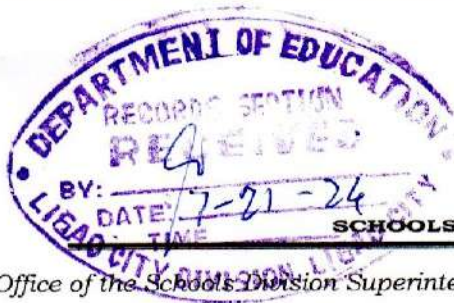
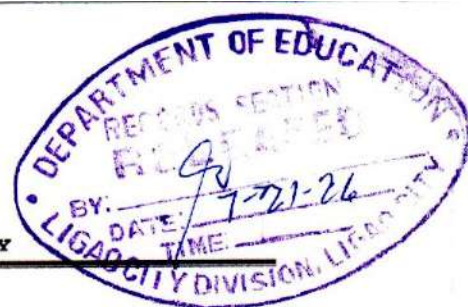




Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
Region V – Bicol
SCHOOLS DIVISION OFFICE OF LIGAO CITY



Office of the Schools Division Superintendent

July 20, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM

No. 03541 s. 2026

72126355

**POLICY GUIDELINES AND IMPLEMENTING ARRANGEMENTS ON
SCHOOL SPORTS ACTIVITIES FOR SY 2026-2027**

To: Assistant Schools Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors (CID/SGOD)
Public Schools District Supervisors / Education Program Supervisors
Public and Private Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

1. Executive Order No. 64, s. 1993, otherwise known as the *Sports For All Program*, mandates the promotion of physical fitness and sports participation among all Filipinos, regardless of age, gender, talent, or ability, in all organized sports competitions. On a broader scale, the 1987 Constitution, under Article XIV, Section 19, mandates that all educational institutions undertake regular sports activities nationwide through athletic clubs and other institutions.
2. Anent this, the field is informed of the Division timeline for the conduct of sports activities for the School Year 2026-2027, and the following schedule is hereby suggested:

Possible Dates	Activity / Program
August, 2026	School Selection Meet (after class / Saturday)
September 2 - 15, 2026 (End of 1 st Term Block)	District Selection Meet
December 7 - 18, 2026 (End of 2 nd Term Block)	City Selection Meet
February 20 - 27, 2027	Palarong Bicol 2027
May, 2027	Palarong Pambansa
(please see attached Division Sports Program of Activities)	

3. The proposed schedule is aligned with the Three-Term School Calendar prescribed under DepEd Order No. 009, s. 2026, which safeguards instructional time by designating specific periods for teaching and learning activities and limiting the conduct of co-curricular and extracurricular activities during Instructional Blocks. To ensure uninterrupted instruction while promoting the holistic development of learners through sports, all sports meets are recommended to be held on non-class days or to be strategically scheduled within the designated End-of-Term Blocks. This arrangement aims to balance academic priorities with meaningful participation in sports and physical fitness programs.



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4. After-school sports or SSC activities are bound by the following provisions as stated in DepEd Order No. 22, s. 2025 or the *Policy Guidelines on the Institutionalization of the School Sports Clubs in Public Schools*:
 - a. SSC activities shall be conducted only with the presence and supervision of the SSC facilitator or his/her alternate. No SSC activities shall be conducted without the SSC facilitator's supervision or his/her alternate.
 - b. The SSC activities shall be flexible to accommodate class schedules and shall be conducted on weekdays. Parents' Consent Form for SSC shall be secured if SSC activities are conducted beyond the class schedule.
 - c. SSC activities shall be conducted for a minimum of two hours and a maximum of three hours per week to complement the WHO requirement of 60 minutes of physical activity per day and shall be conducted during the academic year.
 - d. For ALS, the Division ALS Focal Persons are encouraged to assist in adjusting the frequency and timing of SSC activities to align with ALS learners' unique availability.
 - e. Teaching personnel are not mandated to conduct SSC activities during summer break. However, SSC activities during summer break shall be allowed, provided the School Head submits a letter of request to the SDO for approval of the Schools Division Superintendent.
 - f. SSC activities during summer break may also be integrated into existing DepEd summer break programs, such as the National Learning Camp and Brigada Eskwela.
5. School heads, SSC coordinators, SSC facilitators, tournament directors, sports trainers, and coaches must also adhere to the following additional localized guidelines:
 - a. Considering the physical demands of sports training, school heads must ensure that mandatory health screenings (conducted during the Term 1 Opening Block or prior to sports events are thoroughly reviewed before any student is cleared for rigorous physical activity. Parental consent and a medical certificate are required, especially for participants in higher-level meets.
 - b. All training venues must be duly identified and formally communicated to the Schools Division Office for proper monitoring and compliance with safety standards. The conduct of training activities in high-risk, unsafe, or unauthorized environments, including but not limited to mountainous areas, bodies of water, and other hazardous locations, is strictly prohibited. All sports training activities shall be conducted only in safe, school-approved, or officially designated venues to ensure the utmost protection, welfare, and security of all learners at all times.
 - c. Strict adherence to Republic Act No. 10676 (Student-Athletes Protection Act) and DepEd Order No. 8, s. 2015, which prevent academic penalties during official sports training or competitions. Schools provide grade retention ("No Lower Grade" policy), make-up classes, and academic accommodations while athletes are actively representing their school. shall be observed. Teachers are mandated not to impose deductions in the scholastic ratings of pupils or students for any act that is not indicative of poor academic performance or scholarship.



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- d. Any unauthorized suspension of weekday classes for sports- related events outside the designated End Of Term blocks shall be handled administratively. A cohort-based arrangement may be implemented for identified student-athletes, grouping them into the same class section by grade level and assigning them to a designated venue that serves as their learning and training environment. Under this arrangement, the Instructional Block shall be strictly observed and shall not be compromised. Regular classes shall be conducted in full compliance with DepEd policies on the protection of instructional time. Training activities shall be scheduled strictly before or after classes or within duly approved non-instructional periods. This arrangement shall promote efficient scheduling and supervision while ensuring the balanced academic and athletic development of student-athletes.
- e. A cohort-based arrangement may be implemented for identified student-athletes, grouping them into the same class section by grade level and assigning them to a designated venue that serves as their learning and training environment. Under this arrangement, the Instructional Block shall be strictly observed and shall not be compromised. Regular classes shall be conducted in full compliance with DepEd policies on the protection of instructional time. Training activities shall be scheduled strictly before or after classes or within duly approved non-instructional periods. This arrangement shall promote efficient scheduling and supervision while ensuring the balanced academic and athletic development of student-athletes.

6. Below are the various sports events to be played for this School Year

SPORTS / EVENTS	ELEMENTARY DIVISION	SECONDARY DIVISION
ARNIS	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS
ATHLETICS	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS
BADMINTON	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS
BASKETBALL (3X3)	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	BOYS / GIRLS
BILIARDS	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	BOYS / GIRLS
BOXING	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	BOYS
CHESS	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS
DANCESPORT	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS
GYMNASTICS	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS
RG	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS
AERO	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS
MAG	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS
WAG	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS
PENCAK SILAT	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	BOYS / GIRLS
SEPAK TAKRAW	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	BOYS / GIRLS
SWIMMING	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS
TABLE TENNIS	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS
TAEKWONDO	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS
TENNIS	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS



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WRESTLING	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	BOYS / GIRLS
WUSHU	XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX	BOYS / GIRLS
PARA ATHLETICS	BOYS / GIRLS	BOYS / GIRLS

7. In the recent updates on the composition of regular sports in the Palarong Pambansa, emphasis is placed on the inclusion and strengthening of Weightlifting as a regular sport, as well as on the continued recognition and development of Secondary Girls' Football and Elementary Girls' Futsal. These additions underscore the Department's commitment to expanding equitable opportunities for female student-athletes and promoting inclusive participation across all levels of competition.
8. For this School Year, the official cut-off year of the age of potential athletes is as follows:
 - a. Elementary – Born January 1, 2014
 - b. Secondary - Born January 1, 2009
9. To maintain the core identity of the winning school team while ensuring the region or division fields its absolute best athletes, the winning coach is permitted to "capture" or recruit up to a maximum of three (3) additional players from other schools/ teams within the same district, division, or region. To be eligible for selection by the winning core team, the captured players must have qualified for and actively participated in the lower-level meets. A coach cannot "parachute" an outside player into the roster who did not play in the baseline school or district selections.
10. In accordance with existing CSC-DBM Joint Circulars and DepEd guidelines on services rendered beyond regular working hours or days (including weekends and holidays), teaching personnel shall be granted Vacation Service Credits for duly authorized services rendered, with one (1) day of service credit equivalent to eight (8) hours of actual service. Meanwhile, non-teaching and teaching-related personnel shall be entitled to Compensatory Overtime Credits (COC) in lieu of overtime pay for services rendered during weekends, holidays, or beyond regular working hours. Such COCs may be availed of as time off or, subject to existing CSC-DBM rules and regulations, monetized in accordance with applicable policies and conditions.
11. Immediate dissemination of and compliance with this Memorandum is directed.


NYMPHA D. GUEMO
Schools Division Superintendent