



Laerskool Hermanus Primary

Sports Policy 2026

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1 Objectives and stakeholders

The following objectives are pursued:

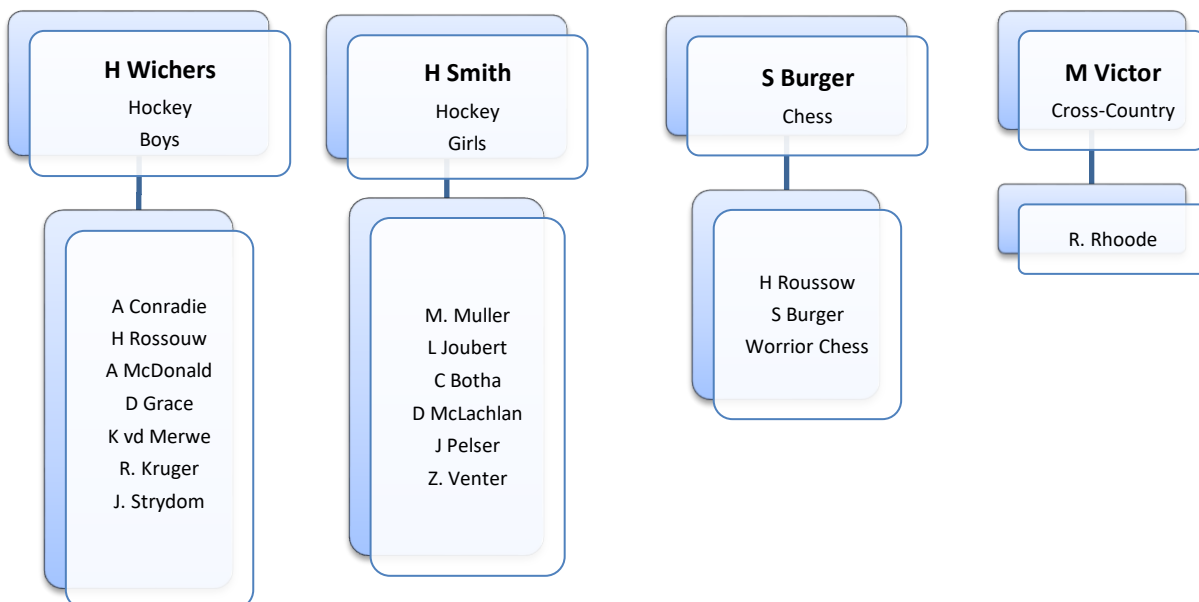
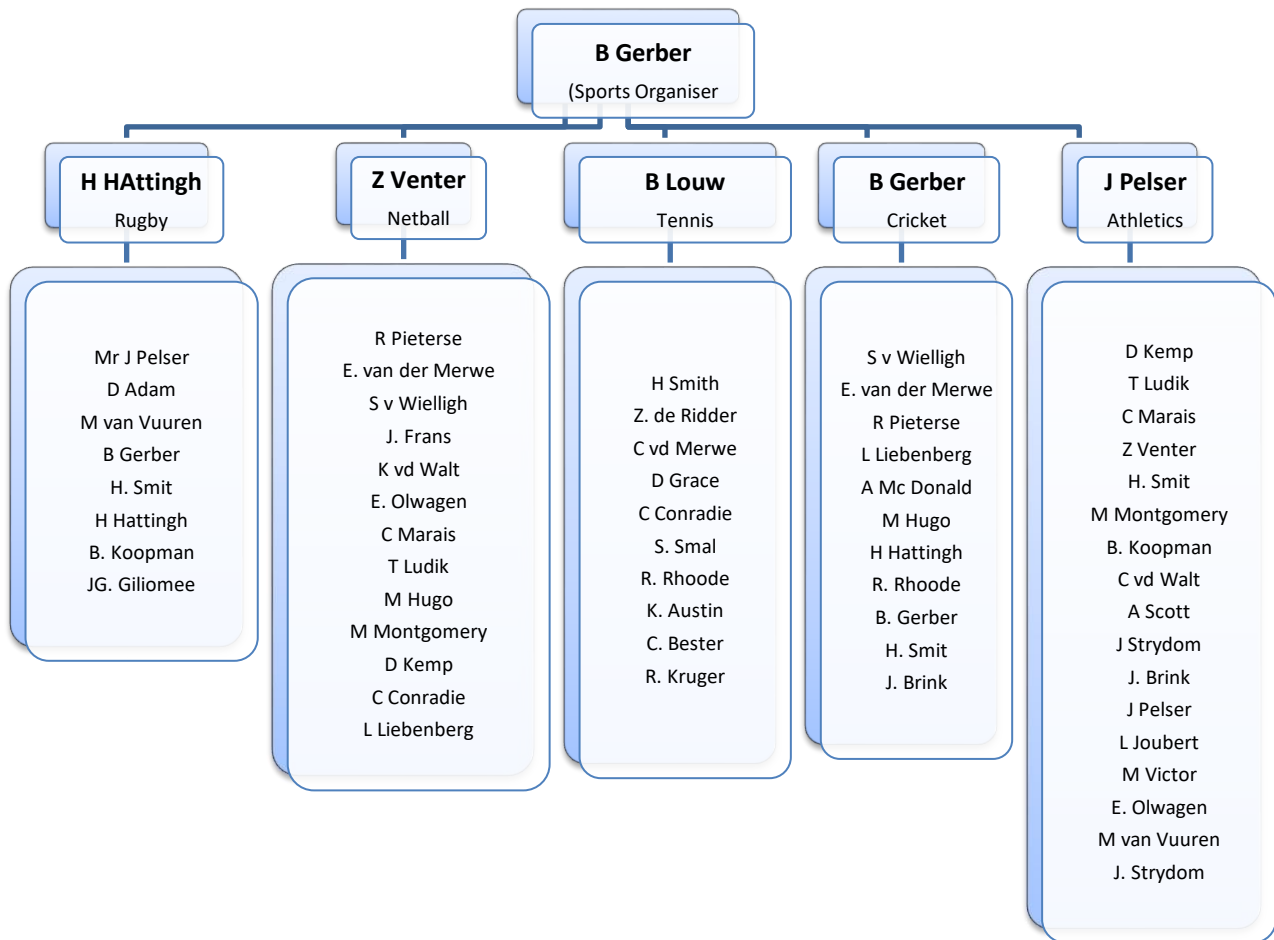
1. To give all learners enrolled at Laerskool Hermanus Primary the opportunity to participate in a sport.
2. To teach skills that enable learners to reach their full potential.
3. To give all learners, regardless of their abilities, an equal opportunity to receive coaching and participate in a sport.
4. To monitor, coordinate and organise all sporting activities so that learners have sufficient opportunities to participate.
5. To ensure, through regular and purposeful communication, that all stakeholders are informed about sport.
6. To coach and participate in sport in accordance with the values of Laerskool Hermanus Primary.

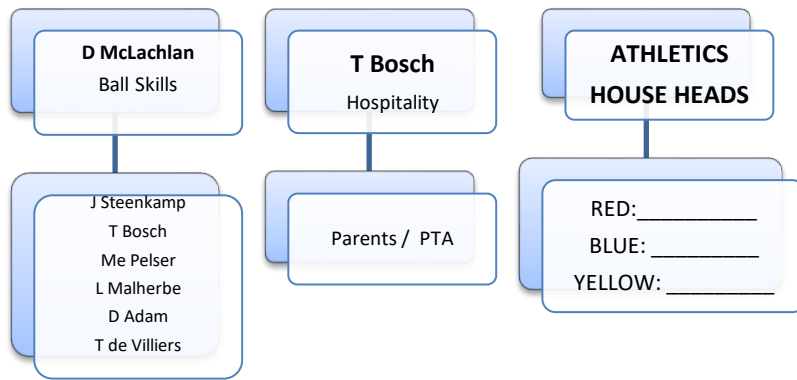
Stakeholders

- The School Governing Body (SGB) is responsible for providing the facilities and equipment needed for the school's extramural programme to function effectively. In consultation with the School Management Team (SMT) and the Head of Sport, the SGB also decides which sports are offered at the school.
- The Principal and SMT are responsible for allocating sporting duties among staff members.
- The Head of Sport, Sports Organiser and heads of the individual sports codes are responsible for managing, coordinating and communicating information about the various sports, as well as organising sports days.
- The coach is responsible for coaching a particular sport during scheduled practice times. The coach may use external coaches with the Principal's permission.
- Coaches must be willing to act as referees or officials and to attend coaching clinics to improve their skills.

2 Sports

Sports organisational structure





Any other sport not listed above is regarded as an external sport.

Important information about external sports

- They operate independently of Laerskool Hermanus Primary.
- They do not use the staff, transport or finances of Laerskool Hermanus Primary.
- The hiring of school grounds may be negotiated with the Principal and SGB.
- Any proposals to change or improve the grounds being used must be submitted in writing to the SGB of Laerskool Hermanus Primary.
- A written agreement must be signed between the SGB and the organisation offering the external sport. This agreement must be renewed annually before December, to take effect in January.

3 Sports tours

Tour planning

- Educators are welcome to arrange a tour with the Principal's permission.
- Sport taking place during teaching time requires prior permission from the Principal, SGB and Circuit Manager. The departmental application form, which includes indemnity forms, must be submitted at the end of the preceding term.
- The Head of Sport and Sports Organiser may manage and coordinate the normal sports programme with the Principal's permission.
- Transport must be arranged well in advance with the person responsible for transport, and all documentation must be in place.
- Thorough planning is essential and must be communicated to the parents concerned. Parents must receive a complete programme.

Permission and arrangements

- Parents must complete indemnity forms, as well as a form containing the parent's contact details and medical aid information.
- Written permission from the parent concerned is required if one learner travels with another to a school event.
- Bus drivers must hold a public transport permit, and buses must be booked in advance. The number of learners per bus may not exceed the prescribed capacity.
- Learners remain the responsibility of educators and coaches during sporting events.
- Learners' conduct must continue to comply with the Code of Conduct, and educators must ensure that it is enforced at all times.

Finances

- Tours are not funded from the school's budget. The organiser must raise funds through, and in cooperation with, parents and sponsors.
- Educators must budget for these tours and/or arrange fundraising to finance them. Learners must pay for bus transport, accommodation and tournament costs.
- Bus fares are linked to the distance travelled and are determined by the Principal and SGB.
- Coaches must ensure that every learner using school transport has an indemnity form.
- If budgeted funds are available, the school will make a financial contribution towards a tour or outing as the Principal and SGB deem appropriate.
- After the tour, the organiser must be able to submit a financial report to the Principal if requested.

4 Code of Conduct

Laerskool Hermanus Primary Sports Code of Conduct for Players, Management and Parents

Introduction

Laerskool Hermanus Primary is committed to maintaining the highest standards of sportsmanship, integrity and ethical conduct in our sports programmes. This Code of Conduct provides guidance on the conduct expected of all stakeholders, including players, coaches, parents and spectators. By participating in the sports programmes of Laerskool Hermanus Primary, all parties undertake to abide by the principles set out here.

1 Conduct of players

- 1.1. Players must conduct themselves with the utmost respect and propriety at all times, both on and off the sports field.
- 1.2. Players are expected to demonstrate unwavering commitment to the team by attending all practices and matches, unless there are extenuating circumstances. In such circumstances, players must inform the coach of their absence.
- 1.3. During matches, players may not interact with parents or spectators and must focus their attention on the coach and the match. Socialising with individuals off the sports field is strictly prohibited until the team's post-match meeting has concluded.
- 1.4. Players may never question the integrity or decisions of match officials. Disputing decisions or displaying petulance will not be tolerated.
- 1.5. Sportsmanship and fair play must be the guiding principles of player conduct. Violence, foul play or verbal abuse will result in immediate disciplinary action. Sportsmanship means showing fairness, respect and generosity towards the opposing team or player and the sport itself during competition.

2 Management and coaches

- 2.1. Management and coaches must model the values expected of players. All coaches have a responsibility to lead by example.
- 2.2. Coaches must focus primarily on player development and well-being, prioritising these over merely winning matches.
- 2.3. Coaches must treat players fairly by giving each player opportunities to develop their skills and contribute to the team.
- 2.4. Tactical decisions rest exclusively with the coaches. Interference by parents or spectators in team strategy and player development is strictly prohibited.
- 2.5. Coaches must be open-minded when listening to players' concerns and create an environment of open communication and mutual trust.
- 2.6. Coaches, participants, referees and match officials may not be intimidated.
- 2.7. Coaches may not be interrupted during practice sessions to offer advice, make arrangements or address complaints and problems.
- 2.8. Practice sessions may also not be interrupted to interfere with team positions or selections.
- 2.9. Parents may arrange a suitable time to discuss enquiries, complaints and suggestions with coaches.
- 2.10. Discussions between parents and coaches must be reciprocal, constructive, courteous, controlled and respectful.

3 Conduct of parents and spectators

- 3.1. Parents and other spectators play an essential role in supporting the team and modelling appropriate behaviour for young players. Enthusiastic support for the team is encouraged; ridiculing players, coaches or officials, or causing embarrassment to the school, staff or learners, is prohibited.

- 3.2. Parents must refrain from coaching or attempting to instruct players from the sidelines during matches or practices. The coaching team alone is responsible for coaching players.
- 3.3. Under no circumstances may parents or spectators approach the sports field to speak to players or coaches during matches.
- 3.4. Parents must respect the authority of team management regarding logistical decisions, such as tour arrangements. Team management will communicate relevant information to parents as needed.
- 3.5. Verbal abuse, foul language, physical violence, defamatory or insulting language, or inappropriate gestures by parents or spectators will not be tolerated under any circumstances. Such behaviour will result in removal and possible bans from future events.
- 3.6. Parents must conduct themselves in accordance with the etiquette required by the sport concerned.
- 3.7. Parents must show self-control, mutual respect, courtesy and tolerance towards one another, teachers and learners.
- 3.8. Parents may not behave in an unsporting manner.
- 3.9. Parents must refrain from causing incidents or becoming involved in them.
- 3.10. Parents must exercise self-control and may not react inappropriately to officials' decisions, even if the officials may have made an error.
- 3.11. Parents attending any school activity must comply with the requests of the organisers concerned and with the arrangements in place.
- 3.12. Disruptive behaviour is not permitted.
- 3.13. Parents must set an example at all times and may not litter.

4 Dress code

- 4.1. Players must ensure that they wear the appropriate sports kit prescribed by the school for their particular sport. The prescribed uniform must be worn during all matches and official team events.
- 4.2. Players' clothing must be clean, well maintained and worn neatly and with dignity.
- 4.3. Any additional garments, such as undershirts or compression wear, must comply with team and school guidelines.
- 4.4. Learners attending sporting events as spectators who are not participating in the sport concerned on that day must wear either the prescribed school sports uniform or the regular school uniform.
- 4.5. Non-participating learners' clothing must be clean, well maintained and worn neatly and tidily, in accordance with the school's general uniform guidelines.
- 4.6. All learners, whether participating in sport or attending as spectators, are expected to take pride in their appearance and represent the school positively through their choice of clothing.

5 General

- 5.1. By subscribing to this Code of Conduct, all members of the Laerskool Hermanus Primary sporting community commit themselves to creating an environment in which our young players can grow, learn valuable life lessons and further their sporting development.
- 5.2. The school reserves the right to impose disciplinary measures for breaches of the Code of Conduct as deemed necessary to uphold the integrity of our sports programmes.
- 5.3. Through mutual respect and cooperation, we can ensure a successful and rewarding sporting experience for everyone involved.
- 5.4. School property may not be removed from any school premises without prior permission.

5 Dress code

The normal school uniform rules apply at sporting events. Clothing for sporting occasions is described in the school rules, which include the following:

- Participants at sporting events must wear school uniform, sports kit or the school tracksuit.
- Non-participants at sporting events must wear full school uniform or Life Orientation (LO) kit.
- The school has specific sports kit for each sport. Any changes are subject to approval by the Clothing Committee and SGB.
- Only the school's first teams are entitled to specially designed sports kit. The kit must incorporate the school colours and be approved by the Clothing Committee.
- Learners may practise in any sports clothing, provided that it is appropriate and comfortable for the sport. (LO kit is not intended for practices, but this remains the parents' choice.)

(The head of the sports code and the coaches will provide guidance on appropriate clothing at the start of the season.)

6 Structure and general rules

Structure

1. WCED / Principal
2. School Governing Body and Sports Committee
3. Head of Sport
4. Sports Organiser
5. Heads of sports codes
6. Sports coaches

Communication

We aim to keep all stakeholders informed through effective communication, which includes the following:

- Staff, parents and learners will be informed well in advance of upcoming sporting events.
- All available dates for sporting events will appear on the term programme.
- Parents, learners and coaches receive a sports programme each term, indicating practice times, convenors, coaches and dates of sporting events.
- Parents, learners and coaches will receive all arrangements for sporting events well in advance via a WhatsApp message, which learners will receive before or during the final practice preceding the match concerned.
- Parents, learners and coaches will be notified via WhatsApp of any changes to or cancellations of sports practices and matches.
- In the event of unpredictable or adverse weather, the Head of Sport will decide at 12:00 whether practices, matches and events will go ahead or be cancelled.

Duties and responsibilities of coaches

Coaches have the following duties and responsibilities:

- Coaches must ensure that every participant is given an equal opportunity to participate in sport.
- Coaches must ensure that all participants compete in the correct age group.
- Coaches must ensure that they operate within the framework of their governing sports body (for example, rugby in accordance with BokSmart).
- Coaches must ensure that learners participating in an older age group comply with the requirements of the relevant sports bodies.

- Coaches must consider learners' well-being at all times during practices and matches.
- The coach must select a team on merit.
- The coach must ensure that all players selected as reserves receive playing time during the match, provided that the learner has not played in another match for another team on the same day.
- The coach is responsible for appointing the team captain.
- The coach is responsible for equipment received from the head of the sports code. All equipment must be returned at the end of the season.
- The coach must ensure that the players in their team comply with the Code of Conduct for players.
- The coach remains responsible for the players until parents have collected them from the school or collection point after their return from away matches.
- Coaches must be willing to obtain a professional driving permit (PDP) and take responsibility for their team's transport. Only exceptional reasons, such as medical or legal reasons, will be accepted if a coach does not have a PDP.

General

The following general arrangements apply:

- School sport takes priority over other extramural activities. Learners and parents retain the right to decide what the learner will participate in. However, if a learner chooses an extramural activity over organised school sport, even if it is a once-off event, the coach retains the discretion to deal with the situation on its merits.
- It remains the player's or parents' responsibility to inform the coach, with a reason, if the player cannot attend a practice or match.
- The school provides limited transport to sporting events, and learners will be informed of transport arrangements in advance.
- Parents are responsible for ensuring that learners arrive on time for transport and are collected from school on time after the players' return. If learners are not collected from school on time after matches, they may forfeit their opportunity to participate in matches.
- No learner may be left unsupervised at the sports grounds or school grounds after sporting events or after learners have been transported back to school.
- Adequate first aid must be available at sports matches at all times, arranged with and through the Sports Organiser.
- The Sports Organiser is responsible for allocating duties in advance.

7 Merit awards

School sport

All sports played within the school are considered, as are deserving cases in sports not offered by the school (provincial participation).

To be considered for external sports awards, a learner must provide proof of participation in at least one internal school activity per term, whether sporting or cultural. A verification process is in place to evaluate applications.

Learners selected for a district or provincial team must represent that team to be considered for a merit award.

Athletics and cross-country

Athletes participate in the Walker Bay and Overberg meetings. Athletes selected for the Overberg team (South Boland) who represent their region at interdistrict meetings qualify for consideration for a merit certificate (Boland meeting).

Learners selected for the Boland team qualify for consideration for half colours.

Learners selected for the Western Cape team qualify for consideration for full colours.

Rugby

Players participate in the Walker Bay zonal trials, followed by the South Boland trials (four regions: Overberg, Groenland, Walker Bay and Suidpunt). These players qualify for consideration for a merit certificate.

Players are then selected to participate in the Boland trials (six regions). The Boland A, B and C teams are selected from these trials.

Players selected for the B or C teams qualify for consideration for half colours.

Players selected for the A teams qualify for consideration for full colours.

Tennis

Players participate in initial trials, from which an Overberg team is selected. Players selected for this team qualify for a merit certificate.

The Overberg team plays against two other regions, from which a Cavaliers Country team is selected. Players representing this team also qualify for consideration for a merit certificate.

The Cavaliers Country team plays against Eden, Winelands and Drakenstein. These matches serve as trials to determine players' positions on the ranking list, which is used to invite players to the final Western Cape Cavaliers trials (Boland). The Western Cape Cavaliers team is selected after this final round of trials. Cavaliers B-team players qualify for half colours. Cavaliers A-team players qualify for full colours.

Cricket

Players selected for the Overberg team receive half colours.

Provincial A-team players qualify for consideration for full colours.

Netball

Players participate in the Walker Bay trials, held over two days. Fourteen players are selected to participate in the Overberg trials. Four districts participate: Walker Bay, Caledon, Bredasdorp and Groenland. The ten players with the highest selection scores are selected for the Overberg team, which participates in the Western Cape Interdistrict Tournament. These players qualify for consideration for half colours.

The Western Cape Zone 1 trials then take place (Karoo, Overberg and Winelands region). Twenty-one players are selected to participate in the final Western Cape trials. The Western Cape team is selected from these trials. These players qualify for consideration for full colours.

Hockey

Players participate in the subregional trials, which cover the entire Overberg region. The Shiraz trials follow (Overberg and North Boland region; two trials are held). Players are then selected to participate in the IPT trials (two trials are held). Players selected for the IPT team qualify for consideration for full colours. These players participate in a national hockey tournament.

Players who do not make the IPT team are selected for the Shiraz team and qualify for consideration for half colours. These players represent Boland at regional level and participate in a regional tournament rather than a national hockey tournament.

Chess

Players accumulate points to qualify for Overberg and then participate independently in the SA Junior Schools Chess Championships. These players qualify for consideration for half colours.

Players seeking greater exposure participate in Cape tournaments and accumulate points to establish a ranking. These players are invited by Western Province to participate in the SA tournament, where they have an opportunity to earn their Protea colours. These players then qualify for consideration for full colours.

External sport

Gymnastics

Level 4 and above

Learners participate in four club competitions, followed by the Overberg trials. The Western Cape Championships for Level 4 and above take place. Learners are selected from these championships to participate in the South African Championships and earn their WP colours. These learners qualify for a merit certificate.

Learners at Levels 4, 5, 6 and 7 who win medals at the South African Championships qualify for half colours.

Learners at Level 8 and above who win medals at the South African Championships qualify for full colours.

Swimming

Learners who qualify for and participate in the Level 2 National Championships qualify for a merit certificate.

Learners who win a medal at the Level 2 National Championships qualify for half colours.

Learners who qualify for and participate in the Level 3 National Championships also qualify for half colours.

Learners who win a medal at the Level 3 National Championships qualify for full colours.

Other external sports

Learners who represent a provincial team at a national championship or competition qualify for consideration for half colours.

Learners who represent a provincial team at a national championship or competition and win an individual or team medal qualify for full colours.

Each sport will be considered on its merits where there is uncertainty about the criteria. The final decision rests with the school and management team.

Awards

Learners receive awards annually at Merit Evening in accordance with the following criteria:

Only school sport managed by the school may be used as a criterion for the Sportsboy and Sportsgirl awards.

The following points allocation will apply:

Criteria for Sportsboy and Sportsgirl of the Year

Above school level

Guideline	Points
National	20
Provincial	18
Final trials / WP Championships	16
District team (e.g. Overberg, South Boland, depending on the sports code)	13
Regional team (e.g. Walker Bay)	10

School level

Guideline	Points
A-team captain / vice-captain	9
A team	8
B team	6
C/D team	4

Each sport is scored separately so that participation in a variety of sports can be rewarded. In the event of a tie, preference is given to the learners who have achieved the highest level.

8 Budgets, donations and sponsors

Budgets

- Sports heads are given an annual opportunity to budget for their respective sports.
- The sports budget is approved by the SGB.
- Sports heads must obtain the Principal's prior permission for purchases.
- Purchases are subject to the purchasing policy of Laerskool Hermanus Primary.
- Budgets must meet the needs and development requirements of the sport.

Donations

- Donations for sport from external companies or sources may be accepted with the appropriate documentation and permission from the Principal and SGB.
- The school makes a donation to each provincial player receiving provincial kit for the first time in a school sport. The amount is determined by the Principal and SGB.
- For any donation from outside the school, the donor decides who will receive it or which sport will benefit, unless this decision is left to the school.

Sponsors

- Only U13 A teams may be fully sponsored with complete match kit, equipment and additional clothing.
- Other teams may use sponsors, but only for items approved by the Clothing Committee, such as a backpack and warm-up shirt that meet the school's standard.
- If a substantial donation is to be made, every team in that age group must benefit from the donation.

10 Addendum A — School sport

Sports at Laerskool Hermanus Primary

- What is a school sport at Laerskool Hermanus Primary?
- What determines whether a sport is a school sport?
- What is an external sport?
- Which sport falls into which category?

School sport

Traditional sports at Laerskool Hermanus Primary.

Summer	Winter	Year-round
Athletics	Netball	Tennis
Cricket	Rugby	Chess
Ball skills (Junior)	Hockey	
	Cross-country	

What is regarded as school sport

- Sports offered by Laerskool Hermanus Primary in which the school's staff are actively involved.
- Sports coached at the school by a staff member. This includes practices, leagues, matches, meetings, tournaments and competitions.

Recognition of achievements in school sport

- Recognition is given weekly at school assemblies and in Info, and is also posted on social media.
- At prize-giving, recognition is given for sports in Tables A and B if the learner has achieved success at internal events such as interhouse swimming galas and interhouse athletics.
- Learners may wear their provincial jacket with school uniform on Fridays.
- At prize-giving, learners receive recognition if they have achieved at national level, e.g. Overberg, South Boland, Boland, Western Cape and the South African Championships.
- Sports in Tables A and B are considered when determining Sports Personalities, provided that they meet the criteria set out in the Prize-giving Policy.

External sport

The table below gives only a few examples of external sports. Many more may be added.

What is regarded as external sport

- Sport in which learners wear the sports kit or school uniform of Laerskool Hermanus Primary and represent the school, but in which no teacher is actively involved and no structured practices are offered at the school.
- Sport with no school league or school participation, no teacher involvement and no participation in school clothing. Clubs are usually involved in these cases.
- Any other sport in which no teacher is actively involved.

Recognition of achievements in external sport

- Recognition is given weekly at school assemblies and in Info, and is also posted on social media.
- Learners may wear their provincial jacket with school uniform on Fridays.
- At prize-giving, recognition for sports in Table C is given only if the learner has achieved at national level, e.g. Overberg, South Boland, Boland, Western Cape and the South African Championships.
- Sports in Table C are not considered when determining Sports Personalities.



Mr JG Giliomee
Principal



Dr Danie du Toit
SGB Chairperson