

## AIR QUALITY POLICY

### EISM Policy Statement

#### **Title: Safe levels of Fine Particle Matter (PM2.5) units for outdoor sport competitions**

**Preamble:** EISM exists as a diverse group of schools located in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne, seeking to participate in weekday competitions and day-long carnivals, in a range of sports, most commonly held within typical school hours. Sporting competitions are organised around year (or multiple year) groupings. As an organisation, possibilities for the expansion of its offering include exploration of non-sport and cultural activity options.

**Aim:** This policy aims to provide guidelines relating to Air Quality Index (AQI) for the safe levels of Fine Particle Matter (PM2.5) for EISM sport competitions.

**Assumptions:** An understanding of the extent to which some or all of these assumptions apply to each member school is delegated to each school to establish in their own context.

1. Many sport competitions are played outdoors
2. Policies around Air Quality and sporting competitions may vary according to age and level of competition
3. Air Quality Index is measured daily
4. The AQI is the data value expressed as a percentage of the level specified by the National Environment Protection **Measure** for Ambient **Air** (NEPM) standard.
5. Children (including teenagers) are identified as a sensitive group relating to the AQI
6. Air Quality Index data can be accessed via a number of apps
7. Air Quality Index Levels include;  
Level 1 - Good (0-50 PM2.5)  
Level 2 - Moderate (51-100 PM2.5)  
Level 3 - Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (101-150 PM2.5)  
Level 4 - Unhealthy (151-200 PM2.5)  
Level 5 – Very Unhealthy (201-300 PM2.5)

**Agreed Procedures:** In a spirit of collegiality between the member schools of EISM, the following principles have been established for implementation.

1. EISM to assess PM2.5 levels daily using a recognised AQI app.
2. EISM to suspend all sport by 8.00am and schools notified if PM2.5 levels are predicted to reach Level 3: Unhealthy for Sensitive Groups (101-150 PM2.5) by 1.30pm on the day of EISM sport
3. Coaches and Officials to assess Air Quality reading from available app data before competition commences
4. Coaches/Officials to monitor and assess Air Quality reading for all sport when AQI reaches Level 2: Moderate (51-100 PM2.5) Play may be suspended – Coaches and Officials to determine at the venue, depending on local conditions.

**Agreed to:** by EISM Board on 26 march 2020