



# ALCOHOL & GOOD SPORTS POLICY

<b>Current version:</b>	3
<b>Last reviewed:</b>	November 2024
<b>Next review date:</b>	October 2026
<b>Person responsible for review:</b>	General Manager
<b>Date presented to Board:</b>	20.11.2024

## **Purpose**

This policy outlines our procedures for a balanced and responsible approach to the service, supply, consumption and promotion of alcohol at games, special events, functions and other Association-related activities. It represents our Association's commitment to its members, volunteers and visitors, acknowledging the role that sporting clubs and associations play in building strong and healthy communities.

This policy will help to ensure our Association:

- Meets its duty of care in relation to the health and safety of our members, volunteers and visitors who attend any club games, special events, functions and other activities where alcohol may be consumed.
- Upholds the reputation of our club, our sponsors and partners.
- Understands the risks associated with alcohol misuse and our role in minimising this risk.
- Complies with a valid liquor licence and associated terms and conditions.

## **General Principles**

A risk management approach will be taken in planning events and activities involving the sale, supply or consumption of alcohol. Such events and activities will be conducted and managed in a manner consistent with liquor licensing legislation and this policy.

Alcohol use can lead to risk taking, unsafe, unacceptable and/or illegal behaviour. Excessive consumption of alcohol will not be an excuse for unacceptable behaviour, particularly behaviour that endangers others or breaches the law, this policy or any other policy of the club.

## **Policy Review**

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually to ensure it remains relevant to Association operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements.

Visit: [www.goodsports.com.au](http://www.goodsports.com.au) for information regarding the Good Sports program.

A person is defined as in a state of intoxication if their speech, balance, coordination or behaviour is noticeably affected and there are reasonable grounds for believing that this is the result of the consumption of alcohol.

## **Alcohol Practices**

- We will ensure that alcohol servers will not consume alcohol when on duty.
- We recognise that not all participants drink alcohol. We will ensure that water is provided free of charge where possible.
- We actively encourage the sale of non-alcoholic drinks that are at least 10% cheaper than full-strength alcoholic drinks, when the event is held at our venue.
- Excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol is not encouraged. This means we do not conduct happy hours or similar events that encourage excessive drinking.
- Excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol is not encouraged. This means we do not conduct cheap drink promotions.
- Excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol is not encouraged. This means we do not conduct drinking competitions.
- We will encourage safe celebrations and events by not conducting 'all you can drink' functions.
- We will encourage safe celebrations and events by not providing alcohol-only drink vouchers for functions.
- We will never serve double measures of spirits. Spirits will only be served in premixed form.
- Substantial food (requiring preparation and/or heating) will be available when alcohol is available. Healthy food options will be provided, where possible.

## **Drugs**

Our Association clearly sets out the responsibilities the Board of Management, Sub-Committees and individuals have for handling illegal drugs in an Association setting.

## **Education**

- We will provide an opportunity for coaches, officials, members and volunteers to be educated about the risks and harms associated with alcohol.
- We clearly display the contact information for the ADF Drug Information Line. We will also promote additional services that are available to members to deal with drug-related issues (e.g. local community health provider such as GPs).
- We will promote mental health materials from reputable mental health organisations within the community.

## Leading by Example

- We will not provide awards (e.g. at end of season presentations) and fundraising prizes that have an emphasis on alcohol.
- We limit alcohol supply or consumption during events or presentations where children are present and are supervised by responsible adults.
- Our club does not permit the drinking of alcohol in change-rooms.
- Alcohol brands and products will not be advertised.
- We are committed to creating a safe, respectful and positive environment where players, officials, members and families can thrive. Accordingly, all parents of junior players and visitors are required to:
- Respect the referee's decisions – don't complain or argue about decisions during or after a game.
- Encourage players to play by the rules and to respect opposition players and officials
- Never ridicule or scorn a player for making a mistake – respect their efforts
- Condemn all violent or illegal acts, whether by players, coaches, officials, parents or spectators
- Understand that sport is part of a total life experience, and the benefits of involvement go far beyond the final score of a game
- Participate in positive cheering that encourages the players in the team you are supporting; not engaging in any cheering that taunts or intimidates opponents, their fans or officials
- Remember that children participate for their own enjoyment, not yours
- Follow the directions of the duty officials at all times
- Never arrive at a game under the influence of alcohol
- Not use unsportsmanlike language, harass others or behave aggressively
- Participants or others who have agreed to abide by our club's Code of Conduct and policies, including this Policy, who have behaved inappropriately, may face disciplinary action.
- Whilst engaging in Association activities, members, volunteers and visitors will not post images on social media of themselves or others drinking alcohol irresponsibly at Association-related activities.
- When promoting events the Association will adopt the practices of safe celebrations by:
- Not overemphasising the availability of alcohol or referring to the amount of alcohol available
- Not encouraging rapid drinking or excessive drinking
- Giving equal reference to the availability of non-alcoholic drinks
- Displaying a clear start and finish time for the function
- Including a safe transport message, where possible and relevant.
- We will monitor and ensure any club trips & camps strictly adhere to responsible behaviour and alcohol consumption in accordance with the principles of this policy and the values of the Association.

- We recognise that driving under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs is hazardous to individuals and the wider community. Accordingly, we ask that all attendees at our functions plan their transport requirements to ensure they arrive home safely and prevent driving under the influence of alcohol.

## **Licencing Requirements**

- We will ensure that a current and appropriate liquor licence is maintained and will comply with our Liquor licence requirements and all applicable local by-laws.
- We will comply with its' liquor licence requirements and all applicable local by-laws.
- We will ensure that alcohol is only served during the times specified in our liquor licence.
- We will ensure that only people aged 18 years or older serve alcohol.
- Alcohol will not be served to persons aged under 18 years.
- Bar servers will ask for proof of age for anyone who looks 25 years old or younger. Only photo ID's will be accepted as 'proof of age'.
- Intoxicated people are not permitted to enter/stay in the club, and they are supported to get home safely.
- Servers will follow Responsible Service of Alcohol training procedures when refusing service to an intoxicated person.
- If a person becomes intoxicated (and is not putting other people at risk with their behaviour) the person will not be served alcohol but will be provided with water and options for safe transport home from our club, where available.
- If a person becomes intoxicated (and is putting other people at risk due to their behaviour) the person will be asked to leave our club premises immediately and offered safe transport options, where available. Police may also be contacted to remove the person, if required.
- We will ensure only Responsible Service of Alcohol (RSA) trained bar servers with current accreditations will serve alcohol.
- We will ensure an incident register will be maintained (at the bar) and any alcohol-related incidents will be recorded on the register.

## **Processes**

- Whilst engaging in club activities, members, volunteers and visitors:
- Will accept responsibility for their own behaviour, and take a responsible approach and use good judgment when alcohol is available
- Will encourage and assist others to use good judgment when alcohol is available
- Will not compete, train, coach or officiate if affected by alcohol
- Will not provide, encourage or allow people aged under 18 years to consume alcohol
- Will not participate, pressure anyone or encourage excessive or rapid consumption of alcohol (including drinking competitions)

- Will not provide alcohol only as an award to a player or official for any reason
- Will not post images on social media of themselves or others drinking alcohol irresponsibly at club-related activities.
- Board and Committee members will uphold this policy and any non-compliance, particularly in regard to Licencing Laws, will be handled according to the following process:
- Explanation of the policy to the person/people concerned, including identification of the section of policy not being complied with
- Continued non-compliance with the policy should be handled by the Operations Manager &/or General Manager who will use their discretion as to the action taken, which may include asking the person/ people to leave the facilities or function.
- All contact with the media related to an alcohol or drug-related allegation or incident within its jurisdiction will be managed by the Board of Management.
- We have an action plan/incident management process in place that covers our reaction and response to alcohol related incidents, illegal drugs found on club premises and mental health incidents.

## **Promotion and Perception**

We will:

- Ensure this policy is easily accessible and will promote it via our website & other digital platforms during events and functions.
- Educate members, volunteers and visitors about our policy and the benefits of having such a policy.
- Pursue non-alcohol sponsorship and revenue sources.
- Actively demonstrate its attitude relating to the responsible use of alcohol and other drugs and promote positive messages through its digital platforms.
- Actively participate in the Alcohol and Drug Foundation's Good Sports program with an ongoing priority to maintain the highest Good Sports accreditation.
- We will ensure Good Sports merchandise (such as posters, equipment or certificates) is on display at our venue.
- We will aim to promote our involvement in Good Sports during one event throughout the year.
- Whilst engaging in Association activities, members, volunteers and visitors will not compete, train, coach or officiate if affected by alcohol.

## **Tobacco & Electronic smoking devices**

- We will comply with and support Frankston City Council's policies in relation to smoking.
- We require the following areas of the club's facilities to be smoke-free:
  - All indoor areas
  - All outdoor playing/training areas
  - All spectator areas (standing and seated, covered and uncovered)
  - All cafe, catering, eating and drinking areas
- Smoke-free areas will be signed (where possible) and promoted.
- Cigarettes, e-cigarettes and any other tobacco products will not be sold, including from vending machines, at any time.

Many young people hold parents, teammates and coaches in high esteem and smoking around them sends the message that smoking is okay.

Therefore, we expect that coaches, players, officials and volunteers will refrain from smoking while involved in an official capacity, on and off the field.

To foster our reputation as a healthy environment, no images of volunteers, members, officials, coaches and players smoking at Association-related activities will be placed on social media.

We will promote resources for members wishing to quit, including the national Quitline (13 78 48 [https:// www.quit.org.au/](https://www.quit.org.au/)), where appropriate.