



## **Competition Position Statement**

School Sport Australia strongly supports competition as a major part of its programs but acknowledges it exists in many forms.

School Sport Australia believes;

- Competition's main aim is to develop the collective spirit of unity, cooperation and friendship, in a fun, positively structured environment.
- A positive environment, if structured correctly, will result in the most desirable outcomes.
- The focus in competition should be on the individual/team participation rather than the end result.
- Competition should be used as a motivator to encourage children to strive for improvements in their personal performance.
- Children and young adults learn to compete in sport if they have continued support and encouragement of their family, coach and peer group, regardless of the outcome of the game.
- Competition can help children and young adults appreciate effort and excellence in themselves, their team mates and their opponents.
- Competition should be healthy, winning should be important, losing may be rewarding, but only if kept in their proper perspective.
- Organised sport can have a special significance in the lives of children and young adults, as it offers new experiences, challenges, improved skills, a sense of achievement and enjoyment.