

Winter Sport Choices 2024

Dear Parents, Caregivers, and Students,

We are delighted to offer a variety of sports once again in our winter program. These are a mixture of team and individual opportunities for students to consider for their 2024 winter sport choice. We have witnessed over many years the value to students' lives by those who engage in the whole school experience, rather than just the academic. There is significant research that supports this.

In sport, St Andrew's have coaches with extensive experience in their respective sports. Some have played for Australia, some for State and others have been coaches at senior levels. Less experienced coaches are mentored and trained by our development and senior coaches. A key attribute of sport at St Andrew's is that we don't just want to have quality coaches for our A teams, but we want to engage students at younger and lower ability levels to have a passion for sport and activity which they can take into adulthood. As a result, we seek to have quality coaches throughout the program. We believe this to be a key difference between St Andrew's and many other schools. Key sporting codes at St Andrew's are compete in the Independent Sporting Association (ISA), which is comprised of 19 schools across NSW. Besides these ISA sports, we have a variety of other activities from which to choose.

The winter training program starts the week beginning Monday, 11 March 2024. This will give players and coaches an opportunity to work with their sporting groups and build on their skills. Saturday commitments for winter sport begin in Term 1 on 16 March for all students (with an earlier commitment for Year 7 students also, on 2 March). This will be a sporting round where all sports train/trial and will also be a fun community sports day. More to come on this but it will be a compulsory school sport day. Please note that there is a minimum of one training session per week. A teams and rugby have two training sessions per week.

Attached is further information which provides an explanation of the choices that can be made in relation to SACS Winter Sport and Activities.

To Select a Sport: To select a sport or activity parents are required to log into your [Enrolments Dashboard](#) using your login username and password. The booking site will open and close as per the below.

Opening on Monday 27 November at 9:00am.

Closing on Monday 4 December at 9:00am.

[Winter Sport Selection Form](#)

The only winter basketball provided by SACS is the 1st V Winter development program. **This program is limited to ten players and participation is by invitation following trials. Players who are interested in this basketball program must make a winter sports selection because selection is not guaranteed.** With regards to our other co-curricular activities, information will be sent out in January. This includes Athletics, Cross Country Running, Debating, Theatre Sports, Snow Sports etc.

We look forward to seeing our SACS students registering for and enjoying their sport!

Kind regards,



Tamsyn Kelson
Head of Sport



Ric van Wachem
Director of Sport and Cocurricular Education

SPORT TEAM CONTACTS:

NAME	TITLE	CONTACT
Ric van Wachem	Director of Sport & Cocurricular	rvw@sacs.nsw.edu.au
Tamsyn Kelson	Head of Sport	tkelson@sacs.nsw.edu.au
Karen Brown	Cocurricular Administrator	kbrown@sacs.nsw.edu.au
Beatrice Coddington	Sports Administrator & Convenor - Netball, Tennis	bcoddington@sacs.nsw.edu.au
Richard Butler	Sports Convenor – Rugby, Football, Athletics	rbutler@sacs.nsw.edu.au
Phoebe Hunter	Sports Convenor – Hockey, Fencing	phunter@sacs.nsw.edu.au
Jorge Lopez	Sports Convenor – Water Polo	jlopez@sacs.nsw.edu.au
Bec Wise	Sports Convenor – Fit 4 Life, Squash	bwise@sacs.nsw.edu.au
Antonietta Del Pinto	S&C & Fitness Centre Manager	adelpinto@sacs.nsw.edu.au

WINTER SPORT ENROLMENT AND REGISTRATION LINKS:

Winter Cocurricular at SACS is compulsory for all students Years 7-11 with participation encouraged for Year 12 students. The following information is primarily with respect to compulsory winter activities within the school. Please feel free to contact the sports department for any additional information you may require. Information for other cocurricular activities on offer will be sent to the school community in Term 1, 2024.

Detailed information on each sport can be found in the [Winter Sports Handbooks](#).

WINTER SPORT COMPULSORY UNITS: (You must select one of the following)

- ISA Rugby
- ISA Football (Soccer)
- ISA Tennis (*Capped*)
- ISA Netball (*Female Only*)
- ISA Hockey (*Female Only*)
- Fencing - (*Capped*)
- Squash - (*Capped*)
- Fit 4 Life - (*Capped, please note for Years 8-12 only*)
- Water Polo (**If signing up to Water Polo as a second sport please register by e-mailing bcoddington@sacs.nsw.edu.au with student name, year group and gender.**)

WINTER SPORT COMPULSORY UNITS:

- A selection must be made from the above-named sports.
- A student may not choose two activities in this group, with the exception of Water Polo and one other sport as these schedules do not clash.
- **Please note: Some sports and activities are capped as indicated below.** Once capped, you will receive a message saying 'the sport is at capacity and no longer available for selection' on the form.
- **Please register early to avoid disappointment.** We won't be able to accommodate any additional sign ups once full.
- On the rare occurrence that there are not enough students to field a team or sport, you will be notified by week 2 of Term 1, 2024 and will be required to select another sport/activity.
- All students will be allocated their selection submitted through the form. We will be holding a Winter Sport preseason/trial for all activities on Saturday 16 March 2024.

TRANSPORT:

Students are supervised by a SACS staff member on each bus. Buses are provided by the school to and from all afternoon sports training offsite. Buses leave Bathurst Street steps at 3.30pm and, generally, return to school by approx. 5.30pm.

Buses are not provided to any fixtures inside the Sydney Metro. Buses with seat belts are provided for travel outside the Sydney Metropolitan Region. This includes ISA opposition schools such as Chevalier College, Oxley College, Central Coast Grammar School, Blue Mountains Grammar School etc.

Year 7:

In 2024 Year 7 students start their winter sports commitment from the week beginning the of 12th February. For most students, this will involve training on Tuesday afternoons after school, but this may be different for some sports so please make sure to review the details provided below.

In addition, there will be a Saturday commitment for all Year 7 students on the 2nd March 2023. All students from Year 7 to Year 12 will then have a Saturday sports commitment on the 16th March. There may be other Saturday commitments during Term 1, however, this will depend on the sport and the convenor of the sport will provide details if that is the case. Weekly Saturday commitments begin in Term 2.

Changing Sports Selections

There is a limited capacity for students to make a change to their sports selections early in Term 1. In all cases a request must be made in writing to the coordinator of the sport you have selected. They will consult with the convenor of your alternative sport to determine if a change can be accommodated.

Adding and/or removing players from sports once the above decisions are made can have an impact on the viability of teams and the experience of other students. This is because coaches are employed, venues are booked, and commitments are made by the school to the ISA and other schools based on the numbers of players who have registered. ***After the 11th of March 2024 changes in sports selections will not be considered by the convenor of a sport.*** After this date, any request for a change is likely to be refused but can be directed in writing to the Head of Sport for consideration.

Year 12 Students: The above also applies to Year 12 students who might consider withdrawing from sport. Year 12 students are encouraged to consider their academic and other commitments carefully when committing to winter sport. SACS wants you to play for us (our sports are at their best when year 12 participation is high) but a late withdrawal for any reason can negatively impact our team viability.

2024 Anticipated Winter Sport Timetable**

	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Boys Football						
All Senior Boys (ages 16, 17, 18)				PM		Games
1st XI, 2nd XI, 16A*	PM			PM		
1st X	Gym session (to be scheduled)					
Middle School Boys (ages 12,13,14,15)		PM				
13A, 14A, 15A*	PM	PM				
Girls Football						
All Senior Girls (years 10,11,12)				PM		Games
1st XI Girls	PM			PM		
1st X	Gym session (to be scheduled)					
Junior & Inter Girls (years 7,8,9)		PM				
Junior A/Inter A Girls*	PM	PM				
Fencing						
Seniors (years 10, 11, and 12)				PM		Bouts
Years 8 & 9 returning fencers			PM			
Year 7 and new Year 8 & 9 fencers	PM					
Fit 4 Life						
No training						Activities
Hockey						
1st XI*	AM			PM		Games
2nd XI				PM		
3rd XI and 4th XI		PM				
Netball						
Seniors (years 11 and 12)				PM		Games
Senior Ists*	AM			PM		
Inters (years 9 and 10)	PM					
Inter A	PM	AM				
Juniors (years 7 and 8)		PM	AM			
Junior A*		PM				
Rugby						
13s, 14s, 15s		PM		PM		Games
16s and 1st XV	PM			PM		
Squash						
Seniors (years 10, 11 and 12)				PM		Matches
Middle School (years 7, 8, and 9)		PM				
Tennis						
Senior school (years 10, 11, and 12)				PM		Matches
Teams 1-6*	PM			PM		
Middle School (years 7, 8, and 9)		PM				
Teams 7-15*		PM				
Waterpolo						
Senior school (years 10, 11, and 12)			PM		Games PM	
Middle School (years 7, 8, and 9)	Games PM			PM		

* Players are selected into these teams during term 1

** Some variation to the above summary may occur based on player numbers and venue availability

PM= 3:30pm bus from school; 5:00pm finish and then bus back to school - onsite training is 3:30pm to 5:00pm

AM= 6:45am to 7:45am

The timing of Saturday activities depends on the sport and venue with a lot of fixtures in the mornings

Waterpolo games are played in the evening

WINTER SPORT KEY INFORMATION:

ISA SPORTS	
ISA RUGBY	<p>SACS rugby teams are formed with consideration given to age, experience, size, and skill within the rules of Rugby Australia. All teams play on Saturday in the ISA competition (ISA Division 2).</p> <p>Training details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For U13s, U14s and U15s there are two training sessions per week (Tuesday & Thursday). A weekly gym session is encouraged and highly desirable for all players. • For U16s and the 1st XV there are two on-field sessions per week (Monday & Thursday); and one required gym session per week.
ISA FOOTBALL (Soccer)	<p>SACS boys football teams are formed <u>with age as the primary consideration</u>. The year group of players may become a consideration if player distribution needs to be balanced between age groups. SACS girls football teams are formed by year group: Junior (usually years 7 and 8), Intermediate (usually years 9 and 10) and Seniors (usually years 10 to 12). Some variation may happen depending on player numbers. All teams play on Saturday in an ISA competition and games may be morning or afternoon.</p> <p>Training details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st XI boys, 1st XI girls and all 'A' teams train twice a week; all other teams train once per week. 1st XI players have a compulsory gym session. • Monday afternoons: All A teams incl. 1st XI boys, 2nd XI boys, and 1st XI girls • Tuesday afternoons: All U13, U14 and U15 boys, Junior girls, and Inter girls • Thursday afternoons: 1st and 2nd XI girls, 1st 2nd, and 3rd XI boys; U16 boys • All players are encouraged to do at least one gym session per week.
ISA NETBALL (Female Only)	<p>Netball is our biggest female participation sport in winter. Students play in the Saturday ISA competition in age divisions: Junior (Year 7 and 8), Intermediate (Year 9 and 10), Senior (Year 11 and 12). Saturday fixtures will be held between 7.30am-2pm and our home venue for the season is Sydney University Sports & Aquatic Centre.</p> <p>Training details:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training will be one afternoon per week at Sydney University, with all 'A' teams having a second weekly training session at school. The 2024 schedule is as follows: • Monday afternoons: Intermediate teams. (Inter A second training session is Tuesday morning 6:45am – 7:45am) • Tuesday afternoons: Junior teams. (Junior A second training session Wednesday morning 6:45am – 7:45am) • Thursday afternoons: Senior teams. (Senior 1sts second training session Monday morning 6:45am – 7:45am)
ISA TENNIS (Capped)	<p>The SACS tennis program continues to grow each year. Students play in the ISA competition, with teams formed based on playing ability, not age group. In order to be selected for SACS Tennis, students <u>must</u> be able to demonstrate that they can serve overhead consistently and hold a rally. Saturday fixtures are held 7.30am-12pm each week. We have two home courts for Saturday fixtures – Eastside Tennis Centre in Kingsford and Sydney Boys High School.</p> <p>Training details:</p> <p>1 x afternoon training per week at Sydney Boys High plus ISA Saturday competition. Teams 1-4 will train 2 x per week</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday afternoons: Teams 1-4 (Generally years 10-12) • Tuesday afternoons: Teams 7-14 (Generally years 7-8) • Thursday afternoons: Teams 1-6 (Generally years 9-12)

ISA HOCKEY <i>(Female Only)</i>	<p>We enter 3 or 4 teams into the ISA Hockey competition. Our home training venue for the season is Sydney Olympic Park and our Saturday home venue is Moorebank hockey fields.</p> <p>Training details: 1 x afternoon training per week plus ISA Saturday competition. Hockey 1sts team will train 2 times per week. Note: training sessions go to 5.30pm, with students returning to school at approx. 6pm. Monday morning: First XI Tuesday afternoons: Junior A and B Teams Thursday afternoons: First XI and Second XI Teams</p>
NON-ISA SPORTS	
FENCING <i>(Capped)</i>	<p>The fencing program designed and run by highly qualified and talented staff at SACS has developed greatly over the past years. The program is inclusive and caters for all ability levels, from students wanting to learn a new skill, to those wanting to fence competitively.</p> <p>The training details are: 1 x afternoon training per week plus Saturday morning internal competition Monday afternoons: Year 7 Wednesday afternoons: Competitive Thursday afternoons: Non-Competitive</p>
SQUASH <i>(Capped)</i>	<p>Training will be held at Sydney University Sports and Aquatic Centre. They will be split up by year group, on Tuesday afternoons for students in Years 7-9 and Thursday afternoons for students in Years 10-12. All training sessions will run from 3.30-5.30pm. Games will be held on a Saturday morning between 8am-12pm and will likely be an interschool competition with other schools.</p>
FIT 4 LIFE <i>(Capped, Yrs 8-12 students only)</i>	<p>The Fit4Life program is offered to Year 8 and above students only. This program was designed with the aim of encouraging the enjoyment of physical activity, outside the boundaries of traditional sport. The activities run for 3-4 hours on a Saturday morning and include activities such as day hiking, kayaking, rock climbing and archery, led by experienced instructors. The structure of the program changes slightly each year, meaning that students get to try a variety of activities as they progress throughout the years.</p>
WATER POLO	<p>If signing up to Water Polo as a second sport please register by emailing bcoddington@sacs.nsw.edu.au with student name, year group and gender.</p> <p>Junior Boys/Girls Training for Intermediate boys/girls Thursday afternoons departing from Bathurst St steps at 3.30pm and returning approx. 7pm Game Day: Monday evenings at Warringah Aquatic Centre – both boys and girls Game times will range between 7-9pm</p> <p>Senior Boys/Girls Training for Open boys/girls Wednesday afternoons departing from Bathurst St steps at 3.30pm and returning approx. 7pm Game Day: Friday evenings at Warringah Aquatic Centre – both boys and girls Game times will range between 7-9pm</p>

[SPORT EXEMPTION REQUESTS:](#)

The Winter Sport exemption policy is based on Winter Cocurricular being part of the enrolment conditions at St Andrew's Cathedral School, as explained at the time of enrolment. Exemptions are rarely granted. The exemption remains in place until the end of the winter season. Any further exemption requests will be required each year. If you wish to apply for exemption, please complete the Winter Sport Exemption form on the portal, accessible via the link below. ***Please ensure you still select a Winter Sport and should an exemption be granted, we will withdraw your child from that activity.***

Please email exemption forms and all supporting documentation to Beatrice Coddington (bcoddington@sacs.nsw.edu.au). All exemptions are due by Thursday 7th December 2023. Request for Exemptions after this date will only be exceptional circumstances e.g. new and ongoing medical issues.

[CLICK HERE - Exemption Request Form](#)