



1st & 2nd XI – ISA Cricket 2025/26

Revised: 16/9/25

Selection

- All players wishing to trial for the 1st & 2nd XI must be registered to play with SPX Cricket for the 2025/26 season through Clipboard and then via the PlayHQ platform (details to follow).
- Players either play for the College or not. There is no option to play only if selected in a desired ISA team.
- Players and parents must be familiar with the SPX ISA Cricketing Concepts document. This document (see below) outlines the expectations of players and coaches; further it documents how the 1st & 2nd XI will approach and execute training sessions and matches.
- Players seeking selection in the 1st or 2nd XI must display physical and mental maturity to compete at ISA level (U18). It is not uncommon to play against state age-group or upper-grade Sydney Premier Cricket players.
- Attendance is expected at all training sessions unless prior notice is given.
- Players are expected, if selected, to be available for all matches including trials, holiday games and the Queensland Tour. Any unavailability needs to be communicated early to coaching staff.
- Players (and by extension parents) must be available to travel to Bathurst, Bowral, and Central Coast matches.
- All players must have their own equipment. No kits will be provided. Players are discouraged from lending or borrowing personal protective equipment.
- Players selected in the ISA Squad need to purchase training uniform from the College Uniform Shop. Clothing comprises training shorts, training shirt, alternate playing indigenous reconciliation shirt and trousers plus training cap.
- All ISA Squad members require spiked footwear for training and matches.
- Playing for the College takes primacy over other cricket. However, when not playing or training with SPX players are encouraged to train and play with Premier and/or Shires cricket clubs.

Coaches

- 1st XI – Mr David Reay (Coach/Convenor) and Mr Pat Rodgers (Coach)
- 2nd XI – Mr Matt Stearn (Coach) and Mr Martin Gillogly (Coach)
- 1st XI and 2nd XI Skills coach – Mr James Maloney
- External coaches – Mr Ash Doolan (from Cricket Appeal)

Pre-season Meeting – Wednesday 6 August 2025 (recess in C1) – completed

Trials, Training, Matches, and Tour

2025 Trials / Pre-season training

- Thursday 28 August 2025 – Net trials @ Oxford Falls - completed
- Thursday 4 September 2025 – Net trials @ Oxford Falls - completed
- Monday 8 September 2025 – Net / center wicket trials @ Oxford Falls - completed
- Thursday 11 September 2025 – Net / center wicket trials @ Oxford Falls
- Monday 15 September 2025 – Net / center wicket trials @ Oxford Falls
- Thursday 18 September 2025 – Net / center wicket trials @ Oxford Falls
- Monday 22 September 2025 – Net / center wicket trials @ Oxford Falls
- Thursday 25 September 2025 – Net / center wicket trials @ Oxford Falls

2025 Pre-season matches / holiday matches

- Friday 3 October 2025 – 1st XI (Trial) v St Aloysius College @ Oxford Falls #1 (Term 3 Holidays)
- Thursday 9 October 2025 – 1st XI (Trial) v St Joseph's College @ St Joseph's #1 (Term 3 Holidays)
– 2nd XI (Trial) v St Joseph's College @ St Joseph's #6 (Term 3 Holidays)
- Friday 10 October 2025 – 1st XI (Trial) v Shore @ Northbridge #2

2025/26 ISA season matches and other matches (ISA Draw yet to be released)

- Saturday 18 October 2025 – 1st XI ISA Round 6 (due to clash with Year 11 Snowy Mountains Hike)
– 2nd XI final trial
- Saturday 25 October 2025 – ISA Round 1
- Saturday 1 November 2025 – ISA Round 2
- Saturday 8 November 2025 – ISA Round 3
- Saturday 15 November 2025 – ISA Round 4
- Saturday 22 November 2025 – ISA Round 5
- Saturday 29 November 2025 – 2nd XI ISA Round 6 (due to clash with Year 11 Snowy Mountains Hike)
- Saturday 24 January 2026 – 1st XI v St Joseph's College @ Oxford Falls #1
- Saturday 31 January 2026 – ISA Round 7
- Saturday 7 February 2026 – ISA Round 8
- Saturday 14 February 2026 – ISA Round 9
- Monday 16 February 2026 – 1st v l'Zingari CC @ Oxford Falls #1 (T30 4-7pm)
- Saturday 21 February 2026 – ISA Round 10
- Saturday 28 February 2026 – ISA Semi-Final
- Saturday 7 March 2026 – ISA Final
- Saturday 14 March 2026 – ISA Final (back-up date)

2026 Australia Schools Cricket Challenge – 1st XI Brisbane Tour (incorporating the Christian Brothers Cricket Week)

- Sunday 11 to Friday 16 January 2026 (4 matches – touring party is usually 14 players from 1st and 2nd XI)

2025/26 Training

- Monday and Thursday at Oxford Falls.
- 2025 Term 3 until 5pm.
- 2025 Term 4 until 5:30pm.
- 2026 Term 1 until 5:30pm.



SPX Cricket – ISA Cricketing Concepts

- **ISA Cricket represents a significant achievement for all SPX players.** We congratulate players on their selection but remind them that opposition schools also field skilful and talented teams. Additionally, SPX Cricket has other players eager to earn every position.
- **SPX Cricket always plays to win.** As a result, players will not receive an equal share of batting and bowling opportunities during the season, unlike other SPX Cricket teams. The team's collective needs will always take precedence over individual interests. Therefore, weekly team selection will involve promoting or relegating players based on performance.
- **SPX Cricket plays hard but fair.** While we strive to win, we never aim to win at all costs. Fair play, sportsmanship, graciousness in victory, and humility in defeat mark a person of character and strength. We will treat umpires and opposition players with respect. We will not tolerate dissent arising from umpiring decisions.
- **SPX Cricket players always give their very best,** regardless of match situation, personal feelings, environmental conditions, or fatigue.
- **SPX Cricket players consistently support and encourage their teammates.** We win or lose as a team, never as a group of individuals.
- **SPX Cricket coaching staff will always provide thoughtful and constructive advice to players at appropriate times.** Coaches will treat players with respect, both collectively and individually. In return, players must treat coaches with the same respect.
- **SPX Cricket will play aggressive, skilful, and intelligent cricket.** We will actively seek “1%” opportunities with bat, ball, and in the field to maintain the initiative. We aim to disrupt opposition bowlers’ line and length, stretch fielders’ defensive setups and throwing arms, and keep the opposition guessing. We will back this up with sharp field placements, smart bowling, and a fierce defence of every run.
- **The Captain makes all on-field decisions.** Coaches and players may offer advice when appropriate, but the Captain will determine how to execute match strategies. All players must fully support the Captain’s decisions.
- **SPX Cricket players are expected to continually develop their skills throughout the season.** Coaching staff and teammates will support this development, ensuring every player finishes the season better than they began. By training hard and rehearsing every aspect of the game, players give themselves the best chance to succeed. ISA Cricket is an all-day summer sport, making physical fitness essential for success.
NB: Amateurs train until they get it right; professionals train until they cannot get it wrong.
- **SPX Cricket players, coaches, parents, and supporters all represent St Pius X College.** Therefore, all behaviour must reflect the College’s ethos and standards.
- **SPX Cricket representation serves as a leadership pathway within the College.** Whether or not a player holds an official leadership role, representing the 1st or 2nd XI distinguishes the player within their year group.
- **SPX Cricket upholds the legacy of the 2/33rd Australian Infantry Battalion who served our nation with honour during WWII.** We will play with tenacity and determination, always striving to “Strike Hard” while embracing the values of Courage, Initiative, Respect, and Teamwork.