



ALBANY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

COUNTRY WEEK POLICY

DOCUMENT HISTORY

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14/12/2020	Wayne Austin	Loss of Good Standing – Semester 2 previous year Eligibility for Country Week based on achievement	1.2

OUR AIM

Through the application of the school values the Albany Senior High School Country Week Team aims to create an environment of mutual success and excellence.

We aim to create a competitive and cultural learning experience that facilitates the development of many transferable skills both sporting and personal. Through the diligent selection of our squad (both staff and students), and the strategic preparation of our competitors, we will uphold our values of pride, achievement, respect and responsibility.

COUNTRY WEEK POLICY

NOMINATION OF COMPETITION GRADE

With the goal of challenging for champion school, Albany Senior High School (ASHS) will nominate all sports in 'A Grade' competitions for selected sports.

A team may be nominated for a lower level of competition if the ASHS Country Week Selection Panel deem a teams' chance of success in 'A Grade' to be extremely low and would be deemed to have a negative impact on the team/students.

NOMINATION AND SELECTION OF COACHES:

Coaching Positions

All staff are invited to express their interest in becoming a Country Week coach via the "Expression of Interest/Nomination" form during Weeks 1 to 3 of Term 1 of the relevant school year. The appointment of coaching and support roles will be made by the Country Week Selection Panel, consisting of Deputy Principal Senior School, Head of Department (HOD) Health & Physical Education (HPE)/Principal (in the event the HOD is the Country Week Manager) and the Country Week Manager (CWM). The decision on appointment will be based upon the following criteria:

- Coaching Experience and Qualification (including bus licence)
- Existing tenure
- Impact upon School (relief costs)
- If a suitable staff member cannot be found, then members of the wider school community may be approached and considered. This will be authorised by the Country Week Selection Panel (CWSP).

Catering/Lunch Tent Coordinator

ASHS operates a Lunch Tent throughout the week. The rationale behind this is to ensure that all ASHS students have access to quality nutrition and hydration. The applicant should have experience in catering for larger groups, Department of Education (DOE) procurement processes and relevant food preparation safety.

All applicants will be informed in person or by email of the outcome of the process. Unsuccessful applicants are invited to request feedback from the CWM.

NOMINATION AND SELECTION OF STUDENTS:

Student Nomination

At Albany Senior High School students Year 8 or higher are eligible to nominate/try out for a Country Week Team. (Note: School Sport WA has prohibited the participation of Year 7 students in Country Week, as well as the participation of Year 8 and 9 students' in the Boys AFL competition).

Typically, students are selected from Years 10 - 12. Where a Year 8 or 9 student is competitive for a position in a team and is deemed to be required, the CWM needs to be informed. He/she will discuss the team's needs with the HOD HPE.

Nominations for team selection will open once the positions of CWM and Individual Team Coaches have been appointed. The CWM may proceed with student nomination and team selection if a coach has not been appointed in order to meet School Sports WA's Squad Nomination timelines.

Students may nominate for as many teams as they wish provided that their nomination fit within the competition guidelines. Nominations may be in writing, verbally or in the form of attending a trial session after a signed training permission slip has been submitted through the correct channel.

Team Selection

Country Week Managers, Coaches, Participants are reminded that the sporting aspects of Country Week are one part of a whole-school activity program. Therefore, the whole school community has an investment and interest in our team's performance.

Student selection guidelines

1. Students are eligible to trial for Country Week and remain in a Country Week team while they have Good Standing. Loss of Good Standing (LOGS) at any stage in Term 1 or 2 will result in a student being ineligible to try out for or to remain in a Country Week team. Loss of Good Standing in Semester Two of the previous year may jeopardise a student's inclusion in a team the following year. Eligibility will be determined by the CWM and the CWSP.
2. Students will be eligible and remain eligible to try out for, be selected in and attend Country Week if they are maintaining or working towards establishing a passing grade in all subjects that they are undertaking at Albany Senior High School. A student cannot be excluded from trials or membership in a Country Week team on poor academic results, if they are demonstrating that they are achieving in accordance with their ability or if they are engaging in appropriate measures to maximise improvement in that area.

Note: A student who is achieving a progress report that is below 50% at the Term One interim report, will be expected to engage in steps to improve their performance. Steps should/could include after school tutoring seminars if provided, external tutoring, communications with subject teacher to improve performance, or demonstrate improved performance (assessment marks) within the subject area. Students who do not participate in measures to improve their academic performance may become ineligible to maintain their position in the Country Week Team.

All students who are performing below the 50% standard will be informed by the Country Week Manager, after the interim reporting period at the end of term one.

3. A student wishing to trial and participate in Country Week must be actively seeking to maximise their attendance. Ideally they must be meeting the DOE targeted 90% attendance. Attendance is imperative in maintaining Good Standing at ASHS, and poor attendance may contribute to Loss of Good Standing.

Note: A student that has been absent from school due to either medical or other extenuating circumstances will have their eligibility to trial and ultimately achieve a place in a team assessed by the Country Week Selection Panel. A student with a medical reason that prevents trial, must be in communication with the coach and CWM prior to the team selection. Their decision will be guided by the needs of the overall squad and primarily the panel's assessment of the educational needs of the individual student. The panel may defer their decision to or be determined by the Principal of the school.

4. Attendance at trainings and meetings is required for successful team and squad effectiveness and efficiency. Students who do not attend training or meetings consistently, may be removed from their respective team and the overall Country Week squad. This decision will be made by the Country Week Selection Panel.
5. Other factors that will be taken into account during team selection process:
 - a) A student selected to participate in a sport at Country Week needs to show a commitment to our school's physical activity program during their time at ASHS. The HPE HOD can provide advice (or seek advice from other HPE staff) in relation to these matters.
 - b) If two students are of equal ability and everything is otherwise equal "rule of thumb" is, select the older student by year level.
 - c) Some students wish to trial for a number of sports. This is encouraged provided students keep staff informed of their preferences. Prior to final selections staff involved need to communicate regularly with the CWM.

- d) Students will be strongly encouraged to nominate for their sport of expertise. Students should be actively discouraged from considering a “get as many sports on your jacket” approach to nominating.

6. Announcement of Selected Team Members and Reserves.

All coaches are to submit their selected teams to the CWM, and must not inform students of their inclusion/non-inclusion in a team. The CWM will post all teams on the notice board outside of Physical Education office, once all teams have been submitted and approved by the CWSP and the Program Coordinator(s) Student Services (PCSS). This is to mitigate students being named in two teams, reserves feeling disheartened unnecessarily and to prevent any ineligible students being named due to LOGS or poor academic performance.

Coaches are to submit their teams and their reserves in order of preference on the Country Week Team Selection Sheet. In the event of a position becoming available after official team selection having taken place, the team Coach, CWM and CWSP will assess the needs of the team in order to appropriately match the skills and abilities of the reserves available/eligible to the vacant position.

- 7. Selection of Country week team captains: Coaches will select their captains and vice captains for their teams, and are encouraged to consult with their teams. The coach selections must be given approval by the CWM prior to announcement to the team and squad.
- 8. Selection of Country Week Squad Captains: The CWM will select the Captains for the Squad in consultation with the CWSP, who may seek advice from the coaching group. The captains will be selected from the group of captains. Traditionally have been selected from the captains that are not prefects. If the best candidate for the role is a prefect then they will be selected, only when the candidates are considered inseparable should the non-prefect be selected. No preference shall be given to gender (in line with school captain nomination processes) However, the overall requirements of the squad will be the determining factor.
- 9. The CWM reserves the right to alter the team members taking into account full payment of all associated Country Week charges by the due date.
- 10. Students need to, where possible, demonstrate a history of whole school engagement in a range of activities, not just focus on attending Country Week only.

ALBANY SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS OF STAFF INVOLVED IN COUNTRY WEEK:

At all times

- Highlight the educational and personal benefits of representing ASHS.

Before Country Week

Staff Coaches:

- are expected to attend all whole-of-Country Week student meetings to ensure you are kept up-to-date with timelines, expectations and key messages.
- are expected to attend all Country Week Coaches meetings organised by the CWM. This is the forum for dissemination of information and provides an opportunity for staff to discuss coaching and/or operational issues.
- Organise and conduct all trainings, meetings and essential team management operations in order to prepare their team competition.
 - o It is strongly recommended that teams train for two sessions per week. The focus of the trainings can be decided by the individual coach as per the requirements of the team. It is strongly recommended that the coach address both the skill and fitness requirements of a week-long competition. The CWM must be advised of the situation and alternative training opportunities negotiated in the event the coach teaches a period 0 as a part of their teaching load.
- Monitor the well-being of all team/squad members, reporting any increased risk behaviours to the CWM and the relevant year coordinator/support staff.
- Be actively involved in team organization including informally monitoring their team's behaviour, dress code, return of forms, room allocations, result sheets etc.

At Country Week

- The Country Week staff team are responsible for the supervision of students and the welfare for duration of the excursion.
- Staff need to monitor and support staff wellbeing:
 - o Provide relief for bus drivers if qualified
 - o Take turns to do active night supervision
 - o Inform CWM of any staff wellbeing concerns.
- All staff travel up to Perth and return to Albany in vehicles arranged through the school.
- Each staff member may be given a "night off" upon application to the CWM
- No alcohol on a school excursion.
- Attend all coach and student meetings and support any decisions made by the CWM and the Albany Senior High School Administration representative.
- Be responsible for their team as well as contributing to the supervision of the entire ASHS group.
- Actively encourage their team to support the whole ASHS contingent.
- Manage team members playing time to allow all members reasonable field time.
- Managing behaviour at sports venues, on buses and at all other times
- Other duties as determined by the CWM.

Staff Responsibilities

Within the hotel, ASHS staff are required to take responsibility for the members in their team. The responsibilities include:

- Respecting the shared environment of the hotel with other guests
- Waking students each morning
- Ensuring order in rooms
- Ensuring appropriate behaviour in rooms and corridors
- Enforcing "in rooms" and "lights out" each night
- Other duties as determined by CWM.

EQUIPMENT AND UNIFORMS

Coaches have direct responsibility for the management of uniforms. A separate information sheet has been prepared for the management of uniforms.

Any necessary sporting equipment is issued through the CWM by request.

STAFF EXPENSES

Breakfasts are included at our accommodation every day. Lunches are provided by our staff for staff and students from the ASHS food/wellbeing tent next to the UWA rugby rooms. Coaches are to ensure that they get their lunch from here and encourage all students to get to the tent for their nutrition for the day. All evening meals are included for staff with the exception of Thursday night where you will be required to purchase your own at Garden City.

EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS INVOLVED IN COUNTRY WEEK:

All students who successfully gain a position within a team are expected to agree to and abide by the Albany Senior High School values charter (PARR), embodied in this case by the Albany Senior High Schools "Code of Conduct". "Are you on PARR?" Failure to adhere to the code may result in a student being removed from the Country Week Squad. The decision will be made by the CWSP in consultation with the DP Senior School and the Principal.

STUDENT TRANSPORTATION TO AND FROM COUNTRY WEEK

All students are required to travel to and from Perth on Albany Senior High School vehicles. All students must travel to and from all daily events on Albany Senior High School vehicles.

All exceptions to this are to be applied for in writing to the CWM and if approved will not result in a reduction of overall cost to the individual student. Exceptions may include, but are not limited to:

- Student is transported to Perth by a parent or parent approved adult.
- Student is transported to Albany by a parent or parent approved adult.
- Student remains in Perth post Country Week with either a parent or parent approved adult.
- Student leaves the squad at some stage during the excursion with either a parent or parent approved adult. (Note that this must not affect any fixtures or official team event)

****No student may drive their private vehicle to Perth/around Perth/to Albany. This is not negotiable, even in the extreme circumstance where the student is classed as "Independent Minor".**

STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

All students are to remain in ASHS approved accommodation for the whole of the event. Students will not be permitted to stay with family or friends whilst at Country Week.

Students are encouraged to have their family visit at the sporting venues. However, if any family visitors come to the accommodation they must present to reception where upon the CWM will be notified of the visitor.

If a student's family or friends are also guests at the accommodation, the student must not enter their rooms, nor are their guests permitted in an ASHS students room.

Failure to follow the above may result in the students Country Week being terminated and the student returning to Albany at the parents/guardians cost.