IGSSA SPORT & COVID-19 RESPONSE

16 March 2020

IGSSA continues to monitor the dynamic circumstances surrounding COVID 19. In considering the latest advice from the WA Department of Health, and the WA Department of Education, the IGSSA Executive have made the decision to suspend all IGSSA sporting activities, including interschool sporting matches for the remainder of Term 1.

In arriving at the decision to suspend all IGSSA sporting activities for term 1, the Executive considered the following:

- IGSSA has a duty of care to our member schools, students and the wider community.
- Our schools have already begun to cancel non-essential activities.
- Once outside of their campus, schools lose the capacity to effectively monitor and manage the quality of health standards their students may experience.
- Schools also can lose the capacity to manage who may come into contact with students - for example, spectators, members of the public at central sporting venues.
- Given the current climate in schools and the emerging possibility that students may be required to learn online from home, a reduction in outside demands will support schools in better preparing staff and students for this eventuality.
- The inevitability of contact associated with sport and the extra travel on buses may increase the risk of possible infection.
- Pressures on staff in potentially managing unwell students away from the campus and outside of the regular school times.
- The possibility of individual schools, given circumstances, choosing (or having) to forfeit fixtures.

IGSSA will continue to plan for Term 2 events but will be closely monitoring information regarding COVID-19 in the coming weeks. Schools will receive future updates on the status of events in Term 2 and beyond as we continue to respond to advice from the WA Department of Health and Education.

Thank you for your understanding as we all continue to navigate this unique and rapidly evolving situation.

Kind Regards

Louise Carson
IGSSA (WA) EXECUTIVE OFFICER