**SAAS Achilles Cup**

**A History of the Independent Schools Athletics 1936 – 2020**

The School Athletics records date back to 1936 with Christian Brothers College winning the first Athletic Cup known as the Combined Sports Cup hosted at Adelaide Oval. The participating schools were Adelaide High School, Christian Brother College, Concordia College, Kings College (Pembroke College), Pulteney Grammar, Scotch College and Sacred Heart College.

The competition was dominated in its early years with Adelaide High School winning 5 titles in a row between 1937-41 and Rostrevor College 6 out of the next 7 meets between 1943-49 with only Christian Brother College able to break this winning streak. The event was not held in 1942 and 1950.

In 1956 Pulteney Grammar, Kings College (Pembroke) and Scotch College left the Combined Athletics Competition and formed a triangular series called the Achilles Cup with each school hosting. Kings College and Scotch were often replaced in the competition during the early sixties by Westminster College and St Ignatius College due to school commitments.

In 1956 the Combined Sports Athletics competition welcomed Prince Alfred College with the school making an immediate impact. Prince Alfred College had a winning dominate period claiming the 1956, 57, 58, 60, 65, 66, 67, 75, 76, 77 and 82 titles.

Rostrevor College were the stand out school in the Combined Schools Athletics competition claiming a total of 14 titles between 1956 to 1981.

During this period St Peters College were competing in the U/16 and U/18 competition in the South Australian Athletics Association were only their junior teams competing in the SAAS Competition.

St Peters College entered the Combined Sports Cup in 1966 to 1971. In 1971 they competed in both the combined Sports Cup and joined the Achilles Cup.

In 1983 a meeting of the private school Heads took place and an agreement was forged with both the Achilles Cup and Combined Sports Cup school members merging to compete in the same competition – Achilles Cup with 2 Divisions (Group A and Group B).

In 1994 Jill George took over the Independent Schools Sports Association as it was then known as the competition convenor. Through this period there was a promotion and relegation system introduced.

St Peters have dominated the A grade Achilles Cup competition winning every meet since 1983 apart from 2002 when Prince Alfred College broke this run.

The 2020 Achilles Cup was held under the restrictions of Covid. With caps on team numbers all schools were able to field teams and compete in the event. Due to the restrictions and limited training lead up time some events were not held. With the weather predicted to turn poorly during the day the event managed to finish in the heavy rain with St Peters once again winning the Group A and Glenunga High School winning the Group B. There was no promotion or relegation included in the carnival.

*Researched by Michael Buttfield*

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| Year | Achilles Cup Group A  Held at Private Schools from 1956-1977  1978-1982 Kensington Sports Field | Achilles Cup Group B  Introduced in 1983 | Combined Sports  Adelaide Oval 1936-1977.  Kensington Oval Sports Field 1978-1982 |
| 2020 | St Peters College | Glenunga High School |  |
| 2019 | St Peters College | St Ignatius College |  |
| 2018 | St Peters College | Concordia College |  |
| 2017 | St Peters College | Glenunga High School |  |
| 2016 | Not Held-Inclement Weather | Not Held-Inclement Weather |  |
| 2015 | Not Contested-Uni Games | Not Contested-Uni Games |  |
| 2014 | St Peters College | Prince Alfred College |  |
| 2013 | St Peters College | St Ignatius College |  |
| 2012 | St Peters College | Adelaide High School |  |
| 2011 | St Peters College | Christian Brothers College |  |
| 2010 | St Peters College | Not Contested |  |
| 2009 | St Peters College | Westminster College |  |
| 2008 | St Peters College | Concordia College |  |
| 2007 | St Peters College | St Ignatius College |  |
| 2006 | St Peters College | Westminster College |  |
| 2005 | St Peters College | Immanuel College |  |
| 2004 | St Peters College | St Michaels College |  |
| 2003 | St Peters College | Christian Brothers College |  |
| 2002 | Prince Alfred College | St Michaels College |  |
| 2001 | St Peters College | Sacred Heart College |  |
| 2000 | St Peters College | Christian Brothers College |  |
| 1999 | St Peters College | Westminster College |  |
| 1998 | St Peters College | Trinity College |  |
| 1997 | St Peters College | St Michaels College |  |
| 1996 | St Peters College | Christian Brothers College |  |
| 1995 | St Peters College | Westminster College |  |
| 1994 | St Peters College | Scotch College |  |
| 1993 | St Peters College | Immanuel College |  |
| 1992 | St Peters College | Scotch College |  |
| 1991 | St Peters College | Scotch College |  |
| 1990 | St Peters College | Scotch College |  |
| 1989 | St Peters College | Scotch College |  |
| 1988 | St Peters College | Scotch College |  |
| 1987 | St Peters College | Scotch College |  |
| 1986 | St Peters College | Christian Brothers College |  |
| 1985 | St Peters College | Christian Brothers College |  |
| 1984 | St Peters College | Immanuel College |  |
| 1983  8 schools to 15 Schools  2nd Division was formed | St Peters College | Immanuel College |  |
| 1982 | St Peters College |  | Prince Alfred College |
| 1981 | St Peters College |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1980 | St Peters College |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1979 | St Peters College |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1978 | St Peters College |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1977 | St Peters College |  | Prince Alfred College |
| 1976 | St Peters College |  | Prince Alfred College |
| 1975 | St Peters College |  | Prince Alfred College |
| 1974 | St Peters College |  | Sacred Heart College |
| 1973 | St Peters College |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1972 | St Peters College |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1971 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1970 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1969 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Adelaide High School |
| 1968 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1967 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Prince Alfred College |
| 1966 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Prince Alfred College |
| 1965 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Prince Alfred College |
| 1964 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1963 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1962 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1961 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1960 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Prince Alfred College |
| 1959 | Scotch College |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1958 | Scotch College |  | Prince Alfred College |
| 1957 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Prince Alfred College |
| 1956 | Pulteney Grammar |  | Prince Alfred College |
| 1955 |  |  | Adelaide High School |
| 1954 |  |  | Adelaide High School |
| 1953 |  |  | Adelaide High School |
| 1952 |  |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1951 |  |  | Adelaide High School |
| 1950 |  |  | Not Contested |
| 1949 |  |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1948 |  |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1947 |  |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1946 |  |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1945 |  |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1944 |  |  | Christian Brothers College |
| 1943 |  |  | Rostrevor College |
| 1942 |  |  | Not Contested |
| 1941 |  |  | Adelaide High School |
| 1940 |  |  | Adelaide High School |
| 1939 |  |  | Adelaide High School |
| 1938 |  |  | Adelaide High School |
| 1937 |  |  | Adelaide High School |
| 1936 |  |  | Christian Brothers College |