



Mairangi Bay School



Sports Handbook

A Guide for Parents and
Caregivers

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What sports can my child play at Mairangi Bay School?

Extra-curricular sports activities

Teams for the following sports are overseen by our Sports Co-ordinator. Some sports are only available in years where there is sufficient interest. Senior teams may be subject to trials:

<i>Miniball</i>	Yrs 1-6
<i>Flippaball</i>	Yrs 3-6
<i>Touch Rugby</i>	Yrs 1-6
<i>Netball</i>	Yrs 1-6
<i>Hockey</i>	Yrs 3-6

Inter-school sports teams

Throughout the school year our school enters senior teams into regional or inter-cluster school competitions. These teams are overseen by teachers appointed to the position of Sports Leaders. Selection for these teams is normally performance-based, and may be subject to trials:

Miniball
Netball
Rippa Rugby
Swimming
Cross-Country
Athletics
Football
Rhythmic Gymnastics

Where do I find out about sports registration dates and opportunities for my child?

Information about sports is provided to parents by the Sports Co-ordinator and teacher Sports Leaders in the school newsletter and by email.



At Mairangi Bay School we believe in involving as many children in sport as possible to gain the advantages that sport delivers.

To provide an inclusive team environment that will encourage children to develop a lifelong relationship with sport

This will be achieved for children through:

- Enjoyment
- Participation and commitment
- Satisfaction of achievement
- Encouraging each child to be the best they can be
- Hauora – well being

By:

- Providing fun and appropriate activities
- Encouraging self-responsibility
- Developing physical and technical skills
- Fostering a positive and trusting environment
- Promoting a sense of togetherness and belonging

Why should my child play sport at primary school?

Extracurricular sport at Mairangi Bay School is about providing children with the opportunity to play team sports in a fun and supportive environment. We want them to enjoy learning how to be a team player, in addition to improving their own skills and developing a passion for sport.

Only a very small percentage of athletes perform at an elite level – the majority of people play sport for social and fitness reasons. Research has also shown that primary-aged children are more interested in playing with their friends and having fun and that these values are more important to the majority of children than winning. Children also develop at differing rates. It is for these reasons that sport at Mairangi Bay School emphasises the importance of children having fun and being included wherever possible – regardless of ability.

How can I best support my child to play sport?

For all sports teams, the school relies on parents to not only coach and manage but also to model behaviours of sportsmanship and being a good team player. It is important to give praise and encouragement to all children who play sport (regardless of which team they are playing for).

School Policies to be aware of:

Fees: Fees are due when you register your child for a sport. It is important that you are sure about your child's willingness to participate and availability before they are placed in a team. The school website has an online shop where fees can be paid from the convenience of your home or office. Children will only be placed in a team once these fees have been paid.

If payment is difficult, parents must contact the Sports Co-ordinator to make arrangements.

Behaviour: It is important to be mindful of comments made during games and from the sideline – aggressive and critical

comments are unacceptable, as is poor sportsmanship (from parents and children alike).

Please also be mindful that it is very difficult for children when numerous parents, children on court and their coaches are all shouting at them to do something – all they hear is their name and a lot of noise. This can be very unsettling and may also send conflicting messages. We understand it can be frustrating from the sideline and intentions are generally good. However, it is important that children can hear any instructions from their coaches and the umpire. Please only give support, praise and encouragement when required.

Training: It can be very difficult to find a day and time that suits everyone, but it is generally expected that a team will require at least one training session a week as well as their game. This is the main time that children are given the opportunity to learn about the game, gain new skills and develop team spirit.

Please remember that coaches and managers generously give up their time to look after a team. It is an expected courtesy that you inform the coach/manager if you cannot make a session and that every effort is made to arrive on time. They may also need parent helpers during these sessions, so please be available or offer your assistance as required. Basketball will have first choice for booking the hall in the mornings. The Year 6 will have first choice followed by Year 5's, Year 3/4's and the Year 1/2's

It is important that children remain focused for these short sessions, as unnecessary distractions, poor behaviour and repeated lateness mean less training time for the whole team. If issues persist, children may be asked to sit out of training sessions or miss game time as a consequence. Coaches will need parent support to rectify these matters.

Concerns: Coaching and managing is not always easy. These roles can be time consuming and are often taken on because no other parent will. Some may benefit from past experience in the

sport or as a coach, others may not, so please be mindful of this and offer assistance if you have knowledge that may be helpful. It is not acceptable to simply take over or be critical.

Within a team, the first point of contact is the coach or manager. If you have any concerns please ask to speak privately with them and politely voice your concerns (as emails can easily be misinterpreted). If this does not solve the issue, contact the Sports Co-ordinator at sports@mairangibay.school.nz.

Our school is lucky enough to have so many supportive parents and the ability to offer a huge percentage of children the opportunity to play a variety of sports. We hope this will continue to grow. Our school has a great reputation in sport and we want to ensure the emphasis continues to be about **Fun, Friends and Family!**



Parent/Caregiver Code of Conduct for Sport

Parents should read this Code prior to submitting a sports registration form for their child.

Any parent who breaches the Code of Conduct at any game or practice will be asked to leave. Repeated violations may result in the forfeiture of the privilege of remaining at the practice or attending games.

1. I acknowledge that I have read the 'Sport Philosophy for Mairangi Bay School' document contained on page 4 of the 'Sports at Mairangi Bay School' handbook.
2. I agree to ensure all fees are paid at the time of registration for each sport. Thereafter fees will be paid at the beginning of each school term or semester as required. I understand that my child will not be placed into a team until these fees have been paid, and that my child may be removed from a team if payment is not received. I agree to communicate with the Sports Co-ordinator immediately and in confidence if financial or other circumstances make this difficult.
3. I understand that it is my responsibility to make sure my child attends team practices regularly, arrives at practices on time with appropriate gear and is picked up on time from all practices and games. I will communicate with the coach or manager if circumstances prevent my child from attending practices.
4. I understand that school sport at primary school level is centred on children participating, building confidence, learning new skills, forming new relationships and having fun.
5. I will inform the coach of any physical disability or ailment that may affect the safety of my child or the safety of others.
6. I will respect the policies and decisions made by the coach or school and will take time to speak with the coach or school at an agreed upon time and place to discuss any issues.
7. I will provide support for coaches and officials working with my

child to provide a positive and enjoyable experience for all.

8. I will emphasise skill development and practices and how they benefit my child over winning.
9. I will accept decisions of the game officials on the field as being fair and called to the best ability of the officials, or follow procedures of the sporting venue or school if complaints are to be made.
10. I will do my best to be a positive role model for my child and encourage sportsmanship by showing respect and courtesy, and by demonstrating positive support for all players, coaches and officials.
11. I will demand that my child treats other players, coaches, officials and spectators with respect.
12. During the game I will refrain from ridiculing or yelling at my child or other participants for making a mistake or losing a competition.
13. Should I agree to take on the role of coach or manager of a sports team, I agree to abide by the MBS Coaches and Managers Code of Conduct for Sport



Players Code of Conduct for Sport

Parents are expected to read through the following Code of Conduct with their child prior to registration for a sport at Mairangi Bay School. Please ensure that your child understands the Code.

Good sport is about having a positive attitude.

As a member of a sports team representing Mairangi Bay School I agree to:

- play by the rules of the game, school and sporting venue
- never argue with the officials
- turn up to practice on time and with my appropriate gear
- listen to the coach and manager and help them if required
- be a good sport and give praise and encouragement to all players in my team.
- remember to thank the coach, officials, opposition and supporters after the game
- help others in my team whenever I can
- respect and take care of any school uniform or equipment I use
- avoid putting people down or bullying them
- try my best at all times and not get angry or aggressive towards others
- respect the other team when I win and congratulate the other team when I lose
- tell my coach or parent if something happens that makes me worried or sad

Coaching and Managing a Sports Team at Mairangi Bay School

The role of coach or manager is an important one, and we rely on our parents to volunteer. You do not have to be an expert in the sport – time, a basic knowledge of the rules and a positive, supportive attitude is really all that is required by the children. Coaching a team can be a really positive and rewarding experience for many parents. The Sports Co-ordinator will provide you with any support and guidance you may need throughout the season.

Coaching and Managing Responsibilities

- Advise parents/caregivers of any information that is required, including game and training times and venues.
- Ensure teams have enough players to participate each week and obtain replacements if necessary.
- Ensure players wear the correct uniform for the code.
- Store and bring to games any equipment (such as bibs) that may be required. This will be provided for you by the Sports Co-ordinator.
- Ensure players are treated equally and fairly (subject to the 'Top Teams' policy on page 14 of this handbook).
- Ensure the rules of sporting venues are adhered to (such as player/position rotations, sideline behavior, spectator areas etc.).
- Ensure teams demonstrate good behavior, sportsmanship and fair play at all times.
- Ensure parents/caregivers are reminded to give praise and encouragement to players.
- Manage 'Player of the Day' awards on an equitable basis.
- Provide a 'scorer' or referee where required.
- Communicate with the Sports Co-ordinator for support and guidance regarding any concerns or difficulties involving children or parents in the team.
- Adhere to the 'Coaches and Managers Code of Conduct for Sport'

Training Times

- Once training day and time options have been established,

please check with the Sports Co-ordinator to ensure the hall/court/field is available, and then book it.

- Limited equipment is available for use at practices – please pre-arrange this with the Sports Co-ordinator and return the gear once the session is finished.
- It is acceptable for our sports teams to have one practice session during the week (before or after school). If extra weekend sessions are desired, please be mindful that families have other weekend commitments. Children must not be penalised for missing some of these practices (subject to the 'Top Team' policy on page 14 of this handbook).

Concerns

If advice or support is required to resolve team matters, you have the school's support. Please don't hesitate to contact the Sports Co-ordinator.



Coaches and Managers Code of Conduct for Sport

By agreeing to take on the role of Coach or Manager of a sports team at Mairangi Bay School you agree to abide by the following Code of Conduct.

- Always remember that children participate for pleasure and enjoyment and that winning is only part of the fun.
- Never ridicule or yell at children for making a mistake or for not winning.
- Be considerate and reasonable in your demands on children's time, energy and enthusiasm. Children's sport is only one part of their busy lives.
- Always operate within the Code of Conduct, rules and fair play spirit of your sport and encourage the children to do the same.
- Try to ensure the time children spend with you as a coach or manager is a positive experience. All children are deserving of your attention and opportunities.
- Display control, respect and professionalism to all involved within the sport. This includes opponents, coaches, officials, administrators, parents and other spectators. Encourage players to do the same; be a great role model.
- Any physical contact with a child should be appropriate to the situation and necessary for the player's skill development or medical care.
- Respect the rights of all participants regardless of their skill, gender, ability, cultural background or religion.
- Be respectful and care for any school property or sports equipment I use.
- Communicate any concerns or difficulties to the Sports Co-ordinator as soon as possible.

Violations of this Code of Conduct may result in you being stood down from coaching or managing the team and/or prohibited from attending games.



“Top Teams”: How are Championship ‘A’ grade teams different?

The large majority of children who participate in sport at Mairangi Bay School will continue to play primarily for fun, friendship and to develop their skills and relationships throughout their time at our school. Wherever possible, the Sports Co-ordinator will place children in teams as registrations are received and, where possible, will try to meet any requests.

However, as children mature, a small group of high-performing children may emerge in certain sports. Mairangi Bay School acknowledges the importance of providing a sporting environment in which these children may also develop their skills, often at a more advanced level. These teams may differ slightly in their philosophy and expectations to those of other teams. They are commonly referred to as the ‘A’ or the ‘Championship’ grade teams.

Competitions into which these teams enter are often highly competitive. Although the school’s code of conducts still apply, key differences are:

- The teams are selected by trial.
- There is a higher expectation of attendance at practice.
- Additional or 'extra' practices are more likely.
- Hire of a special uniform may be required.
- There is an understanding that performance may determine game time for players, particularly in 'finals' rounds.

We understand that this type of team will not be for every child. Where families feel that participation in such a team is not beneficial for their child, we will endeavour to find a place in another team so that the child can continue to participate and develop. **It is vital that parents and players understand the level of commitment that will be required at 'A' grade level prior to children signing up for a trial.**

How are "Top Teams" and Inter-School teams selected?

Where extra-curricular sports teams are entered into graded competitions, the Sports Co-ordinator will organise a trial. Trials will be undertaken by the Sports Co-ordinator together with an external selector. Children will be placed into a team/s according to the results of these trials. **The decision of the selectors is final.**

Where inter-school sports teams are selected, trials will be arranged by the Sports Leaders. Selection will be based on performance at these trials.

It is critical that your child participates in the trials if they wish to be considered for these teams. Unless a reasonable excuse (such as illness, family reasons etc) precludes them from participation, failure to participate in the trials will usually result in exclusion from consideration for these teams. Where a valid reason for non-attendance exists, prior performance may be considered.

How do I resolve an issue or complaint?

Most teams at Mairangi Bay School develop a warm, supportive and inclusive team spirit in which children and parents form lasting friendships. However, we understand that difficult issues may sometimes arise within our teams. These issues will be dealt with in accordance with the school's policies for addressing complaints. Key points to remember are:

- **Queries or concerns should always be discussed in person with the party first.** Emails are seldom a good way of dealing with issues of concern or conflict.
- Where the concern involves someone within a team who is not the coach or manager, the coach or manager should be consulted if the issue remains unresolved.
- If the situation is still not resolved, the matter should be raised with the Sports Co-ordinator.

