



# MIMOSA PUBLIC SCHOOL

RESPECT, RESILIENCE, RESPONSIBILITY, EFFORT

## PSSA Information for Parents

At Mimosa Public School, we offer a comprehensive sport program for all students in line with the Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE) syllabus and Department of Education Sport Policy for NSW. This program involves weekly lessons for all students, sometimes involving external providers to teach specific skills like gymnastics. Students in Years 3-6 also engage in a Friday morning sport program aimed at developing students' skills and game knowledge. In addition, some students demonstrating a high level of skill or talent in particular sports may be provided an opportunity to represent Mimosa PS in competing against other local schools through the PSSA sport program.

### **What is PSSA sport?**

PSSA stands for the Primary Schools Sports Association. Schools across Sydney and NSW are organised into zone groups. Mimosa Public School is part of the Warringah Zone PSSA competition group.


Warringah zone covers 10 local public schools – Allambie Heights, Beacon Hill, Belrose, Forestville, Frenchs Forest, Kambora, Killarney Heights, Mimosa, Terrey Hills & Wakehurst.

Warringah Zone is part of the Sydney North School Sport Association for any representative sport selections, including Swimming, Cross Country, Athletics and individual sport trials that are part of the NSW PSSA Sport pathway. <https://app.education.nsw.gov.au/sport/sydney-north>  
<https://app.education.nsw.gov.au/sport/NSWPSSA>

### **How is PSSA Sport Organised?**

In Warringah Zone, PSSA sport is organised into two areas:

**1. PSSA Representative Sport:** This is the pathway for talented students to be selected to represent their School, Zone, Region and State. It includes all three carnivals, Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics, for students aged 8-12 years. It also includes students potentially being selected for individual trials in the sports of: Australian Football, Basketball, Cricket, Diving, Football (Soccer), Golf, Hockey, Netball, Rugby League, Rugby Union, Softball, Tennis and Touch Football. For these individual trials, we only offer an expression of interest form for students in Years 5 & 6 at Mimosa PS due to the competitions being for a 12-year age group. We are also restricted to sending a limited number of students to each trial. Students must meet the selection criteria outlined by the zone and/or regional convener in each sport. In some cases, we may need to hold a school trial to select our strongest candidates.



**2. Local Zone PSSA Competitions:** This is our Friday morning competition which is run by Warringah Zone and has absolutely no affiliation to Sydney North or NSWPSA. Warringah Zone offers this competition as a HPGE (High potential and gifted education) program for students in the sporting arena.

### **How Are Friday PSSA Teams Organised?**

Friday PSSA sport options are offered to students in Years 3 to 6. PSSA teams are organised according to year groups depending on the relevant sports (outlined below). Sport teams have Junior and Senior teams.

### **Summer Friday PSSA Sports (Terms 1 & 2)**

- Girls Softball – 2x teams for students in Year 6 (unless not enough students)
- Girls Teeball – 2x teams for students in Years 4 & 5
- Boys Cricket- 1x junior team (Years 4 & 5) and 1x senior team (Year 6) (unless not enough students)
- Mixed Junior EagleTag – 3x teams for students in Years 3 & 4
- Mixed Senior EagleTag – 2x teams for students in Years 5 & 6

NB: The number of students selected for each team depends on and is limited to the number of children required to take the field of play, plus reserves. This also impacts our numbers for buses and teacher supervision.


### **Winter Friday PSSA Sports (Terms 2 & 3)**

- Mixed Netball – 2x junior teams (Years 4 & 5) and 2x senior teams (Year 6) (unless not enough students)
- Mixed Soccer (Football) – 1x junior team (Years 4 & 5) and 1x senior team (Year 6) (unless not enough students)
- AFL – 2x junior teams (Years 3 & 4) and 2x senior teams (Years 5 & 6)

NB: The number of students chosen for each team depends on and is limited to the number of children required to take the field of play, plus reserves. This also impacts our numbers for buses and teacher supervision.

### **Summer Friday PSSA Sports (Terms 3 & 4)**

- Boys Softball – 2x teams for students in Year 6 (unless not enough students)
- Boys Teeball – 2x teams for students in Years 4 & 5
- Girls Cricket- 1x junior team (Years 4 & 5) and 1x Senior team (Year 6) (unless not enough students)
- Mixed Junior EagleTag – 3x teams for students in Years 3 & 4
- Mixed Senior EagleTag – 2x teams for students in Years 5 & 6



NB: The number of students chosen for each team depends on and is limited to the number of children required to take the field of play, plus reserves. This also impacts our numbers for buses and teacher supervision.

### **How are our school teams selected?**

As per our PSSA & Gala Day Selection Policy (created in 2019 in consultation with the Warringah Zone PSSA), the Mimosa PS team selection process is as follows:

**PSSA sport is for Years 3 - 6 students only.** The Warringah PSSA determines the sports offered and the age/grade requirements for teams. When more students indicate an interest in a team than there are positions available, trials are held. Trials will be held (weather permitting) over at least two sessions for the upcoming PSSA season. There are to be two staff members (or more) present at each trial when making selections on students' skill/ability in any sport. Students will be informed through assembly messages and classroom announcements as to when the trials will take place. It is the students' responsibility to listen and attend the trials as required.

### **When selecting students during trials, consideration will be given to those who display:**

- Individual ability and strong skill level in the specific sport
- Teamwork and cohesive interaction with others
- Sportsmanship, behaviour, cooperation & attitude

Warringah Zone dictates that senior teams are predominantly made up of students from Year 6. However, Year 5 students may be selected for a senior team if:

1. The number of students in Year 6 trialling is below the number required to make a team.
2. They demonstrate a higher level of ability and meet the full selection criteria.

The Warringah Zone dictates that junior teams are predominantly made up of students from Years 4 & 5. Junior teams are selected on the criteria above with no preference given to year/grade level. Year 3 students can only be considered when there are not enough participants available from Years 4 & 5.

The exception to the above is in AFL and Eagle-Tag, where the Warringah Zone rules outline specific grades for senior and junior teams. In these sports, students are to be chosen based on the selection criteria in the following categories: Seniors – Years 5 & 6 and Juniors Years 3 & 4.

The team coach/coaches will have the final decision on team selection. Selection is not based on any external sporting participation. Students must perform to their ability during school-based trials to warrant selection in any PSSA team.

Once selected, all PSSA students must sign a Players' Code of Conduct and their parents must sign the Parent/Guardian Code of Conduct to participate in these activities. As PSSA students are representing our school, student behaviour in class and on the playground may jeopardize a selected student's participation, in line with the school's Behaviour Support and Management Plan.

### **Other Guidelines:**

- Children do not have to participate in this sport out of school to be eligible to try out for the team.
- If a child is absent for one of the selection days, his/her selection will be based on their one session of attendance.
- If a child is away due to another school commitment i.e. Zone Sports or Selective High School Tests, then their selection will be based on our teacher's knowledge of that child's ability OR by holding another trial with that child to compare their skill/ability with other students.

### **Does every student make a PSSA team?**

Unfortunately, no. Many of these sports are popular with students outside of school and we generally get many more students wanting to trial for these sports than positions available in a team. These decisions are also difficult for our teaching staff who volunteer their time and effort to coach PSSA teams. As such, we appreciate the community's support and respect of selection decisions.

We understand this means there are many students who are disappointed and upset at not being selected. This is a natural response and our staff will support students who are disappointed.

We offer a fun and engaging sport option for those students remaining at school for sport on Friday mornings.

### **Limitations to having more PSSA teams/students**

We are one of the largest schools in our zone, meaning we have more students to select from and greater competition for spots in a team. Some local schools don't have enough students to form a full team in the junior or senior competitions.

- Traditionally, PSSA was seen as an extension program for students who display a high level of skill in certain sports.
- Logistics – the price for students will rise as more buses will need to be used to transport (currently certain sports share buses to decrease the cost, we can only have a certain amount of students on buses).
- Teacher supervision – we only have a certain number of teachers to supervise all sports and students, both at PSSA and at School Sport. Student to teacher ratios have to be taken into consideration with numbers of students in each team.
- Restrictions to the number of venues we can use for Friday competitions.

*Thank you for your support of our sports programs at Mimosa Public School. We are very grateful to the many staff members who volunteer additional time to coaching and managing our school and PSSA sport programs for our students.*