



**SINGAPORE PRIMARY SCHOOLS SPORTS COUNCIL
SOFTBALL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR
NATIONAL SCHOOL GAMES 2024**

(Updated as of 19 January 2024)

CONTENT

Section/ Paragraph	Content
	Preamble
Section A	Administrative Rules and Regulations
1	Organisation Structure and Governing Bodies
2	Age Groups / Divisions / NSG Sports Categories
3	Entries
4	Registration of Participants
Section B	Competition Rules and Regulations
5	Competition Format
6	Award of League Points
7	Awards
8	Reporting and Grace Period
9	Postponement and Abandonment
10	Withdrawal and Forfeiture
11	Walkout
12	Clarification and Protest
13	Appeal
14	Barred Participants
15	Team Manager
16	Coaches
17	Competition Officials
18	Spectators
19	Serious Breach of Conduct
20	Attire
Section C	Amendments and Matters Not Provided For
21	Matters Not Provided For
22	Amendments
23	List of Annexes

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 in **Annex C**.
- 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 play in either the Senior or Junior Division depending on their level of competency¹.
- 2.4.1 **For Softball, schools will make the decision based on what they deem to be the appropriate level of play for each 11-year-old concerned.**
- 2.4.2 For Softball, following age group divisions apply:

Softball	Senior Division	Junior Division
	1 Jan 2014	1 Jan 2015
	1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013	1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014
	1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012	2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013
	2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011	1 Jan 2013*
	1 Jan 2011*	

- 2.5 Age Dispensation
- 2.5.1 Age Dispensation refers to the approval given to 7-year-old and 8-year-old students to participate in the Junior Division competitions organised by the Singapore Primary Schools Sports Council (SPSSC). **This is not applicable to Softball.**
- 2.6 Categories of NSG Sports
- 2.6.1 **Match-based (Team) Sports:** Badminton (Senior), Basketball, Floorball, Football, Hockey, Netball, Rugby, Sepaktakraw, **Softball**, Table Tennis (Senior) and Volleyball
- 2.6.2 **Match-based (Individual) Sports:** Badminton (Junior), Table Tennis (Junior), Taekwondo (Kyorugi) and Tennis
- 2.6.3 **Event-based Sports:** Bowling, Golf, Gymnastics, Rope Skipping, Sailing, Swimming, Taekwondo (Poomsae), Track & Field and Wushu

¹ Participating Schools should register their students for the Senior or Junior Division based on the students' level of competency and readiness.

3. ENTRIES

- 3.1 Each school is eligible to enter only one team² per division per sex.
- 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.
- 4.1.2 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 players will result in a forfeiture of the matches / events concerned (**Refer to Para. 10**).
- 4.1.8 For Softball, each team shall E-Register a minimum of 10 and up to a maximum of 18 players for Senior Division and minimum of 11 and up to a maximum of 18 players for Junior Division with a cap of three 11-year-old players (on match day).

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:
- Baseline Safety Standards Acknowledgement Form
 - Supporting documents for Special / Transfer case students
 - Other forms as determined by the respective NSGOs
- 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 Match-based (Team) Sports: 1 working day before the competition start.

4.3 Replacement and addition of participants

² Schools can send up to 3 teams for Sepaktakraw (Junior Division).

- 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 Classification / Pool Round for Tier / League Competitions, participants / 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 can be organised in the following formats:
 - a) Direct National
 - b) Classification / Pool to League (Senior Division)
 - c) Classification / Pool to Tier (Junior Division)
- 5.3 For a competition / event 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:
 - 5.4.1 Each participant / team shall play a minimum of six (6) matches³ 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
 - 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 Classification / Pool to Tier and Classification / Pool to League Competitions in these scenarios shall be as follows:

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

- a) **Barred / Withdrawn Teams**
If any team discontinues participation in the competition during Classification / Pool Round, they will be placed last in the group. The team will be treated as a “ghost” entry in the next lower Tier / 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 Tier / 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 Tier / League placing
Two current schools (Merging / Combined Teams)	Based on the school with the higher Tier / League placing

5.6 Junior Division

- 5.6.1 For Softball, the Junior Division will be played with no new innings after 1 hour and 30 mins.
- 5.6.2 Each inning will start off with Zero Strike/Zero Ball format and third strike is always out.
- 5.6.3 No base stealing and bunting is allowed.
- 5.6.4 Each game will be completed in 5 innings with 7 runs capped per inning. Teams will only play one game per day.

5.7 Pitching Distance

Boys Senior Division	35 feet
Boys Junior Division	32 feet (Underhand Pitch)
Girls Senior Division	32 feet
Girls Junior Division	29 feet (Underhand Pitch)
Distance between bases	50 feet

5.8 Equipment

- 5.8.1 Game Ball - All rubber Official Softball balls (Kenko or Naigai) shall be used. Each team shall provide a new game ball at the start of each game*. (*balls are technically provided by Org Com, schools can still use their own balls if the balls provided are not retrievable during games, a new game ball is to be provided at the start of each game as in previous years).
- 5.8.2 Helmets - All batters and base-runners must wear protective helmets with face masks. Exception is made for Sikh students with turbans. All students who act as base coaches in the Coach Box must also wear helmets.

- 5.8.3 Catchers - All catchers must use the Catcher's Helmet, Body Protector, Throat Guard and Leg Guards.
- 5.8.4 Bats to have the stamp of ISF 2005

5.9 Playing Attire

- 5.9.1 All teams must play in proper Softball attires for safety reasons (includes proper softball slacks with socks and boots). The attire should bear the school logo/badge or name. Each player of the same team must wear the same kind and same colour of attire. Players without numbers will not be allowed to play.
- 5.9.2 Footwear with metal cleats or metal studs is not allowed.
- 5.9.3 No player may play bare-footed or without socks.
- 5.9.4 Playing uniform must be numbered. Only numbers 1 / 01 to 99 shall be used. The number must be at least 6 inches high and must be worn on the back of all uniform shirts.

5.10 Number of Innings

- 5.10.1 All games shall be played up to the 5th Inning and no new innings shall start if the respective divisions play up till:
 - 1 hour 50 minutes for Senior Boys Division
 - 1 hour 30 minutes for Senior Girls Division
 - 1 hour 30 minutes for Junior Boys Division
 - 1 hour 30 minutes for Junior Girls Division
- 5.10.2 Irrespective of the number of innings completed, no new innings shall start if the respective divisions play up till the allocated time limits. If an inning is on-going at the time limit set for the respective divisions and the bottom batting team is leading, the game will be stopped after the batting team has completed batting. If the bottom batting team is lagging, the game will be stopped after the bottom team is taking the lead. The result will be based on the score after the game is stopped.
- 5.10.3 A game will be considered as an official game after the 3rd inning.
- 5.10.4 In the event of weather disruption (Lightning Alert NEA Website Address: <http://www.weather.gov.sg/lws/zonelInfo.do> or myNEA App), the one hour OR three innings rule will apply. For example, if the teams completed 3 innings after 40 minutes before being called off, the result will stand. Similarly, if the teams could only complete 2 innings but have played more than 1 hour before being called off, the result will also stand. In this situation, result will be based on the last completed innings. The ONLY EXCEPTION will be if the team batting during the bottom order takes the lead, then the winning score will stand. However, this will not apply to finals and semi-finals.
- 5.10.5 In the event of weather disruption (Lightning Alert NEA Website Address: <http://www.weather.gov.sg/lws/zonelInfo.do> or myNEA App) and the game has not met the one hour OR three innings rule, the maximum official waiting time is 60 minutes before the umpire can call off the game. The game should be stopped immediately when the lightning alert at the area is activated. The team requesting for the game to be stopped is required to show proof of the alert to the umpire. If there are disputes between the teams, the umpire will make the decision based on majority from input from umpire and the teachers in-charge from both teams.

- 5.10.6 In the case of lightning alert, the game should be stopped immediately if the alert is activated. If the game is resumed and there is a 2nd lightning alert, the game will be called off.
- 5.10.7 In other cases, such as ground condition, the umpire will make the decision of stopping or calling off the game. If there is any dispute, the venue manager should consult the Lead Convenor to make the final decision.
- 5.10.8 The score, innings, batting line-ups from both teams, runner(s) position, pitch counts and outs are to be recorded for disrupted games. The games to be replayed will continue from the scores, innings, and batting line-ups from both teams, runner position, pitch counts and outs recorded from the disrupted games.
- 5.10.9 The waiting time for semi and finals will be at the discretion of the Lead Convenor.
- 5.10.10 The 'Run Ahead Rule' will apply in the spirit of sportsmanship when the difference in score is at least 20 runs at 2nd inning, 15 runs at 3rd inning, 10 runs at 4th inning. (This rule also applies to the Semi-Finals, 3rd/4th Placings, Finals)
- 5.10.11 In the event of a draw after the time limit, a tie breaker will be played the following inning after the time limits for the respective divisions. (This rule also applies to the Semi-Finals, 3rd/4th Placings, Finals)
- 5.10.12 The defensive team has only two charged defensive conferences in a five-inning game. There is only one charged defensive conference for every extra inning in an extra inning game, i.e. during tie-breaker.

5.11 Hosting Teams and Visiting Teams

- 5.11.1 The first named team shall be the Hosting Team and shall provide the Official Scorer. The Official Scorer must not be a student, SPE or AED. Overall accountability of Scoring is by the Team Manager.
- 5.11.2 The Hosting Team shall provide pitch that is safe and fit for play and complete the Baseline Safety Standards Checklist. The Hosting Team shall be responsible for the proper layout of the Diamond and shall provide the full set of bases, the Pitcher's Plate and the Home Plate.
- 5.11.3 The Hosting Team shall inform the Lead Convenor the results of the game immediately after the match at the same time submit the Baseline Safety Standards Checklist (via formSG).
- 5.11.4 Schools that are unable to provide their own venues will play at their opponent's ground or at any other ground arranged by the Lead Convenor.
- 5.11.5 The Visiting Team shall be given at least 15 minutes before the scheduled time of the game for warming-up on the Diamond.
- 5.11.6 The choice of the first or last to bat shall be decided by the toss of a coin.
- 5.11.7 Teams are to make their own arrangements for refreshments.

5.12 Umpires

- 5.12.1 The Lead Convenor will assign umpires for all games. Schools do not have the option of selecting umpires to referee their games.
- 5.12.2 The Plate Umpire together with the 2 Team Managers can decide whether the game can be suspended or terminated in case of inclement weather.

- 5.12.3 Team Managers are reminded to alert the umpire for 'time out' to clarify their doubts.
- 5.12.4 "On-deck batters" must remain in the on-deck circle behind the batter for safety reasons.

5.13 Venue for the Preliminary Games, Semi-Finals and Finals

- 5.13.1 All National Level semi-finals and finals will be played off at venues decided upon by the Organising Committee.
- 5.13.2 Semi-finals in each division shall be played off on the same day
- 5.13.3 If there are insufficient venues for the preliminary games, Home Teams may eventually be required to source for their own venues for their matches to be played.

5.14 Violation and Penalties

- 5.14.1 If a fielder with deliberate unsportsmanlike intent, act in a manner to distract the batter/pitcher, he/she shall be EJECTED from the game.
- 5.14.2 External instructors/coaches or students who commit unsportsmanlike acts will be warned and even ejected from the game venue by the plate umpire. Teachers In-Charge and students who commit such unsportsmanlike acts will be warned and asked to sit out of the game.
- 5.14.3 External Instructors who make disparaging, or insulting remarks to, or about, opposing players, umpires, officials, or spectators or commits other acts that could be considered unsportsmanlike conduct shall be:
 - 5.14.3.1 For the first offence, the offender may be warned.
 - 5.14.3.2 For the second offence, or if the first offence is considered serious enough by the umpire, the offender is EJECTED from the game.

6. AWARD OF LEAGUE POINTS

6.1 The following scoring system shall apply:

Result	Point
Win	2
Loss	1
Walkover	0

6.2 Tie in League Points

- 6.2.1 The award of league points shall be that as approved by the SPSSC's Standing Committee and stated in the specific sport's rules and regulations.
- 6.2.2 In the event that teams have equal league points, their positions shall be determined by the tie-breaker sequences stated in 6.2.3 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.
- 6.2.3 In the event of a tie in league points between two (2) participants / teams, the winner of the match that was played between them shall

be ranked higher, followed by the next levels of tie-break rules as stated in the sport-specific rules and regulations.

6.2.4 In the event of a tie in league points between three (3) or more participants / teams, the tie shall be resolved by considering the results amongst the tied teams first before considering the results of the group.

The teams will be ranked in order of the runs against record in the games among themselves, the team with the lowest run against record is ranked first. (Runs against record is the total number of runs scored by the specified opponents of that team).

6.2.5 If the three teams remain tied in their records among themselves, the teams will then be ranked in order of the total run against record in the group, followed by the total run for record in the group, i.e. their overall performance with other teams within the group will be taken into consideration.

6.2.6 If only two (2) participants / teams remain tied after applying 6.2.3, the winner of the match between the two (2) participants / teams will be placed higher.

6.2.7 The results of any participant / 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 Title⁴ per division per sex for each sport⁵.

7.1.2 The number of divisional trophies to be awarded shall be as follows:

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

7.1.3 No individual award will be given to each participant.

7.1.4 There will be no Divisional Titles awarded to the Junior Division.

7.2 The number of prizes to be awarded for Direct National Competitions shall be as follows:

No. of Participants / Teams	Positions Awarded
3 - 4	2
5 - 6	3
7 - 8	4
9 - 10	5
11 -12	6
13 - 14	7
15 or more	8

⁴ Only events with a minimum of three (3) competitors from three (3) different schools will contribute to the calculation for Divisional Titles.

⁵ Three (3) disciplines for Gymnastics are considered as three (3) individual sports.

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

No. of Participants / Teams in League One	Positions Awarded for League One (up to)	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.

- 7.4 Tier Competitions (for Junior Division)

- 7.4.1 Up to the top 40% of participants / teams of each group within a tier can be awarded with prizes.
- 7.4.2 The number of prizes to be awarded for groups in Tier competitions shall be as follows:

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

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

- 7.5 Achievement Pins (for Junior Division)

- 7.5.1 Achievement pins shall be awarded up to the top 50% of participants in each Classification / Pool groupings.

- 7.6 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 Participants are to report punctually according to the time stated by the NSGOC.
- 8.2 Participants 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.

9. POSTPONEMENT AND ABANDONMENT

- 9.1 Any postponement or abandonment⁶ of a match / event shall be determined by the NSGOC only.
- 9.2 Plate Umpire shall decide whether the ground is suitable for play in consultation with the two teachers in charge of teams.
- 9.3 Plate Umpire decides to abandon a game due to ground or weather conditions, the games should be played within 2 days after the actual game. The Hosting Team will inform the Lead Convenor of the change immediately. If the game is postponed again or teams are scheduled to play a game on that day, the game will have to be played on the following day where there are no other games arranged. For example, if a game is postponed on Mon, the game will have to be played on Wed. If the game is postponed again or teams have a game on Wed, the game will have to be played on Thur followed by Fri.
- 9.4 Games may need to be played during curriculum time if a game is postponed due to continuous inclement weather or other valid reasons. A mutual agreement between the two teams will then need to be made immediately after the game postponement confirmation, with regards to the game venue and immediate game replay day, which is within 2 school days after the postponed game day (for example, game is postponed from Mon - 3pm game to Tue or Wed – 9am game). The two teams concerned will need to stand-by their fields to ensure their availability in the mornings. The Lead Convenor must be kept informed soonest possible.
- 9.5 Lead Convenor will try as far as possible to accommodate requests for matches not to be held during participating schools' major events or other exigencies. However, once the fixtures are confirmed, schools are not allowed to appeal for the change in dates or times of the matches.

10. WITHDRAWAL AND FORFEITURE

- 10.1 Any withdrawal⁷ or forfeiture⁸ 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.
- 10.3 For withdrawals, all results involving the team / participant will be null & void.
- 10.4 For forfeitures, the team / participant will concede a walkover and the results of a match / event shall be based on the sports specific rules and regulations.

⁶ Abandonment refers to any match / event that has started but cannot reach a natural conclusion and may be postponed or cancelled.

⁷ Withdrawal refers to discontinuing participation in the competition.

⁸ Forfeiture refers to inability to start or complete a match / event.

- 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. WALKOUT⁹

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

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 / event 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 / event. These shall be done as soon as possible without disrupting the competition.
- 12.2.2 If a team decides to protest, a Notice of Protest shall be made known to the Umpire concerned as well as the opposing team at the time of the protest. (Team Managers are reminded to alert the umpire for 'time out' to clarify their doubts. Three signatures from both Team Manager and the umpire on the score sheet is mandatory if any protests are to be put up.) Protests shall not be received, or considered, if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of an umpire, or if the team lodging the protest won the game. (Please refer to Annex J for examples of protest that will not be received or will be received).

⁹ Wilful refusal to compete against the NSGOC's advice.

12.2.3 All necessary information must be noted in the Official Scoresheet and signed by the Team Manager of the team making the protest as well as the umpire. All necessary information (Time of Protest, Brief Description of Issue) must be noted at the back of the Official Scoresheet and signed by both Team Manager of the teams making the protest as well as the umpire. The umpire will put up game's irregularity report at the end of the game and forward the report to the umpire coordinator.

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 / event 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 and 12.2.3.

12.3.2 Protests based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgement on the part of an umpire / referee / judge 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 F)

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 G**).
- 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 staff¹⁰ or School Adult Representative (SAR) (**Refer to Annex H**) 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 I**).

16. COACHES

- 16.1 Coaches are expected to conduct themselves with decorum in alignment to the Code of Conduct (**Refer to Annex I**) 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 Where required, participating schools shall provide competition officials based on the requirements of the sport-specific rules.
- 17.2 School staff¹¹ and students can serve as officials when required by Para. 17.1.
- 17.3 Schools should ensure that the appointed competition officials are present to fulfil their duties as scheduled by the Convenor and in alignment to Aspiration 3 (**Refer to Annex A**).

¹⁰ For TMs, MOE employed staff such as Education Officer, Contract Adjunct, Flexi Adjunct, EAS (AM, OM and CSO) and AED can be deployed.

¹¹ For competition officials, Education Officers, Contract Adjunct teachers, Flexi-adjunct teachers, Allied Educators, Relief teachers and Untrained teachers can be deployed.

- 17.4 Where required by sport-specific rules and regulations, competition officials 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.
- 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.

SECTION C – AMENDMENTS AND MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

21. MATTERS NOT PROVIDED FOR

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

22. AMENDMENTS

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

23. LIST OF ANNEXES

A	SPSSC Mission, Aspirations and Motto
B	NSGOC Terms of Reference
B1	PDPA Notification
C	Age Group
D	Age Dispensation
E	Competition Format
F	Clarification, Protest and Appeal Overview
G	Role of Team Managers
H	School Adult Representative (SAR)
H1	SAR Letter of Appointment
I	Code of Conduct for Coaches
J	Rule on Protest for Softball

**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”

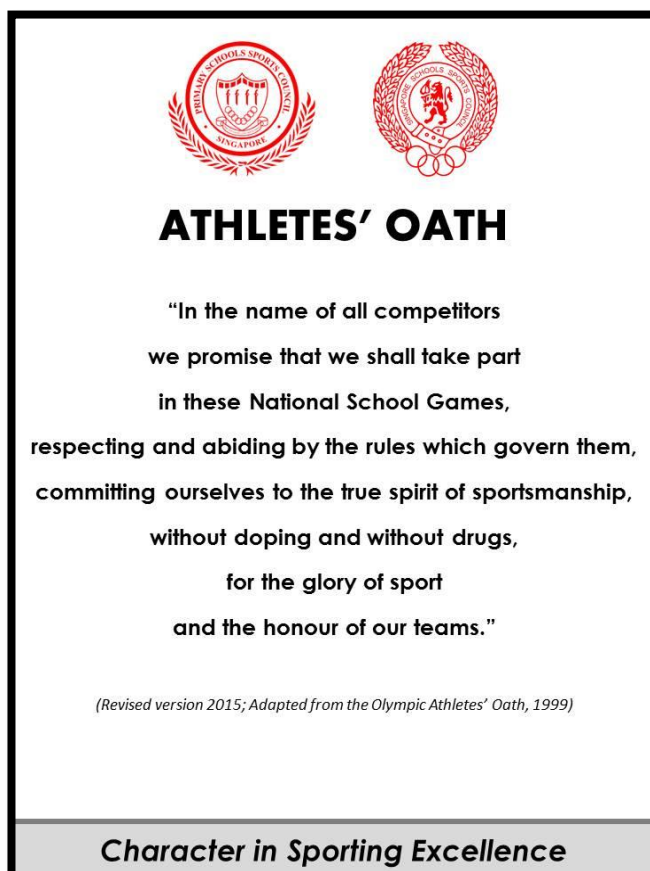
Motto

“Character in Sporting Excellence”

Aspiration 1: *Every athlete an honourable sportsperson*

Guiding Principle:

Athletes abide by the rules of the sport, give their best in training and competitions, win with integrity and humility, and lose 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 display 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.



COACHES' OATH

*In the name of all the coaches,
we promise to respect all athletes,
officials and coaches in these
National School Games.*

*We shall act in the best interest of the
athletes and schools,
without doping and without drugs.*

*We commit ourselves to ensure that the
spirit of sportsmanship and fair play is
fully adhered to and upheld always."*

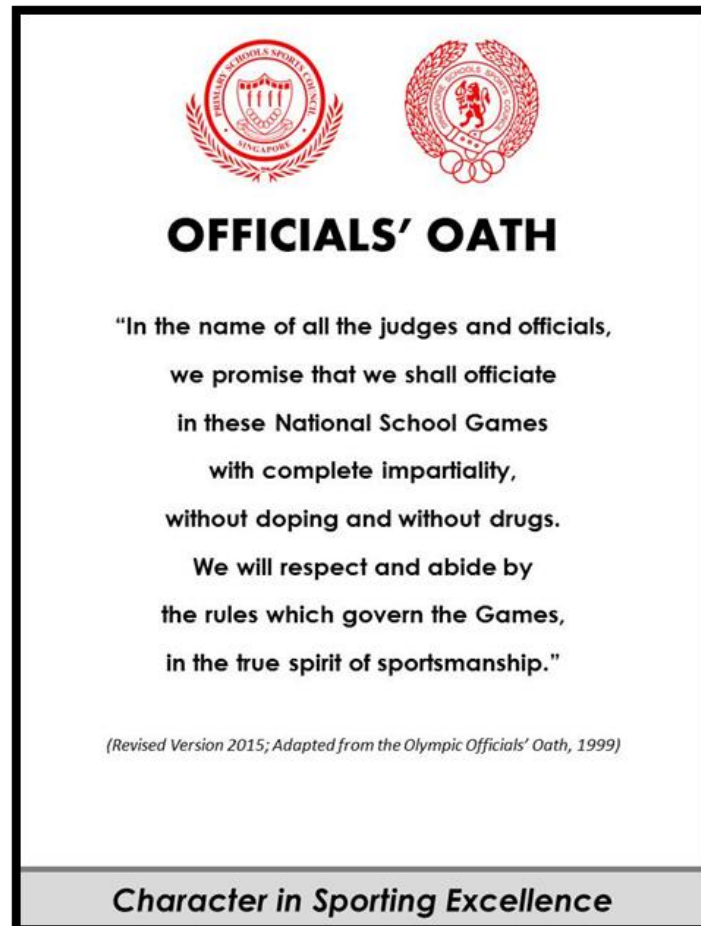
(Revised 2016; Adapted from the Olympic Coaches' Oath, 2012)

Character in Sporting Excellence

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 act decisively when required. They ensure safety for all athletes and explain 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 prioritise their long-term development over winning competitions. They ensure proper nutrition and rest for their children, and actively enquire on their progress and development. They work with the teacher and coach, attend competitions and respect the decisions of competition officials.

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

Guiding Principle:

Spectators applaud excellence and fair play from all athletes regardless of which team they represent. Spectators show 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.



SPECTATORS' CREED

Be a Respectful Supporter

- Applaud excellence and fair play
- Appreciate the efforts of all athletes, teachers, coaches, officials and organisers

Be a Caring Motivator

- Cheer to encourage and motivate
- Care for athletes' well-being

Be a Responsible Spectator

- Keep the venue safe and comfortable for all
- Keep the venue clean

Character in Sporting Excellence

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 of 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.

AGE GROUP FOR NSG

** For students in this group, please refer to General Rules and Regulations (subject to para 2.2)*

No	Sport	Senior Division	Junior Division	Age Dispensation	Remark
1	Badminton	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	1 Jan 2018 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017 2 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016 Applicable for Junior Div	11-Years-Old Overlap
2	Basketball	1 Jan 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	Not applicable	
3	Bowling	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	1 Jan 2018 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017 2 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016 Applicable for Junior Div	11-Years-Old Overlap
4	Floorball	1 Jan 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	Not applicable	
5	Football	1 Jan 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	Not applicable	
6	Golf	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	1 Jan 2018 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017 2 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016	

No	Sport	Senior Division	Junior Division	Age Dispensation	Remark
7	Artistic Gymnastics	<u>Boys Senior Optional</u> 1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011* <u>Girls Senior I (L3&L4) & Girls Senior II (L5&L6)</u> 1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	<u>Boys Junior Under 9</u> See 'Age Dispensation' <u>Boys Junior Novice & Boys Junior Optional</u> 1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013* <u>Girls Junior I (L3)</u> 1 Jan 2016 2 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2015* <u>Girls Junior II (L3)</u> 1 Jan 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013* <u>Girls Junior III (L4)</u> 1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	1 Jan 2018 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017 2 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016 Applicable for: Boys Junior Under 9, Boys Junior Novice and Boys Junior Optional; Girls Junior I and Girls Junior III (Not applicable for Girls Junior II)	A competitor from the Junior Division may opt to participate in the Senior Division, except for the Girls Senior I category.
	Rhythmic Gymnastics	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	1 Jan 2018 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017 2 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016 Applicable for Junior Div	A competitor from the Junior Division may opt to participate in the Senior Division.

No	Sport	Senior Division	Junior Division	Age Dispensation	Remark
8	Hockey	1 Jan 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	<u>Junior 1</u> 1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 2 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 1 Jan 2014* <u>Junior 2</u> 1 Jan 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	Not applicable	
9	Netball	1 Jan 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	Not applicable	
10	Rope Skipping	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	1 Jan 2018 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017 2 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016 Applicable for Junior Div	11-Years-Old Overlap
11	Rugby	1 Jan 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	Not applicable	
12	Sailing	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	1 Jan 2018 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017 2 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016 Applicable for Junior Div	11-Years-Old Overlap
13	Sepaktakraw	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014	Not applicable	11-Years-Old Overlap

No	Sport	Senior Division	Junior Division	Age Dispensation	Remark
		2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*		
14	Softball	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	Not applicable	11-Years-Old Overlap
15	Swimming	<u>Senior 1</u> 1 Jan 2013 2 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 1 Jan 2012* <u>Senior 2</u> 1 Jan 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	<u>Junior 1</u> 1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 2 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 1 Jan 2014* <u>Junior 2</u> 1 Jan 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	1 Jan 2018 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017 2 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016 Applicable for Junior 1 Div only	
16	Table Tennis	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	1 Jan 2018 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017 2 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016 Applicable for Junior Div	11-Years-Old Overlap
17	Taekwondo	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	1 Jan 2018 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017 2 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016 Applicable for Junior Div	11-Years-Old Overlap

No	Sport	Senior Division	Junior Division	Age Dispensation	Remark
18	Tennis	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	1 Jan 2018 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017 2 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016 Applicable for Junior Div	11-Years-Old Overlap
19	Track and Field	<u>Senior 1</u> 1 Jan 2013 2 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 1 Jan 2012* <u>Senior 2</u> 1 Jan 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	<u>Junior 1</u> 1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 2 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 1 Jan 2014* <u>Junior 2</u> 1 Jan 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	1 Jan 2018 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017 2 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016 Applicable for Junior 1 Div only	
20	Volleyball	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	Not Applicable	11-Years-Old Overlap
21	Wushu	1 Jan 2014 1 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2012 - 31 Dec 2012 2 Jan 2011 - 31 Dec 2011 1 Jan 2011*	1 Jan 2016 1 Jan 2015 - 31 Dec 2015 1 Jan 2014 - 31 Dec 2014 2 Jan 2013 - 31 Dec 2013 1 Jan 2013*	1 Jan 2018 1 Jan 2017 - 31 Dec 2017 2 Jan 2016 - 31 Dec 2016 Applicable for Junior Div	11-Years-Old Overlap

APPLICATION FOR AGE DISPENSATION

1. Age Dispensation refers to the approval given to 7 and 8-year-old students to participate in the Junior Division competitions organised by the Singapore Primary Schools Sports Council (SPSSC). It is only allowed for the following sports:
 - a) Badminton
 - b) Bowling
 - c) Golf
 - d) Gymnastics¹
 - e) Rope Skipping
 - f) Sailing
 - g) Swimming (Junior 1 only)
 - h) Table Tennis
 - i) Taekwondo (Poomsae)
 - j) Tennis
 - k) Track and Field (Junior 1 only)
 - l) Wushu
2. Age dispensation is only granted for that year of application in a specific-sport where the student can only compete in the applicable division as stated in the sport-specific rules and regulations.
3. The Age Dispensation Application Form is to be submitted by parents / guardians to the school Principal for endorsement. The endorsed application form must be submitted together with the school's registration through the NSG Integrated System (NIS) Registration Module on or before the stipulated closing date.

¹Boys Junior Under 9, Boys Junior Novice and Boys Junior Optional; Girls Junior I and Girls Junior III (Not applicable for Girls Junior II)

Age Dispensation Application Form

PART 1: TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT / GUARDIAN

**Please indicate (X) accordingly.*

1. Sport Information								
(a) Select the Sport: (<u>only 1</u>)								
<input type="checkbox"/>	Badminton	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bowling	<input type="checkbox"/>	Golf	<input type="checkbox"/>	Gymnastics	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Rope Skipping	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sailing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Swimming	<input type="checkbox"/>	Table Tennis	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Taekwondo (Poomsae)	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	Track and Field	<input type="checkbox"/>	Wushu	
(b) Year of Application (YYYY): _____								
2. Student's Information								
Name:		Sex*:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Male	<input type="checkbox"/>	Female		
NRIC:		Date of Birth (DD/MM/YYYY):	_____ / _____ / _____					
School:								
3. Parent's/ Guardian's Information								
Name:								
Contact No.		Relation*:	<input type="checkbox"/>	Father	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mother	<input type="checkbox"/>	Guardian
Email:								

Terms and Conditions of Application
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Parents / guardians have assessed that the child / ward is physically and mentally ready and deemed him / her to be suitable and ready to compete in the above-stated sport. 2. Parents / guardians are to keep the school informed of any changes to personal information. The school is to follow-up with NSGOC of the change promptly. 3. Child / Ward is only allowed to compete in the applicable sport and division as stated in the sport-specific rules and regulations for the year of application. 4. This application is subject to the school's endorsement.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have read, understood, and will adhere to the terms and conditions as stated above.

Name of Parent/ Guardian:		Signature:	
		Date:	

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

PART 2: TO BE COMPLETED BY SCHOOL

1. School's Information	
School:	
Name of Principal:	
Email of Principal:	<i>(CES email)</i>
Name of Team Manager/ School Coordinator (NSG):	
Email of Team Manager/ School Coordinator (NSG):	<i>(CES email)</i>
2. Rationale for Support by School²	

Name of Principal:		Signature:	
		Date:	

² Application not supported / endorsed by school is not required to be submitted to NSGOC. School to ensure that student-athlete and parents / guardians are informed of the decision.

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="600 459 1039 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. 																

SUGGESTED CHAMPIONSHIP FORMATS 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.

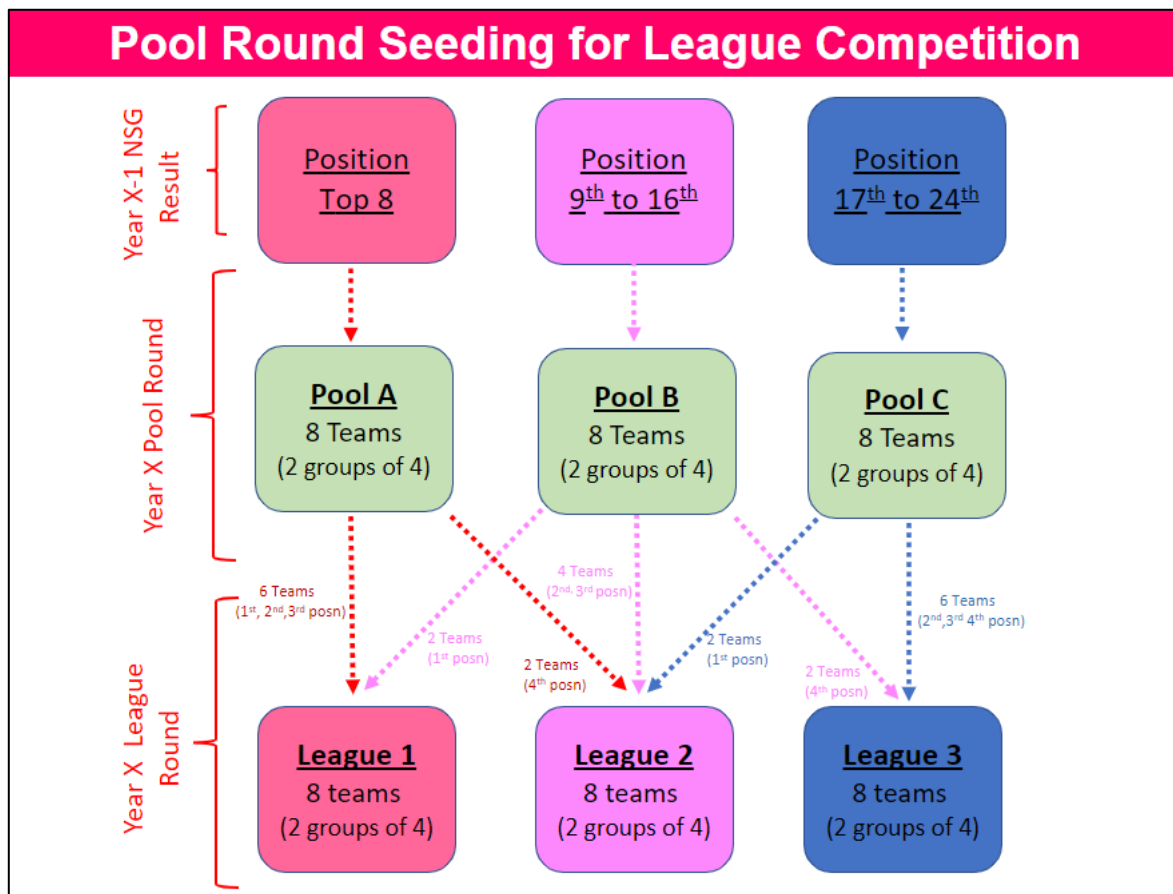
Examples to illustrate for League Competition

Example 1: For sports that are moving from Zonal-National to the Pool-League format

Using preceding year's National Competition result for seeding. *(This example will be removed in 2025)*

Pool A	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The National Top 8 will be placed in Pool A.• The top 4 teams will be seeded and placed in 2 different groups within Pool A.• No more than two seeded teams shall be drawn into the same group.• The remaining 4 teams will be randomly drawn into groups within Pool A.
Pool B	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The next 8 teams (Position 9th to 16th) will be placed in Pool B and will be randomly drawn into the groups.
Pool C	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The remaining teams (Position 17th to 24th) will be placed in Pool C and will be randomly drawn into the groups.

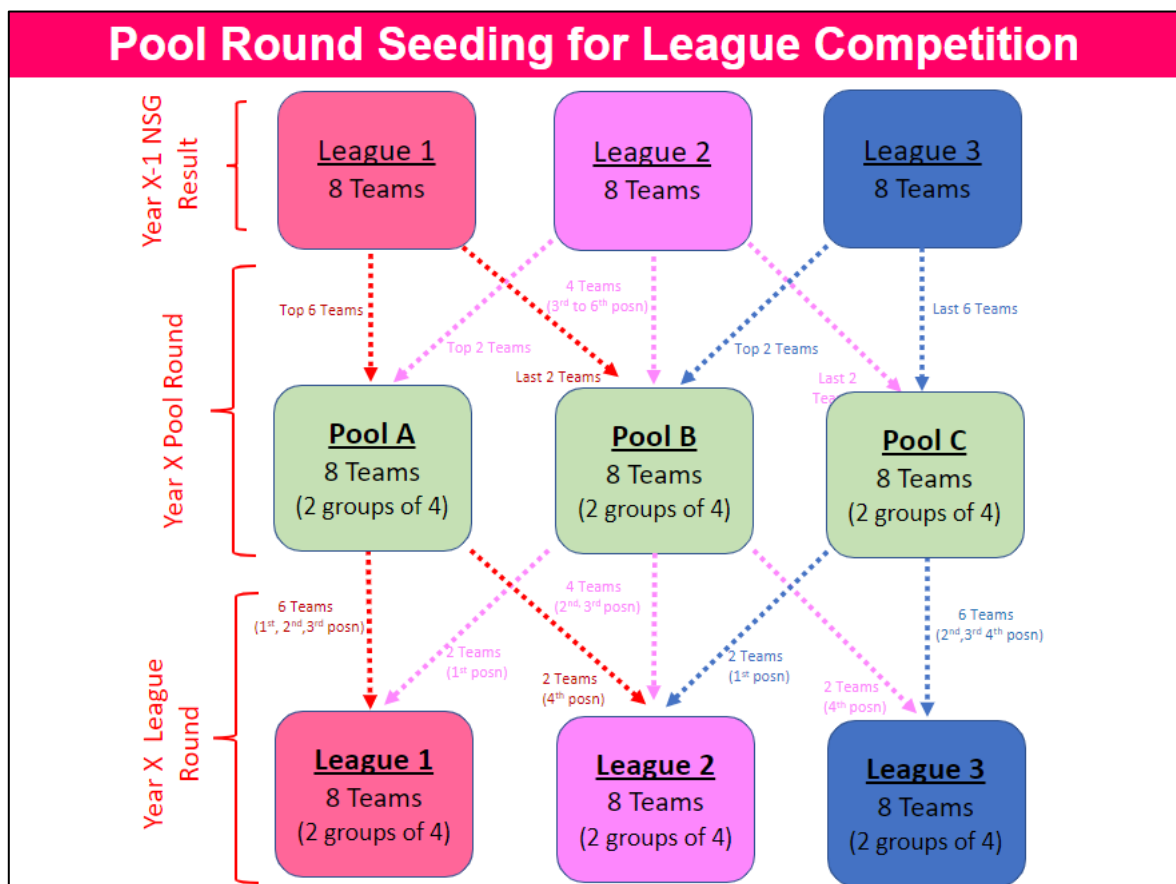
For a National Competition with 24 teams, seeding in the Pool round should be as shown below.



Example 2: For sports which have adopted the League system

Using preceding year's League result for seeding

For a competition with 3 Leagues of 24 teams, porosity to Pool round should be in place as shown below.



In determining the competition format after the Pool Round, NSGOCs should refer to the suggested competition format based on the number of teams in each league.

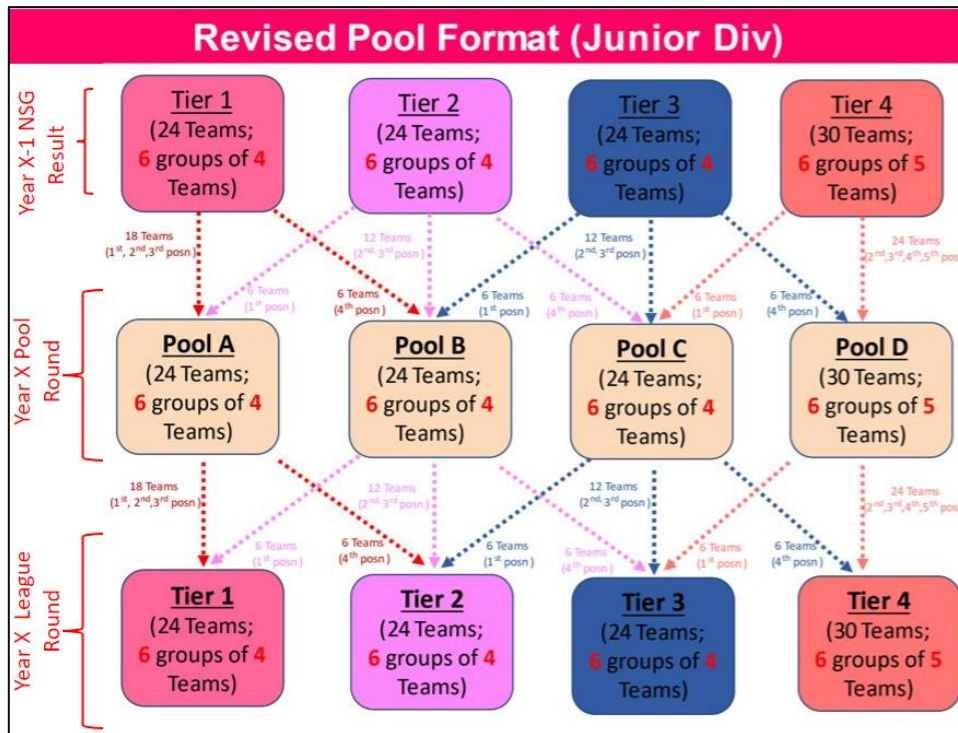
SUGGESTED COMPETITION FORMATS FOR POOL-TIERED COMPETITION

Multiple-Groups Competition 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.

Example: To illustrate using preceding year's Tiered result for seeding

For a competition with 4 Tiers, porosity to Pool round should be in place as shown below.



In determining the competition format after the Pool Round, NSGOCs should refer to the suggested competition format based on the number of teams in each tier.

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.

SCHOOL ADULT REPRESENTATIVE (SAR)

1. The School Adult Representative (SAR) scheme aims to support schools in balancing the numerous competition opportunities for students and managing staff resources. SAR should be parents/legal guardians of one of the participating student-athletes in the session.
2. Schools may appoint suitable SAR as Team Managers for the sports listed.

a) Badminton (Junior Div)	g) Swimming
b) Bowling	h) Table Tennis (Junior Div)
c) Golf	i) Taekwondo
d) Gymnastics ¹	j) Tennis (Senior and Junior Div)
e) Rope Skipping	k) Track & Field
f) Sailing	l) Wushu

¹ For Artistic Gymnastic, SAR may only be appointed by schools that do not offer Gymnastics as a CCA. They may be deployed to manage up to a maximum of 3 student athletes for each distinct competition of the sport.

3. SAR may be deployed to manage up to a maximum of 3 student-athletes for each session of the sport.
4. When there is more than one student-athlete in a session, SAR should be supported by parent chaperones (PC) who should be parents / legal guardians of the participating student-athletes. PC should accompany their own children to and from the competition venue and be responsible for their children's safety and well-being throughout the competition.
5. SAR are encouraged to be trained in first aid.
6. When appointing SAR, schools should:
 - Appoint an Education Officer (EO) as the **School Coordinator**, to serve as liaison between the SAR and the NSGOC.
 - Arrange and conduct a briefing for the SAR on their duties including:
 - SPSSC General and Sport-Specific Rules and Regulations
 - Safety protocols
 - Roles of TMs (Refer to Annex G)
 - Other school-specific SOPs or requirements
 - Be represented by 1 SAR per session only.
 - Ensure that PC are present to oversee their own children's / ward's safety and well-being when the SAR is on duty.
 - Issue the SAR Letter of Appointment (Annex H1) endorsed by the School Principal.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can grandparents, siblings, helpers or other relatives be appointed as SAR?

No. Only a parent or legal guardian of the student athlete can be appointed as the SAR.

2. Can schools send an SAR for a team sport or event at the SPSSC NSG?

No. For all team sports or events, schools must send a **school staff** to be the Team Manager.

3. What happens when an appointed SAR is not able to be present for duty or needs to leave before the end of a competition?

The SAR should follow the school's current standard operating procedure for managing such situations and contact the school immediately to arrange for a replacement. An appropriate replacement should be provided by the participating school.

4. If the SAR needs to accompany his/her child to the hospital before the end of the competition, what are the standard procedures?

Please refer to Q6.

5. If any of the parent chaperones does not turn up or needs to leave before the competition ends, what are the standard procedures?

The SAR should call the School Coordinator to seek advice and assistance. The student whose parent is absent, may not be allowed to compete.

6. Is there a different set of Baseline Safety Standards (BSS) School Acknowledgement Form for schools represented by SAR?

The same form will be used. The School Coordinator should brief the SAR on the requirements and implications of the BSS Acknowledgement Form. SAR should also be familiar with the respective sports safety requirements and practices and is encouraged to be trained in first aid.

<School Letter Head>

**SCHOOL ADULT REPRESENTATIVE (SAR)
LETTER OF APPOINTMENT**

School:	
Sport:	
Full Name of SAR: (as in NRIC / Passport)	
NRIC / Passport No.: (last 4 characters e.g. 234A)	
Name of Child / Ward:	
Mobile No.:	

Terms and Conditions

1. The above-mentioned is appointed as the SAR who shall represent the school in the National School Games competition for the sport and dates given only.
2. The SAR shall believe in and support the Council's mission, motto and aspirations and support the involvement of the students under their charge in the competitions and events with a strong educational focus.
3. The SAR shall perform the roles and responsibilities of the SAR including:
 - a. Representing of the school as a Team Manager (TM) (Refer to Annex G for the main roles and responsibilities of a TM.)
 - b. Attending all briefings and meetings conducted by the school for SAR.
 - c. Work and coordinate with PC, if any, to facilitate a good participation experience for all participants including:
 - Establishing contact with PC and keeping them informed on the competition schedules and other necessary information.
 - Ensuring that all participants are present and PC are present to oversee their own children's/ward's safety and well-being. SAR should contact the school coordinator for assistance immediately if they are unable to contact the PC and/or the participant.

- d. Being professional in the discharge of their duties. They should not bring along any other students or children who are not involved in the competition for that day so that they can more effectively discharge their duties.
 - e. Observing and complying with all rules, policies, procedures, expectations, and codes of conduct of the School, Singapore Primary Schools Sports Council (SPSSC) and the applicable sporting body as may be issued from time to time.
 - f. Take all necessary precautions to ensure the safety, security, health and wellbeing of the students under their charge.
4. The SAR shall declare to the school if he/she is under investigation for any criminal offence by any authority in Singapore or elsewhere or is facing disciplinary proceedings by any sporting body in Singapore or elsewhere.
 5. Except with the written consent of the school, the SAR shall not disclose any information or material furnished by the school or make any statement or representation on behalf of the school to any media or any person not related to the NSG Organising Committee.
 6. The SAR shall not make use of any information obtained directly or indirectly from the course of his/her duty, other than for the conduct of the NSG, unless prior written approval has been given by the school.
 7. The SAR declares that, at the date of entering into this Agreement, there is no conflict of interest in the performance of this service, and of its obligations under this Agreement.
 8. The appointment is subject to the meeting of the above terms and conditions and may be revoked by the school or SPSSC if they are breached.

Name & Signature of SAR

Date

Name & Signature of Principal

School Stamp

Date

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.

Rule on Protest

PROTESTS THAT WILL NOT BE RECEIVED.

Protests shall not be received, or considered, if they are based solely on a decision involving the accuracy of judgment on the part of an umpire, or if the team lodging the protest won the game.

Examples of protest that will not be considered are

- a. Whether a batted ball was fair, or foul.
- b. Whether a runner was safe, or out.
- c. Whether a pitched ball was a strike, or a ball.
- d. Whether a pitch was legal, or illegal.
- e. Whether a runner did, or did not, touch a base.
- f. Whether a runner left the base too soon on a caught fly ball.
- g. Whether a fly ball was, or was not, caught legally.
- h. Whether it was, or was not, an Infield Fly.
- i. Whether there was, or was not, an interference.
- j. Whether there was, or was not, an obstruction.
- k. Whether a player, or live ball, did or did not, enter a dead ball area, or touch some object or person in a dead ball area.
- l. Whether a batted ball did, or did not, clear the fence in flight.
- m. Whether the field is fit to continue, or resume, play.
- n. Whether there is sufficient light to continue play.
- o. Any other matter involving only the accuracy of the umpire's judgment.

PROTESTS THAT WILL BE RECEIVED.

Protests that shall be received and considered include matters of the following types

- a. Misinterpretation of a playing rule.
- b. Failure of an umpire to apply the correct rule to a given situation.
- c. Failure to impose the correct penalty for a given violation.
- d. Eligibility of a team roster member.

NOTE: 1. Protests for the above must be made before the next pitch, or before all infielders have left fair territory or, if on the last play of the game, before the umpires leave the playing field.

2. After one pitch has been thrown (legal or illegal), no change can be made on any umpire's ruling.

NOTE: Protests for the above are to be submitted to the appropriate authority (not the umpires) and may be made at any time, subject to the provisions of Rule 11 Section 5.

PROTESTS INVOLVING JUDGEMENT AND INTERPRETATION OF RULE.

Protests may involve both a matter of judgment and the interpretations of a rule.

An example of a situation of this type follows:

With one out and the runners on second and third bases, the batter flied out. The runner on third tagged up after the catch, the player on second did not. The runner on third crossed the plate before the ball was played at second base for the third out. The umpire did not allow the run to score. The questions as to whether the runners left their bases before the catch

and whether the play at second was made before the player on third crossed the plate are solely matters of judgment and are not protestable. The failure of the umpire to allow the run to score was a misinterpretation of a playing rule and was a proper subject for protest.