

Good Sports Policy

Prepared for Toowong Football Club Inc.

7/02/2022 1:07:50 PM

Purpose

This policy outlines our procedures for a balanced and responsible approach to the service, supply, consumption and promotion of alcohol at club games, special events, functions and other club-related activities. It represents our club'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 club:

- 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 where appropriate.

More information about how to implement this policy and why it's important can be found at <https://portal.goodsports.com.au/app/policy/> .

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 annually to ensure it remains relevant to club operations and reflects both community expectations and legal requirements.

Visit: 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, co-ordination or behaviour is noticeably affected and there are reasonable grounds for believing that this is the result of the consumption of alcohol.

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Alcohol

- Our club is committed to promoting water as the drink of choice, as consumption of healthy food and drink can contribute to good health and well-being and also supports good performance on the [field/track/court/pool].
- Our club is committed to only having alcohol free functions and events, included not having functions and events at licenced venues.
- Our club will avoid providing awards (e.g. at end of season presentations) and fundraising prizes that have an emphasis on alcohol as a reward.

Drugs

- Club provides an opportunity for coaches, officials, members and volunteers to be educated about illegal drugs through the Good Sports online illegal drugs learning module.
- Our club clearly sets out the responsibilities the club committee and individuals have for handling illegal drugs in the club setting.

Education

- Our club will provide an opportunity for coaches, officials, members and volunteers to be educated about the risks and harms associated with alcohol.
- Our club clearly displays the contact information for the ADF drug information line. Our club 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).
- Our club will promote mental health materials from reputable mental health organisations within the club.
- The club provides an opportunity for coaches, officials, members and volunteers to be educated about mental health in a club setting by accessing the Good Sports online mental health learning module.

Good Sports Policy

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Leading by example

- Intoxicated people are not permitted to enter/stay in the club, and they are supported to get home safely. For the purposes of this policy, a person is defined as being in a state of intoxication if their speech, balance, co-ordination or behaviour is noticeably affected and there are reasonable grounds for believing that this is the result of the consumption of alcohol.
- 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.

- Alcohol brands and products will not be advertised by the junior club and will not be placed on junior apparel.
- Our club is committed to creating a safe, respectful and positive club environment where players, officials, members and families can thrive. Parents, associate members 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. 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 engage 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 Ground Manager and/or other duty officials at all times
 - Never arrive at a game under the influence of alcohol.
- Whilst engaging in club activities, members, volunteers and visitors will not post images on social media of themselves or others drinking alcohol irresponsibly at club-related activities.
- Our club will monitor and ensure any club trips, particularly end of season player trips, are alcohol free and adhere to responsible behaviour in accordance with the principles of this policy and the values of the club.
- Our club recognises mixing drugs (including prescription medication) with other drugs or alcohol can seriously affect the ability to drive safely. Driving when over the legal blood alcohol limit is illegal and hazardous to individuals and the wider community. If any committee members, members, players or officials are suspected of being under the influence of alcohol or other drugs, our club will take steps to help them get home safely. For example, offer them a ride home or call a taxi or sober person to collect them.

Good Sports Policy

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7/02/2022 1:07:50 PM

Process

- 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.
- Club committee members will uphold this policy and any non-compliance 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 at least two committee members 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 club's official spokesperson.
- Our club has 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 & perception

- Our club will:
 - Ensure this policy is easily accessible and will promote it via [our website, newsletters, social media, announcements 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 promote positive messages through its social media platforms

Good Sports Policy

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7/02/2022 1:07:50 PM



- Actively participate in the Alcohol and Drug Foundation's Good Sports program with an ongoing priority to [achieve/maintain] the highest Good Sports accreditation.
- Our club will ensure this policy is easily accessible and will promote it via our website, newsletters, social media, announcements during events and functions.
- Our club will ensure Good Sports merchandise (such as posters, equipment or certificates) is on display at our club, or we'll ensure we make Good Sports-related social media posts or website announcements where merchandise display isn't possible.
- Our club will ensure that all committee members are aware of the importance of endorsing our Good Sports policy and promoting it to members.
- Our club would be open to holding a Good Sports round in the future.
- Whilst engaging in club activities, members, volunteers and visitors will not compete, train, coach or officiate if affected by alcohol.

Tobacco

- Our club requires the following areas of the club's [facility/sporting ground] to be smoke free:
 - All indoor areas
 - All outdoor playing/training areas
 - All spectator areas (standing and seated, covered and uncovered)
 - All canteen, catering, eating and drinking areas.
- Cigarettes, e-cigarettes and any other tobacco products will not be sold, including from vending machines, at any time at or by our club.
- Smoke free areas will be signed (where possible) and promoted in club materials. A designated smoking permitted area is also allowed.
- 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 for the club, on and off the field. To foster our club's reputation as a healthy environment, no images of club volunteers, members, officials, coaches and players smoking at club-related activities will be placed on social media.
- Our club will promote resources for members wishing to quit, including the national Quitline (13 78 48 <https://www.quit.org.au/>), where appropriate.

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