



# BRACKENFELL HIGH SCHOOL

## MERIT POLICY



### MERIT AWARDS:

1.1 The Deputy Head (Academics) is the supervisor for all merit awards:

- Laureus Award
- Academic
- Culture
- Sports
- Leadership
- Top 20

### 2. HONORARY COLOURS

- 2.1 Honorary colours are awarded to a learner to recognise an exceptional achievement in the field of academics, culture, sport and leadership.
- 2.2 If new learners qualify for honorary awards, evidence of participation and achievements from the previous school must be submitted for consideration. Brackenfell High School's policy will serve as sole criteria in determining awards.
- 2.3 The honorary colours consist of a cord in dark blue and silver around the edge of the existing school blazer, as well as a school coat of arms in the honorary colours with a laurel wreath. The name of the award is placed under the top pocket of the blazer in the form of badges as for half colours.
- 2.4 If the learner has already obtained honorary colours, the award is made again, but the learner does not receive the badge of honour. The name of the new award is displayed on a badge below the pocket of the school blazer.
- 2.5 Past learners may have the coat of arms fixed to a black or blue jacket.
- 2.6 Honorary colours may only be allocated to learners in highly exceptional cases before gr. 10. An exception is where a learner e.g. obtained SA colours (not WP) or produced an exceptional performance approved by the Merit Committee.
- 2.7 Only Brackenfell High School's curricular, extra-curricular and affiliated activities outside of the school context and that are offered under the school's banner will be eligible for awards and recognition at a prize-giving.
- 2.8 Learners who excel in activities outside of school at provincial, national and international level will receive recognition on the school's media platforms as well as in assemblies and the SSC's sports prize-giving event where they will receive a certificate. Learners who receive provincial or national colours may wear the relevant lapel badge on their blazer. It is the parent(s) and learner's responsibility to notify the school and the SSC with the appropriate documentation from the institution.

### 3. HALF COLOURS

- 3.1 Half colours and certificates are distributed at assembly meetings.
- 3.2 Half colours consist of a badge, embroidered in gold, which is sewn on under the existing pocket. The first badge is sewn on directly under the top pocket. Then the badges are sewn 1 cm apart.
- 3.3 If a pupil has been awarded half colours for the same performance more than once, the learner may wear more than one of the same badges on his/her blazer.

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## 4. PROCEDURE

- 4.1 Organisers of various activities are responsible for submitting applications for possible awards to the head of sport, culture and leadership as well as the organiser of the prize-giving ceremony.
- 4.2 Application for approval for honorary colours is submitted in writing by the head of culture and sport to the deputy head (academy), who then submits it to the Merit Committee. After the committee has given approval, the principal signs the form and returns it to the person in charge. The right is reserved to withhold or withdraw any award in the event of serious misconduct. Appeals can be made in writing to the Merit Committee. The committee's decision is final.
- 4.3 The head of relevant department prints a letter of congratulations and also a document of commitment. These documents are distributed at the relevant award ceremony. The learner and parent sign the document of commitment and hand it in to the head of department.
- 4.4 Head of department gives a letter to the supplier for the learner, who uses it to buy the badge.
- 4.5 All letters and documents are printed on the school's letterhead and signed by the principal.
- 4.6 All documents are filed.
- 4.7 Records are kept of awards by the respective heads of departments.

## 5. MERIT COMMITTEE

- 5.1 The Merit Committee consists of the principal, executive management (principal and deputy principals) and responsible teacher(s).
- 5.2 The committee must ensure that awards are made four times a year:
  - January (Academic: gr 8 – 11 from previous year)
  - July (Gr 10 special awards, see Academic Awards)
  - October (Sports and Culture Awards)
  - Gr 12 Academic awards on Valedictory Day.
- 5.3 The committee reserves the right to deny or withdraw honorary colours where a learner brings the school's name into disrepute, based on the following criteria:
  - When the learner has served THREE detentions in a year (36 points), the learner will receive a warning and with his/her next detention (12 points) the honour colours will be taken away.
  - If the learner commits a level B offence (16+ points), the learner will receive a warning and on his/her next detention (16 points) or his/her next level B offence, the honour colours will be taken away.
  - If the learner commits a level C offence (16 - 24 points), the learner will not receive a warning and his/her honour colours will be taken away immediately.
- 5.4 The persons in charge of sport, culture and academics are responsible for regularly checking the detention points. If a learner's colours are compromised, this must be presented to the Merit Committee for a final decision

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## A. LAUREUS AWARD

1. To be eligible for a Laureus award, **honorary colours** must be obtained for **Academics, Culture** and **Sport**.
2. The Laureus award is only given at the beginning of a learner's **Gr. 12 year** at the Academic Awards.
3. Learners must provide evidence of **continued participation** in an activity for which they received honours. This means that, if honorary colours are obtained in Gr. 10 or Gr. 11, the learner must continue to participate in the activity until the end of Gr. 12. However, acquiring honorary colours for a **second time** is not a requirement.
4. A learner, to be eligible for a Laureus award, must in all respects comply with all the requirements as set out in the **Code of Conduct** of the Brackenfell High School.
5. Learners who are guilty of **improper behaviour** and **violate the school rules** will be exempted from the Laureus award. A learner may therefore have **NO** detention points at level 1, 2 or 3.
6. The learner's measurements are sent to School and Leisure (tel no 021 9140495) in Willowbridge. They donate the blazer. If they no longer donate the jacket, Spectra Stationers in Glen Garry is prepared to sponsor the blazer. School and Leisure will then still take care of the manufacturing.

## B. ACADEMIC

Awards are calculated on the average percentage of the June, September and December examinations of the previous year. A learner may be absent for a maximum of 1 test or examination paper in the past year in order to still qualify for academic honours.

### ACADEMIC CRITERIA

Grade 9	Honorary Colours	None
	Half Colours	Average of June, September and November exams above 80% in Grade 8
Grade 10	Honorary Colours (Special awards at the beginning of the third term)	Average above 85% in the June examination of Grade 10, as well as half colours received for Grade 9
	Half Colours	Average of June, September and November exams above 80% in Grade 9
Grade 11	Honorary Colours	Average of June, September and November exams above 80% in Grade 10
	Half Colours	Average of June, September and November exams above 75% in Grade 10
Grade 12	Honorary Colours	Average of June, September and November exams above 80% in Grade 11
	Honorary Colours (Special awards at the last assembly of the Gr 12s)	Average of June and September exams above 80% in Grade 12
	Half Colours	Average of June, September and November exams above 75% in Grade 11

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## C. CULTURE

1	<b>OLIMPIADS</b> (SUBJECT RELATED E.G. BRIDGE BUILDING, WATER OLYMPIAD ETC.)	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Provincial Senior A team</li> <li>● SA Mathematics 1st to 10th place</li> <li>● All other subjects: 1st to 3rd places in National competition</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Final round SA Mathematics</li> <li>● UCT Mathematics competition gold</li> <li>● All other subjects: 4th to 20th places in National competition</li> </ul>
2	<b>TAALBOND</b>	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● National 1st to 3rd places</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Seniors: 4th to 20th place</li> <li>● Juniors: 1st to 20th place</li> </ul>
3	<b>PUBLIC SPEAKING / DEBATE</b> (OFFERED UNDER THE SCHOOL'S BANNER)	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1st to 3rd place in national competition</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1st to 3rd place in provincial competition / round or 4th - 10th place in national competition</li> </ul>
4	<b>EISTEDDFOD</b> (OFFERED UNDER THE SCHOOL'S BANNER)	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Category winner</li> <li>● All special awards for specific categories</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Juniors: category winner</li> <li>● Participation in gala evening</li> <li>● Individuals receiving two Highest Commendation or three Commendation awards</li> </ul>
5	<b>DRAMA</b>	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Individual acting competition: final round</li> <li>● ATKV Teen Drama Competition: Members of a drama group who make it to the finals</li> <li>● Trophy winner at national drama festivals / competitions (individual / group, seniors only)</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Individual acting competition: Semi-final round</li> <li>● ATKV Teen Drama Competition: Participants in Theatre Festival Weekend for South</li> <li>● Winning production of one of the following: Logan Theatre Festival, Montagu Theatre Festival, Durbanville Theatre Festival, Klein Libertas Theatre Festival, FAK acting festival, National Arts Festival</li> <li>Individual best players, Trophy winners, Artscape High School Drama Festival</li> </ul>
6	<b>CHOIR</b>	Honorary Colours	Seniors: members participating in gala evening of Eisteddfod or final round of ATKV choir competition
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Seniors: members who have been a choir member for 4 consecutive years</li> <li>● Juniors: members participating in gala evening of Eisteddfod or final round of ATKV choir competition</li> </ul>

7	RE VERA	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 1st to 3rd place in national competitions for entire editorial staff and reporters, seniors only</li> <li>● Category winners: Individual seniors for 1st place nationwide</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 4th to 10th place in national competition</li> </ul>
8	MUSIC	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Roll of Honour: UNISA, Royal Schools, Trinity College and Rock School</li> <li>● Commendation for external examination – 2 levels above departmental requirement</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Commendation for external examination one level above departmental requirement</li> </ul>
9	FIRST AID	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Level 3 exam passed with 80% and 40 hours of service to the school</li> <li>● Level 3 exam passed and 2 years' service to school</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Level 1 exam passed with 80% and 30 hours of service to the school</li> </ul>
		Lapel badge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Level 1 exam passed and 20 hours of service to the school</li> </ul>
10	LAND SERVICE	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Seniors: Learners who receive a Springbok award</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attended two national camps</li> </ul>
11	LITERATURE	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Finish in top 10 in nationwide competition</li> <li>● Winner of the youth section of a national writing competition</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Invitation to Writers' Workshop at University of the Free State</li> <li>● Work published in national writing competition / anthology</li> </ul>
12	INTERACT	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attends Ryla camp <u>and</u> elected as leader at provincial camp</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Four years active member</li> <li>● Attend Ryla Camp</li> <li>● Serve on senior management</li> <li>● Attend Adventure-into-Citizenship-Week</li> <li>● Attend 3 workshops</li> <li>● Assisted in 2 Rotary projects</li> <li>● Involved in 3 annual Interact projects</li> </ul>

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## D. SPORT

- A junior learner (gr. 8 and 9) can only acquire half colours for provincial colours in a school sport.
- Provincial means member of a team that will participate in a national competition.
- Sport honorary and half colours refer to sports codes that are offered at the school.

1	HOCKEY	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial A or B team</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial C or D team</li> <li>• Regional team u.18, u.16, u.14</li> <li>• Play 30 1st team matches</li> </ul>
2	GOLF	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial A or B team (Golf Foundation Team)</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learners with a handicap of 9 or less</li> <li>• Junior learner in provincial teams</li> </ul>
3	CRICKET	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSA U18 Khaya Majola National Week</li> <li>• CSA U16 Boys WPCA</li> <li>• CSA U18 Girls WPCA</li> <li>• CSA U16 Girls WPCA</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final training group district level for Seniors and Juniors</li> <li>• 30 matches for 1st team</li> </ul>
4	RUGBY	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Craven Week team</li> <li>• Akademie team</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final trials against Boland</li> <li>• 30 matches for 1st team</li> </ul>
5	NETBALL	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial A or B team (Western Cape senior team)</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CTHS final team</li> <li>• Take part in Interdistrict</li> <li>• 30 games played for 1st team</li> </ul>
6	ATHLETICS	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial team (WP / Western Cape senior team)</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Medal winners at WP championships</li> </ul>
7	CROSS COUNTRY	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial A team Seniors</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial B team</li> </ul>
8	TENNIS	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial A or B team: Seniors</li> <li>• Twice selected for WP A or B invitational team</li> <li>• Among first 10 on SA ranking</li> <li>• ITF / TSA Tournament winner</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provincial senior C team</li> <li>• First to 3rd place at regional tournament</li> </ul>

9	TARGET SHOOTING	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National 1st to 3rd place</li> <li>Seniors: Western Cape shooting team</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Juniors: Western Cape shooting team</li> </ul>
10	REFEREES	Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learners who have passed the official referee exam and have refereed 20 matches</li> </ul>
11	MOUNTAIN BIKING	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provincial team top 10 position</li> <li>SA top 20 position</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SPUR MTB schools top 10 position in age group at the end of the season</li> </ul>
12	CHESS	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior: Provincial team WP</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Junior: Provincial team WP</li> </ul>
13	TABLE TENNIS	Honorary Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WP table tennis team</li> </ul>
		Half Colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Premier/1st league winners, 30 1st team games played</li> </ul>

### E. LEADERSHIP

Honorary colours for leadership are awarded to the chairperson of the RCL, head boy and head girl when they are announced. Half colours are awarded to the deputy chairperson of the RCL and the deputy head boy and girl.

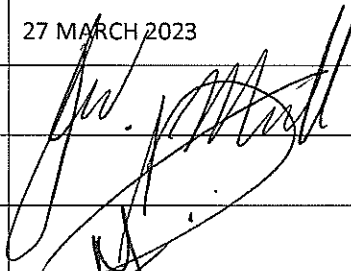

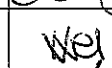
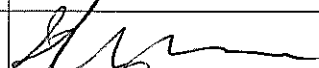


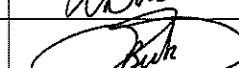

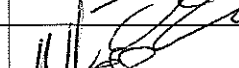
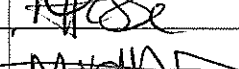
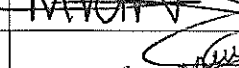
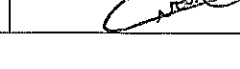
1	RCL	CHAIRPERSON	Honorary colours	Awarded after announcement at the Culture and Sport Award Ceremony in October
		DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON & SERVICE	Half colours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Deputy Chairperson: Awarded after announcement at the Culture and Sport Award Ceremony in October</li> <li>RCL member for 2 years (gr 8 and 9 count as 1 year), will be presented after 2 years have been completed, i.e. at the Culture and Sport Award Ceremony in October</li> </ul>
2	HEAD LEADERS	HEAD BOY HEAD GIRL	Honorary colours	Awarded after announcement at the Culture and Sport Award Ceremony in October
		DEPUTY HEAD BOY DEPUTY HEAD GIRL	Half colours	Awarded after announcement at the Culture and Sport Award Ceremony in October

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**F. TOP 20 ACADEMICS**

- Awarded each term to the academic Top 20 learners of each grade.
- Deputy head (academy) organizes the event during an assembly (if possible).
- Ladies' grade head is responsible for handing over the badges. The badges are taken in at the beginning of each term and then distributed again.
- Person in charge of marketing takes care of certificates and photos for Facebook and Re Vera.
- Learners who were absent for an exam, test paper or part of an assessment task cannot be eligible for Top 20.

DATE OF OVERVIEW	31 JANUARY 2023
DATE OF ACCEPTANCE	22 MARCH 2023
DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION	27 MARCH 2023
SIGNED PRINCIPAL MR J W MULLER	
SIGNED CHAIRPERSON SGB MR M KRUGER	
MRS VAN ZYL-HAHN	
MRS H DE BEER	
MRS V NEL	
MRS A LOURENS	
MR G OOSTHUIZEN	
MRS L BREEDT	
MR R BECK	
MR G VAN DEVENTER	
MRS N HESSE	
M VAN DER WESTHUIZEN (LEARNER)	
C VAN WYK (LEARNER)	