



Prospectus 2024



"It's more than just a game"

Overview and Rationale

In 2007, the very first Academy curriculum class was established with 24 keen Year 8 students engaged in learning about the intricacies of Indoor and Beach Volleyball. I am pleased to announce that in 2024 the Academy class will again be opened up to students who meet the criteria and standards set down by the Academy coaching and management staff. Many schools operate “Excellence programs” that aim to develop students in specific areas of expertise. The Craigslea Volleyball Academy (CVA) is based on the operating principles of those programs with school specific variations that are relevant for our school and importantly, our local community.

The framework for the Academy was laid over a quarter of a century ago by the founder of the program, Randel Robertson. His devotion to the sport has resulted in the school being viewed nationally as one of Australia’s premier Volleyball schools. There have been hundreds of Craigslea students who have represented not only their school, but also their district, region and state since the early eighties, with some players going on to national representative honours. Since the inception of the Australian Schools Volleyball Championships in 1984, Craigslea has been the only Queensland school to attend all 36 events and has consistently been the most successful Queensland school, winning the overall title of National champion in 1989. We currently have a state ranking of 1st and national ranking of 3rd. As a school we are incredibly proud of these results and strive to achieve excellence every time we compete.

A driving force behind the formation of the Craigslea Volleyball Academy is the fact that the school accepts and acknowledges the sport as being an important part of its history. Many excellence programs begin from a less than solid historical base and come unstuck through lack of support and commitment from the core participants. The Craigslea Volleyball Academy is not significantly different from the program that was first established and as such will continue to reflect the way it has operated in previous years. That is, it remains the domain of the students and is open to all interested players and not just to the sporting elite. The current program has around 230 players with 15 teaching staff and over 20 ex-students forming the core of the coaching group. The Academy class is an extension of this existing framework managed and operated by the Academy’s Program Manager and its coaching staff - Tim Walsh, Tenielle Payne, Michaela Campbell Shannon McCartney and Connor Rudder.

Furthermore, with the development of the 2 court Beach Volleyball facility in late 2006, we are well resourced in both disciplines and can truly claim that we can promote the development of players in all aspects of the sport. We were the first school in Australia to have fully equipped indoor and outdoor facilities.

Finally, the Academy recognises and acknowledges Volleyball as a unique identifier for Craigslea State High School. The establishment and ongoing commitment to a structured program provides us with the format that links directly to peak support bodies such as Norths Volleyball League club, Volleyball Queensland, Queensland Academy of Sport and Volleyball Australia. This provides those students who have a genuine commitment to the sport with an opportunity to pursue volleyball along the many pathways that now exist. This includes the option of pursuing the sport as a career, as have a number of our past students.

Tim Walsh
HOD HPE and Sport
CVA Program Manager

Aims and Objectives

- To provide students who have identified sporting skills and talent with an opportunity to develop their inherent and potential skills and to expose them to all facets and disciplines of Volleyball.
- To develop a course of study in Volleyball that will not only allow students to develop skill and tactical excellence, but also have the support and endorsement of peak bodies such as the Queensland Volleyball Association, Queensland Academy of Sport and Sandstorm.
- To develop young people through interactions based on personal challenge, collaborative group work and team dynamics.
- To ensure that the strong culture of sporting excellence developed over time is maintained and strengthened.

Class Organisation

In 2024, two specifically selected classes of **24 to 30** Year 7, 8 and 9 students will engage in a curriculum offering in the two disciplines of Volleyball. In Year 10 we have one selective entry curriculum class. The makeup of the class, where possible, will provide a balance between males and females selected to participate in the course of study. Students will engage in performance and theoretical content to fully immerse students in the CVA curriculum and culture. Examples of the content of the course from Year 7 to Year 9 include:

- Game-play and strategic development
- Fitness and training program design (including nutrition for sport)
- Umpiring, general officiating and tournament design
- Skill analysis and evaluation
- Game analysis and tactical appreciation
- Cross training activities
- Sport Psychology
- Coaching and tutoring young players
- Sports injuries - prevention and cure

The students will study the sport for **3 x 70 minute lessons per week** during normal class time and also train with a school team for 2 sessions a week, before and after school for around 90 minutes a session.

Students who choose the Academy subject offering will be given leniency with regard to the extra training sessions to allow them every opportunity to “settle in” to high school and to avoid fatigue and overtraining.



Assessment and Reporting

For the curriculum subject of Volleyball, students will be assessed using current HPE criteria and standards ensuring that there is comparability across all subject areas. Whilst the majority of the work in Volleyball will be practical in nature, all written tasks will be assessed and will contribute to the overall result in the subject for each term. An integral part of the assessment will be the completion of a Volleyball diary that details all work completed by the student during the semester.

Reports will be issued indicating up to date profiles on the student's performance:

- School progress report (Term 1)
- Semester report (Semester 1 and 2)
- Volleyball specific report (Semester 1)

Application Procedures

- Complete the attached Application Form and return to the school either by email or through the Enrolment Interview process.
- Applications accepted up to **Friday 8 September 2023**
- Suitable applicants will be shortlisted (if numbers are excessive) and interviewed after written applications are received.
- Once applications have been received, all participants will complete a series of Fitness and Skill trials based on the specific requirements of Volleyball. In 2023, 2 days have been set aside to complete this regime of testing. All prospective participants will receive a Confirmation of Attendance letter prior to the testing dates. The trial dates for 2023 will be

Trial 1 : Tuesday 12 September 2023

Trial 2 : Wednesday 13 September 2023

- Final approval will be given by the Principal of Craigslea State High School before families are notified in writing by the end of Term 3, 2023.

Selection Criteria

- Previous involvement in the sport - Primary Schools Cup, School based HPE, Queensland Volleyball Association sponsored development courses

General Sporting Qualities

- Potential in Volleyball - power, strength, agility, aerobic capacity, speed, co-ordination
- Coachability - focus, determination, drive, commitment to success, team orientation
- Achievement in related sporting activities - for example, sports played and level of representative achievement reached

Personal Qualities

- An ability to work with others
- An ability to learn, take direction and work in a group context
- A proven record of attitude, industry and behaviour in a school community
- A desire to succeed in Volleyball and to reach their potential

