



Exemption from Activity Policy

The School Sport Australia (SSA) Championship Attendance Policy states that all students selected in teams to attend a SSA Championship, must attend for the duration of the event and must participate in all activities/components of the Championship Program, unless they provide evidence of meeting the consideration criteria to be approved for exemption. (See SSA website About> Policies > National Programs Policies).

Championship components include; the Opening Ceremony, all competition games/matches/rounds, the Championship Team Experience and the Closing Ceremony.

School Sport ACT (SSACT) abides by the requirements outlined in the SSA Championship Policy and understands there may be other circumstances that prevent a student from attending all programmed activities.

There is an exception within the SSA Championship Attendance Policy for the Individual Sport events of Cross Country, Swimming and Track and Field, which meets the specific conditions of these events which differ from Team Sport events. Students competing at the SSA Cross Country, Swimming or Track and Field Championship must attend the Opening Ceremony, Championship Team Experience and all competition events including relays, but may apply for exemption from the Closing Ceremony with a reason that falls outside the consideration criteria.

For students wishing to apply for an Exemption from Activity their parent/guardian must submit an application form (found in the Resources section of the SSACT website) [prior to departure for their respective Championship](#). The submission must be made to both the Team Manager and the Executive Officer of SSACT. Approval of a submission will be made on a case by case basis.

Circumstances for Exemption Consideration;

- Students who are in a National Sporting Organisation endorsed program and have a conflicting schedule or pathway event (school or club based sporting commitments will not be exempt). The conflicting commitment must be in the same sport of the Championship from which they are seeking exemption.
- A school sanctioned vocational program or activity which has repercussions for non-attendance, such as an Australian School Based Apprenticeship (ASBA).
- An extenuating family circumstance such as a family member illness, requirement of treatment etc.
- An exemption may be considered for the Opening ceremony, Championship Team Experience or Closing ceremony. Additional consideration would have to be made if a competition game/event were to be missed.

Note: If a change to activity results in a no opt-out team flight booking being cancelled or changed the student/family will incur the cost of the change.

If an exemption is granted, it is the responsibility of the student's parent/supervising guardian to inform the Team Manager, in person, not only by phone message, when they are departing the venue/Championship for the final time, so a transfer of Duty of Care can be formally acknowledged.

Non-Compliance

If an Exemption Application Form is not submitted prior to departure, or an application is denied, and the student does not attend all programmed components for their respective Championship, one of the following sanctions will be imposed;

- If a student misses the Opening Ceremony, a competition game/fixture/individual event or Championship Team Experience activity/session, without an application submitted, they will not be able to play for the next two competition games/fixtures/individual events.
- If a student misses the last competition game/fixture/individual/relay event or Closing Ceremony, without an application submitted, they will not be able to represent the ACT at any SSA Championships the following year.