



ISASA

Independent Schools Association of Southern Africa

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MEMORANDUM

To:	All ISASA Members Schools
From:	ISASA Policy Unit
Date:	16 February 2021
Subject:	Department of Basic Education Consolidated Regulations

1. Introduction

The Department of Basic Education (DBE) recently consolidated its Directions (Gazette Number 44154) and these were gazetted on Friday, 12 February 2021. According to the DBE, the Directions were consolidated with a view to remove all redundant and obsolete matters from the original Directions published in 2020 in order to create legal certainty for the 2021 academic year. The Consolidated Directions repeal the 23 June 2020 Directions and all other Amended Directions that were published thereafter.

The purpose of this memorandum is to draw attention only to the salient parts of the DBE Consolidated Directions that were amended or are new as a result of the consolidation process. This memorandum does not include amendments that are not relevant to independent schools.

2. Amendments

2.1 **Opening of schools**

There will be no phased return of grades with school re-openings. Since schools closed with a full cohort of students in 2020, they may recommence with year with all grades enrolled in-person.

2.2 **Sport and Extracurricular activities**

2.2.1 The DBE Amended Directions of 21 October 2020 (Gazette Number 43826) provided as follows regarding **inter-school non-contact sport matches**:

*“(10) Subject to sub-direction (10A) and compliance with social distancing, hygiene and safety measures to prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19, non-contact sport training, **inter-school non-contact sport matches** and non-contact sport-related activities and arts and culture school-based activities in schools, **may resume without any spectators.**”*

Quality Values Diversity

Executive Director: Lebogang Montjane

Executive Committee: G Forsman (Chair) G Brown D Geral D M Hunter L Montjane B Heidmann M Boden N Khoele A Jammie G Harris

NPC Reg. No. 1999/019655/08 • PBO Reg. No. 9300 00674

2.2.2 The DBE Consolidated Directions have amended this provision regarding **non-contact sport training and matches**:

*“11(1) Subject to sub-direction (2) and in compliance with social distancing, hygiene and safety measures to prevent and combat the spread of COVID-19, **non-contact sport training and matches**, non-contact sport-related activities and all arts and culture school-based activities in schools, **may resume without any spectators.**”*

2.2.3 The Consolidated Directions has effectively suspended inter-school non-contact matches. What this means is that intra-school matches are permitted.

2.2.4 The DBE Amended Consolidated Directions provided as follows regarding **non-contact sport that required learners to travel to other school or provinces**:

*“(10D) Subject to compliance with the Regulations for Safety Measures in Public Schools, as published under Government Notice No. 1040 in Government Gazette No. 22754 of 12 October 2001, national championships and tournaments for non-contact sport that require learners to travel to other schools or provinces **may resume.**”*

2.2.5 The DBE Consolidated Directions provide as follows regarding **non-contact sport that require learners to travel to other schools or provinces**:

*(5) Subject to compliance with the Regulations for Safety Measures in Public Schools, as published under Government Notice No. 1040 in Government Gazette No. 22754 of 12 October 2001, **national championships and tournaments for non-contact sport that require learners to travel to other schools or provinces is suspended under Adjusted Alert Level 3.***

2.2.6 The Consolidated Directions have effectively cancelled national championships and tournaments for non-contact sport that require learners to travel to other schools or provinces.

What does this mean for independent schools?

- There is no phasing in of grades when schools reopen. Schools will resume the same way they closed for the December holidays in 2020.
- Non-contact intra-school sport matches are permitted.
- Non-contact inter-school sport matches have been suspended.
- National championships and tournaments for non-contact sport that require learners to travel to other schools or provinces have been suspended.

Please contact Confidence Dikgole, Director: Policy & Government Relations at confidenced@isasa.org with any questions relating to this memorandum.