GUIDELINES FOR SPECTATOR BEHAVIOUR
AT SCHOOL SPORT AUSTRALIA EVENTS

School Sport Australia, through its state and territory member bodies, is committed to taking all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of participants and officials at all School Sport Australia events and to also providing a safe environment for all spectators.

Organising Committees for School Sport Australia events are asked to include the following statement, or an equivalent host state position, in any appropriate event documents for all team and event officials and to ensure that any other key personnel are aware of the procedures to be followed should there be an instance of willful disturbance or trespass during an event.

Guidelines for Managing Spectator Behaviour which is contrary to the School Sport Australia Codes of Behaviour

Before the Event:

- Member bodies should meet with venue management to pre-determine appropriate processes where eviction from a venue may be required.

- Member bodies should distribute School Sport Australia Codes of Behaviour to all team members, their families and all team officials.

- Parents/guardians of all team members should be required to sign a consent form which acknowledges their responsibilities in regard to the Codes of Behaviour for Parents and Spectators.

- The host state should include the School Sport Australia Codes of Behaviour in the Event Program.

- The host state should bring to the notice of all participants, team and event officials, parents and spectators at the event venue the School Sport Australia Codes of Behaviour which are to operate for the event.
Where an adult other than a team or event official contravenes the School Sport Australia Codes of Behaviour for Parents and Spectators, the following course of action should be implemented:

**During the Event:**

- If the offending adult is associated with a particular team, one of that team’s officials should be requested by the host state to familiarise the offender with the School Sport Australia Codes of Behaviour and request compliance.

- If the offending adult is not associated with a particular team, the host state Event Convener or host state School Sport Executive Officer should familiarise the offender with the School Sport Australia Codes of Behaviour and request compliance.

- If contravention of the School Sport Australia Codes of Behaviour continues, the Event Convener should warn the offender that the game/s in progress will be stopped until such time as the offender modifies his/her behaviour.

- As an absolute last resort, the Event Convener should advise the offender that he/she is causing a willful disturbance and unless his/her behaviour is modified, the police will be summoned. (Only in extreme cases should this action be carried out)

- Enact any agreed procedures negotiated with venue management.

- Should the police be summoned, the host state Executive Officer should advise the appropriate people in his/her department of the incident.

**After the Event:**

- The School Sport Australia member body whose team the offending adult was associated with, should write a letter to the offending adult outlining the breach of the Codes of Behaviour for Parents and Spectators and outlining the consequences of such action.

- Member bodies should seek advice and approval for such a letter from the appropriate section of their department.

- Once approved, the letter should be sent to the offending adult and a copy sent to the school principal, if the offending adult was a parent of a student from that school.

- The offended party should be informed of the action taken, but should not receive a copy of the letter sent to the offending adult.