



COLOURS CONSTITUTION

COMPILED BY: A.BURGER 2007
AMMENDED: OCTOBER 2012
AMMENDED : APRIL 2014
AMMENDED MARCH 2016

1. **Legislative Framework:**

Constitution of the Republic of South Africa no 108 of 1996 as amended
National Education Policy Act no 27 of 1996, as amended.
South African Schools Act no 84 of 1996, as amended.

2. **Name:**

This constitution means the establishment of a committee to address the issue of awarding learners with school colours and awards under the constitution drawn up for the Colours Committee as of November 2007. Hereunder the Colours Committee will be referred to as the CC.)

3. **Aims and Objectives:**

The CC will by way of regular meetings seek to recognize nominated learners in the appropriate season, especially those who have achieved excellence in curricular and extra-curricula codes. The CC will objectively evaluate nominations in terms of the criteria set out in this constitution, such that nominated learners will receive the recognition they deserve in a fair and equal manner. This constitution thus seeks to put in place, the criteria for recognition as well as the reasons and right to withhold recognition for excellence where such nomination is deemed to be in contravention of the constitution criteria.

4. **Areas of recognition:**

The following areas of recognition have been identified in school facilitated activities:

- Academic field
- Cultural field
- Sports field *
- Leadership (see point 18)

Special care has been made to ensure that the standards required for recognition are of equal significance in all of the above areas and as a result serious consideration must be given prior to changing the criteria as set out in points 11, 12, 13 and 14. In addition the steps outlined in point 10 need to be adhered to.

***(A special category of general sport achievement is also considered where the sport falls outside of those presented in the current school sports codes.)**

5. **Nature of awards:**

Three levels of recognition have been identified, namely:

1. **Team colours** in the form of a coloured metal lapel badge.

Designated bar colouring:

- Academic achievement - Red (gold writing)
- Cultural achievement - Black (gold writing)
- Sports achievement - White (gold writing)

2. **Half colours** in the form of the black school blazer, a relevant scroll and red braiding.

3. **Full colours** in the form of the black school blazer, an honours pocket badge, a relevant scroll and red and white twisted braiding.

6. **Convenors of the CC:**

Senior Academic – H.O.D. Intersen Phase – Mrs. S-K and Ms. Makunyane
Junior Academic – H.O.D. Foundation Phase – Mrs. Potgieter
Cultural – Mr. Mostert and Mrs. van Wyk
Sport – Mr. Mashigo

7. **Quorum at CC Meetings:**

The CC meeting will be chaired by the relevant convenor.
The principal or appointed SMT member will attend.
The heads of the specific codes or groups must attend.
The coach or nominator must also attend.

Staff must be informed of impending CC meetings at least 48 hours in advance of such a meeting being held. This being so that alternate arrangements regarding practices, meetings and personal arrangements can be made.

8. **Frequency of CC Meetings:**

The CC will convene when required, in the appropriate season or term when awards need to be made. Such meetings should not be called later than two weeks before the end of each term.

9. **Manner of nominations:**

Nominations are to be handed in writing to the appropriate convenor of the CC at least 3 days prior to such a meeting being called. Where possible, proof of achievement should accompany the nomination. Where nominations are not supported by the attendance of the proposer the CC reserves the right not to award the recognition, or to call on the nominator. Nominations and discussion thereof will be minuted for future reference purposes.

10. **Withholding of recognition by the CC:**

The CC will reserve the right to withhold the awarding of recognition or removing of such recognition to a learner where the following areas are deemed to have been contravened:

- Display of poor behaviour and attitude on an ongoing basis by the nominee.
- Insubordination and encouragement of dissent towards coaches and/or parents.
- Swearing, poor sportsmanship and fighting.

11. **Changes to the Constitution:**

It is not in the interest of the objective handling of awards that this constitution be tampered with on a regular basis. However, when the need arises the constitution may be amended in the following manner:

- A code committee (single sports code or cultural code) at Brackenhurst Primary School convenes a meeting to discuss the proposal. The proposal is deemed to be a fine tuning of the recognition process in terms of changes at zonal, provincial or national level. The proposed change must carry a unanimous code vote.
- A CC "all code" meeting is convened with all convenors and interested staff present at which the proposal is tabled and discussed. A unanimous decision in favour will be required to ratify the change.
- A CC meeting was convened on 17 March 2016 and by agreement of the full committee changes have been made to team colours' badges being given to Grade 7's at the end of the year as well as

badges ; scrolls and braiding being given free of charge for general sport's awards.

12. **Criteria for Academic recognition:**

12.1. **Criteria for Foundation Phase recognition:**

Foundation Phase has a separate policy of recognition culminating in children being recognised for various academic awards at the Foundation Phase Honours evening at the end of each year.

12.2. **Criteria for Intersen recognition:**

Team colours:

Two categories of learners will be eligible for these:

- A learner who has attained an average over all subjects of 80% or higher (Grade 4 – 6) or 75% or higher (Grade 7), for three terms in one calendar year, namely Term 1 ; 2 and 3. If the promotion average is above 80% (Grade 4 -6) or 75% (Grade 7) and the child has not achieved the required average in one calendar year these merits will be carried forward to the next academic year for consideration should the child achieve the required average.
- A learner who has attained an average over all subjects of 80% or higher (Grade 4 – 6) or 75% or higher (Grade 7), for three terms, but not necessarily three consecutive terms.
- Year marks or promotion marks are not taken into consideration when calculating the number of merits achieved.

Half colours:

Two categories of learners will be eligible for these:

- A learner who has attained an average over all subjects of 80% or higher (Grade 4 – 6) or 75% or higher (Grade 7), for six consecutive terms, namely Terms 1-3 for the whole of Grade 4 and 5.
- A learner who has attained an average over all subjects of 80% or higher (Grade 4 – 6) or 75% or higher (Grade 7), for six terms, but not necessarily six consecutive terms.

Full colours:

Two categories of learners will be eligible for these:

- A learner who has attained an average over all subjects of 80% or higher (Grade 4 – 6) or 75% or higher (Grade 7), for nine consecutive terms, namely Terms 1 -3 for the whole of Grade 4 ; 5 and 6.
- A learner who has attained an average over all subjects of 80% or higher (Grade 4 – 6) or 75% or higher (Grade 7), for nine terms, but not necessarily nine consecutive terms.
- Learners who achieve a re-award of full colours will be issued with a scroll for every re-award obtained.
- Learners who achieve a "full house" of merits namely 12 consecutive merit awards Term 1 - 3 from Grade 4 - 7 will be awarded a Golden Merit at honours evening of their Grade 7 year. This award comprises a trophy and a certificate.

NB: THE LEARNER AVERAGE WOULD NOT BE WORKED OUT AS A STRAIGHT FORWARD AGGREGATE BUT WILL BE A WEIGHTED AVERAGE BASED ON THE NUMBER OF PERIODS FOR EACH LEARNING AREA e.g.

English 8 periods out of a possible 56 periods per cycle.
Thus if a child obtains 80 % it would be calculated as:
 $(8 \times 80) \div 56 = 11,4 \%$.
In order to achieve a merit the percentage must add to 80.

13. Discretionary awards by the CC:

The CC reserves the right to fast track a new learner to the school in terms of academic colours. This may be done when a learner enters the school between Grade 5 and 7 and consistently achieves a top 5 position with an average of above 80 % (Grade 5 -6) or 75% Grade 7.

14. Criteria for Cultural recognition:

The criteria for an activity **must** be read out to the meeting prior to consideration of nominations:

Cultural colours:

Cultural colours would encompass a wide range of activities including the following as part of the array:

- Eisteddfod
- Drama and Productions
- Choir
- Art
- Music and percussion
- Dance

Team colours:

- Eisteddfod: At least one diploma and 2 gold certificates in any items. Group or individual item.
- In the event of a child receiving only gold certificates but no diplomas, three gold certificates will count as one diploma, thus such a child would receive team colours should they have been awarded five gold certificates. Group or individual.
- Item winner – Group item
- Grade 7 learners exiting the school will receive recognition in the form of a letter only for team colours, should this award

only be achieved towards the end of the Grade 7 year. However, should a Grade 7 learner wish to obtain a team colours badge this may be purchased from the school.

- Productions: Consider on merit the performances of lead characters in the production. They must have shown skills in one of the following disciplines:- Dance, singing and acting
- Choir: Chosen to sing in an outside choir e.g Cantare Children's Choir.

Half colours:

- Eisteddfod:
 - Item winner (**individual item**) or
 - 3 Diplomas for any **individual** items
 - 9 Gold certificates for any **individual** items.
- Productions: Consider on merit the performances of lead characters in the production. They must have shown excellence in two of the following disciplines:- Dance, singing and acting

Full colours:

- Eisteddfod:
 - Section winner (top 3 in section) - **individual** or
 - 6 Diplomas for any **individual** items or
 - 18 Gold certificates for any **individual** items.
 - 5 Diplomas or 15 gold certificates for any **individual** items **and** 1 item winner
- These criteria are also applicable to learners who belong to private speech and drama studios which they attend outside of school hours.
- These criteria are also applicable to learners who enter the Alberton dance eisteddfod through dance studios in disciplines such as ballet, modern dance, tap dance, hip hop and Spanish dance.
- Choir: Chosen to sing for an international choir. Such children must attend practices and participate in such a choir for a full year.

- PLEASE NOTE: In order to be considered as a section winner in any cultural discipline the child must have competed in a section comprising of more than 300 competitors.
- No child who competes in a novice or beginner section of an Eisteddfod or competition for any discipline in the cultural field will be considered for any colours.
- Only the Alberton Eisteddfod for dance and the Eisteddfod held at the Alberton College qualify a child for dancing colours, however if a child competes in both eisteddfods in the same item any award obtained will only be recognised once.
- Learners who achieve a re-award of full colours will be issued with a scroll for every re-award obtained.

15. **Criteria for Sporting recognition:**

The criteria of a code **must** be read out to the meeting prior to consideration of nominations.

Athletics and Cross Country:

- Team colours: Qualify at Alberton Championships
- Half colours: Qualify at District Championships (D16/D6)
- Full colours: Provincial or National colours

Soccer:

- Team colours: Win Alberton League (whole team). Player must have played in approximately 80 % of the matches during the course of the season to qualify for team colours.
Selection for Alberton Team (individual)
- Half colours: Selection for District Team (Bill Stewart Festival) (individual)
- Full colours: Selection for Provincial or National team (individual)

Cricket:

- Team colours: Win Alberton League (whole team) Player must have played in approximately 80 % of the matches during the course of the season to qualify for team colours.

Selection to 2nd or 3rd round trials (individual)

- Half colours: Selection for District Team- South East Rand team (individual)
- Full colours: Selection for Provincial or National team (individual)

Netball:

- Team colours: Win Alberton League (whole team) Player must have played in approximately 80 % of the matches during the course of the season to qualify for team colours.
Selection Alberton Team (individual)
- Half colours: Selection for District Team (individual)
- Full colours: Selection for Provincial or National team (individual)

Tennis:

- Team colours: Win Alberton League (whole team) Player must have played in approximately 80 % of the matches during the course of the season to qualify for team colours.
Win School championships (individual)
- Half colours: Alberton area– top 5 (singles ranking)
- Full colours: Provincial ranking – top 10 (singles ranking)
National squad

Chess:

- Team colours: Win **the league** (whole team) Player must have played in approximately 80 % of the matches during the course of the season to qualify for team colours.
Win School championships (individual)
- Half colours: Selection for District Team (individual) **and / or players who obtain 22 points required to be eligible for the EGJC squad.**
- Full colours: Selection for Provincial or National team (individual)

General Sport:

- When a child qualifies for general sports colours full recognition will be given at the appropriate honours gathering and a certificate will be issued. Braiding, scrolls and lapel badges will be for the individuals account and can be purchased from the relevant person at school.
- Proof of achievements in sporting codes which fall under "General Sport" must be submitted by the due dates as indicated in the newsletters in order for the award to be recognised in that calendar year.
- The criteria should be broadly based on the criteria laid down for school sporting codes
- Certificates or letters as proof of qualification for the various categories of awards must be presented.
- If a sporting code is offered by the school e.g. athletics ; soccer; netball then the child must play for the school as well as an outside club if he or she wishes to be considered eligible for general sport colours.

- Team colours: Win league (whole team) Player must have played in approximately 80 % of the matches during the course of the season to qualify for team colours.
 Win club championships (individual)
 - Half colours: Selection for a District team (individual)
 - Full colours: Selection for Provincial or National team (individual)

16. **General coaches discretionary clause:**

If the coach, trainer or advisor is of sufficient conviction, and is willing to strongly substantiate and motivate, individuals may be nominated for an award should they fail to meet the standards set out in points 11 through 14. The CC, however, reserves the right to make the final decision such that a precedent is not set for future nominations.

17. **Lodging of complaint:**

Any queries or complaints regarding recognition of learners must be put in writing and handed to the principal. Complaints will be tabled and considered at the next seasonal CC meeting.

18. **Issuing of awards:**

Academic merit awards are to be made at a duly convened merit assembly which will take place at the start of term 2 and 3. Parents of learners who receive awards will be invited to such an assembly via a letter sent home with the child. If only team colours are to be awarded to a learner these will be presented at a duly convened morning honours assembly at the end of the year. Other awards which will be presented at this assembly may include "Most improved players", and progress and diligence awards. The school will keep stock of the honours pocket badge, relevant scrolls, braiding as well as the metal lapel pins. These will be issued to the learners as part of the colours award, except in the case of Grade 7's who receive such awards at the last honours evening of Grade 7, however should a learner require a replacement item for whatever reason these will be sold to the learners on presentation of their awards letter. The school will not be responsible for the costs incurred in the purchasing of a blazer or any of the abovementioned items.

19. **Automatic recognition:**

Leadership:

- All learner reps who have no other colours will receive white braiding for their blazer, if however a child already has either half or full colours, they are only to sew the white braiding onto the arms of their blazer.

20. **Esprit de Corps**

With effect 2012 we will be awarding a new trophy namely the Brendan Muller "Esprit de Corps" award. This award will be given to a Grade 7 learner who fully encompasses the spirit and ethos of Brackenhurst Primary School. This is a highly prestigious award and the child's entire school career will be taken into consideration.

21. **Re-awards:**

Where a learner qualifies for a re-award of full, half or team colours, they will be called onto the stage, and congratulated for their achievements along with the learners receiving new awards. A letter of congratulations will be handed over to them, explaining that this is a re-award. No duplication of scrolls or badges will however be given.

This constitution was passed at a Governing Body meeting held on 12 November 2007 and is to remain intact until further changes or amendments are agreed to by all parties concerned.

The amendments to this constitution were passed at a Governing Body meeting which was held on 24 October 2012 and will remain intact until further changes or amendments are agreed to by all parties concerned.