



SCOTS ALL SAINTS  
COLLEGE

## SCOTS ALL SAINTS COLLEGE CATTLE SHOW TEAM 2022

*This is for all cattle team members and all students who will be in Years 9-12 in 2022 and all Agriculture scholarship students.*

Dear Parent/Guardian,

You are receiving this letter as your son or daughter has expressed an interest in becoming involved with the Scots All Saints College Cattle Show Team for the season 2022. The purpose of this letter is to inform you of what is involved and how the team works.

**Please take the time to read all of the information below carefully so you know exactly how the cattle team works.**

- The school has its own Limousin stud. The students will be involved in the running and exhibition of some of the stud cattle. They will also be involved in preparing steers for local shows and for the Sydney Royal Easter Show.
- The program will involve students breaking in, feeding, grooming and exhibiting cattle (both stud animals and steers) at Bathurst and Blayney shows. The steers will then be taken to The Sydney Royal Easter Show to compete in the Hoof and Hook Competition.
- Cattle training will take place on Monday mornings (Term 4) and Monday and Wednesday mornings (during Term 1, 2022) with training beginning at 7.00am on these mornings. Day students from the Middle School need to be dropped off to the Scots Campus farm and will catch the school bus to the All Saints Campus after training. Middle School boarding students will be transported to the Scots campus farm and back to the All Saints campus for training. Students can wear farm clothes with either work boots or gum boots to trainings. They will then need to change into their school uniforms.
- Students will be placed on a feeding roster for each week day, weekends and during holiday periods. Feeding is generally day students on weekdays and boarders on weekends. Day students will be required to do the holiday periods as well. Middle School students will not be on this roster for weekdays and weekends.

Some previous team members will be designated as a 'Team Mentor' or 'Co Mentor' which means they will be in charge of a steer and allocated a junior student to supervise and encourage. They will be given the responsibility of mentoring the junior student in all areas of the cattle program. A student is not designated this position on age but on experience and competency (please see the document 'The Mentor/Co Mentor System'). The Team Mentor will be the leader of the steer at Sydney Royal Easter Show with the junior student being given leading opportunities at the Blayney Show and/or Bathurst Show. Junior students (Cattle team juniors) DO NOT attend the Sydney Royal Easter Show for the week of



## SCOTS ALL SAINTS COLLEGE

- the show but we have in the past offered them an opportunity to come to the main judging day, travelling down and back to Sydney for the day. They do attend Blayney and Bathurst Shows.
- Our Cattle teams also has the opportunity to attend the Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza in October (in Scone.) Students will be invited to do this if they are allocated a new Mentor or Co Mentor position or express an interest to attend.
- Some Year 11 and 12 students will be designated Team Captains, Vice Captains or Team Leaders.
- The steers are fed in a feedlot system. They are fed a ration that has been designed and proven as a success for many years now. It is premixed and delivered to us fortnightly.
- The Cattle Program is a 'user pays' program. The feeding costs, transport costs, entry fees to shows, veterinary fees etc. will be evenly split between the students involved with the Cattle Team. The costs will be billed to the school accounts for the students involved. Please be assured that we do our very best to keep the costs to a minimum but as you can appreciate we have no control over the costs of grain.
- Student accounts will be billed from the end of Term 3 until December 31<sup>st</sup> for feed and other associated costs (it is split evenly between every student in the team). From January 1st, 2022 you will not be billed for feed – the school pays for this feed and we go into debt in the Cattle Team Account – when the cattle are sold at the Sydney Royal Easter Show we pay that debt back from this sale. There is usually a small surplus that needs to be covered (which in past years has been only around \$100 per student). This is hard to estimate but, again we do our best to keep the costs down.
- We are often asked to estimate what the costs will be - we can only estimate the cost due to feed costs varying from year to year. For the 2021/2022 season the cost for each student was approximately \$720 (billed to accounts in small amounts as feed is ordered and cost are incurred).
- The other costs associated with the Cattle Program include the purchase of a cattle show team uniform (available from the SASC Uniform Shop), Blayney Show entry fee (approximately \$30) and Bathurst Show entry fee (approximately \$65.) If your child is a Mentor or Co- Mentor and they attend the Sydney Royal Easter Show there is the cost of the excursion itself (which includes cattle entries, cattle transport, and all food for the student whilst at the show). This is typically around \$300.
- For the Sydney Royal Easter Show, each student attending MUST have a responsible adult to take responsibility for them each night. This means that the accommodation must be organised (either locally at motels, Air B&B's or at a relative's/friend's house). The responsibility for the student is handed over to the adult guardian after the work is done for the day. More details on these arrangements will be provided closer to the date.



SCOTS ALL SAINTS  
COLLEGE

- A question which is often asked is “Who owns the cattle?” The answer to this is different for different animals. Some animals are school bred and owned by the school and the school gets the entire proceeds post sale from these animals. This goes towards the paying off the feed bill. Other cattle that we have purchased and again the entire proceeds from these animal sales go towards paying off the feed and associated bills. Other animals are ‘donated’ to the school on an arrangement of 50/50. The suppliers provide us with the quality cattle, we feed them, transport them, enter them and then upon their sale we split the proceeds 50/50. Our 50% goes towards the cattle feed and associated bills. If there is a surplus post sale of cattle that money remains in the Cattle Team account and is used to purchase feed for the beginning of the next season. If there is a deficit, then this is split up between the students – this is usually not the case, however it does depend on the cattle sale prices and feed prices.
- Another question which is often asked is “Can we provide our own steer?” The answer may be yes but is often no. Please read the document attached ‘Facts relating to students wanting to bring their own steers into the program’.

***IT MUST ALSO BE UNDERSTOOD THAT STUDENTS ARE EXPECTED TO MAINTAIN A HIGH STANDARD OF BEHAVIOUR AND PRESENTATION IN BOTH THE DAY SCHOOL, BOARDING HOUSE AND DURING CATTLE TRAINING. STUDENTS WHO ARE CAUSING CONCERN IN THESE AREAS MAY BE GIVEN A WARNING AND THEN THEIR PLACE IN THE TEAM WILL BE TERMINATED.***

***COVID and SYDNEY ROYAL – Unfortunately, we do not have a crystal ball and cannot predict what will happen regarding COVID19 and the Sydney Royal Easter Show in 2022. We are going to plan to go and prepare as normal – BUT if it is cancelled as it was in 2020 we will do as we did that year and enter the virtual competitions and support whatever the RAS organises. If you are concerned about the time and money and the risk of our Cattle Team NOT attending, we will understand and therefore your child will choose not to participate in the Cattle Team this season.***

*Libby Dawes*

Libby Dawes,

Director of Agricultural Studies and Equestrian