General Principles

**SEPS Sports teams will:**

1. Uphold the SEPS values.
2. Encourage participation of all students including those from other schools where appropriate, regardless of sporting prowess.
3. Aim to enhance every player’s capability through positive encouragement, constructive coaching, and training and playing experience.
4. Give all players opportunity to experience all aspects of the game (ie play in a variety of positions)
5. Give all players equal opportunity in terms of game time.
6. Encourage leadership and responsibility by rotating the team captaincy on a weekly basis, where applicable
7. Be subject to the school’s Student Engagement & Wellbeing Policy. Failure to comply should be reported to the Principal and may result in withdrawal of the privilege of playing for the school team.

To achieve the above:

**The committee of each sporting code shall:**

1. Provide an environment that encourages participation and fair play.
2. Where possible field sufficient teams to provide the greatest opportunity to as many players as possible. Students will be encouraged to play in their own age group. Teams will be selected to give all players and teams a reasonable chance of success. The organisation of the picking of teams will be the responsibility of the coordinators with the final approval of the school.
   
   At times students from other schools will be included in teams to ensure adequate numbers. In such cases all players, including those from other schools will be given equal opportunity to play.
3. Where player numbers require, players may be periodically rostered out of the game. Every attempt should be made to make this roster fair for all.
4. Provide uniforms for teams that identify with the school as a whole.
   
   All sporting uniforms (whether provided by the School or parents) shall be subject to the approval of School Council.
5. Support players without undue pressure to participate in representative teams. When appropriate, the school shall determine those players based on available numbers and player’s ability and the relevant sport’s guidelines.
6. Ensure that all Saturday sporting teams have Code of Conducts that must be signed. These must be adhered to in conjunction with the school's Sporting Teams Code of Conduct.
**Players shall:**

1. Play by the rules.
2. Never argue with an official.
3. Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials or other players, deliberately distracting or provoking an opponent is not acceptable or permitted in any sport.
4. Work equally hard for yourself and / or your team. Your team’s performance will benefit, so will you.
5. Be a good sport. Applaud all good plays whether they be by your team or the opposition.
6. Treat all players as you would like to be treated. Do not interfere with, bully or take unfair advantage of another player.
7. Co-operate with your coach, team mates and opponents. Without them, there would be no competition.
8. Participate for your own enjoyment and benefit. Have fun!
9. Respect the right, dignity and worth of all participants regardless of their ability, gender, cultural background or religion.
10. Be a safe, responsible and ethical user of social media in line with SEPS ‘Acceptable ICT Usage’ policy.

**Coaches shall:**

1. Coach in a positive and encouraging manner at all times.
2. Encourage participation and development of players.
3. Focus on participation, enjoyment and teamwork and not on the result of matches.
4. Never berate or belittle any player, official or spectator.
5. Recognise the performance of all players equally.
6. Impose sanctions if necessary for misbehaviour at training or on a Saturday in line with the school’s Student Engagement & Wellbeing Policy.
7. Teach your players to follow the rules.
8. Whenever possible, group players to ensure that everyone has a reasonable chance of success.
9. Avoid overplaying the talented players. The “just average” need and deserve equal time over the course of the season.
10. Ensure that equipment, facilities and training drills meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of players.
11. Ensure no player participates on match day without the agreed regulation equipment.
   - For Netball: no jewellery, hard hair adornments. Short fingernails are mandatory.
   - For Football: helmet, mouthguard
   - For Soccer: shin pads, mouthguard (recommended)
12. Keep up to date with the latest coaching practices and principles.
13. Be a safe, responsible and ethical user of social media in line with SEPS ‘Acceptable ICT Usage’ policy.
Parents and Spectators shall:

1. Support and encourage all players equally.
2. Not force an unwilling child to participate in sports.
3. Remember that children are involved in organised sports for their enjoyment, not yours.
4. Encourage your child to always play by the rules.
5. Teach your child that honest effort is as important as victory, so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
6. Turn defeat to victory, by helping your child work towards skill improvement and good sportsmanship, never ridicule or yell at your child for making a mistake or losing competition.
7. Remember that children learn best by example. Applaud good plays by your team and members of the opposing team.
8. Not question the officials' judgement and never their honesty.
9. Support all efforts to remove all verbal and physical abuse from children’s sporting activities.
10. Recognise the value and importance of volunteer coaches. They give up their time and resources to provide recreation activities for your child. Let them coach the team and do not cause confusion by giving your child conflicting instructions during the game.
11. Demonstrate positive behaviours towards volunteer coaches and team managers ensuring that they are treated respectfully at all times.
12. Be aware that the consumption of alcohol or the smoking of cigarettes is strictly prohibited at all scheduled junior matches and on DEECD school grounds. Failure to comply can result in fines, disqualification of individual, Team or Club from the sports' governing body.
13. Be responsible for ensuring the supervision of your child and their siblings during training sessions and games. It is not the coach’s nor the school’s role to supervise your child.
14. All adults responsible for children should ensure that children are picked up at the designated time at the end of training and/or games. Where applicable, rosters for oranges and washing jumpers should also be adhered to.
15. Be a safe, responsible and ethical user of social media in line with SEPS ‘Acceptable ICT Usage’ policy.

Please cut off this section, retain the Code of Conduct and return this slip to school.

CODE OF CONDUCT CONFIRMATION

Full name of student: ....................................................

This note confirms that I have read, signed and understood the Sporting Teams Code of Conduct for ......................................(sport).

I have read and understood the PLAYER Code of Conduct ....................................................(student signature)

I have read and understood the COACHES’ Code of Conduct .............................................(Coach’s signature – If applicable)

I have read and understood the PARENTS’ Code of Conduct ..............................................(Parents’ signature)