

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

## **PROCEDURE FOR CONTROL OF SPECTATOR BEHAVIOUR**

- ❖ Education Queensland is committed to taking all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of employees whilst they are performing their official duties and to providing a safe environment for staff, students and visitors. The Education (General Provisions) Act: The Act includes provisions that a principal or officer – in – charge may need to rely on, in situations involving willful disturbance and trespassing. The pertinent section of the Act for school sporting events is likely to be Part 4 – Willful Disturbance, which states:
  1. A person must not willfully disturb the good order or management of a State educational institution.
  2. A person must not insult a staff member of a State educational institution in the presence or hearing of a student of the institution, who is, at the time in question -
    - (a) In or about the institution; or
    - (b) Assembled with others for educational purposes at or in any place.
- ❖ Organising Committees are asked to include the above policy statement in any appropriate documents (eg. Ground rules, Convenors' Handbook, Team Officials' Handbook) and to ensure that convenors and other key officials are aware of the **PROCEDURE TO BE FOLLOWED**. The procedures, however, should not be made available to the general public and for that reason should not be reproduced in programs, etc.

## **AT THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

Where an adult other than a team official contravenes School Sport Australia Code of Behaviour for Parents or Spectators the following course of action should be implemented:

- ❖ If the offending adult is associated with a particular team, the manager of that team will familiarise the offender with the Codes of Behaviour and request compliance.
- ❖ If contravention of the Codes of Behaviour continues, the convenor will warn the offender that the game in progress will be stopped until such time as the offender modifies his/her behaviour accordingly.
- ❖ As an absolute last resort, the convenor will advise the offender that he/she has breached Section 47 of the Education (General Provisions) Act (Willful Disturbance), and unless his/her behaviour is modified the police will be summoned. Only in extreme cases should this action be carried out.
- ❖ The host Regional School Sport Officer would be deemed Officer – in charge and would need to advise his/her Executive Director in regard to such actions.
- ❖ Should the situation be of a serious nature, the Officer-in-Charge (or his delegate) should contact the police immediately.
- ❖ If police are called, they have the powers to direct the person/s to leave the venue and not return for a period of not more than 24 hours.