



CENTRAL WOLLONGONG GALA DAY POLICY (2014)

PURPOSE:

Gala Days provide an opportunity for students to participate in interschool sport at a reduced overall cost and minimised disruption to normal school routines. They also enable a full competition to be conducted over a day. The underlying principle should be maximising the participation time and enjoyment of each student.

GUIDELINES FOR ACTION:

- Gala Days should be included in the District Sports Calendar as early as possible to enable schools to avoid clashes with other planned events and activities.
- In mixed competition, the convener shall stipulate the minimum number of girls on the field.
- Schools should nominate in advance the number of teams for each sport.
- The draw should be organised so that playing time is maximised for all students.
- Flexibility should be built into the draw so that where possible, teams should play other teams of similar ability.
- Draws (and redraws) should be sent to the Gala Day Co-ordinator the week prior to the Gala Day.
- Draws for all games should be at schools no later than the start of the week of the Gala Day.
- Results and point scores should be distributed to all schools participating in the competition as soon as possible after the Gala Day just conducted.
- Where possible, competent umpires/referees should be organised for the day.
- If competition is conducted at split venues, conveners should appoint a contact person at the other venue/s.
- The conduct of the competition should be clearly outlined at the district meeting or via email to all schools prior to the first Gala Day.
- The convener should distribute the appropriate section from *Guidelines for the Safe Conduct of Sport and Physical Activity in Schools, 1999* to all participating schools.
- A canteen, providing appropriate hot and cold food and drinks should be organised by the convener.
- A Gala Day report is to be forwarded to the Secretary at the conclusion of the competition.

IMPLICATIONS FOR TEACHERS

- Students participating should be given the skills and knowledge to participate in the particular sport.
- Ensure students have the appropriate safety equipment.
- Ensure that the District Codes of Conduct for Players, Coaches, Parents and Spectators are followed.
- Ensure that the playing areas are safe for participants.
- All schools should take a first aid kit and mobile phone to the ground.