



BRADFIELD COLLEGE

Bradfield College Sports Policy

General Aims

- To ensure *all pupils* have a regular, active exercise programme to enhance health and fitness
- To give *all pupils* the opportunity to *represent the school in a team*
- To allow pupils to develop their sports to as high a level of performance as their ability allows
- To provide a stimulating, challenging and enjoyable programme, which gives the opportunity for pupils to learn and experience a range of sports
- To encourage and provide House based sport opportunities

Policy

The sports programme is structured as follows:

Michaelmas Term	Lent Term	Summer Term
Football (Boys)	Hockey (Boys)	Cricket (Girls and Boys)
Hockey (Girls)	Netball (Girls)	Tennis (Girls and Boys)
Lacrosse (Girls)	Lacrosse (Girls)	Athletics (Girls and Boys)

The above represent the **“Tier 1”** (Major) sport providers for the largest groups of pupils across the school at all ages.

Running concurrently with the above programme are a vast range of **“Tier 2”** (Minor) sports which include badminton, basketball, girls’ cricket, clay pigeon shooting, fencing, fives, golf, girls’ football, cross-country, climbing, polo, real tennis, riding, sailing, squash, swimming, shooting and water polo. Pupils who participate in these sports will have coaching and be expected to represent the college in fixtures as per the calendar.

Lower School (Faulkner’s, Shell and Fifth Form)

All pupils will attend trials at the start of each term for the major sport in question. This is regardless of involvement from previous season if applicable. *Pupils selected by games staff* to play that sport will do so in accordance of the school policy on entry on representing the college in fixtures. Pupils not selected for the main squads (but who wish to continue to play then can do so in the lowest squad available) otherwise, pupils must direct their efforts and involvement towards the sports mentioned above (Tier 2).

The **Tier 2** sports programme also offers the opportunity for talented sportsmen and women to develop their skills in these other areas, and to represent the College in more than just the Tier 1 games.

All pupils in the Lower School are expected to be either involved in Tier 1 or a Tier 2 sport (s) as their primary games commitment each term. They will be entered onto SOCS and expected to attend all training sessions as specified by the teacher in charge. Pupils will naturally be expected to be **available for all School midweek and Saturday fixtures** if selected and on occasions this may include Sunday competitions.

Only in **exceptional circumstances** will any pupil be allowed to be exempt from this structure and such an arrangement has to be agreed by HSM, the Director of Sport and if need be the Deputy Head Co-Curricular.

There is a broad selection of non or semi-supervised activities which also support the Tier 1 and Tier 2 structure (free swims, sports hall usage, weights room, tennis courts, squash courts and so on). These are monitored by the 'Games Call' system in Houses. If HsMs or the Director of Sport are unhappy with the involvement of any pupil, he or she can be put on an activity card which must be signed when an activity has been completed.

Senior School

By the time a pupil reaches the Sixth Form it is hoped that they will continue to show dedication and commitment to a minimum of one sport per term. **Pupils who have played team sports for the college in previous years will be expected to continue with that development unless otherwise agreed by HSM and Director Sport.** However, this may not be realistic for all. Each pupil is viewed on an individual basis and alternative arrangements can be put in place in conjunction with HsMs if needs be.

In principle, **all sixth form** should be engaged in either **a Tier 1 or Tier 2 sport each term** unless agreed otherwise by relevant parties. **Pupils do not 'opt out'** and college selection for squads has priority.

All new pupils (boys and girls) to the sixth form will undertake trials in the major games of that sport.

Sporting balance

Running additional sports alongside the main ones results in occasional clashes. The major games (Tier 1) provide the backbone to our system as they can cope with large numbers of pupils and as such they are given a priority.

The present ruling is that pupils required for A, B and C teams must play the main game, unless the member of staff running that game decides that individual circumstances alter that decision for the sake of the individual pupil or the College. For example, a top tennis player may be allowed to play tennis instead of 'A' team cricket, if this is believed to be in everyone's best interests. All such cases should be considered in the light of individual circumstances, and the Director of Sport will make a final ruling if the matter cannot be resolved through normal negotiation; this will often take place in conjunction with HsMs.

College fixtures take priority over other games practices unless special circumstances prevail.

If a pupil is required for two Tier 2 sports, there is no priority rating. In the first instance the overall ambitions of the pupil should be taken into account (e.g. is s/he a badminton player who wants to play basketball, or a basketball player who wants to play some badminton?). If there is no preference and s/he genuinely wants to do both, it is up to the staff involved to organise a sensible programme of practices (and even sharing of matches).

Where possible, clashes between house matches and fixtures for the additional sports are avoided. However, where a clash exists the school fixture will take precedence over the house match.

School Fixtures

If a pupil is required to represent the College in a team, then he or she must honour this commitment. Weekend leave should not be taken until after the game has been played.

Regular squad members must expect to be on stand-by for all calendared matches in their sport and reserves and non-travelling reserves should be named for all fixtures.

RJW

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