

GPS

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PUBLIC SCHOOLS'
ASSOCIATION OF
QUEENSLAND
1918



STATEMENT – THE GPS RUGBY REVIEW WORKING GROUP

Term 4, 2019 Update

Dear Parents,

The GPS Association wishes to provide an update and overview of the 2019 GPS Rugby Season.

Throughout 2019 the GPS Rugby Review Working Group met regularly to initially understand and subsequently develop a consistent approach to rugby preparation, coach accreditation and facility management.

The key focus areas identified for 2019 were;

- Player Readiness
- Coach Accreditation and Training
- First Aid and Medical Support
- Grounds and Facilities
- Competition Structure

Within each of these broad areas, a number of specific initiatives were identified for implementation prior to and during the 2019 GPS Rugby Season. These initiatives were outlined in the Term 2 Update Letter.

The GPS Rugby Review Working Group has met since the conclusion of the 2019 season to review the season and in particular, the effectiveness of the specific initiatives. The Working Group affirms the successful implementation of the identified initiatives. The Working Group highlighted the following;

- Enhanced Medical and First Aid provisions across all schools.
- More structured player preparation prior to the start of the season.
- Specific scrum skill development via the Front Row Passport and Front Row Readiness Programs.
- Consistent player preparation throughout the season.
- Consistent and improved Coach Accreditation and preparation across all schools.
- More structured and consistent management of playing facilities and match day processes.
- Improved registration of players and use of Rugby Xplorer.
- Enhancement of the competition structure to provide more 'like for like' games.
- Improved relationships between Rugby Australia, the Queensland Rugby Union and the GPS Association.
- An enhanced level of cooperation between all member schools.
- Improved and more consistent recording and tracking of injuries.

The Working Group also identified additional initiatives for implementation during the 2020 season;

- Ongoing implementation of 2019 initiatives.
- Increase in the number of players completing the Front Row Passport and Front Row Readiness Program.
- Ongoing implementation and usage of Rugby Xplorer.
- Further development of the 'like for like' initiatives.
- Refinement of the injury recording processes.
- Consideration of other game formats such as Rugby 10's or Rugby 7's.

The GPS Rugby Review Working Group in 2019 comprised representatives from each GPS school including, Dr Michael Carroll (GPS Chairman and College Principal, St Joseph's College, Gregory Terrace), Mr Peter Fullagar (GPS Executive Committee member and College Principal, St Joseph's Nudgee College), Mr Sean Tasker (Director of Sport and Activities, Anglican Church Grammar School), Mr Nigel Greive (Director of Sport and Activities, Ipswich Grammar School), Mr Steve Phillipotts (Director of Rugby, Brisbane Boys' College), Mr Dan Ritchie (Director of Rugby, Brisbane State High School), Mr Jono Farrell (Director of Rugby, Toowoomba Grammar School), Mr Bryan Hain (GPS Rugby Sub-Committee Chairman and Director of Sport and Activities, The Southport School) and Ms Nicole L'Efevre (GPS Executive Officer).

The GPS Headmasters and Principals wish to acknowledge and thank the members of the GPS Rugby Review Working Group, the many staff involved in the rugby program from each school, representatives from Rugby Australia and the QRU, the Queensland Rugby Referee's Association and the many volunteers from each of the member schools who generously committed their time and expertise to ensure that the 2019 GPS Rugby Season was successful on and off the field.

We look forward to the 2020 Rugby Season.

Yours sincerely,

The Principals and Headmasters of the nine GPS schools.

Mr Richard Morrison, Headmaster, Ipswich Grammar School

Mr Anthony Micallef, Headmaster, Brisbane Grammar School

Dr Michael Carroll, Principal, St Joseph's Gregory Terrace

Mr Peter Hauser, Headmaster, Toowoomba Grammar School

Mr Peter Fullagar, Principal, St Joseph's Nudgee College

Mr Greg Wain, Headmaster, The Southport School

Mr Paul Brown, Headmaster, Brisbane Boys' College

Dr Alan Campbell, Headmaster, Anglican Church Grammar School

Mr Wade Haynes, Executive Principal, Brisbane State High School