



**SINGAPORE PRIMARY SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL
FOOTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR
NATIONAL SCHOOL GAMES
(SENIOR & JUNIOR DIVISIONS) 2024**

(Updated as of 10 January 2024)

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PREAMBLE

This document outlines the rules and regulations for the conduct of and participation in the National School Games (NSG). These rules and regulations should be interpreted and implemented in alignment to the spirit of the SPSSC's Mission, Aspirations and Motto (**Refer to [Annex A](#)**).

SECTION A – ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND REGULATIONS

1 ORGANISATION STRUCTURE AND GOVERNING BODIES

- 1.1 The National School Games (NSG) shall be conducted:
 - 1.1.1 as governed by the General Rules and Regulations of the Singapore Primary Schools Sports Council (SPSSC).
 - 1.1.2 according to the sport-specific rules and regulations that are modified to suit the level of our school students for safety / developmental reasons.
 - 1.1.3 in adherence to the Baseline Safety Standards for the NSG.
 - 1.1.4 according to the laws / rules established by the respective International Federations (IFs) / governing bodies.
- 1.2 National School Games Organising Committee (NSGOC)
 - 1.2.1 The NSGOC shall consist of the following:
 - a) Lead Convenor
 - b) Convenors
 - c) Lead Organising Secretary
 - d) Organising Secretaries
 - e) Game Advisor
 - f) Game Manager / Game Executive
 - g) Technical Committee
 - h) Any other co-opted members deemed necessary
 - 1.2.2 The NSGOC are empowered to appoint sub-committees and individual members to assist in the organisation and running of the NSG competitions as and when required.
 - 1.2.3 The NSGOCs shall have sub-committees to perform the following roles and responsibilities (**Refer to [Annex B](#)**):
 - a) Competitions: Organise and conduct the competition according to the rules and regulations, and established safety standards.
 - b) Technical: Establish, review and update competition rules and regulations for the competitions and other matters necessary to provide for safe and developmentally appropriate NSG competitions.
 - c) Recognition, Protest and Discipline: Manage recognition and discipline structures to support the desired outcomes of the NSG.

- d) Other functions necessary for the successful completion of the NSG sport that the NSGOC is in charge of.

2 AGE GROUPS / DIVISIONS/ NSG SPORTS CATEGORIES

2.1 All students shall compete in their respective divisions as stated below:

Division	Date of Birth
Senior	1 Jan 2013
	1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012
	2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011
	1 Jan 2011
Junior	1 Jan 2015
	1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014
	2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013
	1 Jan 2013

2.2 All students shall compete in the respective divisions set out in the Para. 2.1 **with the exception of those born on 1 January who have been given approval for deferment by MOE during P1 registration.** These students will compete in the division with the cohort that they are studying with.

2.2.1 With effect from 2021, students who are born on 1 January and have participated in NSG previously shall follow the rules stated in Para 2.2. This rule will supersede all previous decisions.

2.2.2 This exception in Para 2.2 does not apply to students who are born on 1 January and have repeated a year of study.

2.3 All students can only be registered in one division of a sport within the same year.

2.4 Students aged 11 can only play in the Senior Division for match-based (Team) Sports that include Football.

2.5 Age Dispensation

2.5.1 Age Dispensation is not applicable to Football.

2.6	Categories of NSG Sports		
2.6.1	<u>Match-based (Team) Sports:</u> Badminton (Senior), Basketball, Floorball, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rugby, Sepaktakraw, Softball, Table Tennis (Senior) and Volleyball		
2.6.2	<u>Match-based (Individual) Sports:</u> Badminton (Junior), Table Tennis (Junior), Taekwondo (Kyorugi) and Tennis		
2.6.3	<u>Event-based Sports:</u> Bowling, Golf, Gymnastics, Rope Skipping, Sailing, Swimming, Taekwondo (Poomsae), Track & Field and Wushu		

3 ENTRIES

- 3.1 Each school is eligible to enter only one team per division per sex. The divisions are stated below.
 - a) Boys Senior Division
 - b) Girls Senior Division
 - c) Boys Junior Division
 - d) Girls Junior Division
- 3.2 All entries for Match-based (Team) Sports must be submitted by the PE/CCA Key Personnel via FormSG by 2 January 2024.
 - 3.2.1 Requests for late / withdrawal of entries must be sent via email through the Principal to the Lead Convenor by the Team Managers' (TMs) Briefing.

4 REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

- 4.1 Eligibility
 - 4.1.1 Only official students of the school can represent the school.
 - 4.1.1.1 Schools participating in the tournament shall be entitled to register a maximum of 15 participants and a minimum of 9 participants for the tournament.
 - 4.1.1.2 The participants will compete in all stages of the competition.
 - 4.1.2 Students requesting for a transfer may only represent their new school when the transfer has been officially effected.
 - 4.1.3 International students can only be registered to compete for their school **after** they have been issued with the student passes from the Immigration and Checkpoints Authority (ICA).
 - 4.1.4 Students who are in the schools on exchange programmes are not allowed to represent the school.
 - 4.1.5 Students granted Leave of Absence (LOA) by MOE are allowed to represent the school.
 - 4.1.6 Registration constitutes representation, that is, once a student is registered to compete for a school, he or she is deemed to have represented his or her school. Hence, the student is not allowed to represent another school in the same sport in the same year.
 - 4.1.7 The fielding of unregistered participants will result in a forfeiture of the matches concerned (**Refer to [Para. 10](#)**).
- 4.2 Registration Process
 - 4.2.1 All registration must be submitted through the NSG Integrated system (NIS) Registration Module at <https://nsg.moe.edu.sg/nis/#/login> by the stipulated closing date. This includes details of participants along with the necessary supporting documents including:
 - a) Baseline Safety Standards Acknowledgement Form
 - b) Supporting documents for Special / Transfer case students
 - c) Other forms as determined by the respective NSGOCs

- 4.2.2 Any requests for amendments or late registration after the closing date must be sent via email through the Principal to the Lead Convenor.
 - 4.2.2.1 Football (Senior & Junior): 1 working day before the team's next match
- 4.3 Replacement and addition of participants
 - 4.3.1 Replacement of a registered participant is only allowed when that participant is no longer an official student of the school and if the school has maximised their registration numbers.
 - 4.3.2 Addition of participants is only allowed for students who have joined the school after registration has closed and if schools have not maximised their registration numbers.
 - 4.3.3 Any request for replacement (Para. 4.3.1) or addition (Para. 4.3.2) after registration has closed, must be sent via email through the Principal to the Lead Convenor at least one (1) working day before the next match.
- 4.4 In competitions where there is a Pool Round for Tier / League Competitions, teams will progress automatically to the Tier / League round with no further registration required.

SECTION B – COMPETITION RULES & REGULATIONS

5 COMPETITION FORMAT (Refer to [Annex E](#))

- 5.1 All sports competition formats shall be that as approved by the SPSSC's Standing Committee and stated in the specific sport's rules and regulations.
- 5.2 The competition shall be organised in the following formats:
 - a) Pool to League (Senior Division Boys)
 - b) Pool to Tier (Junior Division Boys)
 - c) Classification to League (Senior and Junior Girls)
- 5.3 For a competition to be organised:
 - 5.3.1 There must be a minimum of three (3) registered teams from three (3) different schools for Team Sports.
- 5.4 For Match-based sports (Football):
 - 5.4.1 Each participant / team shall play a minimum of six (6) matches¹ unless otherwise approved by the SPSSC Standing Committee.
 - 5.4.2 Where entries are grouped, each group shall have a minimum of **four (4)** participants / teams for all divisions.
- 5.5 Seeding and Placing

¹ Except for sparring sports and sports with only 3 participating teams

- 5.5.1 The preceding year's results shall be used for seeding in the first round of all competition formats.
- 5.5.2 The seeding and placing approaches for Pool to League Competitions in these scenarios shall be as follows:

a) Barred / Withdrawn Teams

If any team discontinues participation in the competition during Pool Round, they will be placed last in the group. The team will be treated as a "ghost" entry in the next lower League and placed last there.

b) Missing Teams

Where there are any missing teams in the Pool Round prior to the draw, additional team(s) will be drawn from the next lower Pool based on the preceding year's League position.

c) New Teams

The placement of new teams will be done as follows:

New Team	Placement
One new school	Lowest Pool
Two new schools (Combined Teams)	Lowest Pool
Current school + new school (Combined Teams)	Based on the current school's League placing
Two current schools (Merging / Combined Teams)	Based on the school with the higher League placing

6 AWARD OF LEAGUE POINTS

6.1 Senior and Junior Divisions

- 6.1.1 The following scoring system shall apply:

Result	Point
Win	3
Draw	1
Loss / Walkover	0

- 6.1.2 A team that concedes a walk-over will get zero (0) points. The opposing team will be awarded three (3) points and three (3) goals. This is considered a forfeiture of the match (**Refer to [Para. 10](#)**).
- 6.1.3 In the Semi-Finals and the Final, an extra time of five (5) minutes per half shall be played if the match ends in a draw. If the match remains a draw at the end of the extra-time, five (5) kicks from the penalty spot shall be used to determine the winner.

6.2 Tie-break

- 6.2.1 In the event that teams have equal league points, their positions shall be determined by the tie-breaker sequences stated in 6.2.2 to 6.2.4. If any team involved in the tie had forfeited any match, it shall be placed last among the tied teams before the tie-breaking sequence is applied to the remaining teams.
- 6.2.2 In the case of a **two-team tie**, the positions shall be established by the following sequence:
- 6.2.2.1 Head-to-Head (The winner of the match between these two teams shall be awarded the higher placing)
 - 6.2.2.2 Goal Difference (all teams in the group)
 - 6.2.2.3 Goals Scored (all teams in the group)
 - 6.2.2.4 Drawing of Lots (between these two teams)
- 6.2.3 If **three or more teams** have equal league points, the positions shall be established by the following sequence*:
- 6.2.3.1 Goal Difference (**only** among the tied teams)
 - 6.2.3.2 Goals Scored (**only** among the tied teams)
 - 6.2.3.3 Goal Difference (all teams in the group)
 - 6.2.3.4 Goals Scored (all teams in the group)
 - 6.2.3.5 Drawing of Lots (**only** among the remaining tied teams)
- 6.2.4 If only two (2) teams remain tied after applying 6.2.3, the winner of the match between these two teams shall be awarded the higher placing (Head-to-Head). If these two teams remain tied after applying Head-to-Head, the tie-breaker sequence (6.2) shall continue.
- 6.2.5 The results of any team that is not involved in a tie in league points and has forfeited a match shall be disregarded in the calculation of tie-breaks.

7 AWARDS

7.1 Divisional Awards

- 7.1.1 There should be only one (1) Divisional Title² per division / sex.
- 7.1.2 The number of divisional trophies to be awarded shall be as follows:

No. of Teams	Positions Awarded
3 to 4	2
5 to 6	3
7 or more	4

² Only events with a minimum of three (3) competitors from three (3) different schools will contribute to the calculation for Divisional Titles.

7.1.3 No individual award will be given to each participant.

7.2 The number of prizes to be awarded for League Competitions (Senior Division) shall be as follows:

No. of Teams in League One	Positions Awarded for League One	Positions Awarded for each of the remaining leagues*
4 - 6	3	1
7 - 8	4	2
9 - 10	5	2
11 - 12	6	3
13 - 14	7	3
15 and more	8	4

**For all remaining leagues, the number of prizes to be awarded will be up to 50% of the prizes awarded for League One.*

7.3 The number of prizes to be awarded for Tier Competitions (Junior Division) shall be as follows:

7.3.1 Up to the top 40% of participants / teams of each group within a tier can be awarded with prizes.

7.3.2 The number of prizes to be awarded for groups in Tier competitions shall be as follows:

No. of Teams	Positions Awarded
4	1
5 - 7	2

7.3.3 Within each tier, the absolute number of medals awarded across groups should be the same.

7.4 The Achievement Pins awarded for all competitions in Junior Division shall be as follows:

7.4.1 Achievement pins shall be awarded up to the top 50% of participants in each Pool groupings.

7.5 The prizes awarded for all competitions shall be as follows:

Position	Medals / Trophies
1 st	Gold
2 nd	Silver
3 rd to 8 th	Bronze

8 REPORTING AND GRACE PERIOD

8.1 Teams are to report punctually according to the time stated by the NSGOC.

8.2 Teams who are unable to report on time, must inform the NSGOC or their representatives at the competition venue of the delay. Where applicable,

specific sports can allow for a grace period of fifteen (15) minutes. The NSGOC may extend this grace period if deemed justifiable.

- 8.3 A team which fails to turn up or turn up late after the grace period, the match will be forfeited (**Refer to [Para. 10](#)** for rules on forfeiture) and the team shall concede a walkover to the opposing team.

9 POSTPONEMENT AND ABANDONMENT

- 9.1 Any postponement or abandonment³ of a match / event shall be determined by the NSGOC only.

9.2 Postponed Match (Play has **NOT** started)

- 9.2.1 The referee is required to submit a written report on the Postponed Match within one (1) working day.
- 9.2.2 If a match has not started due to inclement weather, it will be played on another day arranged by NSGOC.

9.3 Postponed Match (**Incomplete** - Play has started)

- 9.3.1 Match is to be continued from where play was stopped with the score remaining the same at a time and venue stipulated by the NSGOC. This applies to all matches including Quarter-Finals (Senior Division only), Semi-Finals and Final.
- 9.3.2 If 75% of the match has been played and the match cannot proceed due to inclement weather, the result will stand (refer to table below). This does not apply for Semi-Finals and Final (i.e. 100% of the match must be played for the result to stand for these matches).

Division	Sex	Total Time per Match	75% Rule (Ref time)
Senior	Boys	60 (30 Mins per half with 10 Mins interval)	45 Mins
	Girls	50 (25 Mins per half with 10 Mins interval)	38 Mins
Junior	Boys	50 (25 Mins per half with 10 Mins interval)	38 Mins
	Girls	40 (20 Mins per half with 10 Mins interval)	30 Mins

- 9.3.3 The following rules shall apply to incomplete matches when they resume on another day:
- The match shall resume from where play was stopped in the incomplete game.
 - Match time will continue till Full Time or at least 75% completion before the game is considered to be completed if the resumed match is interrupted by inclement weather.
 - The score continues from the incomplete match.

³ Abandonment refers to any match that has started but cannot reach a natural conclusion and may be postponed or cancelled.

- d) The same set of participants (at the incomplete match before play was stopped) shall start the resumed match.
- e) If a participant is unavailable, a substitution (if permitted) can be made prior to the start of the match.
- f) Any yellow or red card received at the incomplete match shall be carried forward to the match when it resumes.

9.4 In case of inclement weather, the 1st and 2nd matches must be completed within the following stipulated duration (subject to visibility). If not, the matches will be postponed.

Division	Sex	Kick-off and end timings
Senior	Boys and Girls	<u>1st match:</u> Must start by 3.20p.m. and end by 4.30p.m.
Junior		<u>2nd match:</u> Must start by 4.50p.m. and end by 6.00p.m.

10. WITHDRAWAL AND FORFEITURE

10.1 Any withdrawal⁴ or forfeiture⁵ can be considered contrary to the spirit of the NSG and can result in a walkover when the fixtures / competition schedule has been issued.

10.1.1 In the event that the withdrawal causes unevenness in the fixtures / competition, the NSGOC may conduct a full / partial re-draw.

10.2 For each withdrawal or forfeiture, a written explanation duly endorsed by the Principal shall be submitted to the Lead Convenor and copied to the Game Advisor within one (1) working day. The Pitch Manager and Referee shall submit a report each to the Convenor.

10.3 For withdrawals, all results involving the team / participant will be null & void.

10.4 For forfeitures, the team will concede a walkover and the walkover score line will be 3 – 0 in favour of the team that is present.

10.5 In any play-off for top 8 placings, schools involved in a withdrawal or forfeiture without a valid reason will not be placed.

11 WALKOUT⁶

11.1 Staging a walkout is considered a serious breach of conduct and contrary to the spirit of NSG.

⁴ Withdrawal refers to discontinuing participation in the competition.

⁵ Forfeiture refers to inability to start or complete a match / event.

⁶ Wilful refusal to compete against the NSGOC's advice.

- 11.2 Participants that stage a walkout shall be subject to disciplinary action (**Refer to [Para 19](#)**).
- 11.3 A written explanation from the school(s) duly endorsed by the Principal shall be submitted to the Lead Convenor and copied to the Game Advisor within one (1) working day.
- 11.4 The competition officials shall submit a written report to the NSGOC within one (1) working day.

12 CLARIFICATION AND PROTEST (Refer to [Annex D](#))

12.1 Clarification

- 12.1.1 Team Managers (TMs) are allowed to seek clarification with the competition officials / NSGOC during intervals or appropriate times as stated in the sport-specific rules. Upon completion of clarification, the match shall proceed based on the decision of the competition officials / NSGOC.
- 12.1.2 If the clarification were to result in any disruption / interference of the competition, the matter shall be brought to the attention of the NSGOC for follow up action.

12.2 Competing Under Protest

- 12.2.1 If the TM has strong justification against the decision of the competition officials / NSGOC, the TM shall indicate their intention to compete under protest to the NSGOC or their representatives, who will inform all Competition officials and TMs involved in the affected match. These shall be done as soon as possible without disrupting the competition.
- 12.2.2 Any competition under protest and / or intent to lodge an official protest shall be officially recorded according to the sport-specific rules and regulations.

12.3 Protest

- 12.3.1 Following from Para. 12.2, the TM concerned may submit an official protest to the NSGOC via email. The protest must fulfil all the following conditions:
 - a) Be sent through the Principal
 - b) Reach the NSGOC within one (1) working day after the match unless stipulated otherwise in the respective sport-specific rules
 - c) Provide reasons and evidence for the protest
 - d) Meets the requirements as stated in Para. 12.2.2
- 12.3.2 Protests based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgement on the part of a referee shall not be considered by the NSGOC.
- 12.3.3 A protest panel chaired by a Convenor will be formed within the NSGOC to deliberate on protests that have met all conditions in

12.3.1. Where there may be potential conflict of interest, the schools involved will not sit in the panel.

12.3.4 The decision of the protest panel will be made known in writing to the schools concerned within five (5) working days.

12.3.5 A protest fee of \$150 will be paid by the school that raised the protest (within 30 days from notification of outcome) if the protest is overruled.

13 APPEAL (Refer to [Annex D](#))

13.1 Schools may appeal against the outcome of a protest to the Council. The appeal must fulfil all the following conditions:

- a) Be sent through the Principal
- b) Reaches the respective Honorary Secretary for zonal competitions, or Secretariat of the main council for national competitions within two (2) working days upon receiving the protest sub-committee's decision
- c) Provides reasons and evidence for the appeal

13.2 The Board of Appeal (BoA) will be convened to deliberate on the appeal within ten (10) working days. Where there may be potential conflict of interest, the schools involved will not sit in the BoA. The decision of the BoA shall be final.

13.3 An appeal fee of \$300 will be paid by the schools that raised the appeal (within 30 days from notification of outcome) if the appeal is overruled.

14 BARRED PARTICIPANTS

14.1 Participants barred by any one of the following bodies are not allowed to participate in the NSG for that sport:

- a) School
- b) Singapore Primary Schools Sports Council (SPSSC)
- c) National Federation (NF) of the sport, with endorsement from SPSSC

15 TEAM MANAGER (TM)

15.1 The Team Manager (TM) will represent the school on all matters pertaining to the duty of care, student management and competition matters relating to the participants / teams from their school (**Refer to [Annex E](#)**).

15.2 Participants / teams must be accompanied by a TM who shall remain with the team throughout the duration of play. The absence of a TM will result in a forfeiture of the matches / events concerned (**Refer to [Para. 10](#)**).

- 15.3 The TM shall be a school staff⁷ appointed by the participating school.
- 15.4 TMs are expected to conduct themselves with decorum at all times and strive towards Aspiration 2 (Refer to [Annex A](#)).
- 15.5 TMs must ensure that their coaches adhere to the rules and regulations and the Code of Conduct (Refer to [Annex F](#)).

16 COACHES

- 16.1 Coaches are expected to conduct themselves with decorum in alignment to the Code of Conduct (Refer to [Annex F](#)) and strive towards Aspiration 2 at all times (Refer to [Annex A](#)).
- 16.2 Coaches are not allowed to approach the officials to query their decisions. Only TMs are allowed to approach officials to seek clarifications.

17 COMPETITION OFFICIALS

- 17.1 Only qualified referees from FAS shall be appointed. The decision taken by the referee will be final. The referee shall make the final call regarding the continuation of a match due to poor visibility.
- 17.2 There shall be THREE (3) and TWO (2) referees appointed from the Semi-Final stage onwards for Senior Boys and Senior Girls Divisions respectively.
- 17.3 An Official or a Pitch Manager (school staff⁸ appointed by the school) would be appointed for each match to carry out the following tasks:
- To conduct RAMS and Baseline Safety checks (include 2m safety distance from goals/touch lines). These checks are to be conducted each match day before the commencement of the first match.
 - To provide a set of instructions for visiting teams, where necessary
 - To ensure that 2 technical areas for both the teams and designated area(s) for the supporters are marked out clearly.
 - To ensure that only the registered participants and a maximum of THREE (3) officials to be allowed in each technical area. The schools concerned must introduce them to the Pitch Manager before the start of the match.
 - To assist the referee **only when necessary** if there is a temporary stop or affected match due to lightning or the pitch is unplayable due to heavy rainfall.
 - To ensure that the Referee STOPS the match IMMEDIATELY in accordance with the Lightning Risk Alert and/ or Siren or in the event lightning is spotted (without LWS alert or siren).
 - To submit the result and the completed team sheets to the respective convenor immediately after the match (includes yellow or red card cases which may require immediate follow-up action).

⁷ For TMs, MOE employed staff such as Education Officer, Contract Adjunct, Flexi Adjunct, EAS (AM, OM and CSO) and AED can be deployed.

⁸ Education Officers, Contract Adjunct teachers, Flexi-adjunct teachers, Allied Educators, Relief teachers and Untrained teachers.

- h) To inform the Convenor in writing of any irregularities contravening the tournament rules involving Football Team Managers, supporters or External Coaches.
 - i) Pitch manager has to be another official (not the Team Manager) appointed by the school and **must be competent to carry the necessary tasks required to oversee the match.**
- 17.4 Schools should ensure that the appointed pitch managers are present to fulfil their duties as scheduled by the Convenor and in alignment to Aspiration 3 (Refer to [Annex A](#)).
- 17.5 Where required by sport-specific rules and regulations, referees should declare any potential conflict of interest to the NSGOC before the start of the competition.

18 SPECTATORS

- 18.1 Participating schools must ensure that spectators from their school attending the competitions are aligned to Aspiration 5 (Refer to [Annex A](#)) and cooperate with the officials.
- 18.2 Schools sending spectators to the competition shall ensure that their students are in proper school attire and that there are sufficient teachers present to be responsible for their management and well-being.
- 18.3 Spectators may not be allowed to enter the competition venue if they fail to comply with the venue's SOP.
- 18.4 All spectators should remain within their stipulated area throughout the competition and are not allowed to interfere with competition proceedings or approach the competition officials (referees or pitch managers) to clarify their decisions.
- 18.5 In the event of disruptive or unsportsmanlike behaviour, the NSGOC or its representatives may at their discretion, stop the disturbance and evict the spectators from the competition venue.

19 SERIOUS BREACH OF CONDUCT

- 19.1 A Disciplinary Panel comprising members of the NSGOC will be formed to investigate the breach.
- 19.1.1 A convenor of the NSGOC shall be appointed as the Chairperson of the panel.
 - 19.1.2 The panel may co-opt members from outside the NSGOC, including personnel from the National Federation (NF) to provide technical advice where necessary.
- 19.2 Any individual found guilty of serious breaches of conduct, such as an attempt to inflict, or has inflicted physical harm, or the threat of such on another person, shall be expelled from the NSG, and be banned from it for the calendar year of the NSG. The disciplinary panel can also recommend punishment beyond the calendar year if the breach occurs during the final stages of the competition.

This shall also apply to all such behaviours traced to an NSG competition before, during or after the competition.

- 19.3 An appeal against the decision of the Disciplinary Panel can be submitted by the school (for participants, coaches, and TMs) and / or the official to the Council, whose decision shall be final (**Refer to [Para. 13](#)**).

20 ATTIRE

- 20.1 All participants must be in suitable attire bearing the school crest / name where possible and in accordance with the sport-specific rules and regulations.
- 20.2 In the event of a clash of jersey colours, the FIRST NAMED TEAM shall have to change. Team is only allowed to play with proper attire. Teams are strongly advised to bring along a second set of jerseys or bibs with numbers in case they are required to change.
- 20.3 All jerseys must be clearly numbered (from 1 - 50).
- 20.4 Use of footwear is compulsory for participants. Boots with metal studs are not permitted.
- 20.5 Use of shin-guards or shin-pads is compulsory for all participants. Referees shall not allow participants without shin-guards to play.
- 20.6 Participants who have been registered using a certain number must use the same registered number throughout the competition. Serious action will be taken against the participant who is found to be playing under a different jersey number.
- 20.6.1 If a participant has lost / did not bring his/her jersey, he / she can play under a different jersey number provided the Referee, Pitch Manager and the Team Manager of the opposing team are informed and the information is duly recorded and endorsed in the Team Sheet.

21.	GAME FORMAT		
	21.1	Playing Area	
		21.1.1	Most of the matches will be played on school fields and the size of fields could vary. For Boys and Girls 8-A-Side football, the breadth of the playing field is between 30m – 50m and the length is between 50m – 70m. The goalpost dimensions for Boys competitions are 6.4m (L) by 2.1m (H), and for Girls' competitions 5m (L) by 2m (H), excluding the perimeter of 2m safe zone.
	21.2	Duration of Match	
		21.1.1	Each match shall consist of 2 equal halves
		21.1.2	Water breaks of 2 mins will be provided in each half regardless of weather.

		a) Boys	<table><tr><th>Division</th><th>Duration per half</th><th>Interval</th></tr><tr><td>Senior</td><td>30 Mins</td><td>10 Mins</td></tr><tr><td>Junior</td><td>25 Mins</td><td>10 Mins</td></tr></table>	Division	Duration per half	Interval	Senior	30 Mins	10 Mins	Junior	25 Mins	10 Mins
Division	Duration per half	Interval										
Senior	30 Mins	10 Mins										
Junior	25 Mins	10 Mins										
		b) Girls	<table><tr><th>Division</th><th>Duration per half</th><th>Interval</th></tr><tr><td>Senior</td><td>25 Mins</td><td>10 Mins</td></tr><tr><td>Junior</td><td>20 Mins</td><td>10 Mins</td></tr></table>	Division	Duration per half	Interval	Senior	25 Mins	10 Mins	Junior	20 Mins	10 Mins
Division	Duration per half	Interval										
Senior	25 Mins	10 Mins										
Junior	20 Mins	10 Mins										
21.2	Minimum number of participants (All Divisions)											
	The minimum number of participants required before a match can start is SIX (6). If a team fails to field the required number within 15 minutes of the scheduled starting time, the referee will call off the match and report the matter to the Pitch Manager immediately.											
21.3	Substitution of Participants (All Divisions)											
	21.3.1	Any FIVE (5) participants and ONE (1) goalkeeper registered for each match may be substituted during a match.										
	21.3.2	A participant substituted cannot re-enter the game during the same match.										
	21.3.3	A substitute card must be produced for each substitute participant when they replace a teammate. It is the onus of the teacher-in charge to bring along the substitution cards for all matches.										
21.4	Yellow and Red Card Offences											
	21.4.1	For every two yellow cards (in two separate matches) received in a particular competition, the participant shall automatically be suspended for ONE match following the match in which they receive the second yellow card.										
	21.4.2	Two yellow cards received WITHIN THE SAME MATCH, will equate to a red card and subsequently, the participant will be suspended for TWO consecutive matches following the match in which they are expelled.										
	21.4.3	A participant, who is sent off (RED Card) by the referee, shall automatically be suspended for TWO (2) matches following the match in which they received the RED Card. A Football Sub-Committee may meet to decide on further action to be taken depending on the severity of the referee's match report.										
	21.4.4	A participant who is sent off or did not conduct themselves in an acceptable manner may be asked to appear before the Football Sub-Committee together with their Team Manager if instructed to do so.										
	21.4.5	When a match is called off due to poor pitch condition or bad weather, any participant serving suspension would be deemed as NOT having completed the suspension. The said participant will continue to serve the suspension when the match is continued on another day. Any yellow received during this match will be accounted for when the match resumes on another day. Participant receiving the red card due to violent misconduct will be dealt with by the discipline committee.										

	21.4.6	Team Managers to verify with the referee immediately after the match regarding the yellow/red cards and final score status. NSGOC is not responsible for informing schools of their yellow/ red cards status. Any discrepancies should then be highlighted to the referee concerned and to the NSGOC or its representatives.
	21.4.7	Team Managers are responsible to ensure that they do not field participants who are under suspension. If they are doubtful, they should contact the NSGOC for clarification before allowing the participant to play.
	21.4.8	All matters pertaining to cautions, expulsions and suspensions for Yellow/Red Card offences will apply to team officials (Team Managers, coaches, etc.) as well.
	21.4.9	A participant who fails to serve their suspension will result in a forfeiture (Refer to Para. 10) of the match they played in. They will also have an added ONE (1) match suspension.
21.5	Team Sheets	
	Team sheets shall be used for every match. The teacher-in-charge is required to <u>tick</u> (✓) the first 8 participants starting the match.	
21.6	Equipment	
	ONLY size 4 balls shall be used.	

SECTION C – AMENDMENTS AND MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

22 MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

22.1 All matters not provided for in these Rules and Regulations shall be dealt with by the respective NSGOCs.

22.2 Sportsmanship

22.2.1 Before and at the end of all games, the referee will initiate a shaking of hands between opposing participants, reserves, Team Managers, coaches and all officials.

22.2.2 Schools can nominate a deserving participant from their team, who has displayed exemplary behaviour, for the Sportsmanship Award at the end of the championship.

23 AMENDMENTS

23.1 The SPSSC shall have the right to delete, add or amend the rules and regulations laid down herein.

24 LIST OF ANNEXES

A	<u>SPSSC Mission, Aspirations and Motto</u>
B	<u>NSGOC Terms of Reference</u>
B1	<u>PDPA Notification</u>
C	<u>Competition Format</u>
D	<u>Clarification, Protest and Appeal Overview</u>
E	<u>Role of Team Managers</u>
F	<u>Code of Conduct for Coaches</u>

**SINGAPORE PRIMARY SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL (SPSSC)
AND SINGAPORE SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL (SSSC)**

MISSION, MOTTO AND ASPIRATIONS

Mission

"To provide quality competition experiences for our student-athletes to support character development through the pursuit of sporting excellence"

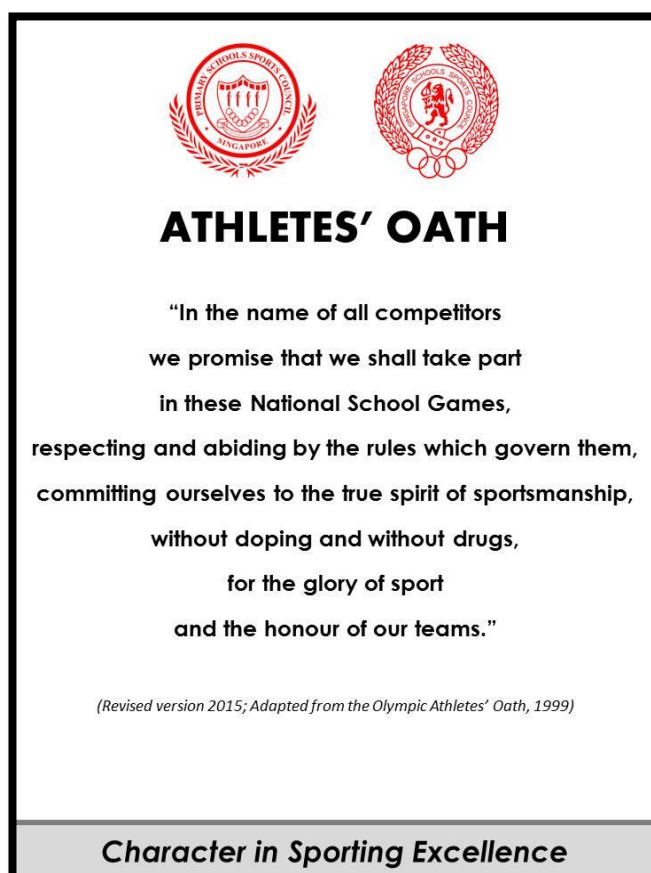
Motto

"Character in Sporting Excellence"

Aspiration 1: *Every athlete an honourable sportsperson*

Guiding Principle:

Athletes abide by the rules of the sport, gives their best in training and competitions, wins with integrity and humility, and loses with confidence and grace. They participate actively and are committed to being better in their sport. They respect their opponents, teammates, coaches, teachers and officials, and displays exemplary conduct both on and off court.



Aspiration 2: *Every teacher and coach an inspiring role model and mentor*

Guiding Principle:

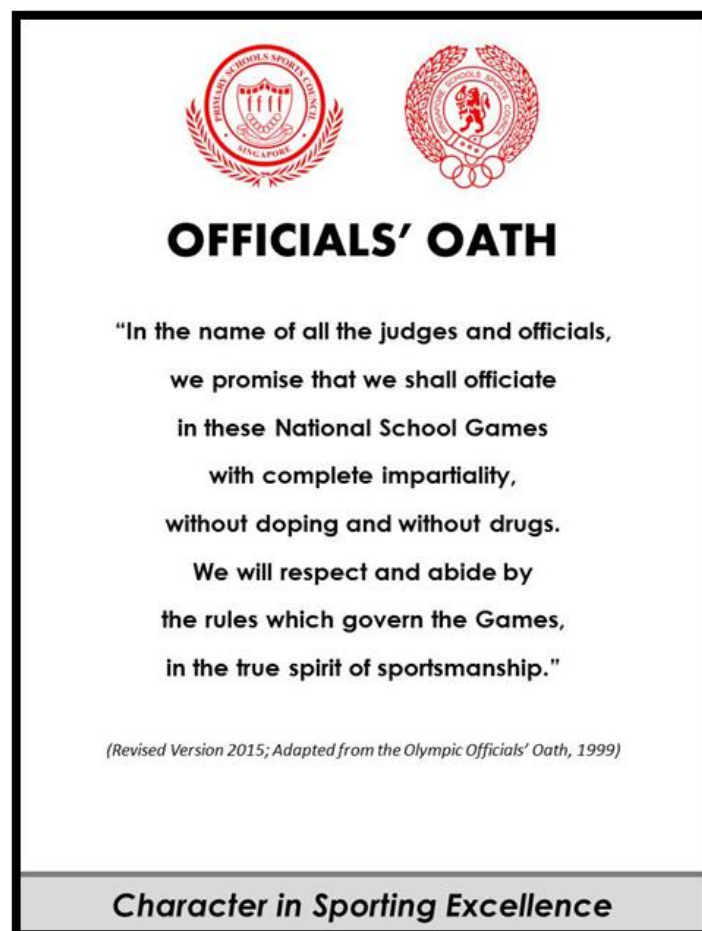
The teacher / coach endeavours to develop all athletes to their fullest potential. He focuses on student-centric and values-driven coaching. Teachers / coaches maintain a professional relationship with the athletes and ensure their safety and well-being at all times. As positive role models, they inspire and motivate the athletes towards greater heights.



Aspiration 3: *Every official a fair, respectable and competent authority*

Guiding Principle:

The official is well-versed in the rules of the sport, and enforces the laws of the sport with impartiality. They are alert and acts decisively when required. They ensure safety for all athletes and explains the rules when required. They uphold the professionalism of the sport.



Aspiration 4: *Every parent a supportive partner*

Guiding Principle:

Parents take interest in their child's, training and competitions and prioritises their long-term development over winning competitions. They ensure proper nutrition and rest for their children, and actively enquires on their progress and development. They work with the teacher and coach, attends competitions and respects the decisions of competition officials.

Aspiration 5: *Every spectator a respectful, responsible and caring motivator*

Guiding Principle:

Spectators applauds excellence and fair play from all athletes regardless of which team they represent. Spectators shows appreciation for the efforts of all athletes, teachers, coaches, officials and organisers. They should cheer to encourage and motivate as well as care for the athletes' well-being. Spectators are responsible and keep the venue safe and comfortable for all.



Aspiration 6: *Every game a safe and enriching learning experience*

Guiding Principle:

The format of competition is developmental and age-appropriate. The games provide athletes with the opportunity to display their sporting abilities, and be recognised for their achievements. Athletes enjoy the competitions, which are conducted under safe and conducive environments.

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR SPSSC / SSSC NATIONAL SCHOOL GAMES ORGANISING COMMITTEES (NSGOCs)

The NSGOCs shall have sub-committees to ensure the successful organising and completion of their respective sports that includes but is not limited to the following functions:

1. COMPETITION

Organise the competition according to the rules and regulations, and established safety standards, including:

- a. Planning and Execution:
 - i. Work out the competition schedules, fixtures and venues required.
 - ii. Communicate with participating teams on all competition matters, including, but not limited to rules, dates, fixtures, venue, etc.
 - iii. Identify and appoint Competition Director (if applicable) for deployment of officials.
 - iv. Manage competition officials, venues, equipment, medical cover and logistics for effective and efficient conduct of the competition.
- b. Risk Assessment and Management:
 - i. Carry out risk assessment and management planning for each venue, including adherence to the baseline safety standards.
 - ii. Communicate relevant parts of the risk assessment and management plan to all relevant parties.
 - iii. Monitor and manage safety and security issues at the competition venue.
- c. Venue Management:
 - i. Ensure competition venues (including hosting schools and external venues) have the following in good condition to support the competition:
 - o Equipment
 - o Line Drawings (if applicable)
 - o Consumables
 - ii. Inform hosting Schools of competition schedule.
 - iii. Disseminate competition fixtures to all hosting and participating schools once fixtures are confirmed.
 - iv. Inform hosting and participating schools at least three (3) working days before should there be any changes in venue or fixtures.
 - v. Ensure that competition officials and medical support (if applicable) arrive at stipulated time at the competition venue.
 - vi. Remind TMs during briefing:
 - o To check the latest hosting venues' SOPs before each competition
 - o To inform their fellow colleagues and SAR who may be accompanying their students for the competitions on their behalf
 - vii. Prepare the competition venue, such as display of PDPA notifications (**Refer to [Annex B1](#)**), proper allocation of spaces for assembly, warm-up, match, rest areas, spectators, where necessary.
- d. Results Processing:
 - i. Ensure competition results are promptly and accurately sent to the NSGO for uploading to the NSG website.

- e. Protest Management:
 - i. Respond to clarifications / protests from participating schools during the competition.
 - ii. Conduct investigations and resolve the clarifications / protests relating to the competition.

2. TECHNICAL

- a. Establish competition rules and regulations for the sport to ensure age appropriateness and opportunities for skills development, including, but not restricted to:
 - o Age grouping / division
 - o Format of competition
 - o Permitted equipment
 - o Field of play
 - o Duration of play; intervals
 - o Number of participants
 - o Substitution rules, etc.
- b. Identify and appoint the technical director and officials for each competition.
- c. Monitor and review baseline safety standards for the competition.
- d. Review and update competition rules and regulations annually and submit Games Recommendations to NSGOC or Council Standing Committee for approval, where necessary.

3. RECOGNITION, PROTEST AND DISCIPLINE

- a. Recognition
 - i. Develop and implement appropriate recognition (including recognition criteria), to support the desired outcomes of the National School Games (NSG), such as Sportsmanship Award.
 - ii. Collect and communicate good stories to relevant parties, including participating schools, MOE HQ and the media where appropriate.
 - iii. Plan and organise prize presentations for the competition.
- b. Protest
 - iv. Conduct investigations with all parties involved, in consultation with the Game Advisor and Lead Convenor.
 - v. Resolve all protests and respond to relevant parties on the outcome within a week of incident reported.
 - vi. Update SPSSC / SSSC Standing Committee on the outcome of the clarifications / protests, where necessary.
- c. Discipline
 - i. Conduct investigations pertaining to disciplinary cases with all parties involved, in consultation with the Game Advisor.
 - ii. Resolve all disciplinary cases and respond to relevant parties in a timely manner.

- iii. Develop disciplinary policies and systemise processes to manage students, teachers and coaches and competition officials for alignment to the Councils' mission, motto and aspirations.



National School Games Photography & Video Recording Notice



The Ministry of Education (MOE), its authorized photographers and videographers, and approved media broadcasters will be conducting photography and video recording at this event. The photographs and videos may be used by MOE for internal publication or publicity materials. Video footage of the event may be live-streamed on MOE's and the broadcasters' media platforms.

By entering this venue and taking part in this event, you consent to the collection, use, and/or disclosure of photographs and videos containing your personal data by MOE and the approved media broadcasters for the above purposes.

COMPETITION FORMAT

In determining the format for the competition, NSGOC should aim to provide meaningful¹ competition experiences for participating teams. The suggested competition formats highlighted in this Annex are options that the NSGOC can consider when drawing up their fixtures. The selected competition format should be standardised within the same sport (i.e., across zones; and from year to year).

1. Grouping

The grouping approach should be determined based on the number of participants / teams in the competition, with the aim to allow teams to have sufficient playing opportunities while optimising resources (venue, officials, time, workload). Each group should comprise 4 to 6 teams with the exception of a single round robin for 7 teams.

2. Seeding

Seeding is done based on the preceding year's results and the seeding approach will differ according to the competition format chosen based on the following table:

Table 1: Recommended seeding approaches for different competition formats

Zonal / Direct National Competitions	Pool – League Competitions	Pool – Tiered Competitions	Other Competitions
<p>Objectives of Seeding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To evenly distribute the top teams from the preceding year into different groups 	<p>Objectives of Seeding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To group teams to increase opportunities for them to play with teams of relatively similar abilities 	<p>Objectives of Seeding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To group teams to increase opportunities for them to play with teams of relatively similar abilities 	<p>Event-based Competitions / Individual Match-based Competitions (e.g. Table Tennis Junior Division)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Adopt sports specific seeding approach that would meet the competition needs.

¹ Each participating team should minimally play 3 matches (i.e., cumulative across Zonal and National competitions; where applicable) in the course of competition. For Tiered and League competitions, teams should minimally play 6 matches. This is to allow for more equitable playing opportunities for all teams.

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The top 4 teams from preceding year's National results will be seeded and distributed to different groups. 2. The remaining quarterfinalists will then be seeded and drawn into the different groups. 3. The remaining teams will be drawn / placed into groups. 	<p><u>Pool</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Using preceding year's result, snake seeding will be used for Pool groupings. 2. The remaining teams will be drawn / placed into different Pool groups. 3. Refer to the table below which illustrates snake seeding. <table border="1" data-bbox="669 461 1108 847"> <thead> <tr> <th>Group One</th><th>Group Two</th><th>Group Three</th></tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr> <td>6</td><td>5</td><td>4</td></tr> <tr> <td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td></tr> <tr> <td>12</td><td>11</td><td>10</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p><i>*The number indicates the ranking position.</i></p>	Group One	Group Two	Group Three	1	2	3	6	5	4	7	8	9	12	11	10	<p><u>Pool</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Using preceding year's result, the top teams will be seeded in Pool groupings. 2. The remaining teams will be drawn / placed into different Pool groups.
Group One	Group Two	Group Three															
1	2	3															
6	5	4															
7	8	9															
12	11	10															
	<p><u>League</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using Pool's result, the top teams will be seeded in different groups within each League. • The remaining teams will be drawn / placed into different groups. • Teams from the same group in the Pool Round will not be drawn / placed into the same group in League Round. 	<p><u>Tiered</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using Pool's result, the top teams will be seeded in different groups within each Tier. • The remaining teams will be drawn / placed into different groups. • Teams from the same group in the Pool Round will not be drawn / placed into the same group in Tiered Round. 															

SPSSC FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FORMAT FOR POOL-LEAGUE COMPETITION

Multiple-Groups Championship Format

NSGOCs should leverage on existing competition structures and mechanisms to implement a consistent seeding approach to seed and place them in different groups in the Pool Round using preceding year's results. Teams of similar ability are grouped together in all stages of the competition while ensuring porosity between leagues every year through promotion and relegation.

Seeding Approach for Senior Boys (2024)

Pool A (24 teams)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeded - Top 4 nationals (4 teams) Drawing Pot 1 - National QF (4 teams) Drawing Pot 2 - Nationals prelim rounds: 3rd in the group (4 teams) Drawing Pot 3 - Nationals prelim rounds: 4th in the group (4 teams) Drawing Pot 4 – Zone Quarter-final stage: 3rd in the group (8 teams)
Pool B (24 teams)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drawing Pot 1 – Zone Quarter-final stage: 4th in the group (8 teams) Drawing Pot 2 – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Zone Quarter-final stage: 5th and 6th in the group (4 teams) North/ South/ East Zone 3rd in the prelim group stage (12 teams)
Pool C (24 teams)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> West Zone 3rd and 4th in the prelim group stage (12 teams) North/ South/ East Zone 3rd in the prelim group (12 Teams)
Pool D (24 – 32 teams)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Remaining teams New teams

Pool – League format for 30 – 32 boys’ teams seeding in the Pool round should be as shown below:

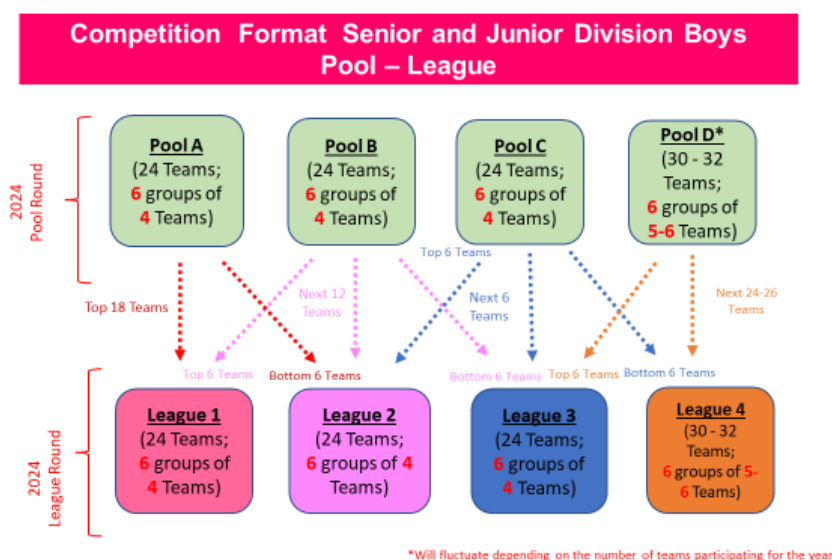


Illustration of League Competition Format

League (24 Teams)					
Grp A	Grp B	Grp C	Grp D	Grp E	Grp F
A 1st	A 1st	A 1st	A 1st	A 1st	A 1st
A 2nd	A 2nd	A 2nd	A 2nd	A 2nd	A 2nd
A 3rd	A 3rd	A 3rd	A 3rd	A 3rd	A 3rd
B 1st	B 1st	B 1st	B 1st	B 1st	B 1st

League QF (12 Teams)	
Grp A	Grp B
1st	1st
1st	1st
1st	1st
2nd	2nd
2nd	2nd
2nd	2nd

League Semi-Finals			
SF 1	Grp A 1 st	vs	Grp B 2 nd
SF 2	Grp B 1 st	vs	Grp A 2 nd

Finals 3 rd & 4 th Play-off			
Finals	Winner SF 1	vs	Winner SF 2
3 rd / 4 th Playoff	Loser SF 1	vs	Loser SF 2

Classification – League format for girls' teams

Competition Format Senior and Junior Division Girls Classification – League

Classification Round: 8 teams

Group A	Group B
1	2
4	3
Remaining schools will be drawn into the 2 groups	

League

League 1	League 2
Group A 1 st	Group A 3 rd
Group B 1 st	Group B 3 rd
Group A 2 nd	Group A 4 th
Group B 2 nd	Group B 4 th

League 1 Finals
[Top 2 in the Group]

League 2 Finals
[Top 2 in the Group]

CLARIFICATION, PROTEST AND APPEAL OVERVIEW

	Clarification (Formal & Informal)	Competing Under Protest (Some Sports Only)	Protest	Appeal
Handled by:	NSGOC Rep and/or Competition Officials	NSGOC Rep and/or Competition Officials	NSGOC	BOA (Council and Zone Vice-Chairpersons)
Who must be Informed:	NSGOC Rep, Competition Officials	NSGOC Rep, Competition Officials, Affected TMs as determined by NSGOC	Principal, Lead Convenor, Lead Org Sec, Game Advisor	Principal, Lead Convenor, Lead Org Sec, Game Advisor and Honorary Secretary (for Zonal), Council Secretariat (for National)
How to Inform:	At competition venue, during appropriate interval without disrupting the game	At competition venue, during appropriate interval without disrupting the game	Indicate intent to protest on scoresheet at end of match and followed by an email sent through the Principal	Sent through the Principal via email
Fees if Overruled:	Nil	Nil	\$150	\$300
Approval Required From:	Nil	Nil	Principal	Principal

ROLE OF THE TEAM MANAGERS

Team Managers (TMs) will represent the school on all matters pertaining to the duty of care, student management and competition matters relating to the participants from their school. They must be a good role model for the participants and are expected to conduct themselves well in carrying out their duties. They will:

No	Terms of Reference
1	Be the point of contact between the National School Games Organising Committee (NSGOC) and the Principal (school).
2	Perform all necessary administrative duties and attend all briefings and / or meetings called for by the respective NSGOCs.
3	Check, verify and keep updated the fixtures and schedules involving the school.
4	Ensure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accuracy of participants' particulars in the registration and that participants are not placed in the wrong division. • All participants are adequately prepared for safe participation in the NSG in accordance with the Baseline Safety Acknowledgement Form.
5	Check and comply with the hosting venue's Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) and communicate all related the information to all the stakeholders associated with the participating schools.
6	Make transport arrangements for the participants.
7	Chaperone participants to and from the competition venue. TMs who are SAR need only chaperone their own child as Parent Chaperones are responsible for chaperoning their own children.
8	Remain with the participants throughout the duration of play.
9	Arrange for a replacement, in the event that they are not able to perform their duty during the entire competition duration. TMs who are SAR should contact the school for assistance in such situations.
10	Cooperate with NSGOC & officials and abide by the rules and regulations of the competition to facilitate the smooth conduct of the competition and be a good role model for the participants.
11	Submit participant / team list and other necessary documents when required.
12	Manage the coaches, participants and spectators, if any, to ensure that they adhere to the General and sport-specific and rules and regulations Code of Conduct given in the rules and regulations.
13	Perform the duty of care for the participants' safety and well-being including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Checking that participants are well enough to compete, • Reminding students to remain hydrated. • Having a first aid kit available. • For long duration competitions where students will need to consume a meal, the SAR should ensure that students have sufficient time for their meal.
14	Contact the school immediately in the event of an injury or emergency.

15	Consult school leaders for all media related matters.
16	Represent the school in matters pertaining to clarifications / protests / appeals (as required by the sport).
17	Accompany participants at disciplinary board meetings if the occasion arises.
18	Attend to any other matters pertaining to the duty of care, student management and competition matters relating to the participants from their school.

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR COACHES

No	Description
1	Coaches must be good role models and are expected to conduct themselves well in carrying out their duties.
2	They are to observe the rules and regulations of the National School Games and honour the Coaches' Oath.
3	They should not replace the role of the Team Manager.
4	They are to prepare the training schedule for the team, in consultation with the Head of Department (HOD) and the teacher-in-charge (i.e., Student Development Programme).
5	It is the responsibility of coaches to adhere to the rules and to be well versed with the competition rules.
6	They are not allowed into the field of play except where the rule of the sport requires the presence of the coach.
7	They cannot represent the school in any matters.
8	They must not interfere with the organisation of the competition.
9	They are not allowed to approach the officials to query their decisions. Only Team Managers are allowed to approach officials to seek clarifications.
10	They must ensure that the student participants have adequate rest and are given water breaks.
11	Coaches should refrain from using foul language or speak in a tone not becoming of proper behaviour.
12	Coaches violating the rules will be asked to leave the competition arena.
13	Action will be taken against the school if the coaches fail to comply with the competition rules.