



Medical Attention Policy

Statement of Context

- The AGSV oversees competition in a range of sports at a range of venues. Whilst most venues are at competing schools, some venues are distant from those schools.
- As part of its governance responsibilities the Board has identified the need to provide policy for Sports Coordinators acting on behalf of their schools, regarding the provision of medical attention for students.

Reference Points / Background Papers

Reference has been made to Extracts of Background paper from Sports Medicine Australia and legal advice obtained in other areas has some bearing on the policies listed below especially within 'Duty of Care'.

Aim

By the construction of this policy the AGSV aims to:

- reflect its Duty of Care within its primary area of focus
- ensure that the policy informs its operations

Policy details

This is a general policy designed to draw attention to the general risks only of injury within sporting competitions and set down guidelines for provision of medical attention at sporting activities.

At school locations

- The Coach / Manager must carry a basic first aid kit.
- At competing schools, qualified First Aid must be provided on site and all competing coaches and managers must be informed of the location of that First Aid available including, if relevant, multiple locations.
- The number and style of first aid locations at the School should reflect the number and style of venues offered for competition.
- Coaches and Managers should (preferably) be able to contact the first aid assistants by telephone.
- The First Aid assistance on site must be in a position to call ambulance assistance and preferably higher level medical assistance if and when required.
- Coaches and managers must be informed that when faced with an apparent serious injury, a student should not be moved but rather medical assistance brought to the student.

At venues away from the school

In circumstances in which competition is conducted at venues at some distance from an AGSV school, coaches and / or managers must carry a mobile phone and be provided with:

- A basic first aid kit.
- The contact numbers appropriate to the provision of ambulance or higher level medical attention.
- The mobile contact number of the Sports Coordinator of the host school and own school. (The Sports Coordinators would be expected to be able to access family contact numbers of students).
- Advice that when faced with an apparent serious injury, a student should not be moved but rather medical assistance brought to the student.

Communication

- This policy will be communicated by the Chair of the Heads / Principals of the AGSV to the Executive Officer and the Chairperson of the Sports Coordinators' Committee.
- The Executive Officer and the Chairperson of the Sports Coordinators' Committee will advise all competing schools Sports Coordinators of the policy and the implications of the policy at a meeting prior to each season of competition.

Implications for Practice

- On the standard AGSV Confirmation Proforma for Sporting Fixtures, provision is now made for the telephone number of the nearest doctor and for the location of the nearest hospital
- The position descriptions for the Executive Officer and the Chairperson of the Sports Coordinators' Committee must reflect precisely the responsibilities indicated here
- Position descriptions for Sports Coordinators within competing schools must reflect precisely the responsibilities indicated here
- It would be preferable that Coaches and Managers be given basic inservice instruction on the use of the first aid kit
- It would be preferable that Coaches and Managers be given basic inservice instruction on the appropriate course of action when faced with what appears to be a serious injury