

GERT MARITZ PRIMARY SCHOOL

Our mission is to provide a happy creative and stimulating schooling environment aimed at developing each child to his or her fullest potential both academically, physically, mentally, emotionally and spiritually.



SPORTS POLICY

1. General

- 1.1. All learners must participate in at least one sport each quarter.

2. Sports calendar and Academics

- 2.1. At the beginning of every quarter, the sports calendar will be distributed to all parents. The calendar shall include the dates of matches and practices for all teams.
- 2.2. The academic timetable during academic assessments (exams) will take preference, and only practices shall be allowed to continue. No mid-week matches will be played or arranged.
- 2.3. It is acknowledged that not all learners have equal academic abilities and that there can be exceptions; however, it is the school's intention to encourage good academic results.
 - 2.3.1. All learners will be motivated in a positive manner to reach and maintain an acceptable academic average. In exceptional cases, more appropriate motivation will be used to encourage academic progress.
 - 2.3.2. The above mentioned is to create awareness amongst learners about the importance of having a balance between sport and academics.
 - 2.3.3. The above mentioned served only as encouragement and motivation and is not a requirement to participate in sports.

3. Permission by Parent or Legal Guardian

- 3.1. Teams are selected by the coach during the last practice prior to the scheduled match or tournament.

- 3.2. Selected participants will receive a permission letter from the School as well as the Department of Education (in the event of an away match). Both of the permission letters must be completed in full and returned to school by the parent or guardian.
- 3.3. Completed permission letters must be returned the following day.
- 3.4. Participants will not be allowed to participate in the match without a signed permission letter.
- 3.5. The permission letters will indicate the following information:
 - 3.5.1. Date, departure and estimated arrival times
 - 3.5.2. Venue of match
 - 3.5.3. Transport arrangements (Parents must indicate if own or school transport will be used)
 - 3.5.4. Team manager
 - 3.5.4. Contact details of sports coordinator
 - 3.5.5. Medical aid information if required

4. Matches or tournaments

- 4.1. Details for matches and tournaments will be available on the permission letter and the electronic School Communicator.

5. Practices

- 5.1. All practices commence directly after school
- 5.2. The practice days and times of the respective teams and age groups will be made available at the beginning of each quarter.
- 5.3. In the event of a change in the above, the relevant coach or team manager will communicate with the parents or guardians

6. Cancellations or changes

- 6.1. Matches or tournaments may be cancelled or changed for the following reasons. Communication in this respect will be per telephone, SMS or in writing, **depending on the circumstances:**
 - 6.1.1. Rain or extremely hot days
 - 6.1.1.1. A decision will be taken at 12:00 for Gr.1 and Gr.2
 - 6.1.1.2. A decision will be taken at 12:30 for Gr.3 to Gr.7

- 6.1.2. A decision is taken one hour prior to the start of a match on a Saturday
- 6.1.3. Any other reasons for cancellations:
 - 6.1.3.1. Cancellation by opponents
 - 6.1.1.2. Dangerous circumstances, eg. Lightning or strikes action
- 6.1.4. Practices
 - 6.1.4.1. As a rule, practices will never be cancelled, changed or reduced in time
 - 6.1.4.2. In the event of a cancellation due to reasons provided above, the learners will remain in the care of the coach/team manager until the official practice time has lapsed
 - 6.1.4.3. Parents or guardians present may collect learners with the permission of the coach/ team manager

7. Attendance

- 7.1. Matched and tournaments
 - 7.1.1. If a learner is or will be absent for a match or tournament, a written note (by the parent/ guardian) is required by the coach/ the office.
 - 7.1.2. Such notification must reach the school at the latest by 10am on the day of the match in order to make alternative arrangements.
- 7.2. Practices
 - 7.2.1. If a learner is or will be absent from practice, a written note by the parent/ guardian is required by the coach/ at the office
 - 7.2.2. Learners who are absent without a written note will not be eligible for the coming match.

8. Sportdrag/ Sports wear

- 8.1 Matches and Tournaments
 - 8.1.1. The correct sports wear is compulsory, as prescribed in the school's Code of Conduct.

- 8.1.2. Participants must arrive at the match venue dressed in either a school tracksuit or the correctly prescribed sports wear, as prescribed in the school's Code of Conduct.
- 8.2. First teams must arrive in the prescribed sports wear as prescribed in the school's Code of Conduct, or sports wear as approved by the Governing Body.
- 8.3. Practices
 - 8.3.2. The sports wear as prescribed must be worn at all times
 - 8.3.3. All clothing and private equipment must be marked
 - 8.3.3. No jewelry may be worn during practice.
- 8.4. First teams
 - 8.4.1. Match wear may be of such nature to distinguish the first teams from the other teams. However, the Governing Body shall firstly approve all designs and use of such wear, prior to use.
 - 8.4.2. First teams practice in prescribed sports wear
 - 8.4.3. Alternative practice wear may only be used if approved by the Governing Body.
- 8.5. Sponsored clothing
 - 8.5.1. Sponsored clothing is not regarded as school wear
 - 8.5.2. Any designs that falls outside the given guidelines shall firstly be approved by the Governing Body prior to use.

9. Sports injuries and medical aid or school insurance

- 9.1. All learners participating in sport are required to either be a member of a medical aid or take out the necessary school insurance at the school.
- 9.2. Parents or guardians must be aware of the following:
 - 9.2.1. **School insurance does not function like a medical aid**
 - 9.2.2. In the case of a **medical aid**; an injured learner will be taken by ambulance to the **designated** private hospital, and **admitted** for medical care, and such costs are for the providing medical aid

9.2.3. In the case of **school insurance**:

9.2.3.1. The **parent or guardian** of the injured learner is **firstly contacted** to determine the hospital of choice

9.2.3.2. If the choice is a private hospital, the **parent or guardian is responsible to cover all medical cost incurred** (also read paragraph 9.2.4 below)

9.2.3.3. The expenses can then be **claimed back from the school insurance**

9.2.3.4. Expenses to a **maximum of R50 000** is covered with a **once-off levy of R250**, irrespective of the claim amount

9.2.3.5. In the event of **no telephonic contact**, the injured learner will be transported to the nearest **government hospital**

9.2.4. However, the wellbeing of each child as well as participation in sport is important to the school. Therefore, the **school has an arrangement with the private hospitals** in the city to **immediately admit a child covered by school insurance (provided the parent/ guardian gave consent)**.

9.2.5. The school, in cooperation with the parent/ guardian submits the claim.

9.2.6. **NOTE:** this arrangement in paragraph 9.2.4 does not absolve the parent or guardian of their responsibilities as per paragraph 9.2.3, and the parents/ guardians remains fully accountable for the choice of private hospitalisation and consequent medical expenses.

9.3. In the event that a participant incurs a serious sports injury (an injury that attracts intensive medical attention on and or off off the field, eg concussion, sprains etc.):

9.3.1. The learner shall be withdrawn from all practices and matches.

9.3.2. Participation shall resume only after written permission is received from the parents/ guardians **AND** the medical practitioner, declaring the learner fit for play.

9.4. No contact match (eg. rugby) shall take place without the presence of a qualified paramedic on duty.

10. Sponsorships

- 10.1. All sponsorships for all teams/ learners, whether private or business, must first be presented to the Governing Body and approved in writing prior to it being accepted by either the school/sponsor.
- 10.2. No informal or verbal arrangement shall or can be accepted for any form of sponsorship, and the school cannot be held liable for any damages incurred in such cases.
- 10.3. Basic guidelines for sponsorships to the school are:
 - 10.3.1 That those items will at all times represent the official colors of the school or the closest color scheme (navy blue, maroon and white)
 - 10.3.2. That where possible, items remain the property of the school
 - 10.3.3. That the sponsor shall receive the necessary exposure as approved by the Governing Body
 - 10.3.4 That in the case of a financial sponsor, the application of such shall be in consultation with the sponsor
 - 10.3.5. That any deviations from this must first be approved by the Governing Body
- 10.4. For additional information refer to the Policy on Finances and Sponsorships

11. Our motto

- 11.1. We play to enjoy the game in the true spirit of sportmanship

12. Sportmanship

- 12.1. A true Gerrie
 - 12.1.1. Always displays true sportmanship
 - 12.1.2. Act as an amasador to the school
 - 12.1.3. Always be polite to team mates, opponents, coaches and referees/umpires
 - 12.1.4. Alwyas play by the rules (no foul play, inappropriate behaviour or language would not be tolerated)

- 12.1.5. Play to the best of her/ his abilities
- 12.1.6. Never question the decision of the referee/ umpire, neither verbally nor showing negative body language
- 12.1.7. Allow the opponents to take the field at home games
- 12.1.8. Shall not become guilty of using foul language or offensive remarks
- 12.1.9. Politely thank opponents and the referee/ umpire after the game
- 12.1.10. Incidents of misconduct on and off the sportsfield will be managed in the following manner:
 - 12.1.10.1. In general according to the school's Dicipinary Policy and Code of Conduct
 - 12.1.10.2. Furthermore; in the event of serious OR continous misconduct, and only after investigation and consultation with the coach, may a pupil be suspended from 1/more/ all games
 - 12.1.10.3. Parents will be notified in writing in the event of a suspension, including the reasons for such
 - 12.1.10.4. The pupil has the right of appeal in terms of the school's Dicipinary Policy and Code of Conduct

12.1. Involvement of parents

- 12.2.1. The support and loyalty of parents towards coaches and the school are highly appreciated
- 12.2.2. Parents who wish to get involved in coaching are encouraged to contact the sports coordinator
- 12.2.3. Please encourage your child to participate in sport activities or any other extramural activities.
- 12.2.4. We encourage you to support your child in all matches.

12.3. Behaviour alongside the sportsfield

- 12.3.1. It's not accepted for parents to interfere, intimidate or make negative remarks aimed at the players, coaches, referees/ umpires or other parents
- 12.3.2. Please do not openly confront any child, parent, coach or referee
- 12.3.3. Positive and motivational remarks are always welcome
- 12.3.4. Parents are not allowed to join half time team talks. Only the team manager and coaching staff are allowed
- 12.3.5. Parents who are not assisting with/ or appointed as coaches are requested to refrain from interfering in practices
- 12.3.6. Please do not use alcohol openly during matches or practice sessions
- 12.3.7. Please only smoke in designated smoking areas

12.4. Captaincy

- 12.4.1. The captain acts as spokesperson in discussions with the referee when decisions, injuries or rules are discussed
- 12.4.2. Reports problems to the coach
- 12.4.3. Motivate the team and must ensure that this policy is enforced by the team.

12.5. Coaches (or their representatives)

- 12.5.1. The coach of a team must have the necessary qualifications OR experience
- 12.5.2. Must keep abreast with the latest set of rules
- 12.5.3. Must regularly attend coaching clinics etc.
- 12.5.4. Must spend adequate time on warm-ups and the practice itself
- 12.5.5. Must determine and oversee the election of team captain
- 12.5.6. Must be on-time, dressed neatly and act professional at all times
- 12.5.7. Dress code for coaching staff at Gert Maritz (GM):
 - 12.5.7.1. Practices: GM shirt, sports shorts or tracksuit pants and appropriate shoes

- 12.5.7.2. Matches: GM shirt, blue/black/khaki/ short or long pants and appropriate shoes
- 12.5.8. Must allow all participants an opportunity to play matches
- 12.5.9. Must be impartial, and distribute his/her time in a fair and consistent manner to all participants
- 12.5.10. Coaches must be vigilant and always maintain a healthy and professional relationship with learners. The abuse of this position will under no circumstances be tolerated.
- 12.5.11. He/she must promote the following:
 - 12.5.11.1. personal pride and dignity
 - 12.5.11.2. love for the game
 - 12.5.11.3. to enjoy participation
 - 12.5.11.4. loyalty towards the team and school
 - 12.5.11.5. commitment to practice
 - 12.5.11.6. perseverance and determination
 - 12.5.11.7. new challenges
 - 12.5.11.8. establishing goals
 - 12.5.11.9. acceptable sporting behaviour
 - 12.5.11.10 respect for opponents and other
 - 12.5.11.11. respect for participants and capabilities
- 12.6. Team manager (or representative)
 - 12.6.1. Receive the opposing team during home games and manage the draw (coin toss)
 - 12.6.2. Ensure that the team is appropriately dressed according to school policy
 - 12.6.3. Ensure punctual arrival of the team

- 12.6.4. Organise refereshments at home games
- 12.6.5. Asssit with the election of team and a captain
- 12.6.6. Administration of permission letters
- 12.6.7. Responsible for timeous and correct correspondence (team list, times, travel arrangements, venue and cancellations etc)
- 12.3.8. Always have the correct contact (parent/ guardian) and medical details (allergies etc, medical aid and school insurance) of each participant at close hand

13. Complaints

- 13.1. Any complaints or general enquiries in respect of sport being practiced (or note being practiced) in accordance with this policy, may be submitted:
 - 13.1.1. in writing
 - 13.1.2. at the sportsoffice/ office, and
 - 13.1.3. shall be investigated and responded (in writing) to within 5 days of receipt
- 13.2. Verbal and anonymous complains will be dealt with accordingly.

14. Sports Coordinator

- 14.1. The enforcement and administration of this policy is the responsibility of the Sports Coordinator in conjunction with the respective team Managers

Ratified by the Governing Body on _____ 2014

MR. A. OPPERMAN
CHAIRPERSON OF THE
GOVERNING BODY

MRS. C.A.J. VAN TONDER
PRINCIPAL

ANNEXURE: SCHOOL INSURANCE

The information presented in this annexure does not replace the information contained in the MARSH Alexander Forbes school insurance documentation.

What is covered (this may vary from year to year, please consult the insurance documentation)

-Accidental injuries obtained whilst:

On the school grounds or related residential facilities (dorms etc.)

Outside school and participating in a sports activity or any other extra-mural activity organised and supervised by the school

Being transported to the above-mentioned and traveling on a reasonably direct route

In the care of a registered and recognised after care facility

An injury or accident is excluded:

if it is caused solely by an existing physical defect or other infirmity

if it is caused by suicide or intentional self-injury

it is caused due to willfull exposure to danger

When a claim is submitted, and the need for further medical treatment arise, a written report from the doctor must be obtained explaining the nature and cost of such treatment.