In Australia, sport has a positive influence that enriches the lives of everyone involved in it. Sport plays a major role in shaping the Australian identity and culture and therefore we must ensure that it is based on ethical principles.

**The Essence of Australian Sport** defines the core principles of sport in Australia. By applying these principles to all roles and decisions relating to sport, the values and benefits which sport has to offer can be realised.

**Sport at all levels in Australia upholds the principles of**

- **Fairness**: Operating within the spirit of the rules, never taking an unfair advantage and making informed and honourable decisions at all times.
- **Respect**: Recognising the contribution which people make to sport, treating them with dignity and consideration, as well as caring for the property and equipment they use.
- **Responsibility**: Taking responsibility for one’s actions and being a positive role model at all times.
- **Safety**: Encouraging healthy and safe procedures, preventing and reporting dangerous behaviour, while demonstrating concern for others.

By applying these principles, sport helps to develop the virtues and personal characteristics of:

**Compassion, Determination, Integrity, Loyalty, Trust**

In addition, sport helps to achieve the following outcomes:

**Achievement, Enjoyment, Friendship, Inclusiveness, Opportunity, Teamwork, Wellbeing**

All Australians involved or interested in sport should embrace these principles and instil these values. This is The Essence of Australian Sport – this is what we stand for.