

Key Elements of Successful School-Club Links

- When discussions are held between teachers and club personnel.
- When proposals are flexible to cater for school differences.
- When teachers perceive benefits for them, the school and or the students.
- When the club link enhances pse programs.
- When the link has sustainable benefits Eg. teacher training, resources, ongoing relationship.
- Balances the workload with the benefits. Eg. Links to enhance club numbers need to driven by the club.
- When the club has quality programs on offer.

About Schools

- Schools are not comparable in their approach to sport and physical education.
- Schools have different charter priorities
- and won't all need or want the same things from clubs.
- Schools are bound to policy, curriculum, reporting on learning outcomes.
- They do all have a nominated contact person for sport and/or physical education.
- Schools are busy places and teachers are stretched within crowded curriculums.
- Teachers generally plan their programs in the previous year.
- Schools receive a great deal of information to relay to families.

Club offerings to schools:

- Providing venues and/or equipment.
- Providing teaching resources.
- Inviting teachers to coaching courses.
- Letting teachers know about state association offerings.
- Speaking to assemblies or classes.
- Presenting / donating awards
- Clinics, umpiring, help at sports days.
- Coaching school teams.
- Lunchtime or after school activities.
- Running follow-up club activities to complement school sport.
- Keeping the school informed about club activities.
- Supporting leadership programs.
- Offering discounted memberships.

Ideas for School Involvement:

- Teaching your sport.
- Including club information in school newsletters, noticeboards assemblies.
- Entering student, staff and parent teams into community competitions.
- School facilities available for club use.
- Registration days on school grounds.
- School office as registration point.
- Developing community directories through school surveys.
- Scheduling school sport programs to coincide with community seasons.
- Preparing students for community sport through leadership programs.
- Planning with clubs to run joint activities eg. Lunchtime competitions.

Getting Started

- Work out what you want out of the school.
- What can the club offer, what does the state association offer?
- Target schools
- Ring to find out who is the best person to speak with, good time to call.
- Organise a face to face discussion.
- Provide calendar of club events eg season start, special activities and try to link these in.
- Is your sport taught in the school? Interested? What is needed?
- If so when? – Club follow up?
- Leave a club contact.