



"As we enter Heaven, we will see them, so many of them, coming towards us and thanking us. We will ask who they are, and they will say 'a poor soul you prayed for in Purgatory."

- VENERABLE FULTON SHEEN

Learn about All Souls' Day, and get the **free eBook**, Novenas for the Holy Souls in Purgatory

missions.ewtn.com/seasonsandfeastdays/allsouls/



#### All Saints Catholic College

#### GABRIEL AGYAPONG (Athletics)

GABRIEL AGYAPONG is quickly making a name as one of All Saints promising young athletes. Gabriel has recently competed in the Australian Little Athletics National Championships, impressively securing second place in hurdles and delivering a strong performance in triple jump. Gabriel's success continued at Valour State Relay, where he powered his team to two gold medals, one in the 16 mixed relay and the 16 Boys 4x100m. Earlier achievements include a standout gold medal in triple jump at the Coles Australian Little Athletics Championships and more recent podium finishes at the NSW Junior Championships, where he earned silver in hurdles and bronze in the 200m.

Late last year his consistent excellence on the track and field has not gone unnoticed where the Liverpool Council recognised Gabriel's achievements with a nomination for "Athlete of the Year". With such dedication, talent and drive Gabriel continues to inspire others and is well on the path toward an exciting athletic future.



#### MIYA FINNERAN (Golf)

MIYA FINNERAN has demonstrated rapid improvement in the game of golf over the last two years dropping her handicap from 35.4 to an impressive 5.1. This remarkable achievement showcases her dedication and natural talent in the sport of golf. Her rapid rise has seen her selected for Mackillop Catholic Schools team in 2024, representing at the NSWPSSA State Golf Carnivals in Batemans Bay and the Hunter Valley. Miya has continued this success in 2025 earning a spot in the NSWCCC Golf Team that competed at the All Schools State Golf Carnival in Dubbo in her first year of high school.

In July Miya represented All Saints at the SCS Sydney Golf competition at St Michaels Bay where she finished in first place at this event. Outside of school Miya placed first in the Brighton Lakes Junior Girls Championships two years in a row and also placed first in the Brighton Lakes ladies foursomes team event. A highlight of Miya's so far was where she shot a personal best round of even par (75) at Shelly Beach golf course including her first hole in one earlier this year. Miya has also recently been accepted in the South Western Sydney Academy of Sport for Golf program and is determined to keep driving her game toward even greater success.





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**INSPIRED BY CHRIST** 



#### Aquinas Catholic College Menai

#### **Sydney Catholic Schools Highlights**

- Best Performing Co-educational School
- Conference 3 Boys Champions
- Conference 3 Girls Community Champions

#### SYDNEY CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TEAM CHAMPIONS



INTERMEDIATE BOYS BASKETBALL CONFERENCE 3 & SCS CHAMPIONS



INTERMEDIATE GIRLS NETBALL CONFERENCE 3 & SCS CHAMPIONS



INTERMEDIATE GIRLS TOUCH FOOTBALL CONFERENCE 3 CHAMPIONS



JUNIOR BOYS BASKETBALL CONFERENCE 3 CHAMPIONS



JUNIOR BOYS FOOTBALL (SOCCER)
CONFERENCE 3 CHAMPIONS



SENIOR GIRLS NETBALL CONFERENCE 3 CHAMPIONS & SCS RUNNERS UP

#### STATE REPRESENTATIVES



Bianca Birrell NSWCCC Swimming



Evalina Carneiro
NSWCCC Netball &
Basketball and NSW All
Schools - Netball



Sybella Carney NSWCCC Swimming



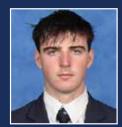
Elaina Cook NSWCCC Athletics



Luke Dignan NSWCCC Swimming



Imogen Engisch NSWCCC Athletics



Byron Faber NSWCCC Waterpolo



Elliott Hagan NSWCCC Cross Country & Athletics



Micah Harper NSWCCC Cross Country & Athletics



Juliet Hearne NSWCCC Athletics



Cayde Herbert NSWCCC Baseball and Softball



Jessie Hirs NSWCCC Cross Country and Athletics



Alexis James
NSWCCC Athletics



Isabella Maher NSWCCC Netball



Rose May NSWCCC Athletics



Joshua Palazzolo NSWCCC Athletics



Layla Peterson NSWCCC Athletics



Jamie-Grace Pittello



Spiros Vagelatos NSWCCC Hockey



Christopher Yacoub NSWCCC and NSW All Schools Swimming

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#### Casimir Catholic College Marrickville

#### **Casimir Athletes Achieve** Elite Success on State and **International Stages**

Casimir Catholic College is celebrating an exceptional period of athletic achievement, with students securing wins across local, State, and international stages. Their success reflects immense dedication and the college's spirit of perseverance.

#### **Elite Individual and International Recognition**

Several students achieved elite pathway and representative status. Olive Domoney (Year 11) stood out with dual representation: making the Cronulla Sharks U19 Tarsha Gale Rugby League team and representing Team Ireland at the OzTag World Championships. She was joined on the international stage by Ryan Nicolas (Year 11), who represented Team Lebanon in the same OzTag World Championships.

In national competition, Bram Robertson (Year 9) secured a significant achievement by earning 3rd Place at the 2025 Australian Judo Championships. Other key individual highlights include:

- Cooper Willis (Year 8) being selected for both the NSWCCC Representative team and the Sydney Swans U16 Academy Team.
- Tiana Silva (Year 11) earning Silver and Bronze at the NSW CCC Swimming Championships in the Breaststroke events.
- Zac Dalton (Year 8) was selected for the Basketball NSW D-League, an elite pathway program.

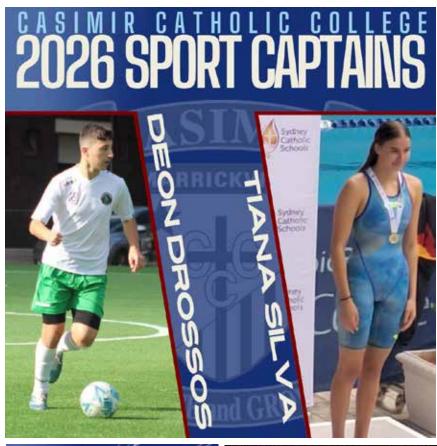
#### Unprecedented Team Dominance

Casimir teams displayed collective strength at the Sydney Catholic Schools (SCS) Championships, securing an impressive medal haul. The highest honors went to two teams who finished their campaigns undefeated:

- Junior Boys Basketball team were crowned SCS Conference 2 Champions and then took the prestigious SCS Sydney Champions trophy.
- Junior Girls Volleyball team also finished as SCS Conference 2 Champions.
- Junior Boys AFL teams finished their Conference 2 season as undefeated

Further demonstrating competitive depth, the Intermediate Girls Rugby 7's and Intermediate Girls Volleyball teams earned Silver Medals, while the Senior Boys Volleyball, Intermediate Boys Football, and Junior Girls AFL teams all secured **Bronze Medals** in their respective SCS Conference 2 Championships.

The College also acknowledged students, including Cooper Willis and Ciara Niforas, who represented the College at the NSWCCC Athletics and AFL Representative Team levels. Finally, Dion Drossos and Tiana Silva were appointed the 2026 Sports Captains, confirming their leadership roles in driving the college's sporting culture. The college extends its congratulations to all athletes and coaches for perfectly reflecting the commitment to "Unite and Grow."













## Proudly recognizes the extraordinary achievements of its student-athletes this year

We extend our highest commendations to two of our most distinguished competitors, **Chloe Gao** and **Isabella Taranto**, who have successfully navigated the demanding paths from school sport and secured their places on the State, National, and International sporting stages. Their consistent, world-class performances are the direct result of profound dedication, resilience, and sacrifice demanded by top-level performance. Both have graduated in the Class of 2025.

#### CHLOE GAO DIVING

Our Year 12 2025 Sports Prefect deserves every accolade she has received from school sport to the international.

- Named in the 2025 NSWCCC Diving Team
- 1st NSWCCC Championships
- 1st NSW All Schools National Championships
- Represented Australia at the International Youth Diving meet in Germany for Diving Australia
- Is a member of Diving Australia's 2832 Dream Squad as an athlete "with the potential to achieve excellence at the 2028 and/or 2032 Olympic Games"



#### **ISABELLA TARANTO**

#### **DRAGON BOATING**

Isabella is our Dragon Boating success story, and has pursued her sport with passion and dedication for years.

- Selected in the Australian Team
- Competed in the 17th IDBF World Dragon Boat Racing Championships in Germany
- Australia placed 6th overall
- Small Boat 3 Gold Medals
- World Champions in Small Boats' Women's U18
- New World Record U18 Small Boat 2K Women
- Selected at the Stroke in the Mixed Crew and Small Boat Team
- 2 Gold, 3 Silver, 3 Bronze Medals Australian Championships
- 2 Gold Medals State vs State Championships
- 1 Gold, 1 Bronze Medals NSW Championships

Additionally, the College is thrilled to honour the wider sporting cohort who is setting a high standard, living up to the College vision: "Let the Light shine true." We congratulate every student who has dedicated themselves to the pursuit of excellence in their sport, be it school or extracurricular and applaud their significant achievements – here are but some of the 2025 highlights.



#### SCS Conference 2 - Netball

• 1st place – Senior Netball Team



## 2025 ITTF-Oceania Youth Championships for Table Tennis

Chloe (Y11) competed and took:
 Gold – U19s Girls Team, Silver U19s Girls Double, Bronze – U19s
 Girls' Single and U19s Mixed Double



#### SCS Conference 2 Touch Footy Finals

Silver Medals – Each for Junior, Intermediate and Senior Teams



#### SCS U18s Boys and Girls Golf Championship

 Makayla represented the College, one of 7 girls playing



#### SCS Autumn Championships Water Polo 2025

 Gold Medal – Junior Girls Water Polo Team



#### NSWCCC at 2025 Australian Waterpolo Exchange

 Evelyn (Y10) and Simaema (Y9) selected on the NSWCCC U/18s Girls Waterpolo Team



#### **NSWCCC Cross Country**

 Gabrielle (Y8) came 11th overall in her age division and selected as1st Reserve to make it into the All Schools Team

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#### **CSNSW SPORT SERVICES**

#### Introduction

Catholic Schools NSW Sport Services (CSNSW Sport) continues to celebrate the rich tradition of sport within Catholic education, offering opportunities for thousands of students. Through the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges (NSWCCC) for secondary students and the NSW

Catholic Primary School Sports Council (NSWCPS) for primary (which includes MacKillop and Polding), CSNSW Sport delivers over 100 events each year, engaging over 15,000 students across the state. These include both representative pathway and championship / gala events.

**CSNSW** Sport remains committed not only to nurturing athletic ability but also to supporting the Bishops of NSW in promoting Catholic values through sport. The support dedication of the Catholic of educators, community parents, and students across New South Wales are integral to the ongoing success of this programme.



As Pope Francis reminds us, "Sport plays a very important role in growth and development. That is why the Church values sport in itself, as an arena of human activity where one can foster virtues and witness encounters with beauty, goodness, truth and joy."

#### **Sports Offered**

Students can participate in a wide range of sports, including Aquathon, Athletics, Australian Football, Baseball, Basketball, Cross Country, Diving, Football, Golf, Hockey, Netball, Rowing, Rugby Union, Rugby League, Softball, Swimming, Tennis, Touch Football, Triathlon, Volleyball, and Water Polo. These pathways provide opportunities for students to compete at a variety of representative levels and sports.

At the secondary level, most NSWCCC teams advance to compete in NSW All Schools Championships, for the opportunity for selection into NSW All Schools Team. Similarly, NSWCPS athletes compete in NSWPSSA Championships, for the opportunity for selection in the NSWPSSA team where available.





## OUTSTANDING RECENT ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2025

#### Individual

Zavier Peacock from De La Salle College Revesby (Year 12), at the NSW All Schools Athletics Championships clocked the fastest 100m sprint since Matt Shirvington in 1997, running 10.39 seconds (wind-assisted) and 10.45 seconds. Zavier also set a Catholic record of 10.33 seconds at the earlier NSWCCC Athletics Championship.

Sienna Compton, the School Captain of St Aloysius, Chisholm (Year 6), was named Female Captain of both the NSW PSSA Swimming Team and the NSW PSSA Cross Country Team. At the NSWPSSA Swimming Championships in April 2025, Sienna claimed gold medals in all five of her events, earning the title "Multi-Class Swimmer of the Meet" and receiving the Gregson Shield for the most outstanding multi-class swimmer.



#### **Team**

This was an outstanding year for Catholic Rugby Union programme exemplified with the following 5 players selected in the undefeated NSW Waratahs under 16s Rugby Union team who played Victoria on October 26:

- Talmage Lemusu Patrician Brothers Blacktown
- Marlee Thomas St Paul's Manly
- Cordell Arama Patrician Brothers Blacktown
- Charlie Xuereb Patrician Brothers Blacktown
- Ziyon Lepolo Patrician Brothers Blacktown

4 of these students were from Patrician Brothers Blacktown, the most of any school in the state. The further strength of the programme is shown with 11 students representing Opens NSW Junior Rugby Union (NSW Schools I and II, NSW Juniors XV and NSW Country). Jerome Pongi, from St Brigid's Catholic College, Lake Munmorah, was the Vice Captain for the Australian Schoolboys Rugby Union team in 2025. These 5 players represent the growing strength of Rugby Union in the Catholic Sector. This success and growth of this programme over the past 4 years is a reflection of the ongoing efforts and hard work of our secondary sport officer Drew Ferguson, Convenor Elijah Carlin, and all of the staff.

CSNSW is proud to partner with Academy for our clothing and merchandise range. To see the latest Academy range, please scan the QR Code:



#### **CSNSW Sport Awards**

CSNSW Sport will host its Annual Sport Services Awards Night on 2 December at the Sydney Cricket Ground, featuring the Maroons

Awards (Primary) and Blues Awards (Secondary). This prestigious event recognises the exceptional sporting achievements of our students, highlighting Catholic school talent from all across the state. Last year



was a great success and we are looking forward to an even greater awards night this year. We encourage everyone to scan the QR code to see the highlights of the Awards last year.





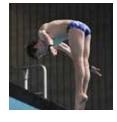




#### **Lucas Dawes (Diving)**

Lucas has proven to be a true sports champion in 2025 with some impressive achievements both in the School Sports

Australia system and the National system. Lucas represented NSW in the Australian All Schools Aquatic Championships in Brisbane where he was captain of



the Junior Diving team and won Gold and was crowned Australian Champion in four events and a Bronze medal in one event. Lucas also achieved a silver and bronze medal at the Australian Age Championships this year. These incredible achievements have culminated in his nomination for the Australian Olympic Change Maker National Forum, an event facilitated by the Australian Olympic Committee.

#### Zavier Peacock (Athletics)

Zavier is no stranger to the spotlight in the Athletics World. He is the current SCS, NSWCCC

and NSW All Schools 100m and 200m Champion. Not only is he champion but along the way he has been setting several records. Zavier clocked the fastest NSW All Schools 100m time since Matt Shirvington in 1997 and the second fastest time in the 90-year history of the championships. Due to his stellar records and achievements in athletics, Zavier has been selected to join Athletics Australia's pathway and will be representing Australia at the 2026 World Athletics Junior Championships in Oregon, USA. This trajectory clearly positions Zavier as a formidable future prospect for Australia in elite world Athletics.

#### Kaison Brown (Cross Country and Athletics)

Kaison has made an impressive start to his first year at the College. He was crowned 1500m Champion at College, Conference

and SCS levels, also receiving a bronze in the NSWCCC Carnival. He was also crowned champion for the 3km Cross Country at SCS event and bronze at NSWCCC Cross Country. The medals are the not only impressive part of Kai's story as he has done all of this whilst battling autoimmune



disease (CVID). Kaison was diagnosed at 4 years old and was given only a year to live. In fact, his first 5 years of life had been on life support and still to this day there is no cure except IVIG infusions every 3 weeks. Kai is the epitome of determination and resilience. He is a young man with a remarkable story and a true role model for everyone at De La Salle College.

#### Corey Da Cruz and Emile Katrib (Football)

Corey and Emile have had very successful footballing campaigns in 2025 both being called into the Australian U17s Joeys Football side and participating in various tournaments in Asia. Corey currently contracted with Sydney FC competed with the Australian team in China in May and June where he scored a goal for his country and finished runners up. Emile, a talented Western Sydney Wanderers junior, represented Australia at a tournament in Japan in September. Both boys won the CommBank Emerging Socceroos U16s Championships with NSW this year to top off an amazing year of football, Emile being named player of the final. These young men are competing at such high levels, with and against some of the best footballers in the world for their age. Their achievements are an inspiration to their peers and exemplify the exceptional athletic talent we have at De La Salle College, Revesby.





#### EMPOWERING YOUNG MEN FOR THE FUTURE

EXCELLENCE / SERVICE / COMMUNITY



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## FREEMAN CATHOLIC COLLEGE BONNYRIGG HEIGHTS

#### **Nathan Nietes**

Nathan Nietes achieved outstanding success recently competing in the 2025 National Taekwondo Championship held in Adelaide.

Participating in the Red Belt Division, Male Under 57kg Category, Nathan delivered an incredible performance to claim Gold, earning the title of 2025 National Champion. In 2025 he accumulated a clean sweep of 11 Gold medals in 11 competitions in



a combination of NSW State, National and International Championships. An amazing accomplishment and a true testament of his hard work, congratulations Nathan.

#### **Angelina Sanfilippo**

Angelina has Competed internationally at Abu Dhabi Classic International coming= 9th overall, 1st in Australia. Accepted in NSW Team, coming 3rd in state championships and competing Nationals in Queensland in December and going to the USA to compete as part of a team to continue her pursuit in this sport.

#### **Johnson Tsakirakis**

Competed at the 2025 South-East Asia and Oceania Wrestling Championships receiving Gold in U17's

2025 National Australian Wrestling Championships - 1st place 80kgs Gold Medal - U17's

Won Best Junior Athlete at the 2025 Australian National Wrestling Championships

Won the SAGA Duel Wrestling Meet (Representing SAGA Team Japan vs California, USA)

Won 2025 NSW State Championships

#### Sofia lannello

In the recent school holidays Sofia competed at the Australian National Short Course Championships in Melbourne, qualifying

for 5 individual events - 100m & 200m Individual Medleys, 100m & 200m Breaststroke and 100m Butterfly. She then proceeded to qualify for the Finals in all 5 events. Competing against



adults she placed in the national Top 20 for all her events, including a notable 6th in 100m Breaststroke and 6th in 200m Breaststroke in her 13's-18's category. Topping all of that off, she collected an incredible Silver medal in the 100m Individual Medley with a national 2nd place finish!



#### **Santino Tsakirakis**

2025 NSW state champion u13's

2025 Aust national wrestling champion u13s 50kg

2025 NSW state cup wrestling championships

#### Siennah Pukeroa

Siennah Pukeroa in Year 11 has made history on the world stage, now a world record

holder and gold medalist in her division as the overall best lifter. Competing at the World Powerlifting Championships in Costa Rica, Siennah's phenomenal performance included Gold for squat with 252.5 kg, Gold and a new World Record for bench press with 129



kg, Silver for deadlift with 202.5 kg, and an incredible overall total of 584 kg! This is an amazing achievement for an extraordinary athlete. Congratulations, Siennah, on your world-class success!

#### Tyran Cabrera

Oz Tag Aus Championships

State Championships Liverpool Cowboys, MVP

Competed International tag series ..... For Malta - Coffs MVP both years (mostly aussie based)

Great communicator - leadership - on and off the field - AUSSIE TEAM in 2026

#### **Charlotte Skundric**

Competed in Perth for the Australian Junior, U20's and Opens National Championships for Athletics. Charlotte competed in two events: U18 girls 3kg hammer throw -33.92m and coming 12th. The other event was U20 girls 4kg hammer throw - 39.13m and coming 15th.

#### Mikayla Skundric

Competed in Perth for the Australian Junior, U20's and Opens National Championships for Athletics. Mikayla competed in two events: U18 girls 4kg hammer throw -47.93m and coming 5th. The other event was U20 girls 4kg hammer throw - 43.67m and coming 9th.

#### **Johnathan Mansour**

Johnathan has been a distinguished member of the Freeman senior rugby league team since Year 10, assuming leadership roles as both vice captain and captain over the past two years. Beyond his school commitments, he was selected as halfback for the Cronulla Sharks in the 2024 season, where his unwavering dedication and strong work ethic enabled him to compete in the Harold Matthews Cup, the premier national under 17s competition, playing an integral part in the team's top four finish. Building on this success, Johnathan has already been pre selected for the Sharks SG Ball Cup squad, the national under 19s competition, where he will continue to develop his career later this year. Complementing his domestic achievements, Johnathan has also represented Lebanon on the international stage, competing in test matches against Italy and Malta at both under 16 and under 18 levels.

#### **Angelina Scamardella**

In July 2025, Angelina competed in the NSW All Schools team to trial for the  $\,$ 

Australian team.
She was fortunate enough to be selected to represent the Australian Schoolgirls team that will take place in January 2026 in the UK and Wales,



where she will play a series of high-level matches against top nations.



Senior Boys Team, at left, and senior Girls Team, above

#### REPRESENTATIVE TEAMS

Senior Boys Touch Football - Conference Runner's Up Senior Girls Touch Football - Conference Runner's Up Junior Boys Football - Conference Runner's Up

Senior Boys Football - Conference Runner's Up, Sydney Archdiocese Runner's Up

Senior Girls Football - Conference Champions, Sydney Archdiocese Runner's Up

Intermediate Boys Table Tennis - Conference Champions, Sydney Archdiocese Champions

Girls Bill Trophy Cup - Sydney South-West Area Champions, National Round of 16

2024 Senior Boys Oz Tag - Conference Champions, Sydney Archdiocese Semi-Finalist

2024 Senior Girls Oz Tag - Conference Champions, Sydney Archdiocese Semi-Finalist

Junior Girls Futsal Regional Champions

Intermediate Girls Futsal Regional Champions Senior Girls Oztag South-West Sydney Regional Champions

#### **INDIVIDUALS**

**Sofia lannello (Swimming)** - NSWCCC, NSW All Schools, National Age Swimming Championships, National Short Course Championships

**Sienna Bautista (Swimming)** - NSWCCC, NSW All Schools, National Age Swimming Championships

**Rocco Marando (Football)** - Marconi Stallions FC, NSWCCC, NSW, Australian Schoolboys

**Charlotte Skundric (Athletics)** - NSWCCC, NSW All Schools, Athletics Australia Nationals

**Mikayla Skundric (Athletics)** - NSWCCC, NSW All Schools, Athletics Australia Nationals

**Angelina Scamardella (Football)** - Western Sydney Wanderers, NSWCCC Football, NSW, All Schools, Australian Schoolgirls

**Johnathan Mansour (Rugby League)** - Cronulla Sharks (SG Ball), NSWCCC President's Team

Angelina Sanfilippo (Figure Skating) - Abu Dhabi Classic International Championships - 9th overall, 1st in Australia

**Johnson Tsakirakis (Wrestling)** - National Australian Wrestling Championship

**Santino Tsakirakis (Wrestling)** - National Australian Wrestling Champion

**Nathan Nientes (Taekwondo)** - National Taekwondo Championships

**Siennah Pukeroah (Powerlifting)** - World Powerlifting Championships

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### Marist College Kogarah



**NSW ALL SCHOOLS REPRESENTATIVES** 

Dominic Briscas (Year 11) - Diving Matias Soca (Year 12) - Swimming



#### NSW COMBINED CATHOLIC COLLEGES REPRESENTATIVES

Dominic Briscas (Year 11) - Diving

Declan Utomo - Under 15s Volleyball

Damien Taufateau (Year 10) - Under 15s Rugby League

Matias Soca (Year 12) - Swimming

#### **TEAMS ACHIEVEMENTS**



**Intermediate Volleyball** Conference 3 Champions



Junior and Intermediate Chess Conference 3 Champions



Senior Baseball
Sydney Catholic Schools
Champions



Intermediate Football Conference 3 Champions Sydney Catholic Schools Champions



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This year, our students have exemplified remarkable perseverance, talent, and unity in every arena of competition. Through their unwavering commitment and collaborative MSCW spirit, they have propelled their teams to impressive victories across a wide spectrum of sports within the Sydney Catholic Schools Sports Program. From the pitch to the pool, and every court in between, their passion and prowess have shone brightly, earning accolades, admiration, and a legacy of excellence that continues to inspire.

## SCS Conference 2 Netball Champions MSCW JUNIOR NETBALL TEAM





# SCS Touch Football Champions Sydney Catholic Schools CHAMPIONS MSCW JUNIOR TOUCH FOOTBALL TEAM

#### **Notable Achievements:**

SCS Swimming Conference 2 Champions

SCS Swimming Championships

SCS Conference 2 Touch Football Junior Champions

SCS Conference 2 Touch Football Intermediate Champions

SCS Conference 2 Touch Football Senior Champions

**SCS Touch Football Champions** 

**SCS Cross Country Champions** 

SCS Junior Table Tennis Champions

SCS Conference 2 Netball Junior Champions

SCS Conference 2 Netball Junior Mixed Champions

SCS Conference 2 Football Intermediate Champions

SCS Conference 2 Football Senior Champions

SCS Conference 2 (B Grade) Football Junior Champions

**SCS Football Senior Champions** 

SCS Conference 2 Athletics Champions

SCS Conference 2 Rugby 7's Intermediate Champions



#### JUNIOR BOYS BASKETBALL CLAIM GRAND FINAL GLORY

The St Mary's Cathedral College Junior Boys Basketball team has capped off an unforgettable season in spectacular fashion, storming to a thrilling Grand Final triumph! They defeated Marcellin Catholic College 32–26 in a fiercely competitive match to claim the coveted championship title.

The path to the top was a remarkable display of growth and grit. Following a narrow, one-point loss to Marcellin in the very first game of the season, the team immediately shifted focus. This initial setback sparked an incredible turnaround! The boys regrouped with laser-sharp focus, demonstrating unwavering determination, superb teamwork, and unyielding resilience to embark on an unbroken winning streak that carried them through the rest of the campaign. Their consistent improvement and deep commitment to each other truly became the hallmarks of their success.

The team's dominance continued right into the finals. In the semi-final, they delivered a commanding performance, leading from the opening tip-off to the final buzzer in a decisive 41–33 conquest over Corpus Christi College. This success set the stage for a highly anticipated, high-stakes rematch with Marcellin Catholic College, and the boys were ready,

The Grand Final was a defensive masterclass, with both teams fighting for every inch of the court. But when the game was on the line, our players showed their champion quality. They found another gear, hitting crucial shots and maintaining perfect composure in the closing minutes to secure the hard-fought win. This triumphant achievement not only sealed the title but also punched their ticket to the Sydney Championships, where they proudly represented the school against the region's elite!

## INAUGURAL EXCELLENCE: ARABELLA SODEN-SMITH SETS HIGH BAR FOR GIRLS' SPORT

History is being made on and off the court at St Mary's Cathedral College with Year 6 student Arabella Soden-Smith leading the charge. In a landmark year, Arabella has become a beacon of our new era, scoring a succession of major sporting milestones.

Her journey of success in netball began with her impressive performance at the Sydney Catholic Schools (SCS) Conference 1 Trials. Arabella dominated the court, successfully earning a coveted spot and progressing to the highly competitive Sydney Diocesan Trials.

The excitement continued when Arabella's exceptional talent was recognised at the Diocesan level, resulting in her selection for the prestigious MacKillop Championships – NSW Catholic Primary Schools Sport.

This selection is a phenomenal achievement for any SCS primary school athlete. The entire College community rallied behind Arabella, wishing her the best of luck as she headed to Canberra for the trials.

While competing against the best talent from across the state at the NSW MacKillop Trials, Arabella once again proved she belongs amongst the elite. She was selected for the coveted Possibles and Probables group, placing her in the top 20 out of 40 formidable athletes from both Canberra and NSW. Though she ultimately did not make the final top 10 team for the NSWPSSA Netball Championships, her performance was nothing short of inspiring.

Arabella's athletic success isn't confined to the netball court; her versatility shines brightly on the track, where she was crowned the Stage 3 Girls Age Champion at the St Mary's Athletics Championships.

Arabella clocked impressive times in the sprints at the SCS Primary Conference 1 Athletics Championships, placing 2nd in the 100m and 3rd in the 200m, earning a spot at the Sydney



Diocesan Trials. Carrying this momentum, she was then selected to represent SCS at the MacKillop Athletics Trials at Sydney Olympic Park

Arabella Soden-Smith's pioneering success has not only brought recognition to the young athlete but has also firmly cemented the place of girls' sport at St Mary's Cathedral College. She has set a brilliant standard for all the young women who will follow in her footsteps, proving that the future of sport at the college is bright, competitive, and full of possibility.





## DOMINATING THE POOL: SMCC SWIMMERS MAINTAIN HIGH PERFORMANCE

St Mary's Cathedral College proudly witnessed outstanding achievements at the SCS Conference 1 Swimming Championships. In a competition marked by exceptional performance our student representatives delivered fantastic individual and team results, breaking several standing College

A particular highlight was the exceptional performance of two key students, Alex Spencer (U15) and Oliver Low (U16), who secured podium finishes in every event

they contested and were crowned Age Champions in their respective divisions.

Alex Spencer demonstrated remarkable versatility and speed, earning a total of six Gold medals across the 50m sprint categories: Freestyle, Butterfly, Breaststroke, and Backstroke. He further solidified his dominance with Gold in the 100m Breaststroke, complemented by Silver in the 100m Freestyle and Bronze in the 100m Butterfly.

Oliver Low secured an impressive

medal haul, including Gold in the 100m Backstroke. His commitment to excellence was further evidenced by five Silver medals in the 50m Breaststroke, Backstroke, Freestyle, and Butterfly events, adding a Bronze medal in the 50m Butterfly to his collection.

Based on their commanding results, both Alex Spencer and Oliver Low successfully qualified and represented the College at the prestigious NSW All Schools Swimming Championships.



## St Clare's College, Waverley

Students of St Clare's College demonstrated an incredible level of sporting skill in 2025, across a diverse range of sports. From surf life saving to horseriding, our students excelled at their chosen sports, competing successfully at local, state and national levels. St Clare's College offers a holistic education, where the unique gifts of each student are fostered. We look forward to supporting our Sports Stars as they continue to grow and thrive.

#### Lola Pemberton Year 7, Equestrian Sports

Lola Pemberton, Year 7, has had a wonderful year in her equestrian competitions. Lola began horse riding at the age of 5 and became involved in equestrian competition at the age of 9. Lola competes regularly in a range of disciplines including Showjumping, Show Riding, Camp Drafting, Sporting and Mounted Games.

Lola's favourite part of equestrian sports is the special bond she shares with her horse Karrot, a Heritage Australian Stock Horse. The unique partnership between horse and rider, characterised by mutual understanding, trust, and clear communication, is what sets equestrian sports apart. Lola and Karrot are both competitive and want to win, which makes them a great team.

Lola has had the honour of representing St Clare's at several Interschool events this year, resulting in the following successes:

- Champion in Sporting 13 Years Arndell InterSchools
- Champion in Stock Horse Class 13 Years Northwest Equestrian Expo
- Reserve Champion Pairs Riding Northwest Equestrian Expo
- Top Score Utility and Working Horse 13 Years Northwest Equestrian Expo
- Zone 26 Champion 13 Years, Show Jumping, Sporting and Jumping Equitation

Recently Lola competed in the State Mounted Games and Team Sporting Championships, taking line honours with her team in multiple events and has been included in the development squad for the NSW State Junior Mounted Games Team.





#### Alana Frinsdorf Year 9, AFL

Alana Frinsdorf, Year 9, started AFL 3 years ago as her sister and twin brother were playing. After her first year of playing she was invited into the Sydney Swans Academy. She improved very quickly and in both 2024 and 2025 she was selected in their Super 24 side, a squad of the best academy players from the Swans. In her club football this year she was elevated to the U17 Division 1, competing strongly against girls that were often 2 years older.

Alana was honored to be selected for the NSW Combined Catholic Colleges (CCC) team for the past 2 years, to play in the NSW State Schools Championships. From this, Alana was selected for the NSW All Schools Team to play in the Australian All Schools Championship in July, representing NSW and St Clare's College Waverley, where she achieved a Bronze medal as part of the NSW team.

Alana loves playing AFL because of the different girls she meets and the friends she makes. She likes the challenge of improving her skills and playing with kids who are motivated to do the same. Alana has an understated competitiveness, and always plays with a smile.

#### Marnie Laurence Year 8, Athletics

Marnie Laurence, Year 8, is a truly incredible athlete. She excels at Athletics, yet her all-round ability has seen her competing successfully in Surf Life Saving for Coogee, AFL for Maroubra Saints and OzTag for Easts.

In April 2025, Marnie took out 10 National medals in Athletics and Surf Life Saving. Most recently, she was awarded the Little Athletics Australian Best Performance for her 200m. Marnie is the current National Athletics Champion in Long Jump, Triple Jump, 200m, Mixed 4x100 relay and 4x100 Girls relay. In Surf Life Saving, Marnie took out the 2025 National title for the Sprint, Girls Relay and Mixed Relay.

As the youngest of 3 girls, she was taken along to many different sports from an early age, cheering on her older sisters from the sidelines. Marnie started competing at the age of 4, running her first cross-country race.

Marnie loves the variety of sports that she competes in, and she enjoys learning new skills. Whilst being fiercely competitive, she also really enjoys the social aspect of sport, making connections and friends across all ages, clubs and teams.



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