Dear Parents,

Our planning for the 2013 Australian Schools Cup is well under way. We have finished going through the coach and player feedback sheets from last year’s event. There was excellent information in these feedback sheets to use in our planning for this year's event in order to make us even better. We thank both our players and our coaches for taking the time to help us improve our program each year.

State League/League Reserve/Div 1 and Junior League competitions are now well under way so we have a clear indication of the players who are making a commitment to volleyball and therefore the Melbourne trip. We also have a large group of dedicated coaches looking after all of the teams in preparation for Melbourne. It is now a very important part of the planning process to find out which players are able to absolutely commit to the Australian Schools Cup for 2013.

We need a personal and financial commitment for:

- The State Cup, (2nd, 3rd, 4th August)
- The Nationals in Melbourne (7th—14th December)
- And, the trainings after school that these competitions will involve.
  - State Cup Tournament - Term 2 weeks 6,7,8,9,10 and week 1 term 3
  - Australian Schools Cup Term 4 week 1,2,3,4,6,7,8

Your “intention to compete” will be lodged via the completion and return of the attached note and the payment of $145 (AVSC deposit $100, State Cup payment $45) due by Friday 24th May (Week 4 term 2).

This deposit will be refunded if a player cannot attend the Nationals due to injury or sickness under the conditions below.

*The deposit will not be returned* if a player does not make the team they are aiming for but are placed in a suitable team with their peers. With potentially 29 teams and a very stringent and ongoing selection process which tries very hard to do the best for both players and the overall squad we cannot guarantee that all players will make the team they are aiming for. In fact this is impossible. Making and not making teams is a sporting reality and a reality sport’s people have to accept.

Our history is full of players who finally made it (and made it big time) through perseverance and a good deal of determination. These are our truly great players. As parents we seek your support in this notion.

Clearly bookings have to be made now; our planning for the 2013 event will not be able to consider any player who has not returned their intention to compete note and the $145.00 payment by Friday 24th May.

If there is any difficulty with the deposit please contact the school bursar Cathy Farrent to make alternative payment arrangements.

The cost will be around the $950.00 mark which is again considerably less than other schools. This is an educated guess at this stage as the bus company has reserved the right to increase their charge due to the fuel prices and a change in driver structure. The cost includes transport, dinner at a restaurant in Lygon Street on the Saturday night we arrive in Melbourne, match and nomination fees, dinner, bed and breakfast, tea the last night before we leave; photographs, DVD, physiotherapy supplies and the occasional treat. The increase is nearly all due to significant accommodations costs rises along with the normal increase in all other costs as well.
The school will post an invoice which will include the deposit for the AVSC ($100) and State Cup payment ($45). The remaining balance will follow when the final cost has been confirmed. Parents are welcome to start making payments in stages and also to pay by credit card on a monthly basis if desired. (This facility is very useful and is used by many families as it saves big bills just before Christmas.)

We ask that your family discusses your child’s participation in this event so that as a family you are happy to commit to the payment and the term 2, 3 and 4 training regime. Once we have a definite list of players we can go the next step with the coaches, managers and teachers.

**Please note that players cannot be considered in further planning for this event unless the $100 deposit and a firm indication of attendance is received from their family by Friday 24th May**

Please remember the Melbourne trip fund raising QUIZ NIGHT.
Friday 25th October—tickets available from the 12th August.
Students can make over $100 / table.

For parents planning on attending the competition the playing dates are
Opening ceremony Sunday evening 8th December—Finals on Friday 13th December.
All parents are invited to our “Big Team” final presentation meeting at 8.30pm at
Ormond College on Friday 13th December.
We will arrive back at school on Saturday 14th December at 9.00am.

**State Cup 2013**

**SA School Championships (State Cup):**

The State Cup is the most important school state volleyball event on our calendar. It is the qualifying event for the National Schools Cup in Melbourne. If we do well in the South Australian State Cup we are allowed to enter teams in the elite higher divisions at the nationals. If we do poorly then we have to enter in the lower divisions. We may even have trouble entering teams if our teams do not show themselves to be at a level that would be expected at the National Schools Cup level.

**Getting into a State Cup team:**

If you intend competing in Melbourne you need to be selected in a team for the State Cup. The attached consent notes and money are due Friday 24th May to the school cashier. The first draft of the State Cup teams will be posted on the sports centre notice board before the deposit is due and therefore subject to change according to the responses from the “intention to compete” forms.

**State Cup team training:**

State Cup teams will commence training with their coaches in week 6 of term 2. Teams will train once or twice a week. When and where will be determined by the teams and their coach and options will include training before or after school.

Please note players can lose their place in their team if they do not attend their team trainings. **If you have to miss training because of a doctor’s appointment or something equally important you must see Lachy Stuart or Peter BEFORE THE TRAINING.** We expect full attendance at all trainings and rolls will be taken. The coaches have made a commitment for State Cup and National Schools Cup. We are training to defend our **NATIONAL TITLE OF AUSTRALIA.**

**State Cup tournament:**

All players will be required to play on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
We will supply buses on the Friday to get you down to your venue. Teams will finish at varying time on Friday and players will need to organize their own transport home.

If you have other sport during the weekend you will have to work times with your coaches. Volleyball SA will try to minimize matches that will clash with junior football, netball and soccer but, realize Volleyball SA have a major national qualifying tournament to run in 3 days. If you cannot play your team may have to forfeit matches. We will help with this if we can, if we receive enough notice.
Volleyball Quiz Night:

The Heathfield Volleyball Program with help from parents hold a quiz night to raise money for the Melbourne trip. This quiz night is big with 50 plus tables, great fun and is very special because all the money raised by the players is kept by the players. If your child raises $120 through ticket sales and the money left in the centre of their table at the end of the night then they keep that money. We do ask that parents help with the supply of prizes and these can be left at the volleyball office at any time.

Stuart Scott
SIV Manager

Lachy Abbott
SIV Teacher

AUSTRALIAN VOLLEYBALL SCHOOLS CUP DEPOSIT and STATES SCHOOL CUP Payment
I wish ___________________ (Student’s name) to be considered for a position in a team for the 2013 National Schools Cup.

- States Schools Cup 2nd – 4th August 2013
- This tournament is in Melbourne we depart on 7th – arrive back 14th Dec 2013.
- We enclose a AVSC deposit and State Cup payment of $145 (Payable to the school cashier)
- With the understanding that deposit refunds may be refunded in line with the team selection criteria as outlined above.

Parent/Caregiver Signature:.................................................................

Return with deposit to the cashier’s office by Friday 24th May 2013