

# **MECS HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS POLICY**

**(Updated August 2024)**

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## 1. AWARDS COMMITTEE:

The Awards Committee comprises of the following:

- Principal
- Deputy Principal (HS + PS)
- Chairperson/s
- Relevant organiser/s
- Relevant teacher representative/s

## 2. MEETINGS:

- The Awards Committee has the right to call an extraordinary meeting where situations which are not covered by this policy arise.
- Such a meeting will be for exceptional circumstances only.
- This meeting must be attended by all members of the committee.
- The meeting cannot take place without the Chairperson/s.
- Minutes must be taken at each meeting.
- If any changes to the policy is suggested, it must be communicated with the staff as a whole before finalising the decision and amending the policy.

## 3. PROCEDURE:

- The staff member in charge of an activity must present nominations in writing to the Chairperson/s.
- Based on the criteria in this policy, awards will be made accordingly.
- In the case of a discrepancy, Members of the Awards Committee are the only persons allowed to vote and the Chairperson/s has the casting vote.

## **4. TASK OF THE COMMITTEE, NATURE OF AWARDS AND GENERAL CRITERIA:**

- The committee must ensure that criteria for awards remain consistent from year to year and that standards are acceptably high.
- Guidelines will exist for different activities. These guidelines should, as far as possible, be standardized for all activities. These guidelines may be amended before the start of an activity, but only with the approval of the committee.
- If a new activity is to be considered for awards, selection criteria and awards criteria must be submitted to the Chairperson/s in writing, whereafter the committee will have a meeting.
- The committee must ensure that criteria are made known to pupils and uploaded to the website.
- If a pupil is suspended, he/she will not be allowed to attend prize giving ceremonies until the suspension is lifted.
- A pupil who is selected to a Provincial or National team but does not actually represent that team will not necessarily qualify for the appropriate award. The chairperson/s will review the reasons for a learner not participating.
- Changes to the policy will only affect future award recipients, and no awards from previous years will be awarded (before changes were made).

## **5. VOTING:**

- A proposal will be carried by simple majority.
- There must be a minimum of 4 members present.

## 6. INSIGNIA:

### 6.1 Half-Colours

- Awarded in Grades 8 to 12
- Red and Black Scroll

### 6.2 Full Colours

- Awarded in Grades 8 to 12
- Red and Gold scroll

### 6.3 Junior Honours

- Awarded in Grades 8 and 9
- Black and Gold scroll
- If learner took part in senior equivalent of Honours, then they may only start wearing a White Blazer in Grade 10.

### 6.4 Senior Honours

- Awarded in Grades 10, 11 and 12
- White blazer
- Black and Gold scroll
- Half Colour or Full Colour scrolls may be worn on honours white blazer.

### 6.5 Re-award of Senior Honours

- Black and Gold scroll
- Braid around blazer

### 6.6 Different Scrolls

- Academics
- Archery
- Athletics
- Debate
- Netball
- Soccer
- Chess
- Culture (Any other culture events, e.g. Bosveld Kunstefees, etc.)
- Sport (Any non-school sports, e.g. cricket, tennis, etc.)

## 7. PRIZE GIVING/ AWARDS CEREMONY

- A combined awards ceremony will be held early December.
- All learners achieving half colours, full colours, honours and re-award of honours will be invited.
- Participation certificates will be handed out during assembly after the relevant season has ended. All learners that took part in the relevant sport/discipline will receive a small participation certificate. (Except in cases like Bosveld Kunstefees, which is a single event, where learners already received certificates)
- Learners who achieved honours will receive the letter for the white blazer during assembly as soon as the relevant season is over. Their badges and certificates will only be handed out during the awards ceremony.

## 8. ACADEMIC AWARDS

### 8.1 Top 5 Awards

- Awarded to learners from Grade 8 to Grade 12
- Made according to final report mark of Term 1,2 and 3.
- Top 5 learners in each grade
- Lists available from Deirdre

### 8.2 End-of-year Academic Awards

#### 8.2.1 Half-colours

- Grade 8: scores a minimum total of 640 marks (8 subj); 720 marks (9 subj); 800 marks (10 subj) on final report mark. *(80% average)*
- Grade 9: scores a minimum total of 640 marks (8 subj); 720 marks (9 subj); 800 marks (10 subj) on final report mark. *(80% average)*
- Grade 10: scores a minimum total of 525 marks on the final report mark. *(75% average)*
- Grade 11: scores a minimum total 525 marks on the final report mark. *(75% average)*
- Grade 12: scores a minimum total 525 marks on the SBA report mark. *(75% average)*

#### 8.2.2 Full-Colours

- Grade 8: scores a minimum total of 680 marks (8 subj); 765 marks (9 subj); 850 marks (10 subj) on final report mark. *(85% average)*
- Grade 9: scores a minimum total of 680 marks (8 subj); 765 marks (9 subj); 850 marks (10 subj) on final report mark. *(85% average)*
- Grade 10: scores a minimum total of 560 marks including three or more subject distinctions on the final report mark. *(80% average)*
- Grade 11: scores a minimum total of 560 marks including three or more subject distinctions on the final report mark. *(80% average)*
- Grade 12: scores a minimum total of 560 marks including three or more subject distinctions on the SBA report mark. *(80% average)*

#### 8.2.3 Honours

- Grade 10: scores a minimum total of 560 marks including seven subject distinctions on the final report mark. *(80% average)*
- Grade 11: scores a minimum total of 560 marks including seven subject distinctions on the final report mark. *(80% average)*
- Grade 12: scores a minimum total of 560 marks including seven subject distinctions on the SBA report mark. *(80% average)*

## 9. ARCHERY AWARDS

### 9.1 Participation

- Awarded to an Archer who participated in at least 4 AGA Inter School Tournaments with a total average score of 200 - 230 and attended practice regularly but did not qualify for Provincials.

### 9.2 Half-Colours:

- Awarded to an Archer who participated in at least 4 AGA Inter School Tournaments and the Provincial tournament with a total average score of 230 and above.

### 9.3 Full-Colours:

- An Archer was chosen to represent Limpopo in one of the Limpopo Provincial Teams but did not participate at Nationals.
- Can be awarded for commitment and contribution to the sport over 3 consecutive years. (Starting in grade 8)

### 9.4 Honours:

- Selected for the Limpopo Team and participated at National level.
- Selected for the South African Team and participated at international level.

## 10. ATHLETICS AWARDS

### 10.1 Participation:

- Athlete participated in all competitions (except House Sport)

### 10.2 Half-Colours:

- Selection to the Mopani District team at u/15 or u/17 level or above.
- The athlete must have shown commitment and service to the sport.
- Could be considered for athletes who have represented the school over a number of years without progressing to further levels and who have shown commitment and service to the sport.

### 10.3 Full-Colours:

- Two years of selection to the Mopani District team at u/15 or u/17 level or above.
- Achieve a medal at the Limpopo District Trials at u/17 level or above.
- Selection to the Limpopo Provincial team at u/15 or u/17 level or above and did not participate at National level.

### 10.4 Honours:

- Selection to the Limpopo Provincial team at u/15 or u/17 level or above.
- Must participate at National level to represent Limpopo.

# 11. DEBATE AWARDS

## 11.1 Participation:

- Learner takes part in 20% of the total competitions.
- Learner did not necessarily achieve specific awards.
- Any learner that fulfilled judging duties in at least 5 competitions.

## 11.2 Half-Colours:

- Learner had to take part in more than 50% of the total competitions to be eligible.
- Won Best Speaker
- Only progressed to semi-final of Mayors Cup and no further

## 11.3 Full-Colours:

- Learner had to take part in more than 50% of the total competitions to be eligible.
- Learner made it to Provincial level
- Won a trophy at any competition.
- Made it to the Final of the Mayors Cup

## 11.4 Honours:

- Learner had to take part in more than 50% of the total competitions to be eligible.
- Learner participates in debate at a National or International level.

## 12. NETBALL AWARDS

### 12.1 Participation:

- Played at least 3 games for the 1<sup>st</sup> team
- Played more than 5 games for another team.
- Player must have shown commitment and service to the sport.

### 12.2 Half-Colours:

- Played 5 games at 1<sup>st</sup> team level.
- Player must have shown commitment and service to the sport.
- Member of 1<sup>st</sup> team who is selected for a Provincial B team at u/17 level or above.

### 12.3 Full-Colours:

- Played 10 games at 1<sup>st</sup> team level.
- Player must have shown commitment and service to the sport.
- Member of 1<sup>st</sup> team who is selected for a Provincial A team at u/17 level or above.

### 12.4 Honours:

- Player that achieves Provincial A team selection at u/17 level or above and participate in National (or other equivalent) competition.
- Player that represents South Africa on an international level.

## 13. SOCCER AWARDS

### 13.1 Participation:

- Played at least 3 games for the 1<sup>st</sup> team
- Played more than 5 games for another team.
- Player must have shown commitment and service to the sport.

### 13.2 Half-Colours:

- Played 5 games at 1<sup>st</sup> team level.
- Player must have shown commitment and service to the sport.
- Member of 1<sup>st</sup> team who is selected for a Provincial B team at u/17 level or above.

### 13.3 Full-Colours:

- Played 10 games at 1<sup>st</sup> team level.
- Player must have shown commitment and service to the sport.
- Member of 1<sup>st</sup> team who is selected for a Provincial A team at u/17 level or above.

### 13.4 Honours:

- Player that achieves Provincial A team selection at u/17 level or above and participate in National (or other equivalent) competition.
- Player that represents South Africa on an international level.

## 14. CHESS AWARDS:

### 14.1 Participation:

- Played at least 3 interschool competitions.
- Player must have shown commitment and service to the sport.

### 14.2 Half-Colours:

- Played 5 interschool competitions.
- Player must have shown commitment and service to the sport.
- Player who is selected for a Provincial B team at u/17 level or above.

### 14.3 Full-Colours:

- Played 10 games at 1<sup>st</sup> team level.
- Player must have shown commitment and service to the sport.
- Member of 1<sup>st</sup> team who is selected for a Provincial A team at u/17 level or above.

### 14.4 Honours:

- Player that achieves Provincial A team selection at u/17 level or above and participate in National (or other equivalent) competition.
- Player that represents South Africa on an international level.

## 15. OTHER CULTURE RELATED AWARDS

### 15.1 Bosveld Kunstefees Awards

#### 15.1.1 Half-Colours:

- Learner that received A+++ for 2 or more items.

#### 15.1.2 Full-Colours:

- Learners that receive a trophy

### 15.2 Eisteddfod Awards

- The committee will vote on the appropriate awards. Other similar awards need to be taken into consideration when making decisions.

### 15.3 Recurring awards:

- The committee will have a meeting to discuss if it is necessary to add the specific discipline into the policy.

## **16. SPORT (NON-SCHOOL) AWARDS**

### **16.1 Full-Colours:**

- Limpopo or National Representation below u/17 level.
- Chosen for Provincial team at u/17 level or higher but did not take part in Nationals (or equivalent competition)

### **16.2 Honours:**

- Chosen for Provincial team at u/17 level or higher and participates at Nationals (or equivalent competition)

## **17. LEADERSHIP AWARDS**

- 17.1 All Prefects receive a certificate of leadership at the end of their term.
- 17.2 Handed out at Gr12 Awards Ceremony in October