according to the athletic level of the event, the performance shown by the team in previous events, the benefits offered to athletic development of teams by a specific event, convenience of date of the event, and the possible beneficial cultural experience the team will experience during its participation.

V Communication Policy for Sports Activities

The Coordinator of the Physical Education & Sports Department is responsible for sending all communications to parents concerning any sporting event.

- Details of sporting events will be sent to parents 2 weeks before the event and will include: date, time, place and uniform to be used. If necessary, this information will be confirmed a few days before events due to unforeseen circumstances beyond the school's control.
- In addition to emails sent to parents concerning sporting events information, if the event is off school grounds and a signed consent form is required, a physical (paper) copy will be sent home with the student for / guardians to sign and return to school.
- In case a sporting event requires international travel, information will be sent 2 months in advance and an informative meeting will take place for parents/guardians and student athletes. International events are organized through the Community Service Department and Physical Education & Sports Department with the services of a travel agency. The incorporation of a travel agent assures that all travel requirements and logistics, while at the event, are fully covered.

VI School's Organizational Structure

The Physical Education & Sports Department is responsible for the planning and execution of sports programs and events. This department is composed of a Coordinator and Coaches of each sport. They count with the collaboration of the Community Relations Department and the Head of School.

The school's Athletic Committee is made up of parents, administrative personnel and the Coordinator of the Physical Education & Sports Department, and is responsible for periodic revisions of procedures and policies indicated in this manual. In addition, it is available for support in special cases in which the Coordinator asks for their input in helping resolve sports related issues.

Policies for Participation in After School Recreational Sports Activities

1. All students have the right to participate in after school sports activities as long as there is available space.
2. Parents/ guardians must officially register the student in the activity before the student is allowed to attend practices.
3. Students are required to wear appropriate clothes/uniform for each sport. The use of the school's physical education sweatpant is not allowed in any sport.
4. The norms of behavior, established in the Student Manual must be strictly followed during any after school sports activity. Likewise, sanctions established in the manual will be enforced .
5. The school reserves the right to suspend any student from further participation in any sports activities due to academic or behavioral problems.
6. Those responsible for after school recreational sports will coordinate tournaments and activities to ensure that all students participating in these be given an opportunity to participate in events.

7. Participation in sport exchanges or other activities will be notified to parents via written communication, paper or digital. If the activity is to take place outside of school campus, the parent/guardian must authorize the student's participation and transportation on the school bus by completing the form that will be provided.
8. The registration/participation of a student in the after school sports activities does not assure them that they will be part of the school team.
9. Within the after school sports activities, there will be intramural events in all categories and sports. Besides from recreational purposes, these events will also be used for selection of official school teams.
10. We appreciate the presence of parents/tutors as spectators during after school sports activities. However, we ask that you refrain from interfering with the normal course of the activity.
11. If a parent/guardian needs to speak to the coach, this must be done at the appropriate moment, always respecting class time.
12. Parents/tutors should always behave appropriately and in accordance with the values and principles that govern the school.

Policies for Participation in Competitive Team Sports

1. Competitive team sports begin as of the 3rd grade. (However, the school reserves the right to include players from 2nd grade in cases where there is a missing team member.)
2. The selection of the members of the official school teams is the sole responsibility of the coaches, who will take into account sports skills, participation, attitude, and record of student attendance.
3. To be selected as a member of a team, in addition to what is mentioned in point no. 1, the student's disciplinary history will be considered taking into account that the sports practice must comply with the rules of behavior established in the Student Manual.
4. The students selected for the teams must acquire the official SGS uniform, which will be personalized with their name and an assigned number.

5. The team uniform should only be used in matches or competitions in which the school is represented. If the student does not appear in full uniform to a match or competition, he/she will not be able to participate.
6. The student selected in any of the different sports, agrees to:
 - Regularly attend team practices. Each coach may request extra practices before a major sporting event. *(In the case of a student enrolled in an external sports academy to which the practices of this and those of the school coincide, an exception will be made to allow him/her to attend the school team practice at least once a week.)*
 - Participate in the tournaments in which the school decides and comply with the established schedule for the competition. *(If the student does not comply with the aforementioned, he/she would lose the right to play in an upcoming competition.)*
7. The student who arrives late to any sporting event, without timely justification, is subject to losing the right to participate in that game or competition.
8. The student who is absent, without prior notice, to an official game, competition or practice, is subject to losing the right to play in the next event. .
9. The student who is absent from competition two consecutive times, without previous valid justification, is subject to be suspended from the team for as long as the Coach and Sports Coordination deem necessary. *(Only the absence of a student for medical reasons, or others previously reported and considered relevant, will be taken as a justified excuse.)*
10. During the school year the different teams will have the opportunity to participate in international events. These events will have an additional cost and participation in them will be optional.

(If the In order to belong to a team it is essential to have a minimum academic average of 70 points; if a student does not comply with this condition, the school reserves the right to decide whether or not he/she should participate in the various invitational or competitive sporting events on behalf of the school until he/she increases grade average. For these purposes, the Sports Coordinator will send a list of athletes to the corresponding Principal one week beforehand to indicate if he or she objects to the participation of any of them for academic and /or behavioral reasons.

12. The rules of behavior established in the Student Manual must be observed by students during their participation in the After School Sports Activities. The sanctions established in the Manual are applicable to issues related to these activities.

- The student must apply the values learned in the school to the practice of sports.

- The student should maintain exemplary conduct on and off the court, always respecting the coaches and teammates.

13. We appreciate the presence of parents/tutors as spectators during practices and competitions. However, we ask that you refrain from interfering with the normal course of the activity.

14. If a parent/guardian needs to speak to the coach, this must be done at the appropriate moment, always respecting class time.

15. Parents/tutors should always behave appropriately and in accordance with the values and principles that govern the school.

The school reserves the right to suspend a student's participation in sports activities in case of academic and / or disciplinary situations.

Monetary Awards

In the event in which the school receives a monetary award as a result of its participation in sports competitions, these funds must be managed according to the following guidelines:

- 50% of the total amount must be destined for donation of sports resources to a pre-selected organization working with low income children.
- The School's Sports Committee will determine the use of the remaining 50% of these funds, which could be used towards sports utilities, training for coaches and/or athletes, or others.