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| SSWA Policy  Description: S:\7794-SSP\DIR_QA\SSWA\ADMINISTRATION\Logos\SSWA Logos\SSWA LOGO Transparent.gif | **CHAMPION SCHOOL COMPETITION STRUCTURE AND POLICY** | Last Edited:  Feb 2015 |

**CHAMPION SCHOOL COMPETITION APPROVAL**

School Sport WA is fundamentally a user pays, teacher driven organisation with a finite supporting budget from Department of Education. For a sport to be included into the annual School Sport Champion School sport program a comprehensive “approval process” is required.

THE APPROVAL PROCESS

* SSWA is informed of the individual’s or sporting group’s intent to seek “approval”
* The State Sporting Organisation (SSO) supports the inclusion and recognizes the competition within its development plan
* The SSO has involvement on the sport committee
* The SSO commits ‘additional’ resources to the program as required
* The sport committee satisfies School Sport guidelines
* The sport is ‘trialed’ for a minimum of twelve months
* The Director is briefed during the trialing progress
* A formal ‘Champion School’ proposal is submitted to School Sport WA management for decision.

All Champion School sports are reviewed annually. School Sport’s decision to support a sport’s continuance within its program is made in accordance with the following criteria:

* The level of participation of the current school competition
* The structure and function of the sport committee
* The sport is financially viable
* Support from the SSO is maintained – a service agreement has been signed and adhered to.

**Preferred Champion School Format**

A round robin regionally based home and away format with inter zone knockout finals leading to a competition Grand Final. The Grand Final, coordinated by the sport coordinator, should be played at a premier sporting venue and conclude with medal, shield or trophy presentation and acknowledgments. Competitions are ideally of 6 to 8 weeks duration involving 6 to 8 geographically compatible schools. Where nomination numbers permit, sport committees should endeavor to develop graded competitions. **For those sports contested at Country Week, access for country schools to the Champion School finals rounds is via the Country Senior High Schools Carnival where practicable.**

In the event of an unscheduled country versus metro semi final or final the sport committee will determine the venue. To promote country school involvement in Champion School Competitions, a travel subsidy is available for city versus country matches on request to the Director or SSO. This travel subsidy will not exceed an amount comparable to 50% of the travel claim and not exceeding $250. This allowance is available to the traveling school(s)

Other Champion School competition structures include:

* Special one day events
* Country Week

**Planning**

The sport committee is required to have their sport plan and proposed budget for the following year ready for presentation and approval. Details will be entered on to the SSWA web site ([www.schoolsportwa.com.au](http://www.schoolsportwa.com.au) ). Additional information may be circulated via the School Sport WA office.

**Nominations**

Nominations are to be submitted on line on the SSWA website or SSO website for those sports that nominate directly through the SSO. On final receipt of nominations the competition structure may be reviewed at the discretion of the sport committee. Fixtures should be in schools two weeks prior to the start of competition. It is recommended that schools be represented by one team per division. Variation may be approved by the sport committee. Schools will be invoiced after nomination but prior to the event. Nominations are accepted conditional on payment of the nomination fee.

**Results and Evaluation**

Sport coordinators should ensure that results are published regularly throughout the competition. It is recommended that the support of the SSWA office or SSO be sought to achieve this outcome. All champion schools will be acknowledged with a trophy to be presented at the grand final of that sport or at school assembly. Sport coordinators should consider the recognition of regional or zone winners with an appropriate award. This can be included as part of the sport budget. A competition report, including financial reconciliation, is to be completed and presented no later than four weeks after the competitions conclusion.

**Champion Schools Participation Eligibility**

Nominations for participation in SSWA programs will only be accepted from schools / students that are recognised educational institutions.