



## SPORTING SELECTION POLICY

### Rationale

At Middle Harbour Public School (MHPS), sport is an integral part of the Personal Development/Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) curriculum. Opportunities to participate in various sporting activities are provided to all students at class, grade/stage and whole school level.

Students may represent the school in a variety of competitions organised through the Primary Schools Sports Association (PSSA) and other external providers.

### PSSA Carnivals (Swimming, Cross Country & Athletics)

At the conclusion of MHPS carnivals, students who have qualified to represent the school at the zone level are identified. Usually, students who are placed 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in each school carnival event are selected, however, sometimes students must also meet zone qualifying times or distances. Selection of relay teams is at the discretion of the organising teacher(s).

Similarly, students who then qualify to represent the North Shore Zone at Sydney North regional level, are notified at zone carnivals and so on.

### Friday PSSA Sport Competitions (North Shore Zone)

Schools in the North Shore Zone combine to form sporting competitions on Friday afternoons throughout the year. The PSSA determines the sports available and terms competitions are held. AFL, soccer and netball are currently available during Terms 2 and 3.

Participation in these competitions is available to students in Years 4 – 6. Based on ground availability and cost, the North Shore Zone determines which sports are available for each grade and the number of teams schools may enter.

Interested MHPS students are required to nominate themselves and then trial for a position. Trials are held in the last two weeks of Term 1 and students must attend in order to be considered. Team selections are based on skill, performance and attitude during the trial sessions. Final decisions on team selection are made by two identified teacher selectors.

Students who are not selected for the PSSA teams will participate in sporting activities at school, which focus on skill development and games sense associated with these team sports.

### PSSA Knockout Competitions (NSW)

The NSW PSSA runs knockout competitions for a range of sports throughout the year. Schools play each other in a one-off match, with the victorious team progressing to the next round. Currently, MHPS enters teams into the NSW PSSA cricket, netball and soccer knockout competitions. Cricket team selection is based on merit. Those with prior cricket experience are given priority in the team selection. Netball and soccer knockout teams are made up of those students who are in the top PSSA team, based on the school trials.

### **North Shore PSSA & Sydney North Region PSSA Trials**

The PSSA runs additional competitions in various sports between zones and regions. Zone trials are held by the North Shore PSSA and students are nominated by the MHPS sports coordinator to attend. Generally, nominated students play at representative level outside the school.

The sports coordinator notifies students of these opportunities via an announcement at school and in the school newsletter. As the level of skill required to represent MHPS at zone or regional level is very high, the sports coordinator may elect not to nominate any MHPS students for trial.

Further information regarding PSSA sport can be found at: [www.sports.det.nsw.edu.au/nswpssa](http://www.sports.det.nsw.edu.au/nswpssa)

### **Gala Days & Skills Sessions**

From time to time the school may have the opportunity to enter teams in gala days or to arrange for sporting associations to conduct skills sessions at school or at venues outside of the school. Participation is open to all interested students in an identified group. If places are limited, they are filled on a first come, first serve basis.

### **Middle Harbour Public School Sport Code of Conduct**

When chosen to represent the school at zone, regional and state level, students are expected to behave in an exemplary manner, both on and off the sporting field. This includes wearing full school sports uniform and upholding the MHPS Sporting Code of Conduct. The Sporting Code of Conduct will be distributed to all students prior to school representation and must be returned in order for them to participate. Failure to abide by this code of conduct could see students removed from teams.