2.3 CODE OF CONDUCT

Sport plays an important part in the life of a school and of its students. Equally important to us all is the way the game is played and the way in which our sportswomen conduct themselves. The GSV code of conduct will ensure that our students develop good sporting behaviors and have an enjoyable experience of sport.

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) has produced literature which outlines standards of behavior recommended as appropriate for children in sport. The ASC literature formed a basis for the preparation of the GSV code of conduct. Care has been taken to present the GSV code of conduct in a constructive way, encapsulating the existing culture of girls’ sport within independent girls’ schools.

The GSV code of conduct outlines the key principles on which the schools, team players, coaches and staff, spectators and parents should base their sporting involvement. It outlines standards of behavior recommended for all participants in GSV. The GSV code of conduct should be endorsed and adopted by all members.

SCHOOL

The school will, at all times, aim to participate in GSV in the spirit in which the Association was formed and in the spirit of The Guiding Principles. (Refer to section 1.2 for the Guiding Principles)

The school will, at all times, aim to adhere to all rules and regulations as determined by the Committee of Management of GSV, as set out in this handbook and amended from time to time.

The school will act as good and welcoming hosts to other schools.

The school will be respectful of all traditions and rules when visiting host schools and other sporting venues.

The school will ensure that all staff, coaches and volunteers working in GSV programs are suitably qualified to work with adolescent children in sport.

The school will not approach other school’s team members with the purpose of securing those team members for their own school in the future. This would be deemed highly unethical.

TEAM MEMBERS

Team members will observe the highest standards of sportsmanship at all times. Team members will:

- perform to the best of their ability at all times.
- accept without question the decisions of umpires and officials.
- shake hands at the completion of all matches.
- give three cheers for the other teams and the umpires at the conclusion of matches
- be gracious in victory and defeat.
- participate by the competition rules and regulations.
- respect all participants in the game and treat them courteously. This includes fellow team members, opponents, umpires, spectators and officials.
Bad language, abuse and poor sportsmanship will not be tolerated and may result in the offending student being removed indefinitely from the competition. The GSV Executive Officer is to be notified by the Director of Sport of the school at which the offending student attends of any such incident and the GSV Committee of Management will address the matter.

COACHES AND STAFF

Coaches and staff should aim to adhere, at all times, to the Guiding Principles, Rules and Regulations, Policies and Rules for their particular sport as set out in the GSV Handbook.

Coaches and staff will:

- carry out their duties to the best of their ability at all times.
- conduct themselves as appropriate role models for the students and maintain the highest standards of personal conduct at all times.
- observe the highest standard of ethics and they will promote these high standards amongst their team members, spectators and officials.
- endorse the ASC harassment free sport policy. Offensive, discriminatory, humiliating and intimidating behaviors will not be tolerated.
- promote the highest standards of sportsmanship and conduct amongst their athletes and teams.
- encourage and expect their players to adhere to the player’s code of conduct at all times.
- show appreciation for a good performance by any athlete in an appropriate and encouraging manner.
- accept without question the decisions of umpires and officials.
- allow all players to play to their ability and will ensure that all players have an equal opportunity to participate in the game.
- respect all participants in the competition and treat them courteously. This includes fellow coaches and staff, all players, umpires, spectators and officials.
- encourage and expect their school’s spectators to adhere to the spectators’ code of conduct.

Coaches and staff will at all times aim to follow the correct procedure for dealing with a protest or non-adherence to the rules, regulations and policies of GSV. This procedure is clearly set out in the GSV handbook. (Refer to section 2.4)

SPECTATORS

Spectators will observe the highest standard of sportsmanship and conduct at all times.

Spectators will:

- show appreciation for a good performance by any athlete or team member in an appropriate and encouraging manner.
- respect all participants in the sport competition and treat them courteously. This includes fellow spectators, athletes, umpires, coaches, staff and officials.
• respect the traditions and rules of the schools and sporting venues which they visit and act accordingly.
• accept without question the decisions of umpires and coaches.
• respect and adhere to the rules and regulations of GSV.
• Spectators must not verbally or otherwise intimidate any players in any form such as shouting, excessive cheering, questioning of decisions or interfering with play.

PARENTS

Parents will:
• aim to support and encourage their daughters in their participation in sport.
• respect and support the ongoing commitment required of their daughter as a team member.
• focus on their daughter’s efforts and performance rather than winning or losing.
• role model good sporting behavior and respect.
• appreciate good performance and skilful play by all participants.
• respect officials’ decisions and teach children to do likewise.
• respect the rights, dignity and worth of every person regardless of their gender, ability, cultural background or religion
• do not interfere with the conduct of any events, or approach any match officials during or after competition
• provide all necessary consents as reasonably required by GSV.

BREACHES OF CODE OF CONDUCT

In the event of a breach of the GSV Code of Conduct, a referee/umpire, school staff member/coach or GSV Representative is empowered to sanction the offending person/persons appropriately including exclusion from the field of play or surrounds.

Any breaches of the GSV Code of Conduct must be reported in writing to the GSV Office and the GSV Committee of Management will address the matter.