



# Aquinas College Sport ***Vision & Key Values***



# Aquinas College

## ***Sport Vision***

To create an environment where students can freely participate and enjoy a quality sporting experience that reflects our Special Character.

In line with our Graduate Profile, through engagement in our sporting programme, our students will have the opportunity to ***Belong*** in a faith community, ***Believe*** with Reason and ***Become*** through actions.

### ***Belong***

Our clubs and codes will foster a sense of belonging in line with our Special Character for all athletes and volunteers so that they are confident, happy and engaged participants.

### ***Believe***

Our clubs and codes will provide opportunities for holistic development of their participants. Our athletes and volunteers will be confident and self-aware. They will act with integrity and exercise conscience through their actions.

### ***Become***

Our clubs and codes value process over outcome. Our participants will be servant leaders and will positively influence the lives of others through the use of their God-given gifts and talents.



# Aquinas College

## ***Sport Key Values***

The Touchstones of our College are embraced in our sporting programme and reflected in our four key values:



### ***Participation and Enjoyment***

We provide opportunities for participation and enjoyment through every sport, age and grade. We place the highest value on being engaged and fulfilled.



### ***Growth and Development***

We provide holistic opportunities for growth and development. We want to encourage opportunities for the development of leadership, service, and skills through multiple sporting pathways.



### ***Integrity and Fairness***

We have integrity, we are resilient, and we promote goodwill, fairness and equity. We want to encourage positivity in our environment and we know how mutually supportive relationships are crucial to our success.



### ***Inclusiveness and Diversity***

We believe that everyone is deserving of the same respect. No matter where we are from, or the challenges we experience, we embrace diversity and are inclusive of all.



# ***Participation and Enjoyment***

We provide opportunities for participation and enjoyment through every sport, age and grade. We place the highest value on being engaged and fulfilled.

## ***Expectations for all clubs and codes***

- Above all else, we aspire to provide an equitable and inclusive environment for our students to build a lifelong love of sport and physical activity through positive and meaningful experiences.
- We provide environments where fun is prioritised in sporting programmes to promote motivation and success.
- We are firmly committed to observing the various code rules around equitable game time. In codes where no such rules apply, we expect that all team members will receive fair playing time throughout the regular season to promote participation and enjoyment.
- For premier teams, teams attending tournaments and teams in playoff play, we respect the decisions of the team officials to determine playing time in the context of the competition.
- Every student has the right and should be encouraged to participate in sport, regardless of their individual ability, socio-economic situation, ethnicity, gender or any other factor.
- We accommodate individual differences and abilities by offering a broad range of activities and competition structures.
- We praise effort, hard work, improvement and fair play.
- We do not label children as good or bad at their sport – we believe they will flourish if they are praised for their effort.
- We encourage our students to become involved in all aspects of participation within their sport. We will strive to provide opportunities for development in umpiring/ refereeing, coaching and managing for all students who are interested.

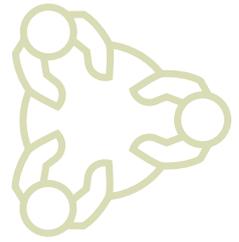


# ***Growth and Development***

We provide holistic opportunities for growth and development. We want to encourage opportunities for the development of leadership, service, and skills through multiple sporting pathways.

## ***Expectations for all clubs and codes***

- We believe young people who are engaged in quality experiences in sport become sport lovers for life. It is about keeping the fun in the game, creating balance in sport participation and nurturing talent at the right pace.
- We will consider the concepts of winning and success from the perspective of children and young people, rather than imposing adult views.
- We believe having a clear development or performance focus is essential rather than being driven by the outcome or winning. How athletes approach every experience (positive or negative) is a learning opportunity and the development of habits, behaviours and the mindset to navigate those situations is what separates talented athletes from future champions.
- Understand that early specialisation can lead to burn-out and stress, and result in a young person dropping out of sport. Children and young people should play a variety of sports for as long as possible, rather than narrowing down their choices too soon. We encourage students to participate across codes and not be pressured to concentrate on just one.
- Emphasise the development and mastery of skills – both individual and team – and help participants develop positive attitudes and values associated with sport.
- We believe all decisions made about individual athlete development are informed by an understanding of their needs as an athlete and as a person, both in the short term and in the long run.
- Become familiar with your sport's player development pathway. Ensure stage-appropriate development when designing and/or delivering programmes.
- We believe in investing in our volunteers to develop their capabilities to be the best coaches, managers and leaders for our student athletes.

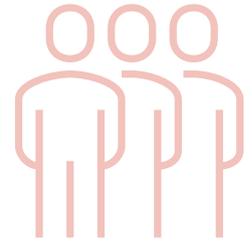


# ***Integrity and Fairness***

We have integrity, we are resilient, and we promote goodwill, fairness and equity. We want to encourage positivity in our environment and we know how mutually supportive relationships are crucial to our success.

## ***Expectations for all clubs and codes***

- Everything we do at Aquinas College is about our community. We promote the wellbeing of our students and sports volunteers in everything that we do.
- Undertake to uphold the principles of good sportsmanship and fair play at all times. All student athletes and volunteers commit to the Aquinas College Fair Play Charter.
- Set and model expectations of behaviour for children, parents, coaches, supporters and officials.
- We must never allow anyone to feel as though they are not as valued as everyone else and we must always treat others with the respect and fairness that we would expect for ourselves.
- We value grit and believe a focus on this competency will develop our student athletes' ability to work through challenges, experiences and setbacks. The development of resilience in our student athletes will encourage commitment, perseverance and success through life.
- We expect our student athletes to give of their best throughout the season. We make a commitment to our team, our volunteers, our teammates and our College.
- We adhere to our Aquinas Sport Management Policies.
- We promote to our community and supporters respect of our volunteers and the decisions they make in relation to the Vision and Key Values of Sport at Aquinas College and the Aquinas Sport Management Policies.



# ***Inclusiveness and Diversity***

We believe that everyone is deserving of the same respect. No matter where we are from, or the challenges we experience, we embrace diversity and are inclusive of all.

## ***Expectations for all clubs and codes***

- We acknowledge The Treaty of Waitangi as the founding document of Aotearoa New Zealand.
- We embrace people who are different from us. We look at things through a Catholic lens.
- We recognise and value the social and cultural perspectives that our student athletes bring with them.
- We support those who are most vulnerable in our sporting community and make sure our programme is a welcoming place to all who would like to be involved.
- We promote an environment where our student athletes can articulate their beliefs and thoughts without fear of belittlement.
- We create an environment where all participants are equal and accepted.