Schools in Action

2027 National All Schools Sport Challenges Event Regulations

As of 7 October 2026

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1. Program

1.1. Format

1.1.1. There will be separate events for different sports that will be announced on the Schools in Action Pty Ltd (SIA) website. They will be known as National All Schools *Sport* Challenges. They will be organised by SIA.

1.1.2. The Challenges will be conducted at various facilities selected by SIA. Facilities will be chosen to provide a safe and inclusive environment with teams overseen by teachers from or people employed by schools participating in the program and competition conducted by officials qualified in each sport.

1.1.3. The Challenge dates will be defined for each event when the event is announced.

1.1.4. The program will endeavour to have separate competitions for boys and girls in all sports.

1.1.5. The program will endeavour to have two divisions of competitions in all sports when this can be accommodated, one for high performing school sport teams and the other for those with developing teams who wish to participate but have not attained a high performance level.

1.2. Age Groups

1.2.1. The age groups will be defined for each event when the event is announced.

2. Eligibility

2.1. Schools

2.1.1. Participation is open to any:

2.1.1.1. A Secondary School that is registered with their relevant Education Department in their Australian State or Territory; or

2.1.1.2. A group of schools delivering a Combined School Sport Program (a program formally established between two or more schools, whereby students from the participating schools train, compete, and represent jointly in sporting activities) that is authorised by the relevant Education Department in their Australian State or Territory; or

2.1.1.3. An International School that has been invited to participate by Schools in Action, provided that it is registered with the governing education authority in their jurisdiction.

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2.2. Students

2.2.1. Participation is open to any full time student that:

2.2.1.1. satisfies the age requirements as per rule 1.2; and

2.2.1.2. is enrolled and in attendance at a Secondary School that satisfies the school requirements as per rule 2.1; and

2.2.1.3. has attended the school they wish to represent on a full time basis for at least three (3) months immediately prior to the commencement of the event.

2.2.2. The number of students a school may enter is governed by the rules of the sport.

2.2.3. Schools are required to meet the student supervision requirements of their relevant Education Department.

2.2.4. A student may compete in more than one sport but the school must be mindful of the health and wellbeing of the student hence not put the student at risk of being physically or mentally overburdened / stressed.

2.3. Coaches and School Staff

2.3.1. All coaching and school staff must be registered teachers or employees of the school and hold the relevant working with children (or equivalent) status from the school's State / Territory.

3. Entry Process

3.1. Registration to participate

3.1.1. All school registrations must be completed online via the Challenge registration platform available through the SIA website. Schools will be required to individually nominate for each sport they wish to participate in at the time of registration.

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3.1.2. The registrations will be announced on the SIA website.

3.1.3. Upon registration, schools will be issued a Tax Invoice for a deposit of $100 (excluding GST) per team they have registered. The deposit is payable within thirty (30) days of the invoice date.

3.1.4. Registering a team does not confirm participation at the Challenges. Refer to item 3.2 for information on the process for the confirmation of entries.

3.1.5. As there will be a limit to the number of entries, schools who desire to play in the high performing division will have to be the current champion of their School Sport Association or have shown consistent high level performance (in the top three of their School Sport Association) over recent years. The organisers will liaise with School Sport Associations and / or State Sporting Organisations to decide which schools will participate at the Challenges.

3.1.6. The deposit is fully refundable if the team is not selected to participate.

3.1.7. Registrations are not considered finalised until payment of deposit has been made as per item 3.1.3.

3.1.8. Registrations received after the closing date will not be accepted.

3.2. Confirmation of Entries

3.2.1. Schools will be advised after the registration period closes if their registration to participate has been successful or not.

3.3. Payment of Fees

3.3.1. All registrations will carry an administration fee per team to cover the costs of organising the Challenge. The administration fee will be set for each sport. The fee for each sport will be defined for each event when the event is announced and will be available on the SIA website.

3.3.2. Invoices will be issued and payable as per the following schedule to schools that are selected to compete at the Challenges.

3.3.2.1. 50% of fees less deposit already paid - Issued six months prior to the Challenge and payable within thirty (30) days of the invoice date.

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3.3.2.2. Balance (50%) of fees – Issued three months prior to the Challenge and payable within thirty (30) days of the invoice date.

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3.3.3. As per rule 3.3.2 above, all fees must be paid in full within thirty (30) days of the invoice date. Non-payment of fees will result in withdrawal from the competition.

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3.4. Team Lists

3.4.1. All schools will be required to submit a team list of players via the SIA Challenge online registration platform at least one month prior to competition. This will include:

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3.4.1.1. the full name of each student, date of birth, parental / guardian consent for media requirements;

3.4.1.2. full names of team officials, their contact details, teacher registration status or working with children status and media consent;

3.4.1.3. online automated confirmation by the School Principal that the school, students and officials have permission to participate, will adhere to competition rules and code of conduct and are aware of the consequences of breaching these rules.

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3.4.2. At least seven (7) days prior to the commencement of a Challenge, a risk and liability waiver must be completed on behalf of each of your students, teachers, officers, employees, contractors and agents participating in or attending the Event in accordance with any risk and liability waiver requirements specified in these Event Regulations. The risk and liability waiver form will be completed via the Challenge online registration platform.

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3.5. Withdrawal from Event

3.5.1. Schools

3.5.1.1. Any school withdrawing within three (3) months of the beginning of the event will forfeit all their entry fees.

3.5.1.2. Any school who withdraws prior to three (3) months to the beginning of the event and after payment of their invoice detailed in 3.3.2.1 will forfeit half of the entry fee.

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3.5.1.3. Any school who withdraws after payment of the deposit but before payment of their invoice will forfeit the deposit.

3.5.1.4. Where schools can provide evidence that they have been prevented from participating due to circumstances beyond their control, there will be no forfeit of entry fees paid by the school.

4. Event Conduct

4.1. Program Rules

4.1.1. Each sport will have its own set of Rules of Competition. Except where explicitly stated within the Rules or limited by the venue conditions, the rules of the International or National body shall form the basis of the Rules of Competition.

4.2. Arrival Time

4.2.1. All schools are to arrive in time to attend the Opening Ceremony prior to commencement of competition.

4.2.2. Schools will be provided details of arrival times fixtures / program of events prior to the commencement of competition.

4.2.3. The Organising Committee for each sport may approve a delay to a start time during competition due to exceptional circumstances and this decision shall be final.

4.3. Draw / Fixtures / Competition Schedule

4.3.1. For sports involving team competition only, competition will begin with either full or split pool round robin rounds, followed by crossover games (if

required) and finish with playoff games for final placings. The number of entries will determine the number and length of rounds to be conducted.

4.3.2. For sports with individual competition (e.g., Cross Country, Swimming, Track & Field and Triathlon), the schedule will be defined in Challenge bulletins.

4.4. Uniforms

4.4.1. Students are to wear their school's competition uniform which must comply with the rules of the competition.

4.5. Medals and Trophies

4.5.1. Sports involving team competition only:

4.5.1.1. For events that have a Challenge with seven or more teams the first three teams of each sport will be allocated medals.

4.5.1.2. For events that have a Challenge with six or less teams the first two teams of each sport will be allocated medals.

4.5.1.3. Medals will be presented to each team member and up to three officials.

4.5.1.4. Each sport will declare a champion Challenge School for that sport and division and be awarded the Challenge Trophy.

4.5.1.5. The process for ties between schools either during competition or in final placings will be defined within the Rules of Competition for each sport.

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4.5.2. Sports with individual competition

4.5.2.1. Medals will be presented to the first three placegetters in each event.

4.5.2.2. If applicable, medals will be awarded to each defined team member of the first three teams who represent a school in a race.

4.5.2.3. Each sport will declare a Champion Challenge School for that sport and be awarded the Challenge Trophy; a Boys Champion Challenge School for that sport and be awarded the Boys Challenge Trophy; and a Girls Champion Challenge School for that sport and be awarded the Girls Challenge Trophy.

4.5.2.4. The process for ties between schools either during competition or in final placings will be defined within the Rules of Competition for each sport.

4.6. Officiating

4.6.1. Competition Officials

4.6.1.1. Qualified officials will be supplied by the event organisers except as indicated in item 4.6.1.2 and 4.6.1.3. Officials are to be treated with respect with all participants and spectators to comply with the SIA Code of Conduct.

4.6.1.2. In some sports, schools are encouraged to provide their own match official (umpire / referee). If schools choose not to do so then they will be charged a fee for the official. The fee for each sport is available on the SIA website.

4.6.1.3. In some sports, schools will be required to provide bench or match officials to perform duties such as scoring, time keeping or line judging. A roster will be prepared by the event organisers and provided to schools before the commencement of competition.

4.7. Tribunal / Jury and Appeals Process

4.7.1. Each sport may have a tribunal / jury appointed by the Local Organising Committee for each sport.

4.7.2. Each sport may have protest and appeals processes defined in the sport's Rules of Competition.

4.7.3. Any appeal to a decision of the Tribunal / Jury of any sport competition will be managed in accordance with the appeals processes defined in the sport's Rules of Competition.

5. General Policies

5.1. Code of Conduct

5.1.1. In completing the registration form a school confirms all participants agree to be bound by the SIA Code of Conduct.

5.2. Privacy Policy

5.2.1. In completing team lists as per 3.4, a school confirms all participants agree to have their photograph taken or the event live streamed (if provided) by SIA and affiliated media sources and understand these photos may be used for promotional purposes through the SIA website and social media platforms. Refer to the SIA Privacy Policy for further information.

5.3. Venue Cleanliness

5.3.1. Participants must abide by venue regulations with respect to the consumption of food and drink.

5.3.2. One of the responsibilities of every school is to ensure students and school staff / officials abide by these regulations. It is also the duty of each school staff member / official to be responsible for the school's contribution to the overall cleanliness of the venue. The combined effort of all adults and

students in maintaining a clean venue environment is essential from a risk management perspective and a cost perspective.

5.3.3. Event officials have the authority to ask any person consuming food or drink not in accordance with venue regulations to leave the venue. Event officials also have the authority to report the offending person to the School Staff member and to keep a record of offenders for further action if deemed necessary.

5.3.4. Any additional cleaning costs incurred by SIA, above the quoted costs for the daily cleaning of the venue, will be invoiced to the school on a pro rata basis based on the number of teams per school. If such action is required SIA reserves the right to exempt schools who have genuinely made a concerted effort to keep the venue clean and tidy.

5.4. Adult Supervision

5.4.1. All schools must have an adult, approved by the School's Principal, present at all times students attend the event. Schools may be withdrawn from the event if this condition is not met. This policy must be strictly adhered to.

5.5. First Aid / Sports Injury Service Supervision

5.5.1. A Sports First Aid Practitioner will be present throughout the duration of the event at each venue.

5.5.2. An adult (teacher, manager, coach or parent) must accompany all students requiring first aid or sports strapping. The officers providing the first aid / sports strapping service will require the accompanying adult to sign a document indicating they were present during the relevant treatment.

5.6. Ambulance Insurance

5.6.1. Schools are responsible for covering the cost of any ambulances required for their students. Schools should ensure that ambulance insurance is in place.

5.7. Alcohol / Drug Consumption

5.7.1. Smoking, drinking alcohol and taking other recreational drugs are strictly forbidden during the entire event. Any breach of this rule will result in the student or school official being ejected from the program, their school and parents being notified, as well as the student being returned to their home state / territory / country on the first available transport. Any additional expenses will be the responsibility of the parents of the offending person.

5.8. Stealing

5.8.1. All school students and staff must be aware of the ramifications of the theft and or malicious damage of event equipment and personal property at this event. Any incidents of the theft of personal property and event equipment will result in the expulsion of the student(s) from the competition. Please be

aware that police intervention will be sought.

5.9. Blood

5.9.1. In keeping with current sports practice, the event will be halted if there is a bleeding student, official or blood on event equipment. Should bleeding occur event staff should be immediately notified and the student will be removed from the program until there is no more evidence of blood or bleeding and it is safe for the student to return. The program will be halted until all blood has been removed from the field of play and event equipment.

5.10. Conduct in and at the Venue

5.10.1. Student, staff, officials and spectators are expected to respect the competition venues and any signage and rules that exist. Participants who fail to respect these rules, or who litter may be subject to discipline within the general context of the event and may be liable to sanctions such as suspension from participating.